

No. 40

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4th Session, 13th Legislature, Alberta  
6 Elizabeth II, 1958

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## **BILL 40**

A Bill to Establish the Alberta Bureau of Statistics

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HON. MR. REIERSON

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Printed by L. S. WALL, Printer to the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty,  
Edmonton, Alberta, 1958

## **Explanatory Note**

General. It is proposed by this Bill to establish an Alberta Bureau of Statistics to collect and compile statistical information relevant to commercial, industrial and social activities in the Province. This work is presently being done by the statistics branch of the Department of Industries and Labour under The Department of Industries and Labour Act which it is proposed to replace at this session. This Bill gives the authority and responsibilities of compiling statistics in greater detail.

**2.** Definitions.

**3.** Alberta Bureau of Statistics established as part of such Department as may be prescribed.

**4.** Duties of Bureau set out.

**5.** Personnel.

# BILL

No. 40 of 1958

An Act to Establish the Alberta Bureau of Statistics

(Assented to \_\_\_\_\_, 1958)

**H**ER MAJESTY, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Alberta, enacts as follows:

1. This Act may be cited as "*The Statistics Bureau Act*".
2. In this Act,
  - (a) "Bureau" means the Alberta Bureau of Statistics established by this Act;
  - (b) "Minister" means the member of the Executive Council who is for the time being charged with the administration of this Act.
3. (1) There shall be a branch of the Public Service of the Province which shall be known as the Alberta Bureau of Statistics.  
(2) The Bureau shall be attached to and shall form part of such Department of the Public Service as may be prescribed from time to time by the Lieutenant Governor in Council.
4. The duties of the Bureau may include the following:
  - (a) to collect, compile, analyze, abstract and publish statistical information relative to the commercial, industrial, financial, social, economic and general activities and condition of the Province;
  - (b) to collaborate with all other Departments and officers of the government of the Province in the collection, compilation and publication of statistics;
  - (c) to study, investigate, report and advise upon such questions relating to economic conditions or to any economic problem as may be designated by the Minister;
  - (d) generally to organize a scheme of co-ordinated social and economic statistics pertaining to the whole of Alberta.
5. Subject to *The Public Service Act* the Lieutenant Governor in Council may appoint such officers and persons

**6.** Powers of the Minister.

**7.** The Minister may enter into agreements with the Government of Canada for the exchange of information or statistics.

**8.** (1) Census or survey of business and industry to be taken.

(2) Duty to provide information.

**9.** (1) Particulars to be kept secret unless consent to publication given.

(2) Offence to communicate information to unauthorized person.

**10.** (1) Oath of secrecy required.

as may be required for the carrying out of the duties of the Bureau and may prescribe their duties and remuneration.

**6.** The Minister may make and prescribe such rules, instructions, schedules and forms as are deemed requisite for

- (a) conducting the work and business of the Bureau,
- (b) the collecting, compiling and publishing of statistics and other information, and
- (c) the taking of any census authorized by this Act.

**7.** The Minister may make such arrangements as he deems expedient between the Bureau and any department of the Government of Canada for the collection, transmission and exchange of any information or statistics.

**8.** (1) The Bureau shall take a census or survey with regard to mines, quarries, fisheries and forests, and of manufacturing, construction, commercial, and service establishments, and of such other industrial, trading, business and professional activities as may be prescribed by the Minister, at such intervals as the Minister may direct, so as to ascertain with the utmost possible accuracy the products and operations thereof.

(2) Statistical forms may be delivered to any person from whom information is desired for the purposes of this Act and such person shall answer the inquiries thereon and return the same to the Bureau, properly certified as accurate, not later than the time prescribed thereon or such extended time as the Minister in his discretion may allow.

**9.** (1) No report, summary of statistics or other publication issued under this Act shall contain any of the particulars contained in any individual return so arranged as to enable any person to identify any particulars so published as being particulars relating to any individual person or business except when the previous consent in writing of the individual person or of the person in authority in the business has been obtained for the release of the information.

(2) No person shall communicate or allow to be communicated to any person who has not taken the oath of secrecy required by section 10, the contents of any individual return, report or answer made or given pursuant to this Act.

**10.** (1) Every officer and other person employed in the execution of any duty under this Act, before entering on his duties shall take the following oath of secrecy:

“I ..... do solemnly swear that I will not, without due authority, disclose or make known any matter or thing that comes to my

(2) Oath to be taken before Clerk of the Executive Council.

**11.** Penalty section.

**12.** Penalty section.

knowledge by reason of my employment in or by the Alberta Bureau of Statistics.”.

(2) The oath shall be taken before the Clerk of the Executive Council and recorded in such manner as the Minister prescribes.

**11. A person**

- (a) who, in the pretended performance of duties under this Act, obtains or seeks to obtain information that he is not duly authorized to obtain, or
- (b) who contravenes the provisions of subsection (2) of section 9,

is guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine of not more than one hundred dollars and in default of payment to imprisonment for a term of not more than thirty days, or to both fine and imprisonment.

**12. A person**

- (a) who refuses or neglects to answer or who wilfully and falsely answers any question that has been asked him by a person employed in the execution of any duty under this Act,
- (b) who refuses or neglects to complete to the best of his knowledge and belief any form that he is required to complete pursuant to this Act, or
- (c) who refuses or neglects to return to the Bureau any form, return, report or answer when and as the same is required of him under this Act,

is guilty of an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of not more than one hundred dollars and in default of payment to imprisonment for a term of not more than three months, or to both fine and imprisonment.

**13.** This Act comes into force on the first day of July, 1958.

FOURTH SESSION

THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

6 ELIZABETH II

1958

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**BILL**

An Act to Establish the Alberta  
Bureau of Statistics

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Received and read the

First time.....

Second time.....

Third time.....

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HON. MR. REIERSON

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