

Minnesota House Of Representatives

# SESSION 1980 new laws

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STATE OF MINNESOTA

ST. PAUL, MINN.

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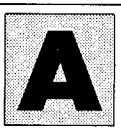
ST. PAUL, MINN.

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#### Key

- HF — House File
- SF — Senate File
- Ch — Chapter in Session Laws 1980
- \* — indicates the bill the House and Senate passed
- \*\* — effective upon compliance with Minnesota Statutes, Section 645.021



## griculture

### Agricultural preserves

Ch. 566 HF1612\*—Schreiber  
SF1597—Silkorski

Provides farm property tax relief to owners of farm land in the seven-county metropolitan area who voluntarily place their land in long-term agricultural preserves. The law authorizes regulation of subdivisions and provides for municipal planning.

Effective: June 1, 1980/July 1, 1980

### Agriculture department omnibus bill

Ch. 442 HF1799—Stowell SF1842\*—Strand

Clarifies definition of "warehouse man" to include persons renting space as a tenant and states that risk of loss is the responsibility of the tenant; prohibits conversion of processed animal feed to food for human consumption; requires denaturing and labeling of food originally designated as food for human consumption and diverted to animal food channels or to seed; updates statutes to conform to 1980 Federal Food and Drug Act; clarifies statutes to put all grain licensing duties under the agriculture department.

Effective: August 1, 1980

### Animal Health Board

Ch. 467 HF1679—D. Carlson  
SF1734\*—Setzepfandt

Changes the name of the Livestock Sanitary Board to the Board of Animal Health; eliminates outdated livestock statutes; requires anaplasmosis testing of livestock within 30 days prior to cattle entering the state; regulates treatment of diseased animals.

Effective: August 1, 1980

### Corporate farming amendments

Ch. 497 HF1814\*—B. Anderson  
SF1990—Menning

Changes definition of "authorized farm corporation" to require that a majority of the shareholders who hold and control the majority of the shares must farm or reside on the farm; limits liability of donors of distressed food and allows the commissioner to regulate or ban the use or consumption of distressed food.

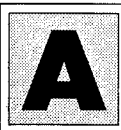
Effective: August 1, 1980

### Workers compensation — farmers

Ch. 385 HF1471—Stadum SF1403\*—Jensen

Excludes from the definition of "farm laborer", for purposes of workers compensation laws, farmers who own bailing, threshing, shredding or shelling machines, who do their own work and casually do such work for other farmers in the same community, or exchange such work with other farmers.

Effective: August 1, 1980



## ppropriations

### Claims against the state

Ch. 479 HF1963\*—Kemp  
SF1778—Menning

Provides \$103,776 in funds for injury and damage claims against the state, war orphan educational benefits, and veterans bonus claims.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Supplemental appropriations bill

Ch. 614 HF2476\*—Voss

Appropriates \$40.2 million for supplemental program expenses and deficiencies for state government; regulates expenditure of funds; creates, abolishes, and transfers functions of certain agencies; sets fees; sets conditions of public employment; authorizes transfer of land; authorizes certain capitol improvements; requires certain studies and reports; other provisions. (The governor vetoed portions of this bill. For information on those items see p 35.)

Effective: July 1, 1980/March 1, 1981  
July 1, 1981

In the 1980 session, the Minnesota Legislature passed 283 bills. The governor vetoed five bills and portions of two others. This publication summarizes the resulting 278 new laws, and the five bills the governor did not sign. Feature articles cover legislation on housing, p.28; interest rates, p.22; pensions, p.20; environmental issues, p.17; adoption, p.27; and energy, p.24.



# B

## anking

### Agricultural credit corporations bank/trust investment

Ch. 445 HF1856—Brinkman  
SF1922—Tennessee

Permits banks or trust companies to invest up to 20 percent of their capital and surplus in certain agricultural credit corporations.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Bank employees — loan limits increased

Ch. 399 HF1427—Brinkman SF1536—Bang

Raises from \$3,000 to \$25,000 the amount a bank employee may borrow from the bank without prior approval of the bank's board.

Effective: July 1, 1980

### Bank holding companies examination/actions

Ch. 604 HF2268—Ellingson  
SF2161—Luther

Gives the commissioner of insurance the authority to examine bank holding companies in the same manner he/she may presently examine banks. The law allows the commissioner to take action against the officer of a bank as well as the institution itself and would permit the commissioner to issue a cease and desist order against the company if the commissioner feels any practice endangers the bank.

Effective: December 31, 1981/August 1, 1980

### Banks and trust companies fiduciary capacities

Ch. 383 HF2229—Corbid  
SF0978—S. Keefe

Allows banks or trust companies to transfer a trust department in its entirety to another bank rather than the present system which requires each trust account to go through the court system.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Banks — liability exemptions

Ch. 523 HF2286—Ellingson SF2071—Solon

Provides that agreements to purchase or lease personal property, which the bank took and which is subject to a certain percentage limitation of the bank's capital stock and surplus, shall not constitute a liability against the bank; provides for a different percentage limitation in certain cases.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Business trusts — reciprocal or inter-insurance contracts

Ch. 409 HF2222—Brinkman  
SF2234—Perpich

Authorizes business trusts to exchange reciprocal or interinsurance contracts. Individuals, partnerships and corporations already have this authorization.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Checks and drafts — display of information

Ch. 605 HF2302—Dempsey  
SF2284—Laufenburger

Requires all checks written on demand deposit (checking) accounts to clearly display the month and year the person opened the account, unless the account is over a year old or the applicant can show that he has had an account at another bank for over a year.

Effective: August 1, 1980

### Credit unions — reserve balance

Ch. 492 HF1765—Simoneau  
SF1876—Sikorski

Excludes certain loans credit unions make from calculation of outstanding loans and risk assets for reserve fund purposes.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Detached banking facilities — full banking functions

Ch. 468 HF0753—Voss  
SF1909—Tennessee

Removes restrictions on services banks can offer at detached facilities. A detached facility may provide any service or perform any function that the bank's main banking house may offer or perform.

Effective: day following final enactment



### Drive-in or walk-up bank facility

Ch. 444 HF1675—Blatz SF1900—Bang

Allows banks to have one drive-in or walk-up facility within 150 to 1,500 feet from the main bank or detached facility if the bank's facilities are so physically limited as to preclude the addition of the drive-in or walk-up facility.

Effective: August 1, 1980

### Electronic fund transfers rulemaking authority

Ch. 486 HF1145—D. Johnson  
SF1533—Bang

Allows the commissioner of banking to make rules regulating the operation of electronic fund transfer systems.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Industrial loan and thrift statute changes

Ch. 503 HF2067—Heinitz SF2353—Luther

Modifies directors' residence requirements for industrial loan and thrift companies; provides for a report to the commissioner in the event of a change of control; requires insurance or guarantee of certificates of indebtedness the company sells or issues for investment; exempts certificates of indebtedness from the regulation of securities.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Installment loans — increased interest rates

Ch. 522 HF2101—Adams  
SF2062—Laufenburger

Allows banks, credit unions, and savings and loan associations to charge four and a half percent above the federal discount rate, or 12 percent, whichever is greater, on certain installment loans, expiring June 30, 1982. The law gives savings and loan associations and savings associations the same authority that banks presently have in operating open end loan accounts.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Motor vehicle retail installment sales act — interest rates

Ch. 451 HF2121—Osthoff SF2067—Penny

Increases the maximum interest rate on certain loans under the Motor Vehicle Installment Sales Act. The law increases the rate from \$8 per \$100 per year to \$10 per \$100 per year.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Mutual savings banks detached facilities

Ch. 514 HF0629—Adams SF0704—Davies

Allows state-chartered mutual savings banks to establish five detached facilities in Hennepin and Anoka Counties. The Farmers and Mechanics Savings Bank is the only mutual savings bank in Minnesota.

Effective: August 1, 1980

### Savings associations — bonding and licensing

Ch. 524 HF2356—D. Johnson  
SF2117—Spear

Exempts savings associations from licensing and bonding requirements of safe deposit companies and deletes the dollar limitation on examination fees the commissioner of banks charges safe deposit companies. The law allows financial institutions to renegotiate mortgage contracts after a specific period of time and charge the current rate of interest. The interest rate on a renegotiated loan cannot increase more than one half percentage point per year.

Effective: day following final enactment/upon adoption of certain federal codes.

### Savings banks investment powers

Ch. 551 HF1130—Brinkman  
SF1132—Laufenburger

Authorizes savings banks to invest in revenue bonds government bodies issue and allows them to use the bonds as security for deposits of public funds in excess of FDIC and FSLIC insurance. The law also allows industrial loan and thrift companies to charge interest rates in excess of the current 18 percent ceiling.

Effective: day following final enactment

### State banks — interest rates

Ch. 343 HF0639—Heinitz  
SF0687—Tennessee

Authorizes state banks and savings banks to charge interest at one percent over the federal reserve discount rate on a 90-day commercial paper.

Effective: day following final enactment

### State banks — second mortgage loans

Ch. 599 HF1302—Ellingson SF1452—Bang

Places state banks that make second mortgage loans under the same restrictions as national banks with second mortgage powers. The law also requires the insurance commissioner to report on the effects of a federal law removing the ceiling from home loan interest rates; allows floating interest rates on mobile home loans; allows certain exemptions under bankruptcy proceedings; and makes specific provisions for F & M Savings Bank in Minneapolis.

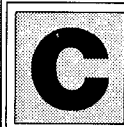
Effective: day following final enactment  
December 31, 1981

### Usurious loans — penalties

Ch. 606 HF2429—Corbitt SF1562—Solon

Changes the penalty for usurious loans. The penalty for charging a higher interest rate than the law permits is the forfeiture of the entire interest. If the borrower has already paid the interest, the penalty is twice the interest. The current penalty is an amount equal to the interest plus principle.

Effective: day following final enactment



## Constitutional Amendments

### Highway bonds constitutional limits

Ch. 549 HF2289—Osthoff  
SF2203—Schmitz

Proposes a constitutional amendment to remove restrictions on the interest rate for trunk highway bonds, as well as the number of bonds. The amendment will appear on the November, 1980 ballot.

Effective: upon ratification

### Initiative and referendum campaign financing

Ch. 587 HF2304—Kemp  
SF599—McCutcheon

Proposes an amendment to the Minnesota Constitution providing for initiative and referendum powers and an amendment adding campaign spending limits for candidates accepting public funding.

Effective: various effective dates depending on ratification of amendments

### Notary public — Senate approval

Ch. 592 HR1619—Norton  
SF1550—Gearty

Proposes an amendment to the Minnesota Constitution, removing the requirement that the Senate approve notary publics (84,000 in the state, serving seven-year terms).

Effective: for notaries public appointed after January 1, 1981 if the constitutional amendment is approved.

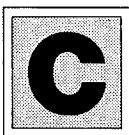
### Reapportionment commission

Ch. 588 HF0038—M. Sieben  
SF0129—Luther

Proposes a constitutional amendment to provide for a commission for congressional and legislative reapportionment; limits the power of the Legislature to change the number of senators and representatives; provides rules governing the duties, powers and operation of the reapportionment commission; provides for judicial review of the reapportionment plan; and proposes duties of certain state officials with regard to reapportionment.

Effective: the date the constitutional amendment is ratified/March 1, 1981.





## Consumer Affairs/Commerce

### Commercial businesses assumed names

Ch. 396 HF0924\*—Sherwood  
SF1043—Menning

Retains the central filing of commercial businesses' assumed names in the Secretary of State's Office; reduces the filing fee for each certificate from \$20 to \$12 and from \$10 to \$6 for renewals; removes the criminal penalty for failure to file.

Effective: August 1, 1980

### Conference on small business

Ch. 613 HF2046\*—Pehler  
SF1706—Peterson

Appropriates \$10,000 to establish the Minnesota Conference on Small Business to study small business needs in the state.

Effective: July 1, 1980

### Corporations — filing fees

Ch. 541 HF1899\*—Jaros SF1654—Solon

Sets most corporation filing fees the secretary of state collects at a uniform \$10.

Effective: July 1, 1980

### Dies and molds ownership rights

Ch. 584 HF2069—Jacobs  
SF1875\*—J. Keefe

Allows a plastics manufacturer to take possession of a customer's mold if it has not been in use for three years, provided the manufacturer gives 90 days notice.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Doctor placement services certain exemptions

Ch. 452 HF2206—M. Sieben  
SF2195\*—Knoll

Exempts certain medical doctors' placement services from employment service licensing requirements.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Formaldehyde levels in homes

Ch. 594 HF2088—Greenfield  
SF2100\*—Knoll

Requires the commissioner of health to determine whether formaldehyde concentrations in homes and mobile homes create a hazard and, if so, to make rules regulating the sale or rental of the units. The law also prohibits the sale of materials containing urea formaldehyde unless the seller informs the buyer of the danger in writing.

Effective: day following final enactment  
January 1, 1981

### Highway signs — information on resorts and campgrounds

Ch. 413 HF1036—Ainley SF1584\*—Willet

Regulates the number, design and location of non-freeway trunk highway signs which direct travelers to resorts and campgrounds.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Interest on retail credit sales

Ch. 346 HF0500—Friedrich  
SF0285\*—Laufenburger

Increases from 12 percent to 16 percent the interest rates on retail charge accounts such as department store or gasoline credit cards. The interest rate would affect a 30-day balance. With the first 30 days free of interest, the effective annual rate is 14.2 percent. The law does not apply to bank credit cards such as VISA which have an 18 percent ceiling.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Nonprofit corporations formation and management

Ch. 351 HF0331—M. Sieben  
SF0054\*—Davies

Simplifies and clarifies requirements relating to the formation and management of nonprofit corporations. Allows one person to hold more than one corporate office, allows a board of directors of less than three persons if there are less than three shareholders in that corporation, allows nonprofit corporations to own another nonprofit corporation which would have pecuniary gain.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Small business — definition

Ch. 361 HF1092—Redding  
SF0951\*—Peterson

Establishes a definition of "small business" as one which has fewer than 20 fulltime employees or not more than the equivalent of \$1 million in gross revenues and is not an affiliate or subsidiary of a business which is dominant in its field of operation.

Effective: October 1, 1980

### Small Business Finance Agency

Ch. 547 HF2045\*—Reding  
SF1806—Laufenburger

Creates a small business finance agency with authority to issue and sell tax exempt bonds in order to provide loans for small business and for pollution control projects.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Soft drinks — examination

Ch. 411 HF0716—D. Carlson  
SF0801\*—Knutson

Requires manufacturers outside the State of Minnesota to submit samples of all soft drinks to the Department of Agriculture for laboratory examination and registration, if they sell the soft drinks in Minnesota.

Effective: August 1, 1980



Interest rates p. 22

## **C** rime Corrections

### **Correctional facilities — licensing — inmate earnings**

Ch. 417 HF1929—Laldig SF1709—Nelson

Provides for the licensing of correctional facilities following commissioner of correction's review; provides for the investment of funds in correctional industries revolving account; regulates inmate earnings, permitting the commissioner to determine an amount to set aside for the inmate when he/she leaves the facility on conditional release or final discharge; gives the commissioner temporary rule-making authority; clarifies provisions relating to work release and temporary parole; amends a provision concerning good time; limits the power of the Minnesota Corrections Board.

**Effective:** day following final enactment  
May 1, 1980

### **Jail financing**

Ch. 597 HF1047—G. Anderson  
SF0376—Schaaf

Provides an alternative to general obligation bonds for financing county and regional jails; allows financing through county contributions, bonds and municipal revenue bonds.

**Effective:** August 1, 1980

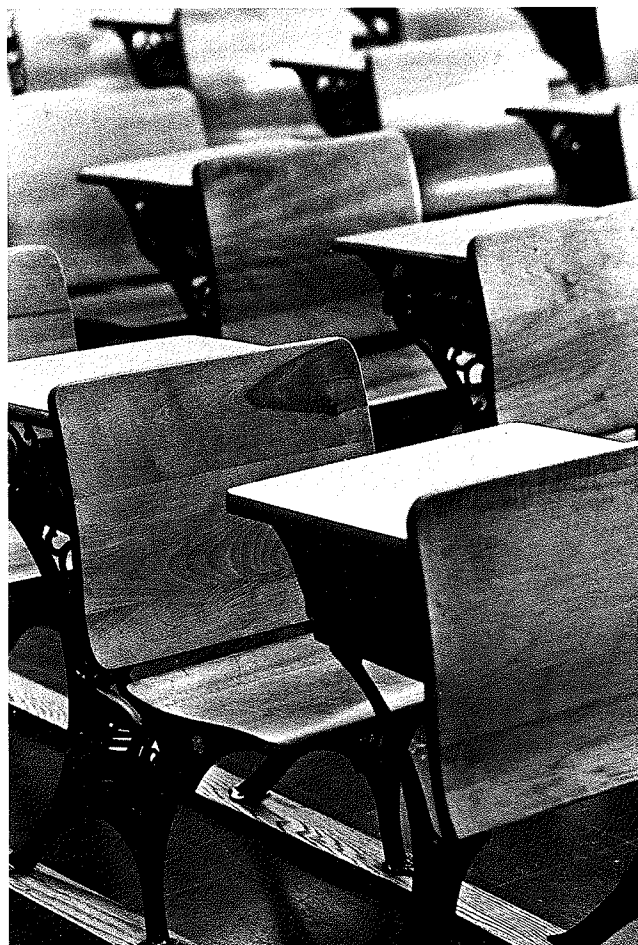
### **Jails, workhouses, lock-ups statute changes**

Ch. 602 HF1816—Clawson SF1944—Solon

Makes Minnesota correctional statutes consistent with the current rules of the Department of Corrections; updates statutes concerning jails, lockups and workhouses; clarifies penalty for possession of contraband in local correctional facilities; repeals provisions concerning work farms.

