
REASONS GIVEN BY
WALTER E. EDGE, GOVERNOR

FOR VETOING OR FILING IN THE

STATE LIBRARY

**BILLS PRESENTED TO HIM FOR
EXECUTIVE ACTION**

PASSED BY THE

One Hundred and Forty-second Session

of the

New Jersey Legislature

1918

W. STATE LIBRARY
JAN 10 1918
TREASURY DEPT. OF COMMERCE

SENATE BILL No. 20.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
March 4th, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Senate bill number twenty.

I would be inclined to approve this bill, which is needed because of the fact that the procedure of the traffic act would apply under the terms of the bill, to the act of 1911 requiring certain lights for horse-drawn vehicles and also requiring that the light shown in the rear shall be red. The difficulty is, however, that the bill contains a fatal typographical error, making the penalty less than two dollars and fifty cents. Under the bill which would, if enacted, be strictly construed, no fine of more than two dollars and fifty cents could be imposed and any sum under that amount might be fixed, so that if this bill were approved the purpose of the act of 1911 would be totally destroyed.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

NJ STATE LIBRARY
P.O. BOX 520
TRENTON, NJ 08625-0520

SENATE BILL No. 43.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
March 4th, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Senate bill number forty-three.

The principle of this measure I heartily approve. There is a real need, in my judgment, for collecting at some central point and preserving in an accessible place, valuable papers relating to the history and activities of New Jersey, but I doubt the necessity for creating a new and separate department for this purpose. The policy of the State is to consolidate departments and centralize activities rather than to add to the administrative branches of the State Government.

My suggestion would be that additional powers, and perhaps some legislation, be given to the State Librarian in order to impose upon his department the duty of collecting and preserving valuable records. It is necessary, at this time, to carefully consider the increasing cost of running the State Government, which is affected precisely the same as any private business by circumstances and conditions. I hesitate to authorize a new department, which, while limited to an expenditure of \$5,000.00 during the first year, might find that the magnitude of the task imposed upon it would require an annual expenditure running into the thousands of dollars in the years to follow. Consequently, I withhold my approval from the bill, at the same time that I heartily sympathize with the views of those citizens who urge the necessity of collecting and preserving records of historic interest.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

SENATE BILL No. 57.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
February 25th, 1918.

To the Senate:

I am returning herewith, without my approval, Senate Bill No. 57, which would increase the salary of judges of the Circuit Court from nine thousand to ten thousand dollars per annum.

In vetoing this bill I do not desire to be misunderstood as in any way underestimating the volume of business in the Circuit Court. The performances of our Circuit Court judges in New Jersey have been of an unusually high character, and they are among the busiest and most painstaking members of the judiciary, but I cannot concede that a salary of nine thousand dollars is insufficient for the duties, although it may be relatively so; and in this year of numerous demands upon the Legislature for increased salaries I am inclined to regard this particular request as being in the class of those which are not absolutely necessary.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

SENATE BILL No. 87.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
February 13th, 1918.

To the Senate:

I am returning herewith Senate Bill No. 87 without my approval, for the reason that this is a special act, and there is no proof that the proposed act was properly advertised according to the law.

Respectfully,
WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

SENATE BILL No. 104.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
February 25th, 1918.

To the Senate:

I am returning herewith, without my approval, Senate Bill No. 104, for the reason that this is unquestionably intended to be a special act and no proof of publication is presented.

Respectfully,
WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

SENATE BILL No. 112.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
February 25th, 1918.

To the Senate:

I am returning herewith, without my approval, Senate Bill No. 112. This bill would give to the Civil Service Commission the right to advertise in newspapers out of the State those vacancies in positions of a highly technical character for which no applications have been received from residents of the State.

Investigation shows that the occasion for such advertising arises only in rare cases and where the position involved is of a purely technical nature. I cannot see the necessity for a statute on the subject, and even if one were necessary it would be far more effective to provide for such advertising in trade journals rather than newspapers, inasmuch as it is admitted that the positions are of a technical character.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

SENATE BILL No. 114

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
February 25th, 1918.

To the Senate:

I am returning herewith, without my approval, Senate Bill No. 114.

This measure would permit the Civil Service Commission to advertise in newspapers educational institutions which conduct classes or courses pertaining to public service.

In my judgment such a State policy is extremely doubtful. The State should not expend money to advertise private business. The fact that a college may provide a State course does not alter the situation. All colleges teach people to become useful citizens. My experience with and observation of newspapers have been that they would be entirely willing to publish without cost any news relative to the arrangements of the Civil Service Commission for having courses in public service in various colleges.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

SENATE BILL No. 118.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
February 27th, 1918.

To the Senate:

I am returning herewith, without my approval, Senate Bill No. 118, for the reason that the power attempted to be granted by this act is too broad. The act provides that a corporation organized under the act to which this act is a supplement shall be empowered to exercise the franchises, powers and privileges theretofore exercised by it, apparently without regard to whether such franchises, powers and privileges are authorized by the act under which it was attempted to be incorporated or not.

Furthermore, I have some fear that the act is a special act, since it is limited to a corporation which has heretofore been organized, or attempted to be organized, and which has constructed water works from which water has been supplied to a township in this State for a period of at least five years, and from which water is still supplied to a township. It seems to me that this so restricts the operation of the act as to make it a special act.

Respectfully,
WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE BILL No. 130.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
March 4th, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Committee Substitute for Senate Bill number one hundred and thirty.

In taking this course I am persuaded principally by the conviction that this is an inappropriate time to authorize counties to increase their bonded indebtedness. I think everybody will agree that it is essential to postpone until after the present period of war emergency many public improvements, even though they may be most desirable.

Respectfully,
WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:
FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

SENATE BILL No. 131.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
March 4th, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Senate Bill number one hundred and thirty-one, for the reason that the object of this bill has been accomplished by an amendment to Senate Bill number twenty-two, which I have already approved.

I am advised by the Home Rule Commission that the amendment to Senate number twenty-two is of the same character but of wider scope.

Respectfully,
WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:
FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

SENATE BILL No 134.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
February 13th, 1918.

To the Senate:

I am returning herewith Senate Bill No. 134 without my approval, for the reason that there seems to be no pressing demand or need for such an amendment to the act concerning corporations. The purpose of the bill seems to be to permit certain corporations to buy gold and silver bullion or foreign coins, and I am informed that the amendment was sought in the belief that section three of the Corporations Act would prohibit a corporation carrying on the business of manufacturing jewelry or gold or silver wire for use of jewelers.

I am advised that this act has not been so interpreted as to class the purchase of gold or silver bullion or foreign coins for the purpose of manufacturing jewelry from it as banking, and therefore the amendment does not seem to be at all necessary. As a general policy I should say that an act like the Corporations law should be altered only when absolutely necessary.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,

Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,

Secretary to the Governor.

SENATE BILL No. 156.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
March 4th, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Senate Bill number one hundred and fifty-six.

