CHAPTER 200.
[H.B. 280.]

WASHINGTON STATE WAR COUNCIL.

AN ACT creating the Washington State War Council; declaring the policy of the legislature; providing for the control and regulation of the movement and activities of civilians; providing for the promulgation of rules, regulations, orders and directives by the Washington State War Council to meet specified contingencies relating to the national and state defense; providing for the enforcement of said rules, regulations, orders and directives by governing bodies of local political subdivisions and governmental agencies and personnel; defining the powers and duties of the Washington State War Council; providing for the preparation of rules, regulations, orders and directives by the Washington State War Council relative to evacuation, mobilization of civilian manpower, blackouts and/or radio silences, matters relating to transportation of persons, materials and supplies, programs of civilian training of air raid wardens, fire wardens, demolition squads, first aid and other necessary civilian defense personnel, prevention and suppression of disease or epidemics, systems of staggered hours of employment, and maximum rates of speed of motor vehicles; providing for the taking or damaging of property and the payment of compensation therefor; appropriating funds for the carrying out of this act; defining crimes; prescribing the period during which the act shall be in effect; and declaring an emergency.

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

Title of act.

SECTION 1. This act may be cited as the "Washington State War Council Act."

Declaration of policy.

Sec. 2. It is hereby declared to be the policy of the legislature that by reason of the present war and conditions resulting therefrom and in the interests of the defense of this state and of the United States, it is necessary to effectively co-operate with the United States government and all of the agencies thereof which are engaged in the prosecution of said war, and provide for the protection of the life, safety and health of the people of this state during said war, and assist in the maintenance of uninterrupted
production and transportation of vital war materials, and fully utilize the resources of the state, and to that end it is necessary that the actions and movements of the civilian population be controlled, restricted and regulated. Therefore, it is necessary that said Council be empowered to make, amend and rescind rules and regulations to carry out the provisions of this act.

Sec. 3. There is hereby created the Washington State War Council, to consist of three members, as follows: The Governor of the State of Washington, who shall act as chairman, the Lieutenant Governor and the Insurance Commissioner. The office of the Washington State War Council shall be located at Olympia, Washington, and its official title and address shall be, "Washington State War Council, care of The Secretary of State, Olympia, Washington." All rules, regulations, orders and directives issued pursuant to this act shall be in the name of "The Washington State War Council."

Sec. 4. That the contingencies and happenings within the contemplation of this act are: Threatened or actual invasion; bombing; actual or attempted air raids of enemy powers; fires; floods; epidemics or disease; destruction of public buildings, war plants, strategic bridges or other buildings and places essential to proper prosecution of the war effort by sabotage or otherwise, grave danger to the life, health and safety of the people of the State of Washington as evidenced by the promulgation of orders and directives of the United States government, the Department of Justice, the United States military or naval forces or other armed forces of the United States regarding blackouts, radio silences, traffic control over any street, road or highway in the State of Washington, mobilization of civilians, evacuations, or any other matter concerning the protection of military and/or civilian lives, property and interests in the State of Washington.
Sec. 5. The movements and activities of the civilian population of this state shall be controlled, restricted and regulated to effect the public safety, the preservation and protection of life and property and the efficient application of the resources of this state toward the prosecution of the war and the defense of the state and nation, and to that end said Council, upon the happening of the specified contingencies, shall proceed in accordance with the powers herein enumerated and issue all necessary rules, regulations, orders and directives in order to make said powers effective.

Sec. 6. Upon the happening of any one of the specified contingencies, the Washington State Council shall be empowered to immediately put into effect rules, regulations, orders and directives to meet such situation or condition in an orderly and efficient manner. A copy therefore shall be filed in the office of the Secretary of State or if promulgated by a political subdivision of the state or any agency thereof, it shall be filed in the office of the clerk of the governing body of the political subdivision for which the same has been promulgated. All local political subdivisions and/or agencies of the state, and including the civilian population of the area involved, shall be required to observe and follow the rules, regulations, orders and directives so laid down to the same extent and effect as they would be required to observe and follow any law of the State of Washington or political subdivision thereof. The said rules, regulations, orders and directives of the Washington State War Council shall be carried out and enforced by the governing bodies of the local political subdivisions of the state in such manner and within such area as the said Washington State War Council shall designate, and in the event such governing body or bodies are unable to effectively carry out and enforce said rules, regulations, orders and directives, the Washington State War Council
may direct the enforcement of such rules, regulations, orders and directives by and through any governmental agency or personnel, notwithstanding any provision of existing law.