**Effective:** August 1, 1980

In 1979, the Legislature authorized school districts to discontinue certain grades and provide instruction through other districts. Education laws in 1980 include a change in qualifications for maximum effort capital loans.



### **Juvenile corrections statute changes**

Ch. 580 HF1896—Kelly SF2149—Sikorski

Makes changes in the juvenile justice statutes, including establishing criteria for the referral of juveniles to adult courts; increasing the civil liability of parents for intentional acts of their children; providing for informed consent by juveniles to waiver rights; providing for statewide promulgation of juvenile court rules. The act also changes provisions relating to foster and group homes; modifies dispositions available to juvenile court judges; makes rules of evidence applicable in certain juvenile proceedings; modifies jurisdiction of the juvenile court; authorizes juvenile court referees in the second and fourth judicial districts to hear contested trials, hearings, or motions unless there is an objection.

**Effective:** day following final enactment/  
August 1, 1980

### **Uniform colors — peace officers**

Ch. 578 HF0848—Lehto  
SF0364—McCutcheon

Standardizes uniform colors of police and security guards, as well as colors and markings on law enforcement vehicles.

**Effective:** upon final enactment

## **E** ducation

### **Athletic programs equal opportunity**

Ch. 355 HF0455—C. Johnson  
SF0526—Merriam

Provides equal opportunity for both sexes to participate in athletic programs by spelling out certain guidelines. The law allows separate teams for girls and boys, but girls could try out for boys' teams; does not require schools to provide a girls' team for every sport they provide for boys, but allows a school to offer another sport for girls; permits separate girls' teams in school and park board athletic programs for children under 11 years old, if there is demonstrated interest.

**Effective:** August 1, 1980

### **Board of Teaching — functions/powers**

Ch. 345 HF0584 — Kelly SF0618—Hughes

Transfers certain functions of teacher licensing from the Board of Education, the Department of Education and the commissioner of education to the Board of Teaching; eliminates requirement that the Board of Education approve certain rules of the Board of Teaching; reduces the membership of the Board of Teaching.

**Effective:** August 1, 1980

## Correspondence, private business and trade schools

Ch. 559 HF0870\*—McEachern

Requires correspondence schools to provide a prospective student with a school catalog; provides for tuition refunds, in certain circumstances, from private business, trade and correspondence schools that do not use written contracts; provides for certain exemptions under the private business, trade and correspondence school act.

Effective: August 1, 1980

## EARC membership

Ch. 429 HF1834\*—Kalls SF2220—Penny

Adds the commissioner of agriculture as a member of the Equalization Aid Review Committee (EARC). The committee reviews the assessed valuation of state school districts.

Effective: August 1, 1980

## Group health insurance community college students

Ch. 469 HF1090\*—Wynia SF1207—Luther

Authorizes the state boards for community colleges and vocational education to contract for hospital and medical benefits for community college and AVTI students.

Effective: day following final enactment

## Higher Education Coordinating Board (HECB) — bonding

Ch. 537 HF1763\*—Kroening SF1884—Penny

Increases to \$300 million the bonding authority of the HECB for the student loan program.

Effective: day following final enactment

## Maximum effort school aid law

Ch. 545 HF2019\*—M. Nelsen  
SF2041—Merriam

Authorizes the sale of up to \$20 million in bonds to replenish the maximum effort school aid loan fund; reduces to 15 EARC mills the "maximum effort" rate on new capital and debt service loans; reduces the amount school districts must borrow on their own to qualify for a maximum effort capital loan.

Effective: day following final enactment

## Measles — school records

Ch. 504 HF2075\*—Swanson SF1770—Solon

Requires public schools to record and report to the state health department any cases of measles occurring at the school.

Effective: August 1, 1980

## Omnibus school aids bill

Ch. 609 HF1781\*—McEachern  
SF1666—Merriam

Appropriates approximately \$24.2 million for foundation aids, transportation aid, special education, vocational education, and other programs; gives school districts the option of levying an additional 1½ state-equalized mill (the discretionary levy) for the 1982-83 school year; makes certain other changes in the laws relating to foundation aids and levies; appropriates \$17.4 million funding to cover deficiencies in school district's transportation budgets because of rising gas prices; appropriates \$3.36 million in state aid to school districts for bilingual and English as a second language (ESL) programs; grants certain powers and duties to school districts and the board of education; makes certain changes relating to vocational education; clarifies education management information systems programs.



Rising gas prices for school transportation Ch. 609

## State University Board duties/rulemaking authority

Ch. 500 HF1884\*—Stoa SF1788—Schaaf

Makes changes to statutes governing the rulemaking procedures and tuition exemption authority of the State University Board; clarifies the board's authority to waive tuition for certain persons under the age of 21 who are under guardianship of the Department of Public Welfare; exempts the board's ruling on the definition of "resident and non-resident" from the procedures of the Administrative Procedures Act; allows the board to establish fees for placement services; requires the board to make at least one visit each year to each campus; eliminates a reporting requirement of state university presidents.

Effective: August 1, 1980

## 40-acre law grandfather provisions

Ch. 375 HF1994—Jude SF1609\*—Pillsbury

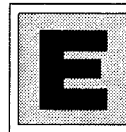
Allows certain students to qualify for enrollment in school districts in which they do not reside under the grandfather provisions applying to the repealed 40-acre law. The law allows students to continue to attend the school they attended on either January 1, 1978 or April 5, 1978.

Effective: August 1, 1980

## Equal Opportunity in Athletics Ch. 355







## Environment/ Natural Resources

(Includes Recreation, Parks,  
Historic Sites, Game & Fish)

### Acid rain — studies

Ch. 490 HF1655'—Lehto SF1685—Willet

Appropriates \$100,000 to state agencies and departments to study ways to identify, control and abate acid precipitation (rain or snow that contains pollutants from the air).

Effective: day following final enactment

### Badoura State Forest boundaries

Ch. 424 HF2172—Sherwood  
SF1979'—Willet

Alters the boundaries of Badoura State Forest in Hubbard County.

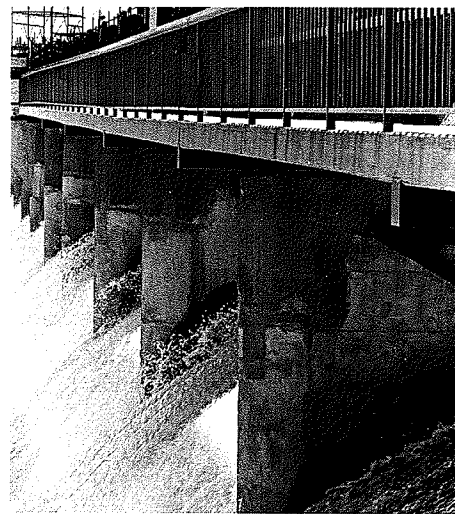
Effective: August 1, 1980

### Dams — hydroelectric generating capacity

Ch. 585 HF2253—Lehto SF2134'—Willet

Allows use of dam repair funds to provide for analysis of hydroelectric generating capacity of publicly owned dams.

Effective: day following final enactment



Coon Rapids Dam

### Dark houses — non-residents

Ch. 517 HF0319—Ludeman  
SF0797'—Nichols

Permits non-residents to purchase fish house licenses for \$15 per season. Non-resident fish houses must be collapsible, portable, and attended at all times.

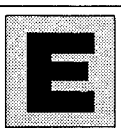
Effective: August 1, 1980

### DNR acquisition of wildlife lands

Ch. 515 HF0860—Rothenberg  
SF0768'—Luther

Requires county board or land exchange board approval before the Department of Natural Resources may acquire land for wildlife purposes. The law requires counties to have good cause for disapproval and provides an appeal procedure.

Effective: August 1, 1980



## Energy/Utilities

### Alternative energy projects industrial development bonds

Ch. 480 HF1996'—Casserty  
SF2130—Humphrey

Permits the sale of industrial development bonds for wind, solar, geothermal, and other alternative energy projects. "Alternative energy" is any energy source not dependent upon nuclear or non-renewable fossil fuels, or which makes available an energy source currently wasted.

Effective: August 1, 1980

### Cooperatives — voting by mail

Ch. 586 HF2273—Albrecht SF0251'—Davies

Permits election of cooperative directors through mail balloting. The law requires co-ops, conducting elections by mail, to send ballots to all members. The law allows a member's spouse to vote in place of the member.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Nuclear safety emergency procedures

Ch. 611 HF1842'—Kahn SF2023—Luther

Requires the director of emergency services and the commissioner of health, along with local governmental units, to develop emergency response plans for nuclear power plant accidents. Activating the emergency response plan rests with the governor, while nuclear plant owners will fund the plan, initially paying \$250,000 per plant, and \$50,000 annually thereafter.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Omnibus energy bill

Ch. 579 HF1710'—Nelson  
SF1631—Humphrey

Appropriates approximately \$20 million for energy assistance grants and programs. The bill includes \$9 million for weatherization grants, \$5 million for residential heating assistance, \$2.2 million for the Energy Agency, \$2 million for energy conservation grants, and the remainder for small energy projects. Under the law, households may receive heating assistance grants of \$115 to \$400, depending on income. The law also prohibits utilities from charging individual customers more than \$10 for home energy audits.

Effective: day following final enactment

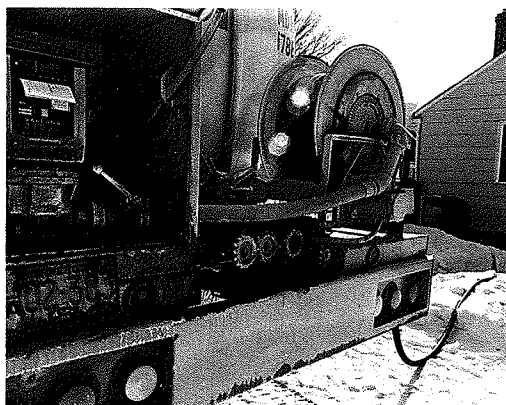
### Utilities — contracts with foreign nations

Ch. 405 HF1985'—Reding SF2032—Penny

Permits municipal electric power utilities to contract with foreign nations.

Effective: August 1, 1980

Energy p. 24





### DNR volunteers

Ch. 384 HF1511—Sherwood  
SF1273—Willet

Authorizes the Department of Natural Resources to use volunteers and releases the department from workers compensation and other liabilities, when using volunteers.

Effective: August 1, 1980

### Drainage systems

Ch. 552 HF1154—Corbid SF1144—Hanson

Alters statutes regulating public drainage systems, allows repairs under \$20,000 without bids, authorizes increased assessment against benefited property, provides for the abandonment of systems, and redefines ditch authority.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Environmental review procedures

Ch. 447 HF2211—Pehler SF1962—Dunn

Clarifies conditions requiring an environmental impact statement and its contents and provides alternative forms of review.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Handgun use for hunting

Ch. 576 HF0613—Battaglia  
SF0682—Chmielewski

Permits hunters to take small game with handguns in Minnesota and authorizes the DNR to prescribe regulations.

Effective: August 1, 1980

### Historical markers

Ch. 499 HF1841—Clawson  
SF1683—Kirchner

Appropriates \$7,500 for historical markers at the sites of first two state capitol buildings, the meeting places of the territorial government, and the meeting place of the state constitutional convention of 1857.

Effective: July 1, 1980 and expires July 1, 1981

### Mineral exploration

Ch. 535 HF1513—Munger SF1552—Luther

Provides for the licensing and regulation of exploratory mineral drilling in the state in order to protect ground water supplies.

Effective: January 1, 1981/May 1, 1980

### Minnesota Zoological Gardens violation of rules

Ch. 433 HF1822—Kempe SF1797—Sieloff

Makes violations of the Minnesota Zoological Garden's rules a petty misdemeanor, except when the penalty is removal from the zoo grounds. The act also regulates the use of the zoo's name and logo.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Motorboat noise restrictions

Ch. 530 HF0902—M. Sieben  
SF1067—Sikorski

Establishes noise limits for motorboats and appropriates \$30,000 to the Department of Natural Resources to purchase noise testing equipment.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Environmental legislation p. 17.



### PCA housekeeping bill

Ch. 397 HF0942—Stowell  
SF2354—J. Ulland

Authorizes state use of up to two percent of federal construction grant funds to administer the federal water pollution control act.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Raccoon hunting

Ch. 394 HF0593—Redalen  
SF0773—Gunderson

Clarifies regulations governing hunting of raccoons at night. The law requires hunters to travel on foot, use artificial light only when hunting with dogs, use rifles no larger than .22 caliber rim-fire and shotguns no larger than No. 4 fine shot.

Effective: August 1, 1980

### Sandstone: historic site/Warroad: Canadian National Depot

Ch. 434 HF2197—D. Carlson  
SF2168—Chmielewski

Designates Sandstone School in Pine County and the Canadian National Depot in Roseau County as state historical sites; requires government agencies to notify the Minnesota Historical Society when they acquire historical sites.

Effective: August 1, 1980

### Scuba and skin diving regulations

Ch. 363 HF1455—R. Anderson  
SF1215—Peterson

Prohibits scuba or skin diving from one hour after sunset until sunrise without a light visible on the surface from 150 feet and prohibits spear fishing during the same hours.

Effective: June 15, 1980

### **Solid and hazardous waste management**

Ch. 564 HF2023\*—Casserty  
SF1980—Merriam

Creates a state board to site hazardous waste facilities and adds duties to existing agencies for waste management. The law gives planning and technical assistance duties to the Pollution Control Agency, and gives demonstration grants and flow control to the Waste Management Board.

Effective: for taxes levied in 1980/July 1, 1982/ day following final enactment

### **Split Rock Lighthouse—Traverse des Sioux historic sites**

Ch. 546 HF2035\*—C. Johnson  
SF1986—Johnson

Transfers land at Split Rock Lighthouse and Traverse des Sioux historic sites from the DNR to the Minnesota Historical Society.

Effective: July 1, 1980

### **State land acquisition landowners' rights**

Ch. 458 HF1590—Eken SF1240\*—Willet

Denies the power of eminent domain to the Department of Natural Resources unless specified by legislation or the owner requests it; specifies landowners' rights which include market value plus incidental expenses and relocation costs.

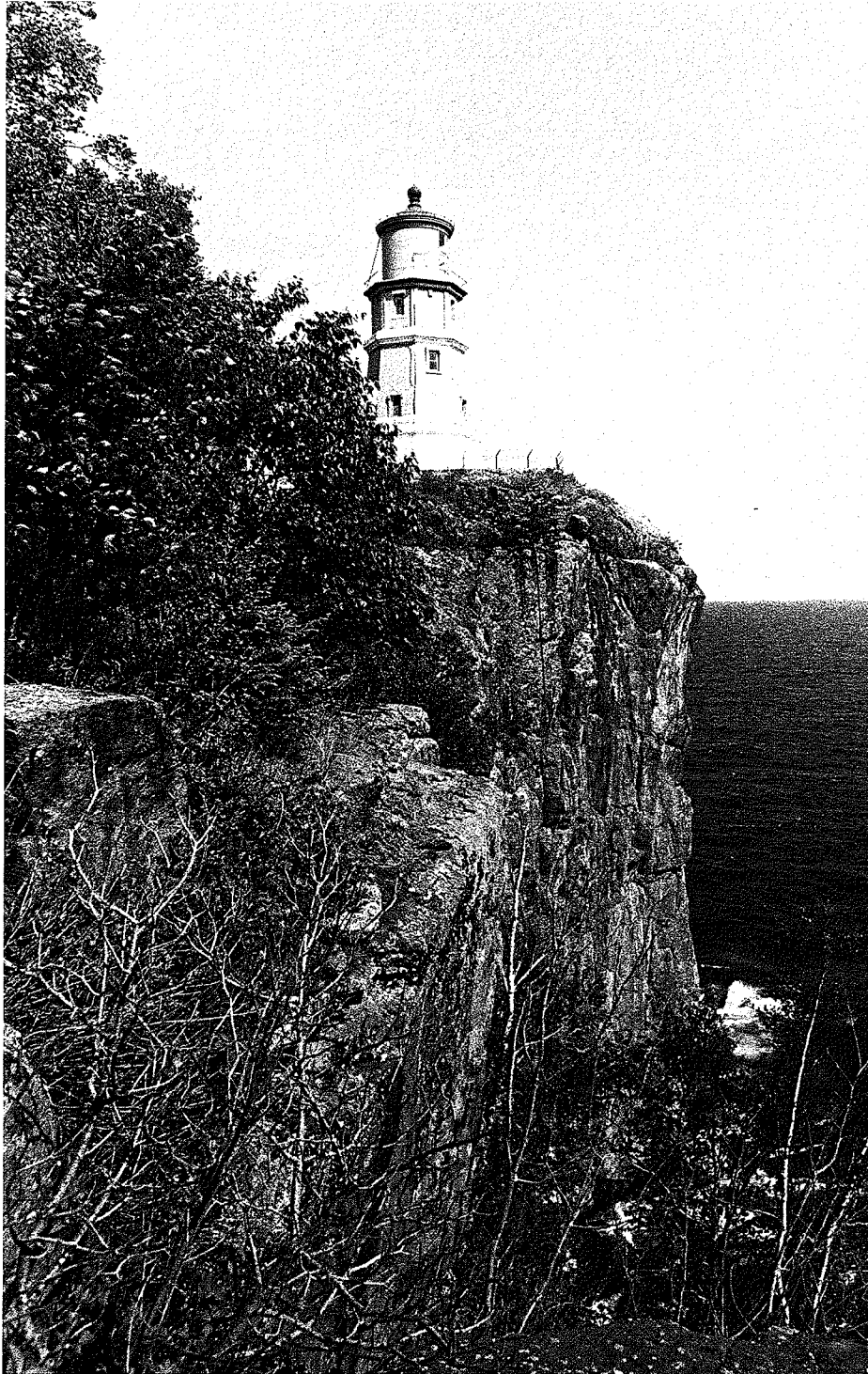
Effective: July 1, 1980/day following final enactment

### **State park boundaries**

Ch. 489 HF1451\*—Vanasek  
SF2291—Anderson

Alters the boundaries of the following state parks: Itasca, Lake Maria, Jay Cooke, Scenic, Camden, Ft. Snelling, Mille Lacs Kathio, St. Croix Wild River, Sibley and Whitewater; discontinuing Traverse des Sioux state park.

