

7 - 78

LEGISLATIVE

E SUMMARY

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE LIBRARY



3 0307 00017 5433

KFM

5415

.L45x

1977/78

CHIEF CLERK
EDWARD A. BURDICK
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

COVER:

HUBERT H. HUMPHREY
1911-1978

"John Kennedy said in 1960, in that election, he said this is not an election just between two parties, this is an election between the comfortable and the concerned. Yes, the comfortable can say less government. The comfortable can say that the programs are no good. But for the concerned, for the needy, for the unfortunate, for the unemployed, for the businessman that's lost his business, for the older person that finds inflation eating up his limited income, the only hope they have is in a compassionate, fair, generous, and responsive government and that's what we Democrats have tried in our own way to do."

(Jefferson-Jackson Day Dinner, 1976)

This year's Legislative Summary consists of the more important bills passed during the 70th session of the Minnesota Legislature. Some 2,538 bills were introduced in the House of Representatives and 2,410 were introduced in the Senate. Of these, 797 passed to become part of the DFL record of progressive, people-oriented legislation.

The format of this year's booklet has been changed, hopefully to make it easier to use. Bills are grouped, whenever possible, according to the people helped by the legislation. For example, the school aids bills are listed under "STUDENTS" while the bill giving discharged coaches a right to a hearing is listed under "EDUCATORS". Secondly, within the general categories -- "FARMERS", "HANDICAPPED", "EDUCATORS", etc.--individual bills are listed alphabetically according to the key word in the title that best conveys the bill's subject matter. For example, the Pilot Bilingual Education Bill is listed Bilingual Education Pilot Programs. Glance over the Table of Contents to familiarize yourself with the structure of the booklet before using it.

Finally, hang on to your copy of last year's booklet. Some bills from the 1977 Summary have not been included or have had their summaries shortened in this year's booklet to provide more coverage of 1978 legislation.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
APPROPRIATIONS	
Building Bills	1
Health, Welfare & Corrections Omnibus Bill	1
Semi-State Appropriations	2
State Departments Omnibus Bill	2
Supplemental Appropriations Bill	3
BUSINESS COMMUNITY	
Area Redevelopment Loan Eligibility	4
Business Tax Change	4
Buy America Bill	5
Community Development Corporations (CDC)	5
Detached Banking Facilities	5
Discriminatory Trade Practices	6
Dram Shop Law Amendments	6
Electronic Funds Transfer Facilities	6
Fair Trade Laws Repealed	7
Feedlot Pollution Control Tax Credit	7
Food Vending Machines	7
Insurance Policies Cancellation	8
Plumbers - Licensing & Bonding	8
Product Liability	8
Real Estate Sellers Continuing Education	9
Resort Property Assessment Classification	9
Office of Small Business	9
Small Business Procurement Act	
Improvements	9
Small Business Set Aside Program - Minneapolis	10
Tourism Promotion Funds	10
CONSUMERS	
Charities	11
Damages for Withholding Security Deposits	
or Rent	11
Deficiency Judgments in Consumer Transactions	12
Employment Agency Fees	12
Insurance - Credit Life, Health & Accident	12
Insurance Cancellation - Fire	12
Insurance Guaranty Association - Life & Health	13
Insurance - No-Fault	13
Insurance Policies Readability	13
Item Pricing	14
Mandatory Smoke Detectors	14
Mileage Disclosure for Title and Transfer	
of Motor Vehicles	14
Mobile Home Lot Rental Fees	14
Optometrists Price Advertising	15
Truth in Repairs Act	15
CRIME VICTIMS	
Battered Women	15
Crime Victims Crisis Centers	16
Crime Victims Reparations	16
Spouse Abuse	17

TABLE OF CONTENTS
(Continued)

	Page
CRIMINAL JUSTICE	
Arson	17
Correctional Licensure	17
Crime Control Planning Board	18
Detention of Juveniles	18
Handgun Law	18
Marijuana - Reducing Past Convictions	19
New Prison	19
Psychiatric Care for Correctional Inmates	19
Sentencing	20
EDUCATORS	
Athletic Coaches	20
Teacher File Data	20
ELECTION REFORM	
Accessibility of Polling Places	21
Availability of Public Facilities for Precinct	
Caucuses	21
Ballot Designations	21
Campaign Financing Changes	22
Special Elections for U. S. Senate Vacancies	22
Voter Registration & Absentee Voting	23
ENERGY	
1977 Energy Conservation Bill	23
1978 Energy Conservation Bill	24
Energy Production from Agriculture &	
Forest Products	25
Power Line Siting	25
ENVIRONMENT	
Dam Safety & Repair	26
Environmental Education	27
Fluorocarbon Ban	27
Lake Improvement Districts	27
Nuclear Waste	28
Plastic Milk Containers	28
Solid & Hazardous Waste Research	28
Used Motor Oil Recycling	29
Water Pollution Control Fund	29
Water Use Priorities	29
FARMERS	
Agricultural Marketing Activities	30
Alien Ownership of Farmland	30
Compensation for Destroyed Livestock	30
Corporate Farming Restrictions	107
Family Farm Security Act Amendments	31
Rural Water User Districts	31
Soil & Water Conservation	32
Water Resources Management	32
Weather Modification	32

TABLE OF CONTENTS
(Continued)

	Page
GOVERNMENT REFORM	
Appointment of Department Heads	33
Data Privacy	33
Department of Economic Security	34
Legislators' Seniority	34
Minnesota Identification Card	34
Open Appointments Procedure	34
Public Television	35
State Contracts Management	35
State Personnel Practices	36
Unclaimed Property	36
Unclassified Pay Raise Bill	37
Volunteer Services Office	37
HANDICAPPED	
Access to Public Buildings	38
Architects & Engineers - Knowledge of Handicapped Needs	38
Guide Dogs for the Deaf	39
Islands of Peace Park - Fridley	39
Parking Privileges for the Handicapped	39
Remodeling of Handicapped Employees' Residences	40
Sheltered Workshop Financing	40
State Council for Handicapped	40
State Employment of Handicapped	41
Transportation Funding for Handicapped	41
Vinland National Center	41
HEALTH CARE	
Comprehensive Health Insurance Association	42
Family Planning Services	42
Health Facility Refinancing	42
Health Manpower Data	43
Health Records Access	43
Health Screening for Pre-Schoolers	43
Health Services, Health Research, Health Policy	44
Immunization of Students	44
Insurance Coverage for Chemical Dependency Treatment	44
Medical Malpractice	45
Nursing-Pharmacy Building - University of Minnesota	45
New Facility at St. Peter Hospital	45
HOMEOWNERS	
Housing Finance	46
New Home Warranties	46
Usury Law Extension/Changes	47

TABLE OF CONTENTS
(Continued)

	Page
JUDICIAL REFORM	
Commitment Records Sealed	47
Court Reorganization	48
Judges - Removal & Discipline	49
Jurisdiction Over Non-Residents	49
Marriage Law Amendments	49
Tax Court	50
LOCAL GOVERNMENT	
Airport Zoning	51
Cities of the First Class - Definition	51
County Agricultural Societies	51
County Government Optional Forms	52
Duluth Housing Finance Program	52
"911" Emergency Telephone Service	52
Financial Reporting Requirements	53
Gambling Devices	53
Library Grants	54
Metropolitan Airports Commission Bonding Limits	54
Minneapolis - Rule of Three	54
Minnesota Municipal Board	55
Pets Used for Research	55
Shade Tree Disease Control	55
Special Assessment Projects - Townships	57
Town Halls - FHA Loans	57
Township Legal Actions	57
MINORITIES	
Affirmative Action Program for State	58
American Indian Housing	58
American Indian Language & Culture Program	59
Bilingual Education Pilot Programs	59
Council on Affairs of Spanish-Speaking People	59
POLICE	
Justifiable Force	60
Police Officer Training	60
PUBLIC EMPLOYEES	
<u>Public Employment Labor Relations Act (PELRA) Amendments</u>	
Arbitrator Selections	61
Clarifying the Definition of Public Employer	61
Grievance Procedures	62
Physical & Occupational Therapists	62
Supervisory & Confidential Employees	62
<u>Pensions</u>	
Exclusion of CETA Employees	62
Highway Patrol	63
Legislators & Constitutional Officers Pension Funds & PERA Changes	63

TABLE OF CONTENTS (Continued)

	Page
PUBLIC EMPLOYEES (Continued)	
Pensions (Continued)	
Local Police & Fire Fund Reporting	64
Metropolitan Transit Commission	64
Minneapolis Municipal Retirement Fund	64
Part-Time Teachers	65
Payment of Monthly Benefits	65
Post Retirement Benefit Increases:	
Annuitants	65
Post Retirement Benefit Increases:	
Survivors & Disabilitants	65
Retirement Bill - 1977	66
Teachers Retirement Fund	66
TRA Variable Annuity Program, MSRS Early Retirement, Service Credit Limitations	66
General	
Civil Service Status for Certain CETA Employees	67
Classified Employees Pay Bill	67
Group Insurance Plans	68
Political Activities	68
PUBLIC UTILITY CUSTOMERS	
Public Utility Rate Regulation	69
Representation for Residential Utility Customers	69
Rural Electric Cooperatives	69
Telephone Company Regulation	70
PUBLIC WELFARE	
Abortion Financing Restricted	70
Child Support Collections	71
Income Maintenance Eligibility	71
Public Welfare Omnibus Bill	72
Welfare Abuses	72
Work Equity Programs	72
SENIOR CITIZENS	
Dental Care - Pilot Program	73
Identifying Dentures	73
Personal Allowance	73
Nursing Home Regulations	74
SPORTS ENTHUSIASTS	
Como Park Zoo	74
Fish Refuge	75
Game & Fish	75
Game & Fish Law Violation	76
Migratory Waterfowl Stamp	76
Minnows & Leeches; Tip Ups	76
Parks & Recreation Bonding	77
Stadium Bill	78
Trespass Prohibited	78

TABLE OF CONTENTS (Continued)

	Page
STUDENTS	
Career Counseling	78
Community College Board	79
Comparable Credit for Comparable Work at Post-Secondary Institutions	79
Education Bill	79
HECB Optometry/Osteopathy Placements	80
HECB: Student Financial Aid	81
Non-Public School Aid	81
Private College Registration	81
Rural Medical Student Loans	82
School Aids Bill - 1977	82
School Aids Bill - 1978	85
TAXPAYERS	
Delayed Valuation Increase for Rental Unit Rehabilitation	86
Tax Bill - 1977	87
Tax Bill - 1978	90
TRANSPORTATION	
Department of Transportation Appropriation/ Public Transit Funding	92
Bicycle Registration & Regulations	93
Bloomington Ferry Bridge	93
Bridge Bonding	94
Construction of I-94	94
Personalized License Plates for Vans, Pickup Trucks	94
Mandatory Helmet Law Repealed	95
Mopeds	95
Moratorium on I-35E Construction Removed	95
Motor Vehicle Registration Fees	95
Rail User Loan Guarantee Program	96
"Sunday Holiday Law" Repealed	96
Truck Weight Limits	96
VETERANS	
County Veterans Service Officer	96
National Guard Pay Increase	97
Nursing Home at Hastings	97
Veterans Preference	97
Veterans Representatives in Employment Offices	97
WOMEN	
Advisory Council on the Economic Status of Women	98
Sex Discrimination	98
WORKERS	
Workers Compensation	
Workers Compensation Bill - 1977	99
Expense Limitation Removed	99

TABLE OF CONTENTS
(Continued)

WORKERS (Continued)	Page
Workers Compensation (Continued)	
Elective Coverage for Family Farmers	100
Family Farms	100
Law Enforcement Assistance	101
General	
Age Discrimination	101
Limits to Employers' Right to Invention	101
Mandatory Retirement	101
Minimum Wage	102
Tip Credit	102
Unemployment Compensation	103
Unemployment Compensation Conformity Bill	103
YOUTH	
Adoption Records Release	103
Child Neglect	104
Children Neglected in Foster Care	104
Child Pornography	104
Corn Detasslers - Work Standards	105
Cost of Care for Mentally Retarded, Epileptic & Emotionally Handicapped Children	105
Juvenile Placements	105
Summer Youth Employment Program	105
Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction Act	106
Youth Intervention Programs	106

APPROPRIATIONS

Building Bills

*	H.F. 2493	Norton
	S.F. 2370	Moe
*	H.F. 2494	Norton
	S.F. 2371	Moe

The 1978 legislature approved two building bills that included \$106.8 million on bonding and \$13 million in non-bonding funds. Major buildings approved include: \$11.0 million, Government Services Building (Duluth); \$2.1 million, DNR Regional Headquarters (Grand Rapids); \$2.6 million, U of M Food Services Building (Crookston); \$2.5 million, U of M Lab Building (Waseca); \$2.9 million, Fort Snelling Visitor Center; \$8.7 million, St. Peter Security Hospital. Other highlights include: the University was instructed to prepare new plans after Wisconsin decided not to increase their participation in the U of M Veterinary Medicine School; the Department of Welfare and Corrections were instructed to submit a report to the legislature recommending a location for the sex offender program; funding of future post-secondary vocational facilities is changed to direct appropriation rather than debt service aid, with legislative approval required for projects of significant size. Effective: immediately.

C.791-78

C.792-78

(Note: Longer summaries of some selected highlights can be found under the appropriate topic heading.)

Health, Welfare & Corrections Omnibus Bill

	H.F. 1553	Samuelson
*	S.F. 1416	Lewis

Appropriates \$1.02 billion/biennium for human service needs. Provides full funding of the state's obligation for community health services, community corrections and catastrophic health insurance. Provides \$517.9M for income maintenance programs, including a 5% increase each year for all recipients, "pass-through" of federal, SSI cost-of-living increases to MSA recipients, and increased state share of medical assistance and GA medical care costs. Authorizes 138 additional direct patient care positions at state hospitals and 72 new positions for state correctional institutions. Major general fund appropriations listed below:

	1976-77* Biennium	1978-79 Biennium
Welfare	\$ 644.3 M	\$ 860.5 M
Corrections	\$ 72.6 M	\$ 97.0 M
Health	\$ 23.0 M	\$ 35.6 M
Vocational Rehabilitation	\$ 6.8 M	\$ 10.3 M

*Adjusted to include open salary appropriation.

APPROPRIATIONS

Health, Welfare & Corrections Omnibus Bill - Con't.

Designated: (1) \$140,000 for a program approach to violent juvenile offenders; (2) \$778,000 for psychiatric unit at the prison; (3) \$350,000 for operating costs at Hennepin County Workhouse; (4) \$300,000 for assistance to hemophiliacs; (5) \$1.5 M for health research grants; and (6) \$100,000 to purchase somatotropin which helps physiological growth problems in children. Authorizes use of medical assistance funds for certain home health care; requires health study of water fluoridation and extends municipal compliance date to July 1, 1979; requires DPW to develop a medicaid cost containment proposal; and eliminates duplicative department of health licensure of JCAH accredited hospitals.

Closure of Hastings State Hospital

Requires Hastings State Hospital to close on May 1, 1978; appropriates \$300,000 to Ramsey, Washington, and Dakota counties for community care costs. (See Veterans Category; Nursing Home at Hastings.) Effective: July 1, 1977
C.453-77

Semi-State Appropriations

	H.F. 1594	Eckstein
*	S.F. 1489	Kleinbaum

Appropriates \$15.6 million for various semi-state agencies and activities. Increased by \$3.0 million over 1976-77 spending level. Major appropriations include the following:

	1976-77* Biennium	1978-79 Biennium
Minnesota Historical Society	\$ 9.6 M	\$ 10.8 M
State Arts Board	\$ 2.1 M	\$ 4.0 M

*Adjusted to include salaries.
Effective: July 1, 1977
C.332-77

State Departments Omnibus Bill

	H.F. 1595	Haugerud
*	S.F. 1467	Humphrey

The state departments appropriation totals \$487.2 million, an increase of approximately \$41 million or 9% over the expenditures level for the previous biennium. Budget highlights:

APPROPRIATIONS

State Departments Omnibus Bill - Con't.

<u>Department</u>	1976-77* Biennium	1978-79 Biennium
Administration	\$ 26.7 M	\$ 27.9 M
Agriculture	17.2 M	21.3 M
Commerce	7.8 M	9.3 M
Economic Development	3.4 M	4.2 M
Finance	7.2 M	9.5 M
Human Rights	1.3 M	1.4 M
Labor and Industry	7.7 M	9.5 M
Natural Resources	68.7 M	91.5 M
Personnel	3.9 M	4.6 M
Pollution Control	9.3 M	10.0 M
Public Safety	75.6 M	89.9 M
Public Service	5.6 M	7.1 M
Revenue	35.4 M	43.1 M
Other Departments	176.5 M	157.9 M
 TOTAL	 \$ 446.3 M	 \$ 487.2 M

*Adjusted to include salaries.
Effective: July 1, 1977
C.455-77

Supplemental Appropriations Bill

*	H.F. 2427	Norton
	S.F. 2404	Moe

Appropriates \$6.7M to various state agencies for general administrative expenses and programs. Highlights include: \$70,000 to continue an expanded advisory council on the economic status of women; \$200,518 to agriculture and economic development to promote Minnesota food and food products; \$633,000 to economic development for promotion of tourism in Minnesota; \$46,000 to public safety to establish a program to train local police and firefighters to investigate suspected arson; \$1,000,000 for public safety to cover the cost of highway patrol service in the power line dispute; \$41,000 deficiency to education for the pre-school health screening program; \$1,300,000 to transportation to expand transportation of the handicapped; \$250,000 to the crime control planning board for grants for youth intervention programs. In addition, authorizes up to \$100,000 of the health department's 1977 appropriation to monitor possible health and safety risks of high voltage power lines under construction; transfers \$200,000 to commerce to cover "excess" cost of health insurances purchased by high-risk consumers from the industry pool; permits the commissioner of administration to transfer personnel (as well as powers and duties) from one department to another; requires all individual and

APPROPRIATIONS
BUSINESS COMMUNITY

Supplemental Appropriations Bill - Con't.

group health insurance policies to include coverage of chemical dependency treatment, unless refused in writing; authorizes the state board of teaching to reimburse school districts for substitute teachers employed to replace regular teachers serving on the board or a board task force; clarifies salary and benefits of district court administrators; transfers rulemaking authority for the certificate of need from state planning to the health department.

Effective: immediately, except that reallocation of funds for health department monitoring of power lines is effective July 1, 1978.

C.793-78

(Note: Larger summaries of some selected highlights can be found under the appropriate topic heading.)

SEE ALSO:

1977 Dept. of Transportation Appropriations	p.92
1977 Education Bill	p.79
Housing Finance	p.46
New Prison	p.19
Nursing-Pharmacy Building (University of Minnesota)	p.45
Parks and Recreation Bonding	p.77
1977 School Aids Bill	p.82
1978 School Aids Bill	p.85

BUSINESS COMMUNITY

Area Redevelopment Loan Eligibility

* H.F. 1009	Nelsen, M., Beauchamp, Friedrich, Murphy, Anderson, G.
S.F. 1054	Johnson, Solon, Vega, Borden

Allows the Minnesota area redevelopment administration to make loans directly to private companies if a local development corporation does not exist or is financially unable to participate in a proposed redevelopment project. Also allows the state ARA to provide technical assistance grants or loans under certain conditions for planning of redevelopment projects.

Effective: immediately.

C.600-78

Business Tax Change

* H.F. 2250	Kelly, W., Jacobs, Tomlinson, Scheid, Wenzel
S.F. 2051	McCutcheon, Sikorski, Nelson, Penny, Schmitz

BUSINESS COMMUNITY

Business Tax Change - Con't

Article V of the omnibus tax bill repeals the employers' excise tax. Effect of the elimination of the tax is to provide an additional tax relief of \$15 M per year for Minnesota businesses.

Effective: for wages paid after June 30, 1978.

C.721-78

Buy America Bill

* H.F. 2233	Anderson, I., Sarna, Simoneau, Johnson, Sieben, H.
S.F. 2111	Johnson, Coleman, Perpich, Chenoweth, Kirchner

Requires state of Minnesota to give preference to American-made products when procuring items through competitive bids; also requires that "to the extent possible", specifications for bids must be written so that U.S.-made materials can be purchased by the state. Provides exemptions for materials not available in the U.S., where U.S. price "unreasonably exceeds" the cost of imported products, or if "substantially less" than comparable imported goods.

Effective: for all contracts executed by the state after July 1, 1978.

C.583-78

Community Development Corporations (CDC)

* H.F. 723	Berglin, Hanson, Arlandson, Norton, Anderson, D.
S.F. 675	Kleinbaum, Willet, Dunn, Keefe, S., Humphrey

Establishes eligibility requirements for CDC grants and allows grants for CDC planning or for establishment of a business venture. (NOTE: Appropriation of \$500,000 to state planning agency for CDC grants is in the state departments appropriations bill, S.F. 1467, Sec. 19.)

Effective: immediately.

C. 391-77

Detached Banking Facilities

* H.F. 451	Corbid, Ewald, Wieser, George, Brinkman
S.F. 283	Kleinbaum, Solon, Brataas, Laufenburger, Borden

Increases the number of detached facilities banks allowed from one to two in order to increase the availability of banking services. Expands area in which detached facilities may be located in proximity to a bank's principal office and adds other authorized locations.

BUSINESS COMMUNITY

Detached Banking Facilities - Con't.

Expands functions which may be performed at detached facilities. Establishment of a detached facility subject to approval of commissioner of banking.

Effective: August 1, 1977.
C.378-77

Discriminatory Trade Practices

H.F. 285	Petraleso, Berg, Cohen, Arlandson, Sabo
* S.F. 125	Keefe, S., Humphrey, Lewis, Spear, Brataas

Makes it illegal to exclude any U.S. person from a business transaction because, among other things, that person has done business in a particular country or has a certain religion, ancestry or national origin. Also makes it illegal in a business transaction for a person to agree not to do business, or to certify that no business is done, with a firm that is on the blacklist of a foreign government. Provides a criminal penalty of \$50,000 fine, five years imprisonment or both for such practices.

Effective: immediately, except that existing contracts or agreements have until December 31, 1978, to comply with the law.
C. 173-77

Dram Shop Law Amendments

* H.F. 676	Abeln, Casserly, Anderson, G. Friedrich, Fugina
S.F. 162	McCutcheon, Bernhagen, Wegener, Laufenburger, Kleinbaum

Exempts private parties from those liable for serving liquor which caused intoxication. Applies the comparative negligence standard in dram shop cases except where the person suing is the spouse, child, parent or guardian of the intoxicated person. Limits recovery to \$250,000 for one person and \$500,000 for two or more persons. Statute of limitations changed from 3 years to 1 year after the injury.

Effective: July 1, 1977.
C.390-77

Electronic Funds Transfer Facilities

* H.F. 1180	Hanson, Suss, Corbid, Abeln Ewald
S.F. 1062	Laufenburger, Keefe, S., Kirchner, Solon, Kleinbaum

Authorizes electronic funds transfer facilities (EFT) to be established at retail locations such as

BUSINESS COMMUNITY

Electronic Funds Transfer Facilities - Con't.

malls. EFT facilities can perform a variety of bank functions including deposit and withdrawal of funds, making of loan payments, and transfers of funds. New accounts cannot be opened at such facilities. Also requires security measures to safeguard the privacy of financial information received by those facilities.

Effective: immediately.
C.469-78

Fair Trade Laws Repealed

* H.F. 1882	Hanson, Jacobs
S.F. 1647	Tennessen, Spear, Sieloff, Davies, Dieterich

Repeals the Minnesota fair trade act which permitted manufacturers to control minimum retail prices of their products through retail sales contracts. An amendment to the federal anti-trust act prohibits this activity by manufacturers engaged in interstate commerce. Repeal of the state law prohibits intrastate manufacturers from setting minimum prices for their products offered for sale within the state.

Effective: August 1, 1978.
C.473-78

Feedlot Pollution Control Tax Credit

H.F. 98	Setzepfandt, Anderson, G., Friedrich, Gunter, Lemke
* S.F. 506	Setzepfandt, Frederick, Olson, Schrom, Hanson

Extends the 10% tax credit for feedlot pollution control equipment until December 31, 1980. If the amount of credit is not used in the taxable year in which the equipment is purchased, the excess amount may be carried forward to the 4 taxable years following. The 1978 omnibus tax bill makes the carry-forward provision retroactive to taxable 1975.

Effective: for equipment purchased after 12/31/76.
C.250-77

Food Vending Machines

H.F. 2389	King, Mann, Kalis, Erickson, McDonald
* S.F. 1431	Luther, Wiflet, Dunn, Hanson

Provides that every coin-operated food vending machine is subject to a \$2 annual state inspection fee, except for vending machines inspected by a city or county, which can then impose its own inspection fee; also exempts vending

Food Vending Machines - Con't.

machines dispensing bottled or canned soft drinks or ice from state inspection fee, although they can still be inspected by the state, or by a city or county (which can impose its own inspection fee).

Effective: August 1, 1978.
C.502-78

Insurance Policies Cancellation

H.F. 1559	Scheid, Ellingson
* S.F. 96	Luther, Penny, Vega, Sikorski, Gunderson

Allows persons buying health insurance policies to cancel policies within 10 days of purchase in order to give purchasers ample time to examine provisions and limitations of a policy. (Does not apply to private group insurance contracts.) Entitles person who cancels to full refund of sum paid for policy. Also requires each policy to include conspicuous notice of purchaser's right to cancel. Policies not containing this notice can be cancelled by purchaser within one year of purchase.

Effective: August 1, 1977.
C.178-77

Plumbers - Licensing and Bonding

* H.F. 1329	Cassery, Ewald, St. Onge, Jaros, Sieben, H.
S.F. 1122	Kleinbaum, Solon, Ulland, Bang

Allows plumbers and steamfitters to obtain a single bond and public liability insurance for operating anywhere in the state, instead of having to become bonded and insured in each political subdivision in which they operate.

Effective: August 1, 1978.
C.604-78

Product Liability

* H.F. 338	Berkelman, Anderson, G., Ewald, Brinkman, Heinitz
S.F. 308	Davies, Ashbach, Solon, Purfeerst, Olson, H.

