

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

REGULAR SESSION, 1987

70: 746

ENROLLED SENATE BILL NO. 746 Arginating in the Committee an the Jueliciany

PASSED ______ 1987 In Effect munity days from Passage

ENROLLED Senate Bill No. 746

(Originating in the Committee on the Judiciary)

[Passed March 12, 1987; in effect ninety days 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 twenty-three, relating to the West Virginia boundary commission act; short title; legislative findings and intent; definitions; West Virginia boundary commission created; appointment; terms in office; expenses; powers and duties.

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 twenty-three, to read as follows:

ARTICLE 23. WEST VIRGINIA BOUNDARY COMMISSION.

§29-23-1. Definitions.

1 As used in this article:

2 (a) The term "boundary line dispute" means any3 property line of the state, county or a municipality that is in4 question as to its specific physical location.

- 5 (b) The term "West Virginia Geological and Economic
- 6 Survey" means that entity established by article two,7 chapter twenty-nine of this code.

§29-23-2. West Virginia boundary commission created; appointment; terms in office; expenses; powers and duties.

There is hereby created a boundary commission 1 (a) 2 which shall consist of three members, who shall be residents 3 and citizens of the state, all of whom shall have experience 4 involving map reading or surveying. The commission 5 members shall investigate state, county and municipal 6 boundary disputes when requested to do so by the governor or Legislature. The commission members shall be 7 appointed by the governor, by and with the advice and 8 9 consent of the Senate, no later than the first day of July, one 10 thousand nine hundred eighty-seven. No more than two 11 members may belong to the same political party. The 12 commission members shall serve a term concurrent with 13 that of the governor's term in office. Commission members 14 may be reappointed to additional terms.

15 (b) Members shall be reimbursed for reasonable and 16 necessary expenses incurred in fulfilling the duties and 17 responsibilities of the commission.

18 (c) The commission shall have the authority to:

19 (1) Establish a boundary line which shall be presumed20 correct unless proven otherwise in a court of law;

21 (2) Employ a surveyor or professional engineer licensed
22 in this state to survey such boundary;

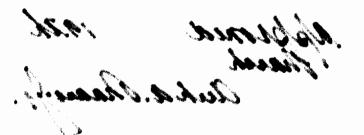
23 (3) Contract for the placement of monuments to identify24 any boundary line in dispute, such monuments to be25 handset by a licensed surveyor;

26 (4) Seek the assistance of the West Virginia geological
27 and economic survey to identify the location of any
28 boundary line in dispute and the recommended placement
29 of marker locations;

(5) Meet with similar commissions or bodies of any of 30 31 the several states contiguous with this state, whose purpose in their respective states is to establish state boundary lines 32 coterminous with the boundary of the state of West Virginia 33 and submit findings and recommendations to the 34 Legislature, applicable to the location of any particular 35 36 boundary segment in question; 37 (6) Recommend to the Legislature that appropriate

37 (6) Recommend to the Legislature that appropriate
38 legislation be enacted, establishing the true boundary line
39 at those portions of the state boundary that are in dispute

with another state or whose location is uncertain: Provided, 40 That the contiguous state agrees with the recommendation: 41 42 (7) Recommend to the Legislature, where no agreement can be attained with another state as to the actual location 43 of any portion of this state's boundary line, proper 44 legislation to direct that the attorney general proceed under 45 46 the constitution of the United States with litigation to 47 adjudicate the exact and true location of any boundary line in dispute or whose precise location is unascertainable; and 48 (8) Prepare an annual report to the Legislature and 49 governor, by the first day of the legislative session, 5051concerning commission activities, recommendations and other necessary information. 52



Enr. S. B. No. 746]

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

Chairman Senate Committee

Chairman House Committee

Originated in the Senate.

In effect ninety days from passage.

Clerk of the Senate

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