This bill apparently would apply to three boroughs, Rutherford, in Bergen county; Roosevelt, in Middlesex county, and Red Bank, in Monmouth county. Under the present law a borough can have but one assessor, who is elected by the people. This bill would provide for three assessors to be appointed by the mayor with the consent of council. The appointive feature is good and appeals to me, but I fail to see the necessity for three assessors in a borough. The city of Newark, with its vast population, has but three commissioners for the assessment of taxes. If such an act as the one under consideration is good in principle, it is difficult to see why it should not extend in its application to all municipalities coming within the prescribed classification.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,

Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,

Secretary to the Governor.

SENATE BILL No. 159.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
March 5th, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Senate Bill number one hundred and fifty-nine, for the reason that the purpose of the bill is far from clear. Certainly, the word "children" has already been clearly defined in the law for all practical purposes.

As the bill is drawn it would seem to cast an unwarranted reflection upon policemen and firemen as a class, merely for the purpose of covering isolated cases. However, I am informed that this was not the purpose of the bill.

Considered in connection with the act of 1885 and supplements thereto, this bill seems to serve no useful purpose whatsoever.

Respectfully,
WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

SENATE BILL No. 160.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT.
February 27th, 1918.

To the Senate:

I am returning herewith, without my approval, Senate Bill No. 160.

I cannot believe that municipalities do not now have power to compel householders to sprinkle sand on icy sidewalks as a protection to pedestrians. To accomplish such authorization was the prime object of the home rule legislation of 1917. In my judgment, this home rule legislation is sufficient if city authorities desire to include such a provision as Senate Bill No. 160 contains in a municipal ordinance. One purpose of the home rule legislation was to avoid bothering the Legislature with every trifling matter concerning which municipalities needed enabling legislation, and I am absolutely opposed to beginning a patchwork on our home rule laws for every small detail.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,

Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

SENATE BILL No. 155.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
March 6th, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Senate Bill number one hundred and fifty-five.

If the provisions of this bill were confined alone to uniformed police officers I would be inclined to approve it, as I believe these officers in the performance of their duty worthy of every protection.

The difficulty is, however, that these provisions would likewise be extended to ununiformed special officers, who under our law are considered as members of police departments. To my mind this greatly extends the opportunity for abuses under such legislation. I am quite certain that if an officer should make a justifiable mistake in the exercise of his duty that the municipality would gladly reimburse him so far as the elasticity of a budget might permit, to the extent of any judgment for damages. Further, I am confident any jury would use common sense to protect an officer of the law unless he were proven in every way unworthy of such protection.

I cannot conceive that there is any necessity among the regular uniformed members of the police departments in this State for this legislation, or that they need such unusual protection.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,

Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

SENATE BILL No. 178.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
March 5th, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Senate Bill number one hundred and seventy-eight, for the reason that there is a fatal defect in its construction. The principal purpose of the bill is to remove any doubt that the State Highway Commission has the right to acquire land or other property by condemnation. In order to carry out the intent of the Legislature in this respect the bill may be important, although I am informed that there is strong legal opinion to the effect that no doubt exists regarding the powers of the Highway Commission in this regard. However, irrespective of the merits of the bill, it is absolutely necessary to decline to approve it on account of construction. It is apparent from the subject matter of the amendment to paragraph one that it was intended to be an amendment to paragraph one of Chapter fourteen, P. L. 1917. However, as the bill reads, it is an amendment to paragraph one of Chapter fifteen, P. L. 1917, and as such, of course, operates to nullify the section of the act of 1917, which created and established the Highway Department. Such a defect involves considerable danger and, of course, makes approval of the act out of the question.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

SENATE BILL No. 182.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
March 4th, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Senate Bill number one hundred and eighty-two.

This bill permits action to be noticed for trial at the first day of any special term. The present law contemplates notice only for a regular term. The original section, 149, which the bill under consideration amends, permits the court to order that an action be dismissed if not noticed according to law or if not moved for trial in accordance with notice. This provision has been omitted from the bill under consideration, and as the reason for this omission is not clear to me, I do not believe the bill advisable legislation.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

SENATE BILL No. 228.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
March 5th, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Senate Bill number two hundred and twenty-eight, for the reason that the object is already accomplished by legislation heretofore approved.

The sole purpose of this bill is to require that the reports of accountants engaged to audit the finances of a city shall be published within thirty days after the same is received. This, of course, is most necessary by way of informing the public the result of such audits and consequently as further safeguard against fraud. This is provided for fully, however, by Assembly Bills numbers one hundred and forty and one hundred and forty-one, which I have already approved. Assembly Bill number one hundred and forty provides that the municipal accountant shall file the report of his audit with the Commissioner of Municipal Accounts at the State House, in Trenton, within five days after he has filed his report with the municipality or county; Assembly Bill number one hundred and forty-one provides that the clerk of the municipality or the clerk of the board of freeholders, as the case may be, shall publish a summary of such audit and recommendations within thirty days after the receipt of the report, under penalty of a fine of \$10.00 per day for each day of delay after the thirty-day period; and, therefore, the legislation already approved seems to be even stronger on this point than Senate Bill number two hundred and twenty-eight, which is, therefore, unnecessary.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

SENATE BILL No. 229.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
March 5th, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Senate Bill two hundred and twenty-nine.

This bill provides for a new office, known as Auditor of Accounts, in cities of the first class. I appreciate the situation in Jersey City which inspired the legislation, but it seems to me that it will not in any way accomplish the object sought as I understand it, *i. e.*, a check upon the method of expenditure on the part of the City Commission as under the terms of this act, the Auditor is a creature of the Commission, being appointed, and his salary fixed by it. Further, I would draw attention to the fact that I have already approved Assembly Bills 140 and 141, which provide for an audit annually in cities and counties having an assessed valuation in excess of three million dollars by a State Auditor, the result of such audit to be published in the official newspapers of such county or municipality. It is true that Senate 229 provides that the auditor shall certify that funds are available before payment can be made from the State Treasury. There is, however, a criminal statute affecting municipalities, covering just such a situation. An auditor of accounts appointed independently of the City Government with power within the lines of recent financial legislation might be of real benefit, but otherwise, it appeals to me as simply an extra official and a consequent unnecessary, additional expense.

The Commission Government acts now in operation and affecting the municipal government of Jersey City are, in my judgment, sufficient at the present time to accomplish all that is comprehended in Senate 129.

I might also draw attention to the fact that the act as originally introduced provided that such appointees should be appointed under Civil Service rules, but the act as finally passed removes this restriction. Further, the salary in the original act was stipulated to be not less than the salary of the Mayor, thus apparently providing for a high grade auditor. In the bill finally passed, this provision is entirely eliminated.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,

Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

SENATE SUBSTITUTE FOR COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR SENATE BILL No. 241.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
March 5th, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Senate Substitute for Committee Substitute for Senate Bill number two hundred and forty-one, for the reason that I do not believe this bill harmonizes with the fundamental principle of Civil Service. The effect of the bill is to provide the same protection that is afforded a person in the competitive class of the classified service to a person who has been advanced from such competitive class by promotion to a position in the exempt class.

