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CHAPTER 149

AN ACT to repeal 20.930 (2) (n), 43.07, 43.08 and 43.15; to renumber 20.380 (3) and 20.710; to renumber and amend 20.930 (1) (a) (line 21); to amend 20.930 (1) (a) (line 39) and 35.05 (8); and to create 13.31 to 13.33 of the statutes, relating to the reorganization of the legislative services by transferring the revisor of statutes and legislative reference library to the legislative branch as the statutory revision bureau and legislative reference bureau, creating a permanent joint legislative committee on legislative organization, and granting rule-making power.

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

SECTION 1. 13.31 to 13.33 of the statutes are created to read:

13.31 COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE ORGANIZATION. There is created in the legislative branch of state government a permanent joint legislative committee on legislative organization to be composed as is provided by legislative rules and with such powers and authority as may be provided in the legislative rules and the statutes.

13.32 STATUTORY REVISION BUREAU. (1) CREATION. There is created in the legislative branch of government under the supervision of the committee on legislative organization a nonpartisan, fact-finding agency to be known as the statutory revision bureau.

(2) DUTIES. It is the duty of the statutory revision bureau:

(a) To formulate and prepare a definite plan for the order, classification, arrangement, printing and binding of the statutes and session laws, and between and during sessions of the legislature to prepare and at each session of the legislature to present to the judiciary committee of the senate or the assembly or to the joint committee on revisions, repeals and uniform laws, in such bill or bills as may be thought best, such consolidation, revision and other matter relating to the statutes or any portion thereof as can be completed from time to time.

(b) To renumber any chapter or section of the statutes for the purpose of revision, and to change reference numbers to agree with any renumbered chapter or section. Where the term "preceding section" or similar expressions are used in the statutes the revisor may change the same by inserting the proper section or chapter reference.

(c) Where the application or effect of a statute, by its terms, depends on the time when the act creating the statute took effect, the revisor, in printing the statutes, may substitute the actual effective date for the various forms of expression which mean that date—such as “when this act (or chapter, or section) takes effect,” or “after (or before) the effective date of this act (or chapter, or section).”

(3) DUTY OF COMMITTEE. It is the duty of the committee on legislative organization to act as the policy-making body of the statutory revision bureau to which end it shall:

(a) Determine the types of services to be provided within statutory limitations and the quality and quantity thereof.

(b) Select the revisor of statutes under the classified service. The appointment of the revisor of statutes shall be made without regard to political affiliations in order to maintain the nonpartisan character and tradition of the agency.

(c) Consider and approve the budget of the bureau.

(d) Meet not less than once every 6 months to carry out its duties, and to provide a method of procuring decisions by mail on matters of import arising between meetings.

(e) Make such rules and adopt such bylaws as are required for the proper operation of the bureau.

(4) DUTY OF REVISOR. It is the duty of the revisor of statutes to:

(a) Direct the immediate operations of the statutory revision bureau.

(b) Employ such subordinates as are authorized under the classified service.

(c) Approve all expenditures of the bureau.

(5) PRESENT REVISOR CONTINUED. The revisor of statutes, on the effective date of this section (1963), shall be the new revisor of statutes under the classified service.

13.33 LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU. (1) CREATION. There is created in the legislative branch of the government under the supervision of the committee on legislative organization a nonpartisan, fact-finding, confidential agency to be known as the legislative reference bureau.

(2) DUTIES. It is the duty of the legislative reference bureau to serve all members of the legislature equally and impartially and to the limits of its facilities and staff. To this end the legislative reference bureau shall:

(a) Collect, index and make available in the most suitable form to legislators, other public officials, students of government and citizens generally information relative to governmental subjects which will aid the legislature, other public officials and the citizens generally to perform their duties in the most efficient and economical manner, to maintain an adequate collection of public documents of Wisconsin and other states and to carry out loan arrangements with libraries.

(b) Utilize the materials assembled and other material to prepare studies and reports providing pertinent information regarding subjects which are or may become items of concern to the legislature, other public officials or the public generally, and where warranted to publish such reports and studies in the most expeditious manner.

(c) Prepare legislative proposals for those authorized to use such services.