Effective: day following final enactment



### **Water Planning Board continuation/members**

Ch. 548 HF2353\*—C. Johnson  
SF2025—Willet

Extends the authority of the Water Planning Board for another two years and provides for the appointment of two citizens to the board.

Effective: July 1, 1980

### **Watercraft licensing fees**

Ch. 568 HF1201\*—D. Carlson  
SF2351—Dunn

Raises license fees for boats including motorboats, canoes, kayaks, sailboats, and rowing shells—both private and rental. The law also provides for disbursement of funds to counties for water safety enforcement programs.

Effective: January 1, 1981

### **Wildlife bill**

Ch. 571 HF1818\*—Reding  
SF1785—Peterson

A comprehensive wildlife law which permits the DNR to regulate and extend the moose hunting season; excludes bear from the definition of fur-bearing animals; provides for deer habitat improvement from license revenues; provides for the licensing of bear hunting guides; requires tagging of all bears taken in the state; grants landowners preference for moose and turkey licenses; removes restriction on beaver trapping; provides for free fishing licenses for disabled citizens; extends muskrat season; changes the times day hunting is permitted; regulates bear baiting; permits the sale of bear claws and hides; alters certain fishing seasons.

Effective: for license seasons beginning March 1, 1981/August 1, 1980



# H

## Health/Welfare

### Catastrophic Health Expense Protection Program (CHEPP)

Ch. 565 HF1995\*—Swanson  
SF1668—Staples

Clarifies which medical services clients receive outside of Minnesota, CHEPP will pay and excludes coverage the cost of a private duty nurse and treatment for mental or nervous disorders from CHEPP coverage.

Effective: August 1, 1980/day following final enactment

### Continuing care facilities registration/penalties

Ch. 516 HF0887—Pleasant SF0789\*—Bang

Requires registration of continuing care facilities and information on services and the business of the facility; requires placing entrance fees in escrow and provides criminal and civil penalties for facilities which do not file an annual report.

Effective: November 1, 1980

### General assistance statute changes

Ch. 536 HF1603\*—Greenfield  
SF1581—S. Keefe

Updates general assistance statutes, simplifies administration of the program, makes the program more equitable; establishes work incentive policy that disregards certain income.

Effective: January 1, 1980/July 1, 1980

### Grandparent responsibility for children — removed

Ch. 408 HF2135\*—Hokanson  
SF2146—Dieterich

Relieves grandparents and siblings from responsibility to contribute to relatives receiving Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC).

Effective: day following final enactment

### Health boards per diem payments

Ch. 368 HF0839—Jaros SF0920\*—J. Ulland

Allows per diem payment for health board members.

Effective: August 1, 1980

### Medical assistance/general assistance — eligibility

Ch. 527 HF0160\*—Berglin SF0723—Staples

Raises the amount of income which welfare agencies must disregard in determining eligibility for medical and general assistance. Disabled, noninstitutionalized individuals would retain the same earned income as individuals in the supplemental security programs and deduct actual work expenses from income determining eligibility.

Effective: July 1, 1980

### Mental health centers — approval

Ch. 506 HF2149\*—Brinkman  
SF2003—S. Keefe

Allows the commissioner of public welfare to approve or disapprove public and private mental health care centers and clinics for eligibility to receive insurance payments for health services they provide.

Effective: July 1, 1980

### Mentally retarded persons grants for community facilities

Ch. 367 HF1173—Nelhaus  
SF1296\*—Purfeerst

Authorizes operating capital grants for community residential facilities for mentally retarded people.

Effective: August 1, 1980

### Minnesota State Children's Center removal of authorization

Ch. 472 HF1653\*—Clawson  
SF2285—Anderson

Removes legislative authorization for the children's center in St. Paul, which has not been in use since 1963.

Effective: August 1, 1980

### Out-of-state doctors licensing requirements

Ch. 567 HF1435\*—Forsythe SF1547—Knaak

Allows out-of-state physicians to treat home-state patients while in Minnesota without obtaining a Minnesota license, if the doctor is participating with the patient in outdoor recreation and has registered with the Board of Medical Examiners.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Minnesota to have statewide poison information center.



### Poison Information Center

Ch. 577 HF0448—Onnen SF0480\*—Staples

Appropriates \$125,000 to the health department to establish a 24-hour, statewide poison information center; establishes an advisory council.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Public welfare recipients access to medical records

Ch. 349 HF1289—Heinitz SF1257\*—Olhoff

Requires state medical assistance applicants to authorize the commissioner of welfare to examine their medical records for the purpose of determining possible fraud. The law also authorizes the commissioner to take legal action to recover wrongfully paid monies.

Effective: August 1, 1980

### State hospitals — contraband

Ch. 390 HF1702—Dempsey  
SF1722\*—Renneke

Provides penalties for the introduction of contraband into state hospitals and allows the commissioner of welfare to set rules for the search of persons entering the facilities.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Tuberculosis (TB) law update

Ch. 357 HF1573—Reif SF0888\*—Kirchner

Updates tuberculosis laws and clarifies tuberculosis testing procedures; closes the Glen Lake State Sanatorium.

Effective: August 1, 1980

### Vulnerable adults reports of abuse

Ch. 542 HF1942\*—Hokanson  
SF1943—Spear

Requires persons who work with vulnerable adults to report physical, mental or emotional abuse and willful neglect to welfare authorities or the police. The law also requires facilities to maintain records of such incidents.

Effective: January 1, 1980

# Housing/ Real Estate

## Discrimination in housing

Ch. 531 HF1012—Clark

Prohibits housing discrimination against families with children, by placing the term "familial status" in the human rights statute relating to housing discrimination. The law provides exceptions where predominately people over 65 years old occupy a building or where an owner occupies the building with four or fewer units.

Effective: day following final enactment with certain exceptions

## Contracts for deed — interest

Ch. 373 HF0805—Evans SF0273—Peterson

Allows the interest rate on contracts for deed to increase to the same levels as interest rates on conventional home loans.

Effective: May 1, 1980

## Housing Finance Agency — loans and grants

Ch. 593 HF1991—Schreiber SF2099—Knoll

Raises the maximum Minnesota Housing Finance Agency rehabilitation grant to \$6,000; allows the agency to prohibit clients from transferring their low interest mortgages to people who don't qualify; provides energy conservation loans to landlords with low income tenants.

Effective: day following final enactment.

## Mobile home dealers — regulation

Ch. 590 HF0615—Patton SF0630—SchAAF

Regulates mobile home dealers and mobile home park owners to protect mobile homeowners.

Effective: day following final enactment/  
July 1, 1980

## Mobile homes sales from a residence

Ch. 441 HF1941—Den Ouden  
SF1813—Setzepfandt

Permits the sale of mobile homes from one's residence except where local ordinances prohibit such activities.

Effective: day following final enactment

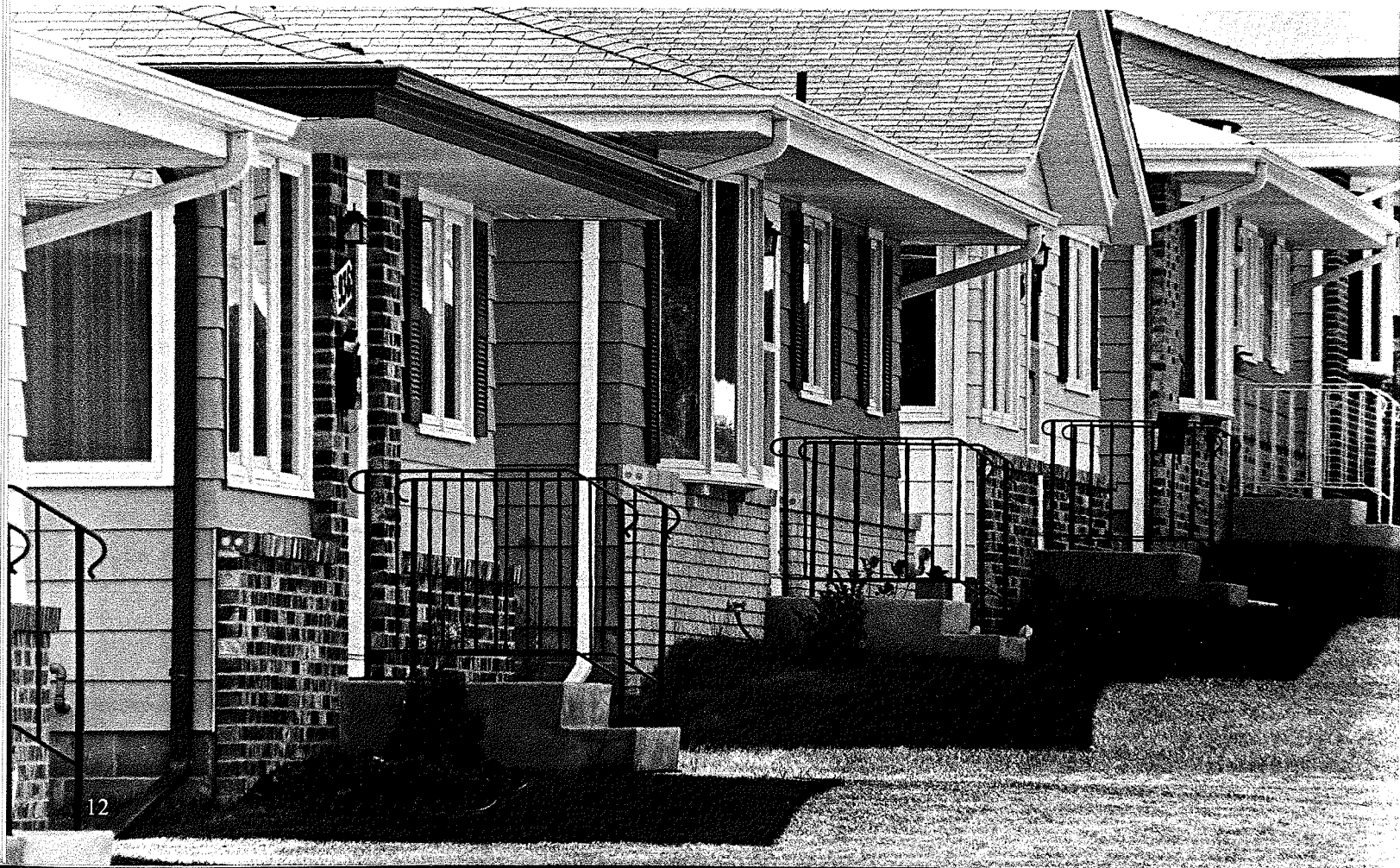
## Real estate brokers serving legal process

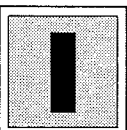
Ch. 420 HF2096—Murphy SF1815—Bang

Allows a plaintiff to serve legal process on a non-resident real estate broker by placing a copy of the process in the office of the commissioner of securities and notifying the plaintiff by certified mail.

Effective: day following final enactment

Housing p. 28





## nsurance

### Automobile insurance regulation of damage appraisals

Ch. 456 HF0535—Rose SF0744—Sikorski

Regulates automobile damage appraisals and prohibits certain appraiser's acts.

Effective: July 1, 1980

### Commissioner of insurance rulemaking power

Ch. 436 HF1810—Ellingson SF1749—Bang

Gives the commissioner of insurance authority to regulate mass marketed life or health insurance and gives the commissioner rulemaking power on the subject of unfair methods and unfair or deceptive acts and practices.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Group disability income policy pretermination claims

Ch. 377 HF1143—D. Johnson  
SF1188—Tennessee

Requires that an employer group disability income policy provide coverage for pretermination claims.

Effective: December 1, 1980/August 1, 1981

### Group insurance benefits coverage continuity

Ch. 459 HF1203—Brinkman  
SF1293—Strand

Provides for continuation of group health benefits when there is a change in the insurance company writing the coverage.

Effective: August 1, 1980

### Health care benefits reconstructive surgery

Ch. 496 HF1800—Minne SF1917—Staples

Requires insurance companies to provide health care benefits for reconstructive surgery but exempts fixed indemnity insurance policies from the law.

Effective: August 1, 1980

### Insurance department bill

Ch. 554 SF1358—Bang

Amends provisions regarding acquisition of domestic insurance companies to make it harder for one stockholder to take control of the company; changes the time period for hearings under the Insurance Holding Company Systems Act; eliminates an exemption under the Insurance Holding Company Systems Act.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Insurance policies — readability

Ch. 353 HF1687—M. Sleben  
SF0693—Sikorski

Exempts from the 1977 "insurance policy readability" law an insurance policy or contract which is a security subject to federal jurisdiction. The 1977 law improves the readability of policies by requiring a cover sheet listing the major provisions of the policy.

Effective: August 1, 1980

### Insuring or reinsuring risks insurance companies

Ch. 505 HF2122—Brinkman  
SF2295—Laufenburger

Increases the maximum limits on the insuring or reinsuring of a single risk of certain companies.

Effective: August 1, 1980

### Minnesota guaranty association act — technical amendments

Ch. 401 HF1623—Casserly  
SF1588—S. Keefe

Makes several technical changes in the Minnesota Health and Life Insurance Guaranty Act, a 1979 law providing a mechanism for the payment of the case of insurance company insolvency.

Effective: day following final enactment

### No fault insurance technical changes

Ch. 539 HF1878—Kelly SF1699—Davies

Makes several changes in Minnesota's no fault insurance law; coordinates benefits with workers compensation and medicare; extends eligibility for the assigned claims plan; eliminates certain mandatory offerings.

Effective: day following final enactment/  
August 1, 1980

### Premium benefits for the disabled

Ch. 376 HF1142—D. Johnson  
SF1187—Tennessee

Some life insurance policies contain a "waiver of premium benefits" clause, which means that, if the insured person is disabled and cannot make the premium payments, the insurer will make the payments throughout the duration of the disability. The law provides that, for group life insurance policies, the insurer will continue to meet this obligation for already disabled persons even if the master policy is terminated.

Effective: August 1, 1980

### Trailers — exclusions from no-fault law

Ch. 426 HF1207—Sviggum  
SF1976—Laufenburger

Excludes boat, snowmobile and utility trailers weighing less than 3,000 pounds from the definition of "motor vehicle" in the no-fault insurance law. The new law removes the responsibility of trailer owners to certify that they have insurance coverage on the trailer as well as the vehicle which pulls the trailer.

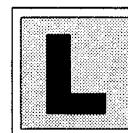
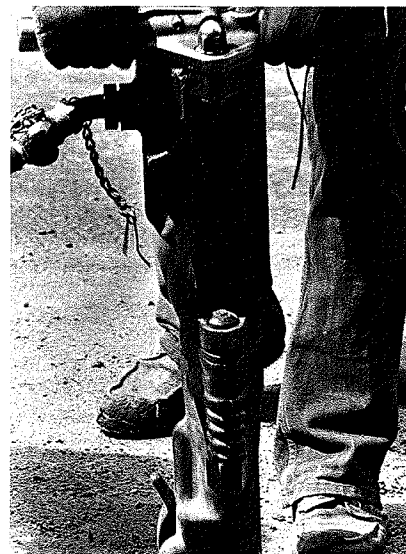
Effective: August 1, 1980

### Variable annuity contracts — cancellation

Ch. 354 HF0943—Wynia SF0998—Davies

Amends cancellation rights for purchasers of variable annuities funded by separate accounts.

Effective: 60 days after final enactment



## abor

### Employees — excused absences for political party conventions

Ch. 400 HF1601—Begich  
SF1579—Johnson

Allows political party officers, delegates, and alternates attending meetings and conventions to take unpaid leaves from their jobs.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Employees — make-up for time missed for public meetings

Ch. 406 HF2051—Begich  
SF2053—Johnson

Requires employers to "make every effort" to allow employees to make up work-time they lost while attending public meetings.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Retiring employees severance pay

Ch. 600 HF1453—D. Johnson  
SF1289—Setzepfandt

Authorizes the payment of severance pay to certain retiring state and local public employees.

Effective: June 1, 1980/day following final enactment/upon final approval

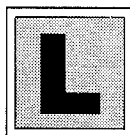
### Seamen exempt from labor standards

Ch. 415 HF1724—Heinitz  
SF1674—Laufenburger

Exempts seamen from protection under the Fair Labor Standards Act.

Effective: day following final enactment





## Legal/ Judiciary

### Adoption bill

Ch. 561 HF1727—Farley SF2348—Davies

Clarifies rights of natural parents offering a child for adoption; allows natural parents to obtain a copy of the child's birth certificate; allows parents 10 days to revoke consent for adoption; provides for preadoption residency of three months; authorizes a multi-purpose declaration of parentage; provides counsel for certain minor parents; provides procedures for termination of parental rights.

Effective: the day following final enactment/  
August 1, 1980

### Appeals from probate courts to district courts

Ch. 344 SF1361—Gearty

Repeals certain provisions of the law governing appeals from probate court to make the appeal procedure parallel to that of appeals from county to district court.

Effective: August 1, 1980

### Cohabitants — written contracts for property arrangements

Ch. 553 HF1438—Dempsey  
SF1295—Davies

Makes enforceable, written contracts between a man and a woman living together outside of marriage. The act relates to contracts concerning a couple's property and financial affairs. The contract is enforceable only if written and only after the relationship ends. The act also provides for the admission into evidence of certain certificates of analysis, such as those relating to blood alcohol content, etc.

Effective: June 1, 1980/August 1, 1980

### Conservatorships — guardianships

Ch. 348 HF1492—Kahn SF1248—Spear

Directs probate courts to consider the interest of prospective guardians or conservators in the welfare of the ward in making appointments.