I believe thoroughly in Civil Service, but when one is promoted to a position not construed by the Legislature or other authority as properly within the protected class, then the incumbent of such position should not have the protection which it was never intended that he should have. If it is maintained that any particular office in the exempt class should be protected in the same way as a position in the competitive class, then the proper procedure, it seems to me, is to put the particular office in the competitive class. My judgment is that to give the protection of the competitive class to positions in the exempt class would be a one-sided proposition, and would tend to destroy the underlying principle of exempt positions.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE BILL No. 246.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
March 4th, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Committee Substitute for Senate Bill number two hundred and forty-six.

The effect of this bill would be to increase the salaries of surrogates, registers of deeds and mortgages, county clerks and sheriffs from \$4,500.00 to \$5,500.00 in Atlantic county, from \$2,500.00 to \$3,000.00 in Cape May county, from \$2,000.00 to \$2,500.00 in Ocean county and from \$2,500.00 to \$3,000.00 in Sussex county. I am prepared to admit that there may be justification for some increased salaries in some of these counties and perhaps in other counties of the State, but I am absolutely opposed to adding to inequalities of compensation already existing. The entire subject of salaries of county officials warrants a general readjustment to meet in an equitable way changing population and new conditions. The entire subject cannot be given justice by patchwork methods such as is contemplated by piecemeal legislation from year to year affecting certain counties in such a way as merely to add to the inequalities.

While I might be inclined to favor some of the increases provided for in the bill under consideration, the bill is so drawn as to make any serious consideration of it out of the question. For instance, it provides that in counties between thirty thousand and fifty thousand inhabitants, the salaries of these officials shall be \$2,500.00, while in counties between twenty-four thousand and thirty thousand inhabitants the salaries are made \$3,000.00. In other words, under this bill a county like Sussex, with twenty-five thousand population, would pay its county officials more money than counties with fifty thousand population; and, similarly, Ocean county, with about twenty-three thousand inhabitants, would pay its county officials as much as a county with fifty thousand inhabitants. I fail to see any logic in fixing the salary without regard to population.

I am approving Assembly Bill number four hundred and nineteen, which amends the same section of the act of 1906, for the reason that this bill omits all of the glaring inequalities in Committee Substitute for Senate number two hundred and forty-six,

and simply increases the salary of county officials in Ocean county from \$2,000.00 to \$2,400.00. In view of the fact that county officials in Cape May county, with 24,407 population, receive \$2,500.00, while those officials in Ocean, with 23,011 population, or only 1,396 less than Cape May, get but \$2,000.00, it seems to me that this increase of \$400.00 is justifiable and in the interest of equality and uniformity.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,

Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

SENATE BILL No. 249.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,

March 5th, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Senate Bill number two hundred and forty-nine, for the reason that as the bill comes before me there is unmistakable evidence of unfortunate but fatal typographical errors.

Furthermore, the subject matter of the bill does not appear as sufficiently important to warrant a statute under the circumstances.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,

Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

SENATE BILL No. 250.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
March 4th, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Senate Bill number two hundred and fifty, for the reason that it appears to be needless. The general rule seems to be that municipal ordinances, unless inconsistent with a new charter under which a municipality is operating, continue in effect until repealed. However, if this rule should be held invalid, such an act as that contemplated by this measure might cause confusion in that it would operate to revive ordinances which had been dead perhaps for years.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

SENATE BILL No. 251.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
March 4th, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Senate Bill number two hundred and fifty-one, for the reason that this appears to be unnecessarily drastic. Under its provisions a person boarding a train while in motion becomes a disorderly person subject to the penalties prescribed in the act concerning disorderly persons. Such legislation is not warranted.

Another section of the bill would appear to make one of the objects to the legislation the conferring of authority of men in charge of railroad trains to arrest passengers riding without permission. The real meaning of this is not clear to me and might very easily be subject to detrimental interpretation.

I believe there is already ample law authorizing conductors of trains to arrest persons who conduct themselves in a disorderly manner or who insist upon riding without the payment of fare or other permission.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

SENATE BILL No. 254.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
March 4th, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Senate Bill number two hundred and fifty-four.

This is a repealer of what is known as the Corrupt Practices Act of 1911. I can see no reason for expressly repealing that act when the new act of 1918 with respect to corrupt practices in itself repeals any inconsistencies in the 1911 act.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

SENATE BILL No. 258.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
March 5th, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Senate Bill number two hundred and fifty-eight.

This measure was intended to correct a number of errors in the appropriation bill for the year ending October 31st, 1918. Unfortunately, the bill, as it comes to me, contains an error in the title wherein the appropriation bill of the previous year is amended rather than, as was intended, the appropriation bill of the year 1917.

This, of course, renders the whole purpose of the bill nugatory.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

SENATE BILL. No. 259.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
March 4th, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Senate Bill number two hundred and fifty-nine.

This bill is intended to increase the advertising rates in small counties by making it identical with the legal rate in all other counties. While I have every sympathy for the rural newspaper, and am firmly convinced regarding its tremendous value in a community, yet it cannot be gainsaid that \$1.20 per inch is a very fair price for advertising in local communities. Certainly it is not consistent to pay the same advertising rates to papers having comparatively small circulation as it is to newspapers having circulations running into the thousands. The same principle applies to commercial advertising. Advertising must be looked upon in the same way as any other commodity, and in this case circulation is quantity. You pay so much more for a gross of eggs than you do for a dozen eggs.

One advertising rate all over the State, irrespective of the number of people reached, is contrary to business principles.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,

Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL, No. 11.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
February 18th, 1918.

To the Assembly:

I am returning herewith, without my approval, Assembly Bill No. 11, for the reason that there appears to be no necessity for such an act. The Act of 1917, which Assembly Bill No. 11 specifically repeals, will expire by its own limitation on July 4th, 1918. A new bill providing for a new method for municipalities taking action in food and fuel emergencies has been passed by the Legislature and approved by the Governor, and its provisions may be taken advantage of immediately by municipalities in this State, inasmuch as it is later legislation than the Act of 1917.

A further reason for not specifically repealing the Act of 1917 is that it may be possible that some municipalities in the State have acted under the provisions of the Act of 1917, and thereby a repealer prior to the date set for the expiration of the Act of 1917 by its own limitation would be of doubtful advisability.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,

Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL, No. 19.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
February 19th, 1918.

To the Assembly:

I am returning herewith, without my approval, Assembly Bill No. 19. After a careful investigation I have been forced to the conclusion that there exists no real necessity for the designation of a stenographer for the juvenile courts. I am aware that the bill applies only to counties of the first class, but nevertheless it merely creates an additional office at a salary of twelve hundred dollars per year.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 28.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
March 4th, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill number twenty-eight, for the reason that the slight change made by this bill does not seem to be necessary. The word "recklessly" has been added to the statute, apparently upon the supposition that this is necessary in order to secure conviction. I decline to believe that any court would construe the existing statutes to mean that the reckless driving of an automobile was not included in the inhibition against driving motor vehicles at any speed greater than is reasonable. Further, the present statute prohibits any person from driving a motor vehicle "so as to endanger the life or limb or to injure the property of any person," and this certainly means the same as "recklessly".

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 29.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
February 19th, 1918.

