

within the appropriation herein made; and also for fire protection; for furniture and equipment of existing buildings; and for apparatus and additions to the library; provided that no plan or plans for any building shall be finally adopted, and no contract or contracts shall be entered into by the regents for the construction of any building until such plans and contracts, with complete estimates of the total cost thereof, shall have been submitted to and in writing approved by the governor of the state, who shall withhold such approval until he shall satisfy himself by a personal examination or by such other means as he may in his discretion adopt, that such building is required for the purposes proposed, and it can and will be erected and fully completed according to such plans or contracts for the sum proposed for the same by the regents out of the appropriation herein made.

SECTION 4. There is added to the statutes a new section to read:

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**Conflicting laws repealed.** SECTION 5. All acts and parts of acts in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

SECTION 6. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication.

Approved June 27, 1907.

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No. 63, S.]

[Published June 29, 1907.

## CHAPTER 429.

AN ACT to add sections 1797m, 1797n, 1797o, 1797p, 1797q, 1797r, 1797s, 1797t, 1797u, 1797v to the statutes, creating a water-ways commission, and making an appropriation therefor.

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

SECTION 1. There is added to the statutes new sections to read:

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SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication.

Approved June 27, 1907.

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**Telephone connections with railroads.** SECTION 1797g—1. Every railroad company shall furnish reasonably adequate telephonic connection with its offices, buildings and grounds.

(Ch. 614, 1907.)

**Railroad commission to regulate abuses.** SECTION 1797g—2. Upon complaint to the railroad commission of Wisconsin that any telephonic service with any railroad is inadequate or in any respect unreasonably or unjustly discriminatory or that such service can not be had it shall be the duty of said commission to investigate the same and if upon investigation the commission shall find that any telephonic service is inadequate or unreasonably or unjustly discriminatory or that such service can not be had it shall determine and by order fix a reasonable regulation, practice or service to be installed, imposed, observed and followed in the future.

(Ch. 614, 1907.)

**Orders of commission; actions to set aside.** SECTION 1797g—3. All orders made by the commission under the provisions of this act shall have the same force and effect and an action may be commenced to vacate and set aside the same, as provided in chapter 362, laws of 1905.

(Ch. 614, 1907.)

**Water-ways commissioner: appointment, term, salary, etc.** SECTION 1797m. A water-ways commission is created for a period of three years to be composed of one commissioner, who shall be appointed in the same manner, for a term of three years, receive the same compensation, take the same oath of office and be under the same restrictions, so far as practicable, as members of the railroad commission.

(Ch. 429, 1907. See Sections 1797n to 1797v, inclusive.)

**Public utilities law: definitions; "public utility," etc.** SECTION 1797m—1. 1. The term "public utility" as used in this act shall mean and embrace every corporation, company, individual, association of individuals, their lessees, trustees or receivers appointed by any court whatsoever, and every town, village or city that now or hereafter may own, operate, manage or control any plant or equipment or any part of a plant or equipment within the state, for the conveyance of telephone messages or

mence an action against it in the circuit court in the manner provided in sections 1797m—64 to 1797m—73, inclusive, of this act, which action shall be tried and determined in the same manner as is provided in said sections.

(Ch. 499, 1907.)

**Employes of commission.** SECTION 1797m—106. The employment of agents, experts, engineers, accountants, examiners or assistants by the commission as provided in this act, and the payment of their compensation and traveling and other expenses, shall be under the provisions of section 1, chapter 362, of the laws of 1905, and acts amendatory thereof.

(Ch. 499, 1907.)

**Appropriation.** SECTION 1797m—107. A sum sufficient to carry out the provisions of this act is appropriated out of any money in the state treasury not otherwise appropriated, not exceeding fifty-two thousand dollars.

(Ch. 499, 1907.)

**Conflicting laws repealed.** SECTION 1797m—108. All acts and parts of acts conflicting with the provisions of this act are repealed in so far as they are inconsistent herewith.

(Ch. 499, 1907.)

