

Date April 11, 1981

Time 5:10 pm.

No: 571

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

REGULAR SESSION, 1981



ENROLLED

SENATE BILL NO. 571

*(Originating in the
~~Committee on Finance~~ Committee on Finance)*



PASSED April 2, 1981

In Effect from Passage



ENROLLED
Senate Bill No. 571

(Originating in the Committee on Finance)

[Passed April 2, 1981; in effect from passage.]

AN ACT to amend chapter twenty-four of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, by adding thereto a new article, designated article seven, relating to the authority of the public service commission to buy and hold real estate and undertake the construction or remodeling and furnishing of a building for the headquarters of the public service commission.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

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

ARTICLE 7. ESTABLISHMENT OF HEADQUARTERS.

§24-7-1. Legislative findings regarding office facilities; power of commission to buy and hold real estate for the construction or modification and furnishing of facilities to serve as headquarters.

1 (a) The Legislature hereby finds that the public service
2 commission's present physical facilities impede the efficient
3 operation of the commission in that many offices are severely
4 overcrowded, several divisions are physically isolated from
5 the main offices of the commission at the capitol building,
6 and only one hearing room is available internally. The
7 Legislature further finds that pursuant to section twenty,
8 article one, chapter four of the code of West Virginia, it has
9 assigned and set aside for the exclusive use of the Legislature
10 all of the space on the second floor of the east wing of the

11 capitol building, which location is presently occupied by the
12 public service commission.

13 The Legislature further adopts the recommendation
14 presented to the subcommittee on the public service
15 commission of the joint committee on government and
16 finance in a final report dated February, one thousand nine
17 hundred seventy-nine and entitled "A Plan for Regulatory
18 Reform and Management Improvement" that the public
19 service commission should be authorized to buy or lease
20 suitable office, hearing and other facilities in the Charleston
21 area in order to consolidate its operations, and that existing
22 surplus funds should be used to pay the one-time costs
23 incurred in relocation.

24 (b) Accordingly, the Legislature hereby authorizes and
25 directs the public service commission:

26 (1) To contract to acquire and to acquire, in the name of
27 the commission or of the state, a suitable site in or near the
28 seat of government for a public service commission
29 headquarters building that will consolidate all of its
30 operations, related facilities and grounds, including real
31 property, rights and easements necessary for this purpose, or
32 to use any suitable site which may be owned by the state and
33 available and designated for this purpose and to construct a
34 public service commission headquarters building on such
35 site and equip and furnish said building.

36 (2) To contract to acquire and to acquire and hold, in the
37 name of the commission or of the state, services, materials,
38 furnishings, and equipment required in connection with the
39 location, design, construction, furnishing and equipping of
40 the public service commission building.

41 (3) To employ architects to prepare plans for the public
42 service commission headquarters building, to assist and
43 advise the architects in the preparation of those plans and to
44 approve on behalf of the state all plans for the public service
45 commission headquarters building.

46 (4) To make all contracts and execute all instruments
47 necessary or convenient to effectuate the intent of, and to
48 exercise the powers granted to it by the provisions of this
49 article.

50 (5) To supervise generally the location, construction,
51 furnishing and equipping of the public service commission
52 headquarters building.

§24-7-2. Exclusive authority for purchase of headquarters.

1 The authority granted to the public service commission in
2 section one is made notwithstanding other provisions of law
3 relating to the authority of the state of West Virginia, or its
4 agencies, departments, boards and commissions, to contract
5 to acquire and to acquire real property and to hold, improve
6 and dispose of same, including but not limited to article five,
7 chapter one, article six, chapter five, and section fifteen,
8 article one, chapter twenty of this code: *Provided*, That
9 nothing in this article shall be construed to grant to the public
10 service commission the power of eminent domain.

§24-7-3. Management and control of public service commission headquarters building.

1 Notwithstanding the provisions of section eleven, article
2 six, chapter five of this code, the commission shall properly
3 maintain, repair, manage, operate and control the public
4 service commission headquarters building, and may make
5 and enter into all contracts or agreements necessary and
6 incidental for the performance of its duties and the execution
7 of its powers under this article.

The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

[Signature]
Chairman Senate Committee

[Signature]
Chairman House Committee

Originated in the Senate.

To take effect from passage.

[Signature]
Clerk of the Senate

[Signature]
Clerk of the House of Delegates

[Signature]
President of the Senate

[Signature]
Speaker House of Delegates

The within is approved this the 11
day of April, 1981.

[Signature]
Governor



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