To the Assembly:

I am returning herewith, without my approval, Assembly Bill No. 29, for the reason that such an act is entirely unnecessary. The purpose of this repealer is to remove from the Motor Vehicle Act section 19, which provides that no intoxicated person shall drive a motor vehicle. Since this matter is fully covered by the Supplement of 1913 to the Disorderly Persons Act of 1898, it is practically certain that the Act of 1913 repeals section 19 of the Motor Vehicle Act by implication, and that no useful purpose would be accomplished by Assembly Bill No. 29.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 30.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
February 19th, 1918.

To the Assembly:

I am returning herewith, without my approval, Assembly Bill No. 30, for practically the same reason that I have vetoed Assembly Bill No. 29.

The purpose of Assembly Bill No. 30 is to eliminate from the Supplement to the Crimes Act of 1909 the provision referring to any person who is driving a motor vehicle while in an intoxicated condition.

The Court of Errors and Appeals has held that this provision of the Crimes Act was substantially repealed by the Supplement of 1913 to the Disorderly Persons Act of 1898; consequently, there is no necessity for this later repealer, and there is the further doubt in my mind whether a new act might not be regarded as the latest declaration of the Legislature on this subject, and thereby, by implication, eliminate the drastic but, in my judgment, very necessary provision with regard to this subject in the Act of 1913.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 31.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
February 18th, 1918.

To the Assembly:

I am returning herewith, without my approval, Assembly Bill No. 31, for several reasons.

In the first place, the bill is defective in that its title designates the amendment to the supplement referred to in the title as a supplement instead of designating it as an amendment.

Secondly, there is question, under the bill as drawn, as to whether the powers of the assistant clerk are conferred upon the temporary assistant clerk.

Thirdly, if it was simply the intention, through this bill, to have the power to appoint a temporary assistant clerk, it is, in my judgment, not necessary to have an act of the Legislature for this purpose. Possibly such temporary assistant clerk would not have the power to sign writs and processes, for which purpose an act of the Legislature would be necessary.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 47.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
March 4th, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill number forty-seven.

There seems to be merit in this bill, but I hesitate to sanction piecemeal legislation. This act, so far as I have been able to ascertain, applies to only one court, and it is intended to grant an additional salary of \$250.00 because this court sits in two places within a judicial district.

The question of salaries of county employees has not yet been covered in the subject of home rule legislation. However, a year ago the Legislature applied home rule principles to salaries of municipal officers. There is no doubt but what it should likewise be applied to certain county officers, and thereby relieve the Legislature of enacting a law to meet every particular case in the State, no matter how isolated.

The subject matter of the bill under consideration can be handled very well when county salaries are made a part of home rule legislation, which, I believe, will be in the near future. In practically all of such cases local facts and circumstances have much to do with determining the merit of legislation, and local governing bodies which are obliged to budget the expenses incurred by increased compensation are in a far better position to determine the merit of these cases than is the State Legislature.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,

Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,

Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 61.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
March 5th, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill number sixty-one.

This bill is intended to give to governing bodies the power to increase the salaries of assessors and collectors of taxes to an amount not exceeding twenty-five per cent. of the present salaries, inasmuch as it is presumed additional labor will be imposed upon such assessors and collectors in view of the enactment of Assembly Bill number fifty-one.

I am obliged to withhold my approval from this bill for two reasons. First, if such an act is necessary, it should be made an amendment to Chapter 152 of the Laws of 1917, commonly known as the Home Rule Act, since it is most desirable to cover subjects relating to home rule of municipalities in one act and not by piecemeal legislation. Secondly, I am not prepared, in advance of further investigation based on actual experience as to the additional work devolving upon assessors and collectors by reason of changes in the tax system, to authorize a blanket increase of twenty-five per cent. in the salaries of every such official in every municipality in New Jersey.

It seems that we shall be in a better position to judge of the advisability of such a legislative provision a year from now, after there is definite knowledge of the additional work which new tax legislation will impose upon assessors and collectors.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 77.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
February 19th, 1918.

To the Assembly:

I am returning herewith, without my approval, Assembly Bill No. 77, for the reason that another bill now before me for consideration, Assembly Bill No. 219, covers the same subject. Assembly Bill No. 77 is a general act applying to the entire State, while Assembly Bill No. 219 is a special act applying to Jersey City alone. In my judgment, the policy which such bill would authorize is doubtful to the point of requiring the most careful consideration, and I would, therefore, much prefer giving final consideration to a special bill rather than to a general bill.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 108.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
February 18th, 1918.

To the Assembly:

I am returning herewith House Bill No. 108, without my approval, for the reason that it would undoubtedly disturb State finances.

The bill provides an exemption. It is impossible to determine to what extent the proposed supplement will affect current revenue.

Exemptions should not extend beyond local institutions.

The estimate of receipts from the Transfer Inheritance Tax for the fiscal year ending October 31st, 1918, was \$3,300,000. The Comptroller, in making this estimate, assumed that no changes affecting the revenue would be permitted.

The Budget Commission considered the Comptroller's estimate as a basis for its deliberations and actions.

An exemption similar to the one proposed prevailed from 1898 until 1906. The Legislature of this State indicated its disapproval thereof by refusing to incorporate a provision for the exemption in the acts passed in 1906, 1909, 1914. Sentiment should not prevail in the matter of inheritance taxation. The approval of this bill would probably result in further applications for action of similar kind affecting institutions, charitable, religious or otherwise, that are now subject to the act.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,

Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 123.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
February 19th, 1918.

To the Assembly:

I am returning herewith, without my approval, Assembly Bill No. 123, for the reason that there appears to be no real justification for opening the way for counties under fifty thousand population in this State to elect county physicians. In my judgment it would be far more economical for smaller counties to retain a physician in the comparatively few cases where one may be required than to have a permanent official at an annual salary. In the interest of saving the smaller counties from additional expense I cannot approve this bill.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 126.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
February 26th, 1918.

To the Assembly:

I am returning herewith, without my approval, Assembly Bill No. 126. Evidently the purpose of this bill is to provide a summary method of dealing with those offenders who place sharp substances, such as broken glass, on the streets, with malicious intent. The bill has been framed under the impression that there does not exist any method of dealing summarily with such offenders, but that the only remedy is through recourse to the grand jury, as provided in the Pamphlet Laws of 1908, making the placing of sharp substances on the road a misdemeanor.

There is not any question that municipalities have full power, by ordinance, to prohibit the placing of sharp substances upon streets with malicious intent, and providing that offenders be dealt with summarily in police courts and before local magistrates. Even if this were not the case, however, I am convinced that the police power is amply sufficient to deal swiftly with such offenders. For this reason I am withholding my signature from the bill, and in doing so I fully agree with the view that such an offense as this bill refers to should not be made the subject of grand jury investigation except in rare instances, and should be dealt with summarily by local courts.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 139.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
February 25th, 1918.

To the Assembly:

I herewith return, without my approval, Assembly Bill number one hundred and thirty-nine.