**Water ways commission: water passenger and freight regulation.** SECTION 1797n. Such commission shall have the same power and authority over persons, companies or corporations engaged in the business of transporting passengers and freight over and upon the inland waters of this state and rivers bounding the same, as that conferred by chapter 362 of the laws of 1905 upon the railroad commission over railroads so far as applicable, and the duties of such water-ways commission in regard to transportation by water shall be the same as that of the railroad commission over transportation by rail, so far as applicable, or unless otherwise prescribed herein.

(Ch. 429, 1907.)

**Mississippi dock limits and steamboats.** SECTION 1797o. It shall be the duty of the commission to define the dock limit in any city or village on the Mississippi river, or its tributaries, at the request of the proper authorities of such city or village,

or on its own motion, and any public docks or wharves that may be built either by the city or village or by the state shall be built within such limits, and under the control of such commission. Every master or captain or person in charge of any steamboat or other craft which shall land at any public dock shall be deemed to have submitted himself and such craft and the person or corporation owning or operating the same to the jurisdiction of the courts of this state for the enforcement of this act, and for the purpose of carrying out the powers hereby conferred upon such commission.

(Ch. 429, 1907.)

**Transportation and navigability: investigations and report.** SECTION 1797p. In addition to the duties hereinbefore prescribed it shall be the duty of such commission to make a careful investigation of the methods, means and cost of transportation on navigable rivers and of the various plans and methods of improving and promoting the navigability thereof, and shall keep a full and complete record of all evidence taken by him, and shall report the same with its conclusions thereon, showing the relative value of such plans, means and methods as applied to the inland waters of this state and rivers bounding the same, to the governor, who shall submit the same to the next legislature succeeding each such report.

(Ch. 429, 1907.)

**Lines of investigation.** SECTION 1797q. Such commission shall make a special investigation of the Mississippi river and of the navigable rivers within this state; of the population to be directly benefited by the improvement and use of such rivers; of the probable tonnage that may reasonably be carried on such rivers; of the improvements that have been made or are contemplated on such rivers; of the methods best adapted for the use and improvement of such rivers; and such other matters as shall be pertinent to the improvement of the navigability of such river. In making such investigations, and in carrying out the provisions of this act, such commission shall follow the same procedure and have the same powers as those conferred on the railroad commission by chapter 362 of the laws of 1905 so far as the same are applicable.

(Ch. 429, 1907.)

**Clerk: salary and expenses.** SECTION 1797r. Such commission shall appoint one clerk, who shall be an expert steno-

rapher, who shall receive a salary not to exceed fifteen hundred dollars per annum, together with his traveling expenses, which shall be approved by such commission and be paid as the expenses of clerks of the railroad commission are paid.

(Ch. 429.1907.)

**Bulletins of information.** SECTION 1797s. Said commissioner is hereby authorized to prepare bulletins containing information concerning the use and improvement of navigable rivers for transportation purposes, and of the benefits to be derived therefrom, and the state printer is hereby authorized to print ten thousand copies of the same yearly, and deliver them to the commission for distribution, provided that the whole number of printed pages shall not exceed one hundred each year.

(Ch. 429. 1907.)

**Office, supplies, expenses.** SECTION 1797t. Such commission shall hold an office at such place as shall be fixed by the governor, and shall be provided by the superintendent of public property with necessary office and supplies, and all necessary expenses shall be incurred, audited and paid in the manner prescribed for the railroad commission.

(Ch. 429, 1907.)

**Governor to appoint.** SECTION 1797u. It is hereby made the duty of the governor to appoint such commission within thirty days after the passage and publication of this act.

(Ch. 429, 1907.)

**Appropriation.** SECTION 1797v. A sum sufficient to carry out the provisions of this act is hereby appropriated out of any moneys in the state treasury not otherwise appropriated.

(Ch. 429, 1907.)

**Street railway franchises: definitions of terms used in sections 1797t—1 to 1797t—12 inclusive.** SECTION 1797t—1. 1. The term "municipal council" as used in this act shall mean and embrace the common council, the board of aldermen, the board of trustees, the town or village board, or any other governing body of any town, village or city wherein the property of a street railway company or any part thereof is located.