Imposes a 4 year statute of limitations on suits for product liability claims in general and a 2 year statute on claims arising from the application of pesticides. Provides that in any action for damages over \$50,000, the complaint shall state only that an amount over \$50,000 is sought rather than specifying an amount (effective: August 1, 1978). Allows a defense that the useful life of the product has expired. Limits awards of punitive damages. Allows awards of attorneys' fees and costs in some cases. Requires notice of a possible lawsuit to potential defendants.

Effective: April 15, 1978.
C.738-78

Real Estate Sellers Continuing Education

* H.F. 40	Kelly, R., Adams, Beauchamp, Hanson, Arlandson
S.F. 241	Spear, Solon, Stumpf, Davies, Sieloff

Requires realtors to complete approved course of study before taking real estate license examination and requires continuing education for real estate salespersons and brokers.

Effective: August 1, 1977.
C.215-77

Resort Property Assessment Classification

H.F. 555	Prahl, Sherwood, Fugina, Samuelson, Evans
* S.F. 626	Willet, Johnson, Borden, Peterson, Moe

Provides that a limited area of lakeshore land used as seasonal resort property be classified as agricultural homestead land, subject to a lower assessment rate (18% in 1978 and 16% in 1979) than the current 33-1/3%.

Effective: for taxes payable in 1978.
C.319-77

Office of Small Business

H.F. 1446	White, Wenstrom, Samuelson, Anderson, R., Evans
* S.F. 1450	Peterson, Johnson, Willet, Lessard, Setzepfandt

Requires the commissioner of economic development to establish an office of small business assistance in the department of economic development. Creates an advisory task force (to expire July 1, 1979) to help implement an office of small business assistance, and to develop plans for a statewide educational consortium for small business development, comprised of post-secondary educational institutions throughout the state. Transfers responsibility for community development corporation programs in Minnesota back to the department of economic development. (The state planning agency previously had this responsibility as a result of 1977 legislation.)

Effective: immediately.
C.709-78

Small Business Procurement Act Improvements

* H.F. 681	Cassery, Suss, Norton, Stanton, Anderson, G.
S.F. 555	Knoli, Lewis, Vega, Gearty, Kirchner

Establishes second party bonding as acceptable security for construction contracts under the small business procurement act, to enable more small businesses to compete for state contracts for goods and services.

Effective: August 1, 1977.
C.44-77

BUSINESS COMMUNITY

Small Business Procurement Act Improvements - Con't

- * H.F. 772 Casserly, Nelson, Pleasant, Anderson, G.,
Norton
S.F. 691 Knoll, Lewis, Vega, Kirchner, Coleman

Allows the state to partially indemnify bonding companies issuing bid and performance bonds to small businesses eligible to bid for contracts under the small business procurement act. Designed to enable more small businesses to obtain bid and performance bonds as they compete for contracts under the state set-aside program.

Effective: July 1, 1977-June 30, 1979.

C. 394-77

- * H.F. 339 Casserly, Norton, Carlson, A., Arlandson,
Nelson
S.F. 238 Knoll, Lewis, Vega, Gearty, Kirchner

Establishes a small business set-aside program for state transportation facility construction contracts, requiring Minnesota department of transportation to set aside at least 2% of contracted construction work each year for award to small businesses. At least half of that amount must be awarded, if possible, to small businesses owned and operated by socially or economically disadvantaged persons.

Effective: August 1, 1977.

C.222-77

Small Business Set-Aside Program - Minneapolis

- H.F. 1912 Casserly, Carlson, A., Nelson,
Kroening, Berglin
* S.F. 1704 Knoll, Gearty, Spear, Stokowski,
Keefe, S.

Authorizes the city of Minneapolis and the Minneapolis business set-aside program (similar to the state small business procurement program) for up to 10% of the value of goods and services procured by the city or authority, including construction; proportion of value of procurements designated for set-aside may be awarded to small businesses owned and operated by socially or economically disadvantaged persons.

Effective: sections 1 and 3 (definitions and standards) after approval by the governing body of the city of Minneapolis; remainder - August 1, 1978.

C.533-78

Tourism Promotion Funds

- * H.F. 2527 Norton
S.F. 2404 Moe

Section 18 of the supplemental appropriations bill provides a supplemental appropriation of \$633,000 to the Department of economic development to promote tourism in

BUSINESS COMMUNITY CONSUMERS

Tourism Promotion Funds - Con't

Minnesota in the form of media advertising, marketing research, publications, as well as for matching grants to regional, local and statewide organizations for tourism promotion. Section 27 earmarks \$40,000 for a study to provide better sign information along highways for tourists and other visitors to Minnesota.

Effective: immediately.

C.793-78

SEE ALSO:

Agricultural Marketing Activities	p.30
Consumers Category	p.11
Usury Law Extension & Changes	p.47
Workers Category	p.99

CONSUMERS

Charities

- * H.F. 1246 Reding, Wieser, Sherwood, Beauchamp,
Neisen
S.F. 1464 Vega, Solon, Chenoweth, Dieterich

Requires that non-profit organizations raising more than \$10,000 per year register with the securities division (was \$2,000). No organization may spend more than 30% of contributions for fundraising and management (including salaries). Establishes procedures for registration and for investigations by the commissioner or the attorney general. Effective: immediately, except for spending limitations effective June 30, 1979.

C.601-78

Damages for Withholding Security Deposits or Rent

- * H.F. 829 Reding, Beauchamp, Jaros, Kroening,
Stanton
S.F. 950 Luther, Benedict, Strand, Olson, H.,
Sikorski

Changes from 2 to 3 weeks the period in which a landlord must either return the damage deposit with interest or give the tenant written reasons for withholding all or a portion of the deposit. Provides that a tenant may recover the amount of the deposit withheld plus interest, plus a penalty equal to the total, when a landlord has failed to comply with notice requirements. Allows a landlord to sue when a tenant withholds rent. Landlords can collect that rent plus any portion of the deposit to which they are entitled.

Effective: August 1, 1977.

C.280-77

CONSUMERS

Deficiency Judgments in Consumer Transactions

- H.F. 878 Casserly, Byrne, Sieben, H., Brandl,
Arlandson
* S.F. 147 Davies, Tennesen, Sikorski

Prohibits a seller or lender who repossesses a consumer credit purchase (involving credit of \$3,000 or less) from suing the consumer for any amount still owed. Consumer is still liable if he has wrongfully damaged the property. Alternatively allows seller/lender to sue consumer for the whole debt, thereby giving up the right to repossess. Effective: July 1, 1977. C.180-77

Employment Agency Fees

- * H.F. 212 Skoglund, Enebo, Metzen, Byrne,
St. Onge
S.F. 800 Vega, Nichols, Luther, Staples,
Milton

Provides a three-day "cooling off" period within which applicants must notify an employment agency if they decide to withdraw from an agreement accepting a job placement. No fee may be charged by the agency after withdrawal. Period applies whether the applicant or the employer is responsible for payment of the fee to the agency. Effective: immediately C.220-77

Insurance - Credit Life, Health & Accident

- * H.F. 530 Ellingson, Kelly, R., Abeln,
Fjoslien, Wynia
S.F. 330 Luther, Sikorski, Milton, Vega

Prohibits the writing of credit life insurance in amounts exceeding the actual amount of indebtedness. If the loan is repaid in equal installments, insurance coverage will decrease with each payment. Eliminates the practice of issuing two or more credit life policies when a loan is refinanced, i.e., allows only one policy on what is effectively only one loan. Lenders who require credit life or accident and health insurance must inform the borrower of his right under existing law to purchase coverage from another source. Effective: August 1, 1977. C.382-77

Insurance Cancellation - Fire

- * H.F. 1943 Nelson, Anderson, G., Norton, Heinitz,
Faricy
S.F. 1618 Keefe, S., Borden, Sikorski

Limits the circumstances in which residential fire insurance may be cancelled to: (a) non-payment of a premium or dues; (b) fraud by the insured; (c) actions of the insured

Insurance Cancellation - Fire - Con't

which increase the risk to the property, or (d) changes in the property which make it uninsurable. Any notice of cancellation must include a clear and specific statement of the reasons for cancellation. Effective: August 1, 1978. C.769-78

Insurance Guaranty Association - Life & Health

- * H.F. 296 Casserly, Norton, Suss, Ewald, Brinkman
S.F. 570 Keefe, S., Solon, Sikorski, Dieterich,
Merriam

Establishes a life and health insurance guaranty association to protect life, health and annuity policyholders against the loss of benefits due to the insolvency of an insurer. The association is comprised of all life, health and annuity insurers authorized to conduct business in the state and is under the supervision of the commissioner of insurance. In order to provide benefits to policyholders of an insolvent insurer, the association is required to assess member insurers as needed but places limitations on the amount any one insurer may be assessed in any calendar year. Effective: immediately. C.273-77

Insurance - No-Fault

- H.F. 2213 Voss, Abeln, Pehler, McCollar, Murphy
* S.F. 1606 Davies, Laufenburger, Gunderson,
Ashbach

Raises from \$2,000 to \$4,000 the medical expense limits under no-fault auto insurance. Recovery of damages will now be allowed for expenses over \$4,000 or for injuries resulting in permanent injury or disfigurement, in death, or in disability for more than 60 days. Effective: August 1, 1978. C.711-78

Insurance Policies - Readability

- * H.F. 1201 George, Corbid, Norton, Dean, Ellingson
S.F. 1435 Sikorski, Davies, Borden, Johnson, Luther

Requires all insurance policies to have readable cover sheets indexing major policy provisions until those policies are readable in their entirety. Further requires all auto and homeowner's insurance policies to be readable by July 1, 1979 and all life, accident and health insurance policies to be readable by July 1, 1980, as determined by the commissioner of insurance. Specifies policy format requirements and requires use of the Flesch Scale analysis readability score as a means of determining compliance with the law. Effective: immediately. C.345-77

CONSUMERS

Item Pricing

- | | | |
|---|----------|---|
| * | H.F. 37 | Jacobs, Hokanson, Hanson, Carlson, A.,
Adams |
| | S.F. 303 | Solon, Johnson, Spear, Borden, Milton |

Requires those grocery stores using electronic check-out scanners to mark prices on individual grocery items or to conspicuously post product prices where the items are shelved to inform consumers of prices prior to check-out. Exclusions are provided for certain grocery products. Criminal penalties are provided for violations. All local ordinances on this subject are superseded.

Effective: August 1, 1978.

C.737-78

Mandatory Smoke Detectors

- | | | |
|---|----------|--|
| * | H.F. 41 | Knickerbocker, Petrafeso, Clark, Rose,
Pehler |
| | S.F. 123 | Solon, Johnson, Willet, Humphrey,
Vega |

Requires that smoke detectors be installed in all apartments, hotel rooms and lodging house rooms by January 1, 1980. Requires detectors in all duplexes and houses built, remodeled or rented after January 1, 1980. Effective: Section 1, (powers of commissioner of public safety) -- August 1, 1977; Section 2 (installation of detectors) -- January 1, 1980; (Section 2, Subd. 2, promulgation of installation rules) -- August 1, 1977.

C.333-77

Mileage Disclosure for Title and Transfer of Motor Vehicles

- | | | |
|---|-----------|--|
| * | H.F. 882 | Novak, McCarron, Simoneau, Reding,
Hanson |
| | S.F. 1098 | Sikorski, Luther, Staples, Nelson, Ulland |

Requires owners of motor vehicles to disclose mileage registered on the odometer on applications for certificate of title and transfers of ownership. Dealers must also disclose odometer mileage on certificates of title of vehicles purchased and held for resale.

Effective: July 1, 1978.

C.105-77

Mobile Home Lot Rental Fees

- | | | |
|---|-----------|---|
| * | H.F. 1208 | Simoneau, Clawson, Neisen, Haugerud,
Voss |
| | S.F. 999 | Tennessen, Johnson, Ashbach, Jensen,
Merriam |

Prohibits charging of any fee other than periodic rental payments and a reasonable set-up charge for mobile home lot or space rentals in mobile home parks.

Effective: August 1, 1977.

C.49-77

CONSUMERS CRIME VICTIMS

Optometrists Price Advertising

- | | | |
|---|-----------|---|
| | H.F. 1389 | Sieben, M., Ellingson, Pleasant,
Casserly, Adams |
| * | S.F. 1229 | Luther, Sikorski, Tennessen,
Dieterich, Johnson |

Permits state licensed optometrists to advertise the prices of their goods and services.

Effective: August 1, 1978.

C.516-78

Truth in Repairs Act

- | | | |
|---|-----------|---|
| | H.F. 1344 | Simoneau, Scheid, Novak, Byrne,
Neisen |
| * | S.F. 1468 | Merriam, Luther, Spear |

Requires automobile and appliance repair shops and home improvement contractors to present consumers with written estimates for repairs or improvements priced between \$100 and \$2,000 before beginning repair work if requested by the consumer. The total cost of the work performed may not exceed 110% of the written estimate unless the estimate is amended and any additional work is authorized by the consumer. No repair work may be performed for which the consumer has not given prior authorization. Consumers are not liable to pay for unauthorized repairs. All automobile and appliance repair shops and home improvement contractors must conspicuously post signs informing consumers of their right to written estimates under this law. Civil remedies are provided for consumers to recover damages for the cost of unauthorized or unnecessary repair work. Does not preclude repair shops from charging reasonable fees for estimates or service calls if the consumer is informed of the charges in advance. Supersedes all ordinances on this subject unless local regulations are more restrictive.

Effective: August 1, 1978.

C.710-78

SEE ALSO:

Business Community Category	p. 4
1977 Energy Conservation Bill	p.23
1978 Energy Conservation Bill	p.24
New Home Warranties	p.46
Public Utility Customers Category	p.69

CRIME VICTIMS

Battered Women

- | | | |
|---|----------|---|
| | H.F. 366 | Kahn, Carlson, D., Corbid, Haugerud,
Stanton |
| * | S.F. 124 | Lewis, Coleman, McCutcheon, Sikorski,
Kirchner |

CRIME VICTIMS

Battered Women - Con't

Appropriates \$500,000 for establishment of four pilot programs to provide emergency shelter and support services to battered women. Two programs are to be in the metro area; one in a city outside metro area; one in a location accessible to predominantly rural population. (Funded centers are in Minneapolis, St. Paul, Duluth and Marshall.) Designates up to \$50,000 for community awareness education. Mandates data collection by commissioner of corrections and reporting by medical and law enforcement personnel. Also appropriates \$100,000 to governor's manpower office for job counseling and training services for "displaced homemakers."

Effective: immediately except sections which authorize GA payments to shelter residents and provide for "displaced homemakers" are effective July 1, 1977.
C.428-77

H.F. 1904	Kahn, Zubay, Corbid, Samuelson, McCarron
* S.F. 1689	Lewis, Coleman, Sikorski, Kirchner, McCutcheon

Appropriates \$100,000 for additional shelters and \$25,000 for evaluation of data. Requires a report by January 1, 1979, on feasibility of creating a similar program for men. Mandates data reporting by social service agencies and community health agencies.
Effective: July 1, 1978.
C.732-78

Crime Victims Crisis Centers

H.F. 516	Moe, Nelson, Forsythe, Kaley, Novak
* S.F. 514	Lewis, Coleman, McCutcheon, Kirchner, Ogdahl

Appropriates \$250,000 to establish at least two crime victim crisis centers to provide victim-directed services, including immediate crisis intervention, referral to other service agencies, and public education. Requires evaluation of centers within 3 years. (Three centers were funded - in Minneapolis, St. Paul, and Austin.)
Effective: immediately.
C.314-77

Crime Victims Reparations

* H.F. 83	Carlson, A., Clark, Esau, Samuelson, Faricy
S.F. 918	Staples, Sikorski, Spear, Schaaf, Vega

Increases from \$10,000 to \$25,000 the maximum compensation for economic loss due to victim's injury or death. Appropriates \$150,000/biennium.
Effective: Claims stemming from crimes committed or attempted after June 30, 1977.
C.356-77

CRIME VICTIMS CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Spouse Abuse

H.F. 883	Cohen, Lehto, Wynia, Evans, Novak
* S.F. 318	McCutcheon, Sikorski, Lewis, Coleman, Kirchner

Allows a police officer to arrest without a warrant a person who is believed to have assaulted his spouse. Formerly, the officer could not make an arrest on a misdemeanor assault without a complaint from the victim. The officer must observe recent physical injuries before making such an arrest. Provides for judicial review, bail or release within 24 hours of arrest.

Effective: immediately.
C.724-78

SEE ALSO:

Child Pornography	p.104
Criminal Justice Category	p. 17

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Arson

* H.F. 2104	Novak, McCarron, Petrafeso, Pehler, Friederich
S.F. 1924	Willet, Schaaf, Borden, Sikorski, McCutcheon

Extends application of the state fire code throughout the state. Allows local units of government to impose a more strict fire code and allows the state fire marshal to grant variances from the code in cases of undue hardship. Gives state fire marshal authority to conduct investigations in suspected arson cases in cooperation with the bureau of criminal apprehension. Directs fire marshal and BCA to maintain records on suspected arson cases. Provides for training for firefighters and peace officers for arson investigations. Appropriates \$220,000 for inspections.
Effective: immediately except extension of fire code effective July 1, 1979.
C.777-78

Correctional Licensure

* H.F. 2124	Jaros, Welch, Clark, Nelson, Esau
S.F. 1926	Lewis, Spear, Kirchner, Sikorski

Requires department of corrections to inspect and license all correctional facilities, including public and private community correctional adult facilities and juvenile group homes. Prohibits operation without a license after September 1, 1980; provides for revocation of license for noncompliance with standards. Establishes advisory task force to help develop license standards. Prohibits juvenile court from placing more

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Correctional Licensure - Con't

than 1 child with an unlicensed foster family and from placing any juvenile in unlicensed group home care after September 1, 1979. Also prohibits introduction of alcohol, drugs, or weapons into a correctional facility; prescribes penalties.

Effective: August 1, 1978.

C.778-78

Crime Control Planning Board

H.F. 1200	Berg, Savelkoul, Anderson, I., Nelson
* S.F. 1077	Borden, Schaaf, Sikorski, McCutcheon, Ashbach

Establishes 18 member crime control planning board, replacing governor's commission on crime prevention and control. Duties include: administration of federal crime control acts; development of comprehensive statewide plan for improving law enforcement and criminal justice; distribution of criminal justice funds; detailed annual report to governor and legislature. Provides for division of state into crime control planning regions, each with an advisory council appointed by regional development commissions. Requires channeling of planning funds to local regions.

Effective: August 1, 1977.

C.260-77

Detention of Juveniles

* H.F. 1973	Nelson, Clark, Kaley, Novak
S.F. 2096	Vega, Solon, Nelson, Keefe, J., Staples

Amends current detention statutes to permit courts to hold any juvenile alleged to be delinquent in secure detention or shelter care for up to 24 hours. Prohibits secure detention beyond 24 hours of any status offender. Authorizes commissioner of corrections to designate certain jails for detention of juveniles where no secure juvenile detention center is available. Juveniles in custody for alleged criminal activity may be detained in these approved jails, separate from adult prisoners, for up to 8 days; further detention must be in juvenile detention centers.

Effective: August 1, 1978.

C.637-78

Handgun Law

* H.F. 800	Berg, Faricy, Vanasek, Jaros, Dean
S.F. 781	McCutcheon, Coleman, Keefe, S., Ogdahl

Requires that person either have a transferee permit (valid for one year) or wait 7 days to purchase a handgun from a federally licensed dealer. The law does not apply to private transfers. During the waiting period, or when application is made for permit, a police check will be made to verify that purchaser is not prohibited under 1975 law from possessing a

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Handgun Law - Con't

handgun. The waiting period can be waived in whole or part by the police. Application for a permit must be made either by request at the time of a report of intent to transfer, or by application directly to the police. Denial of permit or of permission to sell can be appealed to county court. Bill also provides mandatory sentences (no probation) for crimes of violence (M.S. 609.11, subd. 1) committed while possessing a firearm or using any dangerous weapon. Allows carrying of handguns without permit while deer hunting, and clarifies rules about carrying handguns in vehicles (must be unloaded and securely packaged).

Effective: August 1, 1977.

C.349-77

Marijuana --Reducing Past Convictions

* H.F. 1977	Clark, Moe, Jude, Carlson, A., Nelson
S.F. 1946	Dieterich, Spear, Knoll

Allows persons convicted of possession of small amounts of marijuana prior to April 11, 1976, to petition the court to reduce the conviction to petty misdemeanor and remove all public records of a more serious offense.

Effective: April 11, 1978.

C.639-78

New Prison

* H.F. 1631	Norton
S.F. 1530	Moe

Provides \$20.8 million for construction of a new high-security prison for 400 adult felons near the present Stillwater Prison; also appropriates \$100,000 for architectural plans to reduce Stillwater prison from 1,000 to 300 beds.

Effective: July 1, 1977.

C.451-77

Psychiatric Care for Correctional Inmates

H.F. 1210	Corbid, Samuelson, Nelson, Moe, Laidig
* S.F. 1073	Lewis, Kirchner, Vega, Sikorski

Establishes psychiatric unit at Stillwater state prison for short-term care and treatment of mentally ill adult inmates. Requires psychiatric examination prior to transfer to unit. Provides for judicial commitment order if long-term care is indicated or when individual refuses to participate in the unit. Provides for transfer to state hospital if criminal sentence expires prior to recovery from adjudicated mental illness. Appropriates \$10,000 for court costs. (\$778,000 is appropriated in C.453-77 for the unit.)

Effective: July 1, 1978.

C.707-78

CRIMINAL JUSTICE
EDUCATORS

Sentencing

- H.F. 1020 Kempe, A., Moe, McCarron, Savelkoul, Arlandson
* S.F. 65 McCutcheon, Knoll, Sikorski, Menning, Vega

Establishes a 9-member sentencing guideline commission to set guidelines for sentences based on the characteristics of the offender and of the offense. The commission will determine when imprisonment is proper and a presumptive, fixed sentence will be set for each offense. Early release may be earned by an inmate under a "good time" formula which reduces the term of imprisonment by one day for each two days served without a disciplinary infraction. Judges may only deviate from the guidelines by submitting a written statement of the reasons for doing so. Other provisions include: supervision of those released on good time, a sentencing hearing to the request of either party, appellate review of sentences which deviate from the guidelines, and requires a pre-sentence investigation before sentencing.

Effective: commission and \$200,000 appropriation immediately. Remainder, May 1, 1980.
C.723-78

SEE ALSO:

- Crime Victims Category p.15
1977 Health, Welfare & Corrections
Appropriations Bill p. 1
Police Category p.60

EDUCATORS

Athletic Coaches

- * H.F. 1447 Waldorf, Mangan, Scheid, Berkelman, Knickerbocker
S.F. 1551 Chenoweth, Stumpf

Provides notice and due process hearing for licensed athletic coaches whose duties are to be terminated. Does not apply to termination during probation, under a transfer policy or as a result of nonrenewal of the teacher's contract.
Effective: August 1, 1978.
C.550-78

Teacher File Data

- * H.F. 1908 Wenstrom, Berg, Tomlinson, Johnson, Anderson, R.
S.F. 1847 Merriam, Tennessen, Keefe, J., Davies, Nelson

Expands teachers' right to inspect data in their personnel file by requiring that the district remove from the file any data found to be false or substantially inaccurate.

EDUCATORS
ELECTION REFORM

Teacher File Data - Con't.

Effective: August 1, 1978.
C.632-78

SEE ALSO:

- Part-Time Teachers p.65
Physical & Occupational Therapists p.62
Student Category p.78
Teachers Retirement Funds p.66
TRA Variable Annuity Program p.66

ELECTION REFORM

Accessibility of Polling Places

- H.F. 1096 Neisen, King, Reding, Simoneau, Heinitz
* S.F. 1208 Milton, Staples, Vega, Lewis, Keefe, S.

Requires polling places to be accessible to and usable by elderly and physically handicapped persons by complying with standards listed in act. A site not meeting these standards may be used if no available site can be made accessible. Permits persons who are unable to enter a polling place to register and vote without leaving their vehicles and requires judges to provide the necessary ballots and assistance needed in marking them.

Effective: August 1, 1977.
C.88-77

Availability of Public Facilities for Precinct Caucuses

- * H.F. 2451 Novak, Dean, Simoneau
S.F. 2308 Borden, Keefe, S., Sikorski

Requires all political subdivisions, public agencies, colleges and universities to make their facilities available for precinct caucuses and legislative district or county conventions. A charge may be imposed for the use of the facility not to exceed the lowest rate charged to any public or private group.

Effective: immediately.
C.591-78

Ballot Designations

- H.F. 357 Lehto, Stoa, Enebo, Osthoff, Biersdorf
* S.F. 744 Stokowski, Schaaf, Coleman, Ueland, Jensen

Provides that an individual filing as a candidate for a partisan public office must have participated in his/her party's most recent precinct caucus or intends to vote for a majority of his/her party's candidates at the next election. An individual filing for a partisan office as an "independent", or in

ELECTION REFORM

Ballot Designations - Con't.

any other manner indicating no party affiliation, must not have sought nor intends to seek any party's support in that election. For purposes of selecting election judges, a member of a political party is now defined as an individual: (1) who supports the party's principles as stated in the party's constitution, (2) who voted for a majority of that party's candidates in the previous general election; or (3) who intend to vote for a majority of a party's candidates in the next general election. Makes other technical changes to state election laws.

Effective: immediately.

C.725-78

Campaign Financing Changes

* H.F. 404	George, Petrafeso, Anderson, I., Rice, Cummiskey
S.F. 1006	Keefe, S., Staples, Benedict, Strand, Luther

Amends the ethics in government act to make campaign financing for legislative races and expenditure and contribution limitation provisions constitutional according to the recent federal court decision of Bang vs. Chase. Limitations now apply only to those candidates who accept public financing for their campaigns. However, income tax credits for campaign contributions now may only be claimed for contributions made to candidates who agree to abide by the limitations. The amount of the individual income tax credits are doubled from \$12.50 to \$25.00 to bring the state credit into conformance with federal credit. Also changes the way in which the \$1 checkoff funds are distributed to candidates for the state legislature according to the direction of the federal court. The new distribution formula is based on a combination of voter preference and checkoff preferences at the county level, which results in dollars being returned to the county and the district in which they were checked-off. Expenditures made by a candidate on his own behalf and independent expenditures made on behalf of a candidate are no longer subject to limitations. Appropriates \$20,000 to the ethical practices board and \$5,000 to the revenue department for implementing the act.

