

CHAPTER 111.

[S. B. 204.]

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON HIGHWAYS,
STREETS AND BRIDGES.

AN ACT relating to the legislature; creating and establishing a joint fact-finding committee on highways, streets and bridges from the members thereof; providing for their selection, term, powers, duties, findings and reports; regulating the functions, expenditures and other activities of the committee, making an appropriation, and declaring an emergency.

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

Creation of fact-finding committee.

SECTION 1. There is hereby created "the joint fact-finding committee on highways, streets and bridges" hereinafter referred to as "the committee" which shall consist of six senators appointed by the president of the senate and six members of the house of representatives appointed by the speaker thereof. One of the senate members and one of the house members shall be appointed from the area included within each of the six state highway districts. The list of the appointees shall be submitted before the close of the 1947 Session of the Legislature for confirmation of the senate members, by the senate, and of the house members, by the house. Vacancies occurring or existing in the membership of the committee shall be filled by the appointing powers.

Members.

Vacancies.

Powers and duties.

Studies.

SEC. 2. The committee is hereby authorized and directed to ascertain, study and analyze all available facts and matters relating or pertaining to: (a) A study of the policies relating to and the cost of the administration, operation, construction and maintenance of public highways and streets of the state, with recommendations for such changes as may be deemed necessary;

Highway improvement.

(b) the need for and cost of bringing the highways and streets in the state to acceptable standards, the cost of maintaining them in such condition, the

need and cost of expanding the highway and street systems of the state to meet the increasing demands for travel and the demands arising from the changing economic and industrial development, and the determination of long-range programs to provide the needed construction;

Future necessities.

(c) the making of a study of motor vehicle taxation including the assignment of the total highway costs among property owners, general taxpayers and highway users;

Motor vehicle taxation.

(d) the determination of the portion of highway and street operation and construction costs assignable to the various highway users and classes of users so that all vehicles and classes of vehicles shall bear their fair share of such costs;

Highway cost apportionment among users.

(e) the determination of the tax basis and rates to be exacted from each vehicle or user;

Tax and rates.

(f) a determination of what roads should be included in the state highway system and what changes should be made in the existing system;

State highway system.

(g) other studies of motor vehicle transport economics including but not limited to the inspection of motor vehicles to insure the safety of operation upon the highways, the control of loads and weights for the protection of the highway and street investments, and a study of such other factors and conditions as may appear necessary;

Other studies.

Safety.

Loads and weights.

(h) the revision of any and all laws bearing upon or relating to the subject of this resolution together with the committee's recommendations for appropriate legislation.

Revision of laws.

SEC. 3. The committee is authorized to act during this session of the legislature, including any recess, and after final adjournment until the commencement of the next regular session. It shall file a final report not later than the 15th legislative day of the next regular session. The committee may prepare and submit a preliminary report to the leg-

Report to be filed.

Preliminary report. legislature at any extraordinary session which may be convened.

General powers and duties. SEC. 4. The committee and its members shall have and exercise all of the rights, duties and powers conferred upon legislative committees and their members by the provisions of chapter 6, Laws of 1895 and chapter 33, Laws of 1897 (secs. 8178 through 8194, Rem. Rev. Stat.; secs. 722-1, -3, -5, -7, -9, -11, -13, -15, -17, -19, -21, -23, -25, -27, -29, -31, and -33, PPC) and shall have additional powers: (a) To select a chairman and vice-chairman from its membership;

(b) to employ an executive secretary and such expert, clerical and other help as may be necessary to carry out its duties;

(c) to cooperate with and secure the cooperation of county, city and other local law enforcement agencies in investigating any matter within the scope of this act and to direct the sheriff of any county to serve subpoenas, orders and other process issued by the committee;

(d) to do any and all other things necessary or convenient to enable it fully and adequately to exercise its powers, perform its duties, and accomplish the objects and purposes of this act.

Compensation. SEC. 5. The members of the committee shall be reimbursed for their actual expenses incurred while attending sessions of the committee or any subcommittee thereof, and business authorized by the committee, to the extent of fifteen dollars (\$15) per day plus five cents (5¢) per mile in going and coming from sessions of the committee or subcommittee meetings or for travel on other business authorized by the committee. The committee shall determine and fix the salaries of its employees. All expenses incurred by the committee or subcommittees including salaries of employees shall be paid from the funds herein appropriated upon voucher forms pro-

Expenses.

vided by the State Auditor and signed by the chairman or vice-chairman of the committee and attested by the executive secretary of said committee.

SEC. 6. There is hereby appropriated from the motor vehicle fund to the committee the sum of seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000) or so much thereof as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this act. Appropriation.

SEC. 7. This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, the support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect immediately. Effective immediately.

Passed the Senate February 27, 1947.

Passed the House March 6, 1947.

Approved by the Governor March 13, 1947.

CHAPTER 112:

[H. B. 45.]

RELATING TO VETERANS.

AN ACT relating to veterans and veterans' affairs and repealing chapter 31, Laws of 1945 (secs. 10747-10 to 10747-12, inclusive, Rem. Rev. Stat.; secs. 932d-1 to 932d-7, inclusive, PPC).

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 31, Laws of 1945 (secs. 10747-10 to 10747-12, inclusive, Rem. Rev. Stat.; secs. 932d-1 to 932d-7, inclusive, PPC) is hereby repealed. Repeal.

Passed the House February 27, 1947.

Passed the Senate March 5, 1947.

Approved by the Governor March 13, 1947.