

1979 Assembly Bill 657

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## CHAPTER 204, Laws of 1979

AN ACT to repeal 13.83 (4); to amend 13.55 (4), 13.91 (2) (c) and 13.93 (1) (a); to repeal and recreate 13.83 (1) and 13.93 (2) (d); and to create 13.92 (2) (g) and 13.93 (1) (n) and (2) (j) of the statutes, relating to law revision duties of the revisor of statutes and establishing a law revision committee in place of the remedial legislation and judiciary committees of the legislative council and of the joint committee on revisions, repeals and uniform laws.

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

SECTION 1. 13.55 (4) of the statutes is amended to read:

13.55 (4) REPORT. The commission shall make a biennial report to the joint legislative law revision committee on revisions, repeals and uniform laws of the legislative council.

SECTION 2. 13.83 (1) of the statutes is repealed and recreated to read:

13.83 (1) LAW REVISION COMMITTEE. (a) Prior to June 1 of each odd-numbered year, the legislative council shall appoint a law revision committee consisting of members of the senate and assembly, including at least one member of the majority party and at least one member of the minority party from each house.

(b) The committee shall be assisted by the legislative council staff. The legislative council may request staff assistance from other legislative service agencies where appropriate.

(c) The committee shall:

1. Consider decisions and opinions referred to it by the revisor of statutes under s. 13.93 (2) (d) to determine whether revisions are needed in the statutes or session laws.

2. Consider bills referred to it by the revisor of statutes under s. 13.93 (2) (j).
3. Consider bills referred to it by the revisor of statutes under s. 13.93 (1) and (2) (c).
4. Consider minor substantive remedial measures proposed by state agencies to improve the administration of their agencies or proposed by the committee, a standing committee of the legislature or a legislative service agency to improve the language or organization of the statutes or session laws.
5. Introduce legislation prepared under this paragraph directly into the legislature. Each such proposal shall include a note or series of notes providing an explanation of the proposed changes and an analysis by the legislative reference bureau.

(d) The committee may submit to the legislative council recommendations for major law revision projects. In developing the recommendations, the committee shall consider changes in the law suggested by the American law institute, the council of state governments, the U.S. advisory commission on intergovernmental relations, the commission on uniform state laws created under s. 13.55, legislative committees and service agencies, state agencies, local governments and interested persons. The committee may specify in its recommendations which of the committees or agencies under par. (e) should undertake the proposed law revision project.

(e) If the legislative council approves a major law revision project recommended under par. (d), it shall specify which of the following should conduct the project:

1. The law revision committee or a subcommittee thereof established by the committee for this purpose.
2. A special or permanent committee appointed by the legislative council.
3. A legislative service agency.
4. A standing or joint survey or other statutory committee or committees of the legislature.

(f) 1. If the legislative council approves a project under par. (e) 1, it may appoint one or more public members to a subcommittee established for this purpose by the committee to assist in completing the revision project.

2. If the legislative council approves a project under par. (e) 1 or 2, it may contract for a consultant or project staff director having expertise in the subject matter of the project and it shall specify the date for the final report of the project to the legislative council.

3. If the legislative council approves a project under par. (e) 1, 2 or 3, it may introduce legislation developed as a result of the project as provided in s. 13.82 (1) (c).

4. If the legislative council approves a project under par. (e) 3 or 4, it may request the appropriate standing or joint survey or other statutory committee or committees of the legislature or legislative service agency to undertake the project.

5. Legislation developed as a result of a request under this paragraph to a standing or joint survey or other statutory committee or committees of the legislature may be introduced by that committee.

SECTION 3. 13.83 (4) of the statutes is repealed.

SECTION 4. 13.91 (2) (c) of the statutes, as affected by chapter 34, laws of 1979, is amended to read:

13.91 (2) (c) Attend all scheduled meetings of the legislative council under s. 13.81, and may attend meetings of any of its committees under s. ss. 13.82 and ~~of the committees under s. 13.83 (2) and (4).~~

SECTION 5. 13.92 (2) (g) of the statutes is created to read:

13.92 (2) (g) Cooperate with the revisor of statutes in systematically examining and revising the statutes and session laws under s. 13.93 (2) (j).

SECTION 6. 13.93 (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

13.93 (1) (a) Shall 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 prepare and at each session of the legislature present to the judiciary law revision committee of the ~~senate or the assembly or to the joint committee on revisions, repeals and uniform laws~~ legislative council, in such the 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.

SECTION 7. 13.93 (1) (n) and (2) (j) of the statutes are created to read:

13.93 (1) (n) Shall identify for deletion by the legislature provisions that have no legal effect.

(2) (j) In cooperation with the law revision committee, systematically examine and identify for revision by the legislature the statutes and session laws to eliminate defects, anachronisms, conflicts, ambiguities and unconstitutional or obsolete provisions. The revisor shall complete the initial examination of the statutes within 10 years after the effective date of this act (1979). The revisor shall prepare and at each session of the legislature present to the law revision committee bills that eliminate such defects, anachronisms, conflicts, ambiguities and unconstitutional or obsolete provisions. These bills may include minor substantive changes in the statutes and session laws necessary to accomplish such purposes. The revisor may resubmit to the law revision committee in subsequent sessions of the legislature any bill prepared under this paragraph which was not enacted.

SECTION 8. 13.93 (2) (d) of the statutes is repealed and recreated to read:

13.93 (2) (d) Prior to August 1 of each even-numbered year, report to the law revision committee those reported opinions of the attorney general, and those reported decisions of any federal district court, or any state or federal appellate court, in which Wisconsin statutes or session laws are stated to be in conflict, ambiguous, anachronistic, unconstitutional or otherwise in need of revision.

SECTION 10. **Transitional provision.** Notwithstanding section 13.83 (1) of the statutes, as affected by this act, the legislative council shall, not later than August 1, 1980, appoint the initial members of the law revision committee, whose terms shall expire June 1, 1981.

SECTION 11. **Effective date.** This act shall take effect on July 1, 1980.

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