

## CHAPTER 257.

[ Sub. H. B. 31. ]

## STATUTE LAW COMMITTEE.

AN ACT relating to state government; providing for codification and publication of statute law and revision; establishing a bill drafting service, abolishing the code publication committee; amending RCW 1.08.001, 1.08.003, 1.08.007, 1.08.015, 1.08.027, 1.08.037 and 1.08.040, adding new sections to chapter 1.08, RCW, repealing chapter 155, Laws of 1951 (uncodified), making an appropriation and declaring an emergency.

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

Amendment. SECTION 1. RCW 1.08.001, as derived from section 1, chapter 157, Laws of 1951, is amended to read as follows:

Permanent statute law committee. There is created a permanent statute law committee consisting of seven members as follows: a lawyer member of the legislative council, ex officio, designated by the speaker of the house of representatives, but if there be no such lawyer member, then a lawyer member of the house judiciary committee shall be so appointed; the librarian of the state law library, ex officio; the chairman of the senate judiciary committee, ex officio; the chairman of the house judiciary committee, ex officio; two lawyers admitted to practice in this state, designated by the board of governors of the Washington State Bar Association; a lawyer member at large appointed by the governor. All such designations or appointments shall be made as above provided prior to April 1, 1953, and shall be effective upon April 1, 1953, and on that date all present terms of office upon the committee shall expire.

Amendment. SEC. 2. RCW 1.08.003, as derived from section 2, chapter 157, Laws of 1951, is amended to read as follows:

Terms of office. Of the members appointed by the State Bar Association, one shall serve for a term of two years and the other for a term of four years. The term of the

governor's appointee shall be four years. The term of the member appointed by the speaker shall be two years.

The term of each ex officio member, other than the member appointed by the speaker shall expire upon expiration of his current term in the office by virtue of which he is a member of the committee. Vacancies shall be filled by designation, appointment, or ex officio in the same manner as for the member so vacating, and if a vacancy results other than from expiration of a term, the vacancy shall be filled for the unexpired term.

SEC. 3. RCW 1.08.007, as derived from section 4, chapter 157, Laws of 1951, is amended to read as follows:

The committee shall meet at the call of senate judiciary chairman as soon as feasible after April 1, 1953. The committee shall from time to time elect a chairman from among its members, and adopt rules to govern its procedures. Four members of the committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business but no proceeding of the committee shall be valid unless carried by the vote of a majority of the members present. The reviser or a member of his staff shall act as secretary of the committee.

SEC. 4. RCW 1.08.015, as derived from section 7, chapter 157, Laws of 1951, is amended to read as follows:

Subject to such general policies as may be promulgated by the committee and to the general supervision of the committee, the reviser shall:

(1) Codify for consolidation into the Revised Code of Washington all laws of a general and permanent nature heretofore or hereafter enacted by the legislature, and assign permanent numbers as provided by law to all new chapters and sections so added to the revised code.

Edit and  
revise laws  
as follows:

(2) Edit and revise such laws for such consolidation, to the extent deemed necessary or desirable by the reviser and without changing the meaning of any such law, in the following respects only:

Uniform  
capitaliza-  
tion.

(a) Make capitalization uniform with that followed generally in the revised code.

Uniform  
division.

(b) Make chapter or section division and subdivision designations uniform with that followed in the revised code.

Make  
substitutions.

(c) Substitute for the term "this act," where necessary, the term "section," "part," "code," "chapter," or "title," or reference to specific section or chapter numbers, as the case may require.

(d) Substitute for reference to a section of an "act," the proper code section number reference.

(e) Substitute for "as provided in the preceding section" and other phrases of similar import, the proper code section number references.

(f) Substitute the proper calendar date for "effective date of this act," "date of passage of this act," and other phrases of similar import.

(g) Strike out figures where merely a repetition of written words, and substitute, where deemed advisable for uniformity, written words for figures.

Rearrange  
misplaced  
material.

(h) Rearrange any misplaced statutory material, incorporate any omitted statutory material as well as correct manifest errors in spelling, and manifest clerical or typographical errors, or errors by way of additions or omissions.

Correct  
manifest  
errors.

(i) Correct manifest errors in references, by chapter or section number, to other laws.

(j) Correct manifest errors or omissions in numbering or renumbering sections of the revised code.

Division of  
long sections,  
rearrange-  
ment of  
order.

(k) Divide long sections into two or more sections, and rearrange the order of sections to conform to such logical arrangement of subject matter as may most generally be followed in the revised code when

to do so will not change the meaning or effect of such sections.

(1) Change the wording of section captions, if any, and provide captions to new chapters and sections. Captions.

(m) Strike provisions manifestly obsolete. Obsolete provisions.

SEC. 5. There is added to chapter 1.08, RCW, a new section to read as follows: New section.

The committee may at any time by order correct any section or portion of the code in any of the respects enumerated in RCW 1.08.015. Orders shall be numbered consecutively and signed by the committee chairman and each order shall be followed by an explanatory note reciting the reason therefor. Code correction orders.

Unless otherwise prescribed in the orders, each shall become effective ninety days after Effective date.

(1) signing of the order; and

(2) filing a summary thereof with the board of governors of the State Bar Association; and

(3) the filing thereof with the secretary of state.

SEC. 6. RCW 1.08.027, as derived from section 12, chapter 157, Laws of 1951, is amended to read as follows: New section.

The reviser shall be in charge of and shall at all times maintain an expert bill drafting service for the use and benefit of the legislature, its committees and its members. Prior to any session thereof, the legislature shall provide quarters convenient to both houses and shall augment the reviser's staff with such additional legal and clerical assistance as may be needed to carry out the bill drafting functions of the legislature and pay the cost of such additional staff. Such services shall be confidential and non-partisan and no member of the bill drafting staff shall advocate for or against any legislative measure. Bill drafting service.