I consider this bill absolutely unnecessary and in addition it might lead to uncertainty as to the powers of the State Highway Commission. All the powers sought in this bill are already given to the Highway Commission under the legislation of a year ago. The proviso in Assembly Bill one hundred and thirty-nine that the State Highway Commission shall first deduct from the receipts of the Motor Vehicle Department amounts which it deems necessary for the specific use of the Highway Commission, may very properly raise the question as to whether this would not amend previous laws which permit the Motor Vehicle Department to first draw from this fund the expenses of conducting the department. Under the circumstances the act before me would tend to confuse clearly understood and generally approved regulations concerning the use of this income.

Very truly yours,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 151.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
March 4th, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill number one hundred and fifty-one.

The purpose of this bill is to increase the salary of court criers in Bergen, Camden, Mercer, Middlesex and Union counties from \$1,200.00 to \$1,500.00. While I am prepared to admit that increases in salaries seem to be imperative in these trying times; if the duties are confined strictly to those of a court crier, I fail to see where \$1,200.00 is not sufficient compensation.

Again, I anticipate that in the near future home rule legislation will be extended to the salaries of certain county officials and employees in the same manner that the home rule legislation of last year included certain municipal officers and employees, and in the meantime I hesitate to add to the statutes laws which may interfere with the application of the home rule principles after the authority is conferred.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 161.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
March 4th, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill number one hundred and sixty-one, for the reason that I am informed by the Commission on Home Rule that the object of the bill under consideration is fully covered by the home rule legislation of 1917, and is, therefore, unnecessary.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 165.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
March 5th, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill number one hundred and sixty-five.

This bill raises the salaries of the head gamekeeper and the superintendent of the Fish Hatchery from \$1,500.00 to \$1,900.00. I should have approved this bill if it had been passed as originally introduced, as I have no doubt that there is necessity for increasing salaries in order to retain the services of employees of this class and experience; but the difficulty is that the bill was amended in the Legislature so that the provisions vesting the authority in the State House Commission to fix the salaries of these two State employes was stricken out and the Legislature provided a statutory scale of salaries.

If the Fish and Game Commission will come to the Budget Commission and ask for necessary increases as do other departments, with the idea that the same is to be itemized in the Appropriations Bill, I would be in favor of granting the increase, but this method of fixing by statute the salaries of employes, I do not approve of as a general policy. In the case of the inspectors of various departments and wardens of the department I have approved of gradual increases based on length of service, but to extend this to other classes of employes in view of new standardization now to go into effect would be inadvisable. Through the appropriation method each year is considered on its own basis and according to the needs of the time. By separate statute, as here proposed, it is made for all time unless repealed, which seldom happens in the case of salaries.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,

Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,

Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 166.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
March 5th, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library Assembly Bill number one hundred and sixty-six without my approval.

Considerable agitation has developed from commissioners of commissioned governed cities, requesting my approval of Assembly Bill 166, the main feature of which provides that in case of petitions for recall, which under the present law requires thirty per cent. of the electors, such recall election could be avoided if the commissioner affected secured a petition signed by thirty-one per cent. opposing the recall. On the face of it this provision seems to contain an element of fairness—at least it is very adroit.

I have considerable sympathy for a commissioner who after election is continually threatened with recall, if he does not meet the desires or demands of this or that faction, but, in my judgment, the method provided by Assembly 166 is not the proper one to correct this condition.

In the first place, a petition for recall containing more than thirty per cent. may be filed. It might even contain fifty-one per cent., which, of course, would be a majority of the electors. Then, under the terms of this act, the commissioner affected could thwart the desire of a majority of the people by filing a counter petition containing the names of only thirty-one per cent. or twenty per cent. less than contained on the petition for recall. The act would have been more defensible if it had provided that the commissioner affected and wishing to avoid recall should file a petition containing more signatures than on the petition for recall.

The entire procedure, however, savors of government by petition, and, in my judgment, is not sound. If the theory of a recall is a deterrent to free action on the part of commissioners, then the question of its soundness as a policy should be voted upon and decided in the Legislature on the square basis of yes or no, rather than by this method.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 178.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
March 4th, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill number one hundred and seventy-eight.

This bill provides for building a tuberculosis hospital outside of the county, and I understand it is advocated for Hudson county. Statistics have been brought to my attention, purporting to show that Hudson county has sent but fifty-three patients to the State Tuberculosis Sanatorium at Glen Gardner, in comparison to one hundred and fifty-three from Essex county. It is stated by the proponents of the measure that the reason for Hudson county not sending patients to Glen Gardner is that they are better satisfied to send them to the county institution at Laurel Hill. However, if at any time there should be more patients than could be properly taken care of at Laurel Hill, I cannot fail to take cognizance of the fact that Hudson county could send additional patients to Glen Gardner. Certainly no tuberculosis hospital should be built by Hudson county outside of the county limits until all of the county's quota of accommodations at Glen Gardner have been utilized.

Another reason for vetoing this measure is the fact that the provisions requiring the approval of the State Department of Health in case a board of freeholders desires to maintain more than one county hospital for this purpose is deliberately stricken out of the act of 1912. In my judgment, the State Department of Health should continue to have some jurisdiction in such cases.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 183.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
February 26th, 1918.

To the Assembly:

I am returning herewith, without my approval, Assembly Bill No. 183. The sole amendment provided by this bill to the act incorporating the second judicial district of Monmouth county is to substitute the word "territory" for the word "property." No doubt the use of the word "property" was a typographical error in the original act of 1913.

It is argued by those on behalf of the bill that even though trifling the amendment is necessary for the reason that attorneys in litigation might take the ground before the Supreme Court that there is no second district in Monmouth county, because the Legislature should have created the district out of territory instead of out of property.

I cannot believe that our Supreme Court would countenance any argument patently based on a typographical error of no consequence, nor that they would refuse to take into consideration the plain intent of the Legislature to create another judicial district in Monmouth county. A further reason for withholding my approval from this bill is that it is a special act, and, therefore, should be advertised, but no proof of publication is attached.

Respectfully,
WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 184.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
March 5th, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill number one hundred and eighty-four.

Without passing upon the merits of this bill, sufficient reason for declining to approve it is found in the fact that no appropriation has been provided by the Legislature for carrying out the provisions of the act, nor would it be possible to finance the project out of the moneys of any other State department, since the measure does not provide for placing the undertaking under any State department now existing. If this bill were to become a law, expenses would be incurred simply by calling the commission together and yet there would be no possible way of meeting such obligations.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 189.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
February 19th, 1918.

To the Assembly:

I am returning herewith, without my approval, Assembly Bill No. 189, for the reason that in my judgment there is no occasion for such an extensive increase in the salary paid to the clerk to the jury commissioners in counties of the first class. The effect of this bill would be to provide the authority for suddenly increasing the compensation of such clerks in such counties from nine hundred to fifteen hundred dollars per year. This is not in accord with the policy of gradual salary increases based upon experience and service which has been adopted by the administration.

Futhermore, inasmuch as the expenses of details in connection with jury drawing under the old system was borne by the sheriff's office practically without additional expense to the county, I cannot conceive that it was the intention of the Legislature to place an additional expense, even upon counties of the first class, of twenty-four hundred dollars per year in order to have the benefits of the new jury system. I am inclined to believe that with careful co-operation as between the jury commissioner, the clerk to the jury commissioner and the sheriff's office, eighteen hundred dollars per annum is ample to take care of this detail.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,

Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,

Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 198.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
March 4th, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill number one hundred and ninety-eight.

