

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

# SENATE BILL NO. 698

98TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR HEGEMAN.

Pre-filed December 1, 2015, and ordered printed.

ADRIANE D. CROUSE, Secretary.

4945S.011

## AN ACT

To repeal section 473.730, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to the bonding requirements of public administrators.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:*

Section A. Section 473.730, RSMo, is repealed and one new section  
2 enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 473.730, to read as follows:

473.730. 1. Every county in this state, except the City of St. Louis, shall  
2 elect a public administrator at the general election in the year 1880, and every  
3 four years thereafter, who shall be ex officio public guardian and conservator in  
4 and for the public administrator's county. A candidate for public administrator  
5 shall be at least twenty-one years of age and a resident of the state of Missouri  
6 and the county in which he or she is a candidate for at least one year prior to the  
7 date of the general election for such office. The candidate shall also be a  
8 registered voter and shall be current in the payment of all personal and business  
9 taxes. **Each candidate for public administrator shall provide to the**  
10 **election authority a copy of a signed affidavit from two or more**  
11 **securities, indicating that the candidate meets the bond requirements**  
12 **for the office of public administrator under this section.**

13 2. Before entering on the duties of the public administrator's office, the  
14 public administrator shall take the oath required by the constitution, and enter  
15 into bond to the state of Missouri in a sum not less than ten thousand dollars,  
16 with two or more securities, approved by the court and conditioned that the public  
17 administrator will faithfully discharge all the duties of the public administrator's  
18 office, which bond shall be given and oath of office taken on or before the first day  
19 of January following the public administrator's election, and it shall be the duty

**EXPLANATION—Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in this bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.**

20 of the judge of the court to require the public administrator to make a statement  
21 annually, under oath, of the amount of property in the public administrator's  
22 hands or under the public administrator's control as such administrator, for the  
23 purpose of ascertaining the amount of bond necessary to secure such property;  
24 and such court may from time to time, as occasion shall require, demand  
25 additional security of such administrator, and, in default of giving the same  
26 within twenty days after such demand, may remove the administrator and  
27 appoint another.

28 [2.] 3. The public administrator in all counties, in the performance of the  
29 duties required by chapters 473, 474, and 475, is a public officer. The duties  
30 specified by section 475.120 are discretionary. The county shall defend and  
31 indemnify the public administrator against any alleged breach of duty, provided  
32 that any such alleged breach of duty arose out of an act or omission occurring  
33 within the scope of duty or employment.

34 [3.] 4. After January 1, 2001, all salaried public administrators shall be  
35 considered county officials for purposes of section 50.333, subject to the minimum  
36 salary requirements set forth in section 473.742.

37 [4.] 5. The public administrator for the city of St. Louis shall be  
38 appointed by a majority of the circuit judges and associate circuit judges of the  
39 twenty-second judicial circuit, en banc. Such public administrator shall meet the  
40 same qualifications and requirements specified in subsection 1 of this section for  
41 elected public administrators. The elected public administrator holding office on  
42 August 28, 2013, shall continue to hold such office for the remainder of his or her  
43 term.

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