

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication.

Approved July 6, 1911.

No. 980, A.]

[Published July 7, 1911.

CHAPTER 583.

AN ACT to create a state board of public affairs with powers of supervision and inspection of public bodies, to carry on certain investigations, and to make estimates and recommendations relative to public expenditures and other public matters, and making an appropriation therefor.

The people of the State of Wisconsin, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Unless such construction would be inconsistent with the manifest intent of the legislature, the following terms, as used in this act, shall be construed as indicated:

(1) The phrase "public body" shall mean and include every incumbent of any office or position under the constitution or laws of this state; every department, commission or board in which any such incumbent is employed as such; and every officer, office, department, commission, board or institution, the conduct or operation of which involves the receipt, expenditure or handling of any state funds or property.

(2) The term "accounts" shall mean all accounts, records and reports relating to the jurisdiction of any public body.

(3) The term "jurisdiction" shall mean and include all duties, liabilities, authority, powers or privileges imposed or conferred by law upon any public body.

SECTION 2. The governor of the state, the secretary of state, the chairman of the finance committee of the assembly, the chairman of the finance committee of the senate, and three other persons, none of whom shall be a member of the faculty of the university of Wisconsin, appointed by the governor and approved by the senate, are constituted a board of public affairs.

SECTION 3. The present chairman of the finance committee of the senate and assembly, respectively, shall take their places upon such board, and shall continue to be upon such board, during the present session of the legislature and after its adjournment, until the selection of their successors as such chairmen. Such succeeding chairmen shall thereafter be members of this board.

SECTION 4. 1. Immediately after the passage of this act the governor shall, by and with the advice and consent of the senate, appoint the members of such board, other than the ex officio members thereof, but such members so appointed shall not be

qualified to act until so confirmed. The board as herein provided for shall cease to exist June 30, 1913.

2. A vacancy in the position filled by the appointed member shall be filled by appointment by the governor for the unexpired term, subject to confirmation by the senate, but any such appointment shall be in full force until acted upon by the senate.

3. The governor may at any time remove the appointed members of such board for inefficiency, neglect of duty, or malfeasance in office, in the same manner as is provided in paragraph b, of section 1797—1, of the statutes.

SECTION 5. No member of such board shall be compensated for his services, but each member shall be paid his necessary traveling expenses incurred in attending meetings, or in performing other duties incidental to his membership upon such board, and other necessary expenses incurred by him, incidental to the performance of such duties.

SECTION 6. All expenses incurred as provided herein by such board, its secretary, experts or employes shall when certified as necessary and correct by the governor, be audited and paid as are the expenses of other state officers and boards.

SECTION 7. The governor shall be chairman of the board and the board shall at its first meeting elect a vice-chairman to act in the absence of the governor.

SECTION 8. 1. Such board may appoint and employ a secretary and such experts and other employes as may be found necessary in carrying out the purposes of the board, and in performing the duties incumbent upon such board, and shall fix the compensation to be received by each.

2. The secretary and the experts and employes, in addition to the compensation as herein provided, shall be paid their necessary traveling expenses and other expenses necessarily incurred in the performance of their duties.

3. The secretary and experts employed under the provisions hereof shall not be subject to the operation of chapter 363 of the laws of Wisconsin of 1905 and acts amendatory thereof.

SECTION 9. The superintendent of public property shall provide such board with suitable rooms, necessary office furniture, supplies, stationery, books, periodicals, maps and other furnishings and equipment necessary to the performance of their duties.

SECTION 10. The board shall have the power to adopt and publish rules to govern the proceedings, and to regulate the mode and manner of all investigations made by it and under its direction, and of all hearings held before it.

SECTION 11. Each of the members of the board, for the purposes mentioned in this act, shall have power to administer oaths.

certify to official acts, issue subpoenas, compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of papers, books, accounts, documents and testimony. In case of disobedience on the part of any person or persons to comply with any order of the board or any member thereof or any subpoena issued in behalf of such board, or on the refusal of any witness to testify to any matters regarding which he may be lawfully interrogated, it shall be the duty of the circuit court of any county, or the judge thereof, on application of a member of the board, to compel obedience by attachment proceedings for contempt, as in the case of disobedience of the requirements of a subpoena issued from such court, or a refusal to testify therein.

SECTION 12. Each witness who shall appear before the board by its order shall receive for his attendance the fees and mileage now provided for witnesses in civil cases in courts of record, which shall be audited and paid by the state in the same manner as other expenses are audited and paid, upon the presentation of proper vouchers sworn to by such witnesses and approved by the chairman of the board. But no witness subpoenaed at the instance of parties other than the board shall be entitled to compensation from the state for attendance or travel, unless the board shall certify that his testimony was relevant and material to the matter investigated.

