

for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this act.

Passed the House March 8, 1945.

Passed the Senate March 7, 1945.

Approved by the Governor March 15, 1945.

CHAPTER 154.

[H. B. 434.]

COURT REPORTERS.

AN ACT relating to court reporters and amending section 1, chapter 69, Laws of 1943 (section 42-1, Rem. Supp. 1943, also Pierce's Perpetual Code 108-1).

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

SECTION 1. Section 1, chapter 69, Laws of 1943 (section 42-1, Rem. Supp. 1943, also Pierce's Perpetual Code 108-1), is amended to read as follows:

Appointment of court reporters in certain counties.

Section 1. 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 Governor and such stenographic reporter 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, however,* That not more than twelve (12) official reporters shall be appointed in any one county and in no event more than there are active judges in any county or judicial district; 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 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 thousand dollars (\$2,000) for the faithful discharge of his duties. No person shall be appointed to the office of official reporter who is not a citizen of and a duly qualified elector in the State of Washington. Such reporter in each court is hereby declared to be a necessary part of the judicial system of the State of Washington.

Joint
districts.

Removal.

Qualifica-
tions.

Passed the House March 7, 1945.

Passed the Senate March 7, 1945.

Approved by the Governor March 15, 1945.