

CHAPTER 48.

[H. B. 236.]

RELATING TO ADMISSION OF ATTORNEYS.

AN ACT relating to attorneys and counsellors-at-law, amending sections 4, 5 and 6 of chapter 139, Laws of 1909, and declaring an emergency.

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

[Amending
§ 123,
Rem.-Bal.]

SECTION 1. That section 4 of an act entitled "An act relating to attorneys and counsellors at law, approved March 15th, 1909," be, and the same is hereby, amended to read as follows:

Examination.

Section 4. Examinations for admission to the bar shall be held at the state capitol on the first Thursday and Friday after the second Monday in January, May and October, of each year, and shall be both oral and written as to the applicant's knowledge of law, general learning, fitness and qualifications. Nor shall any such applicant be examined unless he shall have filed with the clerk of the supreme court, two months before such examination, a statement in which the time he commenced the study of law is set forth: *Provided*, The time he applies for admission is at least two years after the time named in such statement. Every applicant shall also present an affidavit by some member of the bar of the supreme court, or a certificate from the dean or head of some law school of approved standing, to the effect that such applicant has regularly and attentively studied law under the direction of the affiant or dean or head of such law school as the case may be, for a period of two years: *Provided*, That thirty-five full weeks of study in a law school in any one year shall be equivalent to a year's study.

Notice.

[Amending
§ 124,
Rem.-Bal.]

Rules for
admission.

SEC. 2. That section 5 of chapter 139, Laws of 1909, be amended to read as follows: Section 5. The supreme court shall make such other rules as may be necessary for the admission of applicants to practice law, and for the purpose of conducting the examination of applicants, shall

appoint a board consisting of three lawyers, who shall severally hold their office for a term of three years unless sooner removed by the court: *Provided, however,* That the first appointments after the taking effect of this act shall be one member to be appointed for one year, one for two years and one for three years, and thereafter each member shall be appointed for a term of three years, except to fill a vacancy not caused by the expiration of a term. No person shall be eligible as a member of such board unless he shall have been a member in good standing of the bar of the supreme court of this state for not less than five years immediately preceding his appointment, and no person shall be eligible to succeed himself on such board. Each member of said board shall be allowed ten dollars (\$10.00) per day for each day actually spent in the performance of his duties, and five cents per mile for each mile actually and necessarily travelled in going to and returning from attendance on the court to conduct such examinations. The person having the shortest term to serve on said board shall be chairman thereof, and the clerk of the supreme court shall act as secretary thereof and shall keep the records, files and correspondence of the board. The board of examiners shall meet not later than two days before an examination is to be held to prepare the questions to be answered in writing by the applicants, which questions when prepared shall be kept in a sealed envelope or package and free from inspection in the office of the clerk of the supreme court until required for such examination, and, after the completion of such examination, said questions shall be made public.

Board of
examiners.

Salary.

Clerk.

Meetings of
board.

SEC. 3. That section 6 of chapter 139, Laws of 1909, be amended to read as follows: Section 6. Every person before being admitted to practice law in this state shall take and subscribe the following oath:

[Amending
§ 125,
Rem.-Bal.]

I do solemnly swear:

1. I will support the constitution of the United States and the constitution and laws of the State of Washington;
2. I will maintain the respect due to courts of justice and judicial officers;

Oath.

3. I will not counsel or maintain any suit or proceedings which shall appear to me to be illegal and unjust, nor any defense except such as I believe to be honestly debatable under the law of the land;

4. I will employ for the purpose of maintaining the causes confided to me such means only as are consistent with truth and honor, and will never seek to mislead the judge or jury by an artifice or false statement of facts or law;

5. I will maintain the confidence and preserve inviolate the secrets of my client, and will accept no compensation in connection with his business except from him or with his knowledge and approval;

6. I will abstain from all offensive personalities, and advance no fact prejudicial to the honor or reputation of a fellow attorney, party or witness, unless required by the justice of the cause with which I am charged;

7. I will never reject, from any consideration personal to myself, the cause of the defenseless or oppressed, or delay any man's cause for lucre or malice. So help me God.

Emergency.

SEC. 4. An emergency is hereby declared to exist and this act shall take effect immediately.

Passed the House February 10, 1911.

Passed the Senate February 28, 1911.

Approved by the Governor March 11, 1911.