

No. 182, S.]

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CHAPTER 421

AN ACT to create 20.005 (2) (a) (line 466a), 20.545 (1) and 59.075 of the statutes, relating to the establishment of committees to study local governmental problems of metropolitan areas in counties having a population of 500,000 or more, and making an appropriation.

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

SECTION 1. 20.005 (2) (a) (line 466a) of the statutes is created to read:

20.005 (2) (a)	1957-58	1958-59
466a. Metropolitan study commission	20.545 (1) C	\$30,000

SECTION 2. 20.545 (1) of the statutes is created to read:

20.545 METROPOLITAN STUDY COMMISSION. (1) There is appropriated from the general fund on July 1, 1957, a nonlapsible sum of \$30,000 to the metropolitan study commission, to be applied in defraying the cost of the studies required by s. 59.075. Expenditures from this appropriation or any funds of the commission shall be by vouchers signed by the chairman of the commission.

SECTION 3. 59.075 of the statutes is created to read:

59.075 METROPOLITAN STUDY COMMISSION. (1) CREATION OF COMMITTEE. There is created in every county having a population of 500,000 or more a commission to be known as the metropolitan study commission, herein called the "commission" consisting of 15 members called commissioners, each a resident of such county appointed by the governor. The commission shall be composed of 12 citizens at large and 3 officials either elective or appointive, one from a city of the first class, one from a city other than a city of the first class, and one from a village or town. The citizens at large members shall hold no other appointive or elective public office but shall have demonstrated an interest in the problems of local government and knowledge thereof. Vacancies shall be filled in the same manner that the original appointments are made. A vacancy shall exist

when any member fails to meet the requirements necessary to qualify for an original appointment. The chairman of the commission shall be designated by the governor. The commission may elect a vice chairman and secretary from among its members and may adopt rules of procedure. No compensation shall be paid the commissioners, but they shall be entitled to reimbursement for travel and other expenses necessary in the performance of their official duties. The commission may employ a research director, clerical personnel and such professional assistants and consultants as may be required. It may conduct its work through committees appointed by the chairman subject to confirmation by a majority of the commission. The chairman of each committee shall be a member of the commission, but the other members of the committee need not be commissioners. The existence of the commission shall terminate on July 1, 1961, or upon completion of its studies if prior to that date.

(2) DUTIES. (a) The commission shall investigate the character, extent, adequacy, cost and efficiency of the principal services provided by governmental units for residents of the county, including without limitation because of enumeration, property tax assessments, traffic, water supply, sewerage and storm water disposal, planning, civil defense and other services relating to the life, property and general welfare of the residents of the county.

(b) The commission shall also investigate the extent to which co-operative agreements or procedures have been established among units of government in such county in respect to any of the services aforesaid. The commission shall study the experience of other metropolitan areas throughout the United States in providing services in the categories above defined.

(c) In conducting its studies the commission shall give consideration to specific problems pertaining to the functions and services of local governments in said county suggested to it by the board of supervisors of the county or by the governing body of any municipality within the county.

(d) The commission shall determine which of the governmental services in the categories above defined in its opinion could be rendered most adequately and efficiently 1. on a local basis or 2. on a county-wide basis and shall state its conclusions and recommendations in that regard.

(e) There shall be included in the report of the commission:

1. An analysis of the basic causes of the difficulties experienced by town, county, village and city governments in the metropolitan area of the county in providing adequate and efficient governmental services for their residents.

2. An outline of suggested measures for overcoming these difficulties under existing co-operative agreements between units of government or otherwise.

3. An outline of suggested changes in existing laws, to overcome the difficulties now confronting local units of government in providing the services required by their residents.

(3) HEARINGS. The commission or any committee thereof may hold public hearing and shall have power to subpoena witnesses and require the production of documents, books and records relevant to the subject of its inquiry.

(4) REPORTS. (a) The commission shall annually submit to the Governor, on or before October 15, a written report covering the results of its studies containing findings, conclusions and recommendations. A copy of such report shall be mailed to the chairman of the board of supervisors of the county, the mayor of each city, the president of each village and the chairman of each town board in such county, and upon request to each member of any intergovernmental committee established in such

county to consider county-wide problems relating to governmental services. The commission may also publish and circulate bulletins containing information relating to its studies whenever such publication is deemed to be in the public interest.

(b) The commission shall submit to the legislature on the first day of each session a written report covering the results of its studies, containing findings, conclusions and recommendations which shall be advisory only.

(5) GIFTS AND GRANTS. The commission may accept the services of any nonprofit organization devoted to the improvement of local government and may accept gifts, grants and contributions of money to be expended in carrying out this section. The county board of supervisors of such county may appropriate funds to defray the costs of the commission's studies and shall provide adequate quarters for its use in the county courthouse.

Approved July 20, 1957.
