

levy nine mills until such time as the junior taxing agencies are utilizing all the millage available to them.

Nothing herein shall prevent levies at the rates provided by existing law by or for any port or power district.

Emergency.

Sec. 4. 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.

Passed the House April 27, 1967.

Passed the Senate April 27, 1967.

Approved by the Governor May 10, 1967.

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CHAPTER 134.

[Engrossed House Bill No. 8.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

AN ACT relating to the legislative council; amending section 2, chapter 36, Laws of 1947, as amended by section 1, chapter 206, Laws of 1955 and RCW 44.24.020; amending section 3, chapter 36, Laws of 1947 and RCW 44.24.030; amending section 4, chapter 36, Laws of 1947 and RCW 44.24.040; amending section 6, chapter 36, Laws of 1947, as last amended by section 2, chapter 206, Laws of 1955 and RCW 44.24.060; and amending section 7, chapter 36, Laws of 1947, as amended by section 3, chapter 206, Laws of 1955 and RCW 44.24.070; and amending section 1, chapter 36, Laws of 1947, as amended by section 1, chapter 148, Laws of 1965 extraordinary session and RCW 44.24.010.

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

RCW 44.24.020 amended.

Section 1. Section 2, chapter 36, Laws of 1947, as amended by section 1, chapter 206, Laws of 1955, and RCW 44.24.020 are each amended to read as follows:

The council shall have the following powers and duties:

Legislative  
council—  
Powers and  
duties.

(1) To perform, either through the council as a whole or through committees thereof all duties and functions customarily delegated to special interim legislative committees: *Provided*, That any appointments of committee chairmen shall be approved by not less than fifteen members of the council;

(2) To examine and study the administrative organization and procedures of the state government, its offices, boards, committees, commissions, institutions, and other state agencies and to make recommendations, where found advisable, directed to the elimination of unnecessary overlapping or duplication of functions, procedures and expenditures, and to the promotion of economy and efficiency in state government;

(3) To make such other studies and examinations of the state government and its state agencies as it may find advisable and to hear complaints, hold hearings, gather information and make findings of fact with respect thereto: *Provided*, That no investigation shall be had or public hearing be held without prior approval of two-thirds of the membership of the council: *Provided further*, That any investigation or hearing once commenced may be terminated by a majority vote of the council;

(4) To receive messages and reports in person or in writing from the governor or any other state officials and to attend generally to any and all business addressed to or affecting the legislature during the interim between regular legislative sessions;

(5) To make reports from time to time to the members of the legislature and to the public with respect to any of its findings or recommendations. The council shall keep complete minutes of its meetings. The council shall make and distribute its biennial report to the members of the ensuing legisla-

Legislative council— Powers and duties.

ture at least ten days prior to the convening of the legislature in regular session; and

(6) To cooperate, act, and function with similar councils or committees of other states, with the council of state governments, and with other inter-state research organizations.

RCW 44.24.030 amended.

Sec. 2. Section 3, chapter 36, Laws of 1947 and RCW 44.24.030 are each amended to read as follows:

Additional powers—Subpoena—Oaths—Contempt—Witness fees.

In the discharge of any duty herein imposed, the council and its committees shall have the authority to examine and inspect all files, records and accounts of any state office, department, institution, board, commission or agency, and to administer oaths, issue subpoenas, compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of any papers, books, accounts, documents and testimony, and to cause the deposition of witnesses, either residing within or without the state, to be taken in the manner prescribed by law for taking depositions in civil actions in the superior courts. In case of disobedience on the part of any person to comply with any subpoena issued in behalf of the council, or on the refusal of any witness to testify to any matters regarding which he may be lawfully interrogated, it shall be the duty of the superior court of any county, or of the judge thereof, on application of the council, to compel obedience by proceedings for contempt, as in the case of disobedience of the requirements of a subpoena issued from such court or a refusal to testify therein. Each witness who appears before the state legislative council by its order, other than a state official or employee, shall receive for his attendance the fees and mileage provided for witnesses in civil cases in courts of record, which shall be audited and paid upon the presentation of proper vouchers signed by such witness and approved by the secretary and chairman of the council.

