

Acquisition
of parental
school facili-
ties author-
ized.

ers of the school district, sell or execute leases with options to purchase such parental school facilities. Leases with options to purchase shall include such terms and conditions as the board of directors deems reasonable and necessary to dispose of the facilities in a manner beneficial to the school district. The commission, if it enters into a lease with option to purchase parental school facilities, may exercise its option and purchase such parental school facilities; and a school district may, if it enters into a lease with an option to purchase parental school facilities, upon exercise of the option to purchase by the commission, sell such parental school facilities and such sale may be accomplished without first obtaining a vote of approval from the electorate of the school district.

Passed the Senate February 28, 1959.

Passed the House March 10, 1959.

Approved by the Governor March 20, 1959.

CHAPTER 216.

[S. B. 172.]

COUNTY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS.

AN ACT relating to education; amending section 2, chapter 157, Laws of 1955 and RCW 28.19.010; amending section 1, chapter 175, Laws of 1919 and RCW 36.16.020; amending section 2, chapter 219, Laws of 1957 and RCW 36.16.070; amending section 4, chapter 157, Laws of 1955 and RCW 28.19.030; amending section 12, chapter 157, Laws of 1955 and RCW 28.19.040; amending section 13, chapter 157, Laws of 1955 and RCW 28.19.050; amending section 14, chapter 157, Laws of 1955 and RCW 28.19.060; amending section 17, chapter 157, Laws of 1955 and RCW 28.20.010; amending section 21, chapter 157, Laws of 1955 and RCW 28.20.040; amending section 1, chapter 28, Laws of 1933 and RCW 28.63.100, 28.63.110, 28.63.120, 28.63.140, 28.63.150 and 28.63.160; amending section 9, page 288, Laws of 1909, as last amended by section 2, chapter 28, Laws of 1933 and RCW 28.63.170, 28.58.130, 28.66.070 and 28.66.080; amending section 29, chapter 157, Laws of 1955 and RCW 28.19.110; amending section 30, chapter 157, Laws of 1955 and RCW

28.19.180; amending section 31, chapter 157, Laws of 1955 and RCW 28.19.120; adding four new sections to Title 28 RCW; and repealing RCW 28.63.130.

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

SECTION 1. Section 2, chapter 157, Laws of 1955 and RCW 28.19.010 are each amended to read as follows:

RCW 28.19.010 amended.

A county superintendent shall be elected in each county of the state, or if two or more counties are consolidated by the joining of offices of county superintendents of two or more counties as hereinafter provided, then for the counties embraced by such consolidation. He shall be elected by the voters of the county, or if there be a consolidation of superintendents' offices of two or more counties, then by the voters of the counties so consolidated.

Election and term.

The election shall be conducted in the manner provided by law for the holding of regular county elections. Where the election is by consolidated counties the county auditor of each county within the consolidation, after the canvassing and tallying of the votes, shall forward the results to the secretary of state for canvass of the returns by the state canvassing board as provided by RCW 29.62.100. Such canvassing board shall compile the total vote of all the consolidated counties and certify the result.

His term of office shall begin on the second Monday in January next succeeding his election and continue for four years and until his successor is elected and qualified: *Provided*, That the term of office of each county superintendent elected in 1962 shall begin on the first Monday in September of 1963 and continue until the second Monday in January of 1967 and until his successor is elected and qualified. He shall take the oath of office and furnish an official bond in a sum to be fixed by the county board of education.

RCW 36.16.020
amended.

Sec. 2. Section 1, chapter 175, Laws of 1919 and RCW 36.16.020 are each amended to read as follows:

Terms, county
and precinct
officers.

The term of office of all county and precinct officers shall be four years and until their successors are elected and qualified and shall begin on the second Monday in January following the election: *Provided*, That this section shall not apply to county commissioners: *Provided further*, That this section shall not apply to county superintendents elected in 1962.

RCW 36.16.070
amended.

Sec. 3. Section 2, chapter 219, Laws of 1957 and RCW 36.16.070 are each amended to read as follows:

Deputies and
employees.

In all cases where the duties of any county office are greater than can be performed by the person elected to fill it, the officer may employ deputies and other necessary employees with the consent of the board of county commissioners. The board shall fix their compensation and shall require what deputies shall give bond and the amount of bond required from each. The sureties on deputies' bonds must be approved by the board and the premium therefor is a county expense: *Provided*, That this paragraph shall not apply to those employees of the county superintendents holding a certificate from the State Board of Education or State Board of Vocational Education.

