WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION, 1945

ENROLLED

HOUSE BILL No. 36

(By Mr. [Signature])

PASSED February 12th, 1945

In Effect 90 Days — Passage
ENROLLED

House Bill No. 36
(By Mr. Davis)

[Passed February 12, 1945; in effect ninety days from passage.]

AN ACT to amend and reenact chapter forty-two, acts of the Legislature of West Virginia, regular session, one thousand nine hundred thirty-nine, relating to the West Virginia Publicity Commission, by changing the name, composition, authority and duties of the commission and by providing that such chapter, as hereby amended shall be designated article nine, chapter twenty-nine of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That chapter forty-two, acts of the Legislature of West Virginia, regular session, one thousand nine hundred thirty-nine, be amended and reenacted, and as amended be designated article nine, chapter twenty-nine of the code of West
Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, to read as follows:

Article 9. Industrial and Publicity Commission.

Section 1. West Virginia Industrial and Publicity Commission; Members; Meetings.—The West Virginia publicity commission, heretofore created, shall be continued and shall hereafter be designated the West Virginia industrial and publicity commission. The commission shall be a corporation and as such may contract and be contracted with, and shall have a corporate seal.

The commission shall be composed of seven members, five of whom shall be members ex officio, and two of whom shall be appointed by the governor, by and with the advice and consent of the senate, to serve at his will and pleasure. The members shall be the governor, who shall be chairman of the commission, the attorney general, the commissioner of agriculture, the conservation commissioner and the commissioner of labor. The two appointive members shall be chosen from among those citizens of the state best qualified by training and experience to represent commerce and industry.
The commission shall have its principal office in the state capitol at Charleston and shall meet there at least once each month, and at such other times and places as may be designated by the chairman. All members shall serve without compensation, but shall be allowed such reasonable expenses as may be incurred in the immediate discharge of their duties as members of the commission. Such expenses shall be met out of any funds available for the purpose, and shall be paid upon certification of the chairman, in such manner as the expenses of other state officials are paid.

Sec. 2. Executive Director.—The commission shall employ an executive director, and fix his salary at an amount not to exceed six thousand dollars per annum. The executive director shall be the chief administrative officer of the commission and, subject to its control, shall direct all the activities of the commission.

The director shall have authority to employ and fix the compensation of such technical and clerical assistants as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this article.
The salary and expenses of the director and of the technical and clerical assistants shall be met out of any funds available for the purpose, and shall be paid upon certification of the director, in such manner as the expenses of other state employees are paid.

Sec. 3. General Powers and Duties of Commission.—The commission shall have the authority and, within the limits of available funds, it shall be its duty to:

1. Investigate, study and undertake ways and means of promoting and encouraging the prosperous development and protection of the legitimate interests and welfare of West Virginia business, industry and commerce, within and outside the state.

2. Serve as a clearing house for industrial problems of the state.

3. Promote and encourage the expansion and development of markets for West Virginia products.

4. Promote and encourage the location and development of new business in the state and the maintenance and expansion of existing business.

5. Investigate and study conditions affecting West
Virginia business, industry and commerce; collect and
disseminate information, and engage in technical studies,
scientific investigations, statistical research and educa-
tion activities necessary or useful for the proper execu-
tion of the powers and duties of the commission.

(6) Plan and develop an effective business informa-
tion service that will directly assist West Virginia in-
dustry and also encourage industries outside the state to
use business facilities within the state.

(7) Compile, collect and periodically make available
scientific indices and other information relating to cur-
rent business conditions.

(8) Encourage and develop commerce with other states
and devise methods of removing trade barriers that
hamper the free flow of commerce between this and other
states, and for these purposes cooperate with interstate
commissions engaged in formulating and promoting the
adoption of interstate compacts and agreements helpful
to business, industry and commerce.

(9) Conduct or encourage research designed to further
new and more extensive uses of the natural and other
resources of the state, with a view to the development of
new products and industrial processes.

(10) Compile periodically a census of business and
industry in the state, in cooperation with other agencies,
and analyze and publish the information in such form as
to be most valuable to business and industry.

(11) Study long-range trends and developments in
the industries of the state and analyze the reasons under-
lying such trends; study costs and other factors affecting
successful operation of businesses within the state; and
make to the governor and to the legislature, from time
to time, recommendations for the improvement of any
conditions, and for the elimination of any restrictions or
burdens imposed by law, or otherwise existing, which ad-
versely affect or retard legitimate development and ex-
pansion of business, industry and commerce.

(12) Advertise and publicize the material, economic
and other advantages of the state which render it a de-
sirable place for business and residence.

(13) Collect, compile and distribute information and
literature concerning the advantages and attractions of
the state, its historic and scenic points of interest, and the
highway, transportation and other facilities of the state.

(14) Plan and carry out a program of information and
publicity designed to attract to West Virginia tourists,
visitors and other interested persons from outside the
state.

(15) Encourage and cooperate with other public and
private organizations or groups in their efforts to publi-
cize the attractions and industrial advantages of the
state.

(16) Accept and expend, without the necessity of ap-
propriation by the legislature, any gift or grant of money
made to the commission for any or all of the purposes
specified in this section.

Sec. 4. Cooperation of Other State Agencies and De-
partments.—It shall be the duty of any officer, agent or
employee of the state to give to the commission such as-
sistance, information and advice as may be requested by
the governor. The head of any state agency or depart-
ment may, upon the request of the governor, temporarily
assign to the commission experts and employees of his department. Any person temporarily assigned to the commission shall remain on the payroll of the agency or department in which he is regularly employed.
The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

Charles E. Morris
Chairman Senate Committee

L. Alde Street
Chairman House Committee

Originated in the House

Takes effect 90 days—passage.

Thomas N. Page
Clerk of the Senate

Daniel Griffith
Clerk of the House of Delegates

Pres. W. F. Crum
President of the Senate

John E. Arms
Speaker House of Delegates

The within Approved this the 15th
day of February, 1945.

*Signature*

Governor.

Filed in the office of the Secretary of State of West Virginia, FEB 15, 1945.