Effective: immediately.

C.463-78

Special Elections for U.S. Senate Vacancies

* H.F. 1500	Rice
-------------	------

Changes the procedure used to fill vacancies in the office of United States senator. Previously vacancies could be filled by special election held only at the regular statewide biennial election (November of even-numbered years) and required that the Governor appoint a temporary successor to serve until a permanent successor was selected by special election.

ELECTION REFORM ENERGY

Special Elections for U.S. Senate Vacancies - Con't.

Special elections to fill U.S. senate vacancies may now be held in November of each year, and the Governor is now permitted to appoint a temporary successor until the special election. If a vacancy occurs six weeks or more before the September primary, then the special election is held in November of the year in which the vacancy occurs. If the vacancy occurs less than six weeks before the September primary, then the special election is held at the next November election one year later.

Effective: immediately.

C.456-78

Voter Registration and Absentee Voting

* H.F. 789	Cummiskey, Simoneau, Reding, Beauchamp
S.F. 519	Keefe, S., Schaaf, Johnson, Nelson

Requires that persons providing proof of residence for election day registrants have their names put on the new voters' records until auditor verifies the new voters' addresses. Requires auditor to provide election judges with "precinct finders" or maps to show them who should vote in each precinct. Requires department of public safety to provide voter registration material to persons changing their drivers license addresses. Regulates updating and use of voter registration files. Changes information required on voter registration card. Updates absentee ballot procedure. Simplifies absentee voting for hospital patients.

Effective: August 1, 1977.

C.395-77

H.F. 1894	Cummiskey, Knickerbocker, Sabo, Anderson, I., Novak
* S.F. 1630	Keefe, S., Strand, Stokowski, Sikorski, Schaaf

Amends voter registration law to provide that an individual registering to vote on election day may not provide proof of residence for any other individual wishing to register on election day. Makes other technical changes to state elections laws.

Effective: immediately.

C.714-78

ENERGY

Energy Conservation

* H.F. 522	Munger, Hanson, Voss, Carlson, A., Beauchamp
S.F. 669	Anderson, Humphrey, Borden, Ogdahl

ENERGY

Energy Conservation - Con't.

Requires all municipalities to adopt the state building code for new construction by July 1, 1978. Extends the life of the energy agency from December 31, 1979, to June 30, 1983. Energy use: requires certificates of need for smaller power plants, shorter power lines and nuclear facilities; requires reports to the legislature on solar energy use, coal use impact, heating fuel storage inventory capacity and ethyl alcohol supplement to diesel fuel. Energy conservation: prohibits sale of appliances with continuous pilot lights (January 1979); prohibits sale of room air conditioners with energy efficiency ratings of less than 7.0 (January 1978); mandates energy standards for existing public buildings; requires development of standards for outdoor display lighting; requires individual metering in apartments constructed after January 1978; prohibits heating commercial parking garages constructed after January 1978; requires development of energy standards for existing residential buildings; requires energy education programs. Appropriates \$458,000.

Effective: immediately except as noted.

C.381-78

* H.F. 2261 Munger, Voss, Hanson, Wynia, Dean
S.F. 1706 Humphrey, Anderson, Luther

Delays the deadline for municipalities to implement the state building code from July 1, 1978, to January 1, 1979, and delays the provisions relating to grading lumber until January 1, 1980.

Residential Energy Conservation: Gives the energy agency another year (until January, 1979) to develop energy efficiency standards for residences; requires renter-occupied residences built before January 1, 1976, to comply with certain energy efficiency standards by January 1, 1980, and all others by July 1, 1983; appropriates \$80,000 to the housing finance agency to study energy conservation rehabilitation of rental units, including loan programs, financial impact on tenants and possible legislation by January 15, 1979; requires most sellers of residences constructed before January, 1976, to provide buyers with an energy disclosure report for sales after October 1, 1979; appropriates \$18,000 for the department of administration for development of energy disclosure requirements by March 1, 1979, and certification of county building evaluators by August 1, 1979. Insulation: appropriates \$26,000 to the energy agency to develop rules and standards for insulation by December, 1978, and provides for the enforcement of the standards; prohibits unfair or deceptive advertising on fuel savings and thermal resistance. Solar Energy: effective for taxes levied in 1978, the bill exempts from property tax the market value of solar, wind or agriculturally-derived methane systems used for heating, cooling, or electricity if installed prior to January 1, 1984; allows counties and municipalities to zone for access to sunlight for solar energy systems and requires RDC's and metro council to plan for such access; allows property owners to negotiate solar easements.

ENERGY

Energy Conservation - Con't.

Effective: immediately.

NOTE: Section 7 of the supplemental appropriations bill reappropriates \$32,500 for energy surveys of state buildings; section 2 of the building bill appropriates \$2M for energy conservation projects in state buildings and \$1.5M for energy retrofitting in the university of Minnesota system.

C.786-78

Energy Production from Agriculture & Forest Products

* H.F. 2527 Norton
S.F. 2404 Moe

Section 14 of the supplemental appropriations bill sets up a procedure to select a project dealing with production and marketing of industrial hydrocarbons (such as methane) derived from agricultural and forest commodities, to be submitted to the U.S. secretary of agriculture for funding under public law 95-113. Legislative commission on Minnesota resources (LCMR) will monitor the work program and promote the project.

Effective: immediately.

C.793-78

Power Line Siting

H.F. 1028 Sieben, H., Skoglund, Munger
* S.F. 896 Merriam, Olhoft, Schrom, Luther, Dunn

Modifies the 1973 power plant siting act in the areas of land use, citizen participation, EQB procedure and eminent domain as follows:

--EQB: Removes the corridor process and requires two alternative power line routes submitted by each utility; extends power plant siting timetable from 6 months to one year; allows revocation or suspension of construction permit for failure to comply with safety standards or for making false statements during permit process.

--Land Use: Width of route is increased; EQB must negotiate entry points with other states; EQB must evaluate: effects of electric field, productive agricultural land lost, use of railroad or highway rights of way, section lines, future needs in order to require multiple circuiting; gives equal priority to agriculture and wildlife areas. EQB may appoint scientific advisory committee to look at health, safety, undergrounding.

--Citizen Participation: Utility representatives are removed from citizen route and plant site advisory committees; EQB staff member will assist citizens who participate.

--Eminent Domain: Easement interests for power lines revert to owner if route not used for five years; allows landowners to request 10 annual easement payments with 8% interest on unpaid balance; allows landowner to require utility

ENERGY ENVIRONMENT

Power Line Siting - Con't.

to buy any amount of contiguous land; beginning January 1, 1978 requires utilities to make annual payments in addition to the easement price depending on length of line on property.

Establishes route application fee to cover EQB costs. Proceedings conducted or initiated after effective date conducted according to new law. Proceedings initiated or conducted prior to effective date remain covered by old law. Effective: immediately.
C.439-77

*	H.F.2087	Wenstrom, Munger, Anderson, D., Niehaus, Fjoslien
	S.F. 1956	Luther, Willet

Extends the emergency rules 6 months to July 1, 1978. Allows revocation of construction permit for failure to comply with health standards. Amends property tax laws so that property taxes from power lines are credited to county general fund (35% instead of 50%), county general school funds (still 50%), and townships (15% instead of 0). Effective: for taxes levied in 1978; other provisions immediately.
C.658-78

SEE ALSO:

Housing Finance	p.46
Public Utility Customer Category	p.69
Shade Tree Disease Control	p.55
Solid & Hazardous Waste Research	p.28
1978 Tax Bill (Sales Tax Exemption on Residential Heating Fuels)	p.90

ENVIRONMENT

Dam Safety and Repair

*	H.F. 2137	Lehto, Munger, Dean, McCarron, Braun
	S.F. 2156	Moe, Chmielewski, Willet, Luther

Brings Minnesota law into compliance with the national dam safety program. Requires DNR to submit an annual report to the legislature on dangerous state and local dams, grants access to DNR staff to examine dams and other structures, and requires that DNR examination reports on privately-owned dams must be submitted to the legislature prior to receipt or purchase of these dams by state or local government units. Mandates DNR to promulgate rules by April 1, 1979 on exclusions from permit requirements, inspection fee schedule and classification of structures by public health safety and welfare risk. Appropriates \$200,000 to DNR for dam inspection and \$250,000 for repair of state dams and state grant-in-aid for repair of local dams. Effective: immediately.
C.779-78

ENVIRONMENT

Environmental Education

*	H.F. 1940	Reding, Voss, Zubay
	S.F. 2090	Peterson, McCutcheon, Stokowski, Nichols, Lessard

Transfers supervision of the environmental education board from the environmental quality board to the DNR. Requires a report from the environmental education board to the legislature by November 15, 1981 on the status of environmental education activities performed by state agencies and on whether the board should be abolished. Effective: July 1, 1978.
C.768-78

*	H.F. 2081	Kelly, R., Stanton, Mangan, Metzen, McEachern
	S.F. 2030	Strand, Nichols, Benedict

Adds environmental education as a purpose for tree planting. Allows the DNR and department of education to develop environmental conservation education programs for adults in addition to elementary and secondary students. Effective: immediately.
C.578-78

Fluorocarbon Ban

*	H.F. 398	Wynia, Munger, Dean, Stoa, Osthoff
	S.F. 197	Humphrey, Olhoft, Merriam

Except for refrigeration equipment, medical products (example: nasal spray), or products used to maintain electronic equipment, pressurized spray cans containing fluorocarbons may not be sold after July 1, 1979. Beginning October 31, 1977, such containers must state on the front: "Warning: Contains a chlorofluorocarbon that may harm the public health and environment by reducing ozone in the upper atmosphere." A violation is a misdemeanor. Effective: immediately.
C.373-77

Lake Improvement Districts

	H.F. 1092	Waldorf, Munger, Kostohryz, Fjoslien, Patton
*	S.F. 793	Stumpf, Olson, H., Willet, Merriam, Penny

Requires DNR to develop rules for the establishment of lake improvement districts and criteria for the allocation of state aid to districts by April 1, 1979. Increases citizen involvement by: requiring public hearings to encourage citizen testimony, requiring 51% (was 5%) of landowners within the district to sign petitions of creation, requiring the board of directors to include a property owner, requiring 25% (was 5%) of landowners within the district to sign referendum requests,

ENVIRONMENT

Lake Improvement Districts - Con't.

51% (was 10%) of landowners within district to approve terminating the district, and requiring open annual meetings for the approval of budgets and projects. Allows local governments to levy special assessments to finance district projects and to carry out water management and regulation duties by joint powers agreements.

Effective: immediately.

C.726-78

Nuclear Waste

- | | | |
|---|------------------------|--|
| * | H.F. 1215
S.F. 1133 | Hanson, Munger, Kahn, Kempe, R.
Luther, Willet, Dunn, Olson, H., Benedict |
|---|------------------------|--|

Prohibits both the construction or operation of a radioactive waste management facility in Minnesota and the transportation of radioactive waste into Minnesota for permanent storage unless authorized by the legislature. Allows temporary storage of cardiac pacemakers, smoke detectors, research wastes, etc., for up to 12 months under state and federal law.

Effective: immediately.

C.416-77

Plastic Milk Containers

- | | | |
|---|-------------------|---|
| * | H.F. 45
S.F. 2 | Munger, Sabo, Skoglund, Dean, Nelson
Luther, Sikorski, Ulland, Johnson |
|---|-------------------|---|

Prohibits the sale of fluid milk products other than cottage cheese, sour cream and yogurt in non-returnable, non-refillable rigid or semi-rigid containers at least 50% of which are plastic. A violation is a misdemeanor.

Effective: July 1, 1978.

NOTE: On April 5, 1978, Ramsey district court declared this law to be unconstitutional, therefore, it will not go into effect. This action is being appealed.

C.268-77

Solid & Hazardous Waste Research

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| H.F. 1164 | Eckstein, Vanasek, Jensen, Kostohryz,
Biersdorf |
| * | S.F. 1106
Olson, H., Nichols, Penny, Jensen,
Luther |

Clarifies legislative intent to reduce, recover and produce energy from waste rather than rely on land disposal to guide state, local and regional government planning. Appropriates \$225,000 for coordinated 1-year research program on solid and hazardous waste to be completed by energy agency, pollution control agency and state planning agency designed to assess: existing local and regional plans, the impact of federal laws, the laws and practices of other states, waste streams in Minnesota, recovery and recycling potential of wastes, the relationship of resource recovery to production of energy from other sources (biomass, coal or district heating), existing dangerous disposal sites, methods to evaluate waste facility disposal sites,

ENVIRONMENT

Solid & Hazardous Waste Research - Con't.

methods to evaluate waste facility proposals, and ways to promote waste reduction. Creates a joint legislative committee (7 members from each body) to advise the agencies and review work programs from April 15, 1978 to June 1, 1979. Requires a report and recommendations to the legislature by March 1, 1979. Prohibits the site selection, design, acquisition and construction of the hazardous waste demonstration facility in the metro area until reports required by this law are completed and site selection criteria are reevaluated in light of legislative intent. Allows non-metro counties to require that solid waste be disposed at a county-designated facility rather than transported to other counties until June 30, 1980.

Effective: immediately.

C.728-78

Used Motor Oil Recycling

- | | |
|----------|--|
| H.F. 347 | Skoglund, Sherwood, Wynia, Jensen
Munger |
| * | S.F. 530
Olhoft, Strand, Willet, Dunn, Luther |

Requires persons selling oil at retail to either post a notice indicating the nearest location where used motor oil may be returned for recycling or provide a collection tank at the point of sale for used motor oil. Persons violating this act are guilty of a petty misdemeanor.

Effective: January 1, 1978.

C.68-77

Water Pollution Control Fund

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| * | H.F. 1252
Stoa, Munger, Anderson, G., Sieben, M.
Evans |
| S.F. 1444 | Setzepfandt, Peterson, Willet, Ashbach,
Nelson |

Authorizes increase in PCA water pollution control bonding authority from \$84 million to \$124 million (an increase of \$40 million) to provide state match for municipal waste water treatment facility construction projects receiving federal water pollution control act funds. Municipalities not eligible for additional state grants after meeting state water quality standards.

Effective: August 1, 1977.

C.418-77

Water Use Priorities

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| H.F. 2116 | Kelly, W., Birnstihl, Mann, Munger,
Eken |
| * | S.F. 1664
Moe |

Includes processing of agricultural products with agricultural irrigation as the third priority for appropriation and use of water in Minnesota (first priority is domestic and

ENVIRONMENT FARMERS

Water Use Priorities - Con't.

second priority is any consumption less than 10,000 gallons per day). Clarifies that the designation of waters as "public waters" shall not require public access.
Effective: immediately.
C.505-78

SEE ALSO:

Feedlot Pollution Control Tax Credit	p. 7
Power Line Siting	p.25
Rural Water Districts	p.31
Shade Tree Disease Control	p.55
Soil & Water Conservation	p.32
1977 Tax Bill (Taconite Environmental Protection Fund)	p.87
Water Resources Management	p.32

FARMERS

Agricultural Marketing Activities

* H.F. 2527	Norton
S.F. 2404	Moe

Appropriates \$28,600 to department of economic development and \$171,918 to department of agriculture for promotion of Minnesota's unprocessed agricultural commodities and food products and for development of additional markets.
Effective: immediately.
C.379-78

Alien Ownership of Farmland

* H.F. 79	Anderson, B., Stanton, Biersdorf, Evans, Sherwood
S.F. 79	Menning, Willet, Olson, H., Renneke, Hanson

Prohibits future lease or purchase of Minnesota agricultural land by a non-resident alien or by a corporation in which aliens control more than 20% interest; limited exceptions allowed. Alien landowners may retain current holdings but must file annual reports with the commissioner of agriculture.
Effective: immediately.
C.269-77

Compensation for Destroyed Livestock

* H.F. 1630	Norton
S.F. 1521	Menning, Luther, Pillsbury

Establishes program within department of agriculture to

FARMERS

Compensation for Destroyed Livestock - Con't.

reimburse livestock owners up to \$400 per animal destroyed by timber wolves. Appropriates \$100,000.
Effective: July 1, 1977.
C.450-77

Corporate Farming Restrictions - See Page 107

Family Farm Security Act Amendments

Improve Minnesota model 1976 family farm security program by encouraging retiring farmers (sellers) and sponsoring banks to participate.

* H.F. 777	Eken, Mann, Kalis, Biersdorf, Anderson, G.
S.F. 941	Hanson, Moe, Willet

Allows: (1) buyer to assume seller-sponsor's mortgage; (2) unequal payments on loan contracts for 10 years or less; (3) seller-sponsor to repurchase land in case of default; and (4) lender to receive up to 100% of a defaulted loan (state guarantees 90%) if land's sale produces sufficient revenue.
Effective: immediately.
C.170-77

* H.F. 1881	Anderson, G., Wenstrom, Eken, Friedrich, Nelsen, M.
S.F. 2001	Nichols, Hanson, Moe, Strand, Peterson

Exempts from state income tax the interest earned on a seller-sponsored loan.
Effective: for interest received on loans made after 12/31/77 and before 1/1/82.
C.763-78

Rural Water User Districts

* H.F. 1091	Stanton, Erickson, Munger, Anderson, G.
S.F. 954	Nichols, Strand, Hanson

Provides alternate procedure for establishing and governing rural water systems to supply water for domestic, commercial, industrial and stock watering purposes; excludes irrigation. Authorizes district court, upon petition, to create water district, to be administered by elected board of 5-13 directors. Provides for financing through proportionate charges to users based on amount of water used and through revenue bonding; prohibits levying taxes or assessing property. Empowers district with powers of public corporation and of eminent domain.
Effective: immediately.
C.744-78

FARMERS

Soil and Water Conservation

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| H.F. 776 | Clawson, Kalis, Lemke, Mann,
Anderson, R. |
| * S.F. 90 | Stumpf, Schrom, Willet, Dunn, Penny |

Appropriates \$3M to the state soil and water conservation board to initiate a cost-sharing program with conservation districts for reduction or prevention of soil erosion, flooding, sedimentation and agriculturally-related pollution. New duties of the board include: reviewing district plans, conducting research, developing a priority system of needy areas.

Effective: immediately.

C.304-77

Water Resources Management

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| * H.F. 1236 | Birnstihl, Mann, Munger, Eken, Erickson |
|-------------|---|

Modifies current water resources planning by: creating a water planning board; requiring groundwater data collection by DNR and MGS; establishing a DNR training program for pumping tests and data acquisition. Changes water use priorities by placing agricultural irrigation third instead of first with domestic. Modifies DNR water use permit procedure by: involving the soil and water conservation board; requiring all agricultural irrigators to provide maps, plans and data on environmental effects; requiring irrigators in areas where inadequate groundwater data exists to include results of pumping tests on observation wells, data on geology; limits detrimental use of surface waters. During period of critical water shortage, restricts non-essential municipal water use (e.g., lawn sprinkling). Appropriates \$1,241,000 for administration, the board and data collection.

Effective: immediately.

C.446-77

Weather Modification

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| H.F. 78 | Stanton, Fjoslien, Erickson, Kahn,
Anderson, B. |
| * S.F. 73 | Nichols, Strand |

Authorizes commissioner of agriculture to regulate, research and evaluate weather modification activities in Minnesota. Requires annual licensure of persons engaged in weather modification and annual permits for each project. County boards must approve all operations within their county and may conduct own department-approved projects. Provides for optional referendum on co-financed programs. Prohibits use of cloud-seeding apparatus located on the ground. Appropriates \$75,000 for administrative expenses.

Effective: County review section immediately; remainder on January 1, 1978.

C.426-77

FARMERS

GOVERNMENT REFORM

SEE ALSO:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------|
| County Agricultural Societies | p. 51 |
| Elective Coverage for Family Farmers | p.100 |
| Family Farms | p.100 |
| Feedlot Pollution Control Tax Credit | p. 7 |
| Power Line Siting | p. 25 |
| Rail User Loan Guarantee Program | p. 96 |
| Rural Medical Student Loans | p. 82 |
| 1977 Tax Bill (Property Tax Relief) | p. 87 |
| Trespass Prohibited | p. 78 |
| Water Use Priorities | p. 29 |

GOVERNMENT REFORM

Appointment of Department Heads

- | | |
|------------|---|
| H.F. 612 | Petrafeso, Sieben, H., Cummiskey,
Smogard, Zubay |
| * S.F. 109 | Schaaf, Gearty, Chenoweth, Ogdahl,
Borden |

Provides that the terms of department heads will end with the term of the governor. Department heads will now serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority and may be removed without cause subject to a July 1, 1987 "sunset" provision. Restricts related private employment of commissioners and deputies for one year after leaving office. Limits each department to one deputy commissioner, unless otherwise specifically authorized by statute; sets maximum of two deputy commissioners in any event. Allows the commissioner of administration to transfer powers, duties and personnel of one department to another that has been in existence for at least one year. Transfers the policy making and administrative functions of the health board to the commissioner of health who will now be appointed by the governor rather than the board. Health board to serve in advisory capacity to the commissioner. Provides that the executive director of MHFA will be appointed by the governor rather than by the agency.

Effective: immediately.

C.305-77

Data Privacy

- | | |
|-------------|-----------|
| * H.F. 2466 | Beauchamp |
| S.F. 2274 | Tennessen |

Extends expiration date of the commissioner of administration's current emergency data classification authority from July 31, 1978, to July 31, 1979. Also prohibits state agencies and political subdivisions from disseminating private or confidential data on individuals to international organization called Interpol.

Effective: emergency authority extension--immediately; Interpol restriction--April 1, 1980.

C.790-78

GOVERNMENT REFORM

Department of Economic Security

- H.F. 3 Sieben, H., Hokanson, Anderson, I.,
Swanson, Biersdorf
* S.F. 202 Moe, Chenoweth, Penny, Kirchner,
Laufenburger

Creates a new department of economic security to coordinate job training and placement services and administer unemployment compensation. Combines present departments of employment services and vocational rehabilitation; authorizes governor to transfer the governor's manpower office and CETA programs into new department by executive order. Appropriates \$150,000.

Effective: July 1, 1977.

C.430-77

Legislators' Seniority

- * H.F. 2043 Begich, Battaglia, Enebo

Amends the existing law which protects legislators' seniority for a period of 3 years after leaving office to provide that employers and employee organizations (unions) may not discriminate or discharge a former legislator for statements made or beliefs held while in office.

Effective: immediately.

C.650-78

Minnesota Identification Card

- * H.F. 176 Simoneau, Neisen, Novak, Berkelman,
Skoglund
S.F. 239 Stokowski

Allows any non-driver to purchase a Minnesota I.D. card from the department of public safety (formerly called a non-qualification certificate and available only to persons over 16) for \$3.00. Establishes a fee of 50¢ for cards issued to mentally retarded persons.

Effective: August 2, 1977.

C.361-77

Open Appointments Procedures

- * H.F. 85 Wenstrom, Clawson, Nelson, Carlson, A.,
Smogard
S.F. 37 Luther, Benedict, Sikorski, Staples,
Nelson

Establishes a new procedure to appoint members of statutory state boards, commissions, councils, committees, task forces, the metropolitan council, metropolitan commissions and the capitol area architectural and planning board. Each board or commission is required to submit certain data pertaining to the duties of the board or commission and the responsibilities of the position to the secretary of state, who is charged with publication of the data in the State Register.

GOVERNMENT REFORM

Open Appointments Procedures - Con't.

Boards and commissions must notify the secretary of state of vacancies within 15 days of their occurrence. The secretary of state must periodically publish a list of vacancies. Individuals interested in appointment to a vacancy may submit applications to the secretary of state who, in turn, submits the applications to the appointing authority for consideration. No appointment may be made until all applications on file with the secretary of state have received consideration. However, the appointing authority may choose to appoint an individual who does not file an application with the secretary of state's office. Secretary of state must report annually to the governor and legislature on the number of vacancies occurring in the previous year, the characteristics of the individuals appointed to fill these vacancies, and the source of the applicants receiving appointment. Appropriates \$5,000 to the secretary of state for the balance of the biennium.

Effective: immediately for all vacancies occurring after July 1, 1978.

C.592-78

Public Television

- H.F. 739 Beauchamp, Corbid, Pehler, Dean,
St. Onge
* S.F. 1395 Solon, Willet, Ulland

Appropriates \$300,000 for the state board of arts to make grants to public television stations. Amends the formula for calculating the matching funds required by public stations so that each eligible station will receive an equal amount, except that its grant may not exceed the amount of Minnesota based contributions the station received from the general public in the previous fiscal year. Creates a bi-partisan legislative commission composed of five senators and five representatives to study public broadcasting and report on its findings, and recommendations by January 15, 1978. Appropriates \$25,000 to pay the commission's expenses. Effective: immediately.

C.445-77

State Contracts Management

- * H.F. 1103 Reding, Beauchamp
S.F. 762 Sikorski, Coleman, Ashbach, Borden,
McCutcheon

Centralizes responsibility for state contracts for goods, consultant, professional and technical services with the commissioner of administration. Establishes certain standards for state contracts. Agencies must now gain the approval of the commissioner of administration prior to contracting for consultant, professional and technical services in excess of \$2,000 and must demonstrate a need for the contracted services. Previously, each department head held responsibility for entering into consultant contracts on behalf of the state

GOVERNMENT REFORM

State Contracts Management - Con't.

with the approval of the commissioner of administration. Each agency is responsible for monitoring performance under state contracts. Requires the commissioner of administration to provide monthly to the governor and the legislature a list of all contracts entered into or disapproved by the state in the previous month.

Effective: immediately.

