## WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

**REGULAR SESSION, 1939** 

## ENROLLED

SENATE BILL No. 88

(By Mr. anderso	<del></del>	)
PASSED Mareh	9-il	1939
In Effect		.Passage



## ENROLLED Senate Bill No. 88

(By Mr. Anderson)

[Passed March 9, 1939; in effect from passage.]

AN ACT to amend and reenact section eleven, article two, chapter fifteen of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, relating to the powers of the superintendent and of the officers and members of the department of public safety.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

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

Section 11. Powers of Members. The superintendent and

- 2 each of the officers and members of the department of public
- 3 safety are hereby authorized and empowered as follows:

- 4 (a) To make arrests anywhere within the confines of the
- 5 state of any and all persons charged with the violation of
- 6 any law of this state, or of the United States, and when a wit-
- 7 ness to the perpetration of any offense or crime, or to the vio-
- 8 lation of any law of this state, or of the United States, may
- 9 arrest without warrant; to arrest and detain any and all per-
- 10 sons suspected of the commission of any felony or misdemeanor
- 11 whenever complaint is made and a warrant is issued thereon
- 12 for such arrest, and any and all persons so arrested shall
- 13 be forthwith brought before the proper tribunal for exami-
- 14 nation and trial in the county where the offense for which any
- 15 such arrest has been made was committed;
- 16 (b) To serve criminal process issued by any court or justice
- 17 of the peace anywhere within this state: Provided, however,
- 18 That they shall not serve civil process;
- 19 (c) To cooperate with local authorities in detecting crime
- 20 and in apprehending any person or persons engaged in or
- 21 suspected of the commission of any crime, misdemeanor or
- 22 offense against the law of this state, or of the United States,
- 23 or of any ordinance of any municipality in this state; and to
- 24 take affidavits in connection with any application to the state

- 25 road commission of West Virginia for any license or certifi-26 cate that may be lawfully issued by that commission;
- 27 (d) Members of the department of public safety shall be 27a and are hereby created forest patrolmen, game and fish 28 wardens and deputy prohibition officers throughout the state 29 to do and perform any and all duties and exercise any and all powers of such officers, and may apprehend and bring before 30 any court or justice of the peace having jurisdiction of such 31 matters, any one violating any of the provisions of chapters 32 33 twenty, sixty, and sixty-one of this code, and any and all amendments thereto; and the department of public safety shall 34 at any time be subject to the call of the commissioner of pro-35 hibition to aid the prohibition department in apprehending 36 any person violating any of the provisions of said chapter 37 38 sixty. They shall serve and execute warrants for the arrest of any person and warrants for the search of any premises 39 40 issued by any properly constituted authority, and shall exer-41 cise all of the powers conferred by law upon a sheriff, con-42 stable or any other peace officer of this state, except that 43 they shall not serve any civil process or exercise any of the powers of such officers in matters of a civil nature;

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(e) Any member of the department of public safety knowing 46 or having reason to believe that any one has violated the 47 law may make complaint in writing before any court or officer having jurisdiction and procure a warrant for such offender, 48 49 execute the same and bring such person before the proper 50 tribunal having jurisdiction. He shall make return on all such 51 warrants to such tribunals and his official title shall be "mem-52 ber of the department of public safety." Members of the de-53 partment of public safety may execute any summons or process issued by any tribunal having jurisdiction requiring the at-54 55 tendance of any person as a witness before such tribunal and 56 make return thereon as provided by law, and any return by 57 a member of the department of public safety showing the 58 manner of executing such warrant or process shall have the 59 same force and effect as if made by a sheriff; 60 (f) Each member of the department of public safety, when 61 called by the sheriff of any county, or when the governor by 62 proclamation so directs, shall have full power and authority 63 within such county, or within the territory defined by the 64 governor, to direct and command absolutely the assistance of

any sheriff, deputy sheriff, constable, chief of police, police-

man, town marshal, game and fish warden, deputy prohibition 67 officer and any and every peace officer of the state, or of any county or municipality therein, or of any able-bodied citizen 68 69 of the United States, to assist and aid in accomplishing the purposes expressed in this article. When so called, any officer 70 71 or person shall, during the time his assistance is required, be 72 and be considered to be, for all purposes, a member of the de-73 partment of public safety force and subject to all the provisions of this article.

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

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