

shall, by amendment to the interlocal agreement or other agreement creating such joint instrumentality, designate the ethical standards that govern the jointly created instrumentality.

(c) Utility districts shall be considered separate governmental entities and shall be governed by ethical standards established by the board of commissioners of the utility district in conformity with § 8-17-105(b). Water, wastewater and gas authorities created by a private act or under the general law shall be considered separate governmental entities and shall be governed by ethical standards established by the governing board of the water, wastewater or gas authority in conformity with § 8-17-105(b).

(d) County, municipal and special school districts shall be considered separate governmental entities and shall be governed by ethical standards established by the board of education of the school district.

**History.**

Acts 2006 (1st Ex. Sess.), ch. 1, § 49; 2007, ch. 405, §§ 1, 2; 2008, ch. 898, § 1.

**Compiler's Notes.**

Acts 2006, ch. 1, § 1 of the extraordinary session of the 104th general assembly provided that the act is and may be cited as the "Comprehensive Governmental Ethics Reform Act of 2006."

**Attorney General Opinions.**

To the extent that a water and wastewater treatment authority is established by a county or metropolitan government, then it would be included within the definition of "county" in T.C.A. § 8-17-102(a)(2), OAG 07-065 (5/14/07).

**8-17-103. Adoption of ethical standards.**

(a) Not later than June 30, 2007, the governing body of each entity covered by this chapter shall adopt by ordinance or resolution, as appropriate, ethical standards for all officials and employees of such entity. To the extent that an issue covered by an ethical standard is addressed by a law of general application, public law of local application, local option law, or private act, any ethical standard adopted by a governing body shall not be less restrictive than such laws.

(b) By resolution of the county legislative body, any county having a population of eight hundred thousand (800,000) or more, according to the 2000 census or any subsequent federal census, may elect to include all of its administrative officials and employees and all of its legislative officials and employees within the meaning and scope of the provisions of title 3, chapter 6, part 3, as if the county officials and employees were officials and employees of state government. Upon adopting the resolution on or before June 30, 2007, the county shall be deemed to be in compliance with the requirements of this part; provided, that the county shall periodically reimburse the Tennessee ethics commission for the commission's increased costs arising from oversight and regulation of the county officials and employees.

**History.**

Acts 2006 (1st Ex. Sess.), ch. 1, § 49; 2007, ch. 161, § 3.

**Compiler's Notes.**

Acts 2006, ch. 1, § 1 of the extraordinary session of the 104th general assembly provided that the act is and may be cited as the "Com-

prehensive Governmental Ethics Reform Act of 2006."

For tables of U.S. decennial populations of Tennessee counties, see Volume 13 and its supplement.

**Section to Section References.**

This section is referred to in § 3-6-301.

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