

CHAPTER 103.

[H. B. 539.]

COLLECTION OF PROPERTY TAXES—EXTENSION OF REBATE PERIOD.

AN ACT relating to revenue and taxation and repealing section 1, chapter 56, Laws of 1937, section 40, chapter 206, Laws of 1939, and section 84.56.040, RCW.

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

Repealing clause.

SECTION 1. Section 1, chapter 56, Laws of 1937, section 40, chapter 206, Laws of 1939, and section 84.56.040, RCW, derived therefrom, are each repealed.

Passed the House March 1, 1953.

Passed the Senate March 10, 1953.

Approved by the Governor March 17, 1953.

CHAPTER 104.

[H. B. 540.]

PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANIES—ACCIDENTS—INVESTIGATIONS AND REPORTS.

AN ACT relating to public service companies; repealing section 63, chapter 117, Laws of 1911; amending sections 80.04.460 and 81.28.280, RCW, and repealing and reenacting section 81.28.290, RCW.

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

Repealing and reenacting clause.

SECTION 1. Section 63, chapter 117, Laws of 1911, is repealed and sections 80.04.460 and 81.28.280, RCW, presently derived therefrom and henceforth derived from this act, are amended to read as set forth in sections 2 and 3 of this act.

SEC. 2. 80.04.460 *Investigation of Accident.* Every public service company shall give immediate notice to the commission of every accident resulting

in death or injury to any person occurring in its plant or system, in such manner as the commission may prescribe. Such notice shall not be admitted as evidence or used for any purpose against the company giving it in any action for damages growing out of any matter mentioned in the notice.

Public utilities; notice of accidents.

The commission may investigate any accident resulting in death or injury to any person occurring in connection with the plant or system of any public service company. Notice of the investigation shall be given in all cases for a sufficient length of time to enable the company affected to participate in the hearing and may be given orally or in writing, in such manner as the commission may prescribe.

Same; investigation of accidents.

Such witnesses may be examined as the commission deems necessary and proper to thoroughly ascertain the cause of the accident and fix the responsibility therefor. The examination and investigation may be conducted by an inspector or deputy inspector, and they may administer oaths, issue subpoenas, and compel the attendance of witnesses, and when the examination is conducted by an inspector or deputy inspector, he shall make a full and complete report thereof to the commission.

Same; witnesses.

SEC. 3. 81.28.280 *Reports of Wrecks, Etc.* Every public service company shall give immediate notice to the commission of every accident resulting in death or injury to any person occurring on its lines or system, in such manner as the commission may prescribe.

Common carriers; notice of accidents.

Such notice shall not be admitted as evidence or used for any purpose against the company giving it in any action for damages growing out of any matter mentioned in the notice. The commission may require reports to be made by any common carrier of all wrecks, collisions, or derailments occurring on its line.

SEC. 4. Section 81.28.290, RCW, presently derived from section 63, chapter 117, Laws of 1911, and henceforth derived from this act, is repealed and reenacted to read as follows:

Same; investigation of accidents.

81.28.290 *Investigation of Accidents, Wrecks.* The commission shall investigate all accidents that may occur upon the lines of any common carrier resulting in loss of life, to any passenger or employee, and may investigate any and all accidents or wrecks occurring on the line of any common carrier. Notice of the investigation shall be given in all cases for a sufficient length of time to enable the company affected to participate in the hearing and may be given orally or in writing, in such manner as the commission may prescribe.

Same; witnesses.

Such witnesses may be examined as the commission deems necessary and proper to thoroughly ascertain the cause of the accident or wreck and fix the responsibility therefor. The examination and investigation may be conducted by an inspector or deputy inspector, and they may administer oaths, issue subpoenas, and compel the attendance of witnesses, and when the examination is conducted by an inspector or deputy inspector, he shall make a full and complete report thereof to the commission.

Passed the House March 1, 1953.

Passed the Senate March 10, 1953.

Approved by the Governor March 17, 1953.