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No. 15

IMPERIAL HOUSE OFFICE LAW
(Law No. 70, April 18, 1947)

Article 1. The Imperial House Office shall take charge of state affairs relating to the Imperial House and the Emperor's acts in matters of state provided for by Government Ordinance and shall have the custody of the Imperial Seal and the Seal of State.

Article 2. The Imperial House Office shall have the following personnel:

Grand Steward	First Class
Vice-Grand Steward, one person	First Class
Private Secretary to the Grand Steward, full time one person	Second Class
Grand Chamberlain	First Class
Chamberlains	First or Second Class
Masters of Ceremonies	First or Second Class
Secretaries of the Imperial House Office	First, Second or Third Class
Technical Officials of the Imperial House Office	First, Second or Third Class

The respective full numbers of Chamberlains, Masters of Ceremonies, Secretaries and Technical Officials shall be prescribed by Government Ordinance.

In addition to the personnel mentioned in paragraph 1, such personnel as may be required may be assigned as provided by Government Ordinance.

Article 3. The attestation by the Emperor shall be required for the appointment and dismissal of the Grand Steward and the Grand Chamberlain.

Article 4. The Grand Steward shall take charge of the general management of the affairs of the Office, and shall direct and supervise its personnel in connection with their performance of duties.

Article 5. The Vice-Grand Steward shall, assisting the Grand Steward, adjust the affairs of the Office and supervise the work of each bureau, division or agency.

Article 6. The Private Secretary shall, under the orders of the Grand Steward, deal with confidential matters.

Article 7. The Grand Chamberlain shall be in waiting on the Emperor.

Article 8. The Chamberlains shall assist the Grand Chamberlain in performing his function.

Article 9. The Masters of Ceremonies shall, under the orders of their superiors, take charge of matters concerning ceremonial functions and reception.

Article 10. The Secretaries shall, under the orders of their superiors, take charge of the affairs of the Office.

Article 11. The Technical Officials shall, under the orders of their superiors, take charge of the technical affairs.

Article 12. Such bureaus, divisons or agencies as may be required may be established in the Imperial House Office, as provided by Government Ordinance.

Article 13. The Imperial House Office shall be under the jurisdiction of the Prime Minister.

Supplementary Provision:

The present Law shall come into force as from the day of the enforcement of the Constitution of Japan.

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LAW FOR THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE IMPERIAL HOUSE ECONOMY
(Law No. 71, April 18, 1947)

Article 1. Until the amounts mentioned in Article 2 of the Imperial House Economy Law are fixed by the Diet at its first session following the enforcement of the Constitution of Japan, the Imperial House, notwithstanding the provisions of the said Article and apart from the cases of sale or purchase for reasonable price and of other ordinary private economic transactions, may alienate or receive properties, or make gifts without authorization by the Diet each time, within the limit of 500,000 yen in aggregate.

Article 2. The sum mentioned in Article 4, paragraph 1, of the Imperial House Economy Law shall be fixed at 8,000,000 yen.

The provision of the preceding paragraph shall be valid only for the period of two years from the date of the enforcement of this Law. However, in case the sum stipulated in the preceding paragraph is deemed to have become inappropriate on account of changes in commodity prices or other causes, measures shall be taken without delay for the revision of the Law with a view to modifying the said sum.

Article 3. Until the basic sum for the annuities mentioned in Article 6, paragraph 1, of the Imperial House Economy Law is fixed by the Diet at its first session following the enforcement of the Constitution of Japan, 150,000 yen shall be appropriated therefor.

Until the basic sum for the one time payments mentioned in Article 6, paragraph 1, of the Imperial House Economy Law is fixed by the Diet at its session as specified in the preceding paragraph,

the provisions concerning one time payments in the said Article shall not be applicable.

Supplementary Provision:

The present Law shall come into force as from the day of the enforcement of the Imperial House Economy Law.

LAW CONCERNING THE VALIDITY OF THE PROVISIONS OF ORDERS IN FORCE AT THE TIME OF COMING INTO FORCE OF THE CONSTITUTION OF JAPAN, ETC.
(Law No. 72, April 18, 1947)

Article 1. The provisions of the Orders which are in force at the time of the coming into force of the Constitution of Japan and which stipulate matters of a character to be stipulated by laws will have the same validity as laws till December 31, 1947.

Article 1-A. The provisions of the preceding paragraph shall not affect the validity of such ordinances as have been issued in accordance with Imperial Ordinance No. 542, 1945 (concerning ordinances to be issued pursuant to the acceptance of the Potsdam Declaration).

Article 1-B. The provisions of the existing orders concerning administrative offices which stipulate matters of a character to be stipulated by laws shall have the same validity as laws till May 2, 1948.

Article 1-C. The following ordinances shall be considered as enacted into laws by the decision of the Diet:

Regulations concerning Cemetery and Interment (Dajokan-futatsu No. 25, 1884);

Re Punishment of Violators of the Regulations concerning Cemetery and Interment (Dajokan-tatsu No. 82, 1884);

Re Permission of Interment and Cremation, etc. (Ordinance of the Ministry of Welfare No. 9, 1947);

Regulations concerning Injurious Contraceptive Devices (Ordinance of the Ministry for Home Affairs No. 40, 1930).

Regulations concerning Open Port (Imperial Ordinance No.

139, 1898).

Regulations controlling Materials for Bacteriological Prevention Treatment and Diagnosis Applied to Domestic Animals (Ministry of Agriculture Ordinance No. 88, 1940).

Regulations for Qualifying Nutrition Specialist Welfare Ministry Ordinance No. 14, 1945).

Regulations controlling Medicine on Public Sale (Welfare Ministry Ordinance No. 25, 1932).

Regulations controlling Massagists (Home Ministry Ordinance No. 10, 1911).

Regulations controlling Acupuncture Treatment and "Moxa-Treatment" (Home Ministry ordinance No. 11, 1911).

Regulations controlling the Setting and Massage Treatment by "Jujutsu" (Welfare Ministry Ordinance No. 47, 1946).

Ordinance concerning Exceptional Cases to the Regulations controlling Massagists, Acupuncture, "Moxa-Treatment" and Setting and Massage Treatment by "Jujutsu" (Welfare Ministry Ordinance No. 28, 1946).

Regulations controlling the Professionals who Practice Quasi-medical Treatment (Welfare Ministry Ordinance No. 11, 1947).

Regulations controlling Antiseptic and Bleaching Solution of Food and Drinks (Home Ministry Ordinance No. 22, 1928).

Regulations controlling Poisonous Coloring Solution (Home Ministry Ordinance No. 17, 1900).

Regulations controlling Artificial Sweetness (Home Ministry Ordinance No. 37, 1933).

Regulations controlling the Importation and Transportation of Food Meat (Home Ministry Ordinance No. 4, 1928).

Regulations concerning Sealing and Marks of Inspection of Medicines, etc. (Welfare Ministry Ordinance No. 42, 1933).

Regulations controlling Refreshing Drinks (Home Ministry Ordinance No. 30, 1900).

Regulations controlling Ice and Snow Enterprise (Home Ministry Ordinance No. 37, 1900).

