WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION, 1951

ENROLLED

HOUSE BILL No. 193

(By Mr. Davis)

PASSED February 15, 1951
In Effect Ninety days from Passage
AN ACT to amend and reenact section nine, article two-a, chapter seventeen of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, by adding thereto a new subsection to be known as subsection nineteen, giving to the state road commission authority to acquire, establish, construct and maintain roadside recreational areas.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

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

Section 9. Additional Sole Powers of Commissioner.—

2 The commissioner, in addition to the other powers granted by this chapter shall have the sole authority to:

3 (1) Exercise general supervision over the state road
program and the construction and maintenance of the
state roads;

(2) Make rules and regulations for the government
of his department;

(3) Sign and execute, in the name of "The State Road
Commission" any contract or agreement with the fed-
eral government or its departments, subdivisions of the
State, corporations, associations, copartnerships and in-
dividuals;

(4) Supervise the fiscal affairs and responsibilities of
the department;

(5) Make a general road or highway plan of the state
and compile and publish information relative to mileage,
character and condition of the roads;

(6) Determine the various methods of road construc-
tion best adapted to the various sections of the state and
establish standards for the construction and mainten-
ance of roads and highways;

(7) Conduct investigations and experiments, hold
public meetings and attend meetings and conventions
inside or outside of the state as may, in his judgment, tend to promote better highway construction;

(8) Cooperate with state and national organizations in experiments and work for the advancement of highway construction;

(9) Enter private lands to make surveys and inspections for road purposes;

(10) Acquire land necessary for roads and road maintenance;

(11) Procure photostatic copies of any or all public records on file at the state capitol of Virginia which the commissioner may deem necessary or proper in ascertaining the location of rights-of-way of public roads located or established in what is now the state of West Virginia. A copy of such photostatic copies so made, when certified by the commissioner, may be admitted as evidence in lieu of the original in any of the courts in this state;

(12) Administer the motor vehicle law of this state as provided for in section twelve, article two-a, chapter seventeen of this code;
(13) Keep a complete and accurate record of all proceedings, record and file all bonds and contracts taken or entered into, and assume responsibility for the custody and preservation of all papers and documents pertaining to his office. Rules and regulations shall be recorded in a book especially kept for that purpose, and may be in his discretion published for general circulation. All other records and entries necessary to show the official conduct of the department shall be preserved and shall be public records and open for inspection during business hours;

(14) Purchase as provided by law all equipment necessary to the conduct of his department. Dispose of any equipment either by public or private sale when such equipment can no longer be used to advantage. The proceeds of such sale shall be paid to the state treasurer and credited to the state road fund;

(15) Conduct hearings as provided by this chapter;

(16) Report to the governor each year all information relative to the operation of the department and the construction and maintenance of the state roads. Make such
other reports and recommendations as may be required
by the governor or which in his judgment would be benef-
cicial to the general public; and
(17) Exercise any other power that may be necessary
or proper for the orderly conduct of his business and the
effective discharge of his duties. Invoke any legal or
equitable remedies for the enforcement of his orders or
the provisions of this department.
(18) As a member of the West Virginia board of
aeronautics, exercise general supervision of construction
and maintenance of such airports and landing fields as
are under the jurisdiction of said board, and make a study
and general plan of a statewide system of airports and
landing fields.
(19) Acquire, establish, construct, maintain and op-
erate adjacent to state highways roadside recreational
areas.
The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

A. R. Neitzel  
Chairman Senate Committee

James W. Loop  
Chairman House Committee

Originated in the House of Delegates

Takes effect Ninety days from passage.

J. Stewart Myer  
Clerk of the Senate

G. Calvin Rabb  
Clerk of the House of Delegates

The within approved this the 22nd day of February, 1951.  

Olney W. Patterson  
Governor

D. Pitt O'Brien  
Secretary of State