WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION, 1955

ENROLLED

HOUSE BILL No. 59

(By Mr. Francis)

PASSED February 3, 1955

In Effect from Passage

Filed in the Office of the Secretary of State of West Virginia FEB 11 1955
D. PITT O'BRIEN
SECRETARY OF STATE
AN ACT to amend and reenact section seven, article one, chapter fifteen of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, relating to the rank and qualifications of the adjutant general.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

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

Section 7. Governor's Staff; Adjutant General.—The staff of the governor shall consist of one adjutant general with the rank of brigadier general or such higher rank as determined by the governor, an assistant adjutant general with rank not above that of colonel, and, in addition thereto, such other officers as may be currently prescribed by existing tables of organizations as estab-
lished by federal authority. The governor may also ap-
point and commission an honorary staff to serve during
his term of office, of such number as he may deem
advisable, with such rank as he may fix, which honorary
staff will not be held to be a part of the regularly or-
organized militia.

The adjutant general shall be appointed and commis-
sioned by the governor, but no person shall be appointed
adjutant general unless such person has had at least six
years’ commissioned service in the national guard of
this or some other state.

In time of peace he shall perform the duties of chief of
the pay, quartermaster and ordnance departments unless
otherwise ordered by the governor, and shall give bond
in such sum as the governor may require, such bond to
be provided in like manner as the bonds of other officers.

He shall receive a compensation of seven thousand dollars
per annum, which shall be paid to him in equal monthly
installments, and his term of office shall be for four years.

He shall attest, record, and seal with the seal of the state
all commissions issued by the governor, and keep a regis-
and all changes occurring in the commissioned force, and shall keep a full and complete record at all times of the organized militia of the state. He shall, as soon as possible after the first day of July in even years, make a biennial report to the governor of the transactions and the expenditures of his department and the condition of the national guard. Such report shall show all receipts into the military or militia fund of the state from every source, including fines, appropriations from the state, and all money received from the federal government and from every other source. All such funds and moneys shall be paid into the state treasury as soon as received, and shall be credited to the military fund. Such report shall also show in detail all expenditures made from each fund, and the purpose of the expenditures, and shall state such other details as the governor may order; and the report shall be communicated by the governor to the next session of the legislature. He shall also make such other reports and returns as may be required by the governor from time to time. He shall cause to be procured, prepared and
issued to the different organizations of the national guard
all necessary books and blanks for reports, records, returns
and general administration, and shall, at the expense of
the state, cause the military laws, military code, and
rules and regulations in force to be printed, bound in
proper form, and distributed, one copy to each commis-
sioned officer, and one each to all the circuit, intermediate
and criminal court judges, sheriffs, assessors, and justices
of the peace in the state requiring them; and shall pro-
cure and supply all necessary textbooks of drill and
instruction. He shall keep in his office an accurate account
of all state and United States property issued to the state.
He shall keep on file in his office all official bonds, except
the bond of the adjutant general, which shall be filed with
the auditor of the state; the reports and returns of troops
and heads of military departments; and all other writings
and papers which are required to be transmitted to and
preserved at the general headquarters of the state militia.
He shall employ such clerical force and assistants as may
be required in the military department, in addition to
the assistant adjutant general herein authorized. He shall
keep records of all service personnel from the state of West Virginia, commissioned or enlisted, in any of the wars of the United States, and of individual claims of citizens of West Virginia for service rendered in such wars. He shall assist all persons residing in this state having claims against the United States for pension, bounty or back pay, or such claims as have arisen out of, or by reason of, service in any of said wars. To this end he shall cooperate with the agents or attorneys of such claimants, furnish to claimants only all necessary certificates or certified abstracts from, or copies of, records or documents in his office, and shall in all practicable ways seek to secure speedy and just action in all claims now pending or which may hereafter be filed: Provided, That any and all of the above services shall be rendered without charge to the claimant. He shall establish and maintain as a part of his office a bureau of records of the services of the West Virginia troops during such wars, and shall keep arranged in proper and convenient form all records and papers pertaining thereto
The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that
the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

Chairman Senate Committee

Chairman House Committee

Originated in the House of Delegates

Takes effect from passage.

Clerk of the Senate

Clerk of the House of Delegates

President of the Senate

Speaker House of Delegates

The within approved this the 9

day of February, 1955.

Governor

Filed in the Office of the Secretary of State

of West Virginia.

SECRETARY OF STATE