

**7E.3 Heads of departments and independent agencies — powers and duties.**

Each head of a department or independent agency shall, except as otherwise provided by law:

1. *Supervision.* Plan, direct, coordinate, and execute the functions vested in the department or independent agency.

2. *Budget.* Annually compile a comprehensive program budget which reflects all fiscal matters related to the operation of the department or independent agency and each program, subprogram, and activity in the department or agency.

3. *Advisory bodies.* In addition to any boards, commissions, committees, or councils specifically created by law, establish and utilize other ad hoc advisory committees as determined necessary by the head of the department or independent agency. The department or independent agency shall establish appointment provisions, membership terms, operating guidelines, and any other operational requirements for committees established pursuant to [this subsection](#). Members of committees under this general authority shall serve without compensation but may be reimbursed for actual expenses.

4. *Annual report.* Unless otherwise provided by law, submit a report in November of each year to the governor and the legislature on the operation of the department or independent agency during the fiscal year concluded on the preceding June 30, and projecting the goals and objectives of the department or independent agency as developed in the program budget report for the fiscal year under way. Any department or independent agency may issue such additional reports on its findings and recommendations as its operations require.

5. *Persons not lawfully present.* Unless expressly authorized by federal or state law, ensure that the public benefits administered by the department or independent agency are not provided to persons who are not lawfully present in the United States.

[86 Acts, ch 1245, §3](#); [2011 Acts, ch 122, §3, 5](#); [2017 Acts, ch 29, §4](#); [2024 Acts, ch 1170, §69](#)

Referred to in [§8A.111](#)

Reports to general assembly, see also [§7A.2A - 7A.11A](#)