Effective: August 1, 1980

### Corporation officers indemnification insurance

Ch. 352 HF0543—Drew SF0482—Sieloff

Allows corporations to reimburse officers for certain expenses, including attorney fees, they may incur while defending company business.

Effective: August 1, 1980

### County court elections district 8C

Ch. 495 HF1794—Aasness SF1686—Olhoff

Provides that no more than one county court judge may reside in any one county of court district 8C, unless there is already a resident judge in each county. The district consists of Big Stone, Grant, Pope, Stevens, Traverse, and Wilkins Counties. The act entitles Grant County to vote in the election of any county court judge in county court district 8C occurring before the regular elections for county judges in Nov. 1982.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Courts — electronic data processing services

Ch. 382 HF1892—Kahn  
SF2036—McCutcheon

Provides that courts may acquire electronic data processing services through Supreme Court contracts.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Creditors remedies exempt properties

Ch. 550 HF1199—Ellingson  
SF0971—Davies

Exempts from garnishment for bankruptcy remedy the first \$3,000 of a debtor's household goods, with the value based on "fair market value".

Effective: August 1, 1980

### Dog owners liability

Ch. 347 HF1450—Erickson  
SF1042—Menning

Removes the portion of the statutes stating that in actions for damages against dog owners, the attack or injury must have taken place in an urban area. Under this new law, all dog owners are responsible for their dogs.

Effective: August 1, 1980

### Free newspapers — qualifying as legal newspapers

Ch. 471 HF1286—Clawson  
SF2046—Sikorski

Allows free, non-subscription newspapers to qualify as legal newspapers for the publication of legal notices.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Guardians and conservators appointment conditions

Ch. 493 HF1779—Jude SF1799—Spear

Changes procedures and circumstances under which courts may appoint guardians and conservators and changes the powers and duties of guardians and conservators of minors; allows a real estate appraisal, within three months of the sale of property, to be valid for court purposes in guardianship cases.

Effective: August 1, 1981

### Issuance of an execution

Ch. 388 HF2277—M. Sieben  
SF1646—Davies

Provides that a district, county, or municipal court, where a judgment was originally docketed, may issue an execution against the personal property or money of the judgment debtor to the sheriff of any county.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Parentage act

Ch. 589 HF1522—Berglin SF0134—Davies

Provides pre-trial proceedings and hearings to determine paternity of children. Provides that a parent-child relationship does not depend on the parent's marital status; allows proof of parentage through the fact of giving birth, of adopting a child, or in the case of fatherhood by certain provisions stated in the law (presently, a father cannot establish paternity if he so desires); provides for the presumption of paternity under certain conditions and rebuttal of presumption; allows a child, the mother, or presumed father to bring forth a paternity action within specified time limits; requires that pre-trial hearings in paternity actions be closed; allows the court to require blood and genetic tests for all parties; defines admissible evidence to include sexual intercourse between mother and defendant at any possible time of conception, genetic and blood tests, and expert medical and anthropological tests; allows a person to enter a signed agreement to support a child, based on a supposed father-child relationship, and allows the agreement to be kept secret.

Effective: August 1, 1980

### State land registration assurance fund

Ch. 543 HF1956—Cassery  
SF2347—Knutson

Combines the tax forfeited land assurance account and the land registration assurance fund into a single state account; eliminates county assurance funds.

Effective: May 1, 1980

### State officers actions district court

Ch. 598 HF1095—Corbld SF1085—Hanson

Allows district courts to try any case against a state official, relating to land or water use, in the county where the land or water is located; provides for venue for child custody proceedings.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Supreme Court rules — hearings

Ch. 387 HF1997—Forsythe  
SF1645—Davies

Provides for distribution of proposed county or county municipal court rules to the bench and bar; allows the Supreme Court to grant a hearing to any person upon petition specifying suggestions concerning any existing or proposed rule.

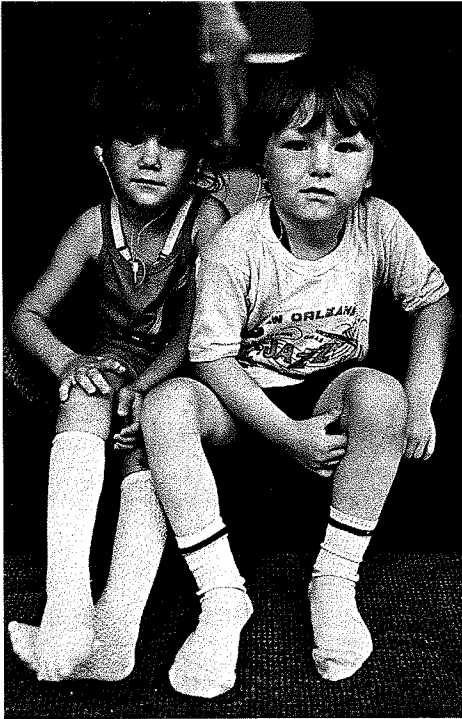
Effective: August 1, 1980

### Uniform Limited Partnership Act Uniform Condominium Act

Ch. 582 HF0789—Cassery  
SF0133—Davies

Enacts the 1976 Uniform Limited Partnership Act and the Uniform Condominium Act.

Effective: August 1, 1980



Ch. 574

## **P**eople

### **Handicapped**

#### **Hearing Impaired Service Act**

Ch. 574 HF0851—Heinitz SF1141—Staples

Appropriates \$302,000 to establish a state office on hearing impairment, regional service centers, a statewide interpreter referral service, and programs for training and employment. The law also requires state agencies to provide auxiliary aids necessary for a handicapped person to attend a public meeting, provided the handicapped person gives adequate notice.

Effective: the day following final enactment or August 1, 1980

#### **Retarded children — foster care**

Ch. 555 HF2346—Long SF1726—Davies

Allows a social service agency to continue, beyond 18 months, foster care of mentally retarded children so parents who can't care for a child are not forced to give up parental rights.

Effective: day following final enactment

### **Human rights**

#### **Human Rights Department — class action suits**

Ch. 540 HF1895—Wynia SF1991—Dieterich

Includes real estate agents and apartment managers in the class of people who may not retaliate against a person who opposes a practice the Human Rights Act forbids or who associates with such persons; extends protection against employment discrimination to persons who are members or who participate in a local commission; increases penalties for discrimination from a \$500 to \$1000 maximum; defines "class" for a class action suit.

Effective: day following final enactment

## **Minorities**

### **Business loans to Indians**

Ch. 391 HF1749—Ainley SF1796—Sieloff

Amends a 1978 law which creates a bonding program to provide business loans to Indians by providing loan security. The law also adds to the definition of "Indian" those who are enrolled members of a Minnesota-based tribe or band.

Effective: August 1, 1980

### **Indian burial grounds**

Ch. 457 HF0834—Clark SF0975—J. Ulland

Appropriates \$15,000 to the Indian Affairs Intertribal Board for carrying out duties relating to Indian burial grounds; requires the state to attempt to purchase and protect, rather than remove, any Indian burial grounds from development; requires state agencies and departments to consult the Indian Affairs Intertribal Board and the state archeologist before carrying out development plans.

Effective: July 1, 1980

### **Intertribal board member terms**

Ch. 374 HF1040—Ainley SF0759—Chmielewski

Sets the term of at-large members of the Indian Intertribal Board at four years.

Effective: August 1, 1980

## **Seniors**

The 1980 Legislature appropriated \$350,000 to pay the difference between the dime fare seniors now pay to ride the bus and the free rides for which most low income seniors are eligible. And seniors like the idea. They're applying for the new bus passes at the rate of 900 per day, says Bob LaShomb, director of community relations for the Metropolitan Transit Commission.

As of mid-June, MTC had received 6,500 applications, and LaShomb said they expect to take in 10,000 by July 1.

For more information, or applications, call the MTC at 221-0939.

### **Nursing home patients' allowance**

Ch. 563 HF0729—Greenfield SF0750—Vega

Increases nursing home residents allowance for personal needs from \$30 to \$35 per month. The amount is the minimum which nursing homes must give to the resident from the resident's pension, insurance or welfare check.

Effective: January 1, 1981/July 1, 1980

### **Nursing home rate study**

Ch. 570 HF1847—Clawson SF1883—Sikorski

Requires the commissioner of welfare to study the rate or state reimbursement to nursing homes for medical assistance recipients; provides for an information retrieval system and nursing home dental programs; requires result-oriented treatment programs and counsel guardians for persons committed to hospitals; requires the commissioner to collect and prepare statistical data.

Effective: day following final enactment

### **Pre-admission screening nursing care**

Ch. 575 HF0785—Berglin SF0702—Staples

Appropriates \$48,000 for a one-year experimental program to screen medical assistance patients to determine whether or not they need nursing home placement. The commissioner of public welfare will determine the scope of the program.

Effective: day following final enactment

### **Retired Seniors Volunteer Program**

Ch. 455 HF1131—Berglin SF0654—Staples

Appropriates \$200,000 for the expansion of the Retired Seniors Volunteer Program (RSVP), a program in which retired people volunteer time and skills to non-profit community organizations.

Effective: July 1, 1980

## **Veterans**

### **Disabled Vietnam veterans' outreach program**

Ch. 350 HF1858—Osthoff SF1848—Chmielewski

Creates a Vietnam era disabled veterans' outreach program to help veterans find state jobs. The law contains no appropriation.

Effective: day following final enactment; retroactive to March 1, 1980

### **Veterans affairs department bill**

Ch. 414 HF2441—I. Anderson SF1633—A. Ueland

Authorizes the commissioner of veterans affairs to accept and contract for voluntary services; makes volunteers eligible for workers compensation in case of injury; allows a probate court to appoint the commissioner as guardian of the estate of a veteran; revises eligibility requirements for veterans' homes.

Effective: day following final enactment

## **Women**

### **Battered women shelters**

Ch. 544 HF1981—McCarron SF2027—Nelson

Requires the state to make AFDC and general assistance payments for services in battered women's shelters directly to the shelter. The law also exempts marriage or cohabitation as a defense in sexual assault cases.

Effective: day following final enactment

# R

## airroads

### Rail bank bill

Ch. 558 HF1898—Lehto SF1843—Stern

Establishes a state rail bank, a collection of abandoned rights-of-ways the transportation commissioner deems important to the future needs of the state; provides for the purchase, lease, and use of certain rail bridges in counties.

Effective: day following enactment

### Railroad assistance bonds

Ch. 610 HF1813—B. Anderson  
SF1669—Penny

Appropriates \$13.5 million from the state building fund for rail service improvement; provides for \$13.5 million in bonding.

Effective: July 1, 1980

# T

## axes

### Assessors — mandatory meetings eliminated — compensation

Ch. 423 HF1660—B. Nelsen  
SF1963—Wegener

Eliminates the state mandated meeting between township, village and county tax assessors and the Department of Revenue's board of review; fixes compensation for county canvassing boards and county and township election judges.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Cooperatives and charitable corporations — tax clarification

Ch. 562 HF1838—Berglin  
SF2047—Dieterlich

Clarifies the treatment of cooperatives and charitable corporations for property tax purposes; provides for assessment of neighborhood real estate trusts; allows lending institutions and original sellers to qualify as tenant-stockholders of cooperative apartment corporations.

Effective: for taxes levied in 1980/for tax years after December 31, 1979

### Gas tax increase Ch. 608

### Department of Revenue property tax changes

Ch. 437 HF1975—Kvam SF1764—Frederick

Amends property tax statutes: providing for uncontested hearings for property valuation; requiring assessors to notify the property owner if there is a change in classification of property; clarifying the present computation of the agricultural credit and the acreage available for homestead credit; increasing the interest rate from six to eight percent for the penalty in delinquent taxes; providing a new method for determining penalties on homestead property taxes.

Effective: day following final enactment/July 1, 1980/for taxes levied in 1980 and thereafter

### Estate tax technical adjustments

Ch. 439 HF1848—Halberg  
SF1789—Merriam

Makes technical changes to the 1979 estate tax law which repeals inheritance and gift taxes, replacing them with a tax on the estate rather than on the beneficiaries.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Gas tax increase

Ch. 608 HF0008—Fjosllen SF0004—Nichols

Increases state gasoline tax from nine to 11 cents per gallon and directs the additional revenues to the state highway fund. HF8 originally dealt with taxes on gasohol, but amendments placed the gasohol provisions on the omnibus tax bill.

Effective: May 1, 1980

### Income tax — department bill

Ch. 419 HF1722—Onnen  
SF1807—Frederick

Repeals sections and provisions of the Income Tax Act which are obsolete, unnecessary, or unconstitutional.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Individual housing accounts

Ch. 512 HF0858—Novak SF0049—Benedict

Gives a tax break to persons saving money for the purchase of their first home. The law allows an individual to deposit \$2,500 per year in a savings account and get the interest free of tax, up to a maximum of \$10,000, and allows an annual tax deduction on \$1,500 on those savings.

Effective: after December 31, 1980

### Omnibus tax bill

Ch. 607 HF1121—H. Sieben  
SF0883—E. Stokowski

Makes several changes in Minnesota tax laws; adopts for Minnesota tax purposes, certain 1978 changes to federal adjusted income; changes income tax laws, including pensions, political contribution credit,

dependent and child care credit, low income credit, minimum tax; provides property tax relief for various classes of property; changes general levy limitations; increases maximum homestead credit; changes the property tax refund; requires state reimbursement to taxing districts for difference between the preferential Title II and class 3cc classification ratios, and the tax on property using residential and agricultural classification ratios; changes sales tax laws relating to nonprofit arts events, aircraft and parts, transportation of products in interstate commerce, veterans' organizations' property; clarifies tax increment financing law; changes taconite taxes; changes interest rate on industrial and municipal bonds; eliminates \$100 minimum corporate tax and \$500 corporate tax credit; increases metropolitan transit property tax levy; recodifies laws relating to the State Board of investment; requires phase out of local police or salaried firefighters relief associations unless a municipality elects not to transfer to PERA; makes changes in the Minneapolis Municipal Employees Retirement Fund; contains provisions relating to statewide ballot questions (initiative and referendum); provides a county option statewide gravel tax; other provisions. (The governor vetoed portions of this bill. For information on those items see p. 35.)

### Property tax — settlement dates

Ch. 418 HF2063—Tomlinson  
SF1719—Merriam

Changes settlement dates for property taxes.

Effective: day following final enactment

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Ch. 418 HF2063—Tomlinson  
SF1719—Merriam

Changes settlement dates for property taxes.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Tax court — housekeeping bill

Ch. 443 HF2404—Jacobs SF1853—Davies

Cleans up tax court statutes by removing limitations on the admissibility of sales ratio studies; providing for the availability of certain documents to a petitioner and for their admissibility as evidence; providing that tax court judgments will not include penalties.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Taxing jurisdictions — levy apportionment/railroad authorities

Ch. 616 HF0471—Jude SF0507—Pillsbury

Provides for the apportionment of a taxing district lying in two or more counties when the average level of assessment in the counties differs by more than five percent (now 10); provides for regional railroad authorities.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Wetland credit — property tax purposes

Ch. 432 HF2003—Eken SF1675—Peterson

Clarifies the wetland credit for property taxes; provides an exemption for native prairie; provides for reimbursement to counties for funds lost through state tax credits.

Effective: for taxes levied in 1980 and after





# solid and hazardous waste

**"Minnesotans, like citizens across the nation, have been playing ostrich with the hazardous waste issue."**

ST. PAUL PIONEER PRESS, MARCH 11, 1980

Environmental articles by David Russell



PCA Photo

HF2023/SF1980-Chapter 564

Where do you put garbage? Where do you put a ton of garbage? Where do you put three million tons of garbage? Where do you put three million tons of garbage each year? Where do you put three million tons of garbage each year, some of which is highly poisonous?

Every year Minnesota produces nearly one ton of solid waste for each resident of the state. Solid waste includes garbage, refuse, and sludge from sewage treatment plants. Much of the waste comes from the Twin Cities, but by the mid-80's, all sanitary land fills in the metro area will be full.

Every year Minnesota produces 157,000 tons of hazardous wastes. These include chemicals harmful to humans, plants, and animals. Hazardous wastes may be explosives, oxidizers, poisons, insecticides, pesticides, fertilizers, oil products, etc.

Hazardous wastes get a lot of attention because of the frightening damage they can cause. Improper burial of wastes in

the past led to the environmental disaster at Love Canal, New York. There, chemicals buried years ago have bubbled to the surface, causing sickness, miscarriage, and chromosome damage to area residents.

Minnesota has no facilities to deal with hazardous wastes. Currently, we ship 30 percent of our hazardous waste to disposal sites outside Minnesota. We recycle some wastes but over half end up disposed improperly down sewers, into lakes, or buried in unstable containers. Some of these wastes are finding their way into the groundwater and soil.

There are three methods for proper disposal of hazardous wastes: 1) recycling; re-refining and reuse of waste oil, use of wastes from one industry as raw materials for another; 2) changing wastes to a less toxic form—neutralizing acids by adding bases—burning some chemicals and combining others with less toxic materials; 3) burying hazardous wastes in safe disposal sites.

In the 1980 session, the Legislature established the Waste Management Board (WMB). The nine-member board consists of a fulltime chairman and eight appointed citizens, one from each congressional district. Their duties include preparing a management plan for Minnesota's hazardous waste. The plan must enable Minnesota to develop the technology and facilities to handle the needs of the state for the next 20 years. The Legislature set up a time schedule for the development of the waste plan. By 1983 the WMB must select sites for hazardous waste facilities. Selections will include a waste disposal site, a chemical processing facility, an incinerator, and a transfer and storage area.

The most difficult obstacle to a state waste plan has been location. No town wants a waste dump nearby. Under the new law, the WMB will encourage local input, but the final choice will rest with the state.