Regulations controlling Tools and Utensils for Food and Drinks (Home Ministry Ordinance No. 50, 1900).

Regulations controlling Methyl Alcohol (Home Ministry Ordinance No. 8, 1912).

Regulations controlling Food and Drinks Enterprise (Welfare Ministry Ordinance No. 15, 1947).

Imperial Ordinance for Imperial Railway Workers' Mutual Aid Association (No. 127, 1897).

Imperial Ordinance for Monopoly Bureau Workers' Mutual Aid Associations (No. 945, 1940).

Imperial Ordinance for Printing Bureau Workers' Mutual Aid Association (No. 944, 1940).

Imperial Ordinance for Communication Workers' Mutual Aid Association (No. 950, 1940).

Imperial Ordinance for Forestry Bureau Workers' Mutual Aid Association (No. 306, 1919).

Imperial Ordinance for Policemen's Mutual Aid Association (No. 44, 1920).

Imperial Ordinance for Mint Workers' Mutual Aid Association (No. 946, 1940).

Imperial Ordinance for Silk Inspection Bureau Workers' Mutual Aid Association (No. 201, 1937).

Imperial Ordinance for Jailors' Mutual Aid Association (No. 489, 1940).

Imperial Ordinance for Teachers' Mutual Aid Association (No. 17, 1941).

Imperial Ordinance for Government Employees' Mutual Aid Association (No. 827, 1940).

Imperial Ordinance for Public Workers' Mutual Aid Association (No. 649, 1941).

Imperial Ordinance for Hokkaido Forestry Workers' Mutual Aid Association (No. 686, 1942).

Regulations for the Enforcement of the Ship Law (Communications Ministry Ordinance No. 24, 1899).

Regulations for the Enforcement of the Ship Safety Law (Communications Ministry Ordinance No. 4, 1934).

Regulations for Ship Licenses (Communications Ministry Ordinance No. 24, 1907).

The validity of the Ordinances enumerated in the preceding paragraph shall be provisional, and necessary measures for their amendment or repeal shall be taken by July 15, 1948.

All the ordinances named in the first paragraph shall be of no legal effect on and after July 16, 1948, unless sooner enacted into law or re-

pealed by July 15.

Article 2. The "Imperial Ordinance" in other laws (including the provisions of the orders having the same validity as laws under the provisions of the preceding article) will read "cabinet order."

The provisions of the preceding paragraph shall not be interpreted as delegation to the Cabinet or other agencies of the executive the power to issue ordinances in cases where the Constitution of Japan does not authorize them to do so.

Article 3. The following laws and orders are repealed:

Law No. 84, 1890 (Law Concerning Penalties for Infringements of the Provisions of Orders).

Law No. 62, 1905 (Law Concerning Cases Where a Person Other Than the Head of a Household Has Been Conferred a Peerage).

Law No. 39, 1910 (Law Concerning the Household Registers of a Person Who Has Changed from the Status of a Member of the Imperial Family to That of a Subject, and of a Person Who by Marriage Has Changed from the Status of a Subject to That of a Member of the Imperial Family).

Law No. 83, 1926 (Law Concerning the Rights and Duties of the Royal and Peerage Families in Korea).

Law No. 51, 1927 (Law Concerning the Household Registers of a Person Who Has Changed from the Membership of the Royal or a Peerage Family in Korea to That of a Household in Japan Proper, and of a Person Who Has Left a Household in Japan Proper and Has Become a Member of the Royal or a Peerage Family in Korea).

Ministerial Regulation, 1869 (Concerning the Status of Shizoku

(warrior class)

Cabinet Ordinance (Dajokan Fukoku) No. 29, 1871 (Concerning the Request for Classing Hereditary Sotsu (soldier) with Shizoku)

Cabinet Ordinance No. 44, 1871 (Concerning the Request for Classing Gosi (village warrior) with Shizoku)

Cabinet Ordinance No. 73, 1873 (Concerning the Matter of Cladsing with the Commoners Those Members of the Peerage and Shizoku Who Establish Households of Their Own)

Cabinet Ordinance No. 3, 1879 (Concerning the Abolishment of the Title of Shizoku after the Death of the Head of a Shizoku Household).

Supplementary Provisions

This law will come into force as from the date of the enforcement of the Constitution of Japan.

Such matters as may be necessary for the enforcement of this Law shall be provided for by cabinet Order. (Law No. 72, 1947)

The present Law shall come into force as from the date of its promulgation. (Law No. 244, 1947)

This Law shall be enforced as from the date of its promulgation and applied as from May 2, 1948. (Law No. 44, 1948)

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AMENDMENT TO BOARD OF AUDIT ACT
(Law No. 73, April 19, 1947)

Chapter I. Organization

Section I. General Provisions

Article 1. The Board of Audit has such status as independent of the Cabinet.

Article 2. The Board of Audit shall be organized by a Council of Auditors consisting of three Auditors, and General Executive Bureau.

Article 3. The Head of the Board of Audit shall be nominated by the Cabinet, as elected by mutual vote of Auditors.

Section II. Auditors

Article 4. The Auditors shall be appointed, with consent of the Diet, by the Prime Minister.

In case the House of Councillors does not consent to the appointment of the Auditor despite the consent of the House of Representatives, the consent of the House of Representatives shall be the consent of the Diet in the same way as paragraph 2 of Article 67 of the Constitution of Japan.

The Emperor shall attest the appointment and dismissal of the Auditors.

The amount of salary granted to the Auditor shall accord with the amount of salary granted to the Minister of State.

Article 5. The Auditors shall hold office for a term of seven years, with privilege of reappointment for one additional term.

If, within a tenure of an Auditor, avacancy occurs in that office, the successive Auditor shall hold office for a remaining term of the predecessor.

The Auditors shall be retired from office upon the attainment of the age of sixty-five years.

Article 6. The Auditor shall be retired, by the resolution of the Diet, when in the collegiate judgment of other Auditors, the Auditor has become incapacitated to perform his duties due to mental or corporal injury, or guilty of malfeasance in office.

The provision of paragraph 2 of Article 4 shall apply mutatis mutandis to the preceding paragraph.

Article 7. The Auditor shall forfeit his office, when he is condemned to a penalty heavier than confinement by the criminal court.

Article 8. Except in cases of the preceding two Articles, no Auditor shall against his will forfeit his office.

Article 9. No Auditor shall hold another post under Government Office or Local Public Body, or become a member of the Diet or a Local Assembly.

Section III. Council of Auditors

Article 10. The Chairman of the Council of Auditors shall be the President of the Board of Audit.

Article 11. The following matters shall be decided by the Council of Auditors:

1. Enactment or revision or abolition of the Board of Audit Regulations under Article 38.

2. The Report of Audit under Article 28.

3. Decision of such matters and organizations as are subject to audit under Article 23.

4. Matters relating to verification of accounts under Article 24.

5. Demand of punishment under Article 31.

6. Judgment relating to accounting officials under Article 32.

7. Settlement of claim of examination under Article 35.

8. Indication of opinions or demand of disposal under Article 36.

9. Indication of opinions under Article 37.

Section IV. General Executive Bureau

Article 12. The General Executive Bureau shall, under direction and supervision of the Council of Auditors, take charge of general affairs and business of audit and examination.

