

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication.

Approved June 2, 1913.

No. 741, A.]

[Published June 4, 1913.

CHAPTER 379.

AN ACT to amend section 931a of the statutes, relating to taxes for libraries.

The people of the State of Wisconsin, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 931a of the statutes is amended to read: Section 931a. If a gift be offered to any city, village or town for a public library or a library building, in consideration thereof such city, village or town may obligate itself, by * * * a vote of a majority of the electors at a regular election or at a special election called for that purpose, to levy and collect an annual tax for the support and maintenance of such library or building of not to exceed fifteen per cent of such gift, and if such gift be accepted such * * * obligation shall not be repealed. In the case of any such gift for a library building, the library board of directors of such city, village or town shall have the exclusive right to select and contract for the purchase of a site therefor, at a cost of not to exceed one-third of such gift. Such board of directors shall report forthwith to such city council, village or town board the amount required to pay for such site, and the council, village or town board shall thereupon, by resolution, include such sum in the next succeeding annual tax levy, or provide for an issue of bonds in the required amount.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and

(See c. 565.)

after its passage and publication.

Approved June 2, 1913.

No. 749, A.]

[Published June 4, 1913.

CHAPTER 380.

AN ACT to create sections 496—1 to 496—12, inclusive, and section 172—112 of the statutes, relating to the consolidation of rural schools and making an appropriation.

The people of the State of Wisconsin, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. There are added to the statutes thirteen new sections to read: Section 496—1. 1. Whenever fifteen per cent of the electors of any rural school district, and one or more con-

tiguous school districts or subdistricts within or outside of an incorporated village shall petition therefor the respective school boards shall meet at a place designated by the school board of the petitioning district having the largest population to fix a time for an election to determine whether the district schools within the districts shall be consolidated. They shall fix the date of the election at not less than four nor more than eight weeks from the time of their meeting and notify the district clerks of the date. The district clerks of the respective districts and subdistricts shall post the notices of election as notices of school district meetings are posted. The elections shall be held by the school officers of the respective districts by written ballots. They shall report the result of the election in their respective districts to the clerk of the district in which the meeting to fix the time of the election is held, within three days after the election. The respective school boards one week after the election shall meet in the same manner and place as for calling the election and shall canvass the returns.

2. If a majority of those of each district voting at the election vote in favor of consolidating the district schools in their respective school districts, the territory included constitutes a consolidated rural school district.

3. The school boards at the time of canvassing the returns shall appoint a time and place for the first district meeting and shall post a written notice thereof in at least three public places in each of the several districts or subdistricts which compose the consolidated school district.

Section 496—2. A consolidated rural school district shall be deemed organized when any two of the officers elected at its first legal meeting file with the clerk of the meeting for canvassing the returns their written acceptances of the office to which they have been respectively elected, or when it has exercised the franchises and privileges of the district for the term of one year. A consolidated rural school district lawfully organized is a body corporate and possesses the usual powers of a public corporation, by the name and style of "Consolidated Rural School District No. of" (the town or village, as the case may be, in which the school building is located or proposed to be located). Such numbers shall be designated by the board or boards in the order of the formation of consolidated rural school districts. The board shall make its contracts in its corporate name.

Section 496—3. When a consolidated rural school district shall be lawfully organized, the school districts or subdistricts out of which it shall have been formed shall cease to exist as school

districts or bodies corporate, and the title to all property and assets of every nature of the several school districts and sub-districts out of which it was organized, shall thereupon become vested in the consolidated rural school district, and all valid subsisting claims and obligations against and contracts of the said several school districts and subdistricts shall continue to be valid claims and obligations against them severally. All claims and obligations arising after the formation of a consolidated school district shall be against the consolidated school district. The consolidated rural school district shall maintain and conduct the schools theretofore maintained and conducted by the several districts and subdistricts, until such time as the consolidated rural school district shall have purchased or erected and equipped a building in which school can be conducted.

Section 496—4. The consolidated rural school district established under sections 496—1 to 496—12, inclusive, shall have authority to borrow money under the conditions specified in sections 474, 475 and 476 of the statutes.

Section 496—5. Consolidated rural school districts shall be entitled to and shall share in the distribution of the common school fund income and other school funds, in the same manner as school districts maintaining common and graded schools. In case a high school is maintained, the consolidated rural school shall be entitled to and share as in the case of union free high schools.

