

Approval of
title, etc.

Section 2. The title to said real estate shall be taken in the name of the Commonwealth, and shall, before its acquisition, be approved by the Department of Justice.

Act effective
immediately.

Section 3. The provisions of this act shall become effective immediately upon final enactment.

APPROVED—The 19th day of August, A. D. 1953.

JOHN S. FINE

No. 299

AN ACT

Providing additional compensation for coroners in fifth class counties under certain circumstances.

Coroners—Fifth
class counties.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows:

Additional
compensation.

Section 1. In counties of the fifth class, the coroner shall receive the sum of twenty-five dollars (\$25) for each inquest held by him after he has held one hundred inquests during each year. Such moneys shall be paid by the county and shall be in addition to the salary payable under existing law.

Applicability
of act.

Section 2. The provisions of this act shall be applicable to all coroners who begin a term of office on or after January first, one thousand nine hundred fifty-four.

APPROVED—The 19th day of August, A. D. 1953.

JOHN S. FINE

No. 300

AN ACT

To amend section 263 of the act, approved the tenth day of March, one thousand nine hundred forty-nine (Pamphlet Laws 30), entitled "An act relating to the public school system, including certain provisions applicable as well to private and parochial schools; amending, revising, consolidating and changing the laws relating thereto," by authorizing electors in certain cases to present petitions to the court for the submission to the electors of a question of merger of school districts.

"Public School
Code of 1949."

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows:

Section 263, act
of March 10,
1949, P. L. 30,
amended.

Section 1. Section 263 of the act, approved the tenth day of March, one thousand nine hundred forty-nine (Pamphlet Laws 30), entitled "An act relating to the public school system, including certain provisions applicable as well to private and parochial schools; amending,

revising, consolidating and changing the laws relating thereto," is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 263. Petitions and Elections for Mergers; Returns; When Effective.—Upon the approval of said plans by the State Council of Education, it shall be the duty of the county board of school directors to prepare and present petitions for such mergers to the court of common pleas of the county. In case such districts or parts of districts are situated in two or more counties, the petitions shall be presented to the court of common pleas of the county in which the largest part in area of the land affected is situated, which court shall have exclusive jurisdiction over the matter.

Whenever the State Council of Education approves said plans, at least one hundred days prior to a general or municipal election, and the county board of school directors fail to present petitions to the court for submission of the question at such election, then any elector of a school district involved may present such a petition to the court, signed by at least fifteen per cent of the electors in each school district, for submission of the question at any subsequent general or municipal election.

The petition for any such merger shall request the submission of the question of such merger to the electors of each district affected thereby at the next general or municipal election to be held at least ninety (90) days after the presentation of said petition. The question to be submitted to the electors shall be framed by the court and be by it certified to the county commissioners for submission to the electors of each district affected thereby. Such submission shall be in accordance with the laws of this Commonwealth relating to the submission of similar questions.

If a majority of the electors of each school district voting therein shall be in favor of merger, as shown by the returns of the election, a certificate of the returns shall be filed with the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the prothonotary of the court of common pleas, the county board of school directors, and the board of school directors of each of said school districts. The merger shall become effective on the first Monday in July next succeeding the election. The merger shall be effective as to only those districts in which a majority of the electors voting on the question shall have assented to the merger. If the electors do not assent to the merger, revised plans shall be submitted within five years in accordance with the foregoing procedure.

APPROVED—The 19th day of August, A. D. 1953.

JOHN S. FINE