In the General Executive Bureau, there shall be a Secretariat and the following four bureaus:

First Audit Bureau

Second Audit Bureau

Third Audit Bureau

Fourth Audit Bureau

Assignment of business under secretariat and each Bureau, and Sections thereunder shall be provided for by the Board of Audit Regulations.

Article 13. In the General Executive Bureau, there shall be one Secretary General, one Deputy Secretary General, and Confidential Secretaries, secretaries and Technical Officials.

The Secretary General and Deputy Secretary General shall be first class and Confidential Secretary shall be second class; and Secretary shall be first, second or third class and Technical Official shall be secord or third class.

The number of the first class Secretaries shall be eleven.

Article 14. Officials of first class shall be appointed, dismissed, and so on, by the Cabinet in accordance with the decision of the Council of Auditors.

With regard to the Secretary General and Deputy Secretary General, the provisions concerning the qualification of appointment or promotion of officials shall not be applied.

Officials of second class shall be appointed, dismissed, and so on, by the Prime Minister in accordance with the decision of the Secretary General with consent of Auditors.

Officials of third class shall be appointed, dismissed, and so on, by the Secretary General.

Article 15. The Secretary General shall preside over the business of the General Executive Bureau, and sign on official documents.

The Deputy Secretary General shall assist the Secretary General and during the period the Secretary General cannot perform his function for some reason, or during a vacancy in that office, shall act for him.

Article 16. The Director of Bureau shall be nominated by the President of the Board from among Secretaries of first class, with consent of Auditors, upon recommendation of the Secretary General.

The Director of Bureau shall preside over the business of the Bureau.

Article 17. The Confidential Secretary shall be in charge of confidential matters under direction of Auditors.

Secretaries shall be assigned as Chiefs of Sections of Secretariat or of each Bureau, or assigned to Bureaus or Sections to have charge of general affairs, audit, or examination under instruction of superiors.

Article 18. Technical officials shall be assigned to Sections to have

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charge of technics under instruction of superiors.

Article 19. The Board of Audit may establish branch offices according to the provision of the Board of Audit Regulations.

Chapter II. Competency

Section I. General Provision

Article 20. The Board of Audit shall audit final accounts of the revenues and expenditures of the State under Article 90 of the Constitution of Japan and also such accounts as are provided for by a law.

The Board of Audit shall, continuing current audit regularly, supervise the national accounting and secure its adequacy, and correction of its illegality.

Article 21. The Board of Audit shall, according to results of audit, certify the final accounts of revenues and expenditures of the State.

Section II. Sphere of Audit

Article 22. Matters which shall be subject to the audit by the Board of Audit are as follows:

1. Monthly accounts of revenues and expenditures of the State.

2. Receipts and disbursement of cash money and government properties which are owned by the State.

3. Creation of liquidation of the State credit, or increase or decrease of national bond and other debts.

4. Cash money, precious metals and securities received and disbursed by the Bank of Japan on behalf of the State.

5. The accounts of juridical persons of which 50% or more of capital is contributed by the State.

6. Such accounts as are specially subject to audit of the Board of Audit by a law.

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Article 23. The Board of Audit may audit, if it deems it necessary, or at the request of the Cabinet, such accounting as follows:

1. Goods and securities which are owned or taken custody of, by the State, and cash money taken custody of, by the State.

2. Such accounts of receipts and disbursements of cash money, goods, or securities as handled, on behalf of the State by bodies other than the State.

3. The accounts of such bodies as are granted subsidies, bounties or such financial assistance as loan or indemnity of loss and so on, directly or indirectly.

4. The accounts of such bodies as are partially contributed by the State.

5. The accounts of such bodies as are contributed by such bodies as are contributed by the State.

6. The accounts of such bodies as are granted guaranty on payment of the principal or interest.

7. Accounts of contractors with the State of construction, or suppliers of goods to the State.

When the Board of Audit decides to audit under the preceding paragraph, the Board shall inform the bodies concerned to that effect.

Section III. Measure of Audit

Article 24. Organizations or persons, the accounts of which are audited by the Board of Audit, shall regularly submit to the Board of Audit statements of accounts together with proving vouchers in accordance with the regulations of verifications provided for by the Board.

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As regards the accounts of receipts and disbursements of moneys, goods and securities which are owned or taken custody of, by the State, other documents designated by the Board of Audit may be submitted to the Board in place of the statements of accounts and vouchers of the preceding paragraph.

Article 25. The Board of Audit may, regularly or temporarily, despatch officials in charge to conduct inspection wherever accounting may happen.

Article 26. The Board of Audit may demand, if necessary to perform its functions, the organizations or persons which are subject to audit of the Board, submittance of books, files, or reports and answer to the inquiry of the Board, or attendance of officials concerned.

Article 27. The competent superior or supervising office, or a responsible person corresponding to them shall report immediately to the Board on such matters as follows concerning such accounts as are subject to the audit of the Board.

1. Discovery of crime concerning accounting.

2. Discovery of loss of money, securities or other properties.

Article 28. The Board of Audit may ask, if necessary for audit, materials of investigation or professional opinion to government offices or public bodies and the like.

Section IV. Reports of Audit

Article 29. The reports of audit made according to Article 90 of the Constitution of Japan shall mention the following matters:

1. The certification of the final accounts of revenues and expenditures of the State.

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2. Whether or not the amounts of yearly accounts in settlement revenues and expenditures correspond to the amounts given in the statement of accounts submitted by the Bank of Japan.

3. Whether or not, as results of audit, there are such matters as in contravention of laws, government ordinance or the budget, or are unjust.

4. Whether or not there is not any payment from reserve fund, as to which no measure has been taken to receive an approval of the Diet.

5. Matters of which the Board demanded disciplinary punishment under Article 31 and the results of it.

6. Decision against accounting officials under Article 32.

7. Matters of which the Board indicated its opinions or demanded disposal under Article 34 and the results of co-operation of officials concerned.

8. Matters of which the Board indicated its opinions or demanded disposal under Article 36 and the results of co-operation of the competent superior.

Article 30. The Board of Audit may if it deems it necessary to explain at the Diet with regard to the reports of audit of the preceding Article, make the Auditor attend the Diet or may explain through documents.

Section V. Responsibility of Local Officials

Article 31. The Board of Audit may demand disciplinary punishment to the superior, if it deems, in consequence of audit, that officials in charge of national accounts have caused grave loss to the State by intention or grave negligence.

The provision of the preceding paragraph shall apply mutatis mutandis to cases that officials in charge of national accounts do not observe the regulations of verifications, for example neglect submittance of statement of accounts

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and proving vouchers, or do not comply with the demand under the provision of Article 26.

Article 32. The Board of Audit shall, in case that an accounting official has lost or damaged money or goods, decide whether he is liable for indemnity or not, after inspecting whether or not he has caused loss to the State by lack of due diligence.

