

## CHAPTER 75.

[H. B. 191.]

## CONSOLIDATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS.

AN ACT relating to education, providing for the consolidation of school districts, the allocation of levies between union high school districts and their component districts, and amending sections 4698, 4735, 4737, 4741, 4760 Remington's Compiled Statutes, and section 1 of chapter 199 of the Laws of 1927, and section 1, chapter 157 of the Laws of 1927.

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

SECTION 1. That section 4698 of Remington's  
Compiled Statutes be amended to read as follows: Amends  
§ 4698, Rem.  
Comp. Stat.

Section 4698. Any school district which has been formed by the consolidation of two or more school districts, or any union high school district which has voted in favor of consolidation at any regular or special election by a majority of all votes cast, and by a majority of all votes cast in each district of one-half or more of the component districts shall be designated as a consolidated school district. Consolidated  
school  
districts.

SEC. 2. That section 1 of chapter 199 of the Laws of 1927 (section 4734 of Remington's Compiled Statutes, 1927 Supp.) be amended to read as follows: Amends  
§ 1, ch. 199,  
Laws of 1927.

Section 1. Upon receipt of a petition signed by five heads of families requesting the consolidation of two or more adjoining districts in the same county, or the consolidation of a union high school district, the county superintendent shall call a special election of the voters of such school district at some convenient place or places by posting written or printed notices in like manner as is provided for calling annual school district elections, and said notices shall state the object for which the election is called. Election to  
consolidate.

Establishment of consolidated district.

If a majority of all votes cast in each district of one-half or more of the component districts and/or a majority of all votes cast in the union high school district, shall vote to consolidate, the clerk of each district, or of the union high school district, so proposing to consolidate, shall within ten days after the election notify the county superintendent of the holding of and the result of the election and the county superintendent shall, immediately after receipt of said notice, organize and establish a consolidated school district and when such consolidated district shall have been established no new district shall be established out of any portion thereof, or any portion thereof changed to another district within five years from such consolidation: *Provided*, That any portion thereof, after five years from the date such portion first became a part of a consolidated district, may be changed to another district of any kind, in the manner provided in sections 4727 and 4728, Remington's Compiled Statutes of Washington, for the transferring of territory from one district to another: *Provided further*, That any portion thereof, after five years from the date such portion first became a part of such consolidated district, may withdraw from such consolidated district, and become organized as a new district in the following manner: Whenever a petition is presented to the directors of such consolidated district, setting forth the desire of such portion to withdraw from such consolidated district, signed by a majority of the heads of families residing in such portion, such directors shall at the next general school election held in such consolidated district, submit to the qualified voters of such district the question of withdrawal of such portion, and if a majority of the qualified voters at such election shall vote in favor of such withdrawal, such portion shall be withdrawn from such consoli-

After consolidation no new district for 5 years.

Withdrawal.

dated district, and shall be constituted as a new district, and the county superintendent shall apportion the funds and adjust the property rights and debts between the consolidated district and the new district, in the manner provided by law for such matters in cases of new school districts.

SEC. 3. That section 1, chapter 157 of the Laws of 1927 (section 4738 of Remington's Compiled Statutes, 1927 Supp.) be amended to read as follows:

Amends  
§ 1, ch. 157,  
Laws of 1927.

Section 1. The county superintendent of any county in which new districts are formed or heretofore have been formed by the uniting of two or more districts, or by the incorporating of any city or town lying partly in two or more school districts, or upon the consolidation of a union high school district, shall upon being notified of such action by the board of directors of such new district, proceed to designate such new district by a number not the same as that of either component district or of any existing district, and to make a record of the boundaries thereof, and he shall certify such facts to the board of county commissioners, to the county treasurer, and to the clerk of the new district formed. The county superintendent shall also divide such consolidated district into three directors' districts, or when the population of the consolidated district is sufficient for a district of the second class, into five directors' districts, which shall each comprise as nearly as possible an equal portion of the population of the consolidated district, and thereafter one director shall be elected from among the qualified electors of each such directors' district by the qualified electors of the consolidated district, at an election held at one or more polling places in such consolidated district as may be designated by the directors of the consolidated district: *Provided*, That the county superintendent, after five years from any previous division of a consolidated district

New districts  
formed.

Numbering.

Boundaries.

Director's  
districts.

