

1937, ch. 331, sec. 25.

25. If any clause or other portion of this sub-title is held to be invalid, that decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this sub-title. The Legislature hereby declares that all such remaining portions of this sub-title are severable, and that it would have enacted such remaining portions if the invalid portions had not been included in this sub-title.

Legislative Council.

1939, ch. 62, sec. 26.

26. There is hereby created a Legislative Council. Said Council shall be composed of fourteen members, as follows:

(1) From the Senate: the President, the Chairman of the Finance Committee, the Chairman of the Judicial Proceedings Committee, the Floor Leader of the minority party and three additional members, of whom at least one shall be a member of the minority party, to be appointed by the President and approved by a majority vote of the Senate.

(2) From the House of Delegates: the Speaker, the chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, the Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, the Floor Leader of the minority party and three additional members, of whom at least one shall be a member of the minority party, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House and approved by a majority vote of the House.

Said three appointees from the Senate and from the House of Delegates shall be appointed during the 1939 Session of the General Assembly and during each regular session thereafter to serve until the beginning of the next regular session, or appointment of their successors. As far as possible such appointments shall be so distributed as to make the Council representative of all sections of the State and of the relative party membership in each House. The President of the Senate shall be Chairman of the Council, and the Speaker of the House shall be Vice-Chairman. The Director of the Department of Legislative Reference shall be the Secretary and the Director of Research of the Council.

1939, ch. 62, sec. 27.

27. It shall be the function of the Council

(1) To collect information concerning the government and general welfare of the State;

(2) To examine the operation of previously enacted legislation and of the common law and of the State Constitution and recommend amendments thereto;

(3) To study the rules and procedure of the Senate and House of Delegates and from time to time recommend changes therein to improve and expedite the consideration of legislation by the General Assembly;

(4) To supervise the work of interim committees or commissions appointed at the direction of the General Assembly or of either House;

(5) To prepare a legislative program in the form of recommendations or bills or otherwise as, in the opinion of the Council, the welfare of the State may require, to be presented at the next session of the General Assembly.