

CHAPTER 52.

[S. H. B. 15.]

CONSOLIDATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS.

AN ACT relating to education, providing for the consolidation of school districts and amending sections 4698, 4760 and section 1 of chapter 199 of the Laws of 1927 (section 4734 of Remington's Compiled Statutes, 1927 Supp.) as amended by chapter 75 of the Laws of 1933 and providing that this act shall take effect immediately.

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

Amends
§ 4698, Rem.
Comp. Stat. ;
ch. 75,
Laws 1933.

SECTION 1. That section 4698 of Remington's Compiled Statutes as amended by chapter 75 of the Laws of 1933 be amended to read as follows:

Consolidated
school
districts.

Section 4698. Any school district which has been formed by the consolidation of two or more school districts, or any union high school district which has voted in favor of consolidation at any regular or special election by a majority of all votes cast, and by a majority of all votes cast in each district shall be designated as a consolidated school district.

Amends
§ 1, ch. 199,
Laws 1927 ;
ch. 75,
Laws 1933.

SEC. 2. That section 1 of chapter 199 of the Laws of 1927 (section 4734 of Remington's Compiled Statutes, 1927, Supp.) as amended by chapter 75 of the Laws of 1933 be amended to read as follows:

Petition
for con-
solidation.

Section 1. Upon receipt of a petition signed by five heads of families in each district or a majority of the families residing in said district, requesting the consolidation of two or more adjoining districts in the same county, or the consolidation of such district or districts with a union high school district, the county superintendent shall call a special election of the voters of said school districts at some convenient place or places therein by posting written or printed notices in like manner as is provided for calling annual school district elections, and said

Special
election.

notices shall state the object for which the election is called.

If a majority of all votes cast in each district shall vote to consolidate the clerk of each district, and of the union high school district, so proposing to consolidate, shall within ten days after the election notify the county superintendent of the holding of and the result of the election and the county superintendent shall, immediately after receipt of said notice, organize and establish a consolidated school district and when such consolidated district shall have been established no new district shall be established out of any portion thereof, or any portion thereof changed to another district within five years from such consolidation: *Provided*, That any portion thereof, after five years from the date such portion first became a part of a consolidated district, may be changed to another district of any kind, in the manner provided in sections 4727 and 4728, Remington's Compiled Statutes of Washington, for the transferring of territory from one district to another: *Provided further*, That any portion thereof, after five years from the date such portion first became a part of such consolidated district, may withdraw from such consolidated district, and become organized as a new district in the following manner: Whenever a petition is presented to the directors of such consolidated district, setting forth the desire of such portion to withdraw from such consolidated district, signed by a majority of the heads of families residing in such portion, such directors shall at the next general school election held in such consolidated district, submit to the qualified voters of such district the question of withdrawal of such portion, and if a majority of the qualified voters at such election shall vote in favor of such withdrawal, such portion shall be withdrawn from such consolidated district, and shall be con-

Establishment of consolidated district.

No new district to be established within five years after consolidation.

Withdrawal.

Petition.

Submit question at general elections.

stituted as a new district, and the county superintendent shall apportion the funds and adjust the property rights and debts between the consolidated district and the new district, in the manner provided by law for such matters in cases of new school districts: *Provided further*, That any district which has within one year prior to the passage of this act been legally consolidated with another district, where a majority of the voters in that district at an election called for that purpose voted against said consolidation, may withdraw from such consolidated district. Upon the filing of a petition signed by five heads of families of such district, stating that said district desires to withdraw from such consolidated district, it shall be the duty of the county superintendent of schools to call a special election of the voters of such school district, at some convenient place named therein, by posting written or printed notices, and stating the purpose thereof, and such election shall be held in like manner as is provided for holding annual school district elections. If a majority of the voters at such election shall vote in favor of withdrawing from such consolidated district, the clerk of the election shall forthwith file the returns with, and it shall be the duty of the county superintendent of schools to issue a certificate re-establishing such district as the same theretofore existed: *Provided further*, That upon such withdrawal the officers of said district at the time of consolidation shall continue to serve until their successors are elected and qualified, and all property and assets of such district shall be restored as though no consolidation had taken place.

SEC. 3. That section 4760 of Remington's Compiled Statutes as amended by chapter 75 of the Laws of 1933 be amended to read as follows:

Section 4760. The board of directors and clerk provided for in the preceding section, shall, in all

matters relating to the union high school of such district, possess all the powers herein provided for other school district officers, including the power to recommend special levies of taxes for the purpose of furnishing transportation to and from school and other additional school facilities for the union district, or for the payment of teachers' wages, or for the purchase of fuel, supplies, globes, maps, charts, books of reference or other appliances for teaching, or for any or all of these purposes: *Provided*, That the levy authorized by the directors for any union high school district shall not be in excess of four mills for any one school year, and that the levy authorized by the directors for any component district within a union high school district shall not be in excess of six mills for any one school year. The board of directors of a union high school district shall discharge all the duties and be governed by the laws herein provided for school district officers.

Union high school districts.

Levy limit.

SEC. 4. If any section or provisions of this act be adjudged to be invalid or unconstitutional, such adjudication shall not affect the validity of the act as a whole or any section, provision or part thereof not adjudged invalid or unconstitutional.

Invalidity of part shall not affect balance.

SEC. 5. This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the peace, health and safety, and the immediate support of the state government and its existing institutions, and shall take effect immediately.

Effective immediately.

Passed the House December 27, 1933.

Passed the Senate January 11, 1934.

Approved by the Governor January 17, 1934.