The same site selection problem exists for solid waste management. The new law permits out-state counties to establish waste control districts and gives guidelines for establishing facilities.

The problem in the metro area is more severe. As for hazardous waste, the new law provides a time schedule for the Metropolitan Council to establish sanitary land fills. By 1983, the council must assess its long range needs and acquire sites in the metropolitan area, which needs sites for sludge and other solid refuse.

The new law establishes a \$9 million grant program for solid waste and resource recovery projects and appropriates funds for the acquisition of land for waste sites and general operating expenses. The total amounts to almost \$3 million in state funds and \$15 million from bond sales.

The Legislature's hope is that Minnesota will have a program for the safe disposal of hazardous wastes, and room enough for solid waste, by 1987 when the powers of the WMB will end.

# mineral exploration

**"In my opinion the Legislature must adopt a meaningful statewide policy relative to our state's untapped resources."**

Rep. Willard Munger (DFL-Duluth)

## HF1513/SF1552-Chapter 535

Uranium has prospectors scrambling for leases in east-central Minnesota and concerned citizens voicing fears of radioactive poisoning. This can mean heated arguments, sometimes with no resulting solutions. But this session the two sides hammered out a compromise law in HF1513 (Munger, DFL-Duluth). It all began some years ago when mining companies began leasing land in Carlton, Pine, and Aitkin Counties. By last year they had leased over 100,000 acres for exploratory drilling of uranium. All this activity alarmed local citizens who worried about health hazards and Minnesota had no laws covering exploratory drilling. The law the Legislature passed fills that void. It establishes regulations for the prospecting of oil, natural gas, and metals, including uranium.

The Legislature recognized that exploring for minerals is environmentally risky, especially if the mineral is uranium. Radioactive material can contaminate groundwater or the air. To minimize this danger the Legislature set up procedures for licensing and registering drillers. The law also spells out guidelines for the drilling and abandonment of test holes and requires the explorer to file reports with the state at each step of the testing process.

Bulk sampling, which follows test drilling, determines the quality and quantity of a mineral deposit. Sampling requires the developer to get a permit from the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The permit application must include the results of the test borings. Problems in passing the

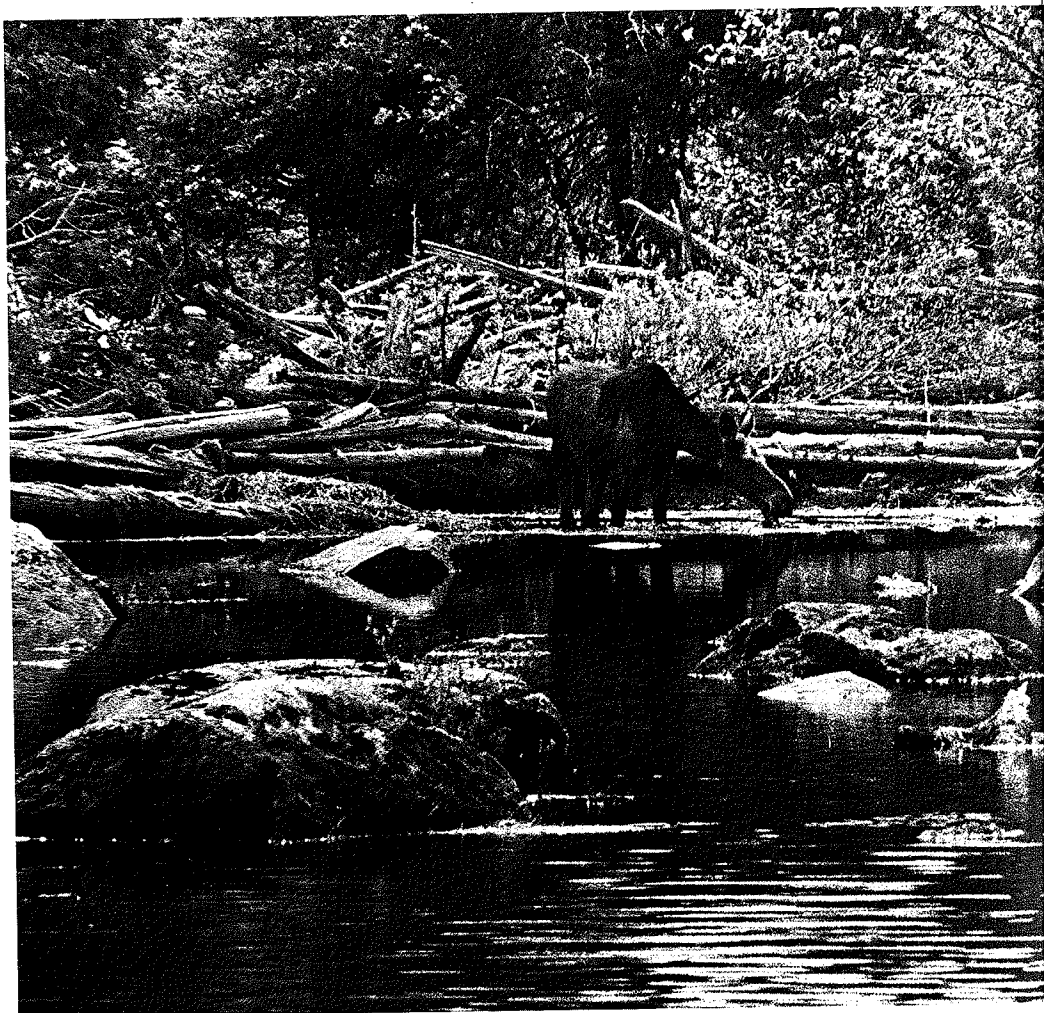
bill started here.

Environmentalists asked for full public disclosure of the test data, but mining companies claimed that would aid competitors. The compromise permits companies to identify data they feel would help competitors if it became public information. Upon DNR approval, this data may be available only to the involved parties at public

hearings on the permit application. Confidential information can never go to other mining companies.

The law also has some measures protecting local citizens, such as inspection of all test holes by state and local officials and tests for contamination around the test site. In addition, exploratory drillers must notify officials if a problem develops which is potentially harmful to the public or the environment.

While clearing the way for exploratory drilling, the law allows some limitations. Counties and townships may still prohibit test drilling within their jurisdiction. Also the state will not lease land for uranium exploration until after a review of Minnesota's regulations on uranium mining and milling.



# acid rain

**"The Legislature recognizes that acid precipitation . . . poses a present and severe danger . . . failure to act promptly and decisively . . . will soon result in untold and irreparable damage to the forest, agriculture, fish, and wildlife of the state."**

FROM HF1655 (Lehto, DFL-Duluth)

## HF1655/SF1685-Chapter 490

Sometimes environmental issues are less obvious than a drill hole or waste dump—acid precipitation for example. Today, rain and snow falling in Minnesota is 100 times more acidic than normal. Undetectable, except by scientific tests, acid precipitation is quietly taking its toll. We are not alone. Worldwide, pollution in the air is making rain and snow highly acidic.

Wind currents can carry pollution thousands of miles, so no area is safe. Few of the pollutants raining on Minnesota start here. Most come from the East Coast or Great Lakes regions outside the state. Meanwhile, construction of coal power plants out West and an ore smelting plant in Ontario spell future problems for Minnesota.

Acid causing pollutants are not all man-made. The recent volcanic eruption of Mount St. Helens, in the state of Washington, is an example of nature's contribution. Ash and soot spewed into the air, creating the possibility of acid rain. Wind currents carried the effects of this single event over the Northern United States and Northern Minnesota within four days of the eruption. When acid causing pollutants mix with rain, snow, sleet, and dust particles, the effect of the

fallout can be serious, especially for Minnesota. The rock under much of the state cannot neutralize acids, so they build up in the groundwater and soil. In lakes and wetlands acids kill fish and other water life. Acidic water and soil damages trees and crops. Minnesota has a lot to lose with its thousands of fish-filled lakes, acres of forests, and productive farms.

The federal government, and other nations, have begun research projects on acid rain. Minnesota's joining the effort. The 1980 Legislature approved \$100,000 for the study of acid precipitation in HF1655(Lehto, DFL-Duluth). The money will go to three state agencies: the Pollution Control Agency, the Department of Natural Resources, and the Department of Health. Results of the study should help give legislators an idea of what we'll have to do to control or eliminate acid precipitation.



Minnesota has a lot to lose with its thousands of fish-filled lakes, acres of forests, and productive farms.

## FIXIT

from the Minneapolis Tribune, May 31, 1980

**Q.** What is acid rain? Is it likely to affect the fish in lakes in the northeastern Arrowhead region of Minnesota? We have a cabin there, and I am concerned. Is our state government doing anything about this problem?

**A.** When fossil fuels like coal and oil are burned, sulfur and nitrogen oxides are emitted to the atmosphere. Through a series of chemical reactions, these pollutants can be converted to acids, which return to earth in rain and snow. This acid precipitation, more commonly called acid rain, has had disastrous effects on lakes in Europe and the northeastern United States. Certain lakes are very sensitive to acid-loading and will acidify quite rapidly. When the acidity reaches certain levels, fish species will no longer reproduce, and there are many other complex changes that result in lakes which tend to lower biological productivity.

We are unaware of any major impacts of acid precipitation on lakes in Minnesota at the present time. There is evidence, however, that acid deposition may be increasing in Minnesota, and that present loading rates to lakes are at about

the threshold level where damage can be expected in sensitive lakes. Our sensitive lakes are located primarily in northeastern Minnesota. They are mainly lakes with low mineral content, rocky basins and small infertile watersheds. A State Task Force on Acid Rain was formed last fall to begin investigation of this phenomenon in Minnesota. There was also a bill passed by the last legislative session which appropriated money to the Pollution Control Agency, Department of Health, and Natural Resources Department to begin programs of investigation to identify problems and make recommendations for corrections.

To summarize, we are unaware of major damage to Minnesota waters from acid rain, but it appears there is great potential for harm, primarily to waters in northeastern Minnesota. We feel there is abundant evidence of what can happen because of acid rain, and there should be stronger national laws adopted for the control of air pollutants like sulfur and nitrogen oxides.

**John Skrypek, research biologist, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources**

# PENSIONS

Three out of every 20 non-agricultural employees in Minnesota work for the state or a local government, and most are members of a pension fund. The funds control assets of about \$2.9 billion dollars which they invest in private and governmental securities in Minnesota and around the world. Because of the size of their assets and the number of members they involve, public employees pension funds have wide-reaching economic and social effects on the state. So, laws that regulate the funds affect more than public employees . . .

In 1978, state payments to the funds, as employer contributions to future benefits, made up 3.5 percent, or \$133 million, of the total state appropriation. Local units of government contributed an additional \$90 million to local pension funds. In the same year, the funds paid out \$134 million in retirement benefits to their members.

In 1980, of the 58 pension bills legislators introduced, 3 became law, separately, and 26 became amendments to other bills. Most of those bills became Articles XIV, XV, and XVI of the omnibus tax bill.

## Pension fund deficits

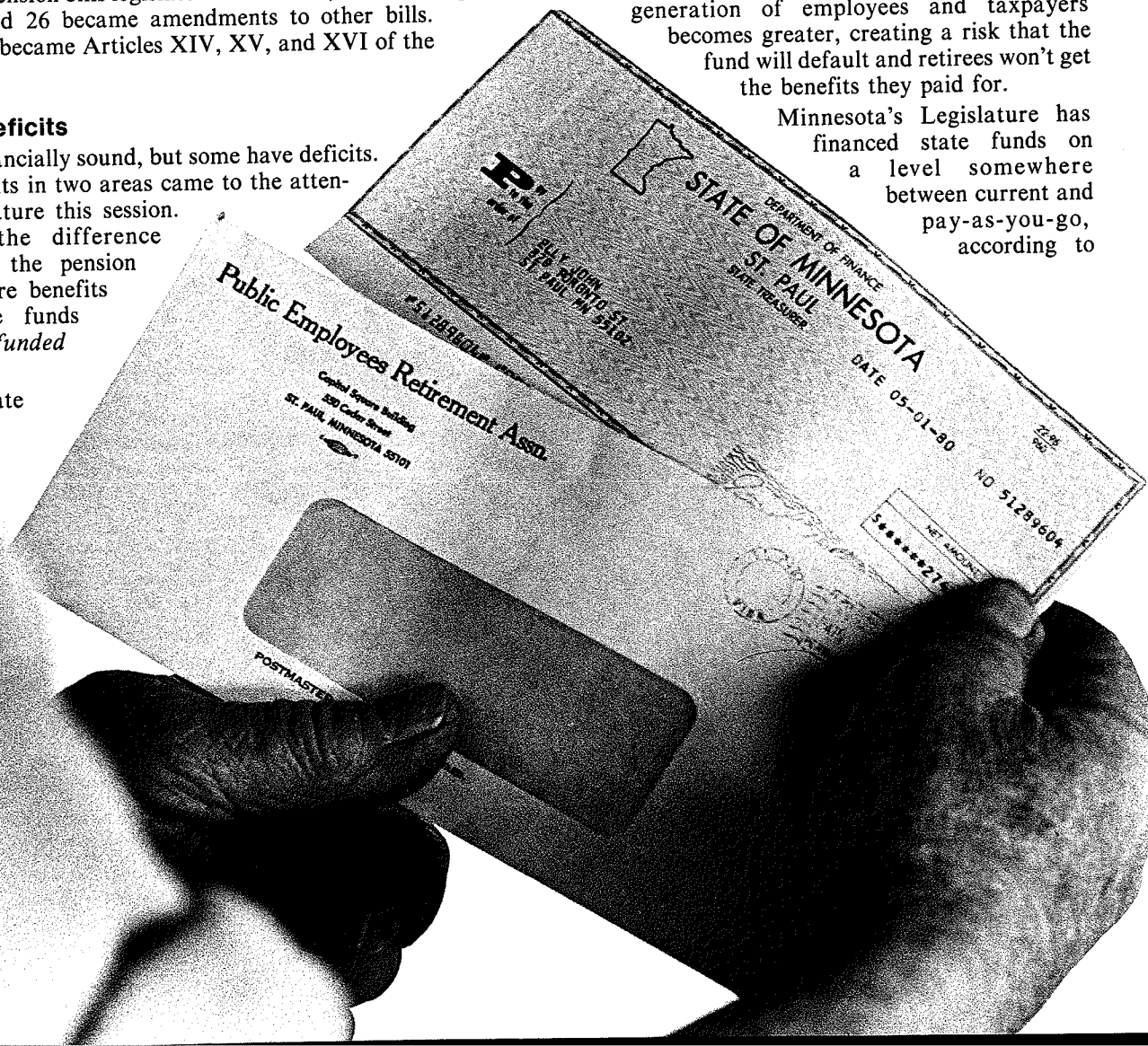
Most funds are financially sound, but some have deficits. Pension fund deficits in two areas came to the attention of the Legislature this session. The deficit is the difference between amounts the pension funds owe in future benefits and amounts the funds have in assets (*unfunded liability*).

According to state pension policy, the

employee and government employer should set aside funds for an employee's retirement benefits after each year the employee earns the benefit (*current funding*). This means the generation of taxpayers receiving public employee services pays its share to future employee retirement benefits.

If employers finance pensions only on a level equal to what they pay out in benefits (*pay as you go*), the cost to each succeeding generation of employees and taxpayers becomes greater, creating a risk that the fund will default and retirees won't get the benefits they paid for.

Minnesota's Legislature has financed state funds on a level somewhere between current and pay-as-you-go, according to





Lawrence Martin, executive secretary of the Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement. In 1980, the Legislature introduced a number of bills to eliminate deficits in the numerous local police and firefighter funds and in the four funds (three local; one statewide) which cover Minnesota's public school teachers. Two bills relating to the police and firefighters passed. Two others relating to teachers' funds failed.

Article XIV of the tax bill phases out local police and firefighter associations (unless the city council resolves to keep the local association). The law aims at keeping associations—some with funding as low as seven percent of required reserves—from increasing their deficits and risking the funds. Cities that phase out local relief associations become eligible for state subsidy money to eliminate (amortize) the deficit.

Another bill, HF1192 (Patton, DFL-Sartell), increases the contributions members of the police and firefighters must make to their funds. Part of this increased contribution may go to amortize the deficit. (amortize: "to put money aside at intervals, as in a sinking fund, for gradual payment of (a debt, etc.) either at or before maturity")—*Webster's New World Dictionary*.

The four teachers retirement funds have a combined deficit of \$1.3 billion in their required reserves. The deficit occurred over the years, according to a 1980 memo Lawrence Martin prepared for the pension commission, because the state has "generally failed to make any, or any substantial, employer contributions to the retirement funds, relying instead on member contributions to provide the bulk of public pension fund support."

Currently, the state contributes about \$87 million a year to the teachers' funds, an amount which permits the deficit to increase each year.

In Martin's view, if nothing changes in the future, state contributions will stay roughly the same, but the deficit will increase until, eventually, it could cause a default in the funds.

### Investment of Pension Funds

The State Board of Investment invests assets of the pension funds that are not currently needed to pay benefits. Earnings from the investments provide about one-third of the total monies that pay for pension benefits employees earn each year. Earnings from these investments can also contribute to benefit increases which help overcome effects of inflation on retired people.

The performance (*rate of earnings*) of investments was the focus of pension law debate in the Legislature this session.

Whether earnings on investments are high or low, depends largely on investment management skills and laws regulating the investments managers can make.

John Chenoweth, director of a Minneapolis city employees' fund, and a former state senator, criticized the State Investment Board's management of investments. State law requires that management of a portion of the Minneapolis fund's assets transfer to the State Investment Board. Chenoweth says the earnings on the assets he retains are greater than on the assets that transfer to the state.

Teresa Myers, of the State Investment Board, defends the board's investment performance. She says various formulas exist for determining earnings, and it's not possible to compare performances, using different formulas. Myers attributes Chenoweth's claims to the use of different formulas.

