CHAPTER 23.
[H. B. 58.]

PERMANENT HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT.

An Act relating to public highways and amending Remington's Compiled Statutes by adding a new section to Title XLI, Chapter XXVII thereof, to be known as Section 6773-1, and amending section 6781 of Remington's Compiled Statutes.

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

Section 1. That Remington's Compiled Statutes be amended by adding a new section to Title XLI, Chapter XXVII thereof to follow section 6773, to be known as section 6773-1 as follows:

Section 6773-1. Whenever the county commissioners of any county shall determine that it is advisable to lay out and establish a new highway to begin at some trade center, or as a part of or to connect with any improved public road constructed along a main line of travel, which either begins at some trade center, or is an extension of an existing road of like character beginning at some trade center, and shall pass a resolution fixing the termini of such proposed new highway and the general route and location thereof, such proposed new highway may be constructed and improved, and any private lands necessary for the right of way of such proposed new highway may be acquired, under the provisions of this Chapter.

Sec. 2. That Section 6781 of Remington's Compiled Statutes be amended to read as follows:

Section 6781. When the board of county commissioners shall have finally adopted the profiles, maps, plans and specifications for the improvement of any permanent highway under the provisions of this act, said board shall advertise for bids for three successive weeks, in a newspaper published at the county seat of such county, and if they deem ad-
visable, in such other newspaper as it shall determine, for the construction and improvement of such permanent highway, or section thereof, according to such profiles, maps, plans and specifications, and shall award the contract to the lowest responsible bidder, save that the board shall have the right to reject any and all bids. All contracts shall be on a form to be approved by the state highway engineer and shall be let on the lump sum basis. Before entering into any contract for such construction or improvement, it shall require a corporate surety bond in the full amount of the contracts, conditioned that the party thereto will perform the work upon the terms, within the time, and in accordance with the contract, profiles, maps, plans and specifications, and that such party will indemnify the county against any direct or indirect damages that shall be suffered or claimed for injuries to persons or property during the construction and improvement of such highway and until the same is accepted. Each bid shall be accompanied by a certified check in a sum equal to five per cent of the amount of such bid, payable to the county, which shall be forfeited to the county upon the failure of the party, for a period of twenty days after any contract is awarded to any such party, to enter into a proper contract and furnish satisfactory bonds as required by this act. Monthly partial payments shall be provided for in the contract and paid in the manner therein provided, when certified by the county engineer or construction engineer employed, as the case may be, to an amount equal to eighty per centum of the value of the work done during the preceding month. Twenty per centum of the contract price shall be retained until the entire work has been accepted and no final payment shall be made until the state highway engineer shall have examined the work or caused the same to be examined and certify to the state auditor
that such work has been fully completed in accordance with the contract and the profiles, maps, plans and specifications governing such work. All payments to be made by the state upon contracts entered into in accordance with the provisions of this act shall be made by the state treasurer from the permanent highway fund hereinafter created, upon the warrant of the state auditor issued upon the presentation of proper vouchers by the person entitled thereto, said vouchers to be approved by the board of county commissioners, and the state highway engineer, and, in case of final payment, to be accompanied by the certificate of the state highway engineer as aforesaid. The state auditor shall issue no warrant for any purpose against the permanent highway fund hereinafter provided for unless there be sufficient money to pay such warrant in such fund to the credit of the county affected. No payment shall be made for any incidental changes during the progress of the work, unless the same shall have been approved by the board of county commissioners by resolution, and a copy of said resolution shall have been transmitted to and approved by the state highway engineer. The board of county commissioners shall let no contract for the improvement of any permanent highway or section thereof less than one mile in length. Whenever any permanent highway shall be improved or constructed pursuant to a petition as provided for in section 6774, the proportion of the cost of such improvement chargeable to the property within the improvement district shall be paid out of the general road and bridge fund of the county, and all taxes assessed against abutting property under the provisions of the following section, and all moneys payable by any township, shall, when collected, be paid into said general road and bridge fund.
fund upon contracts entered into in accordance with
the provisions of this act, shall be made by the
county treasurer upon warrants of the county au-
ditor, issued upon the presentation of proper
vouchers, approved by the board of county com-
missioners and the state highway engineer.

Passed the House February 5, 1925.
Passed the Senate February 9, 1925.
Approved by the Governor February 18, 1925.

CHAPTER 24.
[H. B. 52.]
MARKING INTERSTATE ROADS.

An Act authorizing the state highway department to cooperate
with the highway departments of the several states and the
Federal government in numbering and marking the roads
of interstate character.

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

Section 1. That the state highway department
of the state of Washington is hereby authorized to
cooperate with the several states and with the Fed-
eral government in formulating and adopting the
uniform system of numbering, or designating roads
of interstate character within this state and in the
selection and erection of uniform danger signals
and safety devices for the protection and direction
of traffic on state highways.

Passed the House February 3, 1925.
Passed the Senate February 9, 1925.
Approved by the Governor February 18, 1925.