It is my judgment that the subject matter of this bill is already covered by the Laws of 1913, page 358. The bill under consideration is intended, apparently, to go somewhat further than the Act of 1913, but in making this attempt the language seems to be somewhat unfortunate, and besides I take it that there is ample law to reach any deliberate misrepresentation that might result in fraudulent practices.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 207.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
February 19th, 1918.

To the Assembly:

I am returning herewith, without my approval, Assembly Bill No. 207, for the reason that I cannot believe it is necessary to require the counsel of a building and loan association to give a bond. This official does not handle the funds of the association. He is merely a solicitor and gives his advice to the directors of the building and loan association with respect to their actions as related to the laws of the State and procedure.

Our building and loan associations have prospered and succeeded so well under existing law that I hesitate to interfere with the present practice unless there seems to be sufficient reason therefor.

Respectfully,
WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 208.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
February 19th, 1918.

To the Assembly:

I am returning herewith, without my approval, Assembly Bill No. 208, which requires the approval of the Commissioner of Banking and Insurance of the constitution adopted by a building and loan association. The idea, no doubt, is that if this approval is required the constitution will be more likely to comply with the law and be in practical workable form.

Inasmuch as the present law already provides that building and loan associations shall adopt a constitution not inconsistent with this act or any law of this State, I can see no reason why it is necessary to have in addition the approval of the Commissioner of Banking and Insurance. If the building and loan association complies with the law in adopting a constitution, that is, of course, all that could be asked. If they do not comply with the law the Banking and Insurance Commissioner would have jurisdiction without this amendment.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 210.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
February 19th, 1918.

To the Assembly:

I am returning herewith, without my approval, Assembly Bill No. 210, for practically the same reasons that I have declined to approve Assembly Bills Nos. 207 and 208. Continual changing in small details of the statutes governing the formation and conducting of building and loan associations is not, in my judgment, conducive to the continued success and prosperity of one of the safest sources of investment. Nothing is to be gained, as I see it, by enmeshing building and loan associations, which are conducted as a rule by practical business men with very practical ideas, in a mass of statutes requiring continual advice from lawyers. Furthermore, it is questionable whether a bill which increases the amount of shares subscribed before a building and loan association may commence business would not tend to discourage such thrift enterprises in some of the very small communities of the State. This may be a debatable question, but inasmuch as our building and loan associations have met with such pronounced success, I hesitate to approve a bill which merely adds to the law on the subject and does not seem to be material or necessary.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 223.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
March 4th, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I hereby file in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill number two hundred and twenty-three.

I regret the necessity of taking this course, as the measure seems to have considerable merit, but no appropriation has been granted for the purposes of carrying out the provisions of the act, and, therefore, it would be inoperative and useless.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 227.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
March 4th, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill number two hundred and twenty-seven, chiefly for the reason that it creates the possibility of burdening a county with many additional wards without proper safeguards.

While the intent of the act is perfectly laudable, yet it is so drawn that I seriously question whether it would not encourage the shifting of responsibility on the part of relatives able to maintain such children.

The power placed in the Board of Children's Guardians seems to be questionable in so far as it places upon the board the responsibility of determining the financial ability and the moral character of relatives. It would seem to me that representative departments of a county or perhaps of cities within a county, inasmuch as the financial burden is to be upon the county, should have some voice in determining these questions. If representatives of the county and of the Board of Children's Guardians were to determine the exact facts of such cases jointly, I should be more inclined to regard the bill with favor.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

N.J. STATE LIBRARY
P.O. BOX 526
TRENTON, NJ 08675-0526

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 232.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
March 5th, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill number two hundred and thirty-two, for the reason that I do not believe it wise to alter the fundamental law of 1876, which provides for not less than five directors, or stockholders, a majority of whom shall be residents of the State. An amendment permitting all of the directors except one to be non-residents might be entirely proper for some specific case, but I doubt its wisdom as a general provision.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 236.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
February 27th, 1918.

To the Assembly:

I am returning herewith, without my approval, Assembly Bill No. 236, for the reason that I am advised there exists ample law on this subject. If malicious damage were done to sewer pipes there seems to be no question that the offense would be indictable as malicious mischief.

The purpose of the bill, as explained in the statement attached, is to prevent damage to sewers. If damage is done to property of this kind of course there is a remedy through a civil court. The bill under consideration undoubtedly reaches further than other statutes in that it includes the person who unlawfully makes connection with a sewer, but there are various ways of contending with this situation. No doubt exists in my mind that this bill is intended to cover a particular case, and I feel sure that it is unnecessary, as a general proposition.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,

Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,

Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 258.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
March 4th, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill number two hundred and fifty-eight.

This bill merely adds to the classes of property and activities exempted from taxation under the law. I am opposed to the policy of extending these exemptions, every such exemption merely adding to the tax burdens of owners of other classes of property.

I appreciate the theory advanced for special exemption from taxation, but it seems to me that the tax burden should be assumed, even in the case of historical societies or like organizations, just like any other overhead expense.

The policy of special tax exemptions can be carried so far that it will amount to indefensible discrimination and an unfair distribution of public expenses.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 264.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
February 26th, 1918.

To the Assembly:

I am returning herewith, without my approval, Assembly Bill No. 264, for the reason that the service intended to be rendered by this bill can already be contracted for under the home rule legislation of 1917.

Respectfully,
WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 272.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
March 4th, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill number two hundred and seventy-two, for the reason that this bill should have been submitted as an amendment to the home rule legislation.

I am informed by the commission appointed on home rule that under the decisions of the courts this bill would be unconstitutional as drawn.

Respectfully,
WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL, No. 277.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
March 4th, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill number two hundred and seventy-seven, for the reason that this bill authorizes an expense which appears to me to be entirely unnecessary.

Infractions of the law as enforced by the State Board of Registration and Examination in Dentistry can be handled in the usual legal way without employing such agents. In addition, I would draw attention to Chapter 269 of the Laws of 1917, which seems to confer ample authority upon the dental and other similar boards to employ such means as may be necessary to secure evidence against offenders and institute prosecution. I refer to section 2 of Chapter 269, P. L. 1917, wherein it is stated that "Each of said boards * * * may retain in its treasury the sums heretofore or hereafter collected for annual registration or annual license fees and use the same for the purpose of defraying the expenses of securing evidence against and prosecuting persons violating the provisions of the acts of the Legislature, with the enforcement of which it is charged."

To approve such a bill would be to concede that every other examining board in the State is entitled to the same additional assistants and representation.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,

Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,

Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 283.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
March 4th, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file with the State Librarian, without my approval, Assembly Bill number two hundred and eighty-three.

Municipalities already have the right, under general police powers, to compel owners to remove weeds or underbrush of any description from their property where the same may be deemed inimical to the public health. The purpose of the bill under consideration is to enable municipalities, if they so desire, to remove such weeds or underbrush on lots where the owner may be a nonresident, or for any other reason shall fail to obey the order of removal. There is a strong doubt concerning the implied inability of municipalities to pass ordinances intended to accomplish this identical purpose in statutes already existing.