SECTION 13. The board or any party may in any investigation cause the depositions of witnesses residing within or without the state to be taken in the manner prescribed by law for like depositions in civil actions in circuit courts.

SECTION 14. A full and complete record shall be kept of all proceedings had before the board of any investigation had under the provisions of this act, and all testimony shall be taken down by the stenographer appointed by the board.

SECTION 15. Every public body shall give free access to its accounts to the board, and to its employes when acting under the authority of the board, and shall without compensation, upon written request from such board or any member thereof, furnish such facts and information as shall be within the knowledge of such public body or any employe therein, or contained in any accounts or investigations in the office or under the control of such public body.

SECTION 16. 1. Every public body shall employ economical, efficient and accurate methods in the conduct of its affairs and accounts, and such as shall result in a reasonable harmony with all other such public bodies; shall keep such accounts as shall adequately disclose its affairs; shall make such reports at such times as shall be reasonably necessary, and in such form as shall

adequately disclose the facts relating to the exercise of its jurisdiction.

2. Thirty days before the assembling of the legislature each public body, the conduct or operation of which involves the receipt, expenditure or handling of any state funds or property, shall submit to the board an estimate of its revenues and expenditure for each fiscal year of the ensuing biennial period.

SECTION 17. The board shall have such supervision of every public body as shall be reasonably necessary to secure uniformity and accuracy of accounts as herein provided; it may inquire into the methods of conducting affairs; it may prescribe and direct the use of such forms of accounts as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this act; it may prescribe and direct the use of standards and records of efficiency of employes; it shall inaugurate, supervise and conduct adequate systems of examination and inspection of accounts of every such public body; it may cause to be prepared suitable blanks for carrying out the purposes of this act, and shall when necessary, furnish such blanks to any such public body. Every such public body shall keep its accounts accurately and faithfully as prescribed and directed by the board.

SECTION 18. It shall also be the duty of such board:

(1) To investigate the materials and resources of the state and to promote their greatest use and highest development, especially through home and farm ownership co-operation, publicity, immigration and settlement; to investigate the cost and standards of living within the state; the difference between the amounts which producers and dealers within and without the state receive for their products, and the amounts which consumers pay therefor; and the measures that may be adopted to reduce this difference, and to provide for more economic distribution of products and commodities.

(2) To co-ordinate by mutual agreement with the several public bodies, their investigations, and to provide for such additional investigations as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this section.

(3) To co-operate with agencies of the federal government and of other state governments and with voluntary associations having for their object the investigation and development of the resources, markets, industries and opportunities of the state and of the various sections and communities therein.

(4) To publish such reports and to make such recommendations to the legislature as may be advisable in carrying out the duties of the board.

SECTION 19. It shall be the duty of one of the members of said board, to be designated by said board, to appear in person before a joint session of the legislature, held on the first Tuesday in February, 1913, at twelve o'clock noon, and at noon of each legislative day thereafter until such joint session shall, by vote, be adjourned sine die, and then and there to answer orally any question submitted in writing, not less than three days before, by any member of the legislature regarding the board of public affairs and its work.

SECTION 20. The jurisdiction of the governor and attorney-general imposed and conferred by section 159 of the statutes, and the jurisdiction imposed and conferred upon the governor by section 169g of the statutes, are imposed and conferred upon the board of public affairs as created by this act during the period of its existence.

SECTION 21. The jurisdiction of any public body relating to the employment of accountants in the examination of its accounts is hereby imposed and conferred upon the board of public affairs during the period of its existence.

SECTION 22. Any person violating any of the provisions of this act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not less than ten dollars nor more than one hundred dollars, or by imprisonment in the county jail for not more than three months.

SECTION 23. A sum sufficient to carry out the provisions of this act, but not to exceed thirty thousand dollars, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

SECTION 24. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication.

Approved July 6, 1911.

No. 54, S.]

[Published July 8, 1911.

CHAPTER 584.

AN ACT to amend section 8m of chapter 399 of the laws of 1907, amending chapter 91, laws of 1897, providing for the appointment of several deputy clerks for the municipal court of the eastern district of the county of Waukesha.

The people of the State of Wisconsin, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 8m of chapter 399 of the laws of 1907, amending chapter 91, laws of 1897, is amended to read: Section 8m. Said judge may also appoint in writing, *with the approval of the county board*, a deputy clerk for the * * * incor-