safety, the support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect immediately.

Passed the House January 26, 1974.
Passed the Senate February 5, 1974.
Approved by the Governor February 13, 1974.
Filed in Office of Secretary of State February 14, 1974.

CHAPTER 17 [House Bill No. 1273] FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS—VACANCIES

AN ACT Relating to fire commissioners; and amending section 26, chapter 34, Laws of 1939 as amended by section 1, chapter 153, Laws of 1971 ex. sess. and RCW 52.12.050.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

Section 1. Section 26, chapter 34, Laws of 1939 as amended by section 1, chapter 153, Laws of 1971 ex. sess and RCW 52.12.050 are each amended to read as follows:

In case of vacancy occurring in the office of fire commissioner, such vacancy shall, within thirty days, be filled by appointment of a resident elector of the district by the county legislative authority ((board of county commissioners)) and the person appointed shall serve until his successor has been elected or appointed and has qualified. At the next general election, if there is sufficient time for the nomination of candidates for office of fire commissioner as herein provided, after the filling of any vacancy in such office as aforesaid, there shall be elected a fire commissioner to serve for the remainder of the unexpired term. If a fire commissioner is absent from the district for three consecutive regularly scheduled meetings unless by permission of the board his office shall be declared vacant by the board of county commissioners and such vacancy shall be filled as provided for in this section but provided that no such action shall be taken unless he is notified by mail after two consecutive unexcused absences that his position will be declared vacant if he is absent without being excused from the next regularly scheduled meeting.

> Passed the House January 29, 1974. Passed the Senate February 5, 1974. Approved by the Governor Pebruary 13, 1974. Filed in Office of Secretary of State February 14, 1974.