A deputy may perform any act which his principal is authorized to perform. The officer appointing a deputy or other employee shall be responsible for the acts of his appointees upon his official bond and may revoke each appointment at pleasure.

RCW 28.19.030
amended.

SEC. 4. Section 4, chapter 157, Laws of 1955 and RCW 28.19.030 are each amended to read as follows:

Vacancy.

The county board of education, whether of an individual county or a consolidation of superintendents' offices of counties, shall recommend two or more candidates to the board or boards of county commissioners for appointment to fill any vacancy

that may occur in the office of county superintendent in their county or consolidation of counties, until the next general election. The county commissioners shall appoint a qualified person to fill such vacancy.

SEC. 5. Section 12, chapter 157, Laws of 1955 and RCW 28.19.040 are each amended to read as follows:

RCW 28.19.040 amended.

To be eligible for election or appointment to the office of county superintendent, in addition to other provisions of the law, a candidate must have completed five years of regular, accredited work in one or more recognized higher institutions of learning; have a teacher's, principal's or superintendent's certificate of the state of Washington and have five or more years' experience in teaching or educational administration in the common schools or in the office of a county superintendent: *Provided*, That anyone serving as a legally qualified county superintendent or chief deputy county superintendent on the effective date of this act may be deemed qualified to hold the office of county superintendent.

Qualifications.

SEC. 6. Section 13, chapter 157, Laws of 1955 and RCW 28.19.050 are each amended to read as follows:

RCW 28.19.050 amended.

The county auditor shall not place the name of any person upon the official ballot as a candidate for the office of county superintendent unless such person files in the office of the county auditor at the time of filing his declaration of candidacy proof of his qualifications for the office of county superintendent as defined by this chapter. Where the position is one for superintendent of consolidated counties the county auditor of the county in which the office of the county superintendent is located shall not certify any candidate until the declaration of candidacy and proof of qualifications are filed with such county auditor.

Proof of qualifications.

RCW 28.19.060
amended.

Powers and
duties.

SEC. 7. Section 14, chapter 157, Laws of 1955 and RCW 28.19.060 are each amended to read as follows:

Each county superintendent:

(1) Shall exercise a careful supervision over the common schools of his county, and see that all the provisions of the common school laws are observed and followed by the teachers, supervisors and school officers;

(2) Shall visit the schools in his county, counsel with directors and teachers, and assist in every possible way to advance the educational interests in his county;

(3) Shall distribute promptly all reports, laws, forms, circulars, and instructions which he may receive for the use of the schools and the teachers, and execute the instructions and decisions of the superintendent of public instruction, as provided by law;

(4) Shall enforce the outline course of study adopted by the state board of education, or the course of study adopted by any other lawful authority, and enforce the rules and regulations required in the examination of teachers;

(5) Shall prepare an outline course of study for the books adopted in districts of the third class when the needs of the county demand: *Provided*, That said outline course of study shall be in harmony with the course adopted by the state board of education;

(6) Shall keep on file and preserve in his office the biennial reports of the superintendent of public instruction and the annual reports of the county superintendent of his county;

(7) Shall keep in good and well-bound books, to be furnished by the county commissioners, records of his official acts;

(8) Shall preserve carefully all reports of school officers and teachers, and at the close of his term of office deliver to his successor all records, books, docu-

ments and papers belonging to the office, either personally or through his personal representative, taking a receipt for the same, which shall be filed in the office of the county auditor in the county where his office is located;

Powers and
duties.

(9) May administer oaths and affirmations to school directors, teachers and other persons, on all official matters connected with or relating to schools, but he shall not make or collect any charge or fee for so doing;

(10) Shall keep in a suitable book an official record of all persons under contract to teach in the schools of his county showing the number of the school district, the date of the contract, the names of the contracting parties, and the date of the expiration of the teacher's certificate and the kind thereof, the salary paid, and the date of commencing school, with the length of term in days, which data shall be immediately reported to the county auditor of the county in which his office is located;

(11) Shall make an annual report to the superintendent of public instruction on the first day of August of each year, for the school year ending June 30th, next preceding. The report shall contain an abstract of the reports made to him by the district clerks, and such other matters as the superintendent of public instruction shall direct. It shall be the duty of the county commissioners and county auditor in every county wherein the county superintendent is about to retire from office to withhold the warrant of his salary for the month of July until they have received a certificate from the superintendent of public instruction that the annual report of such county superintendent has been made in a satisfactory manner; and the superintendent of public instruction shall transmit such certificate to the auditor immediately upon receiving such satisfactory report;

