

CHAPTER 137.

[ H. B. 22. ]

PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT CONSTRUCTION—PAYMENT TO SCHOOL DISTRICT.

AN ACT relating to public utility districts and public utility district joint operating agencies; providing for certain compensating payments; and declaring an emergency.

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

Definitions.

SECTION 1. As used in this act:

“Public utility district.”

“Public utility district” means public utility district or districts or a joint operating agency or agencies.

“Construction project.”

“Construction project” means the construction of hydroelectric generating facilities by a public utility district. It includes the relocation of highways and railroads, by whomever done, to the extent that it is occasioned by the overflowing of their former locations, or by destruction or burying incident to the construction.

“Base-year enrollment.”

“Base-year enrollment” means the number of pupils enrolled in a school district on the first of May next preceding the date construction was commenced.

“Subsequent-year enrollment.”

“Subsequent-year enrollment” means the number of pupils enrolled in a school district on any first of May after construction was commenced.

“Construction pupils.”

“Construction pupils” means pupils whose fathers are full time employees on the construction project and who moved into the school district subsequent to the first day of May next preceding the day the construction was commenced.

“Nonconstruction pupils.”

“Nonconstruction pupils” means others pupils.

Determination of construction pupils—When.

SEC. 2. When as the result of a public utility district construction project a school district considers it is suffering an increased financial burden in any year during the construction project, it shall determine

the number of construction pupils enrolled in the school district on the first of May of such year.

SEC. 3. If the subsequent-year enrollment exceeds 103 percent of the base-year enrollment, the public utility district shall compensate the school district for a number of construction pupils computed as follows:

Public utility district to compensate school district—When—Computation.

(1) If the subsequent-year enrollment of non-construction pupils is less than the base-year enrollment, compensation shall be paid for the total number of all pupils minus 103 percent of the base-year enrollment.

(2) If the subsequent-year enrollment of nonconstruction pupils is not less than the base-year enrollment, compensation shall be paid for the total number of construction pupils minus 3 percent of the base-year enrollment.

SEC. 4. The compensation to be paid per construction pupils as computed in section 3 of this act shall be one-third of the average per-pupil cost of the local school district, for the school year then current.

Compensation.

SEC. 5. If more than one public utility district or joint operating agency is carrying on a construction project in the same school district, the number of construction pupils for whom the school district is to receive compensation shall be computed as if the projects were constructed by a single agency. The public utility districts or joint operating agencies involved shall divide the cost of such compensation between themselves in proportion to the number of construction pupils occasioned by the operations of each.

When more than one agency—Computation.

SEC. 6. Public utility districts are hereby authorized to make voluntary payments to a school district for capital construction if their construction

Voluntary payments authorized.

projects cause an increased financial burden for such purpose on the school district.

Payments authorized prior to construction—Limitation on.

SEC. 7. Public utilities are hereby authorized to make payments to a county or other taxing district in existence before the commencement of construction on the construction project which suffers an increased financial burden because of their construction projects, but such amount shall not be more than the amount by which the property taxes levied against the contractors engaged in the work on the construction project failed to meet said increased financial burden.

Funds not district receipts under RCW 28.41.080.

SEC. 8. The funds paid by a public utility district to a school district under the provisions of this act shall not be considered a school district receipt by the superintendent of public instruction in determining equalization apportionments under RCW 28.41-.080.

Emergency.

SEC. 9. This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety and support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect immediately.

Passed the House March 14, 1957.

Passed the Senate March 14, 1957.

Approved by the Governor March 20, 1957.