

No. 262, A.]

[Published May 26, 1903.]

**CHAPTER 387.**

AN ACT, relating to the granting of franchises by cities.

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

**Ordinance granting franchise to be submitted to a vote of the voters, when.** SECTION 1. From and after the passage of this act no ordinance for granting either a street railroad, electric lighting, gas, water or telephone franchise, or for the extension of the life of any such existing franchise shall be operative in any city in this state until after sixty days from the date of its passage, and if in any such case and during said period of sixty days a number of the qualified voters, equal to twenty per cent. of the total number of votes cast at the last preceding election in such city, shall demand that the ordinance be submitted to a direct vote of all the voters therein, such ordinance shall not be valid or operative until it shall have been so submitted and approved by a majority of those having voted upon it. The provisions of this section shall not apply to the extension of any existing line or system upon any street or highway, if the term of such extension expires at the same time as the franchise of which it is a part.

**Demand for submission, how made.** SECTION 2. In every such case the papers containing the demand for such direct vote shall be filed with the city clerk within the time specified, and each signer shall write his occupation and residence after his signature and the genuineness of the signer of each paper must be affirmed by the affidavit of a qualified voter.

**Ordinance, when to be submitted.** SECTION 3. Such submission of an ordinance shall be made at the next municipal election, or at a special election to be held within ninety days of the filing of the demand for a direct vote, as the common council may determine.

**Ballot.** SECTION 4. In submitting such ordinance to a direct vote the common council shall have clearly printed upon

the official ballot the title of the ordinance with the words "for" and "against" in capital letters, and each of the said two words shall be followed by a square, enclosed space for the voters' mark.

**Election, how governed.** SECTION 5. Except as herein otherwise provided every such election shall be governed by the general laws of the state.

**Conflicting laws repealed.** SECTION 6. All laws or parts of laws inconsistent with this act shall hereby be repealed.

SECTION 7. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication.

Approved May 21, 1903.

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No. 254, A.]

[Published May 26, 1903.

## CHAPTER 388.

AN ACT, amendatory of section 5 of chapter 218, of the laws of 1899, entitled "An act to establish a district court in the county of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, as amended by section 1 of chapter 70, of the laws of 1901.

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

**Jurisdiction of court.** SECTION 1. Section 5 of chapter 218 of the laws of 1899 as amended by section 1, of chapter 70, of the laws of 1901, is hereby amended by inserting between the words "to deprive" and the words "any city," where they occur in the last sentence of said section 1, the following, "any justice of the peace of any town, or," and by striking out the words, "city or village," at the end of said section and inserting in lieu thereof, the words "town, city or village," so that said section when so amended shall read as follows:

Section 5. Said district court shall have exclusive jurisdiction to try and sentence all offenders against the ordinances of said city of Milwaukee, and it shall also have exclusive juris-