

nished by any other person under contract with said city *or village*, and the power to levy special assessments to defray such cost and expense shall be the same as is now, or as hereafter may be provided under the charter of any said city, *or village or by law*; provided, however, that the amounts assessed hereunder against any lands or interests specially benefited or otherwise liable therefor shall in no case exceed the amounts which would have been assessed against the same had the lowest bid so received as aforesaid been accepted, and that so much of such cost and expense as shall be in excess of such lowest bid shall be borne by said city *or village* at large.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage and publication.

Approved July 29, 1915.

No. 329, A.]

[Published July 31, 1915.

CHAPTER 460.

AN ACT to create sections 553m—101 to 553m—108 of the statutes, to regulate the sale, prices, and manner of supply of school textbooks, and providing a penalty.

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

SECTION 1. There are added to the statutes eight new sections to read: Section 553m—101. No person shall offer any school textbook for adoption, sale or exchange in the state of Wisconsin until he shall have complied with the following conditions:

(1) He shall file copies of all textbooks proposed to be sold in the state of Wisconsin by the company manufacturing such book, in the office of the state superintendent of public instruction with a sworn statement of the list price, the lowest wholesale price, and the lowest exchange price at which said book is sold or exchanged for an old book on the same subject of like grade and kind but of a different series in states of the United States including the state of Wisconsin.

(2) He shall file with the state superintendent of public instruction a bond running to the people of the state of Wisconsin, with a responsible surety company authorized to do business in the state of Wisconsin as surety thereon, in a penal sum to be determined by the state superintendent of public instruction, of not less than two thousand dollars nor more than ten thousand dollars, conditioned as follows:

(a) That he will furnish any of the books listed in said statement and in any other statement subsequently filed by him within five years, to any school district, to any school corporation and to any person or corporation in the state of Wisconsin at the lowest price contained in said statement and that he will maintain said price uniformly throughout the state;

(b) That he will reduce such prices automatically in Wisconsin whenever reductions are made elsewhere in the United States, so that at no time shall any book so filed and listed by him be sold in the state of Wisconsin at a higher net price than is received for such book elsewhere in the United States;

(c) That all textbooks offered for sale, adoption, or exchange in the state of Wisconsin shall be equal in quality to those deposited in the office of the state superintendent of public instruction as regards paper, binding, print, illustrations, subject matter, and all other particulars that may affect the value of such textbooks;

(d) In case he shall prepare an abridged or special edition of any of the books so listed by him, and shall sell such special edition elsewhere at a lower wholesale price than the wholesale price scheduled with the state superintendent, he shall file a copy of such special edition together with the price therefor, as above stated, with the state superintendent of public instruction;

(e) He shall not enter into any understanding, agreement or combination to control the prices or to restrict competition in the sale of school textbooks.

Section 553m—102. Such bond shall be approved by the attorney-general and shall continue in force for the period of five years after its filing, at or before the expiration of which period a new bond shall be given, or the right to continue business within the state shall be forfeited.

Section 553m—103. The state superintendent of public instruction shall annually on the first day of June publish and send to each school district in the state, a copy of all such lists then in force in his office.

Section 553m—104. It shall be the duty of all teachers and principals of schools in the several districts of this state, to notify the city or county superintendent of schools of the school district corporation in which they respectively reside, of any violation of any of the conditions contained in said bond that shall come to their knowledge, and it shall thereupon be the duty of such city or county superintendent of schools to investigate the alleged violation, and if he shall determine that there is good ground for believing that said conditions have actually been vio-

lated, he shall forthwith report the matter to the state superintendent of public instruction, who shall thereupon notify the person guilty of such violation to comply with the conditions of his said bond and to make good any loss or injury that may have been occasioned by such violation within a reasonable time to be inserted in said notice. If the person so notified shall fail to comply with the requirements of the notice, the said superintendent of public instruction may thereupon suspend his right to sell school textbooks within the state of Wisconsin until he shall so comply. In case any person who has given the bond aforesaid shall refuse to comply with the provisions thereof, or shall violate the same the second time, the said superintendent of public instruction shall declare his bond forfeited and the attorney-general shall bring suit thereon in any court having jurisdiction thereof. In case judgment shall be rendered in favor of the state on such bond, judgment shall be entered and damages assessed for the penal amount thereof, and when paid, it shall be placed to the credit of the state school fund for the common schools of the state of Wisconsin. In case judgment is rendered against the principal in such bond, he shall be barred from further continuance of his business within the state of Wisconsin for a period of five years.

Section 553m—105. No person shall secure or attempt to secure the sale of any school textbooks in any school district in this state by rewarding or promising to reward any teacher in any school in the state or by securing for him any position in any other school. No person shall offer or give any emolument, money or other valuable thing, promise of work or any other inducement to any teacher or school officer in any school district for any vote or promise of vote or for the use of his influence for any school textbook to be used in this state; provided, that nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent any person from giving, or any school officer or teacher from receiving a reasonable number of sample copies of school textbooks for examination with a view to obtaining information as to the book or series of books for which such officer shall give his vote.

Section 553m—106. School districts are hereby authorized to purchase textbooks from the publishers at the prices listed with the state superintendent of public instruction as hereinbefore provided and to sell said books to the pupils at said listed prices or at such prices as will include the cost of transportation and the cost of handling.

Section 553m—107. The word "person" as used in sections 553m—101 to 553m—108, inclusive, of the statutes, shall include firms, associations and corporations.

Section 553m—108. Any person violating any of the provisions of sections 553m—101 to 553m—107, inclusive, of the statutes, shall, on conviction thereof, be punished by fine not exceeding five hundred dollars, or by imprisonment not exceeding three months, or by both such fine and imprisonment at the discretion of the court.

SECTION 2. All acts or parts of acts inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon passage and publication.

Approved July 29, 1915.

No. 411, A.]

[Published July 31, 1915.

CHAPTER 461.

AN ACT to create sections 44m—1 to 44m—15, inclusive, of the statutes, relating to absent voting and providing a penalty.

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

SECTION 1. There are added to the statutes fifteen new sections to read: Section 44m—1. Any qualified elector of the state of Wisconsin, having duly registered where such registration is required, who through the nature of his business, is absent or expects in the course of said business, to be absent from the county in which he is a qualified elector on the day of holding any general, special, primary, county, city, village or town election, may vote at any such election as provided in sections 44m—1 to 44m—15, inclusive, of the statutes.

Section 44m—2. Any elector, as defined in section 44m—1 of the statutes, expecting to be absent from the county of his residence on the day of any such election may, not more than fifteen nor less than three days prior to the date of such election, make application to the county clerk of such county, or the clerk of the city, village or town, as the case may be, for an official ballot to be voted at such election.

Section 44m—3. Application for such ballot shall be made in person on a blank to be furnished by the county clerk or the clerk of the city, village or town, as the case may be, in which the applicant is an elector, and shall be substantially in the following form: