

## CHAPTER 11.

[Substitute Senate Bill No. 584.]

## SEWER DISTRICTS—ANNEXATION OF TERRITORY.

AN ACT relating to sewer districts and the annexation of territory thereto; adding new sections to chapter 56.24 RCW; repealing section 34, chapter 210, Laws of 1941 as last amended by section 21, chapter 250, Laws of 1953 and RCW 56.24.010; repealing section 35, chapter 210, Laws of 1941 as amended by section 22, chapter 250, Laws of 1953 and RCW 56.24.020; repealing section 36, chapter 210, Laws of 1941 as amended by section 23, chapter 250, Laws of 1953 and RCW 56.24.030; repealing section 37, chapter 210, Laws of 1941 and RCW 56.24.040; repealing section 38, chapter 210, Laws of 1941 as amended by section 24, chapter 250, Laws of 1953 and RCW 56.24.050; and repealing section 39, chapter 210, Laws of 1941 as amended by section 25, chapter 250, Laws of 1953 and RCW 56.24.060.

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

New section.

Section 1. There is added to chapter 56.24 RCW a new section to read as follows:

Sewer districts—Annexation of territory—Initiation by petition.

The territory adjoining or in close proximity to and in the same county with a district may be annexed to and become a part of the district in the following manner: Twenty percent of the number of registered voters residing in the territory proposed to be annexed who voted at the last election may file a petition with the district commissioners and cause the question to be submitted to the electors of the territory whether such territory will be annexed and become a part of the district. If the commissioners concur in the petition, they shall file it with the county auditor, who shall, within ten days, examine the signatures thereon and certify to the sufficiency or insufficiency thereof; and for such purpose he shall have access to all registration books in the possession of the officers of any city or town in the proposed district. If the petition contains a sufficient number of signatures, the auditor shall transmit it, together with his certificate of sufficiency attached

thereto to the sewer commissioners of the district. If there are no electors residing in the territory to be annexed, the petition may be signed by such a number as appear of record to own at least a majority of the acreage in the territory, and the petition shall disclose the total number of acres of land in the territory and the names of all record owners of land therein. If the commissioners are satisfied as to the sufficiency of the petition and concur therein, they shall send it, together with their certificate of concurrence attached thereto to the board of county commissioners.

The county commissioners, upon receipt of a petition certified to contain a sufficient number of signatures of electors, or upon receipt of a petition signed by such a number as own at least a majority of the acreage, together with a certificate of concurrence signed by the sewer commissioners, at a regular or special meeting shall cause to be published for at least two weeks in two successive issues of some weekly newspaper printed in the county, and in general circulation throughout the territory proposed to be annexed, and in case no such newspaper is printed in the county, then in some such newspaper of general circulation therein, a notice that the petition has been filed, stating the time of the meeting at which it shall be presented, and setting forth the boundaries of the territory proposed to be annexed.

Sec. 2. There is added to chapter 56.24 RCW a **New section.** new section to read as follows:

When such petition is presented for hearing, the **Hearing.** said board of county commissioners shall hear the same or may adjourn said hearing from time to time not exceeding one month in all, and any person, firm or corporation may appear before the board of county commissioners and make objections to the proposed boundary lines or to the annexation of the

Sewer dis-  
tricts—  
Annexation of  
territory.

territory described in the petition; and upon a final hearing the said board of county commissioners shall make such changes in the proposed boundary lines as they deem to be proper and shall establish and define such boundaries and shall find whether the proposed annexation of the said territory as established by the said board of county commissioners to the said sewer district will be conducive to the public health, welfare and convenience and will be of special benefit to the land included within the boundaries of the territory proposed to be annexed to the said sewer district and so established by the said board of county commissioners: *Provided*, That no lands which will not, in the judgment of said board, be benefited by inclusion therein, shall be included within the boundaries of said territory as so established and defined: *Provided further*, That no change shall be made by the said board of county commissioners in the said boundary lines, including any territory outside of the boundary lines described in the petition: *And provided further*, That no person having signed such petition as herein provided for shall be allowed to withdraw his name therefrom after the filing of the same with the board of sewer commissioners to said sewer district.

Upon the entry of the findings of the final hearing to the said petition by the said county commissioners of such county, if they find the said proposed annexation of the territory to the said sewer district to be conducive to the public health, welfare and convenience and to be of special benefit to the land proposed to be annexed and included within the boundaries of the district, they shall give notice of a special election to be held within the boundaries of the territory proposed to be annexed to said sewer district for the purpose of determining whether the same shall be annexed to the said sewer district; and such notice shall particularly describe the

boundaries established by the board of county commissioners on its final hearing of the said petition, and shall state the name of the sewer district to which the said territory is proposed to be annexed, and the same shall be published for at least two weeks prior to such election in a weekly newspaper printed and published within the county within which said district is located, and in case no such newspaper be printed or published in such county, then in some such newspaper of general circulation therein for two successive issues thereof, and shall be posted for the same period in at least four public places within the boundaries of the district proposed to be annexed, which notice shall designate the places within the territory proposed to be annexed to said sewer district where the said election shall be held, and shall require the voters to cast ballots which shall contain the words:

For Annexation to Sewer District

or

Against Annexation to Sewer District

The said county commissioners shall name the persons to act as judges at such election.

Sec. 3. There is added to chapter 56.24 RCW a New section.  
new section to read as follows:

The said election shall be held on the date designated in such notice and shall be conducted in accordance with the general election laws of the state. In the event the original petition for annexation is signed by qualified electors then only qualified electors, at the date of election, residing in the territory proposed to be annexed, shall be permitted to vote at the said election. In the event the original petition for annexation is signed by property owners as provided for in this act then no person shall be entitled to vote at such election unless at the time of the filing of the original petition he owned the land in the district of record and in addition thereto at

Elections—  
Conduct.

Sewer dis-  
tricts—An-  
nexation of  
territory—  
Elections.

the date of election shall be a qualified elector of the county in which such district is located. It shall be the duty of the county auditor, upon request of the county commissioners, to certify to the election officers of any such election, the names of all persons owning land in the district at the date of the filing of the original petition as shown by the records of his office; and at any such election the election officers may require any such landowner offering to vote to take an oath that he is a qualified elector of the county before he shall be allowed to vote: *Provided*, That at any election held under the provisions of this act an officer or agent of any corporation having its principal place of business in said county and owning land at the date of filing the original petition in the district duly authorized thereto in writing may cast a vote on behalf of such corporation. When so voting he shall file with the election officers such a written instrument of his authority. The judge or judges at such election shall make return thereof to the board of sewer commissioners, who shall canvass such return and cause a statement of the result of such election to be entered on the record of such commissioners. If the majority of the votes cast upon the question of such election shall be for annexation, then such territory shall immediately be and become annexed to such sewer district and the same shall then forthwith be a part of the said sewer district, the same as though originally included in such district.

New section.

Sec. 4. There is added to chapter 56.24 RCW a new section to read as follows:

Elections—  
Conduct—  
Cost.

All elections held pursuant to this act, whether general or special, shall be conducted by the county election board of the county in which the district is located.

The expense of all such elections shall be paid for out of the funds of such sewer district.

Sec. 5. There is added to chapter 56.24 RCW a new section to read as follows:

The method of annexation provided for in sections 6 through 9 of this act shall be an alternative method to that specified in sections 1 through 4 of this act.

Sec. 6. There is added to chapter 56.24 RCW a new section to read as follows:

A petition for annexation of an area contiguous to a sewer district may be made in writing, addressed to and filed with the board of commissioners of the district to which annexation is desired. It must be signed by the owners, according to the records of the county auditor, of not less than sixty percent of the area of land for which annexation is petitioned, shall set forth a description of the property according to government legal subdivisions or legal plats, and shall be accompanied by a plat which outlines the boundaries of the property sought to be annexed.

Sec. 7. There is added to chapter 56.24 RCW a new section to read as follows:

If the petition for annexation filed with the board of commissioners complies with the requirements of law, as proved to the satisfaction of the board of commissioners, it may entertain the petition, fix the date for public hearing thereon, and cause notice of the hearing to be published in one issue of a newspaper of general circulation in the area proposed to be annexed and also posted in three public places within the area proposed for annexation. The notice shall specify the time and place of hearing and invite interested persons to appear and voice approval or disapproval of the annexation. The expense of publication and posting of the notice shall be borne by the signers of the petition.

New section.

Sec. 8. There is added to chapter 56.24 RCW a new section to read as follows:

Sewer districts  
—Annexation  
of territory.  
Resolution of  
board—Filing  
copy.

Following the hearing the board of commissioners shall determine by resolution whether annexation shall be made. It may annex all or any portion of the proposed area but may not include in the annexation any property not described in the petition. Upon passage of the resolution a certified copy shall be filed with the board of county commissioners of the county in which the annexed property is located.

New section.

Sec. 9. There is added to chapter 56.24 RCW a new section to read as follows:

Annexed  
property  
exempt from  
prior indebtedness.

Upon the date fixed in the resolution the area annexed shall become a part of the district.

No property within the limits of the territory so annexed shall ever be taxed or assessed to pay any portion of the indebtedness of the district to which it is annexed contracted prior to or existing at the date of annexation; nor shall any such property be released from any taxes or assessments levied against it or from liability for payment of outstanding bonds or warrants issued prior to such annexation.

Repeal.

Sec. 10. The following acts or parts of acts and RCW sections are each hereby repealed:

(1) Section 34, chapter 210, Laws of 1941 as last amended by section 21, chapter 250, Laws of 1953 and RCW 56.24.010;

(2) Section 35, chapter 210, Laws of 1941 as amended by section 22, chapter 250, Laws of 1953 and RCW 56.24.020;

(3) Section 36, chapter 210, Laws of 1941 as amended by section 23, chapter 250, Laws of 1953 and RCW 56.24.030;

(4) Section 37, chapter 210, Laws of 1941 and RCW 56.24.040;

(5) Section 38, chapter 210, Laws of 1941 as amended by section 24, chapter 250, Laws of 1953 and RCW 56.24.050; and

(6) Section 39, chapter 210, Laws of 1941 as amended by section 25, chapter 250, Laws of 1953 and RCW 56.24.060.

Sec. 11. If any provision of this act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. Severability.

Passed the Senate March 23, 1967.

Passed the House March 28, 1967.

Approved by the Governor April 5, 1967.

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## CHAPTER 12.

[Substitute Senate Bill No. 206.]

### INSURANCE.

AN ACT relating to insurance; and adding new sections to chapter 79, Laws of 1947 and to chapter 48.18 RCW; and adding a new section to chapter 79, Laws of 1947 and to chapter 48.30 RCW; and prescribing penalties.

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

Section 1. There is added to chapter 79, Laws of 1947 and to chapter 48.18 RCW a new section to read as follows: New section.

The commissioner is hereby authorized, and shall within a reasonable time following the effective date of this section, adopt standard forms for loss payable and mortgagee clauses for property and automobile physical damage insurances, pursuant to the procedures set forth in RCW 48.18.120(1). Following the adoption of such forms, no insurer authorized to do Insurance—  
Standard  
clauses.