

ciety may, by its laws, limit the scope of beneficiaries within the above classes.

Passed the Senate March 5, 1943.

Passed the House March 9, 1943.

Approved by the Governor March 20, 1943.

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## CHAPTER 228.

[ S. B. 205. ]

### REGULATING SPEED OF RAILWAY TRAINS.

AN ACT relating to the speed of railway trains within the limits of cities of the second class, third class, and towns, and transferring the right to regulate the speed of railway trains within the limits of said cities and towns to the State Department of Public Service.

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

Department  
of Public  
Service to  
fix speed.

SECTION 1. The right to fix and regulate the speed of railway trains within the limits of cities of the second class, third class, and towns, is vested exclusively in the State Department of Public Service: *Provided, however,* That this act shall not apply to street railways which may be operating or hereafter operated within the limits of said cities and towns.

Not apply  
to street  
railways.

Director to  
issue order.

SEC. 2. After due investigation and within a reasonable time after the effective date of this act, the Director of Public Service shall make and issue an order fixing and regulating the speed of railway trains within the limits of cities of the second class, cities of the third class, and towns. The speed limit to be fixed by the Department shall be discretionary, and it may fix different rates of speed for different cities and towns, which rates of speed shall be commensurate with the hazard presented and the practical operation of the trains. The Department shall have the right from time to time, as conditions

Limits  
may vary.

change, to either increase or decrease speed limits established under this act. May be changed.

Passed the Senate March 6, 1943.

Passed the House March 9, 1943.

Approved by the Governor March 20, 1943.

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## CHAPTER 229.

[ S. B. 151. ]

### RADIO STATIONS.

AN ACT relating to the broadcast of defamatory matter over the facilities of radio or television broadcasting stations.

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

SECTION 1. Where the owner, licensee, or operator of a radio or television broadcasting station, or the agents or employees thereof, has required a person speaking over said station to submit a written copy of his script prior to such broadcast and has cut such speaker off the air as soon as reasonably possible in the event such speaker deviates from such written script, said owner, licensee, or operator, or the agents or employees thereof, shall not be liable for any damages, for any defamatory statement published or uttered by such person in or as a part of such radio or television broadcast unless such defamatory statements are contained in said written script. Station not liable for deviations from written script.

SEC. 2. Nothing herein contained shall be construed as limiting the liability of any speaker or his sponsor or sponsors for defamatory statements made by such speaker in or as a part of any such broadcast. Liability of speaker or sponsor not limited.

SEC. 3. This act shall not be applicable to or affect any cause of action existing at the time this act becomes effective. Act not retroactive.

Passed the Senate March 10, 1943.

Passed the House March 10, 1943.

Approved by the Governor March 20, 1943.