

AN ACT relating to multi-jurisdictional grand juries.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

SECTION 1. KRS 15.200 is amended to read as follows:

(1) Whenever requested in writing by the Governor, or by any of the courts or grand juries of the Commonwealth, or upon receiving a communication from a sheriff, mayor, or majority of a city legislative body stating that his participation in a given case is desirable to effect the administration of justice and the proper enforcement of the laws of the Commonwealth, the Attorney General may intervene, participate in, or direct any investigation or criminal action, or portions thereof, within the Commonwealth of Kentucky necessary to enforce the laws of the Commonwealth.

(2) He may subpoena witnesses, secure testimony under oath for use in civil or criminal trials, investigations or hearings affecting the Commonwealth, its departments or political subdivisions.

(3) When in his opinion public necessity requires such action, he may petition the Supreme Court to convene a special grand jury to investigate crimes or criminal conspiracies on a multi-jurisdictional basis. He shall designate in his petition the counties wherein the crimes or criminal conspiracies are alleged to have taken place. Upon approval of the petition by the Supreme Court, the Attorney General may intervene or direct an investigation or criminal action.

SECTION 2. KRS CHAPTER 15.205 is amended to read as follows:

When the Attorney General has been requested to participate in a given case or the Supreme Court has granted his petition to convene a multi-jurisdictional special grand jury pursuant to KRS 15.200, the Attorney General may, at his own discretion, direct that a Commonwealth's attorney or county attorney from another circuit or district participate in the case as a special prosecutor for the Commonwealth.

SECTION 3. KRS CHAPTER 29A.220 is amended to read as follows:

(1) Any Chief Circuit Judge may summon for cause a special grand jury to deal with a situation requiring lengthy investigation which cannot be adequately handled during the term of the regular grand jury.

(2) A special grand jury shall remain in session until discharged by the court, but shall not remain in session longer than ninety (90) days, provided, however, that a special grand jury may be extended for additional ninety (90) day periods on the written order of the Chief Circuit Judge.

(3) Upon approval of a petition by the Attorney General authorized under KRS 15.200, the Chief Justice shall appoint a supervising circuit court judge from one of the designated counties to impanel a special grand jury within one of the counties within the judge's circuit.

(4) A special grand jury convened under KRS 15.200 shall remain in session until discharged by the court, but shall not remain in session longer than one hundred and eighty (180) days, provided, however, that a special grand jury convened under KRS 15.200 may be extended for additional ninety (90) day periods on the written order of the Chief Justice.

(5) A special grand jury convened under KRS 15.200 shall have the authority to issue a report, under seal, to each Commonwealth's Attorney of a county implicated by the grand jury's investigation. The report may be received as substantive evidence in any subsequent grand jury presentation.