In case that the Board of Audit decided he is liable for indemnity, the superior of the official shall order him indemnity in accordance with the decision of the preceding paragraph.

The liability to pay an indemnity of paragraph 1 shall not be remitted or reduced except by the general amnesty.

Even after the Board of Audit decided that an accounting official was not liable under paragraph 1, the Board of Audit may decide, within five years, whether he is liable or not, when the Board discovered its decision was unjust due to any mistake or emission on the statements of accounts or vouchers. The preceding two paragraphs shall apply mutatis mutandis to this case.

Article 33. When officials in charge of accounts of the State is recognized to be guilty of crime in execution of his function, the Board of Audit shall refer to the Board of Prosecution for further action.

Section VI. Miscellaneous Provisions

Article 34. The Board of Audit may immediately indicate its opinion to the superiors or officials concerned, or demand them disposal of, or order future correction and improvement of, such matters as the Board, in the course of audit, deems illegal or unjust relating to accounts.

Article 35. The Board of Audit shall examine the claims of the persons

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concerned based on the fiscal disposals of officials in charge of fiscal matters and inform such settlement as the Board recognizes it necessary to correct such disposals to the competent Ministry or responsible superiors shall take due disposal in accordance with the settlement of the Board

Article 36. The Board of Audit may state its opinions to the competent Ministry or responsible superior with regard to such matters as the Board deems it necessary to improve laws, ordinances, systems or administration or order improvement thereof.

Article 37. The Board of Audit shall receive previous notice and may state its opinions in the following cases:

1. Establishment, amendment, or abolition of laws or ordinance concerning accounting of the State.

2. Establishment, amendment or abolition of regulations concerning the receipts and disbursements of moneys, goods and securities, and the bookkeeping thereof.

The Board of Audit shall state its opinion on doubt as to matters relating to accounting of the State, if inquired by the officials in charge of accounts of the State.

Chapter III. Board of Audit Regulations

Article 38. The Board of Audit shall provide such regulations as are necessary in addition to the provisions of this law, with regard to audit of accounts.

Supplementary Provisions

Article 1. This law shall come into force at the effective date of the Constitution of Japan.

Article 2. The following law shall be abolished:

Law No. 91 of 1896 (Law concerning the Retirement of Auditors)

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Article 3. With regard to the application of paragraphs 3 and 4 of Article 32 as to the liability of accounting officials based on reasons previous to the effective date of this law, the judgment of the Board according to the old Board of Audit law shall be deemed to be the decision in accordance with paragraph 1 of the amended Article 32.

Article 4. Such matters as provided for by the Business Regulations, and other audit regulations enacted by the Board, which are actual ly effective shall be disposed as before, until enactment of the Board of Audit Regulations according to the amended Article 38.

Article 5. The President of the Board of Audit in office on the effective date of this law shall hold office, until the appointment of the Head of the Board by the new Law.

The President of the preceding paragraph and such two persons as nominated from among Directors of Divisions and Inspectors by the president shall perform the function of new Auditors, until the appointment of the Auditors by the new Law.

The President of the Board in office on the effective date of this Law shall act as Secretary General until appointment of the Secretary General of this law.

Article 6. Directors of Divisions, Inspectors, Secretaries, Vice-Inspectors, Special Secretaries, and Clerks in offics on the effective date of this Law, except by another nomination, shall be deemed to be appointed Secretaries of the same salary as hitherto, and officials of Chokunin Rank as first class, Sonin Rank as second class, and Hannin Rank as third class.

The officials suspended from office on the effective date of this law

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shall be deemed to be appointed Secretaries suspended from office in the same way.

Article 7. The two of first Auditors shall be appointed for terms of three and five years respectively despite the provisions of paragraph 1 of Article 5.

Supplementary Provision

The present Law shall be applied as from the effective date of such provision of a law as will provide the amount of salary of the Minister of State.

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THE DIET LAW
Enacted 19 March 1947

(With Amendments Enacted 5 July 1948)

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THE DIET LAW *

CHAPTER I. CONVOCATION AND OPENING CEREMONY

Article 1. An Imperial rescript convoking the Diet shall be promulgated, setting the date for assembling.

An Imperial rescript convoking an ordinary session shall be promulgated at least twenty (20) days in advance.

An Imperial rescript convoking an extraordinary session or a special session under Article 54 of the Constitution of Japan need not be bound by the provision of the preceding paragraph.

Article 2. An ordinary session shall be convoked annually within the first ten days of December. The date of convocation, however, must be such that the term of office of Diet members will not expire during an ordinary session.

Article 3. A demand for convocation of an extraordinary session must be submitted in writing jointly by one-fourth or more of all members of either House to the Cabinet through the President of the House.

Article 4. A demand for an emergency session of the House of Councillors, with date for assembling stipulated, must be made to the President of that House by the Prime Minister.

Article 5. Diet members must assemble at their respective Houses on the date designated by the Imperial rescript of convocation.

Article 6. On the date of assembling, each House shall elect a President and Vice President, or both, if the offices are vacant.

Article 7. Pending the election of the President and Vice President, the Secretary General shall act in the capacity of President.

Article 8. An Opening Ceremony shall be held at the beginning of each session.

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* The Diet Law was enacted 19 March 1947. The Law Amending the Diet Law was enacted 5 July 1948. The original law and the amendments are contained herein: changes and additions are underlined; deletions, lined out.

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THE DIET LAW

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Article 9. The President of the House of Representatives shall preside at the Opening Ceremony.

In case the President of the House of Representatives is absent or incapacitated, the President of the House of Councillors shall preside.

CHAPTER II. TERM OF SESSION AND RECESS.

Article 10. The term of an ordinary session shall be one hundred and fifty (150) days.

Article 11. The term of either an extraordinary session or a special session shall be determined by decision of the Houses.

Article 12. The term of a Diet session may be extended by decision of the Houses.

Article 13. If the Houses disagree on the matters under the two preceding Articles, the decision of the House of Representatives shall prevail.

Article 14. The term of a Diet session shall be counted as from the date of convocation.

Article 15. A recess of the Diet shall require the decision of both Houses, but either House acting alone may recess for a period not to exceed ~~seven (7)~~ ten (10) days.

During a recess of the Diet or of a single House, a plenary session of either House may be called when the President of the House deems it urgent or when one-fourth or more of all members of the House demand it.

CHAPTER III. OFFICERS AND EXPENDITURES.

Article 16. The officers of each House shall be as follows:

(1). President
(2). Vice President
(3). President pro tem
(4). Chairmen of Standing Committees
(5). Secretary General

Article 17. There shall be one President and one Vice President for each House.

Article 18. The term of office for the President and for the Vice President of each House shall coincide with their term of office as Diet members.

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Article 19. The President of each House shall maintain order in the House, adjust its proceedings, supervise its business, and represent it.

Article 20. The President of each House may attend and address committee meetings.

Article 21. When the President of either House is absent or the office is vacant, the Vice President shall perform the functions of the President.

Article 22. When both the President and the Vice President of either House are absent or incapacitated, a President pro tem shall be elected by the House to perform the functions of the President.

