

CHAPTER 244.

[ H. B. 131. ]

COURT REPORTERS.

AN ACT relating to court reporters; amending section 1, chapter 126, Laws of 1913 as last amended by section 1, chapter 154, Laws of 1945, and RCW 2.32.180; amending section 3, chapter 126, Laws of 1913 as last amended by section 1, chapter 265, Laws of 1953, and RCW 2.32.210; amending section 2, chapter 24, Laws of 1945 as amended by section 2, chapter 210, Laws of 1951, and RCW 2.32.220; amending section 5, chapter 126, Laws of 1913 as amended by section 4, chapter 69, Laws of 1943, and RCW 2.32.240; and amending section 9, chapter 126, Laws of 1913 as amended by section 5, chapter 69, Laws of 1943, and RCW 2.32.280.

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

RCW 2.32.180 amended.

SECTION 1. Section 1, chapter 126, Laws of 1913 as last amended by section 1, chapter 154, Laws of 1945, and RCW 2.32.180 are each amended to read as follows:

Superior court reporters—Qualifications.

It shall be and is the duty of each and every superior court judge in counties or judicial districts in the state of Washington having a population of over thirty-five thousand inhabitants to appoint, or said judge may, in any county or judicial district having a population of over twenty-five thousand and less than thirty-five thousand, appoint a stenographic reporter to be attached to the court holden by him who shall have had at least three years' experience as a skilled, practical reporter, or who upon examination shall be able to report and transcribe accurately one hundred and seventy-five words per minute of the judge's charge or two hundred words per minute of testimony each for five consecutive minutes; said test of proficiency, in event of inability to meet qualifications as to length of time of experience, to be given by an examining committee composed of one judge of the superior court and two official reporters of the superior court of the state of Washington,

appointed by the president judge of the superior court judges association of the state of Washington. The initial judicial appointee shall serve for a period of six years; the two initial reporter appointees shall serve for a period of four years and two years, respectively, from September 1, 1957; thereafter on expiration of the first terms of service, each newly appointed member of said examining committee to serve for a period of six years. In the event of death or inability of a member to serve, the president judge shall appoint a reporter or judge, as the case may be, to serve for the balance of the unexpired term of the member whose inability to serve caused such vacancy. The examining committee shall grant certificates to qualified applicants. Administrative and procedural rules and regulations shall be promulgated by said examining committee, subject to approval by the said president judge.

Superior  
court re-  
porters—  
Qualifications.

The stenographic reporter upon appointment shall thereupon become an officer of the court and shall be designated and known as the official reporter for the court or judicial district for which he is appointed: *Provided*, That in no event shall there be appointed more official reporters in any one county or judicial district than there are superior court judges in such county or judicial district; the appointments in each class AA county shall be made by the majority vote of the judges in said county acting en banc; the appointments in class A counties and counties of the first class may be made by each individual judge therein or by the judges in said county acting en banc. Each official reporter so appointed shall hold office during the term of office of the judge or judges appointing him, but may be removed for incompetency, misconduct or neglect of duty, and before entering upon the discharge of his duties shall take an oath to perform faithfully the duties of his office, and file a bond in the sum of two

*Proviso.*

thousand dollars for the faithful discharge of his duties. Such reporter in each court is hereby declared to be a necessary part of the judicial system of the state of Washington.

RCW 2.32.210  
amended.

SEC. 2. Section 3, chapter 126, Laws of 1913 as last amended by section 1, chapter 265, Laws of 1953 and RCW 2.32.210 are each amended to read as follows:

Superior court  
reporters.  
Salaries—Ex-  
penses in  
joint dis-  
tricts.

Each official reporter shall be paid compensation as follows:

(1) In judicial districts comprised of class AA counties, such salary as shall be fixed by the judges of said counties and approved by the board of county commissioners of said class AA counties;

(2) In judicial districts comprised of class A counties, six thousand dollars per annum;

(3) In judicial districts comprised of first class counties, five thousand seven hundred seventy-five dollars per annum;

(4) In judicial districts having a total population of seventy thousand and under one hundred twenty-five thousand, five thousand two hundred and twenty-five dollars per annum; in judicial districts having a total population of forty thousand and under seventy thousand, five thousand one hundred dollars per annum; in judicial districts having a total population of twenty-five thousand and under forty thousand, four thousand eight hundred dollars per annum.

Said compensation shall be paid out of the current expense fund of the county where court is held.