(12) Shall keep in his office a full and correct

Powers and
duties.

transcript of the boundaries of each school district in the county, including joint districts. In case the boundaries of the districts are conflicting or incorrectly described, he shall change, harmonize and describe them, and at their next regular meeting he shall certify his action to the county commissioners of his county, and shall file with them a complete transcript of the boundaries of all school districts affected by his action, which shall be entered upon the journal of said board and become a part of their records. The county superintendent shall, on request, furnish the district clerks with descriptions of the boundaries of their respective districts;

(13) Shall appoint school district officers in districts of the second and of the third class to fill vacancies caused by death, resignation, failure to hold election, failure to qualify before the day for taking office, and absence from the district for a period of ninety days or failure to attend four consecutive meetings of the board without a reasonable excuse and appoint school officers for any new districts: *Provided*, That when any new district is organized, such of the school officers of the old district as reside within the limits of the new one shall be such school officers of the new one, and the vacancies in the old district shall be filled by appointment;

(14) Shall apportion school funds;

(15) Shall conduct such examination of teachers and make such records thereof as may be prescribed by law: *Provided*, That he shall give ten days notice of each examination by publication in some newspaper of general circulation published in his county, or if there be no newspaper, then by posting up handbills, or otherwise;

(16) Shall hold teachers' institutes according to law, and conduct such other meetings of the teachers of his county as may be for the best interests of the

school; and attend other meetings and conferences which may be of benefit to the schools of his county;

Powers and
duties.

(17) May hold each year, one or more directors' meetings, the expense of which shall be audited and paid by the county commissioners: *Provided*, That such expense shall not exceed the sum of one hundred dollars in any one year;

(18) May suspend any teacher who may be teaching in his county, against whom he files charges. In case of such suspension he shall immediately notify the superintendent of public instruction of his action, and shall clearly and fully state his reasons for his action;

(19) Shall furnish free of charge teachers' registers, clerks' record books and other materials received free of charge from the superintendent of public instruction to all districts of his county;

(20) Shall council with school boards on selection of school sites and whenever any board of directors of school districts of the third class shall be authorized, by the electors of their district, to erect a school building, it shall be the duty of such board, before entering into any contract for the erection of any building, to obtain the approval of the county superintendent of the county in which the building is to be erected, of the plans and specifications for the building to be erected, said superintendent to give special attention to the provisions made therein for heating, lighting and ventilation;

(21) Shall require all reports of school district officers, teachers and others to be made promptly as required by law;

(22) Shall see that the teacher's register is kept in accordance with law and the instructions of the superintendent of public instruction, and that the records of the school district clerks are properly kept;

(23) Shall require the oath of office of all school district officers be filed in his office, and shall furnish

Powers and
duties.

a directory of all such officers to the county auditor and to the county treasurer, upon blanks furnished by the superintendent of public instruction, as soon as the election or appointment of such officers is determined and their oaths placed on file;

(24) Shall serve as ex officio secretary of the county board of education and as ex officio secretary of the county committee for school district organization;

(25) Shall with the advice and consent of the county board of education adopt textbooks for all school districts not maintaining a four year accredited high school;

(26) Shall prepare an annual budget for his office for approval by the county board of education;

(27) Shall serve as a member of the transportation commission as provided in RCW 28.24.010;

(28) Shall assist the school districts in preparation of their budgets as provided in chapter 28.63 RCW;

(29) Shall hear and act upon appeals as provided in RCW 28.88.020;

(30) Shall cooperate with the state supervisor of special aid for handicapped children and with school districts in administering the educational program for handicapped children as provided in RCW 28.13.020;

(31) Shall cooperate with the state supervisor of recreation and with school districts in administering the recreation program as provided in RCW 28.14-.020;

(32) Shall enforce the provisions of the compulsory attendance law as provided in chapter 28.27 RCW and chapter 28.28 RCW;

(33) Shall certify with the county treasurer to the superintendent of public instruction the amount of excise tax imposed by RCW 28.45.110;

(34) Shall certify certain statistical data as basis

for apportionment purposes to county and state officials as provided in chapter 28.44 RCW;

(35) Shall perform duties relating to capital fund aid by nonhigh districts as provided in chapter 28.56 RCW;

(36) Shall carry out duties and issue orders creating new school districts and transfers of territory as provided in chapter 28.57 RCW;

(37) Shall perform all other duties prescribed by law.

