

BUREAU OF STATISTICS AND INFORMATION ACT
Act of Apr. 20, 1921, P.L. 193, No. 108
AN ACT

Cl. 71

Establishing a Bureau of Statistics and Information in the Department of Commerce; providing for the appointment of officers and employes, and providing for the fixing of their duties, powers, and compensation; making it the duty of the Secretary of Commerce to furnish statistical data provided for in this act to the heads of the State Government for the use of their departments, upon requisition; making it the duty of persons, associations, copartnerships, corporations, and municipal and other public officers to furnish information required; prescribing penalties for violation of such duty; and repealing certain acts. (Title amended July 18, 1968, P.L.412, No.188)

Section 1. Be it enacted, &c., There is hereby established, within the Department of Commerce a Bureau of Statistics.

(1 amended July 18, 1968, P.L.412, No.188)

Section 2. The Secretary of Commerce is authorized to appoint a chief of said bureau and such other officers and employes as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this act, to prescribe their duties. He may also use temporarily any clerks or employes of the Department of Commerce in the bureau as occasion may require.

(2 amended July 18, 1968, P.L.412, No.188)

Section 3. The bureau shall collect, compile, and publish all statistics and useful data and information relating to labor, coal mining, oil and gas production, manufacturing industries, commercial operations, public service companies, municipalities, maritime interests, and other business of the State; and, in order to facilitate the duties herein imposed, all persons, associations, copartnerships, and corporations, engaged as herein described within this Commonwealth, and municipal and other public officers, are hereby required to furnish such statistical information as the Secretary of Commerce or the chief of such bureau may require. The Secretary of Commerce shall have a complete, summarized, and systematized report of the statistics and information collected and compiled by the bureau published annually, and shall otherwise provide means for making such information available for the use and benefit of the public as he may find necessary.

(3 amended July 18, 1968, P.L.412, No.188)

Compiler's Note: The Secretary of Community Affairs, referred to in this section, was abolished by Act 58 of 1996 and the functions were transferred to the Secretary of Community and Economic Development.

Section 4. It shall be the duty of the Secretary of Commerce to furnish statistical data and information to the heads of the State Government, for the use of their respective departments, upon the subjects mentioned in this act, upon requisition made in appropriate form, as promptly and completely as practicable,

that unnecessary duplication of the gathering of statistics and information may be avoided.

(4 amended July 18, 1968, P.L.412, No.188)

Compiler's Note: The Secretary of Community Affairs, referred to in this section, was abolished by Act 58 of 1996 and the functions were transferred to the Secretary of Community and Economic Development.

Section 5. The Secretary of Commerce, the chief of said bureau, or other person duly authorized by either of them, shall have power to issue subpoenas, administer oaths, hold hearings, and take testimony in all matters relating to the duties herein required of said bureau. Any person, association, copartnership, or corporation, doing business within the Commonwealth, or municipal or other public officer, who shall neglect or refuse, for thirty days, to answer questions requested by circular, official blanks, or personal application, designed to secure the data and information required to be furnished by this act, or who shall refuse to obey the subpoena and give testimony according to the provisions of this act, shall be liable to a penalty of two hundred dollars, to be collected by the Secretary of Commerce in a proper action for the use of the Commonwealth.

(5 amended July 18, 1968, P.L.412, No.188)

Compiler's Note: The Secretary of Community Affairs, referred to in this section, was abolished by Act 58 of 1996 and the functions of the secretary were transferred to the Secretary of Community and Economic Development.

Section 6. The following acts and parts of acts are hereby repealed as respectively indicated, namely:

An act, entitled "An act establishing a Bureau of Statistics and Information in the Department of Internal Affairs; authorizing the Secretary of Internal Affairs to appoint a chief of bureau and other officers and employes; fixing their duties, powers, and salaries; making it the duty of corporations, firms, and individuals to furnish information required; prescribing penalties for violation of such duty; and repealing certain acts; and transferring the records, equipment, and supplies in the Division of Production in the Bureau of Statistics and Information in the Department of Labor and Industry, to the bureau hereby established," approved April eighteen, one thousand nine hundred and nineteen (Pamphlet Laws, eighty), absolutely.

An act, entitled "An act abolishing the offices of Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent of the Bureau of Railways, in the Department of Internal Affairs; creating the offices of Chief and Assistant Chief of the Bureau of Railways in said Department of Internal Affairs; prescribing their duties and fixing their salaries; and repealing all laws and parts of laws inconsistent herewith," approved April twenty-one, one thousand nine hundred and eleven (Pamphlet Laws, seventy-three), absolutely.

So much of an act, entitled "An act reorganizing the Department of Internal Affairs of the Commonwealth, designating the officers and employes thereof, and fixing their salaries,"

approved May sixteen, one thousand nine hundred and nineteen (Pamphlet Laws, two hundred two), as refers to the Bureau of Railroads, and fixes the salaries of the chief of bureau, assistant chief of bureau, and two clerks, and also so much as refers to the Bureau of Taxes and Assessments, and fixes the salaries of chief of the bureau and two clerks.

The repeal by this act of any act of Assembly shall not revive any act or part thereof heretofore repealed or superseded.

Section 7. All other acts or parts of acts inconsistent herewith be, and the same are hereby, repealed.