

CHAPTER LII.

[S. B. No. 239.]

LEASING VACANT STREETS ON WATER FRONT

AN ACT providing for validating leases heretofore made by cities or towns of streets, or portions thereof, upon the water front, within or in front, of cities or towns, and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. Whenever the council of any city or town has heretofore by resolution or ordinance, or either, or both, found that any street or streets, or specified portions thereof, upon the water front, within or in front of such city or town, are imaginary streets, existing only upon maps or plats, and that the same in the portions specified have never been opened for public travel or improved as public highways, and that it will be for the best interest of such city or town, its trade or commerce, not to take possession of or improve any such street or specified portions thereof, and that the closing of such street or specified portions thereof for a period therein provided, and the occupancy of the space so closed by persons, or corporations, for the purpose of trade, commerce, navigation, transportation, manufactures, or other industries, will be without injury to any public or private interest, but will be of great benefit to the public and such community, and therein authorizing such occupancy for such purposes, for the period therein specified, such resolutions, ordinances, and the action of the council of such city or town as therein determined and set forth are hereby validated: *Provided*, That this shall not be construed as validating any such lease for a longer term than thirty years from the date of the commencement of the term mentioned in such lease: *And provided further*, That this act shall not apply to cities of the first class.

SEC. 2. An emergency exists and this act shall take effect immediately.

Passed the Senate March 2, 1899.

Passed the House March 4, 1899.

Approved March 8, 1899.