SEC. 8. Section 32, chapter 157, Laws of 1955 and RCW 28.19.190 are each amended to read as follows: amended.

The office of the county superintendent of schools in any county having only one school district, or only one high school district and not more than three third class school districts, within its boundaries may be abolished. If in the opinion of the county committee on school district organization in any county having but one school district, or only one high school district and not more than three third class school districts, there is no need for a county superintendent in that county, the committee may by resolution request the county auditor to call and conduct a special election in conjunction with the county or the state general election, at which special election the electors of the county may vote for or against the abolishment of the office of the county superintendent. Upon receipt of such resolution the county auditor shall call and conduct such election, and, if a majority of the votes cast on the proposition favor the abolishment of the office of the county superintendent, the office shall be abolished at the end of the term of office for which the incumbent county superintendent was elected or appointed.

Upon the abolishment of the office of the county superintendent as provided in this section the county superintendent shall deliver all of the files and records of his office to the superintendent of schools for

Abolishment
of office—
Procedure.

the school district in the county, and thereafter the superintendent for the school district shall assume the duties of the county superintendent insofar as they apply to the schools of his district: *Provided*, That if there is a high school district in such county, the superintendent of the high school district shall assume the duties of the county superintendent.

RCW 28.20.010
amended.

SEC. 9. Section 17, chapter 157, Laws of 1955 and RCW 28.20.010 are each amended to read as follows:

Members—
Terms—
Vacancies.

In each county, there shall be a county board of education, which shall consist of five members elected by the voters of the county, one from each of five county board-member districts, such districts to be determined by the county committee on school district organization. Such county board-member districts shall be arranged on a basis of equal population and so that not more than one member of the county board shall come from any one school district: *Provided*, That in counties having less than five school districts, then the county board-member districts shall be arranged so as to give, as far as practicable, representation according to equal population: *Provided further*, That the county committee, at any time that such committee deems it advisable, shall change the boundaries of county board-member districts so as to provide as far as practicable equal representation according to population of such board-member districts.

In any county having a joint school district with another county, all of the territory within such joint district and lying within both counties shall be included within a board-member district of the county within which that part of such joint district in which the administrative office of such joint district is located, and the electors residing therein shall be eligible to vote for and hold membership on the county board of education of such county.

Filing of candidacy for the county board shall be with the county superintendent not more than sixty days nor less than forty-five days prior to the election, and he shall certify the names to the officials conducting the elections in all districts.

Election of board members shall be held at the time of the regular election of school district directors. Such election shall be called and notice thereof given by the county superintendent in the manner provided by law for giving notice of the election of school district directors and such election shall be conducted by the official in each school district who conducts the election of school district directors and in conjunction with the election of school district directors. The term of office for each board member shall be four years and until his successor is duly elected and qualified.

The term of every county board member shall begin on the twentieth day following his election and each county board shall be organized at the first meeting held after a newly elected member takes office. In the event of a vacancy in the board from any cause, such vacancy shall be filled by appointment of a person from the same board-member district by the board of county commissioners or if it is a joint board of education by the boards of county commissioners of the consolidation. The appointed board member shall serve until the next regular election, at which time there shall be elected a member to fill the unexpired term of the member of the board whose position has been vacated.

SEC. 10. Section 21, chapter 157, Laws of 1955 and RCW 28.20.040 are each amended to read as follows:

RCW 28.20.040 amended.

Every county board of education shall:

Duties of board.

(1) Advise with and pass upon the recommendation of the county superintendent in the preparation of manuals, courses of study, rules and regulations

for the circulating libraries, and to perform such other duties as may be required by him;

(2) Advise with and pass upon the recommendation of the county superintendent as to a choice of textbooks of all school districts not maintaining a four year accredited high school;

(3) Adopt rules and regulations for the schools of the county, not inconsistent with the code of public instruction or with the rules and regulations of the state board of education or the superintendent of public instruction;

(4) Approve the budget of the county superintendent, and certify to the board of county commissioners and to the state board of education the estimates of the amounts needed for such budget;

(5) Meet regularly according to the schedule adopted at the organization meeting, and in special session upon the call of the chairman, or the secretary, or a majority of the board;

(6) Assist the county superintendent in the selection of personnel and clerical staff as provided in RCW 28.19.020;

(7) Fix the amount of and approve the county superintendent's bond as provided in RCW 36.16.050 and RCW 28.19.010; and

(8) Approve its own reimbursement claims as provided in RCW 28.20.030.

