

*Provided further,* That no such wing dam, sheer boom, dam with gate or otherwise, shall be so constructed, maintained or used, as to interfere with the use for any purpose of the waters of any stream so dammed or used, or in any manner to injure or damage any lands adjacent to such stream by overflowing same or causing logs or other timber to accumulate on any land adjacent to such stream, or in any manner to obstruct or impede the outlet thereof:

Abutting  
owners may  
remonstrate.

*Provided, however,* That whenever the owners of more than one-half the land lying alongside or abutting on any stream affected by the tide, proposed to be improved according to this act, shall file with the board of county commissioners of the county in which said river is situated a remonstrance against any improvements of so much of the stream as is affected by the tide, it shall then be unlawful for any corporation to take the land or any slough within the territory owned by any such remonstrancers: *Provided,* That such remonstrance shall be filed with said board within fifteen days from the filing of said plat.

Passed the House February 3, 1897.

Passed the Senate March 1, 1897.

Approved by the Governor March 4, 1897.

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## CHAPTER XXXII.

[H. B. No. 137.]

### REGISTRATION OF VOTERS IN SCHOOL ELECTIONS.

AN ACT to provide for the registration of voters in all school elections, in school districts having a population of ten thousand or more inhabitants, and regulating elections in such districts.

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

Women must  
register.

SECTION 1. No person shall vote at any school election, either general or special, to be held in any school district in this state having a population of ten thousand or more inhabitants, as shown by any regular or special census,

unless he or she shall have previously complied with the requirements as to registration, as in this act provided.

SEC. 2. The secretary of the board of education in each district subject to the provisions of this act shall keep the books of registration herein provided for, and shall register therein the names of all duly qualified voters in his district, on application, in the manner and at the times herein specified.

Secretary board education shall register voters.

SEC. 3. The board of education of each district subject to the provisions of this act, shall furnish the secretary of such board, at the expense of the district, all blanks and books of registration herein provided for, within thirty days after this act shall become a law. Thereafter, after each general election of members of the board of education, the newly elected board shall furnish to the secretary and cause to be opened new books for the registration of voters. The boards of education of each district shall furnish, at the expense of their respective districts, all funds necessary for carrying out the provisions of this act.

Board of education to furnish blanks and books, and pay all expenses.

SEC. 4. The books of registration shall be opened for the purposes of registration, at the office of the secretary of the board of the district, on each day between the hours of 9 o'clock A. M. and 4 o'clock P. M., on each day except legal holidays, and they shall be closed and no names shall be registered therein during the five days preceding any special election, and during the ten days preceding any general election held in such district. The secretary of the board shall give notice of the closing of the books of registration in his district by notice published in a newspaper of general circulation, published in his district, at least ten days before the day for closing said books.

Registration books open, when.

Notice to be published of closing of books.

SEC. 5. Registration shall not be required more than once in each year. All persons, male or female, who are qualified electors under the provision of this act, shall be entitled to registration on application to the secretary of the board of education of the district in which they may reside: *Provided*, Such elector shall have been a resident of the state for one year, of the county ninety days, and of the voting precinct thirty days prior to the next general or special school election to be held in such district. No

Registration required but once each year.

Prerequisites to registration.

person shall vote at any such election except in the precinct where he or she has resided for the length of time above specified.

Registration books.

SEC. 6. There shall be provided by the board of education in each district, and kept by the secretary of such board, a separate book of registration for each school election precinct in the district. Each ward in any city within which the whole or any portion of a school district may be situate, shall be a voting precinct for all general or special school elections. The book of registration shall bear the name or number of the precinct to which it belongs. In case the whole or any portion of any such district shall lie without the limits of any incorporated city, the board of education of such district shall subdivide such outlying territory into voting precincts, so that each precinct shall contain as near as may be five hundred inhabitants, and after the boundaries of such precincts shall have been established, said territory shall not be re-districted oftener than once in three years, and not then unless one or more of the precincts thereof shall have attained a population of more than five hundred inhabitants. In case the authorities of any city, within which the whole or any portion of any district may lie, shall cause the boundaries of the wards of such city to be changed after the opening of the books of registration for the school district, the voting precincts of such district shall conform to the lines of the wards as established when said books were opened until the next set of books shall be opened, at which time said new books and the voting precincts of such district shall conform to the boundaries of the wards as then established.

Registration districts.

Form of registration record.

SEC. 7. The books of registration aforesaid shall be so arranged as to admit the alphabetical classification of the names of the voters, and ruled in parallel columns with appropriate heads, as follows: Date of registration, name, age, occupation, place of residence, place of birth, time of residence in the state, county and precinct, and if of foreign birth, name and place of court and date of declaration of intention to become a citizen of the United States, or date of naturalization, and with the column for signature and one for remarks, and one column for checking the

name of voter at the time of voting. Under head of place of residence shall be noted the number of lot and block, or number and street where the applicant resides, or some other definite description sufficient to locate the residence, and the voter so registering as provided in this section shall sign his or her name on the registry opposite the entries above required, in the column headed "Signature," and in case any voter shall not be capable of writing his or her name he or she shall, on the left hand margin of said column, make his or her mark by cross or such other mark as is usual in indicating his or her signature, and some person who is personally known to said voter, and is personally known to the registering officer, and who is capable of writing his or her name, shall sign in said column immediately opposite said mark as an identifying witness thereto.