C.480-78

State Personnel Practices

H.F. 2032	Berglin, Reding, Zubay, Sieben, H., Welch
* S.F. 1864	Chenoweth, McCutcheon, Coleman, Vega, Ulland

Implements some of the major preliminary recommendations of a long-term study of the state personnel system made by the legislative audit commission. Testing of individuals interested in employment with the state will now be conducted more frequently or continuously, based on the job turnover of particular classes of employees. Improvement will be made in the methods used to notify the public of position openings and toll-free telephone service will be provided to assist state residents in contacting state agencies for job application information. To reduce the reliance on written test scores for employee selection, "reliability-based band width certification" of job applicants is provided on a pilot basis. Applicants with the top ten test scores will be certified as eligible for a job opening and their names will not be ranked by test scores on eligibility lists submitted to appointing authorities. The commissioner of personnel will report to the governor and legislature on the effectiveness of the pilot program by January 1, 1980. Amends civil service law to provide certain safeguards against the abuses of provisional appointments in the classified service. Allows retired state employees receiving retirement benefits under a state pension plan to purchase health insurance coverage for themselves and their dependents through the regular state employee group insurance plans. Appropriates \$244,700 to the department of personnel.

Effective: immediately. Reliability-based band certification pilot program to expire June 30, 1980. In addition, the omnibus supplemental appropriations bill, H.F. 2527, appropriates \$65,000 to the department of personnel to begin implementation of a management information system to computerize hiring and other personnel procedures to provide timely and meaningful information for personnel management decisions.

C.734-78

Unclaimed Property

* H.F. 2151	Suss, Sieben, H., Patton
S.F. 2003	Keefe, S.

GOVERNMENT REFORM

Unclaimed Property - Con't.

Provides for classifying as "abandoned" all intangible personal unclaimed property held for an owner by an agency, government or political subdivision for more than 7 years; in addition to other penalties, a person failing to deliver unclaimed property to the state treasurer within a certain time period is required to pay 12% interest to the state treasurer on the unclaimed property.

Effective: immediately.

C.664-78

Unclassified Pay Raise Bill

H.F. 689	Sieben, H., Sabo, Anderson, I., Norton, Voss
* S.F. 483	Gearty, Ogdahl, Borden, Coleman Sieloff

Increases salaries of state agency heads. Highest paid agency head is now commissioner of finance at \$45,000. Establishes deputy agency head salaries at 90% of agency head's salary. Provides that salaries of local government employees shall not exceed the salary of the commissioner of finance. Reduces merit pay awards from 25% to 10% of base salary. Increases salaries of constitutional officers to: governor, \$58,000; attorney general, \$49,000; lieutenant governor, \$30,000; secretary of state, auditor and treasurer, \$30,000; deputy constitutional officers' salaries set at 90% of constitutional officer's salary. Increases salaries of state legislators to \$16,500 in 1979 and \$18,500 in 1980. Reduces per diem during session from \$48 to \$27 for outstate legislators and from \$40 to \$17 for metro legislators. Interim per diem increased from \$33 to \$48. Judicial salaries are increased to: chief justice of supreme court, \$52,000; associate justices, \$49,000; district, county and municipal court judges learned in the law, \$40,000; judges not learned in the law, \$27,000. County judges will now receive same pay as district judges. Provides for state takeover of county judges salaries. Appropriates: \$15,749,000. Chapter 35 was amended in 1977 by: S.F.311 (Chapter 432) -- to increase district and county court judges' salaries from \$40,000 to \$42,000, and S.F.1337 (Chapter 452) -- to increase local government salary limitations from finance commissioner's base salary to finance commissioner's base salary plus maximum merit award of 10% (from \$45,000 to \$49,500).

Effective: July 1, 1977.

C.35-77

Volunteer Services Office

* H.F. 613	Clark, Kroening, Hokanson, Skoglund
S.F. 599	Hughes, Staples, Humphrey, Sikorski, Brataas

Establishes an office of volunteer services and a 21 member advisory committee within the governor's office to

GOVERNMENT REFORM
HANDICAPPED

Volunteer Services Office - Con't.

encourage and improve volunteer programs throughout the state. Appropriates \$200,000.
Effective: July 1, 1977.
C.389-77

SEE ALSO:

Correctional Licensure	p.17
Election Reform Category	p.21
Judicial Reform Category	p.47
Local Government Category	p.51
Office of Small Business	p. 9
Public Employees Category	p.61
Representation for Residential Utility Customers	p.69
Rural Electric Cooperatives Regulation	p.69
Water Resources Management	p.32

HANDICAPPED

Access to Public Buildings

* H.F. 2494	Norton
S.F. 2371	Moe

Appropriates \$5 million for statewide remodeling of state buildings and the university of Minnesota to make them barrier-free for handicapped persons. (An additional \$500,000 was appropriated in 1977. See C.451.)
Effective: immediately.
C.792-78

* H.F. 1736	Berkelman, Brandl, Waldorf, Byrne, Murphy
S.F. 1595	Benedict, Gunderson, Dieterich

Requires that public buildings constructed or remodeled after July 1, 1963, be made accessible to and useable by handicapped. Prohibits state agencies from holding public meetings after 7/1/79 or from leasing space after 7/1/80 in non-accessible buildings.
Effective: July 1, 1978.
C.751-78

Architects & Engineers - Knowledge of Handicapped Needs

* H.F. 1728	Berkelman, Neisen, Waldorf, Lehto, Brandl
S.F. 1789	Gunderson, Penny, Nichols, Sikorski, Knaak

HANDICAPPED

Architects & Engineers - Knowledge of Handicapped Needs
- Con't.

Requires architects, civil engineers, and landscape architects to demonstrate knowledge of barrier-free design and of relevant statutes and codes prior to acquiring professional license.
Effective: for state license examinations given after January 1, 1980.
C.483-78

Guide Dogs for the Deaf

H.F. 208	Forsythe, Clawson, Scheid, Kaley, Clark
* S.F. 223	Bang, Gearty, Lewis, Laufenburger, Ashbach.

Assures every totally or partially deaf person the right to be accompanied by a guide dog. Requires motorists to stop and give the right-of-way to any deaf person with a guide dog identified by a burnt orange collar or leash. Allows a deduction from gross income for the cost and maintenance expenses of guide dogs.
Effective: immediately.
C.247-77

Islands of Peace Park - Fridley

* H.F. 15	Simoneau, McCarron, Scheid, Ellingson Neisen
S.F. 100	Schaaf, Luther, Humphrey, Olson, H.

Appropriates \$150,000 to state planning agency to develop recreational facilities for the handicapped at islands of peace park in cooperation with local governments which must raise \$50,000 and be responsible for operation and maintenance of land and facilities.
Effective: July 1, 1977.
C.352-77

H.F. 1811	Simoneau, McCarron, Voss
* S.F. 1656	Schaaf, Keefe, S., Olson, H., Luther

Allows the funds appropriated in 1977 to be used for acquisition as well as development.
Effective: immediately.
C.528-78

Parking Privileges for the Handicapped

H.F. 175	Wigley, Kvam, Neisen, Kalis, Hokanson
* S.F. 43	Ueland, Engler, Staples, Gunderson, Jensen

Allows person who is temporarily physically handicapped to receive time-specific certificate from department of public

HANDICAPPED

Parking Privileges for the Handicapped - Con't.

safety for parking in designated handicapped parking area.
Effective: immediately.
C.22-77

H.F. 798	Neisen, McEachern, Reding, Erickson, Kostohryz
* S.F. 922	Benedict, Strand, Staples, Humphrey

Prohibits non-handicapped persons from parking in designated handicapped spaces; display of handicapped certificate required. Violators punishable with \$10 fine.
Effective: August 1, 1977.
C.205-77

Remodeling of Handicapped Employees' Residences

H.F. 1607	Murphy
* S.F. 23	Chmielewski, Olson, H., Staples, Menning, Gunderson

Requires employers to remodel the residences of employees permanently disabled by job-related injuries if determined that the injury substantially prevents the employee from functioning within the residence. If remodeling is not practical, another residence which would accommodate the disabled employee may be provided. Employees are limited to \$30,000 for each injury.
Effective: immediately.
C. 177-77

Sheltered Workshop Financing

* S.F. 1510	Vega, Chmielewski, Nelson, Solon
-------------	----------------------------------

Authorizes counties, cities, or towns to use their general revenue funds, to levy certain taxes (subject to regular levy limits), and to accept gifts or grants for funding long-term sheltered workshops or work activity programs for the handicapped.

Effective: August 1, 1978.
C.522-78

State Council for Handicapped

H.F. 1522	Brandl, Wynia, Heinitz, Nelson, Dahl
* S.F. 1446	Knoll, Kirchner, Keefe, S., Merriam, Milton

Authorizes appeals without fee by the state council for the handicapped of building code decisions which affect handicapped persons. Requires commissioner of administration to promulgate rules by March 1, 1979, governing display of the international wheelchair symbol of accessibility; prohibits display of symbol by any building, facility, or grounds not in compliance.

Effective: immediately.
C.520-78

HANDICAPPED

State Employment of Handicapped

* H.F. 1898	Petrafeso, McDonald, Hokanson, Jude, Beauchamp
S.F. 1764	Knoll, Chenoweth, Kirchner, Nelson, Ueland

Amends civil service requirements by allowing certain severely handicapped persons to have a 700-hr. on-the-job trial work experience in state employment without passing a competitive civil service exam. Successful completion may constitute basis for direct appointment to classified service.
Effective: August 1, 1978.
C.630-78

Transportation Funding for the Handicapped

* H. F. 2527	Norton
S.F. 2404	Moe

Section 27 of the supplemental appropriations bill provides \$800,000 (in addition to \$1.2M appropriated in 1977) for the metropolitan transit commission's project mobility, a specialized dial-a-ride bus service for the handicapped, in order to expand the service area of project mobility into all of Minneapolis, St. Paul and some surrounding areas. Allows project mobility bus drivers to assist persons in gaining access and entrance to the buses. Appropriates \$500,000 for alternative transportation services to the handicapped (such as subsidies for taxi rides or vans) in the Twin Cities metropolitan area.

Effective: immediately.
C.793-78

Vinland National Center

* H.F. 917	Swanson, Sabo, Kvam, Norton, Samuelson
S.F. 883	Milton, Kirchner, Lewis, Perpich, Coleman

Appropriates \$200,000 state match for a gift from Norway for planning and construction of Vinland National Center, a national health promotion, education and training center for handicapped citizens. Prohibits construction until certificate of need is obtained.

Effective: July 1, 1977.
C.283-77

SEE ALSO:

Accessibility of Polling Places	p. 21
Cost of Care for Mentally Retarded Epileptic & Emotionally Handicapped Children	p.105
Income Maintenance Eligibility	p. 71
Nursing Home Regulations	p. 74
Personal Allowance	p. 73
1977 School Aids Bill (Special Education Aid)	p. 82
1978 School Aids Bill (Special Education Aid)	p. 85

HEALTH CARE

Comprehensive Health Insurance Association

* H.F. 2527 Norton
S.F. 2404 Moe

Section 15 of the 1978 supplemental appropriations bill provides that premiums set by the association for high-risk consumers after June 30, 1978, may not exceed 125% of the premiums in effect the first 1-1/2 years of operation (previous law would have allowed the association to set rates so as to be self-supporting). Appropriates \$200,000 to the commerce department to cover claims incurred after June 30, 1978, which exceed the premiums paid.

Effective: immediately.

C.793-78

Family Planning Services

* H.F. 2098 Berglin, Scheid, Carlson, L.,
Langseth, Kaley
S.F. 2143 Staples, Borden, Lewis, Schaaf, Nelson

Amends 1976 community health services act by appropriating \$1.3M for special grants to local governments or nonprofit corporations who choose to provide pre-pregnancy family planning services. Grant recipients may not perform abortions, may not offer services to minors in schools, must describe risks/benefits of each method, and must inform parents if abortion or sterilization is advised for minor. Prohibits repercussions for non-participation.

Effective: immediately.

C.775-78

Health Facility Refinancing

* H.F. 1476 Skoglund, Forsythe, Jaros, Clark,
Brandl
S.F. 1839 Chenoweth, Staples, Schaaf, Sikorski,
Ashbach

Allows municipalities and redevelopment agencies to issue revenue bonds and industrial revenue bonds to finance the acquisition or betterment of existing hospital or nursing home facilities. Prohibits the use of industrial revenue bonds unless a reduction in debt service charges is passed on to patients and third party payors and unless projects are consistent with certificate of need laws. Authorizes municipalities to include refinancing of existing indebtedness in the cost of a project.

Effective: immediately.

C.609-78

HEALTH CARE

Health Manpower Data

* H.F. 1825 Swanson, Carlson, L., Wigley, Clawson,
Waldorf
S.F. 1750 Schaaf

Requires the commissioner of health to establish a system for collection, analysis and reporting of data on licensed or registered health manpower in Minnesota. Directs the commissioner to develop rules on forms and type of information collected as well as to collect information at the time of licensure or registration renewal whenever possible.

Effective: immediately.

C.759-78

Health Records Access

* H.F. 462 McCollar, Carlson, L., Scheid, Berglin,
Heinitz
S.F. 460 Milton, Gunderson, Staples, Vega, Nelson

Requires health care providers upon request to supply patients with complete and current information regarding the patient's medical condition at reasonable cost. If the health care provider determines that supplying medical records to a patient would be detrimental to the physical or mental health of the patient, the provider may withhold the records from the patient or may supply the records to an appropriate third party. A patient's health record must be supplied to another health care provider at the written request of the patient.

Effective: immediately.

C.380-77

Health Screening for Pre-Schoolers

H.F. 757 Byrne, Faricy, Carlson, L.,
Carlson, A., Mangan
S.F. 743 Milton, Hughes, Kirchner, Perpich,
Staples

Requires every school board to provide a voluntary health and developmental screening program to assess children once prior to entering kindergarten. By FY 1979, programs must include developmental, hearing, vision, dental, physical and nutritional assessments; health history and immunization review and laboratory tests. Requires legislative report by February 1, 1979. School districts to receive up to \$13/child in FY 1978; up to \$23/child in FY 1979. Appropriates \$1,669,000.

Effective: July 1, 1977.

C.437-77

* H.F. 2527 Norton
S.F. 2404 Moe

Section 23 of the supplemental appropriations bill appropriates an additional \$410,000. Requires school districts

HEALTH CARE

Health Screening for Pre-Schoolers - Con't.

to give priority to volunteers when selecting personnel. Limits children who have been provided with lab tests, health history or physical assessment within 12 months prior to the scheduled screening to receiving only developmental, hearing, vision, dental, nutritional and immunization assessments. Requires rules to permit registered nurses to handle certain components of the program.

Effective: immediately.

C.793-78

Health Services, Health Research & Health Policy

* H.F. 2527 Norton
S.F. 2404 Moe

Section 78 of the supplemental appropriations bill appropriates \$75,000 for migrant health services and \$75,000 for Indian health services to fulfill a previous commitment for the community health services special grants program. Appropriates \$200,000 for research on creosote pollution in St. Louis Park water systems, and reallocates \$100,000 to the department of health for monitoring two high-voltage transmission lines (regarding features which may pose health and safety risks for individuals and livestock). Shifts rule-making authority for the certificate of need program from state planning agency to the department of health. Allows rates on nursing homes to be exceeded to reimburse for costs of nursing assistant training.

Effective: reallocation for monitoring transmission lines is effective July 1, 1978; remainder is effective immediately.

C.793-78

Immunization of Students

* H.F. 1823 Carlson, L., Swanson, Berglin, Zubay,
Langseth
S.F. 1733 Lewis, Staples, Kirchner, Sikorski

Amends existing law by requiring children to be immunized against diptheria, tetanus, pertussis, polio and mumps in addition to red measles and German measles or rubella prior to enrollment in any school unless: the child has been immunized against both kinds of measles and mumps and is scheduled to receive and receives the other immunizations within 10 months of enrollment; a physician states that the immunization would endanger the child's health; or the parents or guardians submit a notarized statement that they do not believe in immunization. Allows the department of health to suspend this requirement for one year.

Effective: immediately.

C.758-78

Insurance Coverage for Chemical Dependency Treatment

* H.F. 2527 Norton
S.F. 2404 Moe

HEALTH CARE

Insurance Coverage for Chemical Dependency Treatment - Con't.

Section 60 requires all Minnesota individual accident and health insurance plans, upon issuance or renewal, to provide coverage for alcohol or drug addiction treatment on same basis as other benefits. Individuals may elect in writing to refuse such coverage in exchange for appropriate reduction in rates. (Group policies and HMO contracts were already so required.)

Effective: immediately.

C.793-78

Medical Malpractice

* H.F. 1095 Carlson, L., Berglin, Anderson, B.,
Kaley, Swanson
S.F. 1032 Luther

Adds requirement that insurers include in their quarterly report to the board of medical examiners the name and address of any physician against whom a medical malpractice award or settlement was made.

Effective: August 1, 1978.

C.482-78

Nursing-Pharmacy Building - University of Minnesota

* H.F. 1631 Norton
S.F. 1530 Moe

Appropriates \$13M to the university of Minnesota for the construction of a combined classroom, office and lab facility for training nurses and pharmacists. Appropriation is contingent upon receipt of \$8.2M in federal funds.

Effective: July 1, 1977.

C.451-77

New Facility at St. Peter Hospital

* H.F. 2494 Norton
S.F. 2371 Moe

In response to severe overcrowding and consequent constrained treatment programs at St. Peter security hospital, C.792 provides \$8.7M to plan, construct and equip a new 165-bed secure mental health facility on the St. Peter campus.

Effective: immediately.

C.792-78

SEE ALSO:

Abortion Financing Restricted	p.70
1977 Building Bills	p. 1
Health, Welfare & Corrections	
Appropriations Bill	p. 1

HEALTH CARE
HOMEOWNERS

SEE ALSO:

Judicial Commitment Records Sealed	p.47
Nursing Home Regulations	p.74
Vinland National Center	p.41

HOMEOWNERS

Housing Finance

* H.F. 875	Kroening, Norton, Jaros, Osthoff, Jacobs
S.F. 867	Knoll, Sikorski, Willet, Ogdahl, Humphrey

Raises debt limit of housing finance agency from \$600 million to \$900 million for funding agency home improvement loan, homeownership loan and multi-family construction loan programs.

Appropriations:

\$21.5 million - for home improvement grants to low-income families.

\$10 million - leveraged with bond proceeds for home improvement loans.

\$7.5 million - for new homeownership assistance program, subsidizing mortgage payments and downpayments of low and moderate income families (subsidy payments decrease each year as recipient's ability to pay increases. These interest-free subsidies would be repaid by recipients before their last mortgage payment).

\$1 million - for innovative housing projects, particularly those demonstrating energy conservation.

Effective: July 1, 1977
C.401-77

New Home Warranties

* H.F. 38	Sieben, M., Osthoff, Adams
S.F. 56	Sikorski, Solon, Tennesen, Keefe, S., Ogdahl

Requires builders of new homes to provide 10-year warranties against major construction defects, 2-year warranties against defects caused by faulty installation of heating, cooling, plumbing and electrical systems, and a 1-year warranty against defective materials and faulty workmanship. Also provides for certain exclusions from liability if defects occur for which the builder is not directly responsible.

HOMEOWNERS
JUDICIAL REFORM

New Home Warranties - Con't.

Provides for waivers of warranties prior to sale if certain information is attested to in a waiver instrument. Damages are limited to the amount necessary to remedy the defect or the difference between the value of the dwelling with and without the defect.

Effective: for sales of new homes on or after January 1, 1978.
C.65-77

Usury Law Extension Changes

* H.F. 500	George, Adams, Dean, Beauchamp, Berkelman
S.F. 668	Borden, Kleinbaum, Knoll, Milton, Ogdahl

Extends the floating usury ceiling to July 31, 1979. Eliminates previous statutory language which tied conventional loan eligibility to federal regulations and also expands definition of "residential unit", thus removing an obstacle in conventional financing of condominiums, townhouses and second homes. Requires mortgage note forms used in Minnesota to contain some home buyer protection provisions found in federal regulations. Closes remaining loopholes in statutes so that all conventional home loans are subject to the floating ceiling. Requires all lenders making conventional loans in Minnesota to file an annual report with the banking commissioner, detailing their home loan activity. Interest on escrow changed from 3% to 4% per annum. Effective: June 1, 1977, for interest on escrow changes, immediately for all other provisions.
C.350-77

SEE ALSO:

American Indian Housing	p.58
Architects & Engineers - Knowledge of	
Handicapped Needs	p.38
Duluth Housing Finance	p.52
1977 Energy Conservation Bill	p.23
1978 Energy Conservation Bill	p.24
Mandatory Smoke Detectors	p.14
Remodeling of Handicapped Employees	
Residence	p.40
1977 Tax Bill (Property Tax Relief)	p.87
1978 Tax Bill (Sales Tax Exemption on	
Residential Heating Fuels)	p.90

JUDICIAL REFORM

Commitment Records Sealed

* H.F. 2518	Wynia, Cohen, Zubay, Berglin, Faricy
S.F. 1804	Dieterich, Hanson, McCutcheon, Bernhagen, Davies

JUDICIAL REFORM

Commitment Records Sealed - Con't.

Amends Minnesota hospitalization and commitment act to authorize sealing of judicial records of commitment proceedings. Individual must show the probate court that other person's access to the records causes undue hardship.

Effective: August 1, 1978.

C.696-78

Court Reorganization

H.F. 457	Voss, Berg, Clawson, Kroening, Pehler
* S.F. 311	Tennessen, Coleman, Sillers, Kleinbaum, Dunn

Reorganizes state's courts into 10 judicial districts, each with chief judge (elected by county and district judges) and district administrator (appointed by chief judge). Non-metro district boundaries can be changed by supreme court with approval of majority of chief judges. Allows judges to be shifted temporarily to overloaded courts (can be assigned within own district by chief judge, outside own district for short periods by chief justice of the supreme court). Amends Chapter 35 (1977), the unclassified pay bill by increasing the salary of district and county judges from \$40,000 to \$42,000. Creates Hennepin county family court (judge cannot serve consecutive terms in this court). Clarifies judges' retirement agreement system. Abolishes position of court referees. Restructures appeal procedures, (major change is creation of three judge appeal panels).

Effective: sections 25 and 48 (abolishing judicial officers and referees) -- July 31, 1978; section 45 (chief judge) -- day following final enactment; remainder -- July 1, 1977.

C.432-77

* H.F. 1734	Norton, Kahn, Munger, Faricy
S.F. 2373	Tennessen, Staples, Borden, Gearty, Sillers

Repeals 1977 language abolishing court referees and judicial officers. Continues all referees in Hennepin, Ramsey and St. Louis counties who were employed as of June 30, 1977. Continues judicial officers holding office on January 1, 1978. No new positions may be created or vacancies may be filled except that a temporary appointment may be made where existing personnel cannot handle a caseload. Supreme court required to make recommendations by October 1, 1980, on need for referees and judicial officers, the need for new judgeships and on a family division in Hennepin and Ramsey counties. Allows 1 law clerk for every 2 district court judges and limits Hennepin and Ramsey judges to 3 of every 6 years on juvenile cases.

Effective: July 31, 1978.

C.750-78

JUDICIAL REFORM

Judges - Removal and Discipline

H.F. 2026	Jude
* S.F. 1614	Davies, Sillers, Tennessen, Hanson, Lessard

Changes board on judicial standards so that all members are appointed by the governor, adds incompetence as grounds for removal of a judge and removes 4 year limitation on investigations of judges.

Effective: immediately.

C.713-78

H.F. 2016	Jude, Cohen, Biersdorf
* S.F. 1613	Davies, Merriam, Tennessen, Hanson, Sillers

Repeals provisions for compulsory retirement of a judge because of mental incapacity (such removal left to board on judicial standards under Chapter 713). Removes confidentiality of proceedings for the removal of judges.

Effective: August 1, 1978.

C.475-78

* H.F. 2024	Jude, Moe, Arlandson, Cohen, Biersdorf
S.F. 2006	Strand, Tennessen, Davies

Allows removal of judge from a case by notice to remove by either party. Deletes requirement of a showing of prejudice on removal of the first judge in a case.

Effective: August 1, 1978.

C.647-78

Jurisdiction Over Non-Residents

* H.F. 2159	Sieben, M., Sieben, H., Zubay, Berglin, Cohen
S.F. 1862	Hanson, Sikorski, Sieloff, Davies, Tennessen

Amends "long-arm" statute to give Minnesota courts jurisdiction in personal injury actions over non-residents for acts which cause an injury within the state except in the following circumstances: (1) Minnesota has no substantial interest in the case; (2) forcing the defendant to come to Minnesota would violate fairness or substantial justice; or (3) the action is for defamation or violation of privacy.

Effective: August 1, 1978.

C.780-78

Marriage Law Amendments

H.F. 1258	Cummiskey
* S.F. 977	Olson, H., Chmielewski, Penny, Ueland, Kleinbaum

JUDICIAL REFORM

Marriage Law Amendments - Con't.

Defines marriage as a civil contract between a man and a woman (formerly defined as a civil contract). Marriage documents must state names each party used before marriage and names they intend to use after marriage. Requires that the clerk of the district court send certified copies of the marriage certificate to the marriage parties and person performing ceremony.

Effective: August 1, 1977.

C.441-77

- * H.F. 2027 Berglin, George, Cohen, Faricy
S.F. 1826 Davies, Brataas, Staples, Dieterich,
Spear

Changes laws relating to marriage dissolution, child custody and support, and alimony. Major changes include: remove waiting period for remarriage; remove marital misconduct as a consideration in settlements; strengthens non-custodial parent's visitation rights; bases awards of support or alimony on each party's financial situation and ability to support themselves.

Effective: March 1, 1979.

C.772-78

Tax Court

- H.F. 68 Suss, Kelly, W., Savelkoul, Haugerud,
Sieben, H.
- * S.F. 160 Davies, Merriam, Gearty, Dieterich,
Sillers

Renames the tax court of appeals the "tax court" and establishes it as a full-time, independent agency within the executive branch. The three judges appointed by the governor will serve six year terms and receive a salary equal to the base salary for district judges (\$42,000). The court will have statewide jurisdiction and will be the sole and final authority on all questions of law and fact arising under the tax laws of the state, except for appeals allowed by the law. The tax court is instructed to hold hearings across the state to reduce the inconvenience and expense to taxpayers. The appeal fee is \$10. Further establishes a small claims division of the tax court to handle taxpayer appeals in which the amount in controversy does not exceed \$2,500. The appeal fee is \$2. Appropriates \$411,500.

Effective: July 1, 1977.