(d) Prepare copy for and edit the blue book.

(3) DUTIES OF COMMITTEE. It is the duty of the committee on legislative organization to act as the policy-making unit of the legislative reference bureau to which end it shall:

(a) Determine the types of services to be provided within statutory limitations and the quantity and quality thereof.

(b) Select the chief of the bureau under the classified service. The appointment of the chief shall be made without regard to political affilia-

tion in order to maintain the nonpartisan character and tradition of the agency.

(c) Consider and approve the budget of the bureau.

(d) Meet not less than once every 6 months to carry out its duties, and to provide a method of procuring decisions by mail.

(e) Make such rules and adopt such bylaws as are required for the proper operation of the bureau.

(4) DUTIES OF CHIEF. It is the duty of the chief to:

(a) Direct the immediate operations of the bureau.

(b) Employ such subordinates as are authorized within the classified service. In addition he may employ, outside the classified service, researchers authorized by the budget for specific studies for the legislature.

(c) Approve all expenditures of the bureau.

(5) PRESENT CHIEF CONTINUED. The chief of the legislative reference library on the effective date of this section (1963) shall be the new chief of the legislative reference bureau under the classified service.

SECTION 2. 20.380 (3) of the statutes is renumbered 20.530 (23).

SECTION 3. 20.710 of the statutes is renumbered 20.530 (24).

SECTION 4. 20.930 (1) (a) (line 21) of the statutes is renumbered 20.930 (1) (a) (line 30a) and amended to read:

20.930 (1) (a)
30a * * *
20.530 (23) Legislative reference * * * bureau, chief ----NE 13,000

SECTION 5. 20.930 (1) (a) (line 39) of the statutes is amended to read:

20.930 (1) (a)
39 * * * 20.530 (24) Revisor of statutes ----- 11,500

SECTION 6. 20.930 (2) (n) of the statutes is repealed.

SECTION 7. 35.05 (8) of the statutes is amended to read:

35.05 (8) Legislative proposals by individual legislators may upon request of the individual legislator be ordered printed by the * * * chief clerk of either house when the legislature is not in session. Proposals printed pursuant to such order shall be charged to the appropriation for the legislature and shall be delivered as the * * * authority ordering the same directs.
* * *

SECTION 8. 43.07 and 43.08 of the statutes are repealed.

SECTION 9. 43.15 of the statutes is repealed.

SECTION 10. Wherever the term "legislative reference library" or "library" is used in sections 14.76 (1), 20.003 (3), 20.530 (23), as renumbered, 35.24 (1), 35.84 (line 28), 35.86 (1) and 43.13 of the statutes the term "legislative reference bureau" is substituted. The revisor shall show the change in printing the statutes.

SECTION 11. Wherever the term "revisor of statutes" is used in section 20.530 (24) of the statutes, as renumbered, the term "statutory revision bureau" is substituted. The revisor of statutes shall show the change in printing the statutes.

SECTION 12. TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS. 1. All employes of the revisor of statutes and legislative reference library on the effective date of this act shall be continued in their positions under the new organizational plan until such time as their appointing officers may deem otherwise.

2. All employes of the revisor of statutes shall be placed under the classified service in the appropriate class and pay scale.

3. All unencumbered balances in the appropriations under sections 20.380 (3) and 20.710 of the statutes on the effective date of this act are transferred to the appropriations made by section 20.530 (23) and (24), respectively. If this act takes effect on July 1, 1963, the appropriations made under sections 20.380 (3) and 20.710 for 1963-65 shall be the appropriations made under section 20.530 (23) and (24), respectively.

4. On the effective date of this act the agency known as the revisor of statutes and the agency known as the legislative reference library are removed from the supervision of the trustees of the state library and free library commission, respectively, and placed within the legislative branch of government under the supervision of the committee on legislative organization.

5. All matters pending before the revisor of statutes and legislative reference library on the effective date of this act shall be assumed by these respective bureaus subsequent to the effective date of this act.

SECTION 13. EFFECTIVE DATE. This act shall take effect July 1, 1963, or on the first day of the month following publication, whichever is later.

Approved June 25, 1963.
