No. 526, S.]

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CHAPTER 323.

AN ACT to amend 46.012 of the statutes, relating to appointment of the state board of public welfare.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

46.012 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

46.012 (1) The state board of public welfare consists of 9 members appointed by the governor with the consent of the senate for terms of 6 years. Appointments shall be made on the basis of recognized and demonstrated interest in and knowledge of the problems of public welfare. At least one member shall be appointed on the basis of recognized and demonstrated interest in and knowledge of the problems of mental hygiene; and at least one each on the basis of similar qualifications in the fields of child and youth problems, public assistance and corrections. The latter 4 persons designated in the preceding sentence shall be appointed by the governor from nominations submitted by a panel consisting of the chairman of the state board of health, the state superintendent of public instruction, the president of the university, the president of the county judges' association of Wisconsin, * * * the chairman of the Wisconsin welfare council and the president of the Wisconsin public welfare association. At least 2 nominations shall be submitted by the panel for each such position. All appointments shall be made without regard to party affiliation or to interest in any special organized group. The governor shall appoint initially 3 to serve for 6 years, 3 to serve for 4 years, 3 to serve for 2 years; terms shall expire on April 1, of the year of expiration. Thereafter, each member shall be appointed and confirmed for 6 years. Vacancies shall be filled by the governor in accordance with the foregoing for the unexpired term by and with the advice of the senate. A majority of the members constitutes a quorum. Each member shall take and file the official oath. board shall elect a chairman from its own number. The director of public welfare shall serve as a nonvoting ex officio member of the board, and, when matters affecting any division of the department are being considered by the board, the head of that division shall serve for the time as a nonvoting, ex officio member of the board. The board shall make such rules and orders for the regulation of its own proceedings as it shall deem proper.

Approved June 6, 1951.