The House may entrust the President with the selection of the President pro tem.

Article 23. When in either House the office of President or Vice President, or both, become vacant, elections shall be conducted immediately to fill them.

Article 24. When a President pro tem is to be elected, and no officer is present to perform the functions of the President in conducting the elections prescribed in the preceding Article, the Secretary General shall perform the functions of the President.

Article 25. Chairmen of Standing Committees shall be elected in each House from among the membership of the respective Standing Committees.

Article 26. Each House shall have one Secretary General, Secretaries, and other necessary personnel.

Article 27. The Secretary General shall be elected in each House from among non-Diet members. Secretaries and other personnel shall be appointed or dismissed by the Secretary General with the consent of the President and the approval of the Standing Committee for House Management.

Article 28. The Secretary General shall, under the supervision of the President, administer the affairs of the House and sign official documents.

The Secretaries shall, by order of the Secretary General, administer the affairs of the House.

Article 29. If the Secretary General is absent or incapacitated, or the office is vacant, a Secretary who has been previously designated shall perform the functions of the Secretary General.

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Article 30. Officers can resign with permission of the House. During adjournment, permission for resignation of officers may be given by the President.

30-2. If either House finds it specially necessary, by decision of the House a Standing Committee Chairman may be relieved of his post.

Article 31. Officers shall not hold concurrently a government office.

Article 32. Expenditures of each House shall be appropriated independently in the national budget.

The above appropriation shall include a contingent fund.

CHAPTER IV. MEMBERS

Article 33. No member of either House shall be arrested without the consent of the House concerned during the term of a session, unless he is apprehended while committing a crime outside the Diet.

Article 34. During an emergency session of the House of Councillors, no member of the House of Councillors shall be arrested without the consent of the House, unless he is apprehended while committing a crime outside the Diet.

A member of the House of Councillors who is arrested before the opening of an emergency session of that House must be freed during the term of the session upon demand of the House.

34-2. Under the provisions of Articles 33 and 34, in asking the consent of the House concerned for the arrest of a member, the Cabinet shall submit a copy of the written request presented by the court or the judge to the Cabinet prior to issuance of the warrant of arrest.

Article 35. Members shall each receive an annual allowance not less in amount than the highest pay for government officials in general.

Article 36. Members shall receive a retirement allowance, according to provisions separately made.

Article 37. Members may travel without charge on State railways during a session and at any other time on official business, according to regulations separately made.

Article 38. Members shall receive allowances, as fixed separately, for posting official documents and for communications of official character during the term of a session.

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~~Article 39. Members cannot, during the term for which they are elected, be appointed as officials of the Government or of a local public entity, unless stipulated by law.~~

~~Members cannot, during the term for which they are elected, be appointed as members of committees, advisers, non-official staff (Shokutaku), or other similar offices under the various administrative branches of the Government, unless such an appointment is fixed by law or provided for by decision of the Diet.~~

Article 39. No member, during his term of office, shall be appointed concurrently as an official of the Government or of a local public entity, except as Prime Minister, other Cabinet Ministers, Secretary General of the Cabinet, Vice Minister of each Ministry, or offices otherwise positively stipulated by law; provided, however, that with the approval of the Diet, members may be appointed, during their term of office, as commissioners, advisors (komon), councillors (sanyo), or as other corresponding officials of the executive branch of the Government.

CHAPTER V. COMMITTEES AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS.

Article 40. In each House there shall be Standing Committees and Special Committees.

Article 41. Standing Committee members shall be selected by each House at the beginning of the first session of their term of office as Diet members and shall serve during their term.

~~Each member shall be selected to serve on at least one Standing Committee but cannot serve concurrently on more than three Standing Committees.~~

Every member shall serve on at least one Standing Committee; however, he shall not serve on more than two Standing Committees concurrently. If he serves on two Standing Committees, one of the two shall be limited to the Standing Committee for Budget, Audit, House Management, Disciplinary Measures, or Library Management.

Article 42. Standing Committees of each House shall be as follows, and they shall examine the bills, petitions, representations, and other items which come under their respective spheres of work.

(1) Standing Committee for Administrative Research and Civil Service
(2) Standing Committee for ~~Public Safety and Local Government~~ Local Administration
(3) Standing Committee for Economic Stabilization
(4) Standing Committee for ~~Judicial Affairs~~ Attorney General's Office

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(5) Standing Committee for Foreign Affairs
(6) Standing Committee for Finance
(7) Standing Committee for Education
~~Standing Committee for Culture~~
(8) Standing Committee for Welfare
(9) Standing Committee for Commerce and Industry
~~Standing Committee for Mining and Industry~~
~~Standing Committee for Electricity~~
(10) Standing Committee for Agriculture and Forestry
(11) Standing Committee for Fisheries
(12) Standing Committee for Transportation
(13) Standing Committee for Communications
(14) Standing Committee for Labor
(15) Standing Committee for Construction
~~Standing Committee for National Land Planning~~
(16) Standing Committee for Budgets
(17) Standing Committee for Audit
(18) Standing Committee for House Management
(19) Standing Committee for Disciplinary Measures
(20) Standing Committee for Library Management

~~Each House can increase, decrease, or combine the Standing Committees abovementioned, upon recommendation of the Legislative Committee of the Houses.~~

Either House may establish Standing Committees other than those listed in the preceding paragraph or may combine those mentioned above if a national administrative organ is newly established or abolished, or upon recommendation of the Legislative Committee of the Houses, or if deemed especially necessary by the House. However, the Houses shall have identical Committees.

~~Article 43. Each Standing Committee shall be provided at least two qualified specialists, who are not Diet members, and an adequate number of secretarial assistants, all of whom shall be permanent staff. However, qualified specialists and secretarial assistants shall not be appointed when the House deems them unnecessary.~~

~~Qualified specialists above mentioned shall receive adequate remuneration and shall not be otherwise employed. They cannot occupy any post in the administrative branches of the Government for two (2) years following their resignation from a Standing Committee.~~

Article 43. Each Standing Committee shall have at least two non-Diet member specialists (called Qualified Specialists, "senmonin"; Research Secretaries, "chosain"; and Research Clerks, "chosa-shuji") as permanent staff of the Committee, unless the House deems their appointment unnecessary.

Qualified Specialists shall receive adequate compensation and shall not hold any other post concurrently.

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Qualified Specialists shall not take any post in the executive branch of Government for one (1) year following resignation from their posts.

Article 44. A Standing Committee of one House may hold a joint hearing with a Standing Committee of the other House if they so agree.

Article 45. Members of a Special Committee shall be elected by each House in order to examine specially designated matters which do not come within the jurisdiction of any Standing Committee, and they shall serve until the matter they are entrusted with is decided upon by the House.

The Chairman of a Special Committee shall be elected by a majority vote of the Committee from its membership.

Article 46. Membership on Standing Committees and Special Committees shall be allotted in proportion to the numerical strength of political parties or groups in the respective Houses.

46-2. After appointment of Committee members in compliance with the preceding paragraph, the President may, notwithstanding the provision of Article 41, paragraph 1, change committee membership with the approval of the Standing Committee for House Management when it becomes necessary to reallocate members as the result of a shift in the numerical strength of parties or groups in the House.

