

may see fit. If probable cause is determined, the Commission shall take further investigatory and procedural steps necessary to resolve the matter.

b. If, after appropriate investigation or hearing, a majority of the Commission shall find that a conflict of interests as prohibited by this Article did or continues to exist, the Commission after notification to the County Executive is authorized either to certify the matter to the State's Attorney or, short of such certification, to pass appropriate corrective or rectifying orders directed to the official and department or agency involved. If a case is certified, the Commission shall also supply to the State's Attorney the evidence, facts, findings, or testimony upon which the certification is based. If an order is passed by the Commission, it shall be accompanied by a statement of facts and findings. Failure of any official or agency to comply with an order of the Commission shall be grounds for immediate certification of the case to the State's Attorney.

#### 73-29. Penalties.

Any official convicted of violating any provision of this Article shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall be punishable by a fine of not more than \$1,000.00 or six months in jail, or both such fine and imprisonment, or by suspension from office or employment for not more than six months, or by outright forfeiture and removal from office, or by any combination of these, as in the discretion of the court shall be fit and proper.

#### SEC. 2. Severability.

The provisions of this Act are severable and if any provision, sentence, clause, section or part thereof is held illegal, invalid or unconstitutional or inapplicable to any person or circumstances, such illegality, invalidity or unconstitutionality, or inapplicability shall not affect or impair any of the remaining provisions, sentences, clauses, sections or parts of the Act or their application to other persons or circumstances. It is hereby declared to be the legislative intent that this Act would have been adopted if such illegal, invalid or unconstitutional provision, sentence, clause, section or part had not been included therein, and if the person or circumstances to which the Act or any part thereof is inapplicable had been specifically exempted therefrom.

#### SEC. 3. Effective date.

This Act shall take effect on December 7, 1970.