Myers expects state investment performance to improve because of the changes in laws regulating pension fund investments (Article XIV of the tax bill).

"We need these changes," Myers said, "because the law prevented access to several financial markets and was restrictive where it allowed investment."

The new law allows the state board to invest in types of securities which the previous law prevented (see box describing new investments). The law also requires the investment board to study the effects of concentrating its investments in Minnesota companies. Present board policy is to invest in the most profitable securities without regard to where they are. Myers said the board's primary responsibility is to provide the greatest possible return on assets.

"It's the employees' money," she said. "They depend on certain benefits for their retirement."

The study will determine whether or not the board can redirect investments to Minnesota companies without losing earnings.

### Effects on Pension Fund Members

The State Investment Board expects that the authority to invest in additional types of securities will mean increased earnings and additional benefits to retirees. According to a summary of its new investment powers, the board sees an estimated "2.5 percent monthly benefit increase" and "similar increases in future years."

The fund that holds and invests the assets of retired members (Minnesota Post Retirement Investment Fund) now has a new formula for disbursing investment earnings. Article XIV of the tax bill provides that 75 percent of excess earnings will go toward increased benefits for retirees.

### Pension Investment System

The two types of pension funds are: *accumulation* and *retirement benefit funds*. *Accumulation funds* collect contributions from active members and their employers. At the time of retirement, an employee's total lifetime benefits transfer to a *retirement benefit fund*. The retirement benefit fund pays out the retiree's monthly pension check. The state invests assets from all funds, *accumulation and retirement benefit*, which are not currently needed to pay benefits. The invested money goes into a mix of equity (stocks) and debt (bonds) to strike a balance between quick earnings and low-risk investments. Equity investments generally bring a higher return but are riskier.

**Basic Retirement Funds:** (*accumulation funds*) These funds include retirement associations covering state and local employees; correctional employees; police and firefighters; teachers; highway patrolmen; and judges.

**Minnesota Supplemental Retirement Investment Fund:** (*accumulation fund*) an optional fund available to some employees; contains three accounts with various mixtures of debt and equity investments.

**Variable Annuity Fund:** Optional. For teachers only (*accumulation and retirement benefit fund*) all invested money is in stocks. This fund is phasing out.

**Minnesota Post Retirement Fund:** (*retirement benefit fund*) holds a retiree's benefits until the retired person has received all the benefits due him/her.

**Combined Investment Fund:** newly created, but not implemented; would make combined investments for all basic funds.

## Pensions (cont.)

Public employees who previously had to work three years to be eligible for retirement benefits (to become vested) now need to work only one year, before becoming eligible, according to HF915 (Patton, DFL-Sartell).

New employees of local police and fire departments must become members of the statewide Public Employees Retirement Association—Police and Fire (PERA-P&F)—unless the city council resolves to retain the local association, according to Article XIV of the tax bill.

Local and statewide funds differ in benefits and the time it takes to become vested (become eligible for benefits). One advantage to membership in the statewide fund, according to the bill's authors is that an employee of one city may take a job in another city without losing benefits from the first city of employment.

The law now increases benefits active members will earn, but HF1192 (Patton) increases employee contributions from six to eight percent of salary.

State correctional employees, after age 55, must pass a physical and mental examination to continue employment (HF1453 Johnson, D-IR, Willmar). HF915 (Patton) amends correctional retirement plans by defining a disability for which an employee may get 50 to 75 percent of salary, depending on years of service.

Part-time drivers for the Metropolitan Transit Commission (MTC) will earn retirement benefits proportionate to the number of hours they work (HF915).

## Effects of pension laws on the state

Minnesotans in the housing market may find more mortgage money available with the State Investments Board's ability to invest in conventional mortgage pools (HF1121-Sieben, H-DFL, Hastings).

Minnesota businesses may potentially benefit from investments in corporate securities, although there is no present requirement to invest in Minnesota companies. But it's unlikely that the board will invest in venture capital to start new businesses, according to Myers.

Article XIV of HF1121 will reduce the obligation of taxpayers to amortize (eliminate) the deficit in the Post Retirement Fund by directing 25 percent of the fund's excess earnings toward the deficit. Where the law requires elimination of the deficits in local police and firefighter funds, it will, in effect, shift the cost from local property taxes to state income and sales taxes. The short-term burden on state funds will increase, but, over the long term, taxpayers should benefit, because amortization costs will be less now than later on.

## New Investment Options for the State Board of Investment in the 1980 Omnibus Tax Bill

The omnibus tax bill (HF1121, H. Sieben, DFL-Hastings) contained each change the State Board of Investment requested. The law now allows the board to invest in:

**Bankers Acceptance:** a debt obligation in which a bank agrees to pay a certain amount of money by a certain date;

**Certificates of deposit:** a time deposit with a specific maturity. These certificates resemble savings certificates available to individuals at their banks. The board has had the authority to invest in these certificates; the new law removes a limit of \$100,000 per institution;

**Commercial paper:** an unsecured promissory note by a corporation with a maturity date of no more than 270 days. The tax bill removed some restrictions;

**Reverse repurchase agreements:** the sale of a security by an investor with an agreement that the investor will repurchase the security. These agreements are for use when an investor unexpectedly needs a temporary supply of cash;

**Government financial contracts:** a contract for the purchase of a U.S. government security at a specified interest rate for future purchase;

**Stocks of foreign corporations:** allows the board to increase its holdings of corporate stocks by more than five percent per year;

**Government bonds:** the law standardizes criteria for investment in local, state and federal bonds and international debt obligations of agencies the U.S. government sponsors;

**Conventional mortgage pools:** but not individual mortgages;

**Financial corporations:** with a ratio of pretax income to annual interest charges on debts of 1.2. Previous law required a ratio of 1.5;

**Corporate bonds:** the law removes certain restrictions on corporate bond investment, including the ceiling on the percent of assets which the board could invest in bonds;

**Unrated private placements:** corporate bonds which don't have an agency rating, because the corporation doesn't want to incur the high costs of rating. The bonds pay a higher interest rate.

# interest rates

The 1980 Legislature passed eight bills relating to interest rates; seven raised various types of interest. One changed the penalty for usurious loans (lending at a rate higher than law permits). Four of the bills alter the interest ceilings for lending institutions; four regulate retail creditors for consumer goods, mobile homes, and automobiles.

## Two lobbyists and a consumer advocate give their views on legislation and the money market . . .

The bills that passed the Legislature this year, raising various interest rates, are a result of such competition for money, said Norbert McCrady, a lobbyist for the Independent Bankers of Minnesota. McCrady blames the competition on the participation of the federal government and non-regulated financial institutions in the money markets. When the federal government wants more money it often extends the national debt by selling bonds rather than raising taxes. Investors stand to make a greater return on the high interest bonds, McCrady said, so, to get the money it needs, private industry must out-bid the government.

In turn, according to McCrady, non-regulated financial institutions, such as insurance companies and retail corporations with high cash flows, compete with regulated banks and savings and loan associations. The unregulated institutions have no interest ceilings on the money they loan out, McCrady said. They can afford to pay a higher interest for the money they buy. This puts the banks at a disadvantage and shifts money to unregulated institutions.

Interest rates climb when the competition for money increases. Money is a buy and sell commodity—like a house. You buy it, use it for awhile, and sell it without every really having owned it. Like the house, money has a price. It costs money to buy money. That price is the rate of interest. Like the house, when competition increases, buyers must pay more to get the money they need.

In McCrady's view, banks anticipating the Federal Reserve Bank's actions hamper the Federal Reserve Bank's ability to "fine tune" the economy through the interest it charges on loans to member banks (federal discount rate). The "Fed" is a lender of last resort, he said. Borrowing from the Fed is unusual and occurs only when a bank can't meet its obligations in some other way. When banks begin to borrow, the Fed attempts to slow the economy by raising its discount rate. Banks anticipating that action rush to buy money before they need it, to get the lower interest rate, and this competition tends to increase interest rates, McCrady said.

Government competes with private industry; non-regulated corporations compete with regulated banks and savings and loan associations.

Finally, McCrady said, nationally chartered banks compete with state chartered banks. States regulate the interest rates state banks can charge but cannot regulate national banks, according to recent court cases. Thus state banks are at a disadvantage to national banks, unless states allow interest rates to rise.

If HF2101 and HF639 (Adams, DFL-New Hope) had failed this session, McCrady said, state banks would not have been able to get the money to meet customer demands. The customers, he said, would have shifted to non-regulated corporations.

Some consumer advocates agree that a shift away from the state banks would harm consumers, said John Boysen of the Legal Services Advocacy Project in St. Paul, because the shift would cause a concentration of deposits in fewer insti-

tutions. Such a concentration would result in less personalized service. This would harm lower income people, Boysen said, because they often need special arrangements to meet their needs.

Boysen doesn't totally agree that higher rates are necessary at this time.

It is not appropriate, he said, to set interest rates in "extraordinary times". He believes the present high cost of money is temporary and is already starting to fall. The higher ceilings the Legislature set will remain when the cost of money falls, he said.

Higher interest rates increase inflation and make paying debts more difficult for consumers, said Triva Kahl, a lobby-

But the AFL-CIO believes that the increase in the retail credit ceiling will increase profits unnecessarily for major retailers who finance their own credit operations. But Kahl is "not sure" that HF500 will help small businesses, as proponents claimed. Small businesses were having difficulty offering credit, supporters of the bill said, because the interest they paid on money to finance credit operations is higher than they can charge customers.

But amendments which would have helped small businesses didn't pass, according to Kahl.

Floating home loan rates in HF2356 (D. Johnson-IR, Willmar) for mortgages

and HF1302 (Ellingson-DFL, Brooklyn Center) for mobile homes may encourage lending institutions to put more of their assets into mortgages, Boysen said. Lenders have been reluctant to commit a large portion of their assets to mortgages, because they could not project the state of the economy for 20 to 30 years. He said he's suspicious that lenders will use the floating rates (which by law can rise 5 percent over the life of a home mortgage

as the lender's mortgage rate increases) to increase their profits.

HF2101, which allows savings and loan associations to offer installment loans and credit cards, continues a trend for banking institutions to offer consumer credit, Boysen said. Consumer credit was once available only from retailers.

**For summaries of interest rate bills see Banking p.3 and Consumer affairs p.5.**

**Pensions and interest rates articles by Gary Cox**



ist for the AFL-CIO. In the long run, higher rates could discourage the use of credit, a strategy some economists say reduces inflation. But, Kahl said, for lower income people, "credit is a necessity rather than a choice."

Boysen agrees that higher interests cause inflation but he thinks that eventually higher retail credit rates (HF500 Friedrich, IR-Rochester) may extend credit to more people. Creditors will make higher profits when the cost of money goes down, he said, and will be able to afford greater risks in lending.

Through the omnibus energy bill, the omnibus tax bill, and the supplemental appropriations bill the Legislature enacted energy programs to promote the state's 1980 energy policy.

Energy Article  
by Jean Mehle

## ... efficiency in energy consumption...

### Community energy grants

Cities and counties with proposals for significant savings of traditional sources, development of renewable sources or broad community involvement can get grants for projects from MEA.

Local units can use the grants for materials, staff or contracts to:

- gather, monitor, or analyze local energy supply, demand and cost information;
- prepare community energy plans;
- implement energy plans for managing problems relating to transportation, rising energy costs, conservation, lack of renewable energy sources;
- assist neighborhood organizations in energy planning.

The maximum grant to a county or city would be \$50,000. MEA will give priority to proposals that include staff to run the program and to proposals other local units could also use.

### Energy audits

The director of MEA will receive \$70,000 and the director of consumer services \$30,000 to develop a state plan for energy audits of residential and commercial buildings. Federal law requires these audits.

Utility companies that do audits of residences can't charge the customer more than \$10. The audit shall include a list of improvements the residence needs to comply with the law and it shall include a statement of remedies available to tenants to correct violations. If audits cost utility companies more than the \$10 they charge the customer, the utilities can include that added cost in operating expenses for offering utility service to their customers.

Another provision gives money to school districts and local units of government that submitted acceptable mini-audits or maxi-audits between April 9, 1976 and July 1, 1979.

### Energy conservation improvements

The Public Service Commission (PSC) will initiate a pilot program on investments and expenses of a public utility in energy conservation improvements.

An energy conservation improvement means any improvement to a residence that increases the efficiency in residential use of electricity or natural gas.

Investments and expenses of utilities include (1) the difference between a market interest rate loan, and a no-interest or below-market interest loan a utility makes to a customer for an energy conservation improvement, (2) the difference between the utility's cost for purchase or installment of an energy conservation improvement and the price the utility charges the customer for the improvement.

The commission will order at least one public utility to invest in energy conservation improvements. Such investments must result in energy savings that would cost less than what it would cost the utility to produce or purchase a new supply of energy. The commission shall recognize these investments and expenses as costs for furnishing service, when the commission determines rates the utilities may charge.

### Large Energy Facilities

New law expands the criteria the MEA director evaluates in justifying the need for a large energy facility. New criteria will include looking at possible energy conservation improvements the public service commission requires that could mean there would be no need for the proposed large facility if the improvements compete economically.

... because continued growth in demand for energy will cause social and economic dislocations, the state has interest in providing for increased efficiency in energy consumption, the development and use of renewable resources; energy efficiency forecasting, planning and education.

It is of public interest to review, analyze and encourage energy programs that will minimize the need for increased fossil fuel consumption, additional electrical generating plants, and provide for a combination of energy sources consistent with environmental protection and the protection of citizens.

POLICY STATEMENT—  
OMNIBUS ENERGY BILL



## ... development/use of renewable resources ...

### Ethanol (alcohol)

To increase the development of production of ethanol, the Legislature provided \$200,000 for the University of Minnesota. The University will construct and operate a small-scale plant for the production of ethanol at the West Central Experimental Station at Morris.

The University shall operate the plant for at least two years, produce ethanol from more than one resource, (i.e. crop residue and animal waste) and determine the feasibility of using ethanol plant byproducts. The plant's design should be such that farmers could duplicate it. The University must provide plans at no cost.

### Biomass

To assist in the development of biomass, the Legislature is requiring the director of MEA, the commissioner of agriculture, and the commissioner of economic development to prepare a plan for the creation and organization of a Minnesota Biomass Center. The plan is due January 1, 1980.

The center will be responsible for:

- coordinating education and training programs for biomass energy production and use,
- serving as a central information center,
- participating in biomass research projects,
- providing technical assistance,
- developing consumer information,
- investigating marketing and distribution needs in the state,
- encouraging biomass energy production.

MEA also received \$225,000 for wetlands and biomass research.

### District Heating

The Legislature clarified that 1979 funds are available as a state match to federal, local or private money for district heating systems. The match unit must promise \$3 for each \$1 in state funds.

### Gasohol

The omnibus tax bill defines "agricultural alcohol gasoline" as a gasoline-alcohol blend of at least 190 proof. It reduces the excise tax four cents on alcohol gasoline which contains Minnesota produced agricultural alcohol.

Producers of gasohol may report and pay special fuel taxes with their income tax returns, if they produce gasohol for their own use. Producers are also exempt from the licensing requirements for the producers of gasoline.

The Legislature designated the Energy Information Center, MEA as the offi-

cial *Minnesota Alcohol Fuels Information Center*. The center will provide information on the technology and uses of alcohol fuels.

### Wood

The commissioner of natural resources can issue special-use permits to citizens to salvage or to cut up to 25 cords of fuelwood per year for personal use. A new law directs the commissioner to charge a fee of at least \$5, or an amount up to the current market value of similar fuelwood in the area.

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) received \$250,000 for a fuelwood management program to increase the availability to the public of fuelwood on public lands.

Another new law provides that public utilities, pipeline companies, railroads, state agencies and departments, or political subdivisions cannot destroy certain wood by open burning or deposit in a landfill. The unit must offer for public use, trees, or portions of trees, six inches or larger in diameter, that they remove from property in their control.

### Solar

After December 31, 1980, persons who wish to claim the renewable energy source credit, for money they spent for solar collectors, must first receive certification on the unit from MEA. The Energy Agency will establish rules for certification including testing procedures, safety, thermal performance, and maintainability.



# Saving Minnesota's Energy

## —demands, costs, effects

### **...energy efficiency forecasting, planning, and education...**

#### **Legislative Commission on Energy**

To aid in energy planning, the Legislature created the Legislative Commission on Energy with members from the House and Senate. Each year, the commission will develop energy plans and report to the Legislature.

The commission will: study energy supply and use, and the potential for economic growth; the creation of jobs from energy efficient renewable energy systems; coordinate programs on energy conservation; analyze ways to assure energy supplies and review energy policy.

#### **Energy efficient building education**

The Minnesota Energy Agency (MEA) will develop a program to provide information and training to contractors, engineers, and architects on the design and construction of energy efficient buildings. This will include printed materials and training courses.

#### **Conservation Information**

MEA will get \$123,300 for the Energy Information Center and energy conservation information for the public.

#### **Public Utilities Commission**

New legislation changes the name of the Public Service Commission to the Public Utilities Commission. It transfers funds and staff from the Public Service Department to the Public Utilities Commission.

### **...minimizing the need for increased fossil fuel consumption...**

#### **Residential weatherization programs**

To pay additional labor costs for the federal weatherization program, and for increased production of weatherized units, the Legislature approved \$9 million. The program provides funds for weatherizing homes of low-income citizens.

#### **Conservation grants**

Households eligible to receive emergency residential heating assistance may be eligible for up to \$2,000 from the Housing Finance Agency for conservation improvements.

To qualify, the household must have had a heating cost of more than 120 percent of the regional average, or must be eligible for federal energy conservation money which they could not get because their residence didn't meet certain federal requirements.

#### **Park and Ride Program**

A park and ride facility is a lot where a commuter can park an auto, within a reasonable walking distance from the transit mode (bus, car pool, van pool, etc.). Under the park and ride program, the commissioner of transportation will:

- develop and monitor park and ride programs throughout the state,
- provide grants for park and ride facilities,
- assist political subdivisions and recipients of park and ride funds to promote, develop, operate and evaluate park and ride facilities.

