

CHAPTER 14.

[S. B. 126.]

IRRIGATION DISTRICTS: FEDERAL JURISDICTION.

AN ACT relating to irrigation and reclamation districts and to the prevention of land speculation therein, consenting to, adopting, ratifying, authorizing and enacting the provisions of that certain Act of Congress of May 27, 1937, entitled "An Act to prevent speculation in lands in the Columbia Basin prospectively irrigable by reason of the construction of the Grand Coulee Dam project and to aid actual settlers in securing such lands at the fair appraised value thereof as arid land, and for other purposes" in so far as the provisions of said Federal Act, or any of them, in whole or in part, may come within the scope of state jurisdiction or authority or be applicable to state lands, authorizing and empowering such irrigation and reclamation districts to comply with the provisions of this act, authorizing and directing the inclusion of state lands in such district, the acceptance of the appraisal of state lands under said federal act, and the sale thereof at public auction at not less than such appraised value and in parcels of not more than eighty (80) acres in any one parcel or more than eighty (80) acres to any one person, and providing for cooperation with the Secretary of the Interior in carrying out said act, authorizing boards of county commissioners to contract with the United States to subject county owned lands in any such district to such act of Congress upon the terms agreed upon in such contract, providing that each section and provision of the act is separable from every other and no part thereof to be held invalid on account of the unconstitutionality of any other part, repealing all laws or parts of same inconsistent or in conflict herewith, and providing that this act shall take effect immediately.

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

SECTION 1. The State of Washington hereby authorizes, adopts, ratifies, and consents to all the provisions of that certain Act of Congress of May 27, 1937, entitled "An Act to prevent speculation in lands in the Columbia Basin prospectively irrigable by reason of the construction of the Grand Coulee Dam project and to aid actual settlers in securing such lands at the fair appraised value thereof as arid

State adopts
Federal act.

land, and for other purposes" in so far as the provisions of said Federal act, or any of them, in whole or in part, may come within the scope of state jurisdiction or authority or be applicable to state lands.

Federal
jurisdiction.

SEC. 2. The Federal act above referred to is hereby adopted, ratified and authorized as the law of this state applicable not alone to the Columbia Basin project or any irrigation district or reclamation district or districts organized therein but applicable to all irrigation districts and reclamation districts of this state which may have heretofore or may hereafter contract with the Federal government under forms of contract including provisions similar to those authorized and provided for in the said above described Federal act of May 27, 1937, or the similar forms provided for or commonly used under prior acts of Congress known as the Reclamation Laws, and the state, its officers, its counties, and its irrigation and reclamation districts shall have full authority on their part to carry out such contracts.

Provisions
of act
applicable.

SEC. 3. That the provisions of this act shall not be limited in their application to the lands of the said Columbia Basin project but shall apply with equal force to all irrigation districts and reclamation districts of the State of Washington which may have heretofore or may hereafter contract with the Federal government under the provisions of the Federal Reclamation Act under contracts containing provisions similar in whole or in part to those authorized under such Federal act above referred to, of May 27, 1937.

Inclusion of
state lands.

SEC. 4. Whenever an irrigation district or reclamation district of the class to which this act applies is organized or in process of organization, the Commissioner of Public Lands of the State of Washington is authorized and directed to have any state lands within the exterior boundaries of such district included as a part of the lands of such dis-

trict. The state hereby consents to the assessment by the district of such state lands so included in any such irrigation district and the enforcement of the payment of such assessments in like manner and to the same extent as applicable to private lands in such districts, except that the payment of such assessment against such state lands shall not be enforced by transfer of title, by tax sale, tax foreclosure or otherwise, until the state has sold or transferred such lands to a private party.

SEC. 5. When the appraisal provided for in the Act of Congress of May 27, 1937, entitled "An Act to prevent speculation in lands in the Columbia Basin prospectively irrigable by reason of the construction of the Grand Coulee Dam project and to aid actual settlers in securing such lands at the fair appraised value thereof as arid land, and for other purposes," has been made of any state lands in any such district or project, and has been approved by the Secretary of the Interior, the Commissioner of Public Lands of the State of Washington is authorized and directed to recognize and accept such appraisal as ascertaining and determining the market value of such lands in the manner provided by law and as the appraisal provided for in section 2 of article XVI of the constitution of the State of Washington, and thereafter, whenever a petition or request shall be received for the sale of any such lands, he shall offer the same for sale at public auction in not more than eighty acres in one parcel and shall sell the same at public auction to the highest bidder but not more than eighty acres to any one person, and for not less than the said appraised value thereof, regardless of whether the appraised value or bid price therefor is more or less than ten dollars per acre, and is authorized and directed to cooperate with the Secretary of the Interior in carrying out the provisions of the said Act of Con-

State lands
appraised.

Sale at
public
auction.

gress in so far as any state lands may be involved in any such project or district.

County
lands.

SEC. 6. Where any county owned land is situated in any irrigation or reclamation district coming under the provisions of this act, the board of county commissioners of the county shall have authority at its option of entering into a contract with the Federal government to bring any of such county lands as the county board shall determine within the provisions of the Federal Anti-speculation Act upon such terms as shall be agreed upon between the county and the Federal government: *Provided*, That such contract shall not obligate the county to pay any irrigation or reclamation district assessments levied against such lands except such, if any, as the board of county commissioners of said county shall elect to pay: *Provided further*, That nothing herein contained shall be construed to deprive the irrigation or reclamation district of the right to assess such lands, if otherwise assessable and to enforce the collection of the same in the manner provided by law.

Assessments.

Partial
invalidity.

SEC. 7. Each section and provision of this act shall be considered separable from every other section and provision of the act, and should any section or provision thereof be held unconstitutional, the unconstitutionality of such section or provision shall not affect or impair the validity of the remainder of the act but in that event the unconstitutional section or provision shall be eliminated and the remainder of the act remain in full force and effect.

Repeal of
inconsistent
acts.

SEC. 8. Any act or part of the same inconsistent or in conflict with the provisions of this act or any part thereof is hereby repealed.

Effective
immediately.

SEC. 9. This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety,

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

Passed the Senate February 3, 1939.

Passed the House February 9, 1939.

Approved by the Governor February 17, 1939.

CHAPTER 15.

[H. B. 33.]

REGISTRATION OF VOTERS.

AN ACT relating to the qualification of electors, the registration of voters, defining the duties of certain officers in connection therewith, and amending section 5114-3 of Remington's Revised Statutes.

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

SECTION 1. That section 5114-3 of Remington's Revised Statutes be and is hereby amended to read as follows:

Amends
§ 5114-3,
Rem. Rev.
Stat.

Section 5114-3. The county auditor of each county shall be the registrar of voters for all precincts within the county lying outside of incorporated cities and towns, hereinafter designated as rural precincts, and the clerk or comptroller, of each incorporated city or town shall be the registrar of voters for all precincts within the city or town. The county auditor shall appoint, from time to time, a deputy registrar of voters for each rural precinct of the county, who shall be a legal voter, and shall hold office at the pleasure of the county auditor. It shall be permissible for one person to act as deputy registrar for not more than five (5) precincts, at the discretion of the county auditor: *Provided*, That in case a precinct lies partly within and partly without the corporate limits of a city or town, the registrar of voters of such city or town shall be the registration officer of that portion of such precinct

Registrars
designated.

Deputies.

Precinct
partly within
city.