

CHAPTER 299.

[S. B. 223.]

EDUCATION—JOINT LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE.

AN ACT relating to the legislature; creating a joint committee on education; providing for the selection, term, and reimbursement of certain expenditures of the members of the committee, and conferring rights, powers, duties and prescribing the functions of the committee; providing for an advisory council; making an appropriation; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. As used in this act "committee" means the joint committee on education of the legislature of the state of Washington.

"Committee" defined.

SEC. 2. There is hereby created the joint committee on education of the legislature of the state of Washington which shall meet, act, and conduct its business at any place within the state of Washington during regular or extraordinary sessions of the legislature, or during any recess thereof, or during interim periods prior to the 1961 session of the legislature.

Committee created.

SEC. 3. The committee shall consist of five senators and five representatives who shall be selected as follows:

Committee members, selection of

(1) The president of the senate shall nominate five senators to serve on the committee, and shall submit the list of nominees to the Senate for confirmation. In the event that the president does not nominate five senators, or in the event that the senate does not confirm the nominees prior to two days before the close of the regular session of the legislature, the senate shall elect the members by a majority vote of a quorum. Upon confirmation or election, the senators shall be deemed installed as members.

(2) The speaker of the house shall nominate five representatives to serve on the committee, and submit the list of nominees to the house for confirmation. In the event that the speaker does not nominate five representatives, or in the event that the house does not confirm the nominees prior to two days before the close of the regular session of the legislature, the house shall elect the members by a majority vote. Upon confirmation or election, the representatives shall be deemed installed as members.

Member's
political
affiliation
limitation.

SEC. 4. Not more than three members confirmed or elected by the senate, and not more than three members confirmed or elected by the house, shall be affiliated with any one political party.

Member's
terms.

SEC. 5. Members shall serve until their successors are installed as provided in section 3, at the next succeeding regular session of the legislature, or until they are no longer members of the legislature whichever is sooner.

Committee
vacancies.

SEC. 6. The committee shall fill any vacancies occurring on the committee by appointment from the legislative chamber whose member departs; members filling vacancies shall serve until their successors are installed as provided in section 3 or until they are no longer members of the legislature, whichever is sooner.

Committee
organization.

SEC. 7. The committee shall by majority vote select a chairman, create necessary or appropriate subcommittees, and prescribe rules of procedure for itself and its subcommittees which are not inconsistent with this act.

Committee
employees,
compensation
of.

SEC. 8. The committee may employ an executive secretary and such clerical and other assistants as it finds necessary or appropriate, and fix their compensation.

SEC. 9. Members of the committee and any of its subcommittees shall receive twenty dollars per diem, and ten cents a mile for travel, while attending sessions of the committee or of its subcommittees.

Committee members, employees. Per diem—Expenses.

All expenses incurred by the committee or its subcommittees or its members, including salaries of its executive secretary and assistants, shall be paid upon voucher forms as provided by the state auditor and signed by the chairman or vice-chairman of the committee. Vouchers may be drawn upon funds appropriated generally by the legislature for legislative expenses or upon any special appropriation which may be provided by the legislature for the expenses of the committee.

SEC. 10. Unless otherwise directed by a two-thirds vote of the whole committee, all witnesses shall be examined privately.

Examination of witnesses.

SEC. 11. The committee is authorized to ascertain and study facts and matters relating to education in the state of Washington, including but not limited to:

Committee duties.

- (1) Education beyond high school;
- (2) Implications of enrollment forecasts;
- (3) Methods of disbursing state funds;
- (4) Possible economies in school operations;
- (5) Problems of finance and architecture relating to school construction, including adequate fire and earthquake protection;
- (6) Maximum utilization of school buildings, grounds, and facilities;
- (7) School district reorganization;
- (8) The office of county superintendent;
- (9) Teacher training and certification;
- (10) Kindergarten and the ungraded primary programs;
- (11) Student grouping for accelerated instruction on all levels of education;

- (12) Academic standards, course content, curriculum, and extracurricular activities;
- (13) Uses of audiovisual teaching aids;
- (14) Technical and vocational training.

Liaison with other agencies.

SEC. 12. The committee shall consult and maintain liaison with the legislative council, the legislative budget committee and all affected public agencies, and shall seek the participation of all interested and responsible organizations.

School advisory council. Created—Members—Chairman—Per diem.

SEC. 13. There is created a school advisory council to exist until December 31, 1960, to consist of fifteen members to be appointed by the governor: *Provided*, That at least one member shall be chosen from each congressional district of the state. Not more than five members of the advisory council shall be officers or employees of organizations whose primary purpose is education or the promotion or support of education. Members shall serve at the pleasure of the governor without pay, but shall receive necessary traveling expenses to and from council meetings and twenty dollars per diem as subsistence while attending any meetings of the council. The governor shall designate one member who shall act as chairman of the council.

Council duties.

SEC. 14. The council shall consult with, advise, and assist the committee, recommending areas of study, advising as to organizations and persons suitable for subcommittees, and assisting in research and study of educational problems.

Council expenditures.

SEC. 15. All expenditures of the council shall be paid upon vouchers approved jointly by the chairman of the council and the chairman of the committee from the appropriation herein provided.

Committee reports.

SEC. 16. The committee shall report the findings of its subcommittees to the governor by July, 1960, and shall make such recommendations to the governor and the legislature relating to changes in ad-

ministrative practices and existing laws as it finds necessary. If the recommendations adopted by the committee do not receive unanimous approval, any dissenting members shall have the privilege of submitting minority recommendations.

SEC. 17. The committee shall have authority to receive such gifts, grants, and endowments from private sources as may be made from time to time in trust or otherwise for the use and benefit of the purposes of the committee and to expend the same or any income therefrom according to the terms of said gifts, grants, or endowments. Gifts, grants, endowments.

SEC. 18. There is hereby appropriated from the general fund to the committee the sum of fifty thousand dollars or so much thereof as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this act. Appropriation.

SEC. 19. This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, the support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect immediately. Emergency.

Passed the Senate March 12, 1959.

Passed the House March 12, 1959.

Approved by the Governor March 24, 1959.