

CHAPTER 230.

[S. B. 133.]

ESTABLISHMENT OF WATER DISTRICTS—PETITION FOR.

AN ACT relating to the establishment of water districts, amending Section 11581 of Remington's Compiled Statutes, validating certain elections and proceedings had thereunder and declaring that this Act take effect immediately.

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

§ 7250-3,
Pierce's
Code.

SECTION 1. That section 11581 of Remington's Compiled Statutes be amended to read as follows:

Petition
contents.

Section 11581. The petition presented to the board of county commissioners shall set forth the territorial extent of the proposed water district, particularly describing the same, and shall be filed with the county auditor who shall within sixty days examine the signatures thereto and certify to the sufficiency or insufficiency thereof, and for such purpose the county auditor shall have access to all registration books in possession of the officers of any incorporated city or town in such proposed district. If any protest signed by twenty-five per cent of the qualified electors of any city or town shall be filed with the county auditor within thirty days after the filing of the petition for the formation of the district, the auditor shall likewise examine the signatures thereof and certify the sufficiency or insufficiency thereof to the board of county commissioners with the petition. No person having signed such petition or such protest shall be allowed to withdraw his name therefrom after the filing of the same with the county auditor. If such petition shall be found to contain a sufficient number of signatures, the county auditor shall transmit the same together with his certificate of sufficiency attached thereto, to the board of county commissioners and

Filing.

Checking.

Protest
filed.

Checking
signatures.

Withdrawal
of signa-
tures.

Certificate
petition
sufficient.

likewise if said protest shall be found to contain a sufficient number of signatures, shall transmit the same together with his certificate of sufficiency to said board, and the board of county commissioners shall at their first meeting thereafter if such petition so requires, by resolution call a special election to be held not less than sixty days from the date of such certificate and shall cause to be published a notice of such election at least once a week for four consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which said proposed water district is located, which notice shall state the hours during which such polls will be open, the boundaries of the proposed water districts exclusive of the territory excluded by reason of such protest or protests, if any, and the object of such election and said notice shall also be posted for ten days in ten public places in such proposed water district. The same notice shall be given if such proposition be submitted at a general election: *Provided*, In submitting said proposition to the voters for their approval or rejection, said proposition shall be expressed on the ballots in the following terms:

Calling special election.

Notice.

“Water District. Yes.”

Form of ballots.

“Water District. No.”

giving in each instance the name to such district as may be decided on by the board of county commissioners.

There shall be not less than one polling place in each ward in each incorporated city or town, and one polling place in each precinct outside such cities or towns.

Polling places.

In case there is no incorporated city or town within the boundaries of a proposed water district, the county commissioners may call such election to be held at any time after thirty days from the date

No incorporated city within proposed district.
May call election after 30 days.

of such certificate by the county auditor as to the sufficiency of the petition.

Stay of proceedings.

In case any petition shall have been filed with the county auditor of any county prior to the taking effect of this act and no election shall have been called thereon, no election shall be called until the expiration of sixty days from the time of taking effect of this act, and in case within thirty days from the taking effect of this act a protest signed by the requisite number of qualified electors of any city or town shall be filed with the county auditor, the same shall be examined and if found sufficient shall be certified to the board of county commissioners, and such cities or towns shall be excluded from the proposed district.

Election to organize district not timely; proceedings not invalid.

SEC. 2. That in case an attempt has been made to organize a water district not containing within its boundaries any incorporated city or town, and either through inadvertence or mistake the election for the organization of the district was held more than thirty days from the date of such certificate of the county auditor but less than sixty days from such date, such proceedings shall not be deemed invalid by reason thereof, and in case all other proceedings in connection with the organization of any such water district were regular, such proceedings are hereby validated and all bonds and warrants issued or to be issued by any such water district are hereby declared to be valid.

Bonds and warrants validated.

Emergency.

SEC. 3. This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health and shall take effect immediately.

Passed the Senate February 24, 1927.

Passed the House March 8, 1927.

Approved by the Governor March 19, 1927.