

possible proceed to perform their duties. The commissioners shall have authority to employ such experts and such other employes as are necessary to the proper transaction of the business of the commission. The said commission shall also have power to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of maps, papers, and other evidence, at any meeting of the commission, and for that purpose may issue subpoenas signed by the chairman of the commission and cause the same to be served and executed in any part of this Commonwealth. If any witness shall refuse to testify as to any fact within his knowledge, or to produce any maps or papers within his possession or under his control, the secretary of the commission shall forthwith report the facts relating to such refusal to one of the courts of common pleas of the county wherein such witness resides, and all questions arising upon such refusal shall be at once heard by said court. If the court determine that the testimony or evidence required by such witness is legal and properly competent, and ought to be given or produced by him, then said court shall make an order commanding such witness to testify, or produce maps or papers, or both, as the case may be, and, if such witness shall thereafter refuse to testify or to produce maps or papers as aforesaid, in disobedience of such order of the court, then the said court shall have power to order the commitment of such witness to the county jail of the proper county for contempt.

Section 5. That for the purpose of the said commission the sum of one thousand dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this act and for the payment of the expenses incurred by the commission and the members of the commission.

APPROVED—The 4th day of May, A. D. 1927.

JOHN S. FISHER

No. 394

A JOINT RESOLUTION

Creating a Penal Law Commission to collate, revise, and digest the various penal laws and laws of criminal procedure of the Commonwealth, and making an appropriation.

Penal Law Commission.

Section 1. Be it resolved, &c., That a commission is hereby created composed of seven citizens learned in the law to collate, revise, and digest all the acts and statutes relating to or touching the penal laws and the laws of criminal procedure of the Commonwealth. Said commission shall be known as the "Penal Law Commission." The members of the commission shall be appointed by the Governor.

The commission shall organize by the selection of a chairman and a secretary. The members of the commission shall serve without compensation, but shall be reimbursed for all necessary traveling and hotel expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

Organization.

Expense.

Section 2. It shall be the duty of the members of the commission to carefully collate, revise, and reduce into one or more bills, the acts and statutes relating to or touching the penal laws and the laws of criminal procedure of the Commonwealth; to arrange the same systematically under proper titles, divisions, and sections; to omit in such revisions all acts and parts of acts that have been repealed or supplied or which have expired; to suggest to the General Assembly any contradictions, omissions, defects, or imperfections that may appear in the acts and statutes to be revised and the mode in which the same may be reconciled, supplied, improved, or amended; to designate such acts or statutes as ought to be repealed and to prepare and submit to the General Assembly bills as such repeal may render advisable or necessary; to take into consideration and study the several drafts on the penal laws and laws of criminal procedure prepared and submitted to the General Assembly by the commission constituted under the act, approved the twenty-fifth day of July, one thousand nine hundred and seventeen (Pamphlet Laws, one thousand one hundred eighty-eight), entitled "A joint resolution providing for a commission to submit a revised penal code of Pennsylvania, and making an appropriation for the expenses of the commission"; and generally, to execute the trust confided in them in such manner as to render the penal code and code of criminal procedure of Pennsylvania more efficient, clear, and perfect and the punishments inflicted for crimes and misdemeanors more uniform and better adapted to the suppression of crime and the reformation of offenders.

Duties of commission.

Report.

Section 3. It shall be the duty of said commission to report the result of its labors to the General Assembly on or before the first day of February, one thousand nine hundred and twenty-nine, accompanied by drafts of the legislation proposed.

Section 4. The sum of two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500), or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby specifically appropriated to the commission for the payment of the expenses of the commission and the printing of the report of the commission. Payments from said appropriation shall be made by requisition of the chairman of the commission on the Auditor General, whereupon a warrant shall issue on the State Treasurer according to law.

Appropriation.

Payments.

APPROVED—The 4th day of May, A. D. 1927.

JOHN S. FISHER