

**Chap. 101.** AN ACT MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF BERKSHIRE COUNTY, ITS DEPARTMENTS, BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND INSTITUTIONS, OF SUNDRY OTHER SERVICES, FOR CERTAIN PERMANENT IMPROVEMENTS, FOR INTEREST AND DEBT REQUIREMENTS, AND TO MEET CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS OF LAW AND GRANTING A COUNTY TAX FOR SAID COUNTY.

*Be it enacted, etc., as follows:*

SECTION 1. To provide for the maintenance of Berkshire county, its departments, boards, commissions and institutions, of sundry other services, for certain permanent improvements, for interest and debt requirements, and to meet certain requirements of law, the following sums for the several purposes and subject to the conditions specified in section two are hereby appropriated, subject to the provisions of law regulating the disbursement of county funds and the approval thereof for the year nineteen hundred and sixty-eight:

BERKSHIRE COUNTY.

Item		
1.	For interest on county debt.....	\$14,000 00
2.	For reduction of county debt.....	30,000 00
3.	For county commissioners, salaries and expenses	26,194 52
4.	For transportation and expenses of county and acting commissioners.....	1,200 00
5.	For clerk of courts, salaries and expenses.....	35,413 28
6.	For county treasurer, salaries and expenses.....	23,315 20
7.	For sheriff, salary and expenses.....	10,832 50
8.	For registries of deeds, salaries and expenses....	148,731 88
8a.	For registry of probate, salaries and expenses...	6,884 65
9.	For law library, salaries and expenses.....	13,232 00
10.	For highways, including state highways, bridges and land damages.....	310,380 55
12.	For criminal costs in superior court.....	201,650 55
13.	For civil expenses in supreme judicial, superior, probate and land courts, including auditors, masters and referees.....	81,245 00
14.	For district courts, salaries and expenses.....	312,699 92
15.	For medical examiners and commitments of insane	25,000 00
16.	For jail and house of correction, maintenance and operation.....	195,936 15
17.	For training school.....	4,000 00
18.	For court houses and registry buildings, maintenance and operation.....	63,133 81
20.	For agricultural school or county aid to agriculture, maintenance and operation.....	69,979 19
21.	For state reservation, maintenance and operation (Mount Everett).....	11,457 00
23a.	For county tuberculosis clinic.....	38,642 65
24.	For noncontributory pensions.....	5,899 98

Item		
25.	For contributory retirement system and supervisory expenses.....	\$51,368 77
26.	For miscellaneous and contingent expenses.....	13,864 65
27.	For unpaid bills of previous years.....	357 14
28.	For reserve fund.....	20,000 00
29.	For advertising recreational, industrial and agricultural advantages of the county.....	45,000 00
30.	For forest fire patrol.....	12,915 60
31.	For radio system for fire protection.....	2,320 00
32.	For forest development.....	3,200 00
34.	For soil conservation district.....	325 00
35.	For industrial development commission.....	43,296 69
36.	For Dutch elm disease.....	4,000 00
39.	For group insurance.....	19,300 00
	Total amount of appropriations.....	\$1,845,776 68
	Less estimated amount available for reduction of county tax.....	295,415 93

And the county commissioners of Berkshire County are hereby authorized to levy as the county tax of said county for the current year, in the manner provided by law, the sum of... \$1,550,360 75

SECTION 2. Sums appropriated in section one are based upon detailed schedules approved by the joint committee on counties, copies of which are deposited with the director of accounts.

Said director shall file with the county commissioners and the county treasurer of Berkshire county a certification of the amounts above appropriated as set forth in the approved schedules. Except as provided by this act or except as otherwise provided by law, no liability may be incurred and no expenditure shall be made in excess of the amount available in an existing appropriation for a function, a main group, a class or a subclass.

Transfers within an appropriation from a main group to another main group may be made upon written request of the authorized official of the organization unit with the written approval of the county commissioners, and copies of said request and approval shall be filed with the county treasurer; provided, however, that no transfer shall be made from the main groups "personal services", "equipment", "structures and improvements" or "improvements to land" to another main group nor shall any transfer be made from any other main group into any of the aforementioned main groups.

Transfers within an appropriation between classes and between subclasses within a main group may be made by the authorized official of the organization unit whenever in his opinion public necessity and convenience so requires; provided, however, that no transfer shall be made within the classes of the main groups "personal services" or "equipment".

Amounts included for permanent positions in sums appropriated in section one for personal services are based upon schedules of permanent

positions and salary rates as approved by the joint committee on counties, and, except as otherwise shown by the files of said committee, a copy of which shall be deposited with the county personnel board, no part of sums so appropriated in section one shall be available for payment of salaries of any additional permanent positions, or for payments on account of reallocations of permanent positions, or for payments on account of any change of salary range or compensation of any permanent positions, notwithstanding any special or general law to the contrary.

Moneys appropriated under this act for the purchase of equipment shall be expended for the purposes specified in the schedules as approved by the joint committee on counties and for no other purpose.

SECTION 3. No expense incurred for mid-day meals by county officers and employees, other than those who receive as part of their compensation a noncash allowance in the form of full or complete boarding and housing, and those county officers and employees who are stationed beyond commuting distance from their homes for a period of more than twenty-four hours, shall be allowed; provided that officers or employees who have charge of juries or who have the care and custody of prisoners, insane persons or other persons placed in their charge by a court or under legal proceedings for transfer to or from court to an institution or from institution to institution and persons certified by a district attorney as engaged in investigation shall be reimbursed for the expense of mid-day meals when necessarily engaged on such duty; and provided, further, that county officers and employees in attendance at meetings and conferences called by or for any group or class on a statewide basis shall be so reimbursed.

Notwithstanding the provisions of the preceding paragraph, not more than two employees of a county may be reimbursed for meals and other expenses incurred in attendance at a meeting or conference called by or for any group or class on a statewide basis.

No moneys appropriated under this act shall be expended by county officers or employees for monthly telephone service furnished to such officers or employees at places other than regular offices.

No moneys appropriated under this act shall be approved by the county commissioners and expended by the county treasurer for any unpaid bills of previous years which were incurred prior to January first of nineteen hundred and sixty-seven.

SECTION 4. The allowance to county officers and employees for expenses incurred by them in the operation of motor vehicles owned by them or by any member of their immediate families and used in the performance of their official duties shall not exceed eight cents a mile, except in cases where a higher allowance is specifically provided by statute; provided that in the case of commitments of the insane the justice of the court ordering the commitment may order a higher rate, but not to exceed forty cents a mile one way. No expenditures shall be made for travel outside the commonwealth for attendance at conferences or conventions.

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

*Approved March 30, 1968.*