

No. 260:

AN ACT

To amend chapter three of the act, approved the fourteenth day of July, one thousand nine hundred and seventeen (Pamphlet Laws, eight hundred forty), entitled "An act concerning townships; and revising, amending, and consolidating the law relating thereto."

Section 1. Be it enacted, &c., That chapter three of the act, approved the fourteenth day of July, one thousand nine hundred and seventeen (Pamphlet Laws, eight hundred forty), entitled "An act concerning townships; and revising, amending, and consolidating the law relating thereto," is hereby amended by adding thereto the following article, to be known as article five:—

Consolidation of townships.

Chapter 3, act of July 14, 1917 (P. L. 840), amended.

CHAPTER III.

CREATION OF TOWNSHIPS.

ARTICLE V.

CONSOLIDATION OF TOWNSHIPS.

Section 66. Whenever two or more townships of the same class, situate in the same county, shall be adjacent to each other, they may be consolidated into one township. Such consolidation shall be made under the following conditions: The township supervisors or the township commissioners of the respective townships may of their own initiative, or shall within sixty days after each is requested in writing by at least twenty-five qualified electors of the respective townships, enter into a joint agreement for the consolidation of such townships into one township. The joint agreement shall set forth the name of the new township and the territorial boundaries thereof. It may also set forth such terms as had been agreed upon for the disposition of the assets of each of the townships and for liquidation of the indebtedness of the townships, either jointly, separately, or in certain defined proportions, and the adjusting and paying of the same by separate rates of taxation on all property subject to taxation within the boundaries of such townships respectively.

Section 67. The question of the consolidation of such townships shall be submitted to the vote of the qualified electors of each of the townships at a special election to be held on a day to be designated in the joint agreement. Any such election may be held on the day of any general or municipal election. The election shall be held by the regular election officers and in accordance with the provisions of the law regulating elections. Notice of each election shall be given by proclamation in the manner prescribed for proclama-

tions for elections of township officers. The question to be submitted to the electors shall be submitted in the form and in the manner provided by the general election laws for the submission of similar questions.

If the majority of the votes cast at such election in each of the townships is in favor of the ratification of the agreement, that fact shall be certified to the supervisors or the commissioners of the respective townships by the return boards, and the secretary of the respective townships shall cause the same to be entered upon the minutes and upon the agreement.

Section 68. The agreement, or a certified copy thereof, shall be filed in the office of the clerk of the court of quarter sessions of the proper county. Upon the filing thereof, the several townships shall be consolidated into one township under the manner set forth in the agreement. All costs and expenses incurred in such consolidation, except such as may be incurred at any general or municipal election, shall be paid by the consolidated township; and, in case the electors shall decide against any such consolidation, such costs and expenses shall be paid in equal shares by the townships proposed to be consolidated.

Section 69. After such consolidation, the rights, privileges, and franchises of each of the townships, and all the property, real, personal, and mixed, and all debts due on whatever account, and other things in action belonging to each of such townships, shall be vested in the new township. The title to real estate vested in either of such townships shall not revert or be in any way impaired by reason of such consolidation. All rights of creditors and liens shall be preserved, and all debts and liabilities of either of such townships shall attach to such new township and be in force against it. In the case of any such consolidation, the supervisors or the township commissioners of the township having the largest population shall constitute the supervisors or commissioners of the new township, and such officers shall remain in office until the expiration of the respective terms for which they were elected. As vacancies occur in any of said offices by the expiration of their terms, such vacancies shall be filled by the election by the electors of the consolidated township of supervisors or commissioners in the same manner as is now provided for the election of these officers in accordance with the provisions of this act.

APPROVED—The 16th day of May, A. D. 1921.

WM. C. SPROUL.