Artical 47. Standing Committees and Special Committees shall examine matters entrusted to them only during the term of a session.

During adjournment, however, Standing Committees and Special Committees may, by decision of each House, examine matters especially entrusted to them.

Article 48. The Chairman of each Committee shall adjust its proceedings and maintain order in the Committee.

Article 49. A Committee may not open deliberations and transact business unless one-half or more of its members are present.

Article 50. The proceedings of a Committee shall be decided by majority vote of the members present. In case of a tie, the Chairman shall make the decision.

Article 51. A Committee may conduct open hearings on important questions of popular concern or public interest in order to hear the views of interested parties or persons of learning and experience.

Such hearings must be held on the general budget and on important revenue bills.

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Article 52. A Committee may be attended by Diet members and the general public as authorized by the Chairman. However, a Committee may hold secret meetings if it so decides.

The Chairman of a Committee may cause non-committee members to leave a meeting so as to maintain order.

Article 53. The Chairman must report the proceedings and results of his Committee to the House.

Article 54. A minority opinion rejected in Committee may be reported to the House by members of the minority following the Chairman's report.

The President may place a time limit on the minority report. When an adequate summary of the minority report is presented to the President, it shall be entered in the Record of Proceedings, together with the Committee's report.

CHAPTER VI. PLENARY SESSIONS

Article 55. The President of each House shall fix the calendar of proceedings and give advance notice of it to the House.

If the President deems it urgent, he may hold a plenary session after merely notifying members of the date and time of such session.

55-2. Concerning the order of proceedings and other matters which the President deems necessary, he may consult only with a subcommittee selected by the Standing Committee for House Management; however, the President shall not be bound by their opinions if they fail to agree.

Article 56. Any member may introduce a bill.

When a bill is introduced, the President shall assign it to the appropriate Committee for examination, after which it shall be placed on the agenda in plenary session. However, when considered urgent, Committee examination may be omitted by decision of the House.

A bill which the Committee decides not to submit to a plenary session of the House shall not be submitted. However, when demanded by twenty (20) or more members within seven (7) days (not counting the period of recess) from the date of the Committee decision, it must be submitted to a plenary session.

If no such demand is made, the bill is rejected.

The two preceding paragraphs shall not apply to bills transmitted from the other House.

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56-2. Concerning any bill introduced in the House, an explanation of its purport will be heard in plenary session if deemed specially necessary by the Standing Committee for House Management.

56-3. Each House may request a Committee to make an interim report on a matter pending in the Committee if the House deems it specially necessary.

If deemed of urgent necessity by the House, it may place a time limit upon Committee deliberations after an interim report, as provided in the preceding paragraph, has been made, or it may deliberate the case in a plenary session.

If a time limit has been placed upon Committee deliberations and such deliberations have not been completed within the time limit, deliberations shall be made in plenary session. However, the House may extend the term for deliberation at the request of the Committee.

Article 57. A motion to amend a bill, in order to be placed before a plenary session, requires the support of twenty (20) or more members.

Article 58. A bill submitted by the Cabinet to one House shall be sent to the other House for preliminary examination within five (5) days ~~following its submission~~ from the date of its presentation to one House.

Article 59. The Cabinet may not amend or withdraw a bill already on the agenda of the House or of a Committee without consent of the House.

Article 60. The Committee Chairman, his proxy, or the proposer of a bill that has been passed by one House may explain the bill when it is presented in the other House.

Article 61. The President of each House may limit time for interpellations, debate, or other utterances, unless ~~otherwise decided by~~ the House has previously decided otherwise.

If one-fifth or more of the members object to the time limit placed by the President, he shall consult the House.

The part of a member's speech omitted because of the time limit may be entered in the Record of Proceedings to such an extent as considered suitable by the President, unless otherwise decided by the House.

Article 62. Upon motion by the President or by ten (10) or more members, the proceedings of each House may be closed to the public by a vote of two-thirds or more of the members present.

Article 63. Parts of the Record of Proceedings of a secret session which have been voted upon as specially requiring secrecy may not be made public.

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652 SEC. 3(E) AND 3(D) OR (E) NNDG # 79-072

Article 64. When the office of Prime Minister becomes vacant or when the Prime Minister tenders his resignation, the Cabinet shall immediately so notify both Houses.

Article 65. When bills requiring the decision of both Houses are passed, or when the decision of the House of Representatives becomes the final decision of the Diet, those bills requiring promulgation shall be reported to the Throne through the Cabinet by the President of the House of Representatives, while other bills shall be sent to the Cabinet.

Nomination of a Prime Minister shall be communicated by the President of the House of Representatives to the Throne through the Cabinet.

Article 66. A law must be promulgated within thirty (30) days from the date of its submission to the Throne.

Article 67. A special law applicable only to a single local public entity shall, after approval by the Diet, be submitted to a vote of the people of the local public entity concerned, as provided separately by law, and when approved by the majority of the voters of that local public entity shall become law.

Article 68. Any matter not decided during a session shall not be carried over to the following session, excepting the case prescribed in Article 47, paragraph 2.

CHAPTER VII. MINISTERS OF STATE AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GOVERNMENT.

Article 69. The Cabinet may, with the approval of the Presidents of the Houses, appoint representatives of the Government to assist Ministers of State in the Diet.

Article 70. A Minister of State and a representative of the Government, when desiring to speak at a House or Committee meeting, must notify the President or the Chairman of the Committee concerned.

Article 71. A Committee may, through the President, request the presence of a Minister of State or a representative of the Government at its meeting.

Article 72. A Committee may, through the President, request the presence of and explanation by the President of the Board of Audit and auditors at its meeting.

With the consent of a Committee, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court or a deputy designated by him may, upon his request, attend Committee meetings to offer explanations.

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12958 SEC. 3(E) AND 3(D) OR (E) MNDC # 795 072

Article 73. Reports of proceedings of the Diet and of Committee meetings shall, simultaneously with their distribution to Diet Members, be delivered to Ministers of State and representatives of the Government.

CHAPTER VIII. INTERPELLATIONS AND FREE DISCUSSION

Article 74. A member of each House desiring to interpellate the Cabinet must obtain the approval of the President.

A brief statement of the purport of an interpellation shall be presented to the President.

When a member objects to the President's disapproval of his interpellation, the President must submit the matter to a decision of the House.

If demanded by the member, the President shall have entered in the Record of Proceedings a brief statement of the purport of the member's disapproved interpellation.

Article 75. The President of each House shall transmit to the Cabinet a brief statement of the purport of an approved interpellation.

The Cabinet must make a reply within seven (7) days of receipt of an interpellation. When a reply is not made within the specified period, the reason for the delay shall be clearly stated.

Article 76. When an interpellation is urgent, it may be made orally if the House so decides.

Article 77. The Cabinet reply to an interpellation may be put to debate, and also to a vote of the House, upon motion of a member.

Article 78. Each House must, during the term of a session, meet at least once every ~~two (2)~~ three (3) weeks for the purpose of conducting free discussion ~~of national affairs~~ in relation to government by its members.