SEC. 7. There is added to chapter 1.08, RCW, a new section to read as follows: New section.

**Index.** The reviser, as soon as practicable, shall compile and thereafter maintain a comprehensive index and from time to time prepare for publication supplements thereto.

**New section.** SEC. 8. There is added to chapter 1.08, RCW, a new section to read as follows:

**Rules of court.** The committee may provide for inclusion in the published sets of the code the rules of court promulgated by the supreme court.

**New section.** SEC. 9. There is added to chapter 1.08, RCW, a new section to read as follows:

**Proposals for enactment of titles, chapters and sections of RCW.** The committee also shall examine the revised code and from time to time submit to the legislature proposals for enactment of the several titles, chapters and sections thereof, to the end that, as expeditiously as possible, the revised code, and each part thereof, shall constitute conclusive, rather than prima facie evidence of the law. Each such proposal shall be accompanied by explanatory matter. The committee may hold hearings concerning any such proposal or concerning recommendations formulated in accordance with RCW 1.08.025. Proposals or recommendations approved by the committee shall be submitted to the chairman of the house or senate judiciary committee at the commencement of the next succeeding session of the legislature.

**Hearings.**

**New section.** SEC. 10. There is added to chapter 1.08, RCW, a new section to read as follows:

**Loan of sets of code.** The committee may loan sets of the code and materials supplemental thereto

- (1) for use of senate committees, fifteen sets;
- (2) for use of the house committees, twenty sets;
- (3) to the state law library for library use;
- (4) for use of the reviser's office, as required;
- (5) for use of recognized news reporting services maintaining permanent offices at the capitol, three sets.

The committee may exchange copies of RCW for codes or compilations of other states.

Exchange with other states.

SEC. 11. There is added to chapter 1.08, RCW, a new section to read as follows:

New section.

The statute law committee shall publish, sell and distribute, and arrange for the publication, sale and distribution of the Revised Code of Washington and of supplements thereto and of such other materials as in their discretion may be incorporated in or appended to the code. They may reprint or authorize the reprinting of the code or any portion thereof.

Publication, sale and distribution of RCW.

Reprinting.

SEC. 12. There is added to chapter 1.08, RCW, a new section to read as follows:

New section.

The committee may enter into contracts or otherwise arrange for such publication and/or distribution, with or without calling for bids, by the public printer or by private printer, upon specifications formulated under the authority of RCW 1.08.037, and upon such basis as the committee deems to be most expeditious and economical. Any such contract may be upon such terms as the committee deems to be most advantageous to the state and to potential purchasers of such publications. The committee shall fix terms and prices for such publications.

Contracts for publication and distribution.

SEC. 13. There is added to chapter 1.08, RCW, a new section to read as follows:

New section.

The temporary code publication committee created by chapter 155 of the Laws of 1951 (uncodified) is abolished and all property and accounts belonging thereto, including all unsold sets of the Revised Code of Washington, is transferred to the statute law committee which succeeds to all the rights and obligations of the temporary code publication committee.

Temporary code publication committee abolished.

SEC. 14. RCW 1.08.037, as derived from section 14, chapter 157, Laws of 1951, is amended to read as follows:

Amendment.

Specifications for publication of RCW.

The committee shall formulate specifications relative to the format, size and style of type, paper stock, division into volumes, method and quality of binding, contents, indexing, and general scope and character of footnotes, and annotations, for any publication for general use of the revised code and supplements thereto. No such publication or the contents thereof, other than such temporary edition as may expressly be authorized by the legislature, shall be received as evidence of the laws of this state unless it complies with such specifications of the committee as are current at the time of publication, including compliance with the section numbering adopted by the reviser under supervision of the statute law committee. If a publication complies with such specifications, the committee shall furnish a certificate of such compliance, executed on behalf of the committee by its chairman, to the publisher, and the certificate shall be reproduced at the beginning of each such volume or supplement.

Publication not complying with specifications shall not be received as evidence.

Certificate that publication complies with specifications.

Specifications furnished to publishers.

Upon request of any publisher in good faith interested in publishing said code, the committee shall furnish a copy of its current specifications, and shall not during the process of any bona fide publication of said code or supplements modify any such specifications, if such modification would result in added expense or material inconvenience to the publisher, without written concurrence therein by such publisher.

Amendment.

SEC. 15. RCW 1.08.040, as derived from section 16, chapter 157, Laws of 1951, is amended to read as follows:

RCW deemed official when.

The Revised Code of Washington containing the certificate of the temporary code committee and any supplement or addition thereto or reprint edition thereof, which contains the certificate of the statute law committee referred to in RCW 1.08.037, shall

be deemed official, and shall be prima facie evidence of the laws contained therein.

Prima facie evidence.

SEC. 16. Each member of the legislature, not a member of the thirty-second regular session thereof, the secretary of the senate, and the chief clerk of the house of representatives in attendance at the thirty-third regular session of the legislature shall be entitled to receive one set of the revised code without charge. All members during their term of office shall be entitled to receive supplements to said code.

Copies of RCW given to members of legislature and secretary of senate and chief clerk of house.

SEC. 17. To carry out the provisions of section 16 of this act, there is hereby appropriated to the statute law committee from the general fund the sum of seventy-five hundred dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary.

Appropriation.

SEC. 18. Chapter 155, Laws of 1951 (uncodified) is repealed.

Repealing clause.

SEC. 19. This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, support of the state government and its existing institutions, and shall take effect April 1, 1953, except that the portion of section 1 hereof directing the designation or appointment of members prior to April 1, 1953, shall take effect immediately.

Effective date.

Passed the House March 3, 1953.

Passed the Senate March 10, 1953.

Approved by the Governor March 21, 1953.