

tober 15th and February 15th of the following year not more than twelve cords of wood not fit for any use but as firewood for the use of himself and family from the premises described in the license under such regulations as the Commissioner of Public Lands may prescribe.

Period
effective.

SEC. 4. Any false statement made in the application or any violation of the provisions of this act shall constitute a gross misdemeanor and be punishable as such.

Penalty.

Passed the House March 7, 1945.

Passed the Senate March 7, 1945.

Approved by the Governor March 15, 1945.

CHAPTER 98.

[H. B. 163.]

LOCAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS.

AN ACT relating to local improvements in cities and towns; and amending section 12, chapter 98, Laws of 1911, as last amended by section 1, chapter 85, Laws of 1931 (section 9363, Remington's Revised Statutes, also Pierce's Perpetual Code 401-23).

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:

SECTION 1. Section 12, chapter 98, Laws of 1911, as last amended by section 1, chapter 85, Laws of 1931 (section 9363, Remington's Revised Statutes, also Pierce's Perpetual Code 401-23), is hereby amended to read as follows:

Amend-
ments.

Section 12. The council or other legislative body shall have jurisdiction to proceed with any such improvement initiated by petition or resolution: *Provided*, That in any city of the first class it appears from the certificate of the board, officer, or authority designated by charter or ordinance to determine the same that the proportion of the es-

Procedure
of forming
local im-
provement
districts.

timated cost and expense thereof to be assessed against the property in the proposed improvement district does not exceed the assessed valuation of the real estate, exclusive of improvements thereon, within such district, according to the valuation last placed upon it for the purposes of general taxation: *Provided*, That this limit may be exceeded when any such improvement shall be petitioned for in the manner provided in section 9 of this act (section 9360, Remington's Revised Statutes) and such petition shall be signed by the owners of sixty (60%) per cent of the lineal frontage upon the improvement to be made and three-fourths of the area within the limits of the proposed improvement district, and shall specify a certain higher percentage up to which the property within such proposed improvement district may be assessed, but this limitation shall not apply when the city's legislative body, deeming the same necessary for public health, by unanimous vote orders the construction of sanitary sewers and necessary accessories for the disposal of sewage, or the construction of any sanitary fill, or the filling of any street to the established grade over any tide-flats or tide-lands in the manner now provided by law. The jurisdiction of the council or other legislative authority to proceed with any such improvement initiated by resolution shall be divested by a protest filed with the council prior to the awarding of the contract for such improvement signed by the owners of property within the proposed district subject to at least sixty per cent (60%) of the cost of such improvement as shown and determined by the preliminary estimates and assessment roll of the proposed improvement district. In the absence of fraud or gross mistake, such certificate of such board, officer or other authority shall be final and conclusive.

In computing the valuation of such property any non-assessable property owned by the United States,

state, county, city, town, school district or other public corporation, shall be valued at the same rate as assessed property similarly situated.

Passed the House February 27, 1945.

Passed the Senate March 7, 1945.

Approved by the Governor March 15, 1945.

CHAPTER 99.

[H. B. 174.]

FOREST PROTECTION.

AN ACT relating to the protection of forests; providing for the prevention and suppression of fires; and amending section 3, chapter 105, Laws of 1917, as amended by section 2, chapter 152, Laws of 1937 (section 5806, Remington's Revised Statutes, also Pierce's Perpetual Code 575-77).

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:

SECTION 1. That section 3, chapter 105, Laws of 1917, as amended by section 2, chapter 152, Laws of 1937 (section 5806, Remington's Revised Statutes, also Pierce's Perpetual Code 575-77), be amended to read as follows:

Amendments.

Section 3. Any fire on any forest land in the State of Washington burning uncontrolled and without proper action being taken to prevent its spread, notwithstanding the origin of such fire, is hereby declared a public nuisance by reason of its menace to life or property. The owner, operator and/or person in possession of land, on which a fire exists, or from which it may have spread, or either or any of them, notwithstanding the origin or subsequent spread thereof on his own or other land, hereby is required to make every reasonable effort to control and extinguish such fire immediately after receiving written notice to do so from the forester, or a warden, or ranger; and if such owner, operator and/or person in possession shall refuse,

Owner or operator of land required to control fires.