WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

REGULAR SESSION, 1935

ENROLLED

HOUSE BILL No. 196

(By Mr. Bailey 20 Jane

PASSED ///well of 1935

In Effect from Passage



ENROLLED House Bill No. 196

(By Messrs. Bailey and Jones (of McDowell)

[Passed March 4, 1935; in effect from passage.]

AN ACT to amend and reenact section five, article one, chapter fifteen of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, relating to the national guard.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That section five, article one, chapter fifteen of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

Section 5. The national guard of West Virginia shall consist 2 of the commissioned officers, enlisted men, staff, corps and de3 partments of West Virginia, regularly organized and maintained 4 pursuant to law. The governor shall have power to alter, divide, 5 annex, consolidate, disband or reorganize the same and create 6 new organizations, and is hereby directed to organize a regi7 ment of infantry and equip same composed of negro troops

8 which regiment shall be organized and equipped in accordance 9 with the provisions of the U.S. Army regulations governing 10 same. He is directed to organize at least one battalion within 11 one hundred twenty days after the passage of this bill or as 12 soon thereafter as funds are available. He shall at all times 13 have the power to create new organizations whenever, in his 14 judgment, the efficiency of the state force will thereby be in-15 creased, except insofar as such action would be contrary to the 16 provisions of the regulations of the war department governing 17 the national guard; and he shall at anytime have power to 18 change the organization of departments, brigades, regiments, 19 battalions and companies so as to conform to any organization, 20 system of drill, or instruction now or hereafter adopted for the 21 army of the United States, and for that purpose the number of 22 officers of the brigades, regiments, battalions and companies may 23 be increased or diminished and their rank increased or reduced 24 to the extent made necessary by such change. The officers of 25 the foregoing departments shall be of like rank as officers of 26 similar departments of the army of the United States and shall 27 perform like duties. The number of such officers shall be deter-28 mined by the governor, but this number shall be limited to the actual requirements of the different departments, and the govone and designate one officer as chief of a number of different
departments, unless such action would be contrary to the regulations provided by the war department for the government of
the national guard. The governor shall have the power, in case
of war, insurrection, invasion or imminent danger thereof, to
increase the force beyond the maximum now established by law
and to organize the same with the proper officers as the exigencies
of the service may require. In the event of the formation of any
such new organizations, officers holding commissions in the
national guard as organized at such time shall be eligible for
commission in such new organizations with like or higher grade
and rank, if found capable, after examination by a regular
authorized board, and shall be given preference over the one

The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

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Filed in the office of the Secretary of State
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Wm. S. O'BRIEN, Secretary of Fit te