The Legislature appropriated \$200,000 for the program. Cities, counties, school districts and independent boards and agencies can get grants. The commissioner will report to the Legislature in January on the effectiveness of the program.

#### **Ride Sharing Program**

The commissioner of transportation will establish a ride sharing program to let citizens know about alternatives to low occupancy vehicles (one or two passenger vehicles), encourage ride sharing, and help citizens get into a share-a-ride program.

The program has a \$200,000 appropriation and duties of the commissioner are to:

- help local governments start ride sharing programs;
- provide technical help to individuals, groups, corporations, and local agencies in starting programs;
- give priority to helping employers who will begin employee ride sharing programs.

Under another act, the commissioner of administration gets \$200,000 for commuter vans for state employee ride-sharing programs.

### **...protection of citizens**

#### **Emergency Residential Heating Grants (Fuel Assistance)**

To help low income households pay winter heating bills, the commissioner of economic development will receive \$3 million for 1980 and \$2 million in 1981. These funds go to community action agencies, county boards or other public or private nonprofit organizations for emergency residential heating grants to low income households.

State funds go to low-income people who don't qualify for the federal program which gives grants to households under 125 percent of the federal poverty level. In Minnesota, a single person can get funds if his/her income doesn't exceed \$5,100; a couple — \$6,750; a family of three — \$8,400; four — \$10,050; five — \$11,700; six — \$13,350. The household can deduct state and federal taxes, social security contributions, and certain medical expenses when determining income for this program.

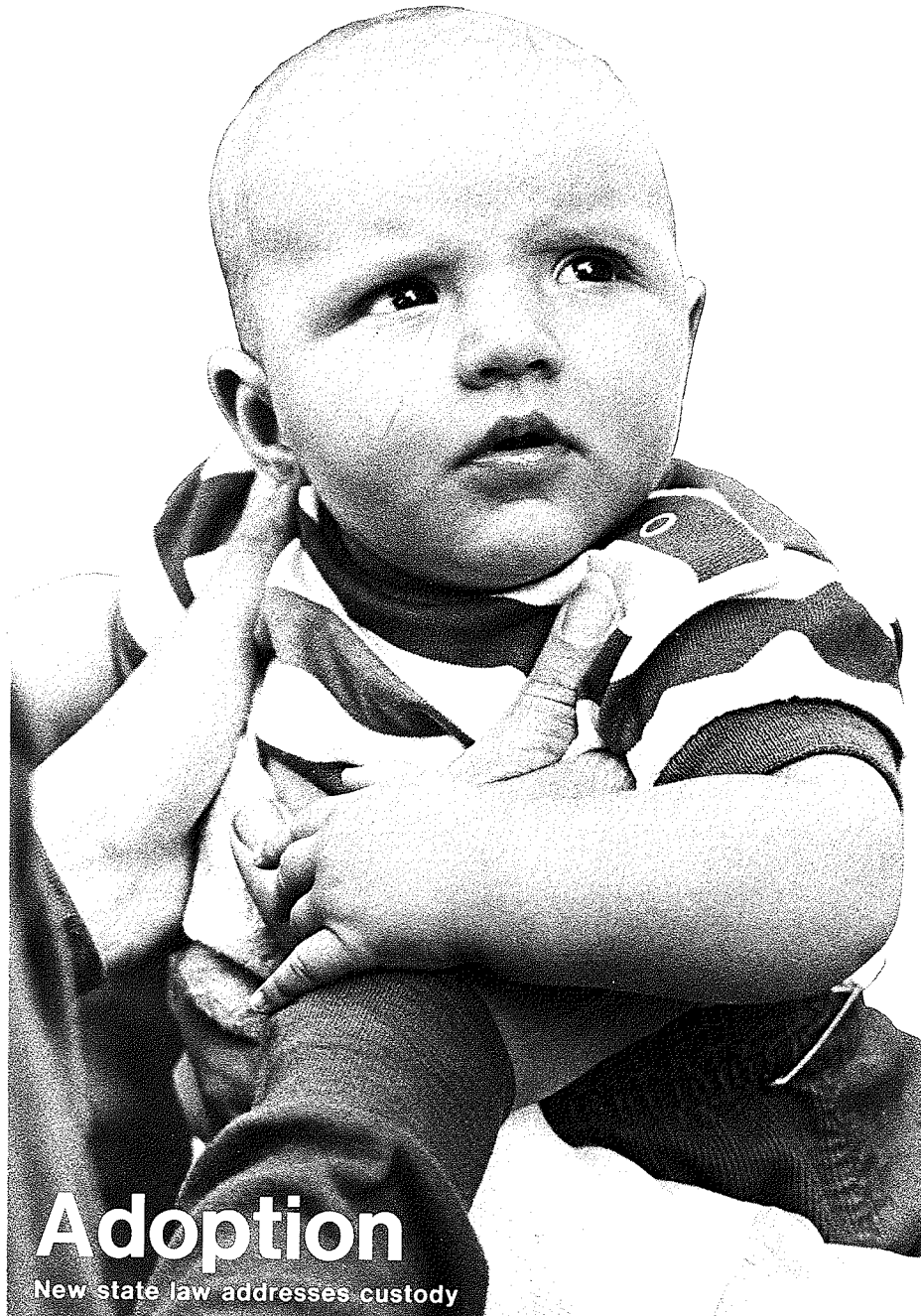
The amount of money a household could get will be 50 percent of the cost of residential heating for the winter season, or a maximum of \$111 to \$600, whichever is less. The maximum amount goes down as the household income goes up. Households which use Canadian natural gas or propane as the primary heating source get more money.

#### **Utility Delinquency Charges**

If a public utility, municipality, cooperative electric association or telephone company adopts a policy of a charge on delinquent residential or farm accounts, the utility must, on each billing, clearly state the terms and conditions of any penalty in the form of monthly percentage rates.

#### **Utility rights-of-way**

An amendment to this section of the law requires a utility to purchase commercially viable land a landowner holds, if the utility condemns any of the land, and if the owner requests the purchase. The utility must pay the landowner the market value without regard to the loss of value due to the right-of-way. The utility must sell the land as soon as possible at the price they paid for the land, less the loss of value due to the right-of-way.



# Adoption

New state law addresses custody

**Adoption and Housing**  
by Susan Shepard

**Minnesota adoptive parents had never lost a custody case until a recent court decision allowed birth parents to regain custody of a child they had put up for adoption. Why the change? And, how does Minnesota's new law deal with custody?**

After a one-and-a-half-year-long court battle, on February 28, 1979, a Rochester, Minnesota couple lost custody of their 22-month old adopted daughter. They were the first adoptive parents in Minnesota history to lose such a battle. As a result, during the 1979-80 session,

the Legislature took a look at the state's adoption laws and passed legislation to protect parents from losing their adopted children.

"The judges in the Rochester case were affected by new phenomena in our society, that of divorce," said Roger Toogood, executive director of the Children's Home Society of Minnesota. Toogood was chairman of a task force which studied and made recommendations to the Legislature on the state's adoption laws. He said, because of divorce, there have been many court cases where a new spouse wants to adopt a birth parent's child. "In every instance the courts have upheld a birth parent's prior right to his/her child," the director added. In the Rochester case, the judges used that case law and that type of thinking favoring the birth parents over the adoptive parents, according to Toogood.

Toogood said the current law is unclear; the changes the Legislature made should prevent further Rochester cases. Under current state law, a birth parent can challenge and regain custody within 30 days after adoption "if there is new evidence of a convincing nature, and if it's in the best interest of the child." In the Rochester case, the biological parents changed their minds within 10 days after the adoption and then petitioned the court to regain custody.

Under the new state law, which goes into effect August 1, birth parents can withdraw their consent to adoption for any reason within 10 working days after giving consent. The day after the 10th working day, consent becomes irrevocable. The parents can withdraw it only if the court finds they gave consent under fraudulent circumstances.

The new law provides that the child and adoptive parents will be parties to any proceedings contesting the adoption and there will be no presumption favoring the birth parents over the adoptive parents.

## What the adoption law says

- Birth parents can obtain a copy of their child's original birth certificate but no identifying information that might allow the parent to find the adoptive family.
- Unmarried couples can sign a notarized declaration that they are the parents of a child born to the woman within 10 months after the date of the declaration for purposes of various statutory provisions.
- Adoption agencies must give a person under the age of 18, who seeks to give up a child for adoption, the chance to consult an attorney, clergy, or physician before the surrender.
- Birth parents can withdraw their consent to adoption for any reason within 10 working days after giving it. The day after the 10th working day, consent becomes irrevocable and the parents can withdraw it only upon court findings of fraud. The child and adoptive parents will be parties to such a proceeding and there will be no presumption favoring the birth parents over the adoptive parents.
- The time between placement of the child in the adoptive home and finalization of adoption is three months. Currently, the courts cannot grant the petition for adoption until the child has lived in the adoptive home for six months.

## Adoption (con't.)

Toogood said during the 10-day waiting period, the court would place the child in temporary foster care. He said some birth parent organizations wanted a longer period of time before the consent becomes irrevocable.

"We as professionals were very concerned about this because we know the sooner the child is placed for adoption, the better," said Toogood. He said all of the groups finally compromised and agreed on the 10 days.

Since the Rochester case, all of the social service agencies which place children for adoption have pulled back from using the direct surrender method, according to Toogood. "Direct surrender is where the agency is working with the girl and the girl for some reason doesn't want to go to court. (The agency handles adoption procedures and the girl does not have to appear in court.)

The family doesn't want to go through the court process, because they know it will be all over the community... there are some cultural factors with some of the minority people who are very leary of going into court... and, too, courts get very backlogged," Toogood said.

"The direct surrender can be more effective and more efficient. It has worked well throughout the country, in this state, and for us."

Toogood said there is an advantage for adoptive parents to get children through court termination of parental rights. He said if the birth parents challenge the consent, the court will have to hear its own case and the court is less apt to reverse itself than somebody else. He said court terminations are better when "you have a girl who is ambivalent."

"Not using the direct surrender method has caused grief for some girls," Toogood said. "Some of the girls made the decision that if they had to go to court to give up their child for adoption, they wouldn't do it, particularly in small towns."

There's a delay in getting the child adopted, sometimes up to two months, and an increased expense for the girls. "They have to pay the cost of temporary foster care."

Was the agency in Rochester at fault? "In my judgment, in reading all of the documents, the agency was not at fault. They did a very thorough job in counseling," Toogood added. He said that some might criticize them for not informing the adoptive parents immediately of the birth parent's lawsuit.

"They decided not to since no case had ever been lost... they thought they were going to win... they saw no potential for a problem... they decided to free the adoptive couple from unnecessary anxiety," he said.

Children's Home Society of Minnesota and other agencies, according to Toogood, will start to take direct surrenders when the new law goes into effect August 1. "Girls who are pregnant now are being informed about the changes in the laws," he said.

# HOUSING

High interest rates, inflation, and "no children" rental signs add up to problems for people in the housing market. Responding to that, the Legislature passed laws affecting discrimination in housing, interest rates, loans for Vietnam veterans and other housing/real estate functions.

## Discrimination in housing—families

A new law restricting a landlord's right to refuse to rent to families, for most rental housing, went into effect on April 12, 1980. Some of the main provisions include:

- in most cases, landlords cannot refuse to rent, sell, or lease their property on the basis of family status, (a family with children). Similar prohibitions already in the law are race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, marital status, status with regard to public assistance or disability.
- buildings with a majority of the dwelling units occupied by persons over age 55 are exempt.

- most condominiums are exempt except those that landlords converted after having rented to families.
- landlords can exempt from the law as many as one-third of the units in a single building, or one building in a two-building complex, or one-third of the buildings in an apartment complex of three or more buildings. They must file notice of their exemptions with the state human rights commissioner.
- owner-occupied buildings with four or fewer units are exempt.
- landlords can not evict tenants who have children during the term of an existing lease for up to one year, and then only if the landlord gives the tenants six months notice of his intent to evict.

## Veteran's housing assistance

Vietnam-era veterans, or their widows, could get financial assistance for purchasing their first home under a new law. That law appropriated \$3 million to the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency to provide no-interest loans of up to \$4,000 to veterans or their surviving spouse to help them make down payments to buy new or existing housing. To qualify, a veteran or the surviving spouse must be a first-time homeowner and must enter into an agreement with the agency to repay the loan when he/

she sells, transfers, or otherwise conveys the property. The law defines "veteran" as anyone who served any time during the period from August 5, 1964 to May 7, 1975. The law went into effect the day following final enactment. Those wanting further information can call the Housing Finance Agency at 296-7613.

## Rehabilitation grants

Persons and families with low and moderate incomes can now get up to \$6,000 (was \$5,000) in grants from the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency to help in paying for rehabilitation loans or to help in rehabilitating existing residential housing under a recently enacted law. Those wanting further information can call the Housing Finance Agency at 296-7615.

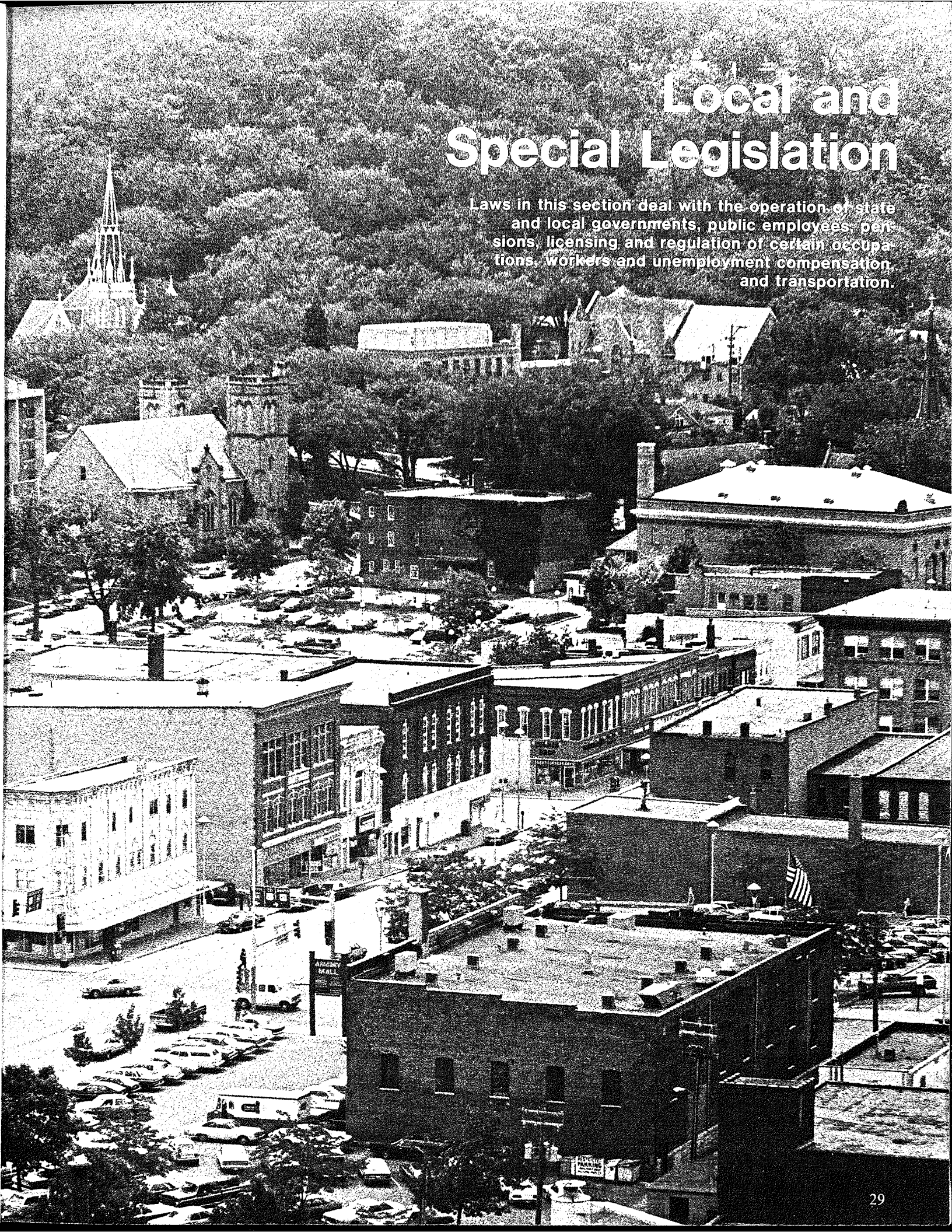
## Young family housing

The 1980 Legislature approved a measure to encourage young Minnesotans to save money to buy their first home. The law allows an individual to deposit \$2,500 per year in a savings account and get the interest free of tax, up to a maximum of \$10,000, and allows an annual tax deduction of \$1,500 on those savings. There are penalties for withdrawing the money for another purpose. The law will be effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 1980.



# Local and Special Legislation

Laws in this section deal with the operation of state and local governments, public employees, pensions, licensing and regulation of certain occupations, workers and unemployment compensation, and transportation.



## Governmental Operations

### Administrative procedures — rule changes

Ch. 615 HF0874'—Kroening  
SF1608—Schaaf

Revises the rulemaking and hearing procedures of state agencies; outlines the roles of the revisor of statutes and the chief hearing examiner; speeds up reports to the governor and Legislature on the failure to adopt rules.

Effective: day following final enactment/August 1, 1981  
September 1, 1980  
July 1, 1980/July 1, 1981  
July 1, 1982

### Data privacy

Ch. 603 HF2040'—Stoa  
SF2039—Tennessen

Clarifies classifications of data in Minnesota's data privacy law; extends the expiration date for the temporary classification of data to July 1, 1981.