SEC. 11. Section 1, chapter 28, Laws of 1933 (heretofore divided and codified as RCW 28.63.100 through 28.63.160) is divided and amended to read as set forth in sections 11 through 17 of this act, RCW 28.63.130 being hereby repealed.

SEC. 12. (RCW 28.63.100) Each school district of the second and the third class shall through its board of directors, provide a detailed budget containing such information as may be called for, on forms to be provided by the superintendent of public

RCW 28.63.100
enacted
without
amendment.

instruction who shall determine and direct a schedule for the performance of duties by county and district officers necessary to practical budget making.

SEC. 13. (RCW 28.63.110) The budget shall be approved by the school directors after a public hearing whereat any taxpayer may appear and be heard for or against any part of such budget.

RCW 28.63.110
enacted
without
amendment.

SEC. 14. (RCW 28.63.120) The preliminary budget shall be forwarded to the county superintendent before August 1st of each year, for review and revision by a county reviewing committee. The committee shall consist of the county superintendent of schools, a member of the local board of directors and members of the county board of education. The reviewing committee shall finally fix and determine the total amount of the budget.

RCW 28.63.120
amended.
Review and
revision.

SEC. 15. RCW 28.63.130 is hereby repealed.

Repeal.

SEC. 16. (RCW 28.63.140) The meetings of the reviewing committee shall be open to the public, and a copy of the original budget, and also a copy of the revised budget shall be available for examination by resident taxpayers who may attend the hearing. In arriving at the amount of the budget, only current taxes may be counted for the purpose of offsetting outstanding warrants, unless the use of delinquent taxes is approved by the reviewing committee.

RCW 28.63.140
enacted
without
amendment.

SEC. 17. (RCW 28.63.150) On or before the last Friday in September, the county superintendent shall file one copy of the budget in his office, one copy with the superintendent of public instruction and one copy with the county auditor for the board of county commissioners. The board of county commissioners must levy a tax on all the taxable property in the district sufficient to raise the money to meet the necessary expenditures shown by such budget, after deducting the estimated revenues from state and county funds and other miscellaneous

RCW 28.63.150
enacted
without
amendment.

sources, together with such cash on hand as has not been voted or allocated for other purposes or is not needed to keep the district free from an interest bearing warrant basis.

RCW 28.63.160
enacted
without
amendment.

SEC. 18. (RCW 28.63.160) When in the judgment of any school board, additional expenditures other than those allowed by the reviewing board are deemed necessary, such expenditures shall be submitted to the voters at a special election for a special levy as a separate item, and if authorized by a three-fifths vote shall be levied and included in the final budget.

SEC. 19. Section 9, page 288, Laws of 1909, as last amended by section 2, chapter 28, Laws of 1933 (heretofore divided and codified as RCW 28.63.170, 28.58.130, 28.66.070 and 28.66.080) is divided and amended as set forth in sections 19 through 22 of this act.

RCW 28.63.170
amended.
Emergency
expenditures.

SEC. 20. (RCW 28.63.170) If an emergency arises in a second or third class school district because of unforeseen conditions, the board of directors, in consultation with the county reviewing committee, shall determine the best means of meeting such emergency. When the proposed plan and the indebtedness therefor have received the approval of the state superintendent of public instruction, it shall be put into effect.

RCW 28.58.130
enacted
without
amendment.

SEC. 21. (RCW 28.58.130) It shall be unlawful for any board of directors to contract indebtedness against its district in any one year in any sum in excess of the aggregate amount set forth and approved in its final budget. The members of any board of directors violating any provision of this section shall be personally liable for the full amount thus expended, or contracted for, and each director having a part in such unlawful expenditure shall immediately forfeit his office: *Provided*, That no

board of directors shall be prohibited from making expenditures for the payment of regular employees and for the necessary repairs, and upkeep of the school plant during the interim while the budget is being settled.

SEC. 22. (RCW 28.66.070) Any county auditor issuing or causing to be issued a district warrant for any sum in excess of the aggregate total of a district's annual budget shall be personally liable therefor, and shall reimburse the district in double the amount of any such sum.

RCW 28.66.070
enacted
without
amendment.