Section 496—6. Special state aid partially to defray the cost of erecting and equipping a school building shall be granted to consolidated rural school districts as follows:

(1) To a consolidated rural school district maintaining a school consisting of one department formed by the uniting of two or more school districts or subdistricts, one-half the cost, not to exceed five hundred dollars to any one school;

(2) To a consolidated rural school district maintaining a school consisting of a graded school of two departments, formed by the uniting of the schools of two or more school districts or subdistricts, one-half the cost, not to exceed fifteen hundred dollars to any one school;

(3) To a consolidated rural school district maintaining a school consisting of a graded school of three departments, formed by the uniting of the schools of two or more school districts or subdistricts, one-half of the cost, not to exceed two thousand dollars to any one school;

(4) To a consolidated rural school district maintaining a school consisting of a graded school of four or more depart-

ments, formed by the uniting of the schools of three or more school districts or subdistricts, one-half of the cost, not to exceed three thousand dollars to any one school;

(5) To a consolidated rural school district maintaining a school consisting of a graded school and a high school, formed by the uniting of all the districts and subdistricts of a township, one-half of the cost, not to exceed five thousand dollars to any one school.

Section 496—7. All plans and expense accounts for additions to school buildings, or for new buildings under sections 496—1 to 496—12, inclusive, shall be submitted to the state superintendent. No state aid shall be granted unless the state superintendent has approved the plans when thus submitted.

Section 496—8. The clerk of the school board of consolidated rural school districts shall, on or before the fifteenth day of July of each year, make to the state superintendent of public instruction a report stating the number of departments in the school, the total expense for the previous year, and such other information as the state superintendent of public instruction requires.

Section 496—9. The officers of any consolidated rural school district may enter into contracts for the transportation of pupils to the consolidated rural schools maintained under their authority.

Section 496—10. The consolidated rural school district shall receive special state aid for transportation upon complying with the following conditions:

(1) Transportation shall be provided for at least thirty-two weeks, including legal holidays.

(2) The average daily attendance of the pupils transported from any districts or subdistrict to any consolidated rural school or state graded school or free high school district, under the provisions of this act, shall be eighty per cent of the entire number enrolled for transportation during each term of school.

(3) Each driver contracted with shall be of excellent moral character, trustworthy and responsible, and shall furnish a safe team with a suitable and comfortable conveyance, well supplied with protections against stormy and inclement weather.

(4) The clerks of each district or subdistrict taking advantage of sections 496—1 to 496—12, inclusive, shall make a special report to the state superintendent of public instruction showing that the above conditions have been complied with.

Section 496—11. Each district taking advantage of sections 496—1 to 496—12, inclusive, shall receive the same apportionment of the state and other taxes as provided by law, as would have been received had school been maintained in the district.

Section 496—12. It shall also be lawful for the electors to authorize the school board to enter into an agreement with the parent, guardian or other person in charge of any pupil, to compensate such parent, guardian or other person, for transporting any pupil or pupils to and from school, and to enter into contracts for the transportation to and from school of all persons of school age who attend, and to levy a tax therefor. In all cases where the distance from the home of the pupil or pupils who are to be transported is two miles or less by the nearest traveled highway, the sum per pupil so paid shall be such as may be authorized by the electors; and in all cases where the distance is more than one and less than two miles, the state shall pay five cents per day, and where the distance is more than two miles, ten cents per day for each pupil transported regularly to and from school in some reasonable and comfortable manner for a period of not less than five months. The school board or the town board of school directors and the principal teacher of the school in which such pupil is enrolled shall, on or before the fifteenth day of July of each year, make under oath a report giving the name and showing the distance and number of days each pupil was transported, the mode of transportation, and the total amount claimed by the districts on account of such transportation.

Section 172—112. There is annually appropriated on July 1, not to exceed fifty thousand dollars payable from any moneys in the general fund, not otherwise appropriated, for consolidated rural school districts established under sections 496—1 to 496—12, inclusive, for erecting and equipping school buildings and for transportation of pupils as provided in said sections.

SECTION 2. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent with this act are repealed insofar as they are inconsistent herewith.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after July 1, 1913.

Approved June 2, 1913.

No. 750, A.]

[Published June 4, 1913.]

CHAPTER 381.

AN ACT to repeal sections 1728 and 1728—1 of the statutes, and to create sections 1728—1, 1728—2, 1728—3 and 1728—4 of the statutes, relating to hours of labor for women, and providing penalties.

The people of the State of Wisconsin, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Sections 1728 and 1728—1 of the statutes are repealed.