

CHAPTER 293.

[S. B. 434.]

DEPARTMENT OF INSTITUTIONS—PRISON TERMS
AND PAROLES—MERIT SYSTEM.

AN ACT relating to employment practices of the department of institutions and the state board of prison terms and paroles; providing for the placement of certain employees thereof under the jurisdiction of the state personnel board; providing for the classification, recruitment, and fixing of salaries of such employees; and repealing sections 72.05.050 through 72.05.120, chapter 28, Laws of 1959 and RCW 72.05.050 through 72.05.120.

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

Officers,
employees,
under per-
sonnel board
—Exceptions.

SECTION 1. All officers and employees of the department of institutions and the institutions under its supervision and control, except the director, his confidential secretary, and the chief assistant director, and all personnel of the state board of prison terms and paroles, except the members of the board, board secretary and administrative officer, shall be under the jurisdiction of the state personnel board or its successor: *Provided*, That all such officers, employees, and personnel who, upon the effective date of this act, have less than six month's service as an employee of the department of institutions or the board of prison terms and paroles shall be in a probationary status until such six month period shall have elapsed.

Basis for
employment—
Requirement
standards.

SEC. 2. All appointments to employment in the department of institutions, or the institutions under its supervision, or to employment under the state board of prison terms and paroles, shall be based upon character, education, experience, ability, personality, temperament, and aptitude for the respective position and without regard to political affiliation. The state personnel board with the advice and approval of the director, or the board of prison

terms and paroles, as the case may be, shall establish the requirement standards for each classification for positions of employment within the department and the institutions under its supervision, or for positions of employment under the board of prison terms and paroles.

SEC. 3. *The state personnel board with the advice and subject to the approval of the director, or the board of prison terms and paroles, as the case may be, shall designate the classifications of the various employees of the department and the board of prison terms and paroles and the number of positions in each such classification. Separate examinations shall be conducted by the state personnel board for each classification, or they may be combined as the state personnel board may elect.*

Vetoed.

SEC. 4. The state personnel board, in conjunction with the department of institutions, and the state board of prison terms and paroles, shall be responsible for the recruitment and the filling of vacancies in each classification of employment.

Board to recruit employees.

SEC. 5. The state personnel board shall compile a schedule of salaries and wages for each classification of position of employment.

Schedule of wages.

SEC. 6. On and after the effective date of this act, all persons who may be appointed to employment within the department of institutions and the institutions under its supervision, or to employment under the board of prison terms and paroles, shall be subject to a probationary period of six months, at the expiration of which time such employee shall be placed on permanent status.

Employees subject to probationary period.

SEC. 7. No employee on permanent status shall be discharged, demoted, or suspended, except for cause in accordance with the rules of the state personnel board, and shall be entitled to a hearing

Employment change through board.

before the state personnel board in accordance with their rules and regulations.

Repeal.

SEC. 8. Sections 72.05.050 through 72.05.120, chapter 28, Laws of 1959 and RCW 72.05.050 through 72.05.120 are each repealed.

Passed the Senate February 24, 1959.

Passed the House March 10, 1959.

Approved by the Governor March 24, 1959, with the exception of Section 3, which is vetoed.

Veto message, excerpt.

NOTE: Excerpt of Governor's veto message reads as follows:

"Senate Bill No. 434 for the first time in the history of this state establishes by law, a merit system for all of the employees of the Department of Institutions and the Board of Prison Terms and Paroles and places these employees under the jurisdiction of the State Personnel Board. The several thousand employees of the Department of Institutions deserves this protection and I regret that the legislature did not see fit to enact a comprehensive merit system for all state employees.

"Section 3 of Senate Bill 434 gives the State Personnel Board the right to designate the classification of various employees of the Department of Institutions and of the Board of Prison Terms and Paroles. This section further gives the State Personnel Board also the right to fix the number of positions in each classification and it provides that separate examinations shall be conducted by the State Personnel Board for each classification.

"The State Personnel Board at the present time already has the power to give examinations for each classification of employment for all employees under its jurisdiction. It is my considered judgment that the matter of classification of employees and the number of positions to be filled have a fiscal impact upon the state government. Authority to establish classifications and numbers of positions must necessarily rest with the Governor and the Budget Director who is directly responsible to the Governor. The subject of classification is not a proper part of a well functioning merit system.

"For the reasons indicated, section 3 of this bill is vetoed and the remainder of the bill is approved."

ALBERT D. ROSELLINI,
Governor.