SEC. 8. No person shall be registered unless he or she appears in person before the secretary of the board of education in the district in which such elector resides, during the hours the books are opened for registration, and answers truly the questions that may be put to him or her touching his or her qualifications to vote in such district, and shall also make and subscribe the following oath:

Must register  
in person.

STATE OF WASHINGTON, COUNTY OF ..... ss.

I, ....., do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I am a legally qualified school elector, under the laws of the State of Washington, and that I have been an actual permanent resident of said state for eleven months and twenty days last past, and of the co..... for eighty days, last past, and the ..... precinct twenty days last past, and that I have not lost my civil rights by reason of being convicted of any infamous crime.

Oath to be  
taken.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this ..... day of .....

Said affidavit shall be filed and preserved by the secretary of the board for at least two years.

SEC. 9. The secretaries of the boards of education are hereby empowered to administer all necessary oaths in examining applicants for registration, or any witnesses that may be offered on behalf of any applicant. The said secretary shall examine carefully any applicant whose right to register he may doubt, or who may be challenged, and

Secretaries  
empowered  
to admin-  
ister oath.

if the applicant shall be entitled to vote at the next election he or she shall be registered, otherwise not.

Penalty for false oath.

SEC. 10. If any person shall falsely swear or affirm in taking the oath or making the affirmation herein prescribed, or shall falsely personate another and procure the person so personated to be registered, or if any person shall represent his name to the secretary or officer of registration to be different from what it actually is, and cause such name to be registered, or if any person shall cause any name to be placed upon the registry list otherwise than in the manner provided in this act, he or she shall be guilty of a felony, and upon conviction be punished by confinement in the penitentiary not more than five nor less than one year.

Change of residence of registered voter.

SEC. 11. If any elector shall, during the year for which he or she may be registered, change his or her place of residence from the precinct in which he or she is registered, he or she shall apply to the secretary of the board to have said removal noted. The secretary shall run a red ink line across the name in the precinct book in which said applicant shall be registered, and likewise note said removal in the column headed "Remarks" in said book, and thereupon the said secretary shall enter the name and re-register the elector in the registration book of the ward to which he or she has removed.

Challenge, and method of procedure under.

SEC. 12. Registration under the provisions of this act shall be *prima facie* evidence of the right of the elector to vote at any general or special school election held within the district during the year for which said elector is registered. If any person duly registered is challenged, it shall be the duty of the judges of election to examine the challenger and any witnesses that may be produced on oath, touching the right of such elector to vote; the judges shall then, unless they dismiss said challenge, examine the proposed elector on oath, and if it appears that said elector is entitled to vote at said election, his or her vote shall be received, otherwise rejected. Any person swearing falsely before any judge of election, on the hearing of any such challenge, shall be deemed guilty of perjury, and shall be subjected to the pains and penalties of perjury.

SEC. 13. The board of education in each district to which this act applies shall, at their last regular meeting before any general or special school election to be held in their district, appoint two judges of election and one clerk for each voting precinct within such district. Both the judges and the clerk shall be qualified school electors in the precinct for which they are appointed.

Board to appoint election officers.

SEC. 14. On the morning of any general or special school election the secretary of the board shall deliver to the clerk of each voting precinct within his district, the original book of registration of the precinct for which such clerk was appointed. Each clerk of election shall return the book of registration entrusted to him to the secretary of the board at the time of the delivery of the ballots cast in the precinct at such election, and it shall be unlawful for any clerk or any judge of election, to cause or allow any marks or alterations to be made in said book while the same is in their possession, other than a proper check mark when a ballot is cast, to indicate the party voting.

Registration record delivered to clerk of election.

SEC. 15. The manner of voting at school elections shall be the same as is now provided by law. The board of education in each district shall provide suitable polling places, at a school house in each ward or precinct, and if there is no school house in any ward or precinct, then at some other suitable place in said ward or precinct, to be designated by the board; but no ward or precinct shall have more than one polling place. The voting place in each ward or precinct shall be named and designated by the board in the notice calling such election.

Board to provide suitable polling places.

SEC. 16. Nothing in this act contained shall be construed as a repeal of an act entitled "An act to establish a system of common schools in cities of ten thousand or more inhabitants, and to provide for properly maintaining, governing and grading the same," approved March 26, 1890, except in so far as this act shall be in conflict therewith, but this act shall be construed as amendatory and supplementary thereto.

Passed the House February 9, 1897.

Passed the Senate February 25, 1897.

Approved by the Governor March 4, 1897.