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CHAPTER 364

1969 Senate Bill 273

Date published:
February 11, 1970

CHAPTER 364, LAWS OF 1969

AN ACT to amend 16.52 (5) (b), 16.80 (4) and (13) (a), 16.85 (6) and (8) and 16.89; and to repeal and recreate 16.80 (2) (a) of the statutes, relating to reconciliation of accounts by the state departments and to preservation of public records and inspection of state buildings.

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

SECTION 1. 16.52 (5) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

16.52 (5) (b) After August 15, departments shall be allowed not to exceed one month for reconciling August 15 prior year balances, correcting errors and certifying necessary adjustments to the central accounting office. No prior year corrections shall be permitted after September 15, it being incumbent upon all state departments to completely reconcile their records with the department of administration by said date. Each department shall delegate to some individual the responsibility of reconciling its accounts as herein provided and shall certify his name to the ~~director~~ secretary. As soon as a reconciliation has been effected, the department shall advise the ~~director~~ secretary in writing of such fact and shall forward to him a copy of such reconciliation. If any department fails to reconcile its accounts as provided in this subsection, the person responsible for such reconciliation shall not be entitled to any further compensation for salary until such reconciliation is effected. *With the approval of the state auditor any department which relies extensively on central accounting records may be permitted to file a statement of agreement in lieu of a reconciliation on all or on parts of their accounts.*

SECTION 2. 16.80 (2) (a) of the statutes is repealed and recreated to read:

16.80 (2) (a) "Public records" means all books, papers, maps, photographs, films, recordings, or other documentary materials or any copy thereof, regardless of physical form or characteristics, made, or received by any agency of the state or its officers or employes in connection with the transaction of public business and retained by that agency or its successor as evidence of its activities or functions because of the information contained therein; except the records and correspondence of any member of the state legislature.

SECTION 3. 16.80 (4) and (13) (a) of the statutes are amended to read:

16.80 (4) ~~No~~ *All public records made or received or in the custody of a state agency shall be and remain the property of the state and as such may not be destroyed without the written approval of the originating office or its legal successor and the written approval of the ~~committee on~~ public records board.*

(13) (a) The ~~state~~ historical society, as trustee for the state, shall be the ultimate depository of the archives of the state, and the ~~committee board~~ may transfer to the society such original records and reproductions as it deems proper and worthy, of permanent preservation, *including records and reproductions which the custodian thereof has been specifically directed by statute to preserve or keep in his office.* The society may deposit in the regional depositories established under s. 44.10, title remaining with the society, the records of state agencies or their district or regional offices which are primarily created in the geographic area serviced by the depository, but the records of all central departments, offices, establishments and agencies shall remain in the main archives in

the capital city under the society's immediate jurisdiction, *except that the society may place such records temporarily at a regional depository for periods of time to be determined by the society.* Nothing in this subsection nor in s. 44.01 shall be construed to prevent the society's taking such steps for the safety of articles and materials entrusted to its care in library, museum or archives, including temporary removal to safer locations, as may be dictated by emergency conditions arising from a state of war, civil rebellion or other catastrophe.

SECTION 4. 16.85 (6) and (8) of the statutes are amended to read:

16.85 (6) To approve the appointment, ~~subject to the classified service,~~ of a principal engineer or architect for departments, boards and commissions and when such continuous service is needed. No such engineer or architect shall be employed without the written approval of the director.

(8) The director or his designated assistants shall make a biennial inspection of each building of each institution of the state. ~~Upon completion of such inspection, he shall report his findings to the governor and~~ *The director may delegate this responsibility* to the board, commission or officer in charge of such institution.

SECTION 5. 16.89 of the statutes is amended to read:

16.89 No department, ~~board, commission, officer~~ *independent agency, constitutional office* or agent of the state shall employ engineering ~~or,~~ architectural *or allied* services or expend money for construction purposes on behalf of the state, except as provided in this chapter. ~~No major repair or major improvement shall be authorized or undertaken by the board, commission or officer in charge of any institution prior to the completion of a report of the director, except in cases of emergency, which shall be first reported to the director before any work thereon is commenced.~~

Approved January 23, 1970.
