

lator to secure the most accurate information and the most expert advice which are available; and

WHEREAS, Experience indicates the necessity for an interstate legislative reference bureau to serve as a clearing house of information between all of the legislative reference services which are now being conducted by numerous states, and also to serve as a clearing house of information between the legislatures and all other agencies which are engaged in the study and analysis of legislative problems; and

WHEREAS, Every individual legislator in the United States shares the responsibility for improving the present inadequate and unsatisfactory condition of the legislative process, but neither any individual legislator, nor any group of legislators from one State, can bring about such improvement without the co-operation of legislators of other States; and

WHEREAS, Such an interstate legislative reference bureau cannot be maintained by any one State alone, without the co-operation of the legislators of other States; and

WHEREAS, In order to set the machinery in motion to secure the necessary co-operation of the forty-eight legislatures, members of each legislature are working together in the development of the project of the American Legislators' Association; and

WHEREAS, The said American Legislators' Association has now established in the vicinity of the University of Chicago, the Interstate Legislative Reference Bureau, which by explicit pledge is without color of politics, partnership or propaganda, is conducted without profit, and is engaged upon three principal purposes:

*First:* To procure promptly for all inquiring state legislators, and their agents, whatever information or advice they desire in connection with any legislative problem, primarily by assisting them to secure, without cost, the benefit of all researches conducted by governmental departments, universities, associations, legislative reference bureaus, and other agencies throughout the United States.

*Second:* To conduct a systematic study of the legislative processes of each of the States, in order to ascertain the practices which contribute most to efficient and economical organization and procedure; and to render all possible assistance to each legislature—and to each legislative reference bureau—which is endeavoring to improve its organization.