SEC. 23. (RCW 28.66.080) An order for a warrant issued by any local board of directors shall not be transferable, and the county auditor shall issue no warrant except to individuals or firms designated in original district orders.

RCW 28.66.080
enacted
without
amendment.

SEC. 24. There is added to Title 28 RCW a new section to read as follows:

New section.

One or more school districts within a county may be withdrawn from the office of the county superintendent of that county and consolidated with the office of the county superintendent of a contiguous county in the manner and under the procedures provided for the consolidation of whole counties, and thereafter such consolidated district or districts will be subject to all provisions of law that are applicable to consolidated counties.

Withdrawal
and consolida-
tion author-
ized.

SEC. 25. Section 29, chapter 157, Laws of 1955 and RCW 28.19.110 are each amended to read as follows:

RCW 28.19.110
amended.

The board of county commissioners of each county annually at the time the budgets are prepared for the several county offices shall allocate from county funds to the county superintendent for his budget an amount sufficient to allow the county superintendent to fulfill the duties and powers of his office.

Budget.

RCW 28.19.180 amended.

SEC. 26. Section 30, chapter 157, Laws of 1955 and RCW 28.19.180 are each amended to read as follows:

—Budgets.

The budget of the county superintendent of a consolidation of county superintendents' offices shall be approved by the joint county board of education. The boards of county commissioners of a consolidation shall allocate from county funds for the county superintendent's budget a total amount sufficient to allow the county superintendent to fulfill the duties and power of his office. Each county shall allocate a percentage of the total amount as determined above equal to the percentage that the assessed value of all taxable property in the county bears to the assessed value of all taxable property in the consolidation of counties. The county commissioners of each county shall order the transfer of such funds to the county treasurer in the county wherein the county superintendent's headquarters office is located to be credited to his budget, and the county treasurer of said county shall be the custodian of the fund, and the auditor of that county shall keep a record of receipts and disbursements, and shall draw and the county treasurer shall honor and pay the warrants.

RCW 28.19.120 amended.

SEC. 27. Section 31, chapter 157, Laws of 1955 and RCW 28.19.120 are each emended to read as follows:

—Duties of state board
—Allocation by superintendent of public instruction.

The state board of education shall examine the budget of each county superintendent and fix the amount to be allocated thereto from state funds and certify to the state superintendent of public instruction the amount of state funds needed for the county superintendents' budgets as approved by the state board of education and shall require the state superintendent of public instruction to allocate this amount from the current state school fund or from funds otherwise appropriated for that purpose to the

county treasurers for deposit to the credit of the county superintendents' budgets for the use of the common schools. In each county or consolidation of county superintendents' offices there is hereby created a county superintendent's special service fund into which such funds as are allocated by the superintendent of public instruction under provisions of this act and all such funds as are not specifically allocated by the county current expense fund, shall be deposited, and such funds shall be expended by warrants drawn by the county auditor upon vouchers approved by the county superintendent and the county board of education.

SEC. 28. There is added to Title 28 RCW a new section to read as follows: New section.

If the boundaries of any school district within a county or within a consolidation of counties as provided for in this act are changed in any manner so as to affect county board-member districts, the boundaries of the county board-member districts so affected shall be changed by the county committee on school district organization so as to include all of the school district as constituted by such change of boundaries within the county board-member district in which such school district was located before its change of boundaries was effected. Procedure if boundary change affects board member district.

SEC. 29. There is added to Title 28 RCW a new section to read as follows: New section.

Where two or more counties are consolidated or where one or more counties are consolidated with a part or parts of one or more counties as provided for in this act, a county superintendent shall be elected as county superintendent of such consolidation. The population of such consolidation shall be determined by the county board of education or the joint county boards of education, and the salary of the county superintendent of such consolidation shall be the same as the salary of the county super- —Election of superintendent—Salary.

intendent in a single county having a population equal to that of the population of the consolidation as determined by the county board of education or joint county boards of education.

New section.

SEC. 30. There is added to Title 28 RCW a new section to read as follows:

Plan for consolidation of offices.

The state board of education is authorized and directed, in cooperation with the superintendent of public instruction, the county superintendents, the county boards of education and the county committees on school district organization, to prepare a comprehensive plan for the consolidation of county superintendents' offices for service areas, such comprehensive plan to be prepared for consideration by the 1961 state legislature.

Severability.

SEC. 31. If any section or provision 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.

Passed the Senate March 9, 1959.

Passed the House March 9, 1959.

Approved by the Governor March 20, 1959.