Boundary  
changes.

into director districts, may rearrange the boundaries of the director districts so as to correct inequalities caused by changes in population. For such proposed change of boundaries, there shall be a petition made to the county superintendent signed by at least five heads of families residing in the consolidated district. The petition shall be heard and acted upon in accordance with the provisions of section 4722, Remington's Compiled Statutes, for the formation of a new district. The directors of the consolidated district shall constitute the canvassing board for all school elections held in such district except in first class or class A counties.

Petition.

Amends  
§ 4735, Rem.  
Comp. Stat.

SEC. 4. That section 4735 of Remington's Compiled Statutes be amended to read as follows:

Section 4735. When two or more districts, or a union high school district, are consolidated by the provisions of this act, or where two or more districts are consolidated by the uniting of two or more incorporated cities or towns, as provided by law, all the directors of the several districts so consolidated, or in case of consolidation of a union high school district, the union high school board, shall constitute the board of directors of the new district so formed, and shall have all the powers and authority conferred by the laws of this state upon school district directors, until the next annual school election in said district, at which time there shall be elected three directors, or five directors as heretofore provided, for said district in the manner provided by law, who shall hold their respective offices as provided for the officers of new districts. When the new board is to consist of five members, one director shall be elected for a term of one year, two directors for a term of two years and two directors for a term of three years, from directors' districts designated by the county superintendent of schools.

Directors of  
the several  
districts  
constitute  
new board.

Term.

Thereafter, as their terms expire, their successors shall be elected for terms of three years.

SEC. 5. That section 4741 of Remington's Compiled Statutes be amended to read as follows:

Amends  
§ 4741, Rem.  
Comp. Stat.

Section 4741. When two or more school districts shall be united by the provisions of this act, the board of directors of the several districts shall, within thirty days thereafter, meet and organize the new board by the election of one of their number as president of the board: *Provided*, That when the consolidated district has been formed from a union high school district the president of the union high school board shall act as president of the new board. The board shall elect a clerk for said district, and the clerks of the several districts so united shall deliver to said clerk all books, papers, and records belonging to their respective offices. The board may in its discretion require the superintendent, if there be one, of such consolidated district to act as clerk. The clerk of the new district thus formed shall immediately notify the county superintendent of the organization of the board of the new district.

President  
of board.

Union high  
school  
district.

SEC. 6. That section 4737 of Remington's Compiled Statutes be amended to read as follows:

Amends  
§ 4737, Rem.  
Comp. Stat.

Section 4737. When two or more districts are consolidated, only one of which contains an incorporated city, the directors of the district which contains such incorporated city shall become the directors for the consolidated district as soon as the consolidation is legally completed: *Provided*, That when the consolidated district has been formed from a union high school district, the board of the union high school district shall become the board of directors for the new consolidated district.

Incorporated  
city,  
directors.

Union high  
school  
district,  
directors.

SEC. 7. That section 4760 of Remington's Compiled Statutes be amended to read as follows:

Amends  
§ 4760, Rem.  
Comp. Stat.

Section 4760. The board of directors and clerk provided for in the preceding section, shall, in all

matters relating to the union high school of such district, possess all the powers herein provided for other school district officers, including the power to recommend special levies of taxes for the purpose of furnishing transportation to and from school and other additional school facilities for the union district, or for the payment of teachers' wages, or for the purchase of fuel, supplies, globes, maps, charts, books of reference or other appliances for teaching, or for any or all of these purposes: *Provided*, That the levy authorized by the directors for any union high school district shall not be in excess of four mills for any one school year, and that the levy authorized by the directors for any component district within a union high school district shall not be in excess of six mills for any one school year. The board of directors of a union high school district shall discharge all the duties and be governed by the laws herein provided for school district officers: *Provided*, That a county reviewing committee of five persons to consist of the county superintendent of schools, a member of the local board of education and three citizens who are tax payers, registered voters, property owners and residents of the county the districts of which are under review and who hold no public office with or without salary or who are otherwise in public employment with or without salary.

Special  
tax levies.

Limitation  
of tax.

Reviewing  
committee.

Partial  
invalidity.

SEC. 8. If any section or provision of this act be adjudged to be invalid or unconstitutional, such adjudication shall not affect the validity of the act as a whole or any section, provision or part thereof not adjudged invalid or unconstitutional.

Passed the House March 2, 1933.

Passed the Senate March 1, 1933.

Approved by the Governor March 8, 1933.