C.307-77

- * H.F. 2218 Suss
S.F. 1885 Davies, Sieloff, Wegener, Dieterich

Retroactively allows tax cases pending July 1, 1977, to be transferred from district court to the tax court. Provides for payment of taxes while an appeal is pending. Includes

JUDICIAL REFORM LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Tax Court - Con't.

judges of the tax court in the state retirement system retroactive to July 1, 1977.

Effective: July 1, 1977.

C.672-78

SEE ALSO:

Government Reform Category

p.33

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Airport Zoning

- * H.F. 2052 Scheid, Carlson, L., Ellingson,
Skoglund, Ewald
- S.F. 1908 Luther, Humphrey, Benedict

Amends the airport zoning law, which directs cities to establish through zoning certain land use standards near airports, to protect certain existing land uses (especially in established residential areas) which would have otherwise conflicted with the operation of an airport. Previous law dictated that such existing uses be eliminated or designated as non-conforming uses, which has the effect of limiting an owner's use of his/her property. Existing land uses near airports which create an immediate safety hazard must be eliminated at public expense.

Effective: immediately.

C.654-78

Cities of the First Class - Definition

- H.F. 1121 Jaros, Pleasant, Berkelman, Abeln,
Cumiskey
- * S.F. 478 Ulland, Solon, Chmielewski

Provides that once a city attains classification as a city of the first class (having more than 100,000 residents), it may not be reclassified unless its population decreases by 25% or more from the census figures which originally qualified the city as a city of the first class.

Effective: August 1, 1978.

C.489-78

County Agricultural Societies

- * H.F. 2089 Brinkman, Clawson, Carlson, D.,
Welch, Anderson, D.
- S.F. 1721 Chmielewski, Olson, H., Hanson,
Strand, Sillers

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

County Agricultural Societies - Con't.

County agricultural societies, which are primarily responsible for conducting county fairs, are now liable for tort actions brought against them pursuant to Chapter 466 which governs tort liability of political subdivisions. Authorization is also granted to county agricultural societies to levy for the costs of liability insurance and for the payment of judgments. Taxes levied for insurance are subject to levy limits; taxes levied for judgements are not.

Effective: August 1, 1978.

C.659-78

County Government Optional Forms

H.F. 1795 McEachern, Berg, Wenstrom, Friedrich,
Smogard

* S.F. 975 Wegener, Olhoft

Amends the optional forms of county government law to eliminate the referendum requirement for counties wishing to appoint a county administrator and not currently under the elected county-executive, the county-manager or the auditor-administrator plans. This act does not apply to St. Louis County.

Effective: August 1, 1978.

C.462-78

Duluth Housing Finance Program

H.F. 988 Jaros, Lehto, Berkelman, Munger

* S.F. 827 Ulland, Solon

Authorizes Duluth to establish by ordinance a housing finance program for persons of low and moderate income and authorizes Duluth city council to sell up to \$6 million in revenue bonds to finance the program.

Effective: upon approval of the Duluth city council which was granted on June 13, 1977.

C.142-77

"911" Emergency Telephone Service

H.F. 385 Hanson, Jude, Sieben, M., Pehler, Reding

* S.F. 448 Keefe, S., McCutcheon, Brataas, Schmitz,
Borden

Requires counties to establish emergency telephone service to connect callers with police, firefighters, medical and other emergency services by simply dialing the digits "911". Emergency phone service to be available from pay phones without charge. System must be available in metro area counties by December 15, 1982, and in other counties by December 15, 1986. Appropriates \$272,033 to department of administration for planning and coordinating expenses. A special legislative commission was established to assess alternatives for financing on-going operating costs.

Effective: July 1, 1977.

C.311-77

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

"911" Emergency Telephone Service - Con't.

* H.F. 2267 Hanson, Murphy, Reding, Welch,
Casserly

S.F. 2128 Keefe, S., Staples, Renneke

According to the recommendations of the commission, provides for state funding of the "911" system's on-going operations through general fund appropriations. Requires public utilities to certify their annual costs for 911 service to the commissioner of administration which then must be approved by the public service commission. Approved costs will be included in the regular state budget beginning in 1979.

Effective: immediately.

C.680-78

Financial Reporting Requirements

* H.F. 2292 Berg, Petrafeso, Kelly, W.,
Knickerbocker, Brandl

S.F. 2265 Wegener

Implements the recommendations of a study of the financial condition of Minnesota cities conducted by the state planning agency, office of local and urban affairs. Beginning in 1979, the calendar year will serve as the fiscal year for all Minnesota cities (affects approximately 22 cities statewide). The state auditor is authorized to extend this deadline by one year for any cities unable to comply with the 1979 deadline. Cities with populations over 2,500 will be required for the first time to submit independently audited financial reports to the state auditor annually and to follow generally-accepted accounting principles when preparing their audits and reports (affects 92 cities statewide). Summaries of the financial condition of a city must be published in a newspaper serving the city or posted in designated public places if the city has no newspaper. Cities with populations under 2,500 must prepare financial statements which need not be independently audited, publish these statements in a newspaper (or post them in public places) and submit the statements to the state auditor's office annually. Failure to comply with the reporting and audit requirements authorizes the state auditor to perform and audit for the city and charge for its cost. If a city fails to pay for an audit, the commissioner of finance is authorized to deduct the cost of the audit from any state aids due the city to compensate the state auditor. Appropriates \$50,000 to the state planning agency to provide grants and technical assistance to cities for conversion of financial records to generally accepted accounting formats to comply with the reporting requirements.

Effective: reporting requirements - January 1, 1979; grants and technical assistance - July 1, 1978.

C.787-78

Gambling Devices

* H.F. 405 Reding, Jensen, Brinkman, Jacobs,
McEachern

S.F. 399 Nelson, Schrom, Kleinbaum, Sikorski

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Gambling Devices - Con't.

Allows local units of government to establish, by ordinance, a system for licensing gambling operations which use paddle wheels, tipboards and raffles. Licenses may only be granted to non-profit organizations. Establishes procedures for operation and record keeping for licensees. Effective: August 1, 1978. C.507-78

Library Grants

* H.F. 1286 McEachern, Eken, Mangan, Metzen, Esau
S.F. 1404 Stumpf, Gunderson, Hughes, Nichols, Ueland

Establishes the distribution formula for state library aid as follows: 60% to all qualifying systems for an equal amount per capita; 15% to all qualifying systems for an equal amount per square mile; \$35,000 base grant to each system; remaining funds distributed among those counties whose adjusted valuation per capita is below the statewide average. Releases the 1977 contingent appropriation of \$400,000. Sets the level of county support for libraries at .2 mills the first year, .3 mills the second year and .4 mills in following years. Effective: July 1, 1978. C.546-78

Metropolitan Airports Commission Bonding Limits

H.F. 1913 Sieben, H., McDonald, Casserly, Voss, White
* S.F. 1690 Lewis, Keefe, S., Ogdahl, Ashbach, Gearty

Increases the statutory debt authority (general obligation revenue bonding) of the metropolitan airports commission by \$30M (from a total of \$20M to \$50M). Effective: immediately. C.531-78

Minneapolis - Rule of Three

* H.F. 2047 Berglin, Clark, Casserly, Carlson, A., Brandl
S.F. 1901 Spear, Tennesen

Provides that the city of Minneapolis civil service commission shall certify the top three eligible job applicants to the employing officer for civil service appointments (other than unskilled labor positions) and promotions. Currently the city charter requires that only the top eligible job applicant be certified by the civil service commission for appointment. Effective: upon the approval of a majority of the Minneapolis city council and upon filing such approval with the secretary of state. The city council has approved the law and the

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Minneapolis - Rule of Three - Con't.

resolution will be filed on May 31, 1978. C.511-78

Minnesota Municipal Board

* S.F. 910 Wegener, Setzepfandt, Nelson, Engler, Schmitz

Makes comprehensive revisions to the Minnesota municipal board law which governs municipal incorporations, detachments, annexations and consolidations to provide more comprehensive and understandable procedures and to encourage parties to independently resolve municipal boundary disputes. Expands the authority of the Minnesota municipal board by: allowing the board to consider requests for incorporation from all areas within the county, eliminating county authority to request incorporations in certain areas, permitting the board to order annexations of areas not identified in formal petitions subject to referendum. Eliminates 500 population requirement for areas requesting incorporation. Permits county commissioners representing areas which are part of a proceeding for incorporation, annexation or consolidation to serve on the board if commissioners representing unaffected areas are not available. Expands the responsibilities of the board's executive director. Establishes a new procedure for orderly annexations. Changes certain notice requirements. Emphasizes agricultural land preservation and land use planning as elements of municipal incorporations and boundary changes. Specifies the role of township government in the delivery of public services (agricultural, open space and rural residential use areas). Effective: immediately - applicable to all proceedings initiated after the effective date of this act. C.705-78

Pets Used for Research

H.F. 764 Kelly, R., George, Berglin, Waldorf, Casserly
* S.F. 686 Merriam, Gearty, Spear, Staples, Keefe, J.

Permits pet owners to specify by attaching a tag to their animals that, if impounded, their pet shall be destroyed rather than be used for research purposes. Effective: immediately. C.457-78

Shade Tree Disease Control

H.F. 215 Berg, Norton, Sieben, M., Kvam, Kalis
* S.F. 32 Humphrey, Vega, Staples, Ogdahl, Willet

Expands current state grants program of department of agriculture to assist local governments with removal and replacement of trees lost to dutch elm disease and oak wilt.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Shade Tree Disease Control - Con't.

1. Sanitation grants--up to 45% of total removal and disposal costs on public and private land.

2. Reforestation grants--not to exceed the lesser of 50% of total costs or \$40 per tree planted on public property.

3. Waste utilization facilities grants--50% of costs and available only to metro cities with populations greater than 40,000 and outstate cities with populations greater than 20,000.

4. Continues state grants to local governments for subsidies to private property owners for tree removal.

Continues special assessment authority for tree removal. Authorizes special levies for tax years 1976 and 1977. Permits commissioner of agriculture to establish experimental disease control programs. Directs DNR to remove diseased trees on state-owned lands within 1,000 feet of municipalities with control programs. Appropriation:

Department of Agriculture

Sanitation Grants	\$ 21,650,000
Reforestation Grants	4,400,000
Wood Utilization Facilities Grants	550,000
Public Information	225,000
Experimental Programs	400,000
Administration	300,000

University of Minnesota

Research & Training	350,000
---------------------	---------

DNR

Tree Removal	625,000
--------------	---------

Total	\$ 28,500,000
-------	---------------

Effective: January 1, 1977
C.90-77

* H.F. 2044 Wynia, Berg, Welch, Pehler, Friedrich
S.F. 1755 Luther, Humphrey, Knoll, Chenoweth,
Spear

Extends for one additional year the special levy for local shade tree disease control expenditures through tax year 1978, (payable 1979), provided by the 1977 act. The commissioner of agriculture, in conjunction with the energy agency, must

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Shade Tree Disease Control - Con't.

report to the 1979 legislature on the potential uses of wood infected by shade tree disease for energy conservation in the development of new products. Extends eligibility for shade tree removal subsidies to homeowners of homesteaded property between 5 and 20 acres in size.
Effective: immediately.

C.773-78

Special Assessment Projects - Townships

* H.F. 1921 Niehaus, McEachern, Schulz, Onnen,
Friedrich
S.F. 2025 Wegener, Chmielewski, Renneke

Amends the law governing special assessments to permit townships to engage in special assessment construction projects, e.g., streets, roads, sewers, water mains, etc., with the approval of all the owners of property benefited by the proposed project. Previously, special assessment projects could only be undertaken by townships with the approval of the township voters at town meetings.

Effective: immediately.

C.634-78

Town Halls - FHA Loans

H.F. 1839 Begich, Battaglia, Nelsen, M.
* S.F. 1637 Johnson

Grants statutory authority to cities, counties and townships to acquire FHA loans up to \$100,000 to construct town halls, and to borrow and special levy to repay these loans. Any bonds issued to repay FHA loans are included in the net debt limits of cities and counties, but not townships. Previously, FHA loans could be obtained for the construction of fire halls only.

Effective: immediately.

C.476-78

Township Legal Actions

H.F. 2375 Berg, McEachern, Niehaus, St. Onge,
Mann
* S.F. 1959 Setzepfandt, Schmitz, Wegener, Engler,
Renneke

Permits town boards of supervisors to act on behalf of townships to direct legal actions and to employ legal counsel for that purpose. Previously, legal actions were directed by the town electors at annual town meetings.

Effective: August 1, 1978.

C.497-78

LOCAL GOVERNMENT MINORITIES

SEE ALSO:

Bicycle Registration	p.93
Bloomington Ferry Bridge	p.93
Bridge Bonding	p.94
Como Park Zoo	p.74
Department of Transportation	
Appropriation	p.92
Educators Category	p.20
1977 Energy Conservation Bill	p.23
Health Facility Financing	p.42
Parks and Recreation Bonding	p.77
Public Employees Category	p.61
Rural Water Districts	p.31
Student Category	p.78
1977 Tax Bill (Local Government	
Aids)	p.87
Water Pollution Control Fund	p.29

MINORITIES

Affirmative Action Program for State

H.F. 1402	Nelson, Petrafeso, Moe, Berglin, Dean
* S.F. 1364	Lewis, Sikorski, Spear, Nichols

Supersedes and replaces executive orders of the governor by requiring adoption of statewide and agency affirmative action plans which set goals for the representation of "protected groups" (female, handicapped, black, Hispanic, Asian or Pacific Islander, American Indian or Alaskan native) in state civil service positions and by requiring the appointment of staff to implement the plans. Directs the commissioner of personnel to expand the eligible lists for appointment to include members of protected groups in order to reflect the differences between an agency's existing work force and its goals for representation of protected groups. Effective: July 1, 1978.
C.708-78

American Indian Housing

* H.F. 2201	Kroening, Norton, Friedrich, Clark, St. Onge
S.F. 1806	Knoll, Willet, Ulland, Keefe, S., Lessard

Expands authorization of Minnesota housing finance agency to provide housing programs for low and moderate income American Indians to specifically cover the Twin Cities metropolitan area and other cities over 50,000. Appropriates \$1.5M for urban American Indian housing programs, and \$2.5M for Minnesota housing finance agency loans to low and moderate income American Indians within the state. Effective: July 1, 1978.
C.670-78

MINORITIES

American Indian Language and Culture Program

H.F. 784	Berglin, Lehto, Nelson, Kahn, Clark
* S.F. 455	Spear, Ulland, Keefe, S., Lewis, Sikorski

Appropriates \$600,000 to the state board of education to fund 6 pilot American Indian language and culture programs in local school districts. Programs must be designed to make the curriculum more relevant to the needs, interests and cultural heritage of American Indian pupils. Three programs must be in urban areas, 3 on or near reservations. A statewide assessment of the need for programs of this nature will be conducted by the board and reported to the 1979 legislature. Effective: July 1, 1977.
C.312-77

Bilingual Education Pilot Programs

H.F. 345	Stanton, Nelson, Kempe, A., Savelkoul, Suss
* S.F. 120	McCutcheon, Vega, Spear, Ueland, Hanson

Requires state board of education to make three grants to school districts submitting proposals for pilot bilingual education programs. Programs must be transitional, three years in duration, with class instruction given in English and in the primary language of the children being served. A state wide assessment of the need for bilingual programs must be conducted by the board and reported to the legislature by September, 1979. Appropriates \$550,000. Effective: July 1, 1977.
C.306-77

Council on Affairs of Spanish-Speaking People

H.F. 1221	Kempe, A., Faricy, Tomlinson, Moe, Nelson
* S.F. 336	McCutcheon, Spear, Ueland, Vega, Hanson

Creates a state council on affairs of Spanish-speaking people to replace the office of liaison for Spanish-speaking people, which was created by executive order and was due to expire in 1978. The council will consist of 7 members appointed by the governor with the consent of the senate who represent the Spanish-speaking community of the state. Duties of the council include: (1) advise the governor and the legislature on issues confronting Spanish-speaking people including migrant laborers, (2) serve as a referral agency and as a liaison with the federal government, local units of government, and private organizations, (3) contract for services, (4) implement programs, and (5) publicize the accomplishments of Spanish-speaking people. The council will have the authority to review all federal and state grants concerning Spanish-speaking people prior to their submission and will report annually to the legislature. Appropriates \$77,656. Effective: July 1, 1978, to expire June 30, 1981.
C.510-78

MINORITIES POLICE

SEE ALSO:

Discriminatory Trade Practices	p. 6
Small Business Procurement	
Acts Improvements	p. 9
Women Category	p.98

POLICE

Justifiable Force

H.F. 387	Nelson, Casserly, Lehto, Clark, Norton
* S.F. 2361	McCutcheon

Changes the law so that police officers may only use deadly force to protect themselves or others from great bodily harm, to arrest a person suspected of a felony involving the use of deadly force or to arrest a felony suspect whose delayed apprehension creates the risk of death or great bodily harm. Deadly force may no longer be used in overcoming resistance to court orders or arresting felony suspects unless the above criteria are met.

Effective: August 1, 1978.

C.736-78

Police Officer Training

H.F. 730	Sieben, H., Wenzel, Moe, White, Carlson, A.
* S.F. 411	McCutcheon, Hanson, Purfeerst, Willet, Schaaf

Reorganizes peace officer standards and training (POST) board as 11-member body appointed by the governor. Board includes 9 members who are either active peace officers or have a law enforcement background and 2 citizen members. Requires board to: (1) adopt rules concerning peace officer training (former board could have done so but was not required to); (2) determine whether training programs meet state standards; (3) adopt minimum conduct rules to govern police performance; (4) license peace officers; and (5) provide supplementary basic training classes. Board will now be able to certify training programs such as vo-techs and community colleges in addition to BCA school. Officers hired before July 1, 1978, are exempt. Effective: July 1, 1977.

C.433-77

* H.F. 2270	Lehto, Moe, McCarron, Berkelman, Jaros
S.F. 2248	Willet, Borden, Schaaf, McCutcheon, Johnson

Amends POST act by requiring that all constables elected after July 1, 1979, be licensed. (Those elected prior to that date are grandfathered in for the remainder of their terms.) Creates two categories of constables. All present constables with complete police powers remain "constables". All present constables with lesser duties renamed "deputy constables". Deputy

POLICE PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

Peace Officer Training - Con't.

constables". Deputy constables are not required to be licensed. Removes the exemption to licensing requirements for towns under 1,000 in population for officers employed after July 1, 1979. Grandfathers in those hired before that date. Changes the deadline for minimum standards of conduct from January 1, 1979, to July 1, 1979.

Effective: July 1, 1978.

C.681-78

SEE ALSO:

Child Neglect	p.104
Highway Patrol	p. 63
Local Police & Fire Fund Reporting	p. 64

PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

Public Employment Labor Relations Act (PELRA) Amendments

Arbitrator Selections

* H.F. 921	St. Onge, McEachern, Carlson, L., McCarron, Jacobs
S.F. 962	Purfeerst, Keefe, S., Laufenburger

Changes procedure by which arbitrators are selected to resolve public labor negotiations disputes by permitting the selection of a single arbitrator instead of a three-member panel on the request of management or the union. Currently, a single arbitrator may be selected only when both parties mutually agree. Per diem allowances paid to arbitrators are increased from \$100 to \$180. Clarifies that per diem and expense payments made to a single arbitrator shall be shared equally by both parties similar to the practice applicable to three-member arbitration panels.

Effective: August 1, 1977.

C.284-77

Clarifying the Definition of Public Employer

* H.F. 2102	St. Onge, Skoglund, Pehler, Jaros, Byrne
S.F. 1960	Nelson

Clarifies the definition of "public employer" under the public employees labor relations act (PELRA) as the governing body of a political subdivision with final budgetary authority. In cases of two or more political subdivisions performing services jointly as a human services board, under a joint powers agreement or under some other legal authority, the employer is defined as the governing person or board created by the joint agreement or authority.

Effective: May 1, 1978.

C.776-78

PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

Grievance Procedures

- * H.F. 1790 Enebo, Simoneau, Skoglund, Moe, Osthoff
S.F. 1747 Vega, Nelson, Keefe, S., Ashbach,
McCutcheon

Provides that public employees covered by municipal, county, sheriff or police civil service systems and collective bargaining agreements may pursue an individual grievance through either the civil service grievance procedure or the collective bargaining agreement grievance procedure, but not both.

Effective: immediately.
C.619-78

Physical and Occupational Therapists

- * H.F. 2372 Mangan, Zubay, St. Ouge

Amends the definition of "teacher" under the public employees labor relations act (PELRA) to include physical and occupational therapists which will permit these individuals to become members of teacher collective bargaining units. Teachers are classified as professional employees under PELRA.

Effective: August 1, 1978.
C.789-78

Supervisory and Confidential Employees

- * H.F. 805 Byrne, Mangan, Kroening, Metzen, Jacobs
S.F. 1311 Keefe, S., Laufenburger

Prohibits bargaining units of supervisory or confidential employees (those having access to employer's personnel information) from participating in joint negotiations with bargaining units representing other employees. However, permits supervisory and confidential employee units to be represented by the same organization representing non-supervisory or non-confidential employees. Substantially different labor negotiation and arbitration procedures apply to supervisory, confidential and essential employees under PELRA, than apply to all other public employees.

Effective: August 1, 1977.
C.119-77

Pensions

Exclusion of CETA Employees

- * H.F. 1859 Patton, Beauchamp, Biersdorf, Reding,
Moe
S.F. 1809 Strand, Stokowski, Renneke, Ogdahl,
Peterson

Excludes comprehensive employment and training act (CETA) employees from membership in Minnesota public pension plans (statewide and local) as required by new federal CETA regulations. Provides refunds of member contributions

PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

Exclusion of CETA Employees - Cont.

plus 3-1/2% interest compounded annually. Also increases highway patrol officers survivor benefits and provides a post-retirement benefit increase for certain former probate judges.

Effective: immediately.

C.720-78

Highway Patrol

- * H.F. 2023 Patton, Biersdorf, Moe, Reding,
Wenzel
S.F. 1947 Peterson, Wegener, Ogdahl, Lessard

Reduces member contributions to the highway patrol retirement fund from 8% to 7% of salary. Reduces from 10% to 9% of salary the state contribution to the fund for purposes of amortizing the fund deficit. Extends survivors benefits to dependents of members receiving disability benefits from the fund. Changes the manner in which survivors benefits are paid.

Effective: contribution changes -- July 1, 1978; survivors benefits changes -- immediately and applicable to former members on deferred status or receiving a disability benefit on the effective date of this provision of the act.

C.646-78

Legislators and Constitutional Officers Pension Funds and PERA Changes

- * H.F. 1861 Reding, Patton, Biersdorf, Beauchamp
S.F. 1654 Stokowski, Strand, Ogdahl, Peterson,
Renneke

Legislators' Plan

Increases retirement age from 60 to 62, effective for those retiring after January 1, 1981. Deferred annuity augmentation (rate of interest earned on pension funds on deferred status until benefits are drawn at retirement) is reduced from 5% to 3%, effective January 1, 1981. Legislators' contributions to pension plan is increased from 8% to 9% of salary, effective January 1, 1979. Years of service necessary to vest (to be eligible to draw benefits) is reduced from 8 to 6 years.

Constitutional Officers

Improves the pension plan provided for constitutional officers and their dependents, which had not been upgraded since 1967 and now provides:

- retirement at age 62 with 8 years of service;
- 2-1/2% of the average of the highest 5 successive years of salary for each allowable year of service;
- deferred annuities augmentation of 3% after January 1, 1981;
- member contribution 9% of salary.

PERA Early Retirement

Improves the early retirement provisions for members of

PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

PERA Early Retirement - con't.

the public employees retirement association (PERA); members with 10 years of service will now be able to retire at age 62 with a reduction in benefits equaling 1/2 of 1% for each month the member is under age 65 at retirement, in addition to other early retirement options already available under PERA. Effective: August 1, 1978, unless otherwise provided. C.796-78

Local Police & Fire Fund Reporting

* H.F. 1864	Beauchamp, Patton, Reding, Moe, Biersdorf
S.F. 1808	Strand, Stokowski, Renneke, Ogdahl, Peterson

Requires local police and fire retirement fund associations to provide actuarial reports to the legislature every 2 years rather than every 4 years as previously required. In addition, the associations must prepare an experience study every 4 years. Specifies additional content of local police and fire fund actuarial and experience studies. Penalizes those cities in which a police or fire retirement fund association fails to comply with the financing and reporting requirements of the police and firemen's relief association guidelines act of 1969 (or with the financing requirements of any applicable special law) by directing the commissioner of insurance to withhold police and fire state aid from those cities. Effective: for actuarial reports for plan years beginning on or after July 1, 1977. C.563-78

Metropolitan Transit Commission

H.F. 2094	Moe, Patton, Biersdorf, Reding, Beauchamp
* S.F. 1985	Stokowski, Chenoweth, Kirchner, Ogdahl, Schaaf

Abolishes the metropolitan transit commission-transit operating division employees retirement plan and transfers all of its newly hired, currently employed and former members, and all of its assets and liabilities, to the Minnesota state retirement system. Effective: July 1, 1978, and retroactive to certain members of the MTC fund. C.538-78

Minneapolis Municipal Retirement Fund

* H.F. 848	Patton, Moe, Beauchamp, Reding, Sabo
------------	--------------------------------------

Beginning July 1, 1978, all new members of the Minneapolis municipal retirement fund will be coordinated members (covered by social security) similar to PERA and

PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

Minneapolis Municipal Retirement Fund - Con't.

