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No. 382, S.]

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CHAPTER 239

AN ACT to amend 13.351 (2) (a), (c) and (e) 1, 13.351 (3), (4), (5) and (6) of the statutes, relating to technical changes regarding the operations of the state building commission and responsibility for building trust fund accounting.

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

SECTION 1. 13.351 (2) (a), (c) and (e) 1 of the statutes are amended to read:

13.351 (2) (a) There is created a state building commission which shall consist of the governor, who shall be chairman, and 6 members of the legislature of whom 3 shall be from each house, to be appointed as are standing committees in the respective houses, provided that of the members appointed from either house, one shall be a member of the visiting committee created by s. 13.057, and one citizen member to be appointed by the governor who shall serve at the pleasure of the governor as an ex officio member. The director of the engineering bureau, * * * the ranking architect in the department of administration, and the commissioner of administration shall be advisory members with no voting power. The terms of all legislative members shall expire on * * * the second Wednesday in January in each odd-numbered year. The members shall act without liability except for misconduct, and shall receive no compensation for their services but they shall be reimbursed for travel expenses actually and necessarily incurred in the performance of their duties out of the appropriation made in s. 20.125.

(c) In performing its duties, the commission may be assisted by * * * the department of administration and such other state officials and employes as * * * it requires. The commission may employ outside of the classified service, staff or consultants and fix the salary or conditions of such employment.

(e) 1. The state building commission shall report to the legislature at each regular session, for purposes of legislative review, * * * the total authorizations for building program projects from all sources since the 1949 adjourned session. It shall report in detail the progress on projects authorized in the 2 preceding and current biennia including the authorization, the encumbrance and expenditure to date, and the unencumbered balance remaining for each project. Such report shall be part of the budget document. The governor shall include in his biennial budget message such additional amounts for projects in the state's public building program as he and the state building commission recommend should be appropriated by the legislature for the succeeding biennium.

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SECTION 2. 13.351 (3), (4), (5) and (6) of the statutes are amended to read:

13.351 (3) In the interest of the continuity of the program, there shall be transferred from the general fund to the state building trust fund as a building depreciation reserve, on July 1, 1959, and annually thereafter, a sum equal to one per cent of the value of all state buildings, structures, utility plants and equipment therein excepting those under the jurisdiction of the highway commission, as appraised by the department of administration in each even-numbered year. Such appraisal shall be an estimate of the cost of reproduction of such buildings, structures and facilities, and shall be certified by the department of administration not later than November 20 of each even-numbered year, to the incoming governor, who shall include the sums so to be transferred in his budget. Such sums, together with all donations, gifts, bequests or contributions of money or other property, and any additional appropriations or transfers made thereto by the legislature shall constitute the state building trust fund. At such times as the state building commission * * * directs, the governor shall authorize releases from this fund to become available for projects in the long-range building program, and he shall direct the department of administration to allocate from this fund such amounts as are approved for these projects. In issuing such directions, the commission shall consider the cash balance in the state building trust fund, the necessity and urgency of the proposed improvement, employment conditions and availability of materials in the locality in which the improvement is to be made. The commission is authorized to enter into contracts for the construction of buildings for any state agency and shall be responsible for accounting for all funds released to projects. The commission may designate the agency for which the project is constructed to act as its representative in such accounting.

(4) Each state agency contemplating a project under this program shall report its proposed projects to the state building commission * * * on such date and in such manner as the commission prescribes.

(5) The department of administration shall assist the commission in the performance of * * * its duties. The department of administration shall, when requested by * * * the building commission, make or cause to be made such studies, preliminary plans and specifications and cost estimates with respect to any proposed project as are necessary to permit the commission to consider intelligently the approval or disapproval of the project and the appropriation of funds. The costs of such studies * * * shall be charged against the building trust fund.

(6) All reports submitted as provided by sub. (4) shall be reviewed by the commission, which shall make its report * * * as soon after November 20 as is possible. Such report shall include specific recommendations and establish priorities for the next 3 bienniums from among all projects submitted which they deem essential and shall recommend additional appropriations if necessary for the execution thereof. The commission shall include in its report an appraisal and recommendation of available and alternative methods of financing buildings for the use of state agencies and shall file copies of its report with the * * * governor-elect.

Approved July 11, 1961.