

Reported Recommending
Ind. Postponed
Passed House
Failed to Pass House
Passed Senate
Failed to Pass Senate

House File 188

February 3, 1947.
Judiciary 1.

By STEINBERG and WEICHMAN.

A BILL FOR

An Act to provide for the appointment by the supreme court of a code editor and a reporter of the supreme court, to fix the terms of said officers, to prescribe their duties and to co-ordinate the statutes relating to said appointees.

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

1 Section 1. Section fourteen point one (14.1), fourteen
2 point two (14.2), and fourteen point three (14.3), Code 1946,
3 are amended, revised, and codified to read as follows:
4 "1. Within sixty days after the effective date of this
5 act the judges of the supreme court shall appoint a code editor
6 and a supreme court reporter, each of whom shall hold office
7 until January 1 preceding the convening of the 55th General
8 Assembly in regular session. The court, in its discretion, may
9 appoint the same person to both positions. In the event two
10 persons are so appointed, on the effective date of said appoint-
11 ments, all unobligated and unexpended balances of the total
12 appropriations made by the 51st General Assembly, chapter 1,
13 section 37, for salary of the supreme court reporter and code
14 editor and departmental salaries, support, and maintenance shall
15 be equally divided and are hereby made available for like pur-
16 poses to each of said appointees.

17 Within ninety days prior to the first day of January pre-
18 ceding the convening of the 55th General Assembly in regular
19 session and every six years thereafter the judges of the supreme
20 court shall appoint a code editor and a supreme court reporter,
21 each of whom shall hold office for six years from said January 1
22 and until his successor has been appointed and qualified. Vacan-
23 cies shall be filled by said judges for the unexpired portion of
24 the term. The court in its discretion may appoint the same per-
25 son to both positions. Chapter 70 of the Code shall not apply
26 to any appointment under this section.

27 “2. The office of the code editor shall be in the capitol
28 and readily accessible to members of the General Assembly. He
29 shall devote his entire time to the duties of his office. His
30 duties shall be to:

31 a. Submit such recommendations as he deems proper to each
32 general assembly for the purpose of amending, revising, and
33 codifying such portions of the law as may be conflicting, redun-
34 dant, or ambiguous, and to lay said recommendations before the
35 presiding officers of each house.

36 b. Edit and compile the code after each odd-numbered session
37 of the general assembly so that the same may be printed as herein
38 provided.

39 c. Prepare the manuscript copy of all laws, acts, and joint
40 resolutions passed at each session of the general assembly, and
41 arrange the same in chapters with comprehensive index and in such
42 manner that each chapter will show the number of the house or

43 senate file, and cause the same to be printed by the superinten-
44 dent of printing. In so doing the code editor shall have the
45 right to the possession of the enrolled acts and shall have sole
46 charge of the editing and proofreading notwithstanding the pro-
47 visions of section 16.3 of the code.

48 “3. The office of the reporter of the supreme court shall
49 be in the capitol and readily accessible to members of the supreme
50 court. He shall devote his entire time to the duties of his
51 office. His duties shall be to:

52 a. Prepare and cause to be published the opinions of the
53 supreme court in such manner as the court shall direct.

54 b. Promptly prepare syllabi for all opinions of the supreme
55 court and an index and proper tables for each volume of the re-
56 ports.

57 c. Prepare and cause to be published every two years a
58 volume which shall by proper annotations show the construction
59 placed by the supreme court of this state and the federal courts
60 on all statutes of this state since the then existing permanent
61 volume of annotations. When the accumulation of annotations
62 reaches a sufficient amount they shall be published as a perma-
63 nent volume.

1 Sec. 2. Sections fourteen point seven (14.7) and fourteen
2 point eight (14.8), Code 1946, are repealed and the following
3 inserted in lieu thereof:

4 “The supreme court may, when the public interest requires
5 it, order the publication of a new edition of any volume of its

6 reports. All publications authorized by this chapter shall be
7 copyrighted in the name of the State of Iowa.”

1 Sec. 3. Section fourteen point nine (14.9), Code 1946, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 “The state printing board is directed to cause to be printed,
4 from time to time, from copy to be furnished by the supreme court
5 reporter, the skeleton digest which covers the current opinions
6 of the supreme court. When the accumulation of items reaches a
7 sufficient amount they may be published as a permanent volume.
8 Said digest shall be sold at a price which will fairly reimburse
9 the state for the cost of printing, binding, and paper stock.”

1 Sec. 4. Section fourteen point twelve (14.12), Code 1946,
2 is amended by striking all of paragraph “e” of subsection six
3 (6) and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

4 “e. Laws of the United States relating to the authentica-
4 tion of records.”

1 Sec. 5. Section three point one (3.1), Code 1946, is amended
2 by striking from lines three and four (3 and 4) of subsection
3 three (3) the words, “reporter of the supreme court” and insert-
4 ing the words, “code editor.”

1 Sec. 6. Section sixteen point twenty-four (16.24), Code
2 1946, is amended by striking from line three (3) of subsection
3 fifteen (15) the word “him” and inserting in lieu thereof the
4 word “each”.

1 Sec. 7. Section sixteen point twenty-five (16.25), Code
2 1946, is amended by striking from subsection ten (10), line

3 one (1), the words, "the office" and inserting in lieu thereof
4 the words, "each of the offices."

1 Sec. 8. Section sixteen point twenty-seven (16.27), Code
2 1946, is amended by striking all of subsection three (3) and
3 inserting the following:

4 "3. To the code editor five copies.

5 4. To the reporter of the supreme court ten copies.

6 5. To the law library ten copies.

1 Sec. 9. Section sixteen point twenty-eight (16.28), Code
2 1946, is amended by adding the following:

3 "18. To the code editor two copies."

1 Sec. 10. Section nineteen point twenty-five (19.25), Code
2 1946, is amended by adding the following:

3 "37. Code editor."

1 Sec. 11. Section sixty-four point six (64.6), Code 1946
2 is amended by striking subsection twenty-five (25) and inserting
3 the following:

4 "25. Code editor and supreme court reporter, each one
5 thousand dollars."

1 Sec. 12. This act, being deemed of immediate importance,
2 shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage
3 and publication in the Cedar Valley Times, a newspaper
4 published at Vinton, Iowa, and in the Ames Daily Tribune, a
5 newspaper published at Ames, Iowa.

EXPLANATION OF H. F. 188

This bill has been drawn so as to make it optional with the Supreme Court to appoint either one or two persons to act as code editor and supreme court reporter.

In other words two persons could be appointed to do the work heretofore done by three persons, to wit: the reporter and code editor and two special deputies. This will result in a substantial saving. The work is too diverse and involved to be done by one person without special deputies with training in unrelated fields. It is believed that it will be easier to find two persons with this special training and that they can do the work without the necessity of special deputies. At the present time the office is vacant so an early consideration of this bill would be helpful.