

support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect immediately.

Passed the House February 8, 1974.
Passed the Senate February 7, 1974.
Approved by the Governor February 16, 1974.
Filed in Office of Secretary of State February 16, 1974.

CHAPTER 82

[House Bill No. 931]

PUBLIC EMPLOYEES—

HOSPITALIZATION AND MEDICAL AID BENEFITS--

TRUSTS OF SELF-INSURANCE

AN ACT Relating to insurance; amending section 1, chapter 75, Laws of 1963 as last amended by section 6, chapter 147, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. [and RCW 41.04.180]; and declaring an emergency.
BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

Section 1. Section 1, chapter 75, Laws of 1963 as last amended by section 6, chapter 147, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. and RCW 41.04.180 are each amended to read as follows:

Any county, municipality, or other political subdivision of the state acting through its principal supervising official or governing body may, whenever funds shall be available for that purpose provide for all or a part of hospitalization and medical aid for its employees and their dependents through contracts with regularly constituted insurance carriers or with health care service contractors as defined in chapter 48.44 RCW or self-insurers as provided for in chapter 48.52 RCW, for group hospitalization and medical aid policies or plans: PROVIDED, That any county, municipality, or other political subdivision of the state acting through its principal supervising official or governing body shall provide the employees thereof a choice of policies or plans through contracts with not less than two regularly constituted insurance carriers or health care service contractors or other health care plans, including but not limited to, trusts of self-insurance as provided for in chapter 48.52 RCW: AND PROVIDED FURTHER, That any county may provide such hospitalization and medical aid to county elected officials and their dependents on the same basis as such hospitalization and medical aid is provided to other county employees and their dependents: PROVIDED FURTHER, That provision for school district personnel shall not be made under this section but shall be as provided for in RCW 28A.58.420.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, the support of

the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect immediately.

Passed the House February 8, 1974.
Passed the Senate February 6, 1974.
Approved by the Governor February 16, 1974.
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CHAPTER 83

[House Bill No. 1044]

NURSERY STOCK TAXATION—
ORIGINAL PRODUCER DEFINED

AN ACT Relating to revenue and taxation; and amending section 84.40.220, chapter 15, Laws of 1961 as amended by section 1, chapter 18, Laws of 1971 ex. sess. and RCW 84.40.220.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

Section 1. Section 84.40.220, chapter 15, Laws of 1961 as amended by section 1, chapter 18, Laws of 1971 ex. sess. and RCW 84.40.220 are each amended to read as follows:

Whoever owns, or has in his possession or subject to his control, any goods, merchandise, grain or produce of any kind, or other personal property within this state, with authority to sell the same, which has been purchased either in or out of this state, with a view to being sold at an advanced price or profit, or which has been consigned to him from any place out of this state for the purpose of being sold at any place within the state, shall be held to be a merchant, and when he is by this title required to make out and to deliver to the assessor a statement of his other personal property, he shall state the value of such property pertaining to his business as a merchant. No consignee shall be required to list for taxation the value of any property the product of this state, nor the value of any property consigned to him from any other place for the sole purpose of being stored or forwarded, if he has no interest in such property nor any profit to be derived from its sale. The growing stock of nurserymen, which is owned by the original producer thereof or which has been held or possessed by the nurserymen for one hundred eighty days or more, shall, whether personal or real property, be considered the same as growing crops on cultivated lands: PROVIDED, That the nurserymen be licensed by the department of agriculture; PROVIDED FURTHER, That an original producer, within the meaning of this section, shall include a person who, beginning with seeds, cuttings, bulbs, corns, or any form of immature plants, grows such