TRA coverage. This permits the gradual phasing out of the present Minneapolis municipal retirement fund. Effective: July 1, 1978. C.399-77

Part-Time Teachers

* H.F. 1770	Cummiskey
S.F. 1590	Ueland, Stokowski, Renneke, Peterson

Excludes from membership in the teachers retirement association (TRA) those part-time teachers who certify annually to the executive director of the TRA that they are currently contributing to an individual retirement account (IRA). Effective: immediately. C.556-78

Payment of Monthly Benefits

* H.F. 611	Reding, Moe, Beauchamp, Biersdorf, Patton
S.F. 635	Stokowski, Strand, Peterson, Renneke

All retirees of major funds will now receive their checks during the first week of the month rather than at the end of the month. As a result, retirees received a "thirteenth check" on December 1, 1977, to accomplish the shift in monthly payments. In addition, pre-1973 retirees, disabilitants, and surviving spouses received a one-time lump sum benefit check on November 30, 1977 (\$250 for coordinated members, \$225 for basic members). The cost of the "thirteenth" check was insignificant. The lump sum benefit check cost approximately \$4M which was financed by excess reserves of the Minnesota adjustable fixed benefit fund. Effective: June 30, 1977. C.388-77

Post Retirement Benefit Increases: Annuitants

* H.F. 460	Patton, Moe, Beauchamp, Biersdorf, Reding
S.F. 634	Strand, Renneke, Peterson, Stokowski

Changes the scheduled payment of benefit increases for all retirees of the major pension funds from January 1, 1979, to January 1, 1978, which is financed by excess reserves of the Minnesota adjustable fixed benefit fund and is a permanent increase. The amount of the increase was 4%. Also makes other technical amendments to the Minnesota adjustable fixed benefit fund law. Effective: immediately. C.274-77

Post Retirement Benefit Increases: Survivors & Disabilitants

* H.F. 2163	Clawson, Patton, Reding, Beauchamp, Biersdorf
S.F. 2082	Stokowski, Chenoweth, Peterson

PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

Post Retirement Benefit Increases: Survivors & Disabilitants - Con't.

Extends the 4% post retirement benefit increase granted to all retirees of the major public pension funds on January 1, 1978, as provided by C.274 (1977), to all individuals receiving survivors or disability benefits as of July 1, 1976, from those funds. In the future, survivors and disabilitants will be eligible for the same post-retirement benefit increases paid to retirees by the Minnesota adjustable fixed benefit fund.

Effective: July 1, 1978 - 4% increase was not retroactive to January 1, 1978.

C.665-78

Retirement Bill - 1977

H.F. 1042	Patton, Moe, Beauchamp, Hanson, Reding
* S.F. 181	Stokowski, Ogdahl, Strand, Peterson, Renneke

Delays until July 1, 1978, the 15% per year increase limitation on the highest 5 successive years of average salary used to calculate retirement benefits. Adds a retired member to the Minnesota state retirement system (MSRS) and the teachers retirement association (TRA) boards of trustees. Provides that members of the public employees retirement association (PERA) board of trustees shall be elected from three regional election districts. Allows PERA annuitants over mandatory retirement age to be employed as substitute employees up to a maximum annual salary of \$3,000. Requires the St. Paul teachers retirement fund association to coordinate with social security--effective July 1, 1978. Delays 1 year (until July 1, 1978) the coordination of the Minneapolis teachers retirement fund association with social security to conform with the coordination of the St. Paul teachers retirement fund association.

Effective: July 1, 1977.

C.429-77

Teachers Retirement Fund

H.F. 126	Moe, Patton, Wigley
* S.F.472	Stokowski, Johnson, Ogdahl, Lessard

Increases the state contribution to the teachers retirement association (TRA) and the teacher retirement funds in first-class cities by one-half of one percent of total payroll. Total cost to state is approximately \$10 million.

Effective: July 1, 1977.

C.313-77

TRA Variable Annuity Program, MSRS Early Retirement, Service Credit Limitations

* H.F. 2160	Beauchamp, Patton, Biersdorf, Reding, Moe
S.F. 1976	Stokowski, Strand, Renneke

PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

TRA Variable Annuity Program, MSRS Early Retirement, Service Credit Limitations - Con't.

Effective July 1, 1978, the teachers retirement association (TRA) variable annuity plan will be discontinued for currently-employed teachers. All teachers will now be covered by the TRA formula benefit plan unless individual members elect in writing to remain in the variable annuity plan. Most TRA members currently in the variable annuity plan will receive increased benefits from the transfer from the variable annuity plan to the formula plan. To finance the costs of this change and to bring the employee share of TRA financing in line with employer contributions, effective July 1, 1979, TRA members will contribute an additional 1/2 of 1% of salary to the pension fund (a total employee contribution of 4-1/2% of salary). Early retirement benefit reduction of the Minnesota state retirement system (MSRS) and the Minneapolis municipal employees retirement fund will now be determined on an individual actuarial equivalent basis instead of an automatic 1/4 of 1% benefit reduction for each month that the employee is under age 65 when he or she retires. The change is expected to benefit most members retiring before age 65 by providing a smaller benefit reduction for early retirement. Members of the major pension funds and local police and fire plans will now be limited to a total of 40 years of covered service in any one fund, or any combination of funds. Any person with an excess of 40 years of covered service on the effective date of this act will not receive a reduction in service credit, but will not be allowed to accumulate any additional service credit. The commissioner of personnel is directed to conduct a study of overtime abuses affecting public pension plans and must report his findings to the legislative commission on pensions & retirement by November 15, 1978.

Effective: early retirement annuity reductions - April 1, 1979; increase in TRA member contributions - July 1, 1979; all other provisions - immediately.

C.781-78

General

Civil Service Status for Certain CETA Employees

* H.F. 2015	Corbid, Samuelson
-------------	-------------------

Extends state civil service status and protections to those CETA employees in positions funded by the balance of state CETA prime sponsor and who receive passing scores on applicable civil service examinations.

Effective: immediately.

C.645-78

Classified Employees Pay Bill

H.F. 1408	Pehler, Sieben, H., Beauchamp, Patton, Knickerbocker
* S.F. 1337	Nelson, Chenoweth, McCutcheon, Ogdahl, Borden

PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

Classified Employees Pay Bill - Con't.

Authorizes the commissioner of personnel to implement labor agreements negotiated by the state negotiator's office and various state employee unions. Provides salary increases for the biennium for all classified state employees:

Schedule A	4%
Schedule B	4%
Schedule C	one step progression

In addition, a cost-of-living increase paid in a lump sum twice over the biennium calculated as follows: 1¢ per hour for every .4 of a percent increase in the consumer price index. Provides for dental insurance coverage for state employees and increases the portion of dependent health insurance premium paid by state from \$30 to \$45 effective July 1, 1977, and the full premium effective July 1, 1978. Payment of additional premium increases after July 1, 1979, must be renegotiated. Amends chapter 35 (1977), the unclassified pay bill, to increase the limit on local government employee salaries from finance commissioner's base salary (\$45,000) to finance commissioner's base salary plus maximum merit pay award (\$49,500). Effective: July 1, 1977.
C.452-77

Group Insurance Plans

* H.F. 499	Nelsen, B., Osthoff, Rice, Kempe, A., Evans
S.F. 2044	Brataas, Dunn, Frederick, Borden, Ashbach

Provides that political subdivisions may reduce employee benefits provided under group insurance plans if a majority of the covered employees agree to the reduction or, if the exclusive collective bargaining representative of the employees and the public employer agree to a benefit reduction and certify the agreement to the director of the bureau of mediation services. Previously, benefits could not be reduced below the level of benefits provided on July 1, 1973. Benefits of retired employees may not be reduced unless the employee has individually agreed to the benefit reduction. Effective: August 1, 1978.
C.595-78

Political Activities

H.F. 2426	Pehler, Cummiskey, Jaros, Vanasek
* S.F. 2316	Setzepfandt, Vega, Nelson, Wegener, Frederick

Extends to employees of political subdivisions the existing legal restrictions on the political activities of state employees, which prohibit public employees from engaging in political activities during employment hours and provide leaves of absence to engage in political activities under certain

PUBLIC EMPLOYEES PUBLIC UTILITY CUSTOMERS

Political Activities - Con't.

circumstances. Prohibits political subdivisions from adopting more restrictive limitations for their employees. Effective: immediately.
C.541-78

SEE ALSO:

Educators Category	p.20
Police Category	p.60

PUBLIC UTILITY CUSTOMERS

Public Utility Rate Regulation

* H.F.157	Sieben, M., Casserly, Faricy, Waldorf, Novak
S.F. 7	Luther, Sikorski, Johnson, Keefe, S., Chenoweth

Requires utilities to give 90 days (previously 30 days) notice to the public service commission (PSC) before implementing a proposed rate change. Specifically outlines procedures for determining rate bases; requires PSC to disapprove rates which allow for certain public advertising expenses; and provides greater flexibility in time allowed to PSC for making decisions on rate increases. Also specifies procedures for rate changes by telephone companies. Effective: immediately.
C.359-77

Representation for Residential Utility Customers

* H.F. 1131	Sieben, M., Stanton, Sieben, H., Hanson, Dean
S.F. 939	Chenoweth, Borden, Luther, Dieterich

Requires the consumer services section within the department of commerce to represent the interests of residential utility consumers before the public service commission regarding utility rates and adequacy of utility services (electricity, natural gas, and telephone). Creates a 9-member board of residential utility consumers to be appointed by the governor to establish policy guidelines and review the annual budget for the consumer services section. Appropriates \$300,000 for the biennium and approves 7 staff positions. Effective: immediately.
C.746-78

Rural Electric Cooperatives Regulation

* H.F. 830	Wenstrom, Anderson, G., Kelly, W., Fjoslien, Kalis
S.F. 715	Nichols, Laufenburger, Moe, Bernhagen, Jensen

PUBLIC UTILITY CUSTOMERS
PUBLIC WELFARE

Rural Electric Cooperatives Regulation - Con't.

Changes the public service commission (PSC) authority to regulate retail rates set by cooperatives and investor-owned utilities for natural gas and electricity so that cooperative rates are regulated only if a majority of members officially elected to be regulated. Cooperatives will retain their assigned service areas, may still be investigated by the PSC regarding complaints about service, and must negotiate franchises where necessary.

Effective: immediately including rate cases pending before the PSC.

C.795-78

Telephone Company Regulation

*	H.F. 2461 S.F. 2081	Hanson Johnson, Keefe, S., Spear, Solon, Sikorski
---	------------------------	---

Amends procedures for suspension of rate changes by telephone companies and other public utilities by outlining procedures for considering rate changes as contested cases (requiring a public hearing); requires public service commission (PSC) to determine its expenses for investigating or otherwise regulating telephone companies and to assess those costs to the companies with total assessment in one year not to exceed 2/5 of 1% of their annual gross operating revenues; also requires PSC to assess any remaining annual expenses relating to telephone companies to those companies in proportion to their respective gross operating revenues, not to exceed 1/8 of 1% of annual gross operating revenues.

Effective: August 1, 1978.

C.694-78

SEE ALSO:

1977 Energy Conservation Bill	p.23
1978 Energy Conservation Bill	p.24
1978 Tax Bill (Sales Tax Exemption on Residential Heating Fuels)	p.90

PUBLIC WELFARE

Abortion Financing Restricted

H.F. 1708	Kempe, R., Wenzel, Savelkoul, Murphy, Byrne
* S.F. 2236	Olhoft, Gearty, Merriam, Wegener, Knaak

Declares state policy of support for normal childbirth rather than abortion. Restricts public financing of abortions through medical assistance or other public assistance programs

PUBLIC WELFARE

Abortion Financing Restricted - Con't.

to following instances: (1) to prevent death of the mother when documented by two doctors, (2) if pregnancy is result of forced rape which was reported to police within 48 hours, or (3) if pregnancy is result of incest when incident and relative are reported to police. Appropriates \$40,000 for additional income maintenance costs.

Effective: July 1, 1978.

C.508-78

Child Support Collections

* H.F. 916	Dahl, Carlson, L., Swanson, Clawson, Niehaus
S.F.662	Vega, Luther, Brataas, Merriam

Strengthens DPW's ability to receive or recover child support for AFDC assistance given; authorizes courts to order continuing support in addition to a one-time money judgment; authorizes welfare agencies to petition for monthly or more frequent garnishment of wages; updates uniform reciprocal enforcement of support act with other states; provides procedure for filing foreign support orders; allows welfare agencies to recommend adequate child support in divorce proceeding involving welfare recipients; and authorizes contracts between welfare agencies and county attorneys for child support and paternity actions. County courts granted concurrent jurisdiction with district courts over child support and paternity actions.

Effective: August 1, 1977.

C.282-77

Income Maintenance Eligibility

* H.F. 1051	Berglin, Clawson, Clark, Carlson, D., Dahl
S.F. 980	Milton, Keefe, S., Coleman, Sikorski, Staples

Alters eligibility limits for AFDC, medical assistance, and Minnesota supplemental aid by: exempting one car with market value less than \$1,650, exempting income-producing real estate or real estate which family is trying to sell at a fair price, and increasing allowable net equity in a home. Authorizes DPW to establish a sliding contribution scale, based on financial resources, for care of a spouse in a nursing home under MA. Extends catastrophic health expense protection to persons paying qualified nursing home expenses. Appropriates \$8M.

Effective: July 1, 1977.

C.448-77

* H.F. 1831	Clark, McCarron, Samuelson, Norton, Skoglund
S.F. 1730	Tennessen, Perpich, Spear, Renneke, Lewis

PUBLIC WELFARE

Income Maintenance Eligibility

includes a technical change to improve feasibility of federal waiver for an MA sliding contribution scale based on joint incomes of a couple, one of which is a nursing home resident.

Effective: July 1, 1978.
C.760-78

Public Welfare Omnibus Bill

* H.F. 1826 Welch, Anderson, B., Scheid, Wigley,
Swanson
S.F. 2160 Dieterich, Perpich, Solon, Nelson, Vega

Authorizes commissioner of DPW to determine compensation of at least 25% state minimum wage for work performed by institutional residents; allows placement of state wards in institutions for temporary care (up to 90 days/year) without judicial commitment; provides for individual treatment plan for every hospitalized patient. Directs DPW to promulgate rules, including temporary ones, establishing maximum reimbursement rates for ambulance transportation; confines medical assistance reimbursement to ambulances for emergency medical transportation and for non-emergency medical transportation needed by non-ambulatory persons.

Effective: immediately.
C.560-78

Welfare Abuses

* H.F. 461 Wieser, Heinitz, Swanson, Samuelson,
Abeln
S.F. 101 Chmielewski, Olhoft

Strengthens welfare fraud section by prohibiting: (1) intentional concealment of information, (2) assisting an applicant or recipient in disposing of excess property, or (3) fraudulent issuance, transfer, use, or receipt of food stamps; all punishable as acts of theft. Excess public assistance received shall be recoverable. All counties must continue to offer food stamp programs.

Effective: August 1, 1977.
C.225-77

Work Equity Programs

* H.F. 1498 Dahl, Birnstihl, Jensen, McEachern,
Niehaus
S.F. 1465 Vega, Nelson, Chmielewski, Milton,
Perpich

Establishes demonstration "work equity" training and employment programs in DPW-designated counties, to be administered by the governor's manpower office. Requires AFDC and GA recipients, unless exempted, to participate. Authorizes transfer of state and local GA funds for creation of

PUBLIC WELFARE SENIOR CITIZENS

Work Equity Programs - Con't.

"work equity" jobs; allows "work equity" incomes to be above grant standards.

Effective: August 1, 1977.
C.301-77

SEE ALSO:

1977 Health, Welfare & Corrections	
Appropriations Bill	p. 1
Nursing Home Regulations	p. 74.
Personal Allowance	p. 73
Youth Category	p.103

SENIOR CITIZENS

Dental Care - Pilot Program

* H.F. 1831 Clark, McCarron, Samuelson, Norton,
Skoglund
S.F. 1730 Tennesen, Perpich, Spear, Renneke,
Lewis

Appropriates \$415,000, of which up to \$90,000 may be spent on administration, to continue the pilot dental program until June 30, 1980. Authorizes the employment of administrative staff and requires reports to the legislature by January 30, 1979, and March 1, 1980.

Effective: July 1, 1978.
C.760-78

Identifying Dentures

H.F. 1785 Den Ouden, Heinitz, Niehaus, Murphy,
Redalen
* S.F. 1779 Setzepfandt, Perpich, Nichols, Peterson,
Engler

Requires that every denture made or refitted in Minnesota be permanently marked with the name, social security number, or initials of the person, if feasible or clinically safe. Failure to comply is grounds for suspending or revoking dentist's license.

Effective: August 1, 1978.
C.716-78

Personal Allowance

* H.F. 206 King, Berglin, Carlson, L., Carlson, D.,
Welch
S.F. 458 Keefe, S., Sikorski, Lewis, Renneke,
Milton

SENIOR CITIZENS SPORTS ENTHUSIASTS

Personal Allowance - Con't.

Increases the minimum personal allowance from \$25 to \$30 a month for individuals receiving medical assistance while residing in any skilled nursing home or intermediate care facility including recipients of SSI. Forbids a care facility to comingle the personal allowance with facility funds and authorizes DPW to conduct surprise audits to determine if funds are misused.

Effective: August 1, 1977.
C.271-77

Nursing Home Regulations

H.F. 1050 Swanson, Petrafeso, Abeln, Dahl, Searle
* S.F. 899 Milton, Vega

Requires DOH to establish rules waiving required hours of nursing care for some intermediate care residents. Requires DPW reimbursement to nursing homes for cost of nursing care in excess of DPW limits if required by DOH. Clarifies reinspection of homes with violations. Delays the required nursing assistant program until January 1, 1979, and requires a report from DOH regarding appropriate organization, funding and administration of the program. Requires DPW audit of nursing home cost reports at least every 3 years. Allows depreciation for construction or expansion of governmentally owned nursing homes. Allows proprietary nursing homes to be reimbursed for interest on capital indebtedness up to 12%. Increases the investment allowance 1% each year a nursing home is owned by the same person. Places burden of proof on nursing home to show that non-patient care costs should be reimbursed. Requires DPW rules on such reimbursement. Prohibits nursing homes from raising the differential between private rates and medical assistance rates in effect on April 13, 1976.

Effective: August 1, 1977.
C.326-77

SEE ALSO:

Accessibility of Polling Places	p. 21
Age Discrimination	p.101
Income Maintenance Eligibility	p. 71
Mandatory Retirement	p.101
Public Employees Category	p. 61
Public Utility Customers Category	p. 69
1977 Tax Bill (Property Tax Relief)	p. 87
1978 Tax Bill	p. 90

SPORTS ENTHUSIASTS

Como Park Zoo

H.F. 927 Wynia, Sarna, Rose, Hanson, Faricy
* S.F. 695 Stumpf, Chenoweth, Lewis, Ashbach, Coleman

SPORTS ENTHUSIASTS

Como Park Zoo - Con't.

Authorizes the metropolitan council to issue \$2,300,000 in general obligation bonds in order to make grants to the city of St. Paul for repairs and improvements at the Como Park Zoo. Requires the St. Paul city council to submit all work plans to the metro council for approval prior to the release of grant funds. Provides that at least \$1,400,000 of any state funds reappropriated to the metro council for recreation open space be designated for the Como Park Zoo.

Effective: immediately.
C.436-77

Fish Refuge

* H.F. 1394 Schulz, White, Lemke
S.F. 1303 Engler, Sikorski, Frederick

Directs commissioner of DNR to complete an agreement with the state of Wisconsin to provide for the creation of a fish refuge in the Mississippi River near Red Wing. Prohibits persons from fishing in the refuge during March and April each year.

Effective: upon conclusion of the agreement.
C.605-78

Game and Fish

H.F. 397 Reding, Wieser, Patton, Sherwood, Biersdorf
* S.F. 381 Peterson, Nichols, Laufenburger, Luther, Bernhagen

Establishes a season for taking wild turkey and designates a license fee of \$10 (resident) or \$30 (non-resident) in addition to a small game license of \$5. Allows for the taking of bobcat, fox, and fisher as determined by the commissioner of DNR. Changes the beaver trapping season from November 1 - May 31 to December 1-April 30. Prohibits pheasant hunting between sunset and 9 a.m. Requires that Minnesota sportsmen licenses be issued by March 1, 1978, for a fee of \$9 (if the angling license is for one person), and \$12 (if the angling license is a combination husband and wife license).

Effective: immediately.
C.310-77

* H.F. 1297 Reding, Welch, McCollar, Sherwood, Biersdorf
S.F. 1212 Peterson, Kleinbaum, Borden, Merriam, Lessard

Prohibits issuance of licenses to take deer with bow and arrow after first day prior to rifle season. Reduces resident license fee to buy or sell raw furs from \$400 to \$50. Requires non-residents to purchase a \$50 license plus a small game license prior to hunting raccoon and to tag raccoons taken. Requires the tagging of deer and moose which are taken.

SPORTS ENTHUSIASTS

Game and Fish - Con't.

Effective: March 1, 1979. Prohibits possession of trapnet or seine as well as spears except by permit between February 16 and the opening day of the walleye season (dip nets are not banned). Effective: immediately.
C.547-78

Game and Fish Law Violation

* H.F. 188	Wieser, Sherwood, Reding, Kahn, Biersdorf
S.F. 138	Luther, Schrom, Benedict, Peterson, Strand

Defines conviction to include failure to appear in court. Persons convicted of violating or failing to have a license may not receive big game licenses for three years or any other license for one year after the conviction date.
Effective: immediately.
C.110-77

* H.F. 1297	Reding, Welch, McCollar, Sherwood, Biersdorf
S.F. 1212	Peterson, Kleinbaum, Borden, Merriam, Lessard

Amends 1977 law to clarify that persons convicted of violating or failing to have a big game license may not be issued such a license for 3 years, and those convicted of violating or failing to have any other license may not be issued one of that type for 1 year after the conviction date.
Effective: immediately.
C.547-78

Migratory Waterfowl Stamp

H.F. 666	Sieben, H., Savelkoul, Reding, Munger, Hokanson
* S.F. 597	Merriam, Hanson, Dunn, Peterson, Purfeerst

Requires persons between 18 and 65 intending to hunt migratory waterfowl to purchase a stamp (\$3.00/year) in addition to a small game license. Directs DNR to encourage non-hunters to purchase the stamp. Revenue collected must be used for development of wetlands, protection of waterfowl and their habitat, and acquisition of construction sites. Appropriates \$800,000 (estimated stamp revenue) for habitat improvement.
Effective: immediately.
C.317-77

Minnows and Leeches; Tip Ups

* H.F. 449	Begich, Battaglia, Fugina, Kelly, R.
S.F. 526	Johnson, Setzepfandt, Bernhagen, Lessard

SPORTS ENTHUSIASTS

Minnows and Leeches; Tip Ups - Con't.

Defines leeches as minnows for laws regulating taking, sale and transportation; exempts residents under age 18 from being licensed to take, transport or sell leeches; restricts transportation for quantities in excess of 24 dozen; allows suckers to be transported out of state by resident and non-resident dealers; sets non-resident exporter fee at \$400 plus \$10 for one vehicle license (resident exporters pay \$200 plus \$10 for each vehicle); allows revocation of license after 3 convictions within 12 months. Authorizes DNR to allow the use of 2 lines and 2 baits by sport fishermen in parts of Lake Superior. Permits the use of tip ups if the owner is within 80 feet.

Effective: April 27, 1978.
C.594-78

Parks and Recreation Bonding

* H.F. 1300	Cassery, Munger, Kahn, Pehler, Searles
S.F. 1360	Anderson, Willet, Schaaf, Strand, Kirchner

Authorizes \$61,500,000 in state bonds:

--\$2,600,000 local trail and athletic court grants (metro and non-metro) administered by state planning agency.

--\$2,500,000 acquisition and development of parks and trails in non-metro SMSA's administered by state planning agency.

--\$25,300,000 DNR acquisition of state parks, trails, forests, fishing management lands, wildlife management areas, rivers, canoe and boat routes, scenic and natural areas; DNR development of corridor trails and trails on DNR land.

--\$27,300,000 metro council acquisition and development of metro recreational space, corridor trails; develop trails within metro parks.

--\$3,800,000 DOT bicycle trail grants for trails along state roads and trails along local roads (metro and non-metro).

Establishes DNR trail registry.
Effective: August 1, 1977.
C.421-77

SPORTS ENTHUSIASTS STUDENTS

Stadium Bill

H.F. 771

Patton, Sabo, Knickerbocker, Voss,
Jacobs

* S.F. 895

Keefe, S., Merriam, Johnson, Coleman,
Ogdahl

Establishes the metropolitan sports facilities commission to select a site and design for a new or remodeled sports stadium in the Twin Cities metropolitan area. Requires commission, by August 1, 1977, to select for further consideration no more than three stadium locations in the metro area; also requires final determination of site and design on December 1, 1978. Authorizes metro council to sell and issue revenue bonds in an amount limited to: \$55 million for a new covered multi-purpose stadium; \$42 million for new uncovered multi-purpose stadium; \$37.5 million for new football/soccer stadium and remodeled baseball stadium; or \$25 million for remodeling met stadium as a multi-purpose facility. Also requires metropolitan council to impose a 2% on-sale liquor tax in 7-county metro area on August 1, 1977. Effective: immediately
C.89-77

Trespass Prohibited

* H.F. 669

Clawson, Anderson, G., Welch, Schulz,
Friedrich

S.F. 1759

Purfeerst, Nichols, Bernhagen,
Setzepfandt, Olhoft

Consolidates and clarifies existing trespass law so as to prohibit trespass for any recreational purpose on certain farm lands and pastures except lands within 66 feet of the water's edge of streams or lakes. Prohibits discharge of firearms within a certain distance of occupied buildings or livestock corrals without permission of landowner. Penalties for violation of law are cancellation of the license used after the first conviction, a 3-year suspension of the license used after the second conviction under the same type of license and cancellation of the license used if the second conviction is under a different license from the first conviction. Effective: August 1, 1978.
C.794-78

SEE ALSO:

Bicycle Registration
Islands of Peace Park

p.93
p.39

STUDENTS

Career Counseling

* H.F. 2170

S.F. 1933

King, Fugina, Faricy, Erickson, Dean
Hughes, Humphrey, Moe, Stumpf,
Keefe, J.

STUDENTS

Career Counseling - Con't.

