

CHAPTER CIX.

[H. B. No. 142.]

RELATING TO THE COMMON SCHOOL SYSTEM OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON.

AN ACT relating to the common school system of the State of Washington, amending sections 22, 25, 34, 54 and 71 of "An act to establish a general uniform system of common schools in the State of Washington, and declaring an emergency," approved March 27, 1890, and interpolating in said act sections 31½ and 70½.

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

SECTION 1. That section twenty-two (22) of an act entitled "An act to establish a general uniform system of [common] schools in the State of Washington, and declaring an emergency," approved March 27, 1890, be amended to read as follows: Sec. 22. When a new district is formed by the division of one or more old ones, it shall be entitled to a just share of the school moneys to the credit of the old districts after payment of all outstanding debts at the time when the petition was granted establishing such new district, and the county superintendent shall divide such remaining moneys, and such as may afterward be apportioned to the old districts, according to the number of school children residing in each district, for which purpose he shall order a census to be taken: *Provided*, That the new district shall be entitled to such proportion of any special tax levied and collected for the year in which the new district is created, as the amount of such tax paid by that portion of any old district which is embraced in the new bears to such old district.

Apportionment of money in divided district.

Proviso.

SEC. 2. That section 25 of said act be amended to read as follows: Sec. 25. Directors of school districts shall be elected at the annual school election. At the first annual election in all new districts three directors shall be elected, for one, two and three years, respectively. The ballots shall specify the term for which each is to be elected. In all districts in which elections have been previously held, one director shall be elected for a term of three years, and if any vacancies are to be filled, a sufficient number to fill them for the unexpired term or terms; and the ballots shall

Time of election of directors and term of office.

specify the respective term for which each director is to be elected. Directors-elect shall take office on the first Monday in July next succeeding their election, and shall hold office until their successors are elected and qualified. Any director who fails to qualify on or before the day appointed for him to take office shall forfeit all rights to his office, and the county superintendent shall fill such vacancy by appointment, to hold office until the next annual election.

SEC. 3. That the following section, to be numbered 31½, shall be interpolated in said act, to wit: Sec. 31½. It shall be unlawful for any board of directors to contract indebtedness against their district in any one year, payable out of the general fund of said district, in any sum or sums exceeding in the aggregate the amount apportioned to said district at the last quarterly apportionment next following the date on which taxes become delinquent, unless said indebtedness be first authorized by a vote of the electors of said district.

Time of election and term of office of clerk.

SEC. 4. That section thirty-three (33) of said act be amended to read as follows: Sec. 33. A district clerk shall be elected in each district at each annual election, to hold office for one year, beginning on the first Monday in August next succeeding his election, and until his successor is elected and qualified. In case of the death, removal or resignation of the district clerk, the county superintendent shall fill the vacancy by appointment. Any district clerk failing to qualify as provided for in this act, on or before the day appointed for him to take office, shall forfeit all rights to his office, and the county superintendent shall fill the office by appointment, to hold till the next annual election.

Duties of district clerk.

SEC. 5. The duties of the district clerk shall be as follows: *First:* To attend all meetings of the board of directors, but if he shall not be present the board of directors shall select one of their number to act as clerk, who shall certify the proceedings of the meeting to the clerk of the district, to be recorded by him. He shall keep his records in a book, to be furnished by the board of directors, and he shall preserve copies of all reports made to the county superintendent, and safely preserve and keep all books

Records.

