

of the said school district shall submit to the Commissioner of Education itemized accounts thereof, which accounts shall be accompanied by vouchers and verified statement signed by the Directors, that all the items in said accounts were actually incurred for and on account of the said building as authorized by the Commissioner of Education; that the charges therein are reasonable and just and not in excess of those commonly charged in the neighborhood to private parties for like material or services, and that there are no offsets to the same. The said Commissioner, on receipt of said accounts and vouchers, shall audit, settle and allow the same as may be just and proper, and the same shall be paid by the Territorial Treasurer out of the General Fund, in such amount as may be settled and allowed by the Commissioner, not exceeding in all the amount hereby appropriated.

Approved May 1, 1919.

CHAPTER 32.

AN ACT

(H. B. 19)

Authorizing the Territory of Alaska and incorporated cities therein, to engaged in maritime and river commerce; creating the Alaska Territorial Shipping Board and office of Territorial Shipping Commissioner, prescribing their powers and duties; defining the Duties of the Governor and Attorney General of Alaska hereunder; providing for compensation of officers and employees of said Board, making an appropriation for the purposes thereof, and declaring an emergency.

Whereas, freight and passenger rates of the steam-^{Preamble}ship companies engaged in transportation to the ports of Alaska have become, by reason of recent increases, a burden on the people of the Territory of Alaska, and are excessive and exorbitant, and based upon the unreasonable hypothesis of paying a large percentage on inflated and watered capitalization; and

Whereas, such burden is a tax upon the very existence of the Territory, and a grave and ever increasing menace to its development, and the people are unanimously demanding relief;

Now, therefore, for the purpose of affording relief from such exorbitant and excessive rates, and enabling the people to receive their supplies and ship their commodities at reasonable rates;

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the Territory of Alaska:

Alaska Territorial Shipping Board created and personnel thereof

Section 1. That there is hereby created and established a board, to be known and designated as the Alaska Territorial Shipping Board, which shall consist of the Governor of the Territory of Alaska, who shall be the Chairman of the Board, the Treasurer of the Territory of Alaska, and the Secretary of the Territory of Alaska, who shall serve without compensation as members of such Board; Provided, that the members of the Alaska Territorial Shipping Board shall be reimbursed for all the necessary traveling expenses incurred by them in the actual performance of their duties as members of such Board, upon the approval and authorization of the Board.

To serve without compensation

Actual expenses to be refunded

Authority granted to establish steamship service

Section 2. Authority is hereby vested in the Shipping Board, created by this Act, to establish a general steamship freight and passenger service between different Alaskan ports and between Alaskan and other ports and upon any of the navigable waters of Alaska and elsewhere, and for this purpose shall perform all the duties generally performed by the board of directors of a private steamship company. They shall appoint a person to be designated as the Territorial Shipping Commissioner, who shall perform all the duties generally pertaining to the office of general manager of a private steamship company, shall hold office during the pleasure of the Board, and shall receive such salary as may be fixed by the Board, to be paid monthly upon warrant issued upon the Ter-

Appointment of Shipping Commissioner

Duties and compensation

ritorial Treasurer, in the same manner as salaries of other Territorial officials are paid, to be paid from the appropriation provided herein.

Section 3. The Shipping Board shall have full power and authority to do everything necessary to carry on a steamship freight and passenger business, as herein provided, and shall have power to charter, purchase or contract for the construction of suitable vessels as the interests of the Alaskan trade require, not in excess of the funds available for such purposes under the provisions of this Act; Provided, the authority in this Act granted to said Shipping Board is not to be construed as mandatory, but said Board, if in its judgment the relief sought for by this Act can be secured by proper action before the courts, the Interstate Commerce Commission, the United States Shipping Board, or through any other proper means, is hereby authorized and empowered to take such remedial action as may be deemed necessary, and may pursue such remedy contemporaneously with the exercise of the powers above set forth.

Powers of shipping board

Proviso—discretionary authority

Section 4. In the performance of their duties under the provisions of this Act, the Shipping Board hereby created shall act as trustees for the Territory of Alaska and all contracts entered into by them shall be made in the name of the Territory of Alaska by the Alaska Territorial Shipping Board as trustees for the Territory of Alaska and shall be signed by the Chairman of the Board and the Shipping Commissioner.

To act as trustees for Territory, etc.

Section 5. The Territory of Alaska hereby consents to be sued in the name of the Territory on any and all causes of action growing out of any transaction or act of said Shipping Board in the performance of its duties as herein provided, and may bring such actions in the name of the Territory, upon the direction of the Alaska Territorial Shipping Board, for the

Territory consents to be sued; sue for enforcement of rights hereunder

enforcement of any rights or protection of any interests it may acquire under the provisions of this Act.

Governor to convene board at his discretion

Section 6. The Governor of Alaska shall have the power to convene the Shipping Board whenever in his judgment the interests of the Territory demand it.

Records to be kept and annual statements published

Section 7. A record of the proceedings of said Shipping Board shall be kept in the same manner as that of other Territorial Boards, and said Shipping Board shall publish, annually, a financial statement and report containing a summary of the business transacted by them.

Duties of Attorney General—additional counsel

Section 8. The Attorney General of Alaska shall act as general counsel for the Shipping Board, but the Board may employ and fix the compensation of such additional counsel as the interests of the Territory may demand.

Cities of the first class—power granted to establish transportation service

Section 9. The incorporated cities of the first class of the Territory of Alaska situated on navigable waters are hereby empowered, either separately or two or more acting in conjunction, through their City Councils, to establish a steam or motorship freight and passenger service between such cities and other ports or river points in Alaska or elsewhere, and for such purpose may levy special taxes on real and personal property, Provided, that the taxation for this and all other purposes shall not exceed two per cent.

May levy taxes and impose licenses for purpose

(2%) of the assessed valuation of property within the city in any one year, may impose business and trade licenses, and raise money by subscription or by the issuance of bonds when authorized by Congress; Provided, that no city shall enter into such business until such action has been voted for by a majority of the legal voters of such city at a special election called for the purpose. Any city taking advantage of the provisions of this Act is hereby empowered to do all

Proviso

things necessary for the prosecution of the said business and may sue or be sued in the name of the municipality on any cause or (of) action arising therefrom.

Section 10. It shall be the duty of the Governor of Alaska and the Attorney General of Alaska to cause a bill to be prepared and introduced in the Congress of the United States for a law authorizing the Territory of Alaska to issue bonds in any sum, not to exceed Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000), the proceeds of the sale of such bonds to be used for the charter and purchase of vessels and to carry out the provisions of this Act and, if necessary, to cause a Bill to be introduced in Congress validating any or all of the provisions of this Act if its validity be questioned, and to lend their efforts to secure the passage of such Bill or Bills.

Governor and
Attorney General
submit bill to
Congress

Section 11. The Shipping Board hereby created shall have power to make any needful rules and regulations for carrying on the matters entrusted to their management by the provisions of this Act.

Shipping board
may make rules
and regulations

Section 12. There is hereby appropriated from the moneys of the Territorial Treasury the sum of Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000), to be paid by the Territorial Treasurer, as required, to the Shipping Board hereby created, upon requisition by the Governor of Alaska.

Appropriating
\$300,000 for
purposes of act

Section 13. That an emergency is hereby declared to exist, and this Act shall take effect upon and after its passage and approval.

Emergency

Approved May 1, 1919.