CHAPTER 235.

[ H. B. 664.]

STATUTE LAW COMMITTEE.

An Act relating to the statute law committee; and amending sections 1, 2, 11, 12, and 14, chapter 257, Laws of 1953 and RCW 1.08.001, 1.08.003, 1.08.037, 1.08.038, and 1.08.039, and amending sections 8 and 15, chapter 157, Laws of 1951 and RCW 1.08.017 and 1.08.033; and adding a new section to chapter 157, Laws of 1951 and to chapter 1.08 RCW; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. Section 1, chapter 257, Laws of 1953 and RCW 1.08.001 are each amended to read as follows:

There is created a permanent statute law committee consisting of ten lawyer members as follows: A lawyer member of the legislative council, ex officio, designated by the speaker of the house of representatives, but if there is no such lawyer member, then an additional lawyer member of the house judiciary committee shall be so appointed; the librarian of the state law library, ex officio; the chairman of the senate judiciary committee, ex officio, and one other member thereof who belongs to the other major political party, to be appointed by the chairman; the chairman of the house judiciary committee, ex officio, and one other member thereof who belongs to the other major political party, to be appointed by the chairman; three lawyers admitted to practice in this state, designated by the board of governors of the Washington State Bar Association; a lawyer member at large appointed by the governor. All such designations or appointments, shall except as provided in RCW 1.08.003, be made as above provided prior to April 1, 1955.

SECTION 2. Section 2, chapter 257, Laws of 1953 and RCW 1.08.003 are each amended to read as follows:

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The terms of the members designated by the State Bar Association, shall be for six years. The term of the governor's appointee shall be four years. The term of the senate and house judiciary committee members shall be two years, from April 1 following the adjournment of the regular session of the legislature in each odd-numbered year starting in 1955 and to and including the 31st day of March in the succeeding odd-numbered year.

The term of any ex officio member, other than senate and house judiciary committee members shall expire upon expiration of tenure of the position by virtue of which he is a member of the committee. Vacancies shall be filled by designation, appointment, or ex officio in the same manner as for the member so vacating, and if a vacancy results other than from expiration of a term, the vacancy shall be filled for the unexpired term.

Of the members to be designated by the Washington State Bar Association, the current term of the four year designee whose present term would expire March 31, 1957, shall be redesignated for the term ending March 31, 1957. Of the other two members to be designated, the term of one of such designees shall end March 31, 1959, and the other, March 31, 1961.

Sec. 3. Section 8, chapter 157, Laws of 1951 and RCW 1.08.017 are each amended to read as follows:

The reviser may omit from the code all titles to acts, enacting and repealing clauses, preambles, declarations of emergency, and validity and construction sections unless, in a particular instance, it may be necessary to retain such to preserve the full intent of the law. The omission of validity or construction sections is not intended to, nor shall it change, or be considered as changing, the effect to be given thereto in construing legislation of which such validity and construction sections were a part. Any section so
omitted, other than repealing, emergency, or validity provisions, shall be referred to or set forth as an annotation to the applicable sections of the act as codified.

SEC. 4. There is added to chapter 157, Laws of 1951, a new section, 12a, (and to chapter 1.08 RCW) to read as follows:

Neither the reviser nor any member of his staff shall be required to furnish any written opinion as to the validity or constitutionality of any proposed legislation, which he may be requested to draft or prepare, nor shall any member of the committee be required to pass upon the constitutionality of any matter submitted to it for consideration.

SEC. 5. Section 15, chapter 157, Laws of 1951 and RCW 1.08.033 are each amended to read as follows:

The department of public institutions shall provide suitable office and storage space and facilities for the reviser and his staff at Olympia, at a location convenient to the legislature and to the state law library.

SEC. 6. Section 14, chapter 257, Laws of 1953 and RCW 1.08.037 are each amended to read as follows:

The committee shall from time to time formulate specifications relative to the format, size and style of type, paper stock, number of volumes, method and quality of binding, contents, indexing, and general scope and character of footnotes, and annotations, if any, for any publication for general use of the revised code and supplements thereto. No such publication or the contents thereof, other than such temporary edition as may expressly be authorized by the legislature, shall be received as evidence of the laws of this state unless it complies with such specifications of the committee as are current at the time of publication, including compliance with the section numbering adopted by the reviser under supervision.
of the statute law committee. If a publication complies with such specifications, the committee shall furnish a certificate of such compliance, executed on behalf of the committee by its chairman, to the publisher, and the certificate shall be reproduced at the beginning of each such volume or supplement.

Upon request of any publisher in good faith interested in publishing said code, the committee shall furnish a copy of its current specifications and shall not during the process of any bona fide publication of said code or supplements modify any such specifications, if such modification would result in added expense or material inconvenience to the publisher, without written concurrence therein by such publisher.

Sec. 7. Section 11, chapter 257, Laws of 1953 and RCW 1.08.038 are each amended to read as follows:

The statute law committee shall publish, sell and distribute, and arrange for the publication, sale and distribution of the Revised Code of Washington and of supplements thereto and of such other materials as in their discretion may be incorporated in or appended to the code. They may republish, reprint or authorize the republishing or reprinting of the code or any portion thereof.

Sec. 8. Section 12, chapter 257, Laws of 1953 and RCW 1.08.039 are each amended to read as follows:

The committee may enter into contracts or otherwise arrange for the publication and/or distribution, provided for in RCW 1.08.038, with or without calling for bids, by the public printer or by private printer, upon specifications formulated under the authority of RCW 1.08.037, and upon such basis as the committee deems to be most expeditious and economical. Any such contract may be upon such terms as the committee deems to be most advantageous to the state and to potential purchasers.
of such publications. The committee shall fix terms and prices for such publications.

Sec. 9. Each member of the legislature, who has not received a set of the Revised Code of Washington under the provisions of section 9, chapter 155, Laws of 1951, or section 16, chapter 257, Laws of 1955, or this section, shall be entitled to receive one set of the code without charge. All persons receiving codes under the provisions of this section or the sections above referred to shall be entitled to receive supplements to the code free of charge, during their term of office as a member or officer of the legislature: Provided, That legislative appropriation has been made for the purpose of supplying such codes and supplements.

Sec. 10. If any provision of this act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected.

Sec. 11. This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, and support of the state government and its existing public institutions and shall take effect immediately.

Passed the House February 27, 1955.
Passed the Senate March 8, 1955.
Approved by the Governor March 17, 1955.