

CHAPTER 12.

[S. B. 68.]

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION.

AN ACT relating to the state government; creating the office of unemployment compensation and placement; providing for the appointment of a commissioner thereof, and defining his powers and duties; transferring duties to such officer from the department of social security; abolishing the divisions of unemployment compensation and employment service of the department of social security, and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. There is hereby created the office of Unemployment Compensation and Placement for the State of Washington, to be administered by a Commissioner of Unemployment Compensation and Placement. Said commissioner shall be appointed by the governor with the consent of the senate and shall hold office at the pleasure of, and receive such compensation for his services as may be fixed by, the governor. The first appointment of Commissioner of Unemployment Compensation and Placement shall be made immediately upon the taking effect of this act.

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SEC. 2. The Commissioner of Unemployment Compensation and Placement shall have and exercise all powers and duties which are now vested in and authorized to be performed by the department of social security, or the director, or any division or supervisor thereof, in respect to the administration of the Unemployment Compensation Act, being chapter 162, Laws of 1937, or as the same may be hereafter amended. The commissioner shall have full charge of the unemployment compensation division and the Washington State employment service division created by said act and shall have power to appoint such assistants, deputies and other person-

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nel as may be necessary properly to administer such act.

Definitions.

SEC. 3. Wherever the terms "director," "director of social security," "director of the department of social security" or "department of social security" are used in chapter 162, Laws of 1937, or as the same may be amended, they shall be construed to refer to the Commissioner of Unemployment Compensation and Placement created by this act.

Offices abolished.

SEC. 4. The Divisions of Unemployment Compensation and Employment service, as divisions of the Department of Social Security, are hereby abolished; but the same may be continued in effect as separate divisions under the Commissioner of Unemployment Compensation and Placement: *Provided*, That the abolishment of said divisions shall not in any wise affect the validity of any act performed before the taking effect of this act and the appointment of a commissioner hereunder, nor shall it affect or impair any rights, powers or privileges which shall have accrued prior to the taking effect of this act. All files, business and property of any kind pertaining to the unemployment compensation and employment service divisions of the department of social security shall be transferred to the Commissioner of Unemployment Compensation and Placement immediately upon his taking office.

Effective immediately.

SEC. 5. This act is necessary for the immediate support of the state government and its existing public institutions and shall take effect immediately.

Passed the Senate January 20, 1939.

Passed the House February 8, 1939.

Approved by the Governor February 10, 1939.