A subject under free discussion may be put to a vote of the House upon motion of a member.

A time limit for speeches during free discussion shall be set by the President, unless otherwise decided by the House.

CHAPTER IX. PETITIONS

Article 79. A person desiring to petition either House shall present a written petition to the House through a member.

Article 80. Adoption of a petition shall be by decision of either House after examination by the appropriate Committee.

A petition deemed by the Committee to be unnecessary for submission to the House shall not be submitted. However, when demanded by twenty (20) or more members, a petition must be presented to the House.

Article 81. Petitions adopted by either House and deemed appropriate for Cabinet action shall be transmitted to the Cabinet.

The Cabinet must, every year, report to the House concerned the particulars of the disposal of petitions mentioned in the preceding paragraph.

Article 82. Each House independently shall receive and dispose of petitions without interference from the other House.

CHAPTER X. RELATIONS BETWEEN THE HOUSES

Article 83. When a matter requiring a decision of the Diet has been passed or amended by House A, the said matter shall be transmitted to House B; when such matter has been rejected by House A, the notification of rejection shall be made to House B.

When House B has agreed to or rejected a matter transmitted from House A, notification of agreement or rejection shall be made to House A.

When House B has amended a matter transmitted from House A, it shall be referred to House A.

When House A has agreed or has not agreed to a matter referred thereto by House B, notification of agreement or disagreement shall be made to House B.

Article 84. When the House of Representatives has not agreed to a legislative bill referred thereto by the House of Councillors, or when the House of Councillors has rejected a legislative bill transmitted thereto by the House of Representatives or has not agreed to a legislative bill referred thereto by the House of Representatives, the House of Representatives may request a meeting of a Joint Committee of the Houses.

In spite of the preceding paragraph, the House of Councillors may, with its notification of disagreement, request a meeting of a Joint Committee of the Houses, only when the House of Councillors has not agreed to a legislative bill referred thereto by the House of Representatives. However, on this occasion, the House of Representatives may refuse the request for a meeting of a Joint Committee of the Houses.

Article 85. In connection with budget estimates or treaties receiving prior consideration by the House of Representatives, when the House of Representatives has not agreed to a matter referred thereto by the House of Councillors, or when the House of Councillors has rejected a matter transmitted thereto by the House of Representatives, the House of Representatives must request a meeting of a Joint Committee of the Houses.

In connection with treaties receiving prior consideration by the House of Councillors, when the House of Councillors has not agreed to a matter referred thereto by the House of Representatives, or when the House of Representatives has rejected a matter transmitted thereto by the House of Councillors, the House of Councillors must request a meeting of a Joint Committee of the Houses.

Article 86. When either House has decided upon the nomination of the Prime Minister, the other House shall be so notified.

When the Houses disagree upon the nomination of the Prime Minister, the House of Councillors must request a meeting of a Joint Committee of the Houses.

Article 87. Except for the provisions in the three preceding Articles, in connection with matters requiring Diet decision, when the House exercising posterior consideration disagrees with the decision of the House exercising prior consideration, the latter may request a meeting of a Joint Committee of the Houses.

Article 88. When either House has requested a meeting of a Joint Committee of the Houses, the other House cannot refuse, **except as provided in Par. 84, paragraph 2.**

Article 89. A Joint Committee of the Houses shall consist of twenty (20) members, ten (10) of whom shall be elected by each House.

Article 90. A meeting of a Joint Committee of the Houses shall be presided over alternately by a Chairman elected by and from each House's membership on the Joint Committee. The Chairman for the initial meeting shall be chosen by lottery.

Article 91. A meeting of a Joint Committee of the Houses cannot open proceedings or make any decision unless two-thirds or more of the Joint Committeemen respectively of each House are present.

Article 92. A Joint Committee of the Houses shall decide upon a definitive draft only when two-thirds or more of the members of the Joint Committee present have voted for it.

The proceedings of a Joint Committee of the Houses shall, except as provided in the preceding paragraph, be determined by a majority vote of the members of the Joint Committee present; in case of a tie, the decision shall be made by the Chairman.

Article 93. A definitive draft prepared by a Joint Committee of the Houses shall be considered first by the House which requested the meeting and then by the other House.

A definitive draft shall not be subject to further amendment.

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Article 94. When a definitive draft cannot be agreed upon by a Joint Committee of the Houses, the Chairmen of the Joint Committee must so notify their respective Houses.

Article 95. The President of either House may be present and express his views at a meeting of a Joint Committee of the Houses.

Article 96. A Joint Committee of the Houses may demand the presence at its meeting of Ministers of State and representatives of the Government.

Article 97. Other than those specified in the two preceding Articles, only committee members shall be permitted to attend a meeting of a Joint Committee of the Houses.

Article 98. Rules concerning a Joint Committee of the Houses, other than those provided for in this law, shall be prescribed by decision of the Houses.

CHAPTER XI. LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSES

~~Article 99. The Legislative Committee of the Houses shall make recommendations to the Houses and the Cabinet concerning the introduction of new legislation, existing laws, and Cabinet orders; it shall also investigate and study the Diet Law and other regulations of the Houses and make recommendations to the Houses for their revision.~~

Article 99. The Legislative Committee of the Houses shall perform the following functions: (1) to single out specific problems relating to government and to make recommendations thereon to the Houses; (2) to make recommendations to the Houses for new legislation or concerning existing laws and Cabinet orders; (3) to investigate and study the laws and regulations pertaining to the Diet and to make recommendations to the Houses for their revision.

The Legislative Committee of the Houses shall, before the end of every session, submit to the President of each House a report on the matters listed in the preceding paragraph.

~~Article 100. The Legislative Committee shall consist of eighteen (18) members, of whom the House of Representatives shall elect ten (10) and the House of Councillors elect eight (8). The Chairman of the Committee shall be elected by majority vote of the Committee from among its members.~~

Article 100. The Legislative Committee of the Houses shall consist of ten(10) members of the House of Representatives and eight (8) members of the House of Councillors, elected by the respective Houses. Meetings shall be presided over alternately by Chairmen elected respectively by the Committee members of each House. The Chairman for the initial meeting shall be decided by lottery.

The term of office of Committee members shall be the same as that of members of the Houses.

Article 101. The Legislative Committee cannot hold a meeting while the Diet is not in session, unless otherwise decided by the Diet.

Article 102. Additional provisions governing the Legislative Committee shall be decided by the Houses.

CHAPTER XII. RELATIONS BETWEEN THE DIET, THE GENERAL PUBLIC, AND PUBLIC OFFICES.

Article 103. Each House may dispatch its members for examination ~~and investigation~~ of bills and other matters, for investigations in relation to government, or for any other purpose deemed necessary by the House.

Article 104. The Cabinet, the Government, and public offices must comply with requests of each House for submission of necessary reports and documents for investigation.