Directs the higher education coordinating board (HECB) to establish a statewide guidance testing and information program for 11th grade students. Results should be used for counseling of students, recruitment by post-secondary institutions and planning by educators and policymakers. Directs HECB to establish advisory task force to make recommendations in testing and to periodically report to the legislature on the program. Effective: July 1, 1978.
C.782-78

Community College Board

* H.F. 1833

Wenstrom, Cummiskey, Fugina, Laidig,
Jude

S.F. 1641

Dieterich, Stumpf, Nichols, Ueland,
Anderson

Requires that 1 member of the state board for community colleges either be a full-time student at a community college or have been a student within 1 year of appointment. Student member's term will be for 2 years (all others are 4 years). Provides for appointment of local advisory committees at each community college with at least 1 student member. Effective: August 1, 1978
C.561-78

Comparable Credit for Comparable Work at Post-Secondary Institutions

* H.F. 129

Pehler, Cummiskey, Kroening, Patton,
Peterson

S.F. 420

Penny, Nichols, Brataas, Merriam, Sillers

Encourages post-secondary institutions to give students comparable credit for comparable academic work completed at another post-secondary institution in the state. Directs the higher education coordinating board to encourage communications between institutions, to study the transfer of credits, and to report to the legislature during January of 1978 with any recommendations. Effective: August 1, 1977.
C.358-77

Education Bill

* H.F. 1510

Norton

S.F. 1452

Moe

Appropriates \$688.4M to the department of education, the HECB and the three higher education systems.

STUDENTS

Education Bill - Con't.

	1976-77* Biennium	1978-79 Biennium
Department of Education	\$ 33.9 M	\$ 46.6 M
University of Minnesota	317.5 M	378.0 M
State Universities	117.7 M	136.0 M
Community Colleges	52.6 M	62.1 M
Higher Education Coordinating Bd.	40.5 M	62.8 M
Mayo Medical School	2.4 M	2.4 M
Nursing Scholarships	.3 M	**
	\$564.9 M	\$688.4 M

*Adjusted to include salaries.

**In HECB.

Approximately 55% of the \$123.5M increase is due to salary increases. Another 16% results from an increase of over \$20M in funding for student aid programs in response to the record high enrollments projected:

	1976-77 Biennium	1978-79 Biennium
Scholarships	\$ 10.7 M	\$ 16.6 M
Grants	19.0 M	30.3 M
Work-Study	1.7 M	3.2 M
Private College Contract	7.2 M	9.2 M
Indian Scholarships	.8 M	1.0 M

Almost half the increase shown for the department of education is due to the transfer of the state schools for the deaf and blind into the department's budget. The remainder reflects substantially increased funding for instructional computing, mangement, information systems, child nutrition and public libraries.

Effective: July 1, 1977
C.449-77

HECB Optometry/Osteopathy Placements

H.F. 210	Johnson, Fugina, Searle, Kroening, Sieben, M.
* S.F. 615	Hughes, Willet, Knutson

Appropriates \$217,000 to the HECB to contract with schools of optometry and osteopathy in other states for the placement of up to 10 osteopathy students and up to 13 optometry students from Minnesota. Students placed in optometry/osteopathy schools must begin practice in Minnesota within 18 months after completing their academic programs or pay a penalty equal to the cost paid by HECB for their placement. Directs HECB to explore the feasibility of developing a regional system for optometric education. Effective: July 1, 1977.
C.318-77

STUDENTS

HECB: Student Financial Aid

* H.F. 559	Fugina
S.F. 679	Penny, Moe, Spear, Sillers, Willet

(1) Eliminates citizenship requirement for eligibility for state scholarships and grants; (2) provides that state aid plus federal basic educational opportunity grant shall not equal more than 75% of a student's financial needs; (3) permits second-year students to apply for grants beginning in the 1978-79 school year; (4) provides that the deadline for aid applications will not be earlier than February 15; (5) increases the bonding and loan-making authority of HECB from \$90M to \$125M; (6) deletes requirement that 50% of work study funds be used for off-campus employment and permits HECB to reallocate funds among institutions; (7) establishes grant program for needy part-time students; (8) transfers the nursing scholarship program to HECB. Also provides for a broadening of the Indian scholarship program in the department of education. Effective: immediately.
C.384-77

Non-Public School Aid

* H.F. 1750	Pehler, Wenstrom, Faricy, Savelkoul, Wenzel
S.F. 1722	Kleinbaum, Stumpf, Merriam, Schrom, Dunn

Amends 1975 parochial law to allow non-public school aid only for textbooks and standardized tests. (Instructional materials and equipment no longer allowed.) Health and counseling services will be available beginning in the 1979-80 school year. Costs for aid to non-public schools will be reimbursed to the extent that they do not exceed the statewide averages for similar public school expenditures. In addition to aids available to all non-public schools, non-public, non-sectarian schools with less than 200 pupils will receive instructional materials and equipment as allowed in the 1975 law. Appropriation:

Non-Public Aid	\$2,479,200 Annually
Administration	\$ 10,000 FY 1978
Non-Sectarian Aid	\$ 90,000 FY 1978

Effective: provisions for the purchase of textbooks and tests, non-sectarian aid and annual appropriation July 1, 1978. Remaining provisions effective immediately.
C.733-78

Private College Registration

* H.F. 1323	Cohen
S.F. 1573	Hughes, Stumpf, Ueland

Amends 1975 act to include courses offered for occupational licensing and out-of-state schools which offer courses in Minnesota. Exempts educational programs offered by businesses for their employees and seminary programs from registration.

STUDENTS

Private College Registration - Con't.

Approves the use of titles such as college, university, academy or institute by post-secondary institutions operating with that title prior to August 1, 1975.

Effective: immediately.

C.603-78

Rural Medical Student Loans

*	H.F. 1060 S.F. 227	Kalis, Mann, Fugina, Anderson, G., Kaley Wegener, Moe, Sillers, Purfeerst, Penny
---	-----------------------	---

Increases the maximum loan to medical students who agree to practice in rural areas in need of doctors or osteopaths from \$5,000 to \$6,000 per year up to a maximum of \$24,000. Instructs HECB not to discriminate against students from urban areas in making loans.

Effective: July 1, 1977.

C.413-77

School Aids Bill

*	H.F. 550 S.F. 481	Eken, Johnson, Tomlinson, Esau, Berg Merriam, Hughes, Humphrey, Anderson, Sillers
---	----------------------	---

Appropriates over \$1.7 billion in state support of elementary and secondary education and post-secondary vocational education -- an 11.4% increase despite a projected 4% decline in pupil units across the state. The statewide average for the state's share of local operating costs will be approximately 70% when state payments for the ag mill and homestead credits are included. Major features of the state's largest-ever appropriation include:

1. Foundation Aids: Formula allowance increased to \$1,030 per pupil unit (+7.2%) less 29 mills in 1977-78 and \$1,090 per pupil unit (+5.8%) minus 28 mills in 1978-79 plus the amount of the agricultural tax credit. A 6 year phased incorporation of the county apportionment into the foundation aid formula is begun. (NOTE - 1978 changes.)
2. Declining Enrollments: Declining enrollment districts are permitted to average their enrollment over 3 years (Note: 1978 change) or count .6 of their decline from the previous year, whichever is greater, in determining their pupil unit count.
3. State Transportation Aid: The base year is changed to 1975-76 and the new formula will use 117% of the base for 1977-78 and 127% for 1978-79. The result is almost \$24 million of additional state aid, an 18% increase.
4. Special Education Aid: Increased to cover 60% of salaries for 1977-78, up to \$11,500 per teacher, and 65% of salaries in 1978-79, up to \$12,000 per teacher. (Note: 1978 change.) Support cost factor reduced from 10% to 5% of salaries. The inservice training program for regular teachers is expanded.

STUDENTS

School Aids Bill - Con't.

5. Community Education Aid: Continued at 50¢ per capita. However, the authorized levy is raised from \$1 to \$2 per capita or the amount certified in 1976, whichever is greater. Funding increased 18%.
6. Secondary Vocational Aid: Starting in 1978-79, funding will be on a current basis (rather than reimbursement) with state share set at 50% of salaries, necessary equipment and necessary teacher travel.
7. Post-Secondary Vocational Aid:
 - Foundation aid increased to \$2,120 (+6%) in 1978-79 and \$2,240 (+5.6%) in 1979-80. Total state support increased almost 9%. In addition, \$7 million in new federal funds will supplement state support.
 - Tuition charge of \$2 per day established for all Minnesota residents beginning in 1978-79. A total of \$3.6 million is appropriated to subsidize up to 75% of the tuition of AVTI students under age 21 who can demonstrate need.
8. Adult Vocational: Starting in 1977-78, funding will be on a current basis at 75% of salaries and 50% of necessary travel. Funding increased 24% for adult vocational and 47% for veteran farmer training.
9. Capital Expenditure Equalization Aid: Districts in which a 10 mill levy fails to raise \$75 per pupil unit (\$80 in fast growth districts) will be provided the difference in state aid. Attached machinery aid for capital outlay purposes is eliminated.
10. School Lunch Act: The state will pay 4¢ for each fully paid school lunch served but shall not pay for free or reduced price lunches.
11. Educational Cooperatives: Provides up to \$65,450/year (\$130,900 in Region 11) to each ECSU for their operation and for providing technical assistance to school districts for planning, evaluation and reporting.
12. Early Childhood: Appropriates \$1.7 million, a 70% increase, to expand the number of pilots from 10 to 22.
13. Teacher Mobility Incentives: Appropriates \$3M for experimental programs to encourage teacher mobility through early retirement or part-time teaching. Also authorizes extended leaves of absence. (Note: 1978 changes.)
14. Experimental Pairing and District Planning: Appropriates \$755,000 to establish a local and regional educational planning task force in every school district and ECSU in the state to establish a district plan that includes goals, priorities, alternative methods of organization. The ECSU task forces are required to review and comment on school district plans, prior to their submission to the department of education and the legislature by September 1, 1979. In addition, 10 school districts are exempted from state law requiring districts to maintain a complete elementary and secondary program, grades 1 through 12.

STUDENTS

School Aids Bill - Con't.

15. Review and Comment on School District Construction: After July 1, 1977, a bond referendum cannot be held nor bids let on the construction of an educational facility costing more than \$400,000 prior to review and comment by the commissioner of education published in local newspapers.

Comparison of State School Aids (Dollars in Millions)

	<u>1976-77</u> <u>Biennium</u>	<u>1978-79</u> <u>Biennium</u>
Foundation Aid	\$1,172.27	\$1,245.90
Transportation Aid	129.48	153.12
Bus Reconditioning		.41
Special Education	93.16	144.36
Special Education In-Service	.10	1.50
Special Education Deficiency		3.88
Adult Education	.92	1.19
GED Reimbursement	.12	.16
Community Education	2.80	3.30
Disadvantaged Needs Assessment in Vocational Education		.01
AVTI Tuition Subsidies		3.60
AVTI Foundation Aid	81.62	115.77
AVTI Categorical Aid	50.20	15.31
AVTI Capital Expenditure	6.00	12.00
AVTI Debt Service	7.00	15.42
AVTI Deficiency	1.60	1.18
Adult Vocational	8.00	9.95
Vets Farmer Training	2.00	2.94
Secondary Vocational	30.00	32.20
St. Paul Career Study Center	.09	.20
Declining Valuation Aid		.56
Tax Delinquency Aid	.16	.40
Tax Delinquency Deficiency		.18
ECSU: Planning & Evaluation		.20
ECSU Grants	.49	.99
Capital Expenditure Aid		.86
Eligible Teacher	.15	.17
Emergency Aid	.60	.40
Gross Earnings	1.40	.60
Early Childhood	1.00	1.70
Teacher Mobility		3.00
School District Planning		.70
Review & Comment		.05
Misc. Aids Discontinued	1.06	

\$1,590.22 \$1,772.30

Effective: July 1, 1977, except as noted, or for deficiencies and declining valuation aid which became effective immediately.
C.447-77

STUDENTS

School Aids Bill - 1978

* H.F. 1885 Eken, Tomlinson, Johnson, Esau, Berg
S.F. 1781 Merriam, Anderson, Sillers, Hughes,
Dieterich

1978 omnibus school aids bill included supplemental appropriations of over \$15 million. Highlights of the bill include:

- Foundation Aids: Effective in the 1978-79 school year, the formula allowance will increase to \$1,095 per pupil unit, a 6.3% increase over 1977-78. Aids for 1979-80 and 1980-81 were set at \$1,155 and \$1,220 respectively (\$4.6M).
- Declining Enrollment Aid: Districts will be able to calculate their pupil units on the greater of (a) 3-1/4 year average enrollment (cost: \$3.7M) or (b) current enrollment plus .6 of the previous year's decline.
- Special Education Aid: For 1978-79 the state's reimbursement for salaries of essential personnel is increased to 69% (\$3.1 million).
- Shared Time Special Ed. Transportation: Pupils attending non-public school in a district contiguous to their resident district will be provided transportation by the resident district from the district boundary to the facility where shared time services are provided. The resident district may provide transportation to the non-public school if the non-public school pays the additional cost.
- AVTI Levy Made Permissive: Local AVTI levy of 1 mill (1/2 mill in metro area) is changed from mandatory to permissive. Any lost revenue will be replaced by state aid.
- Secondary Vocational Education for the Handicapped: Districts eligible for special education and vocational education reimbursements will receive the greater of: 50% of the salaries of essential personnel or 69% of those salaries up to \$12,000; 50% of the costs of necessary equipment, travel and supplies will also be provided (\$1.9M).
- Teacher Mobility: Changes to make mobility incentives more available include: removal of the maximum age of 55 years for extended leaves of absence; only 5 years employment in the district (10 years of teaching) is now required, and the state will pay the employer's share of retirement costs for extended leaves. The state will pay 25% (instead of 10%) of early retirement incentives. (Effective: FY 1979)
- Two-Year Teacher Contract: Teacher contracts are prohibited from containing a wage reopening clause or a similar provision for the second year of the contract. (Sec.100)

STUDENTS TAXPAYERS

School Aids Bill - 1978 - Con't.

9. Misc. Appropriations:

	<u>FY 1978</u>	<u>FY 1979</u>
Regional Accounting	\$	\$ 175,000
School Lunch	135,000	20,000
Transportation Aid	300,000	1,700,000
(Handicapped Trans.)	(180,000)	(150,000)
Regional Management	500,000	450,000
Special Education		3,100,000
Community Education	35,000	
Indian Education		348,000

Effective immediately except as noted on July 1, 1978, for special education in a non-resident district, resident handicapped transportation, notice of state placement in a district, transportation of students in secondary vocational programs, membership in vo-tech student associations and part-time teacher provisions. Post-secondary vo-tech categorical aids are effective July 1, 1979.
C.764-78

SEE ALSO:

Educators Category	p. 20
Health Screening for Pre-Schoolers	p. 43
Immunization of Students	p. 44
Youth Category	p.103

TAXPAYERS

Delayed Valuation Increases for Rental Unit Rehabilitation

* H.F. 1803	Berglin, Anderson, I., Savelkoul, McCollar
S.F. 1628	Keefe, S., Merriam, Stokowski, Frederick

Provides that under certain conditions, increases in valuation that result from rehabilitation of multiple-unit residential buildings will be delayed for 5 years, including: if the building is more than 25 years old, if the rehabilitation costs exceed 60% of the estimated market value of the building, if the building is more than 3 rental units and is not used as a hotel or motel for rentals of less than 30 days, and if not more than 25% of the residential units are "section 8" federally-subsidized housing. (Valuation increases for other reasons are not delayed.)

Effective: for taxes levied in 1978; expires for taxes levied in 1983.

C.620-78

TAXPAYERS

Tax Bill 1977

* H.F. 1476 Kelly, W., Anderson, I., Vanasek, Sabo

Provides \$220M in tax relief, substantially simplifies income tax filing for many Minnesotans and raises income taxes on high-income individuals and the taconite industry. Major provisions include:

Property Tax Relief (\$65M)

1. Property Tax Refund (New name for circuit breaker)
--Provides increased relief to taxpayers with less than \$12,000 income and to those who receive the maximum credit under the current system. Establishes a higher maximum of \$800 plus state refund of 35% of "excess" property taxes under a new "coinsurance" feature. The maximum credit is gradually reduced on incomes above \$20,000 until it becomes a flat \$325 on incomes of \$36,000 or more.

--Senior citizens freeze abolished, but senior citizens and disabled eligible for refund of 50% of their "excess" property tax.

--For renters, the percentage of rent constituting property taxes increased from 20% to 22%.

2. Assessment Classification Change (\$27M)

--Reduced the assessment classification ratios for taxes payable in 1978 and thereafter on ag homestead (3b), non-ag homestead (3c), ag non-homestead and seasonal residential, and blind, paraplegic veterans and disabled homestead (3cc). Increased homestead base value on 3cc property from \$24,000 to \$28,000.

3. Miscellaneous Changes

--Local levy for schools reduced from 29 to 28 mills on taxes payable in 1978 and to 27 mills in 1979 (\$16.7M).

--Agricultural credit increased from 12 mills to 15 mills on homesteaded agricultural land for taxes payable in 1978 and ag homestead increased from 120 to 160 acres for taxes payable in 1979 (\$3.5M).

--Attached machinery aids to counties, towns and cities increased by 25% (\$2M) - (1978).

--State share of AFDC costs increased from 50% to 60% (\$11M) - (12/31/77).

Income Tax Relief

1. Personal and dependent credits increased from \$21 to \$30, and all claimants given full year credit (\$41M). (Tax years after 12/31/77.) (See 1978 bill.) An estimated 37,000 low-income people will be exempt from filing income tax returns because of the larger personal credits. (tax years after 12/31/77.)

TAXPAYERS

Tax Bill - 1977 - Con't.

2. Dependent care credit established based upon 50% of the federal credit but limited to \$150 per dependent and \$300 maximum. Credit gradually reduced for incomes over \$12,000 (\$8M). (Tax years after 12/31/76.)

Income Tax Changes

1. Individual income tax rates are increased on taxable income in upper brackets effective for tax years after 12/31/77:

\$20,000 - \$25,000	15%
\$25,000 - \$35,000	16%
\$35,000 - \$50,000	17%
Over \$50,000	18%

(Note: Changed again in 1978)

2. The exclusion of the first \$3,000 in military pay earned in Minnesota and the additional \$2,000 of military pay earned outside the state is eliminated. (Tax years after 12/31/77.)

3. The amount of public pension which may be excluded from gross income is limited to \$7,200 per year and that amount is reduced by social security or railroad retirement benefits plus any earned income. Employee contributions on which taxes were paid at the time of contribution will not be taxed as they are received. (Note: further modified in 1978.) (Tax years after 12/31/77.)

4. A minimum tax on preference income is established at 40% of the similar federal tax paid. "Preference" items include such things as income taxed at capital gain rates or accelerated depreciation on real property or leased personal property, stock options and various other tax breaks. (Note: estimated to affect only 300 people.) (Tax years after 12/31/76.)

5. Income losses derived from sources outside Minnesota, as well as income from resident estate and trusts, are included in arriving at Minnesota net income. A credit is provided for taxes paid to other states for such income. A deduction is allowed for out-of-state losses, but not to exceed the amount of income derived from out-of-state sources. (Tax years after 12/31/77.)

Business Tax Relief (\$5M)

--The employer's excise tax exemption is increased from \$100,000 to \$250,000 thus eliminating the tax for approximately 93% of Minnesota's businesses. (For wages paid after 12/31/77.) (See 1978 bill.)

TAXPAYERS

Tax Bill - 1977 - Con't.

Local Government Aids

1. State aid to local governments increased from current \$45 per capita to \$52 (+15%) in calendar 1978 and \$59 (+13%) in calendar 1979 (\$40M).

2. Aid distribution formula modified to assist communities whose population has changed since 1970.

3. Cities or towns with levy limit base below 80% of the county average for cities and towns can be adjusted up to 80% of that average, subject to approval by the levy limit review board.

4. The basis in calculating the 6% growth factor is changed from the levy limit base per capita to the levy limit base.

5. Certain local governments at their maximum levy amount are allowed a permanent adjustment in their levy limit base not to exceed 10% and subject to a reverse referendum.

Taconite Taxes

1. The taconite railroad gross earnings tax currently paid in lieu of corporate income taxes will be paid to the general fund after 12/31/77. Local governments are grandfathered in at the amount received from the railroad gross earnings in 1977.

2. Taconite Homestead Credit will apply to 160 (currently 80) acres of ag land, and is increased by 10% for taxes payable in 1978 with a \$15/year automatic increase in the maximum beginning with taxes payable in 1979.

3. Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation Board enlarged (immediately) and its funding modified. (12/31/77)

4. Tailings tax of 10¢ per ton of tailings produced after 6/30/77 and not deposited in an approved on-land site.

5. Water Filtration Fund established with \$1,750,000 appropriation.

6. Production tax (in lieu of property taxes) on ore produced after 12/31/76, is increased from 80¢ to \$1.25/ton and indexed to the price of steel. Distribution after 12/31/77 increased to all recipients and the remainder of the tax (less grandfather provisions and distribution to the department of revenue for administering the tax) distributed between the following two funds.

TAXPAYERS

Tax Bill - 1977 - Con't.

7. Taconite Enviromental Protection Fund

--Created to study environmental problems, provide funds for reclamation, restoration and reforestation of minelands, for local economic development projects, and to monitor health problems related to the mineral industry.

--Administered by the IRRRB subject to review by the legislative advisory commission and approval by the governor.

8. Northeast Minnesota Economic Protection Fund

--Created as a long-term insurance fund for when the mineral industry declines, creating economic dislocation in the area. Funds plus interest and dividends earned cannot be used before January 1, 2002, and then only upon declaration by the governor and appropriation by the legislature, for use only in taconite and iron ore areas. (The 1978 omnibus tax bill permits tax fund to be used if there is a deficit in the taconite property tax account.)

Effective: immediately unless otherwise indicated in text.
C.423-77

Tax Bill - 1978

* H.F. 2250 Kelly, W., Jacobs, Tomlinson, Scheid,
Wenzel
S.F. 2051 McCutcheon, Sikorski, Nelson, Penny,
Schmitz

The bill provides \$105M in tax relief this biennium, most of it in income tax relief, that is in addition to the \$220M of tax relief approved in 1977.

Income Tax Relief

1. Increase in Personal and Dependent Credits (\$42M)

--Increases the personal credit \$10, on top of the \$9 increase approved in 1977. As a result of the 1977 bill, the personal credit in 1978 for senior citizens, blind persons and deaf persons will be \$60 as compared to \$46 in 1977. For everyone else, the credit will increase from \$21 to \$40. Filing requirements were also raised to reflect the increased credits, thereby reducing the number of people who have to file state income taxes.

TAXPAYERS

Tax Bill - 1978 - Con't.

2. Low Income Credit (\$10M)

--Increases the income levels eligible for tax forgiveness under the low-income credit as follows:

	<u>Current</u>	<u>New</u>
Single claimants	\$ 4,400	\$ 4,800
Claimant w/1 dependent	5,200	5,800
Claimant w/2 dependents	6,000	6,900
Claimant w/3 dependents	6,700	7,800
Claimant w/4 dependents	7,300	8,400
Claimant w/5 or more dependents	7,800	8,900

--Claimants with income in excess of the income level in their category may pay a tax equal to 15% of the excess income.

--An estimated 100,000-125,000 Minnesotans are expected to benefit from the increase, as well as from new tables which will make it easier to apply for the credit.

3. Homemaker Credit (\$5M)

--Establishes a new credit of \$50 if either the taxpayer or his spouse devotes his time to caring for a child under the age of 13 and is unemployed during the taxable year. To qualify, the taxpayer and spouse cannot have combined federal adjusted gross income greater than \$25,000. Together with the increase in the personal credit, this new credit will help reduce the disparity in tax treatment between one-earner and two-earner families which currently favors two-earner families.

4. Rate Reduction in Higher Incomes (\$5.1M)

--Partially reduces the 1977 rate increase:

<u>Current</u>		<u>New</u>	
<u>Taxable Income</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Taxable Income</u>	<u>Percent</u>
\$20,000-\$25,000	15%	\$20,000-\$27,500	15%
\$25,000-\$35,000	16%	\$27,500-\$40,000	16%
\$35,000-\$50,000	17%	Over \$40,000	17%
Over \$50,000	18%		

5. Pension Income Exclusion (\$6.5M)

--Provides that the first \$7,200 of pension income, from either a public or private pension, is excluded from income taxation. However, the \$7,200 exclusion is reduced by (a) social security benefits; (b) railroad retirement benefits; and (c) the amount by which the individual's federal adjusted

TAXPAYERS TRANSPORTATION

Tax Bill - 1978 - Con't.

gross income exceeds \$13,000. As a result of these changes, public and private pensions will be treated the same, and thousands of senior citizens on private pensions will gain additional income tax relief.

6. National Guard Credit (\$1.4M)

--The 1977 omnibus tax bill eliminated the exclusion of the first \$3,000 in military pay earned in Minnesota. As a result of concern about the ability of the national guard to recruit, a \$140 income tax credit will be provided to members with the rank of captain or below. Approximately 97% of the guard will benefit.

7. Sales Tax Exemption on Residential Heating Fuels (\$23M)

Exempts completely fuel oil, coal, wood, steam, propane gas and LP gas used for residential purposes. Natural gas and electricity in all-electric homes are exempted during the billing months of November through April.

8. Repeal of the Employer's Excise Tax (\$12M)

--The bill repeals the employer's excise or payroll tax first passed in 1973 as a replacement for the exemption of heavy machinery from local property taxes.

Effective: All income tax provisions are effective for taxable years after December 31, 1977. The sales tax exemption on heating fuels is effective immediately. And the excise tax repeal is effective for wages paid after June 30, 1978.
C.721-78

SEE ALSO:

1978 Family Farm Security Act Amendments	p.31
Feedlot Pollution Control Tax Credit Stadium Bill	p. 7 p.78

TRANSPORTATION

Department of Transportation Appropriation/Public Transit Funding - 1977

* H.F. 1610 Norton

\$885 million in appropriations include:

Trunk Highway Development	\$ 313.2 M
County State-Aid Roads	162.0 M
Municipal State-Aid Roads	50.1 M
Public Transit Assistance	38.4 M
Rail Service Improvement Program	3.0 M
Bicycle Trail Program	1.0 M

TRANSPORTATION

Department of Transportation Appropriation/Public Transit Funding - Con't.

