WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION, 1963

ENROLLED

HOUSE BILL No. 168

(By Mr. [Signature])

PASSED __________ Feb: 23 __________ 1963

In Effect From __________ Passage

Filed in Office of the Secretary of State of West Virginia __________ MAR 4 1963

JOE F. BURDETT
SECRETARY OF STATE
AN ACT to amend and reenact section four, article twenty-one-a, chapter nineteen of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, relating to state soil conservation committee.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

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

Article 21-a. Soil Conservation Districts.

Section 4. State Soil Conservation Committee.—(a)

2 There is hereby established, to serve as an agency of the state and to perform the functions conferred upon it in this article, the state soil conservation committee. The
committee shall consist of seven members. The following
shall serve, ex officio, as members of the committee: The
director of the state agricultural extension service; the
director of the state agricultural experiment station; the
director of the department of natural resources; and the
state commissioner of agriculture, who shall be chair-
man of the committee.

The governor shall appoint as additional members of
the committee three representative citizens. The term of
members thus appointed shall be four years, except that
of the first members so appointed, one shall be appointed
for a term of two years, one for a term of three years, and
one for a term of four years. In the event of a vacancy,
appointment shall be for the unexpired term.

The committee may invite the secretary of agriculture
of the United States of America to appoint one person to
serve with the committee as an advisory member.

The committee shall keep a record of its official actions,
shall adopt a seal, which seal shall be judicially noticed,
and may perform such acts, hold such public hearings,
and promulgate such rules and regulations as may be necessary for the execution of its functions under this article.

(b) The state soil conservation committee may employ an administrative officer and such technical experts and such other agents and employees, permanent and temporary, as it may require, and shall determine their qualifications, duties, and compensation. The committee may call upon the attorney general of the state for such legal services as it may require. It shall have authority to delegate to its chairman, to one or more of its members, or to one or more agents or employees, such powers and duties as it may deem proper. The committee is empowered to secure necessary and suitable office accommodations, and the necessary supplies and equipment. Upon request of the committee, for the purpose of carrying out any of its functions, the supervising officer of any state agency, or of any state institution of learning shall, insofar as may be possible, under available appropriations, and having due regard to the needs of the agency to which the request is directed, assign or detail to the committee, members of the staff or personnel of such
agency or institution of learning, and make such special reports, surveys, or studies as the committee may request.

(c) A member of the committee shall hold office so long as he shall retain the office by virtue of which he shall be serving on the committee. A majority of the committee shall constitute a quorum, and the concurrence of a majority in any matter within their duties shall be required for its determination. The chairman and members of the committee shall receive no compensation for their services on the committee, but shall be entitled to expenses, including traveling expenses, necessarily incurred on the discharge of their duties on the committee. The committee shall provide for the execution of surety bonds for all employees and officers who shall be entrusted with funds or property; shall provide for the keeping of a full and accurate public record of all proceedings and of all resolutions, regulations, and orders issued or adopted; and shall provide for an annual audit of the accounts of receipts and disbursements.

(d) In addition to the duties and powers hereinafter
conferred upon the state soil conservation committee, it
shall have the following duties and powers:

(1) To offer such assistance as may be appropriate to
the supervisors of soil conservation districts, organized
as provided hereinafter, in the carrying out of any of
their powers and programs;

(2) To keep the supervisors of each of the several
districts, organized under the provisions of this article,
informed of the activities and experience of all other dis-
tricts organized hereunder, and to facilitate an inter-
change of advice and experience between such districts
and cooperation between them;

(3) To coordinate the programs of the several soil
conservation districts organized hereunder so far as this
may be done by advice and consultation;

(4) To secure the cooperation and assistance of the
United States and any of its agencies, and of agencies of
this state, in the work of such districts;

(5) To disseminate information throughout the state
concerning the activities and programs of the soil con-
servation districts organized hereunder, and to encourage
the formation of such districts in areas where their organization is desirable;

(6) To accept and receive donations, gifts, contributions, grants, and appropriations in money, services, materials or otherwise, from the United States or any of its agencies, from the state of West Virginia, or from other sources, and to use or expend such money, services, materials, or other contributions in carrying out the policy and provisions of this article, including the right to allocate such money, services, or materials in part to the various soil conservation districts created by this article in order to assist them in carrying on their operations;

(7) To obtain options upon and to acquire by purchase, exchange, lease, gift, grant, bequest, devise, or otherwise, any property, real or personal, or rights or interests therein; to maintain, administer, operate and improve any properties acquired, to receive and retain income from such property and to expend such income as required for operation, maintenance, administration or improvement of such properties or in otherwise carrying out the purposes and provisions of this article; and to sell,
lease, or otherwise dispose of any of its property or interests therein in furtherance of the purposes and the provisions of this article. Money received from the sale of land acquired in the small watershed program shall be deposited in the special account of the state soil conservation committee and expended as herein provided.
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.

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 2nd day of March, 1963.

Governor

Filed in Office of the Secretary of State of West Virginia

JOE F. BURDETT
SECRETARY OF STATE