Sec. 3. Section 4, chapter 36, Laws of 1947 and RCW 44.24.040 are each amended to read as follows:

The first meeting of the state legislative council shall be held on the third Monday in June, 1947, and thereafter meetings shall be held throughout the legislative interim at such times and at such places as the council may determine. Committees of the council may meet at such additional times and in such places as may be convenient or necessary in carrying out their delegated duties.

Sec. 4. Section 6, chapter 36, Laws of 1947, as last amended by section 2, chapter 206, Laws of 1955 and RCW 44.24.060 are each amended to read as follows:

The members of the council shall be reimbursed for their expenses incurred while attending sessions of the council or meetings of any committees of the council or while engaged on other council business authorized by the council in accordance with the provisions of RCW 44.04.120. All expenses incurred by the council, including salaries of employees, shall be paid upon voucher forms as provided by the budget director and signed by the chairman or vice chairman of the council and attested by the secretary of said council, or by an alternate for the secretary who shall be a member of and selected by the executive committee, and the authority of said chairman and secretary to sign vouchers shall continue until their successors are selected. 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 council.

Sec. 5. Section 7, chapter 36, Laws of 1947, as amended by section 3, chapter 206, Laws of 1955 and RCW 44.24.070 are each amended to read as follows:

The state legislative council shall have authority to make its own rules and regulations governing the conduct of its business not otherwise prescribed in

Legislative  
council—Rules  
and regula-  
tions—Term  
of office—  
Vacancies.

this chapter. The term of office of all council members shall be from the time of confirmation or election until (1) their successors have been appointed and confirmed or elected as provided in RCW 44.24.010, or until they cease to be members of the legislature. Vacancies on the council among the senate members of the council may be filled by appointment by the remaining senate members. Vacancies on the council among the members of the house of representatives may be filled by appointment by the remaining house members. All such vacancies shall be filled from the same political party as that of the member whose seat was vacated. The council may appoint not more than twelve additional legislators as special members in the same ratio as membership of the respective parties in the house and senate, to serve on council committees for designated periods of time, and such special members shall be entitled to reimbursement on the same basis as council members for expenses incurred while on council business. All of the minutes, records, and files of the council shall be delivered over by the council to the speaker of the house of representatives or to the president of the senate at the convening of each regular or special session of the legislature, which minutes, records, and files shall be held subject to the order of the senate and house of representatives, and shall thereafter be redelivered to the members of the council forthwith, but in no event later than five days after adjournment sine die of the legislature.

RCW 44.24.010  
amended.

Sec. 6. Section 1, chapter 36, Laws of 1947, as amended by section 1, chapter 148, Laws of 1965 extraordinary session and RCW 44.24.010 are each amended to read as follows:

Creation—  
Appointment  
of members.

There is hereby created a "state legislative council" hereinafter referred to as the council, which shall consist of fifteen senators and sixteen repre-

sentatives from the legislature of the state of Washington, including the president pro tem of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives, said council to be appointed by the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives at least ten days before the close of the 1947 session of the legislature, and at least ten days before the close of each regular session thereafter. The president of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives shall prepare their lists of appointees so that the whole membership of the council shall include at least one individual from each United States congressional district within the state and so that the minority political party in each house shall have seven members on the council. The said lists of appointees shall be subject to confirmation as to the senate members by the senate and as to the house members by the house of representatives. In the event of a failure to appoint council members within the time above stated, or in the event of a refusal by either senate or house of representatives to confirm appointments on the council, then the members on the council from either house in which there is a failure to appoint or confirm shall be elected forthwith by the members of such house.

Passed the House April 28, 1967.

Passed the Senate April 27, 1967.

Approved by the Governor May 10, 1967.