

*in any utility rule which purports to curtail the obligation or undertaking of service of such utility shall be effective without the written approval of the commission after hearing; provided, that the commission may, by emergency order, make any such rule, as filed, effective from the date of such order, pending final approval thereof after hearing as herein provided.* Every such proposed change which constitutes a decrease in rates shall be effective at the time specified in the change as filed but not earlier than 10 days after the date of filing the same with the commission, unless during such 10-day period the commission, either upon complaint or upon its own motion, shall, by order, suspend the operation of any such proposed change. Such suspension shall be effective for a period not exceeding 4 months, during which period the commission shall investigate all matters relative to the reasonableness or lawfulness of the change or changes in schedules as filed; and shall thereafter, by order, approve or disapprove the same. No order disapproving any such change shall be made without first affording to the utility an opportunity for hearing; but a disapproval so made shall render the proposed change ineffective. If the commission shall suspend the proposed change in any schedule as herein provided, it may, on notice to the utility of its objections to the change in schedule as proposed and after opportunity afforded to the utility to be heard with respect to such objections, prescribe a schedule which, revised on the basis of such objections, it finds to be lawful and reasonable, in lieu of any schedule disapproved as herein provided. The commission upon application of any utility may direct that a proposed reduction in rates shall be made effective less than 10 days after filing the same.

Approved July 30, 1947.

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No. 529, S.]

[Published August 5, 1947.

### CHAPTER 481.

AN ACT to amend 20.125 of the statutes, relating to plans and specifications for post-war construction.

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

20.125 of the statutes is amended to read:

20.125 Of the appropriations made from the post-war con-

struction and improvement fund, there is allotted from the respective appropriations an amount not exceeding \* \* \* 5 per cent of the estimated cost of each construction *project* or improvement project *and an amount not exceeding 6 per cent of the estimated cost of each remodeling project* for the preparation of plans and specifications for each such project. Expenditures from these allotments shall be subject to the approval of the bureau of engineering.

Approved July 30, 1947.

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### CHAPTER 482.

AN ACT to amend 14.53 (12) of the statutes, relating to the duty of the attorney-general to defend actions against state employes.

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

14.53 (12) of the statutes is amended to read:

14.53 (12) The attorney-general shall, at the request of the head of any department of state government approved by the governor, appear for and defend, in any court of the state where an action may have been brought, or may be tried, any agent, inspector or employe of such department charged with the enforcement of law, *or the custody of inmates of state institutions* or prosecution for violation of law, in any *tort* action \* \* \* *except malpractice* against him, based upon any act done or incurred in, or arising out of the lawful discharge of the duties of such agent, inspector or employe. Witness fees incurred in the defense of any case under this section shall be paid as provided for in section 325.07.

Approved July 30, 1947.