

A BILL

FOR AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE INSURANCE OF SCHOOL HOUSES.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

SECTION 1. That from and after the passage of this act, it shall be unlawful for the board
2 of directors of any district township or independent district to insure any school house
3 against loss or damage by fire and lightning, or wind storms, except as hereinafter provided,
4 and all orders issued in payment of the premium on insurance, shall, after the passage of
5 this act, be void.

SEC. 2. The board of supervisors of each county in the State, shall, at their September
2 session, in the year 1886, appoint some competent architect or mechanic to examine and
3 appraise every school house and its furniture in the county. The person appointed shall
4 make his report to said board at as early a date as possible. Such report shall be under
5 oath, and shall contain an accurate description of each school house, its location as to gov-
6 ernment subdivision of land, its dimensions, date of construction, condition, and a ground
7 plan thereof; also a careful estimate of its present cash value, the cash value of its furni-
8 ture, and a statement showing all exposures within 100 feet. Such report shall be copied
9 in a book and kept in the Auditor's office, and as new school houses are constructed or old
10 ones repaired, such shall be reported by the board of directors and entered upon such book
11 by the Auditor.

SEC. 3. In case of loss or damage by fire, lightning, high winds or tornadoes, to any
2 school house in the county, the County Auditor shall compute the proportion of loss to be
3 paid by each district township and independent district, and for the purposes of this com-
4 putation he shall take the aggregate value of the school houses in the county at the time of
5 such loss as a basis, and divide the loss between each district township and independent
6 district, according to the value of school house property held by each at the date of the
7 loss, and shall notify the president of the board of directors of each district township and
8 independent district of the county of the amount to be paid by each district, and there-
9 upon the board of directors shall issue an order on the school house or contingent fund of
10 their respective districts for their proportion of the loss, which order shall be paid to the
11 treasurer of the district sustaining the loss, and such money when paid shall be used only
12 for the building of a school house, and furnishing the same, in said district.

SEC. 4. In case the damage is partial, or on complaint being made that such loss occurred

2 through the negligence of the board of directors to protect the same, then the County Au-
3 ditor shall appoint an appraiser, and the board of directors of the district the second, and
4 the County Superintendent the third, none of whom shall be residents or tax payers of the
5 township in which the loss occurred, and these persons, when duly sworn to investigate the
6 loss and make a true report thereof, shall examine into the cause of loss, hear testimony,
7 and determine the amount of damages, if any, which shall be paid the district, and for the
8 purpose of determining the same shall have power to call witnesses, administer oaths, and
9 send for persons and papers, and their award shall be final.

SEC. 5. The compensation to be allowed the appraiser appointed by the board of super-
2 visors under this act shall be such sum as may be agreed upon between the board of super-
3 visors and the party appointed, and the compensation of the adjusters named in section 4,
4 shall not exceed two dollars per day for each appraiser. All costs and expenses to be appor-
5 tioned proportionately among the districts, and each district shall pay its proportion thereof
6 upon being notified by the County Auditor. Should any board of directors fail or refuse
7 to pay the amount assessed against their district for any of the purposes of this act, the
8 board of supervisors shall, at the time of levying the State and other taxes, levy a tax on
9 such delinquent district to meet the amount, and such tax shall bear the same interest and
10 be liable to the same penalties as other taxes, and when collected shall be paid by the
11 County Treasurer to the treasurer of the district in which the loss or damage occurred.

SEC. 6. Nothing in this act shall be construed so as to invalidate any insurance now in
2 force on the property of any district having heretofore insured its school house, and paid
3 premium for insurance in cash. Such insurance shall continue in force as long as the life
4 of the policy, and no assessment for losses shall be levied on such district, and no loss be
5 paid as provided by this act, to any district having a paid up policy, until such policy ex-
6 pires, unless the directors of the district have their policy cancelled and accept of the pro-
7 visions of this act.

SEC. 7. Chapter 149, of the act of the Nineteenth General Assembly, is hereby repealed.