Requires the study of means to effectively enforce motor vehicle noise limits. Establishes a public transit subsidy program for public and private transit systems throughout the state; creates a performance funding mechanism to provide state aid to the Twin Cities metropolitan transit commission (MTC); provides for research and evaluation of transportation management generally as well as technical assistance for transportation programs and projects; establishes paratransit service demonstration grant program, and provides funding for on-going paratransit services; eliminates 50¢ transit fare ceiling in Twin Cities metro area but maintains 30¢ base fare; authorizes Twin Cities MTC to spend funds for St. Paul downtown people mover study, provided the metro council independently evaluates the study.

Effective: immediately for section relating to St. Paul downtown people mover; July 1, 1977, for all other provisions.
C.454-77

Bicycle Registration and Regulations

* H.F. 380 Kahn, Dean, Williamson, McCarron, Pehler

Amends bicycle registration law to allow deputy registrars of motor vehicles to charge 50¢ fee for registering bicycles.

Effective: immediately.
C.41-77

* H.F. 474 Kahn, Dean, Lehto, Ellingson, Novak
S.F. 2058 Gunderson, Purfeerst, Frederick, Kirchner, Brataas

Prohibits motor vehicles from using bicycle lanes with certain exceptions, allows bicyclists to use right-hand signal for right turn, requires bicyclists to follow the same traffic regulations as drivers of other vehicles with certain exceptions, prohibits carrying passengers on a bicycle unless it is equipped with a baby carrier or has more than one seat, requires bicyclists to ride close to the right-hand edge of a roadway except under certain circumstances, prohibits riding on sidewalks in business districts unless local authorities allow it, requires lamps and reflectors for nighttime riding, and prohibits opening a door on a motor vehicle if it would interfere with movement of other traffic.

Effective: August 1, 1978.

C.739-78

Bloomington Ferry Bridge

* H.F. 930 Suss, Abeln, Pleasant, Jensen, Fudro
S.F. 785 Kirchner, Schmitz, Knutson, Purfeerst, Bang

TRANSPORTATION

Bloomington Ferry Bridge - Con't.

Directs Hennepin and Scott counties to reconstruct the Bloomington Ferry Bridge for temporary service in order to relieve traffic congestion on I-35W where it crosses the Minnesota river.

Effective: immediately.

C.232-77

Bridge Bonding

* H.F. 733	Lemke, Patton, Anderson, D., Jensen, Birnstihl
S.F. 738	Laufenburger, Kleinbaum, Purfeerst, Schmitz, Engler

Authorizes sale and issuance of \$50 million in trunk highway bonds for construction and reconstruction of bridges on the state trunk highway system. Also authorizes sale and issuance of \$50 million in state transportation bonds for grants to political subdivisions for construction and reconstruction of bridges, to be allocated in the following manner:

County Highway Systems	\$27,000,000
Municipal Street Systems	\$ 8,000,000
Township Road Systems	\$15,000,000

Effective: July 1, 1977

C.277-77

Construction of I-94

* H.F. 1965	Hanson, George, Laidig, Kostohryz, Kelly, R.
S.F. 2031	McCutcheon, Coleman, Ashbach

Directs the Minnesota department of transportation to use the existing trunk highway 12 corridor from I-694-494 to the St. Croix river in central Washington county for the construction of the remaining segment of I-94 east of St. Paul.

Effective: August 1, 1978.

C.569-78

Personalized License Plates for Vans, Pickup Trucks

* H.F. 1967	Simoneau, Neisen, Enebo, Clawson, St. Onge
-------------	--

Allows owners of vans and pickup trucks under 9,000 pounds gross weight or other recreational vehicles to obtain personalized license plates. Also prohibits use of personalized license plates for commercial advertising.

Effective: August 1, 1978.

C.636-78

TRANSPORTATION

Mandatory Helmet Law Repealed

* H.F. 382	Cummiskey, Vanasek, Cohen
S.F. 271	Kirchner, Schmitz, Ueland, Benedict, Vega

Repeals mandatory helmet law for motorcyclists except those under 18 or with learner's permits. Prohibits non-helmeted motorcyclists from suing for head injuries which could have been prevented by wearing a helmet. Applies noise regulations to motorcycles after December 31, 1978.

Effective: immediately.

C.17-77

Mopeds

* H.F.33	Kahn, Laidig, Hokanson, Pehler, McEachern
S.F. 884	Kirchner

Beginning November 15, 1977, mopeds (motorized bicycles) will be classified as motor vehicles and must be registered for \$3.00 yearly. Establishes motorized bicycle operator permit.

Effective: immediately.

C.214-77

Moratorium on I-35E Construction Removed

* H.F. 544	Kempe, A., Osthoff, Kostohryz, McCollar, Kempe, R.
S.F. 543	Vega, McCutcheon, Knutson, Engler

Lifts the moratorium on construction of I-35E in St. Paul. Permits construction of 4-lane "parkway" in the Pleasant Avenue corridor and a connection to I-94 in downtown St. Paul, but not a high-speed freeway type of connector. Also prohibits routing of I-35E over Highway 3 (the Lafayette freeway) and prohibits connecting the Lafayette freeway to either I-94 or I-35E. Metropolitan council is also directed to complete an environmental impact statement by no later than September 1, 1979.

Effective: immediately.

C.740-78

Motor Vehicle Registration Fees

H.F. 869	Osthoff, Birnstihl, Kalis, Wenzel
* S.F. 932	Menning, Knutson, Kleinbaum, Wegener, Olson, H.

Increases the filing fee for application for motor vehicle registration to \$1.50 effective August 1, 1977, and \$1.75 effective January 1, 1979 (was \$.50 for mailed application, \$1.00 for all other applications). Reduces the fee for duplicate plates if the fee exceeds the annual tax.

Effective: August 1, 1977.

C.327-77

TRANSPORTATION VETERANS

Rail User Loan Guarantee Program

- | | | |
|---|-----------|---|
| * | H.F. 2192 | Stanton, Anderson, B., Peterson, Fudro,
Casserly |
| | S.F. 2017 | Penny, Moe, Setzepfandt, Hanson,
Purfeerst |

Establishes a state loan guarantee program for rail users in which the state will guarantee 90% of a loan to rail users if the loan is for rail line rehabilitation. Funds for insurance of loans are transferred from the rail service improvement account to a newly-created rail user loan guarantee account. Effective: immediately.
C.667-78

"Sunday Holiday Law" Repealed

- | | | |
|---|----------|---|
| * | S.F. 757 | Schaaf, Laufenburger, Vega, Penny,
Setzepfandt |
|---|----------|---|

Repeals the "sunday holiday law" which prohibited commercial trucks and "semis" (with certain exceptions) from operating within 35 miles of cities of the first class on sundays and holidays. Effective: immediately.
C.700-78

Truck Weight Limits

- | | | |
|---|----------|---|
| | H.F. 660 | Johnson, Lemke, Savelkoul, Kalis,
Eckstein |
| * | S.F. 270 | Laufenburger, Purfeerst, Frederick,
Schaaf, Engler |

Increases overall gross weight limitations from 73,280 pounds to 80,000 pounds and sets axle load maximums at 10 tons for trucks on highways designated by commissioner of transportation. (The 10-ton highway system totals over 2,700 miles.) Application of new weight limits on routes other than interstate or trunk highways requires approval of local unit of government involved. Also adds \$36/ton registration tax for trucks in excess of 81,000 pounds and provides for optional 5-year semi-trailer fee. Effective: generally, November 14, 1977; also November 15, 1978, for semi-trailer fee.
C.248-78

SEE ALSO:

Transportation Funding for the
Handicapped

p.41

VETERANS

County Veterans Service Officer

- | | | |
|---|-----------|--|
| * | H.F. 1857 | Suss, Vanasek, Sieben, H., Laidig,
Rice |
|---|-----------|--|

VETERANS

County Veterans Service Officer - Con't.

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| S.F. 1786 | Schmitz, Bernhagen, Stumpf, Knoll,
Hughes |
|-----------|--|

Requires that all counties, except Clay county, appoint a veterans service officer. Provides that two or more counties may join together to have an officer. Effective: August 1, 1978.
C.625-78

National Guard Pay Increase

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| H.F. 2008 | Hokanson, Waldorf, Jacobs, Kostohryz,
Biersdorf |
| * S.F. 1693 | Schmitz, Setzepfandt, Vega, Penny,
Dunn |

Increases national guard pay for active duty from \$12 to \$35 per day. Effective: August 1, 1978.
C.532-78

Nursing Home at Hastings

- | | | |
|---|-----------|--|
| * | H.F. 1713 | Sieben, H., Swanson |
| | S.F. 1577 | Vega, Sikorski, Olson, H., Schmitz,
Frederick |

Transfers control of Hastings state hospital campus to commissioner of veterans affairs for establishment of 150-bed boarding care veterans' facility. Appropriates \$688,870, available immediately, for remodeling. Additional \$1M is appropriated for state's share of operational costs. Effective: May 1, 1978.
C.554-78

Veteran's Preference

- | | | |
|---|----------|---|
| * | H.F. 301 | Kostohryz, Waldorf, McDonald, McCarron,
Jacobs |
| | S.F. 219 | Laufenburger, Chmielewski, Olhoff |

Amends existing law to limit veteran's preference under state civil service to those persons entering the military service prior to December 31, 1976. Effective: August 1, 1977.
C.40-77

Veterans Representatives in Employment Offices

- | | |
|------------|--|
| H.F. 906 | Jacobs, Kostohryz, McDonald, Savelkoul,
Rice |
| * S.F. 930 | Chmielewski, Olson, H., Sieloff, Gearty,
Dunn |

VETERANS WOMEN

Veterans Representatives in Employment Offices - Con't.

Requires commissioner of employment services to assign a veteran to each employment service office based on a demonstrated need for the service. Position of veterans' representative must be filled by a department employee who is a veteran as defined by statute.
Effective: August 1, 1977.
C.151-77

SEE ALSO:

1978 Tax Bill (National Guard Credit) p.90

WOMEN

Advisory Council on the Economic Status of Women Refunded

* H.F. 2527 Norton
S.F. 2404 Moe

Section 2 of the supplemental appropriations bill appropriates \$70,000 to fund the activities of the council which has been reauthorized for a three year period (June 30, 1978 to June 30, 1981). Also increases citizen membership from 8 to 12, and requires reports to the legislature by June 30, 1978, and June 30, 1981.
Effective: immediately.
C.793-78

Sex Discrimination

* H.F. 1015 Wynia, Casserly, Jaros, Pehler, Ewald
S.F. 680 Lewis, Coleman, Spear, Keefe, J., Staples

Amends Minnesota human rights act: extends scope of prohibited sex discrimination to include discrimination on the basis of pregnancy, childbirth or disabilities related to pregnancy or childbirth. Affects all areas covered by human rights acts, including fringe benefits in employment. Employer may provide special safety consideration for pregnant women in tasks potentially hazardous to the unborn child. Provides for appeal of court decision by commissioner of human rights.
Effective: immediately.
C.403-77

SEE ALSO:

Abortion Financing Restricted	p.70
Affirmative Action	p.58
Battered Women	p.15
Family Planning Services	p.42

WOMEN WORKERS

SEE ALSO:

Marriage and Divorce	p.49
Spouse Abuse	p.17
1978 Tax Bill (Homemaker Credit)	p.90

WORKERS

Workers Compensation

Workers Compensation Bill - 1977

* H.F. 1004	Moe, Battaglia, Clark, Novak
S.F. 960	Keefe, S., Coleman, Ogdahl, Laufenburger, Nelson

Beginning October 1, 1977, disabled workers will continue to receive 2/3 of their weekly earnings in workers compensation but subject to a new "flexible limit" of 100% of the statewide average weekly wage rather than the fixed dollar limit of \$135 per week plus an annual cost-of-living adjustment. The current statewide average weekly wage is \$197. Minimum benefits are increased from 20% to 50% of the statewide average weekly wage. Annual cost-of-living adjustments are limited to a 6% increase. Supplementary benefits paid to workers disabled for more than 104 weeks are increased from 50% to 60% of the statewide average weekly wage. The period within which notice of an injury must be given is increased from 90 to 180 days. Effective June 30, 1979, a limit is placed on workers compensation insurance premiums of 2.5% on the portion charged for profit and expenses. A workers compensation study commission is established to report on the current administration of the law and the procedures used to establish insurance premium rates. State legislators are included under the law. Officers of family farm corporations are excluded from the law.
Effective:

Family Farm provisions	January 1, 1978
Benefit increases	October 1, 1977
Insurance premium limit	June 30, 1979
Supplementary benefit increase	July 1, 1977
Annual adjustment limit	Retroactive to October 1, 1975
Notice time limit & state legislators inclusion	day following final enactment

Expense Limitation Removed

* H. F. 2236	Moe, Adams, Brinkman, Heinitz
S.F. 2219	Tennessen, Laufenburger, Penny, Ashbach, Borden

WORKERS

Expense Limitation Removed - Con't.

Removes the 22.5% limitation on the portion of workers compensation insurance rates charged for insurance company expenses which was imposed by the 1977 act to have taken effect on June 30, 1979. The workers compensation study commission is directed to study and report to the 1979 legislature on the limitation of expenses. The act also:

--Requires the insurance commissioner to set workers compensation insurance rates pursuant to the administrative procedures act.

--Provides an exclusion from the 5% reduction of supplementary workers compensation benefits to individuals also receiving social security disability benefits, when an individual is not receiving maximum social security disability benefits.

--Permits two or more employers to pool their workers compensation liabilities for the purpose of qualifying as self-insurers, subject to the approval of the commissioner of labor and industry.

Effective: self-insurers provision - August 1, 1979; all other provisions - immediately.
C.797-78

Elective Coverage for Family Farmers

* H.F. 1819	Anderson, G., Johnson, Wenzel, Wenstrom, Smogard
S.F. 1753	Strand, Nichols, Penny, Purfeerst, Staples

Amends the workers compensation law so that family farm owners will automatically be excluded from coverage under their workers compensation policies unless they elect in writing to be covered. Under previous law, owners of family farms were automatically covered under their workers compensation policies unless they elected in writing to be excluded. This option is extended to executive officers of privately-owned corporations which employed less than 11 full-time employees in the previous calendar year and if the executive officer owns at least 25% of the stock of the corporation.

Effective: immediately.
C.757-78

Family Farms

* H.F. 2020	Kalis, Lemke, Wenzel, Wigley, Brinkman
S.F. 1915	Penny, Nichols, Engler, Strand, Olson, H.

Increases the exclusion for family farms from workers compensation coverage to \$4,000 (was \$2,000) in wages paid to farm laborers (excluding family farm members and executive officers of the family farm corporation) in the previous calendar year.

Effective: August 1, 1978
C.574-78

WORKERS

Law Enforcement Assistance

H.F. 1458	Welch, Reding, Murphy, Evans, Gunter
* S.F. 798	Dunn, Willet, Brataas, Anderson, Laufenburger

Extends workers compensation coverage to individuals requested or commanded to assist a law enforcement officer in the performance of his/her duties. The wage of the individual assisting the law enforcement officer shall serve as the basis for computing benefits.

Effective: August 1, 1978.
C.702-78

General

Age Discrimination

* H.F. 6	Enebo, Kahn, St. Onge, McCarron, Anderson, I.
S.F. 192	Spear, Dieterich, Milton, Keefe, S., Keefe, J.

Amends the human rights act to prohibit discrimination against persons over the age of 18 in education and employment except for: age restrictions uniformly applied for apprenticeship programs, seniority systems, or entrance as peace officer or firefighter; varying insurance benefits at reasonably equivalent cost; mandatory retirement; state summer youth employment program. Appropriates \$100,000 for processing complaints.

Effective: July 1, 1977.
C.351-77

Limits to Employer's Right to Invention

* H.F. 763	Fudro, Sarna, Laidig, Nelsen, M., Birnstihl
S.F. 208	Olhoft, Tennesen, Solon, Sikorski, Bang

Prohibits terms in employment agreements which require employees to surrender to their employers inventions developed on the employee's own time, with his/her own supplies and equipment, and without use of the employer's trade secrets.

Effective: August 1, 1977.
C.47-77

Mandatory Retirement

* H.F. 2041	Enebo, Sabo, Jude, Moe, Faricy
S.F. 2000	Spear, Keefe, S., Stumpf, Nelson, Staples

Prohibits mandatory retirement before the age of 70 for public employees, temporary and full-time employees of the city of Minneapolis, and private employees, with certain exceptions (correctional officers, firefighters, police, highway patrolmen, teachers, pilots and top-level executives and policy-makers entitled to annual retirement benefits of \$27,000 including social security). Allows employees to choose

WORKERS

Mandatory Retirement - Con't.

to continue working beyond their presently-designated retirement date, unless the employer demonstrates that the employee cannot adequately do the job or the employee reaches the retirement age of at least 70. Allows employers to freeze but not reduce pension benefits if an employee continues to work.

Effective: June 1, 1980; does not apply to collective bargaining agreements reached prior to March 28, 1978, or to employees mandatorily retired prior to June 1, 1980.

NOTE: Federal law raises the mandatory retirement age to 70, as of January 1, 1979, for state and local government employees and private employees whose employer has 20 or more people on the payroll, except for top-level executives and policy-makers entitled to annual retirement benefits of \$27,000 (excluding social security). Forced retirement would be prohibited for most federal employees as of September 30, 1978. Exceptions would be made for collective bargaining agreements. Unless the application of federal law to states is challenged, most state employees will be covered January 1, 1979 (by federal law), and private employees who work for an employer hiring less than 20 persons will be covered June 1, 1980 (by state law).

C.649-78

Minimum Wage

H.F. 169	Faricy, Enebo, Anderson, I., Sarna, Begich
* S.F. 226	Milton, Nelson, Solon, Vega, Keefe, S.

Increases state minimum wage for adults from \$2.10 to \$2.30 an hour; individuals under 18 years of age from \$1.89 to \$2.07 an hour.

Effective: September 15, 1977.

C.183-77

Tip Credit

* H.F. 320	Reding, Prael, Enebo, Lehto, Kroening
S.F. 297	Milton, Vega, Nelson, Keefe, S., Spear

Reduces the existing tip credit permitted employers for purposes of computing the minimum wage paid to tipped employees from 25% to 20% of the minimum wage. Changes the definition of a tipped employee to allow an employee to earn \$35 (currently \$20) per month in tips before being subject to the employer's tip credit. Mandatory tip pooling by employers is prohibited. Service charges are defined as tips under the law unless customers are clearly notified that the service charge is not the property of the employee.

Effective: September 15, 1977.

C.369-77

WORKERS YOUTH

Unemployment Compensation

H.F. 263	Adams, Patton, Sieben, H., Osthoff, Biersdorf
* S.F. 232	Laufenburger, Coleman, Brataas, Wegener, Olhoff

Increases maximum benefit levels to 64% of state average weekly wage (AWW) in FY 1978 and 66-2/3% in FY 1979; eliminates current "fixed" ceiling of \$116 allowing maximum to "float" at 62% of AWW in FY 1977. Disqualifies individuals who voluntarily quit or are discharged for misconduct, but allows easier requalification. Increases minimum employer tax rate from .9% to 1% and increases maximum from 6% to 7.5%; employer's taxable wage base rises to \$7,000 in 1977, \$7,500 in 1978 and \$8,000 in 1979. Changes initial eligibility requirements from 18 credit weeks at \$30/week to 15 credit weeks at \$50/week. Increases penalty for fraud by claimant or employer.

Effective: Tax provisions - January 1, 1977; other provisions effective July 1, 1977.

C.4-77

Unemployment Compensation Conformity Bill

* H.F. 1310	Adams, Osthoff, Sarna, Metzen, Kaley
S.F. 1422	Laufenburger

Attempts conformity with 1976 federal unemployment regulations. Extends unemployment coverage to most public employees, agricultural workers, and domestic (household) workers. Denies coverage to illegal aliens, temporary legislative employees, professional athletes between seasons, and all teachers, school administrators and most non-teaching personnel during summer if they have "reasonable assurance" of reemployment (includes Faribault state schools and non-profit nursery schools). Allows public employers choice of reimbursing fund on dollar-for-dollar basis or paying employer taxes. Allows non-charging of employers for CETA employees; removes special prohibition of political activity by department staff; and allows unemployment benefits to low-income social security recipients.

Effective: most sections January 1, 1978.

C.297-77

SEE ALSO:

Corn Detasslers	p.105
Public Employees Category	p. 61
Summer Youth Employment	p.105

YOUTH

Adoption Records Release

H.F. 128	Enebo, Dean, Kahn, Pehler, Carlson, A.
* S.F. 191	Spear, Dieterich, Sieloff, Sikorski, Hanson

YOUTH

Adoption Records Release - Con't.

Authorizes the release of birth information to adopted persons, age 21 or older, and establishes filing procedure through the state registrar. Requires commissioner of DPW to confidentially notify the natural parent(s), in person, of the adoptee's request. Guarantees natural parent(s) right to remain anonymous by filing an affidavit of nondisclosure. Provides court procedure if parent(s) cannot be located or are deceased.

Effective: June 1, 1977.
C.181-77

Child Neglect

* H.F. 1786 Hokanson, Moe, Kroening, Sieben, H., Kaley
S.F. 1917 Staples, McCutcheon, Perpich, Humphrey, Sillers

Amends child abuse reporting law to also require reporting by professionals in health, social services, education, and law enforcement of suspected child neglect or prostitution. Defines neglect as failure to provide child with necessary food, clothing, shelter or medical care. Grants immunity to persons making voluntary or mandatory reports; requires welfare agencies to share reports with law enforcement officials; and classifies records as private data.

Effective: August 1, 1978.
C.755-78

Children Neglected in Foster Care

* H.F. 1317 Brandl, Hanson, Sieben, M., Forsythe, Clark
S.F. 1013 Knoll, Lewis, Sikorski, Milton, Keefe, J.

Requires preparation of individualized case plan within 30 days of child being voluntarily or judicially placed in foster care; plan to include: reasons for placement, rights and responsibilities of natural parents, supportive services to be made available, and anticipated date of return. Requires reviews at 6 months and 18 months of voluntary placements to determine appropriateness of continued foster care. Establishes new grounds for termination of parental rights: when children are "neglected and in foster care"; defines "neglected and in foster care" as a child placed by court order whose parents are unable or unwilling to have child returned to them. Specifies considerations for the court.

Effective: July 1, 1978.
C.602-78

Child Pornography

* H.F. 343 Nelson, Wenstrom, Arlandson, Faricy, Clark
S.F. 1012 Olhoft, Bernhagen, Menning, Staples, Nelson

YOUTH

Child Pornography - Con't.

Makes it a felony to produce photographs, films or performances of minors engaged in offensive sexual conduct (as defined in law), or to own or operate a business selling such materials. Makes it a misdemeanor to be a salesperson in such a business.

Effective: July 1, 1977.
C.371-77

Corn Detassellers - Work Standards

H.F. 1789 Sieben, M., Pehler, Enebo,
Sieben, H.
* S.F. 1643 Sikorski, Vega

Includes corn detasseling employees who are less than 18 years under Minnesota fair labor standards act protections, except for minimum wage requirements. Provides for return transportation of corn detassellers who are terminated, injured, or ill. Requires accessible, sanitary water supply.

Effective: immediately.

C.731-78

Cost of Care for Mentally Retarded, Epileptic, and Emotionally Handicapped Children

H.F. 1547 Samuelson, Swanson
* S.F. 1334 Perpich

Raises from \$60 to \$125 per month the ceiling on required parental payment toward cost of care for children in state institutions; increases from \$4,000 to \$11,000 the income level under which relatives are exempted from responsibility. Requires commissioner of DPW to determine, by rule, parental responsibility for child's cost of care in licensed, 24-hour community care facility. Payment must be based on ability to pay, up to a maximum of \$125/month.

Effective: July 1, 1977.

C.331-77

Juvenile Placements

* H.F. 2080 Byrne, Tomlinson, Mangan
S.F. 1958 Davies

Prohibits court placement of youth found delinquent because of repetitive status offenses (i.e., incorrigibility, truancy) in county home schools or state juvenile facilities. Conforms with national juvenile justice standards.

Effective: immediately. Act applies retroactively.
C.657-78

Summer Youth Employment Program

H.F. 679 Casserly, Osthoff, Norton, Anderson, D. Anderson, I.
* S.F. 625 Solon, Nelson, Humphrey, Willet, Luther

YOUTH

Summer Youth Employment Program - Con't.

Appropriates \$6M/biennium for summer employment for youth (14-22 years) at federal minimum wage; authorizes department of employment services to place youth in local and state public service jobs for up to 12 weeks, not exceeding 40 hours/week. Earmarks \$2M for employment of post-secondary students (18-22 years).

Effective: immediately.

C.254-77

Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction Act

H.F. 24 Faricy, Sieben, M., Pleasant, Haugerud, Kahn

* S.F. 107 Hanson, Merriam, Knoll

Enacts rules and procedures for establishment of court jurisdiction in child custody cases and interstate disputes. Defines child's "home state," and extends home state jurisdiction for six months after removal of child from the state. Allows Minnesota courts to refuse to consider legal actions brought by persons who have violated another state's custody decree or wrongfully taken a child out of another state. Provides for interstate cooperation.

Effective: immediately.

C.8-77

Youth Intervention Programs

* H.F. 2527 Norton
S.F. 2404 Moe

Section 20 of the supplemental appropriations bill appropriates \$250,000 for grants to be awarded to nonprofit agencies by crime control planning board for community youth intervention programs. Youth workers ("street" workers) provide direct assistance/intervention with youth experiencing personal, family, school, legal, or chemical problems. Maximum grant is \$25,000 to be matched locally 2 to 1.

Effective: immediately.

C.793-78

SEE ALSO:

Detention of Juveniles
Students Category

p.18
p.78

FARMERS

Corporate Farming Restrictions

* H.F. 1931 Wenstrom, Anderson, G., Eken, Langseth, Fjoslien
S.F. 2002 Hanson, Olhoft, Willet, Strand, Coleman

Declares state policy in support of family farms. Redefines "farming" to extend current restrictions on corporate ownership of farmland to include livestock production (restricts establishment of corporate cattle and hog feedlots). Allows retention of current corporate holdings, but limits expansion and requires annual registration. Exempts poultry producers.

Effective: August 1, 1978.

C.722-78

Not Printed At Government Expense