In judicial districts comprising more than one county the judge or judges thereof shall, on the first day of January of each year, or as soon thereafter as may be convenient, apportion the amount of the salary to be paid to the reporter by each county according and in proportion to the number of criminal and civil actions entered and commenced in superior court of the constituent

counties in the preceding year. In addition to the salary above provided, in judicial districts comprising more than one county, the reporter shall receive his actual and necessary expenses of transportation and living expenses when he goes on official business to a county of his judicial district other than the county in which he resides, from the time he leaves his place of residence until he returns thereto, said expense to be paid by the county to which he travels. If one trip includes two or more counties, the expense may be apportioned between the counties visited in proportion to the amount of time spent in each county on the trip. If an official reporter uses his own automobile for the purpose of such transportation, he shall be paid therefor at the same rate per mile as county officials are paid for use of their private automobiles. The sworn statement of the official reporter, when certified to as correct by the judge presiding, shall be a sufficient voucher upon which the county auditor shall draw his warrant upon the treasurer of the county in favor of the official reporter.

The salaries of official court reporters shall be paid upon sworn statements, when certified as correct by the judge presiding, as state and county officers are paid.

SEC. 3. Section 2, chapter 24, Laws of 1945 as amended by section 2, chapter 210, Laws of 1951, and RCW 2.32.220 are each amended to read as follows:

RCW 2.32.220  
amended.

If the judge of the superior court in any judicial district having a total population of less than twenty-five thousand finds that the work in such district requires the services of an official court reporter he may appoint a person qualified under RCW 2.32.180.

Application  
to lesser  
judicial  
districts.

SEC. 4. Section 5, chapter 126, Laws of 1913 as amended by section 4, chapter 69, Laws of 1943, and RCW 2.32.240 are each amended to read as follows:

RCW 2.32.240  
amended.

Courts of record. Transcript of testimony—Fee—Forma Pauperis.

When shorthand notes have been taken in any cause as provided in RCW 2.32.180 through 2.32.320, if the court, or either party to the suit or action, or his attorney, request a transcript of the notes into longhand, the official reporter shall make, or cause to be made, with reasonable diligence, full and accurate typewritten transcript of the testimony and other proceedings, which shall, when certified to as hereinafter provided, be filed with the clerk of the court where such trial is had for the use of the court or parties to the action. The fees of the reporter for making such transcript shall be fixed in accordance with costs as allowed in cost bills in civil cases by the supreme court of the state of Washington, and when such transcript is ordered by any party to any suit or action, said fee shall be paid forthwith by the party ordering the same, and in all cases where a transcript is made as provided for under the provisions of RCW 2.32.180 through 2.32.320 the cost thereof shall be taxable as costs in the case, and shall be so taxed as other costs in the case are taxed: *Provided*, That when the defendant in any criminal case shall present to the judge presiding satisfactory proof by affidavit or otherwise that he is unable to pay for such transcript, the judge presiding, if in his opinion justice will thereby be promoted, may order said transcript to be made by the official reporter, which transcript fee therefor shall be paid out of the county treasury as other expenses of the court are paid.

Proviso.

RCW 2.32.280 amended.

SEC. 5. Section 9, chapter 126, Laws of 1913 as amended by section 5, chapter 69, Laws of 1943, and RCW 2.32.280 are each amended to read as follows:

To act as amanuensis in certain counties.

In all counties or judicial districts, except in class AA counties and class A counties and counties of the first class, such official reporter shall act as amanuensis to the court for which he is appointed.

Severability.

SEC. 6. All laws or parts of laws inconsistent

with or repugnant to the provisions of this act are hereby repealed.

Passed the House March 13, 1957.

Passed the Senate March 12, 1957.

Approved by the Governor March 23, 1957.

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## CHAPTER 245.

[ H. B. 195. ]

### STATE WEATHER MODIFICATION BOARD.

AN ACT relating to weather modification and control; establishing a board, defining powers and duties; making an appropriation; providing penalties; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. As used in this act, unless the context Definitions. requires otherwise:

(1) "Board" means the Weather Modification "Board." Board;

(2) "Operation" means the performance of "Operation." weather modification and control activities pursuant to a single contract entered into for the purpose of producing, or attempting to produce, a certain modifying effect within one geographical area over one continuing time interval not exceeding one year; or, in case the performance of weather modification and control activities is to be undertaken individually or jointly by a person or persons to be benefited and not undertaken pursuant to a contract, "operation" means the performance of weather modification and control activities entered into for the purpose of producing, or attempting to produce, a certain modifying effect within one geographical area over one continuing time interval not exceeding one year;

(3) "Research and development" means theoretical analysis exploration and experimentation, and the extension of investigative findings and theories "Research and development."