

No. 600, A.]

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CHAPTER 292

AN ACT to amend 70.06 (2), (3) and (4) of the statutes, relating to the organization of the office of the tax commissioner in the city of Milwaukee.

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

70.06 (2), (3) and (4) of the statutes are amended to read:

70.06 (2) The tax commissioner shall divide such city into districts for purposes of administration subject to approval of the common council. For the purpose of determining situs of personal property for assessment and taxation, the boundaries of such

districts may be disregarded. The tax commissioner, with the approval of the common council, may redistrict the city or so much thereof as he deems necessary or he may create additional * * * districts. The tax commissioner shall appoint one assessor for each district and such other persons as are hereinafter enumerated who shall be * * * residents of the city of Milwaukee and hold office in accordance with the civil service laws applicable to such city, except in so far as the same is modified by sub. (3). Such assessors, under the direction and supervision of the tax commissioner, shall assess all the taxable property in each such district; except that the tax commissioner may direct that the assessments of personal property * * * or of one or more of the classes of real property referred to in s. 70.32 (2) may be made and administered without regard to the boundaries of such administrative districts, in which event he shall assign one or more assessors or such other persons hereinafter enumerated, as he may designate, to assess one or more classes of property in one or more of such administrative districts; and any person so designated and directed to assess any class of property shall certify to the assessment rolls in the same manner and to the same effect as an assessor provided that the number of assessors shall not be less than the total number of such administrative districts as determined by the tax commissioner and approved by the common council. Said tax commissioner may, with the approval of the common council, appoint one chief assessor * * *, one or more chief appraisers * * *, one or more supervising assessors and supervising appraisers, one or more property appraisers and such other expert technical personnel as he may deem necessary in order that all valuations throughout the city shall be uniformly made in accordance with law. Said chief assessor * * *, chief appraisers and supervising assessors and supervising appraisers shall exercise such direction and supervision over assessment procedure and shall perform such duties in relation to the assessment of property as the tax commissioner shall determine; they, together with * * * any property appraisers, appointed prior to February 1, 1953, shall be members of the board of assessors and shall hold office in the same manner as assessors as hereinbefore provided. In the event of the death, disability or removal of any district assessor, the tax commissioner may appoint any other assessor, chief assessor, chief appraiser, supervising assessor, supervising appraiser or property appraiser to act as assessor of the district in which such death, disability or removal occurs. The assessors and such chief assessor, chief appraisers, supervising assessors and supervising appraisers and property appraisers as may be appointed shall devote their entire time and attention to the duties of their office and shall not actively engage in any other occupation.

(3) The chief assessor, chief appraisers and every supervising assessor, supervising appraiser and * * * assessor appointed as provided in sub. (2) shall be subject to removal from office for the causes mentioned in s. 17.14, and in addition thereto for neglect of duties, incompetency, drunkenness or intentional insubordination in the manner provided by sub. (4).

(4) Whenever the tax commissioner ascertains or has good reason to believe that any * * * person appointed as provided in sub. (2) is guilty of any of the causes for removal mentioned in sub. (3) he may immediately suspend such * * * person, and the tax commissioner shall thereupon within 10 days make complaint to the presiding judge of the circuit court for the removal of such * * * person, and the matters shall be brought on for immediate hearing. The city attorney shall attend and prosecute such proceedings for removal. Unless such complaint is filed by the said tax commissioner within said time, said * * * person so suspended shall ipso facto be reinstated without further proceedings. Nothing herein contained, however, shall affect the removal of * * * any person appointed pursuant to sub. (2) in the manner and for the causes as provided in s. 17.14.

Approved June 16, 1953.