However, whether or not this is the case, the bill under consideration is, in my judgment, too drastic in providing that the cost of removing grass and weeds, when done by the municipality, is made to constitute a first and paramount lien upon the property.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest.

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 290.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
March 6th, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill number two hundred and ninety.

This bill may contain a great deal that is meritorious, but I am frank to say that I am not sufficiently familiar with the subject nor in the limited time given to the Executive for consideration of bills can I obtain the necessary professional knowledge to pass upon the bill intelligently. Letters and telegrams which have come to me within the past few days indicate very sharply divided opinion. A survey of my correspondence shows that osteopaths generally are in favor of the bill while others, practicing drugless healing methods, chiropractors and others, are opposed to the bill. The legislative record on Assembly Bill number two hundred and ninety shows that while the bill was introduced in January, that it remained in committee until February twentieth and that it was finally passed in both Houses during the closing days of the session.

In view of the discussion which the bill has caused since passage and the many conflicting opinions reaching the Executive Department, I am strongly inclined to the belief that there was not sufficient public discussion on the bill which is of so much importance to certain professions, as to warrant my approval. Again, it was only a few years ago that this subject was thoroughly thrashed out and finally adjusted by placing an osteopath on the State Board of Medical Examiners; and because of this recent adjustment and in view of lack of information and absence of full public discussion on the points involved in the bill under consideration, I have concluded to withhold approval.

Respectfully,
WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:
FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 291.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
March 5th, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill number two hundred and ninety-one, for the reason that the subject matter of this bill is fully covered by Article 13 of the Home Rule Act of 1917.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 297.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
March 5th, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill number two hundred and ninety-seven.

This bill is evidently an attempt to amend by statute paragraph 1, Article 2 of the State Constitution. Pardon or restoration of citizenship can be secured only by action of the Court of Pardons or a special act of the Legislature. If valid, this act would technically repeal the indeterminate sentence law by restoring the right of suffrage one year after the expiration of the minimum sentence, at which time nearly all prisoners are released.

I am inclined to believe it would also place persons, who are in prison for second or lesser degrees of murder, burglary, rape, kidnapping (which now carries as a maximum, life sentence), sodomy, etc., in the same class as those convicted of blasphemy, larceny above the value of six dollars, etc. Any person imprisoned a second time for a minor offense would be classed with a first degree murderer. Certainly, this bill ought not to be put upon the statute books.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 302.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
March 5th, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill number three hundred and two, for the reason that I do not approve of sheriffs receiving a per diem allowance for the maintenance of prisoners in county jails. When the offices of sheriffs were placed on a salary basis it was with the distinct intent and understanding that the salaries paid were in lieu of all other fees and allowances whatsoever. The courts have so held and in most counties of the State the policy of handling the subject of maintenance of prisoners was long ago removed from the office of the sheriff and transferred to the board of freeholders, who are now either handling the matter by contract, or else passing upon bills contracted for this purpose by the sheriff, acting merely as a purchasing agent. If the per diem of fifteen cents still adhered to in any counties of the State is found insufficient, which I cannot doubt is the case, owing to the increased cost of food and supplies, there seems to be nothing to prevent such counties from adopting the method now employed in most counties of the State.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

FILED

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 303.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
March 5th, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill number three hundred and three, for the reason that the object of this bill was very properly covered in the Home Rule Act, if, indeed, prior legislation did not provide for it.

It is unreasonable to assume, in my judgment, that a city hospital would be regarded as a storage warehouse.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 310.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
February 27th, 1918.

To the Assembly:

I herewith return, without my approval, House Bill number three hundred and ten.

Some of the offenses mentioned in the bill might constitute bribery, as where the park is a public park in charge of a public official, and the money is paid to the public official to induce him to disregard his public duties in the interest of the person paying the money. I can see no reason, however, why the payment of a commission to a servant of the owner of a private estate or a golf club grounds should constitute an offense, when the payment of a commission to a butler employed in a city home, or a chauffeur, would not constitute an offense. The act seems to select a particular class for protection, and upon that ground it may be special, and, therefore, defective. Under this act it would be an offense for the superintendent of a private country estate to receive a bonus from the person from whom he purchased coal for the estate. It would, however, be no offense for a servant of the owner of a city house to receive a bonus from the same coal dealer upon the purchase of the same amount of coal.

I can see no distinction between these two transactions which would warrant the inclusion of the one and the exclusion of the other.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 314.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
March 4th, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill number three hundred and fourteen.

If the necessity for such a measure were demonstrated I should approve it, but it is admitted that the District Court Clerks in Monmouth county now receive \$900.00 per year. The object of the bill, as explained to me, is to make certain that the salaries will not be reduced from \$900.00 to \$600.00, owing to doubt over the construction of past statutes, and at the same time give \$100.00 increase. Since the governing body of Monmouth county is now paying \$900.00 to these court clerks, I am not prepared to sign a bill merely on the supposition that the \$900.00 salary will not be continued. If, for any reason, the salary is reduced under some interpretation of the law, it will be time enough to correct the law at the next session.

In other words, I cannot see any reason for applying a remedy until the condition exists.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,

Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,

Secretary to the Governor.

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR ASSEMBLY BILL No.
316.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
March 4th, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Committee Substitute for Assembly Bill number three hundred and sixteen.

This bill would increase the fees to be paid registers for recording deeds, mortgages and other instruments in all counties of the State. There is no question in my mind, however, but what the intent of the act is to increase the income of the office of the Register in Hudson county, in order either that increased salaries may be paid to employees in the office of the Register in Hudson county or that employees whose services may have been dispensed with since the act of 1917, placing such offices in first class counties on a self-sustaining basis, may be placed back in their positions at the expense of the people buying or mortgaging real estate. The Act of 1917, known as the Winne Act, obliged registering officers in counties of the first class to keep their expenses within the income of the office. The principle of that legislation was correct, in my judgment, and I see no reason for modifying the plain intent of the Legislature of 1917.

I am informed that even before the enactment of the Winne Law, Essex county had a profit from the receipts of the register's office amounting to over \$9,200.00 on the basis of the present system of fees. I cannot understand why Hudson county cannot do likewise.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 321.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
February 27th, 1918.

To the Assembly:

I herewith return House Bill No. 321 without my approval.

The purpose of this bill seems to be to give control over the practice of midwifery to local boards of health. Control over this practice is now vested in the State Board of Medical Examiners. This bill does not interfere with the control of the State Board of Medical Examiners, but confers concurrent control upon the local board of health. I can see no reason for requiring a midwife to be licensed both by the State Board of Medical Examiners and the local board of health. The present board has power to revoke licenses of midwives, and undoubtedly would do so upon the presentation of evidence which would warrant the revocation of such licenses. If the bill were to become a law in its present form it would probably lead to complications, because of the concurrent jurisdiction over the same subject matter exercised by the State Board of Medical Examiners and the local boards of health.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL, No. 339.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
February 27th, 1918.