~~Article 105. The Cabinet and the Ministries must send copies of their publications to the Diet Library.~~

~~When deemed necessary, the Standing Committees for Library Management, jointly or separately, may cause the Cabinet and Ministries to send their publications to Diet Members.~~

Article 106. When witnesses are called to testify in connection with legislative matters and the investigation of national affairs, each House shall, according to regulations separately made, provide them with travel expenses and daily allowances.

CHAPTER XIII. RESIGNATION, RETIREMENT, VACANCIES, AND QUALIFICATIONS.

Article 107. Each House may authorize resignations of its members. When the House is adjourned, the President may authorize resignations.

Article 108. A member becomes retired when he is elected to the other House or when he is appointed to an office which, according to law, he cannot occupy concurrently as a Diet member.

Article 109. A member becomes retired when he loses eligibility for Diet membership.

Article 110. The President of the House concerned must notify the Election Administration Management Commission of the existence of a Diet vacancy.

Article 111. When a litigation occurs concerning a member's qualifications, the House concerned will offer a resolution after the completion of the Committee's examination.

The above-mentioned litigation shall be presented in written form to the President by a member of the House concerned.

Article 112. When a litigation concerning a member's qualifications has been initiated, the member may employ one or two attorneys, but only one at State expense.

Article 113. A member will maintain his membership and authority connected with it in the House until he has been disqualified. However, he may defend himself but cannot vote in a meeting in which a litigation concerning his qualifications is pending.

CHAPTER XIV. DISCIPLINE AND POLICE.

Article 114. In order to maintain discipline during sessions the President of each House shall exercise police power within the Diet in accordance with this Law and the regulations prescribed by each House.

The preceding paragraph shall be applied mutatis mutandis during an emergency session of the House of Councillors.

Article 115. The Cabinet shall dispatch, upon request of the Presidents of the Houses, an adequate police force for the Diet. The police will be superintended by the Presidents.

Article 116. During a plenary session, when a member acts contrary to this Law or rules of proceedings, or is guilty of disorderly conduct, or injures the dignity of the House, the President shall warn or restrain him or cause him to retract his words. When a member disobeys an order, the President may silence him until the end of the meeting or cause him to leave the chamber.

Article 117. The President may recess or adjourn a meeting in case it becomes too disorderly to control.

Article 118. A visitor who obstructs the progress of business in the House may be ordered to leave the House by the President or may be placed in custody of the police, if necessary.

The President may order all visitors to leave in case the gallery becomes disorderly.

Article 119. No insulting language shall be used and no remarks concerning the private affairs of another member shall be made in the House.

Article 120. A member insulted during a plenary session or in committee may appeal to the House for action against the guilty members.

CHAPTER XV. DISCIPLINARY MEASURES

Article 121. The President shall refer a disciplinary case occurring in the House to the Standing Committee for Disciplinary Measures for examination, and he shall pronounce the sentence passed by the House.

A Committee Chairman shall report a disciplinary case occurring in a Committee to the President for necessary action.

A motion for disciplinary action, initiated by twenty (20) or more members, shall be presented within three (3) days after a disciplinary case occurs.

Article 122. Disciplinary action shall be as follows:

(1). Admohition in a meeting open to the public.
(2). Address of apology in a meeting open to the public.
(3). Suspension of attendance in the House for a certain period.
(4). Expulsion.

Article 123. Neither House shall refuse to seat a member who has been re-elected following his expulsion.

Article 124. The President shall refer to the Standing Committee for Disciplinary Measures a case of a member who fails to attend the House without justification within seven (7) days after the member received an invitation which the President specially sent to him because, (a) the member did not attend the Diet without a justifiable reason within seven (7) days after the date of convocation, (b) the member was absent from a plenary session or a committee meeting without a justifiable reason, (c) the period of leave of absence expired.

CHAPTER XVI. COURT OF IMPEACHMENT

Article 125. Impeachment against judges shall be conducted by the Court of Impeachment, composed of an equal number of judges elected by the respective Houses from among their members.

The Presiding Judge of the Court of Impeachment shall be elected by majority vote of the Court from among its members.

Article 126. Removal proceedings against judges shall be instituted by the Proceedings Committee composed of members elected by the House of Representatives.

The Chairman of the Proceedings Committee shall be elected by majority vote of the Committee from its membership.

Article 127. A judge of the Court of Impeachment shall not become concurrently a member of the Proceedings Committee.

Article 128. When the judges are elected in each House and the Proceedings Committee members are elected in the House of Representatives, alternate members for these positions shall be elected.

Article 129. Matters relating to the Court of Impeachment and the Proceedings Committee, other than those provided for in this Law, shall be determined by law.

CHAPTER XVII. ~~DIET LIBRARY AND MEMBERS' CLUB~~
NATIONAL DIET LIBRARY, LEGISLATIVE BUREAU, AND MEMBERS' CLUB

Article 130. The National Diet Library shall be established in the Diet as Provided by law to help members with investigations and research.

The National Diet Library may be used by the public.

~~Article 131. Each House shall have a legal department to expedite the drafting of legal measures by members.~~

Article 131. A Legislative Bureau shall be established in each House for the purpose of aiding Diet members in drafting legislation.

The Legislative Bureau of each House shall have a Director, Secretaries, and other necessary personnel.

The Director shall be appointed or dismissed by the President, with the approval of the House. However, the President may accept the resignation of the Director during adjournment of the Diet.

The Director shall administer the business of the Legislative Bureau under the supervision of the President.

Secretaries and other personnel of the Legislative Bureau shall be appointed or dismissed by the Director with the consent of the President and the approval of the Standing Committee for House Management.

Secretaries shall administer their business under the direction of the Director.

Regulations necessary for administering the business of the Legislative Bureau shall be approved by the Standing Committee for House Management.

Article 132. A Members' Club, where office-rooms and one (1) secretary ~~clerical assistant~~ for each member shall be provided, shall be established to facilitate members' business.

SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS

This Law shall come into force from the day of the enforcement of the Japanese Constitution.

The present Law of the Houses shall be repealed.

Until an election for the President and Vice President of the House of Representatives is held according to this Law, the President and Vice President who hold office when this Law comes into force shall remain in their respective offices.

Until an election for the Secretary General of each House is held according to this Law, the Chief Secretary of the House of Representatives and of the House of Peers who hold office when this Law comes into force shall continue to hold their respective offices as Secretary General.

Until the House of Councillors adopts its House regulations, the regulations for the House of Representatives shall be followed with respect to procedures and regulations for meetings or other matters in the first session of the House of Councillors.

SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS OF AMENDMENT LAW (5 JULY 1948)

[A] This Law shall come into force as from the day of its promulgation, provided however, that the revised provisions of Article 41, paragraph 2, and Article 42 shall be enforced as from the date of convocation of the Third Session of the Diet.

[B] A part of the Law concerning the Temporary Appointment of Parliamentary Vice Ministers (Law No. 26 of 1948) shall read as follows:

Article 3. Deleted.

Article 8. The provisions of Article 1 and Article 2 of this Law shall become invalid as from the date of the enforcement of the National Government Organization Law.

[C] "Vice Minister of each Ministry" in the amended provision of Article 39 shall read as "Parliamentary Vice Ministers" until the date of the enforcement of the National Government Organization Law.