and documents belonging to his office, and shall turn the same over to his successor. *Second:* To keep accurate and detailed accounts of all receipts and expenditures of school money. At each annual school meeting the district clerk must present his record book for public inspection, and shall make a statement of the financial condition of the district and of the action of the directors, and such record must always be open for public inspection. *Third:* To take annually, in June of each year, an exact census of all children and youth between the ages of five and twenty-one years who were *bona fide* residents of that district on the first day of June of that year; and he shall designate the number of weeks each child between the ages of six and twenty-one years has attended school during the school year; the names and sex of all children subject to enumeration, together with the names of their parents or guardians: *Provided,* That Indian children not living under the guardianship of white persons, or who have not severed their tribal relations, or Mongolian children not native born, shall not be included in such census. He shall note all defective youth between the ages of five and twenty-one years; and he shall, on or before the fifteenth day of July, make to the county superintendent a full and complete report of all children enumerated, together with a complete statistical report of the affairs of his district, which report shall be verified by affidavit. Said report shall be made upon blanks to be furnished by the superintendent of public instruction and shall contain such items of information as said superintendent shall require, including the following: The names of all persons, male and female, between the ages of five and twenty-one years residing in the district on the first day of June last past, together with the number of weeks each has attended school during the last school year; the names and residences of the parents or guardians of all such children; the number of schools or departments taught during the year, and the branches taught; the number of children, male and female, enrolled in school and the average daily attendance; the number of teachers employed and their compensation per month; the number of days school was taught during the past

Receipts and expenditures.

Taking of census.

Proviso for Indian and Mongolian children.

Report to contain what.

school year, and by whom; the text books used, and the number of volumes, if any, in the school district library; the aggregate amount paid teachers during the year; the number of school houses in the district and the value of them; the aggregate value of all school furniture and apparatus belonging to the district; the amount raised by special tax during the year for the support of schools and for buildings, sites and furniture; the amount raised by subscription or by other means than taxation; the amount of bonded indebtedness of the district and the rate of interest paid; the amount of all other indebtedness and such other items as the superintendent of public instruction may deem of importance, and as may be provided for in the blanks furnished for said report, and the clerk shall keep on file a duplicate copy of said report.

Time of holding election.

SEC. 6. That section fifty-four (54) of said act be amended to read as follows: Sec. 54. The election of district directors and clerks shall be held on the second Monday in June of each year, at the district schoolhouse, if there be one, or if there be none or if there be more than one, then at a place to be designated by the board of directors. Special school elections shall be called and conducted in the manner provided for calling and conducting annual elections.

SEC. 7. That the following section, to be numbered 70½, be interpolated in said act, to wit: Sec. 70½. Every school district director or clerk shall, on assuming the duties of his office, place his signature, certified to by some school district officer, on file in the office of the county treasurer; and it shall be unlawful for any county treasurer to pay or register any school district warrant if the signatures thereon are not on file in his office or do not correspond to the certified signatures therein filed.

County treasurer to be ex officio treasurer of the several districts.

Duties of county treasurer.

SEC. 8. The county treasurers of the several counties of this state shall be *ex officio* treasurers of the several school districts of their respective counties, and it shall be the duty of each county treasurer—*First*, to receive and hold all moneys belonging to such school districts, and to pay them out upon warrants or orders of the boards of directors or boards of education of the districts to which they

belong; *second*, to certify to the county superintendent of common schools of his county, within twenty days after the day on which taxes become delinquent each year, and quarterly thereafter, the amount of all school moneys in his possession subject to apportionment, which certificate shall specify the source or sources from which said moneys were derived; *third*, to make annually, on or before the fifteenth day of July of each year, a report to the county superintendent of his county, which report shall show the amount of school funds on hand at the beginning of the school year last past, belonging to each school district; the amount of funds placed to the credit of each school district during the school year ending June 30, last past, and the sources from which said funds were derived; the amount of funds disbursed upon orders or warrants of each school district during the year, and for what purpose they were paid out; the amount of funds remaining in his possession at the close of the school year subject to be paid out upon warrants of school district officers, and the fund to which said moneys belong; also the amount of all unpaid warrants or bonds appearing upon his register at the close of the school year: *Provided*, That if, at the time of making such annual report, the treasurer shall find that the money accruing to the credit of any school district by reason of the quarterly apportionments of the county superintendent shall exceed the amount apportioned to such district at the last quarterly apportionment next following the date on which taxes become delinquent, then the treasurer shall restore such excess to the general school fund of the county to be re-apportioned, and shall designate in his report the amount so restored.

Approved March 10, 1893.