Sec. 7. The Washington State War Council is hereby empowered to issue rules, regulations, orders and directives for the regulation and control of the movement and activities of all civilians within this state for the purpose of providing for orderly evacuation of any area or areas affected by the occurrence of any of the specific contingencies enumerated in section 4 hereof; the mobilization of civilian manpower in said affected area or areas; the adoption of a system or systems for the synchronization of inter-related blackouts and/or radio silences; the preparation of maps showing alternate routes over which traffic may be directed so as to permit as nearly as possible uninterrupted transportation of persons, materials and supplies to and around the affected areas with the least possible interference with existing transportation routes and facilities; the working out of schedules with regular transportation systems, including but not limited to railroads, steamship lines, air lines, and bus companies, so that the isolation of any area or areas of the state by reason of enemy attack or other contingency as enumerated herein shall not cripple or seriously impair the transportation facilities offered to the remainder of the state; to set up and adopt a program of civilian training in collaboration with the governing bodies of the local political subdivisions of the state for the purpose of training air raid wardens, fire wardens, demolition squads, first aid and other necessary civilian defense personnel; the collaboration with the health officers or authorities of the local political subdivisions and the adoption and promulgation of regulations for the prevention and/or suppression of disease or epidemics caused by unsanitary conditions existing in over-crowded
defense plant areas or by one of the other enumerated contingencies in section 4 hereof; the establishment of a system of staggered hours of employment in congested areas as a means of facilitating the transportation of persons to and from their places of employment; the prescribing of the maximum rates of speed at which any motor vehicle may be operated upon any street, road or highway in this state: Provided, however, That no action, order, rule or regulation of the Washington State War Council shall be contrary to or inconsistent with any action, order, rule or regulation of the armed forces of the United States or of the United States government, and: Provided, further, That said Washington State War Council shall not, except in the event of grave emergency, exercise the powers herein conferred in such way as to supersede existing agencies engaged in the same or similar activities.

SEC. 8. The War Council shall have the following powers, functions and duties:

(a) To cooperate with any and all Federal departments, agencies and independent establishments and the officers and employees thereof charged with responsibilities relating to the war effort or the defense of the nation; the officers and agencies of other states in matters pertaining to the war and the common defense of the state and nation; the political subdivisions and local defense councils and agencies of this state; and private agencies engaged in activities essential to the war effort and civilian defense;

(b) To prescribe and direct activities, to the extent related to the war effort, in connection with the following: Salvage and prevention of waste of strategic materials; health and medical care; nutrition, housing, including the use of existing public and private facilities; education and training of civilian defense workers; recreation and recreational facilities for industrial workers and members of the
armed forces, financed by Federal funds; and sale of war bonds and stamps;

(c) To provide for the recruitment, qualifications, training, equipment, powers and duties of all persons engaged in civilian defense activities;

(d) To require and direct the cooperation and assistance of state and local governmental agencies and officials;

(e) To make, amend and rescind such orders, rules and regulations as it may deem advisable in order to carry out the provisions of this act.

Sec. 9. (a) Local councils of defense shall cooperate with and assist the War Council, and shall perform such services as may be requested by said War Council. Local councils may act jointly with other such councils.

(b) In order to achieve the most effective use of the services and equipment of all political subdivisions of the state, throughout the state, each political subdivision is hereby authorized and empowered to negotiate reciprocal aid agreements with other political subdivisions of the state with respect to the furnishing of services, equipment, supplies and facilities for the purpose of rendering aid in case of disaster, including any occasioned by air raid or other form of enemy attack.

Sec. 10. (a) The Council shall report to the legislature at its next session the proceedings taken by it pursuant to this act and shall transmit at the same time to the legislature copies of all orders so promulgated by it.

(b) No order, rule or regulation shall be made, amended or rescinded by the War Council under the provisions of this act except with the unanimous consent of the members thereof.

Sec. 11. Every person who violates any provision of this act, or any rule, regulation, order or directive
issued by the Washington State War Council, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

Sec. 12. If any provision of this act, or the application thereof to any person or circumstance, is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this act are declared to be severable.

Sec. 13. This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety and shall take effect immediately, and shall remain in force until after the convening of the next regular or special session of the legislature.

Passed the House March 11, 1943.
Passed the Senate March 11, 1943.
Approved by the Governor March 19, 1943.

CHAPTER 201.
[ H. B. 290. ]

PUBLIC HIGHWAYS AND FERRIES.
An Act relating to public highways and ferries; making appropriations therefor from the Motor Vehicle Fund, the Highway Equipment Fund and the Highway Safety Fund; and declaring an emergency and that this act shall take effect April 1, 1943.

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

Section 1. There is hereby appropriated from the Motor Vehicle Fund to the Department of Highways to be expended by the Director of Highways for the biennium ending March 31, 1945, the sum of ten million dollars ($10,000,000) as a revolving fund to be expended under specific project agreements, executed or to be executed under the provisions of the Federal Aid Road Act and the state Act assenting