ACT 231

A Bill for an Act Relating to the Legislature and Amending Chapter 2 of the Revised Laws of Hawaii 1955, as Amended.

Be it Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:

SECTION 1. Chapter 2, Revised Laws of Hawaii 1955, as amended, is hereby amended by adding thereto the following new sections, to be appropriately numbered and to read as follows:

"Sec. 2- . Legislative offices; tenure. The presiding officer and vice-presiding officer of each house of the legislature shall retain their respective offices, and shall discharge duties appropriate to their offices in the interim between sessions of the legislature, until such time as their successors are qualified in accordance with the rules of the respective houses or unless their tenure be terminated by action of the respective houses. The clerk of each house of the legislature shall, during sessions of the legislature, devote fulltime to the duties of his office; he shall continue to hold office as clerk and shall discharge duties appropriate to his office in the interim between sessions of the legislature, until such time as his successor is qualified in accordance with the rules of the respective house or unless his tenure be terminated by action of the respective house.

"Sec. 2- . Succession to presiding office of senate and house of representatives. In case of the removal from office, or the death, resignation, absence from the State, or other inability of the presiding officer of the senate or the house of representatives to discharge the duties of his office, the vice-presiding officer of the senate or the house of representatives, as the case may be, shall become presiding officer until the disability be removed or until a successor to the office of presiding officer is qualified in accordance with the rules of the senate or the house of representatives, as the case may be.

"Sec. 2- . Permanent staffing. Each house of the legislature may by appropriate rules provide for permanent professional staffing for each respective house. Persons appointed shall perform and observe such duties and responsibilities as may be assigned to them, and they may be called to assist in the development and formulation of policy. Persons appointed by each respective house may, if so determined, serve as staff to committees during the interim and during regular sessions. They shall be appointed and removed and compensated as provided for in the rules of the respective houses, and the provisions of chapters 3 and 4 shall not apply.

"Sec. 2- . Payment of legislative bills and accounts. During any session the clerk of each house shall pay all bills and accounts as shall be approved in accordance with the rules of the respective houses. When either house is not in session the clerk shall pay all bills and accounts as shall be approved by the presiding officer of the respective houses. The presiding officer of each house may authorize the payment of bills and accounts during the interim between sessions of the legislature."

SECTION 2. This Act shall take effect upon its approval. (Approved June 30, 1965.) S.B. 954.