To the Assembly:

I am returning herewith, without my approval, Assembly Bill No. 339.

This bill appears to give to any taxing district the right to make return of delinquent taxes, and to make tax sales within three months from the date when the act becomes effective. This right would appear to extend to the filing of delinquent taxes for any year prior to the year 1917, and the selling of the property affected for such taxes. Under the present law, taxes are a lien for two years from the twentieth day of December following the levying thereof. The collector is required to file the list of delinquent taxes in the county clerk's office on the first Tuesday in February. The purpose of this requirement is that the public shall have notice of delinquent taxes on real property in order that they may be protected in the purchase of such property so far as tax claims are concerned. It would appear that this act would operate to destroy this protection, so far as taxes are concerned, which became delinquent prior to 1917. In other words the lien of the taxes might be revived against property in the hands of innocent purchasers who acquired the property without any notice of unpaid taxes.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 352.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
March 5th, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill number three hundred and fifty-two.

If it is unnecessary to go into the merits of this measure, which may or may not be good, for the reason that errors in the bill are so glaring as to make it impossible to know exactly what the sponsors of the bill intended.

Section 1 of the bill under consideration purports to amend section 2 of the Act of 1911, but the entire amendment is omitted. Section 2 purports to amend section 3 of the Act of 1911, but proceeds, instead, to designate it with the figure "2".

The purpose of the bill may be praiseworthy, but I cannot give my approval to placing upon the statute books a bill so faulty in construction and so doubtful as to intent with reference to an amendment of such an important statute as Chapter 196 of the Laws of 1911.

One feature of the bill which I most emphatically do not approve of is that authorizing assistant overseers and other help in all second class cities and towns over 20,000 inhabitants in the State. Such an opening for new officers by wholesale and increased salary expenses is not warranted.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,

Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,

Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 367.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
March 6th, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill number three hundred and sixty-seven, for the reason that the construction of this bill is such as to cloud the purpose. I am quite certain that if the bill were approved it could have no effect whatsoever, and, therefore, it seems useless to add it to the statutes. The only change from the act of 1911 is to add the words "or may hereafter be". The effect of this is to make the statute to apply to those officeholders whose term of office is not now or may hereafter be fixed by law, which, I submit, is far from clear as to purpose.

There seems to have been no reason for an act designed to extend protection contemplated by the act of 1911 to those officeholders who have become exempt firemen since the passage of that act, for the act itself included persons holding office "who may hereafter be appointed in any such position". If the purpose of the bill was to extend the protection of the act of 1911 to officeholders whose terms of office may hereafter be fixed by law, I seriously question whether the construction of the bill under consideration would have this effect, even if that were the intent of the Legislature.

For these reasons I am filing the bill with the suggestion that whatever was intended to be accomplished should be incorporated at a future session in a bill whose language is clear and unmistakable.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 368.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
March 4th, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill number three hundred and sixty-eight, for the reason that I fail to see any real necessity for permitting certain cities to increase the number of commissioners of assessment of taxes to seven.

The object of the bill is to allow the city of Paterson to increase the number of its commissioners for the assessment of taxes from five to seven. Inasmuch as the city of Newark has but three of such commissioners, I cannot see where it is necessary for Paterson to have seven.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 373.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
March 5, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill number three hundred and seventy-three.

If this bill were merely retrospective I should approve it. However, it is drawn in such terms that it might be taken to apply not only to all evidence of indebtedness heretofore made or issued by a county governing body, but also to all evidences of indebtedness that might hereafter be made or issued by such governing body. I think a validating act of this questionable character is far too general in its terms to be safe. No doubt the intent of the act is to cover some specific case, and this can be taken care of another year in a bill more carefully drawn.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 374.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
March 5th, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill number three hundred and seventy-four, for two reasons.

First, the bill merely adds to any inequalities in the salaries of District Court clerks that may already exist. At the present time the salaries paid to such clerks in judicial districts between forty thousand and one hundred thousand inhabitants, is \$1,000.00, while under this bill the \$1,000.00 salary would likewise be extended to the clerks in those judicial districts between twenty-five thousand and forty thousand. I cannot see the fairness of allowing a \$1,000.00 salary to the clerk of a judicial district with a population of twenty-five thousand and allowing the same salary to the clerk of a judicial district of one hundred thousand population.

Second, while I, of course, admit that the present salary of District Court clerks in judicial districts under forty thousand population of \$600.00 is exceedingly small and that a man cannot subsist on a salary of \$50.00 per month, yet I believe it is true that in judicial districts under forty thousand population the clerkship of a District Court is seldom, if ever, the sole responsibility or position of the incumbent.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 379.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
March 6th, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill number three hundred and seventy-nine, for the reason that as the bill comes to me it contains no title. Consequently, there is no act.

Respectfully,
WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR ASSEMBLY BILL
No. 411.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
March 4th, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Committee Substitute for Assembly Bill number four hundred and eleven, for the reason that the subject matter of this bill is fully covered by the Home Rule legislation of 1917.

Respectfully,
WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 412.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT.

March 5th, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill number four hundred and twelve.

The intent of this measure is undoubtedly good, but the bill is hopelessly defective in construction. The act amended has many sections numbered seven, but the specific article in which section seven is amended is not specified.

Again, the statement of explanation appearing on original bills for the enlightenment of the Legislature has been inadvertently added to Assembly Bill number four hundred and twelve as if it were a part of the act.

I doubt if there is any confusion as between the Home Rule Act of 1917 and the Pierson Bond Act of the same year. The intent of the Legislature with reference to methods of municipal financing was clear, irrespective of any provisions of former statutes which may have been included in the Home Rule Act of the same session.

However, if it is necessary to correct the Home Rule Act, this can be done very easily next year with a bill which is correct as to form.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 432.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
March 5th, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill number four hundred and thirty-two, for the reason that there does not appear to be any great necessity for such an amendment. The present act seems to be all that is necessary in order to meet situations as they arise in an effective manner.

Respectfully,
WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 434.

N.J. STATE LIBRARY
P.O. BOX 520
TRENTON, NJ 08625-0520

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT.
March 5th, 1918.

To the State Librarian:

I herewith file in the State Library, without my approval, Assembly Bill number four hundred and thirty-four.

This bill was undoubtedly conceived in a commendable spirit of co-operation and with the idea that it would facilitate the joint undertaking of the traffic tunnel under the Hudson and the traffic bridge over the Delaware. However, it seems to me unwise to ask various boards of freeholders to continue to finance the bridge and tunnel enterprises now that the latter have become State-wide projects and are looked upon generally as extensions of the State Highway System.

The purpose of the bill, while praiseworthy, is impracticable inasmuch as if one county governing body were to decline to authorize that its share of the remaining funds be appropriated to the new bridge and tunnel commission while other counties acquiesced in such action, there would exist clearly a discriminatory and unfair situation.

I believe that the balances remaining in the treasury of the former separate commissions on these undertakings should be turned back to the treasury of the respective counties which advanced the money.

Respectfully,

WALTER E. EDGE,
Governor.

Attest:

FRANCIS E. CROASDALE,
Secretary to the Governor.

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