WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION, 1947

ENROLLED
SENATE BILL No. 349
(By Mr. Dickson, Mr. President)

PASSED March 8, 1947

In Effect from Passage
ENROLLED

Senate Bill No. 349
(By Mr. Vickers, Mr. President)

[Passed March 8, 1947; in effect from passage.]

AN ACT to amend chapter twenty-nine of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, by adding thereto a new article, designated article six, relating to the continuation, powers and duties of the merit system council.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That chapter twenty-nine of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, be amended by adding thereto a new article, designated article six, to read as follows:


Section 1. Continuation; Members; Compensation.—

2 The merit system council heretofore established by executive order shall be continued, and present members
3 shall continue to serve until the expiration of the terms
for which they were appointed. The council shall consist of three members to be appointed by the governor, by and with the advice and consent of the senate, for three year terms, one of which shall end on the thirtieth day of June of each year. The council shall annually elect one of its members to serve as chairman.

Regular meetings of the council shall be held monthly, and special meetings may be held upon the call of the chairman. The members shall receive an allowance of ten dollars for each day actually spent in attending meetings, and shall be reimbursed for the actual traveling expenses necessarily incurred in the performance of their duties. Such expenses shall be met out of any funds available for the purpose and shall be paid upon certification of the supervisor, in such manner as the expenses of other state officials are paid.

Sec. 2. Merit System Supervisor; Assistants.—Upon the recommendation of the council, the governor shall appoint a merit system supervisor, who shall be the chief administrative officer of the council and under its supervision shall direct all its activities.
The supervisor 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 supervisor 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 supervisor, in such manner as the expenses of other state employees are paid.

Sec. 3. Powers and Duties of the Council.—The council shall supervise the operation of the joint merit system established for the various state agencies or any part thereof which are permitted or required by state or federal law to employ personnel on a merit basis. The council shall have the authority and it shall be its duty to:

(1) Establish general policies for the administration of the merit system, including the giving of examinations and the hearing of personnel appeals;

(2) Advise with the supervisor in the formation of rules for the conduct of merit examinations;

(3) Inspect and review the activities of the supervisor
for the purpose of assuring conformity with the rules and policies of the council;

(4) Review and pass upon the classification and compensation plans of participating state agencies;

(5) Make recommendations to participating state agencies relative to their internal personnel practices;

(6) Promote public understanding of the purposes, policies and practices of the merit system.

Sec. 4. Operating Expenses of the Council.—All the operating expenses of the merit system and the merit system council shall be paid out of funds transferred to the credit of the council by the participating state agencies. Out of funds available for administrative purposes, each participating state agency shall transfer to the credit of the merit system council its proportionate share of the costs of operating the merit system and the merit system council, such share to be determined on the basis of the relation between the number of employees of the participating agency who are covered by the merit system and the total number of state employees covered by the system. The maximum amount of the annual expendi-
tures of the merit system council shall be determined by the participating agencies, subject to the approval of the director of the budget.
The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

Forest L. Wren
Chairman Senate Committee

R. F. Matthews
Chairman House Committee

Originated in the Senate

Takes effect from passage.

J. Howard Map
Clerk of the Senate

Clerk of the House of Delegates

The within approved this the 13th day of March, 1947.

Governor.