

or covered by guaranties, or by commitments or agreements to take over or to purchase the same, made by any Federal Reserve bank or by the United States or any department, bureau, board, commission or establishment of the United States, including any corporation wholly owned directly or indirectly by the United States.

SEC. 2. This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety and shall take effect immediately.

Passed the House February 8, 1943.

Passed the Senate March 8, 1943.

Approved by the Governor March 18, 1943.

CHAPTER 143.

[H. B. 133.]

BANKS AND TRUST COMPANIES.

AN ACT relating to banks and trust companies, and providing for the payment of bank accounts of deceased persons of five hundred dollars (\$500) or less to certain persons without requiring an administrator to be appointed.

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

Bank may
pay
surviving
spouse.

Maximum
amount.

Bank
released.

SECTION 1. On the death of any depositor of any bank or trust company, such bank or trust company may pay to the surviving spouse, the moneys in said bank or trust company on deposit to the credit of said deceased depositor in cases where the amount of deposit does not exceed the sum of five hundred dollars (\$500) upon receipt of an affidavit from the surviving spouse, to the effect that the depositor died intestate and had on deposit in all banks and trust companies within the State of Washington money not exceeding the sum of five hundred dollars (\$500). The payment of such deposit made in good faith to the spouse making the affidavit shall be a full acquittance and release of the bank for the amount of the deposit so paid.

SEC. 2. No probate proceedings shall be necessary to establish the right of said surviving spouse to withdraw said deposits upon the filing of said affidavit: *Provided, however,* Whenever an administrator is appointed in an estate where a withdrawal of deposits has been had in compliance with this act, the spouse so withdrawing said deposits shall account for the same to the administrator.

Probate not required.

Proviso.

Passed the House February 8, 1943.

Passed the Senate March 8, 1943.

Approved by the Governor March 18, 1943.

CHAPTER 144.

[H. B. 177.]

EXCISE TAX ON MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAILERS.

AN ACT relating to revenue and taxation; providing for an excise tax upon certain motor vehicles and trailers in lieu of property taxes thereon, and for the allocation of revenues derived therefrom; limiting the county property tax levy for support of the common schools; prescribing certain duties of certain state and county officers and their appointees, and others; creating the Motor Vehicle Excise Fund; making an appropriation; declaring certain acts to constitute a gross misdemeanor; repealing chapter 228 of the Laws of 1937, as amended by sections 1 and 2, chapter 206, Laws of 1939 (section 6312-101 to 6312-114, inclusive, Remington's Revised Statutes); and providing when and in what manner this act shall take effect.

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

SECTION 1. Unless otherwise indicated by the context of this act, the term "motor vehicle" shall mean and include all motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers used, or of the type designed primarily to be used, upon the public streets and highways, for the convenience or pleasure of the owner, or for the conveyance, for hire or otherwise, of persons or property, including fixed loads and facilities for human habitation; but the term shall not include (a)

"Motor vehicle"
defined.