Effective: day following final enactment/April 1, 1981

### Legislative auditor — public access to data

Ch. 484 HF2314'—Moe  
SF2385—Pillsbury

Subjects the legislative auditor to the Data Practices Act, requiring public access to papers of the auditor. The public access does not include papers on works in progress, papers concerning litigation matters, and papers concerning confidential matters on individuals.

Effective: August 1, 1980

### Military land fund

Ch. 407 HF2119'—Hokanson  
SF1798—Sieloff

Extends indefinitely the authority of the adjutant general to acquire lands, in the vicinity of Camp Ripley or any other suitable place in the state, for military training with money available in the military land fund; rescinds authority to tax Minnesotans for state military land acquisition.

Effective: August 1, 1980

### Minnesota—Wisconsin boundary area — commission terms

Ch. 476 HF1871'—Mehrkens  
SF1822—Engler

Staggers the terms of the members of the Minnesota-Wisconsin Boundary Area Commission and creates the South Dakota-Minnesota Boundary Waters Commission to plan for artificially controlled waters between the two states.

Effective: August 1, 1980

### Public contracts — payments

Ch. 464 SF1665'—Knoll

Reduces from 10 percent to five percent the amount a public contracting agency may hold in reserve to ensure completion of a job; requires a public contracting agency to make monthly payments to a contractor as work progresses; allows a contractor to deposit bonds or securities with the contracting agency in lieu of having the agency withhold part of the progress payment.

Effective: July 1, 1980

### Revisor's bill — corrections to enactments

Ch. 618 HF2487'—Farley  
SF2419'—Davies

Corrects oversights, inconsistencies, ambiguities, and technical errors, of a non-controversial nature, which occurred in bills passed this session.

Effective: day following final enactment/unless otherwise provided, each section is effective on the effective date of the act that section amends.

### Revisor's bill — corrections to statutes

Ch. 509 HF2369'—Farley  
SF2317—Dieterich

Corrects erroneous, omitted, ambiguous and obsolete references and text and eliminates certain redundant, superseded, and conflicting provisions in Minnesota Statutes.

Effective: See each section of the law for various effective dates.

### State auditor — personnel recruitment/salaries

Ch. 431 HF2047'—Simoneau  
SF2101—Penny

Allows the state auditor to develop a personnel policy, subject to the approval of the commissioner of personnel, to govern recruitment, hiring, promotion, and salaries; raises from \$315,000 to \$350,000 the maximum balance in a revolving fund which pays the auditor's expenses. Any amount beyond the maximum goes to the general fund. The auditor's revolving fund is made up of fees the office charges for services.

Effective: day following final enactment

### State census taking

Ch. 487 HF1169'—Weaver  
SF1112—Anderson

Provides for contracting with the federal census bureau for taking a special census or for a state population estimate in lieu of an annual state census; requires state demographer approval of school district population estimates; provides for state demographer estimates of governmental subdivisions for use in computation of tax levy limits and local government aid; abolishes municipal board authority to determine population of municipalities and towns.

Effective: August 1, 1980

### State Ceremonial Building Board

Ch. 510 HF2374'—Moe  
SF2330—Stumpf

Creates a state ceremonial board to accept the donation of a building for official ceremonial functions of the state.

Effective: day following final enactment

## Local Bills Cities/Towns

### Austin: solid waste/School District No. 166: steam line

Ch. 449 HF2022'—Reding  
SF1997'—Nelson

Authorizes the city of Austin to establish and finance a solid waste disposal system; permits Independent School District No. 166 to cooperate on construction of steam lines and provide surplus steam to Cook County.

Effective: upon local approval"/day following final enactment

### Bloomington: on-sale liquor licenses

Ch. 583 HF0356—B. Peterson  
SF0572'—Bang

Permits the city of Bloomington to increase the number of on-sale liquor licenses upon voter approval; requires the registration of malt beverage labels by the brand owner or authorized agent.

Effective: upon local approval"

### Bloomington: port authority

Ch. 453 HF2134—B. Peterson  
SF2265'—Benedict

Permits the city of Bloomington to establish a port authority.

Effective: "

### Breezy Point: levy limit

Ch. 470 HF1262'—Thiede  
SF1324—Rued

Places the city of Breezy Point back under a tax levy limitation.

Effective: upon local approval"

### Brooklyn Center: conveyance of land

Ch. 569 HF2187'—Ellingson  
SF2152—Luther

Provides for conveyance of state lands to the city of Brooklyn Center; permits Local Government Information Systems (LOGIS) and its members to acquire and finance data processing equipment; allows the city of Brooklyn Center to charge for sewer services on an equitable basis, including the age and income of recipient.

Effective: day following final enactment/upon local approval"

### Campbell-Fertile: bonding limit

Ch. 393 HF2081'—Valan  
SF2040'—Sillers

Increases the bonding limits of the cities of Fertile and Campbell for the construction of voter approved projects.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Duluth: city sales tax

Ch. 511 HF2436'—Jaros  
SF2369—J. Ulland

Permits Duluth to levy a one percent tax on food and beverage establishments with yearly sales of more than \$100,000 and motels and hotels with 18 or more units.

Effective: August 1, 1980

### Duluth: elections/School District No. 709: elections

Ch. 386 HF1487'—Lehto  
SF1471'—Solon

Establishes the election filing deadline of the city of Duluth and Independent School District No. 709. Requires candidates to file affidavits of candidacy with the Duluth city clerk not more than 70 days, nor less than 56 days, before the primary election.

Effective: upon local approval"

### Edina: temporary on-sale liquor license

Ch. 410 HF2287'—Forsythe  
SF2245—Bang

Permits the city of Edina to issue a one-day, on-sale liquor license for the Edina Foundation Ball.

Effective: "

### Greenwood: special assessment

Ch. 360 HF1713—Battaglia  
SF1625'—Johnson

Permits the town of Greenwood to assess the Isle of Pines property owners part of the cost of improvement of the bridge connecting the island to the mainland.

Effective: upon local approval"

### Hibbing: housing finance loan program

Ch. 430 HF2024'—Minne  
SF2059—Perpich

Authorizes a housing finance program for the city of Hibbing, including the former town of Stuntz.

Effective: "

**Melrose: bonding authority**

Ch. 425 HF2123—Niehaus  
SF2102—Wegener

Permits the city of Melrose to issue general obligation bonds for construction of community projects, if city voters approve.

Effective: upon local approval"

**Minneapolis: additional detached banking facility**

Ch. 463 HF1680—Crandall  
SF1630—Knoll

Permits any bank within 25 miles of downtown Minneapolis to establish a detached banking facility, within four city blocks of the 48th and Chicago intersection.

Effective: upon local approval"

**Minneapolis: additional unclassified service position**

Ch. 448 HF2034—Clark  
SF1996—Spear

Permits Minneapolis to hire a director of emergency communications as a member of the unclassified service.

Effective: "

**Minneapolis: economic development/Bloomington and Winona: port authorities**

Ch. 595 HF2320—Long  
SF2166—S. Keefe

Authorizes an economic development and redevelopment agency for the city of Minneapolis; grants port authority powers to the city of Bloomington; grants additional powers to Winona port authority.

Effective: upon local approval"  
day following final enactment

**Moorhead — Clay County redevelopment authority**

Ch. 461 SF1611—Sillers

Allows the city of Moorhead and Clay County to cooperate to form a redevelopment authority; terminates the Moorhead redevelopment authority and the Clay County local redevelopment authority; gives certain powers to Moorhead and Clay County.

Effective: upon approval of the governing bodies of Clay County and Moorhead"

**Northfield: removal from metropolitan area**

Ch. 378 HF1355—Vanasek  
SF1311—Purfeerst

Removes a section of Northfield from the definition of metropolitan area, placing the land, with the rest of Northfield, in Region 10.

Effective: August 1, 1980

**Owatonna: conveyance of land St. Peter: transfer of land**

Ch. 521 HF2042—Biersdorf  
SF2045—Frederick

Provides for the sale of state land to the city of Owatonna for a municipal plant; permits the state to transfer land to the First Lutheran Church of St. Peter for use as a cemetery.

Effective: upon local approval"  
day following final enactment

**Virginia and Thief River Falls: conveyance of land**

Ch. 473 HF1684—Ellioff  
SF1610—Perpich

Authorizes the conveyance of community college land to the cities of Virginia and Thief River Falls.

Effective: day following final enactment

**White Bear Township: municipal powers**

Ch. 358 HF1146—Valento  
SF1114—Knaak

Permits White Bear Township to use net utility revenues to finance sewers, drains and waterwork projects.

Effective: upon local approval"

**Winona township: building inspectors**

Ch. 518 HF0832—Stoa  
SF0919—Laufenburger

Permits the town of Winona to employ a building inspector; sets time limits for the accrual of certain actions involving construction and improvements.

Effective: upon approval of Winona town board  
August 1, 1980

**Local Bills Counties****Blue Earth County: Ditch No. 27**

Ch. 421 HF2168—Wigley  
SF1847—A. Ueland

Authorizes Blue Earth County to contract for the completion of improvements to County Ditch No. 27, sets limits on expenditure of money for the project, and provides for financing.

Effective: "

**Carver County: housing and redevelopment authority**

Ch. 482 HF2152—McDonald  
SF2119—Schmitz

Creates a housing and redevelopment authority in Carver County with the same powers or duties as municipal housing and redevelopment authorities.

Effective: "

**Dakota County: agent to accept drivers license applications**

Ch. 475 HF1824—Halberg  
SF1763—Knutson

Provides that if the clerk of the district court in Dakota County appoints an agent to accept applications for drivers' licenses, the agent may keep the \$1 county fee to cover expenses.

Effective: August 1, 1980

**Hennepin County: campaign financing**

Ch. 362 HF1550—L. Carlson  
SF1010—Luther

Regulates the financing of political campaigns and disclosure of economic interests of certain candidates and elected officials in Hennepin County. The act applies to the financing of campaigns for county elections and for city elections in cities wholly located within Hennepin County, having a population of 75,000 or more.

Effective: day following enactment for elections with filing periods opening after July 1, 1980

**Hennepin County: personnel law revisions**

Ch. 573 HF2183—Greenfield  
SF2095—Staples

Clarifies language and makes changes to procedures dealing with Hennepin County personnel; changes the Hennepin County Personnel Board from five to seven members the Hennepin County Board elects by majority vote; increases compensation for personnel board members; other provisions.

Effective: on the day of the filing of a certificate of local approval"

**Kandiyohi County: conveyance of land**

Ch. 398 HF1349—Den Ouden  
SF2307—Setzepfandt

Authorizes the commissioner of DNR to convey certain state lands to Kandiyohi County to correct conveying errors.

Effective: day following final enactment

**Koochiching County: use of snowmobiles to check traps**

Ch. 474 HF1723—I. Anderson  
SF1858—Lessard

Allows the use of snowmobiles in trapping related activities in Koochiching County.

Effective: August 1, 1980

**Morrison County: free newspapers qualifying as legal newspapers**

Ch. 526 HF1031—Wenzel  
SF1054—Wegener

Allows free, non-subscription publications to qualify as legal newspapers in Morrison County.

Effective: upon approval of the governing body of Morrison County"

**Ramsey County: juvenile court clerk**

Ch. 381 HF1798—Byrne  
SF1836—Dieterich

Provides for the appointment of the juvenile court clerk in Ramsey County.

Effective: August 1, 1980

**St. Louis County: public employee contracts**

Ch. 365 HF1488—Minne  
SF1449—Solon

Allows the St. Louis County Board of County Commissioners to negotiate labor contracts with public employees.

Effective: August 1, 1980

**Local Bills Schools & Other Local Units****Dassel-Cokato school district sale of land**

Ch. 403 HF1778—Kvam  
SF1526—Bernhagen

Permits the Dassel-Cokato school district to sell a certain parcel of land to the city of Dassel. The city will use it for recreational purposes.

Effective: day following final enactment

**Knife Lake improvement district: bonding/Moose Lake - Windemere Sewer District: board membership**

Ch. 507 HF2185—M. Nelsen  
SF2137—Rued

Allows Kanabec County to issue \$500,000 in local bonds to repair or replace a dam on the Knife Lake River; changes definitions, board membership, compensation, and powers of the Moose Lake - Windemere Sewer District.

Effective: " / upon local approval day following final enactment

**Minneapolis school district bonding authority**

Ch. 525 HF2303—Long  
SF2184—A. Stokowski

Reduces from 15 to 5 the number of years for the Minneapolis school district to develop a comprehensive long-range building plan; extends the time the school district can sell bonds to 1984; provides that the district could not bond for more than 50 percent of the calendar year's bonded indebtedness (now 75 percent).

Effective: day following final enactment

**Nine Mile Creek/Riley-Purgatory Creek watershed districts**

Ch. 501 HF1904—Pleasant  
SF1905—Bang

Allows the Nine Mile Creek and Riley-Purgatory Creek Watershed Districts to spend up to \$15,000 per year for maintenance.

Effective: upon district approval

**Rochester school board**

Ch. 371 HF1932—Zubay  
SF1904—Brataas

Allows the Rochester school district to organize at a time other than that which law requires.

Effective: upon school district approval"

## Local Bills — Metropolitan Government

### County financial records

Ch. 379 HF1735—Stoa  
SF1745—Laufenberger

Removes an obsolete statute requiring county boards to biannually examine and count all the funds in the treasury, examine the accounts and vouchers of the auditor, and issue a certificate of the results of their examination.

Effective: August 1, 1980

### County officers — mileage, deputies, reimbursements

Ch. 519 HF1853—Clawson  
SF1759—Schmitz

Permits counties to establish reimbursement, other than mileage allowance, for sheriffs and deputies who use their cars for official business; allows county treasurers to revoke the appointments of their assistants; permits county sheriffs in counties with a population of 100,000 or more to appoint deputies upon approval of the county board; grants Dakota County Board the power to establish its expense allowance; allows governmental units to contract with each other for police service.

Effective: day following final enactment/August 1, 1980

### County recorder fees

Ch. 560 HF1534—Weaver  
SF1549—Strand

Increases fees the county recorder and registrar of titles may charge for services; requires reports of deferred assessments.

Effective: August 1, 1980

### Local governments — self insurance — health benefits

Ch. 528 HF0251—Brinkman  
SF0291—Gunderson

Permits self or joint-self insurance of health benefits for local governments.

Effective: July 1, 1980

### Local governments — self insurance — other than health

Ch. 529 HF0262—Brinkman  
SF0403—Gunderson

Permits one or a group of local governments, except school districts, to self-insure against liability claims due to actions of their officers, employees, or agents.

Effective: July 1, 1980

### Local government training

Ch. 532 HF1138—Schrieber  
SF0620—Wegener

Appropriates \$42,500 to the government training program for elected officials and public employees at the county and municipal level.

Effective: July 1, 1980

### Municipal hospitals audit requirements

Ch. 502 HF1987—Mehrkens  
SF2192—Menning

Permits municipal hospitals and nursing homes to submit audit reports at the end of their fiscal year rather than the calendar year.

Effective: August 1, 1980

### Municipal parks — signs within 500 feet

Ch. 494 HF1790—Battaglia  
SF1844—Johnson

Gives local governments the authority to permit commercial signs within 500 feet of a municipal park; authorizes the transportation commissioner to franchise tourist information centers at highway rest areas.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Municipal spending for cemeteries

Ch. 356 HF0701—Prah  
SF0824—Lessard

Places a \$5,000 limit on the amount towns, with assessed values less than \$500,000, may expend for cemeteries they maintain jointly with other municipalities.

Effective: August 1, 1980

### Regional Development Commissions — dissolution

Ch. 557 HF2350—Casserly  
SF0407—Peterson

Provides for the termination of regional development commissions (RDC). Counties and municipalities representing the majority of the population an RDC serves may petition the state planning officer for termination of that RDC. After holding a public hearing, the state may terminate the RDC if it is not in the public interest.

Effective: January 1, 1981

### Town clerk, deputy clerk compensation

Ch. 366 HF1759—McEachern  
SF1755—Wegener

Permits town boards to establish compensation for clerks and deputy clerks.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Town meetings — rescheduling in inclement weather

Ch. 359 HF1477—McEachern  
SF1438—Olhoft

Permits town boards to reschedule annual March meetings, if cancelled because of inclement weather. Rescheduled meetings must take place in March, with 10 days written notice.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Town planning and zoning public hearings

Ch. 416 HF1908—McEachern  
SF1707—Dunn

Establishes a public hearing process for town planning and zoning questions; requires a majority of voters to institute zoning in a municipality; authorizes rural townships to set their own hours for town elections, as long as polls are open at least three hours.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Liquor licenses — organizations /Lake County/Aitkin County

Ch. 581 HF2090—Battaglia  
SF2083—Johnson

Validates on-sale Sunday liquor licenses in Lake County; authorizes combination on-sale, off-sale liquor licenses in Aitkin County; establishes a sliding fee scale for fraternal organization on-sale liquor licenses.

Effective: day following final enactment/upon approval of Aitkin County governing body

### Variance hearings notice change

Ch. 477 HF1949—Aasness  
SF2338—Olhoft

Changes notice provisions for variance hearings in zoning.

Effective: August 1, 1980

### Zoning — community residential facilities/Ramsey County: local governments/St. Paul: employees

Ch. 612 HF1873—Kostohryz  
SF2178—Stumpf

Permits local governments in Ramsey County to join the County League of Local Governments and pay dues from their general funds; regulates the licensing and zoning of community residential facilities; allows St. Paul to employ college students; provides rules and regulations for severance pay to St. Paul city employees.

Effective: the day following final enactment/upon approval of the local governing body

## Occupations — Licensing/ Regulation

### Accountants — licensing

Ch. 380 HF1789—Valento  
SF1818—Olson

Extends the deadline for accountants to certify their qualifications for state licensing from January 1, 1980 to July 1, 1980.

Effective: day following final enactment

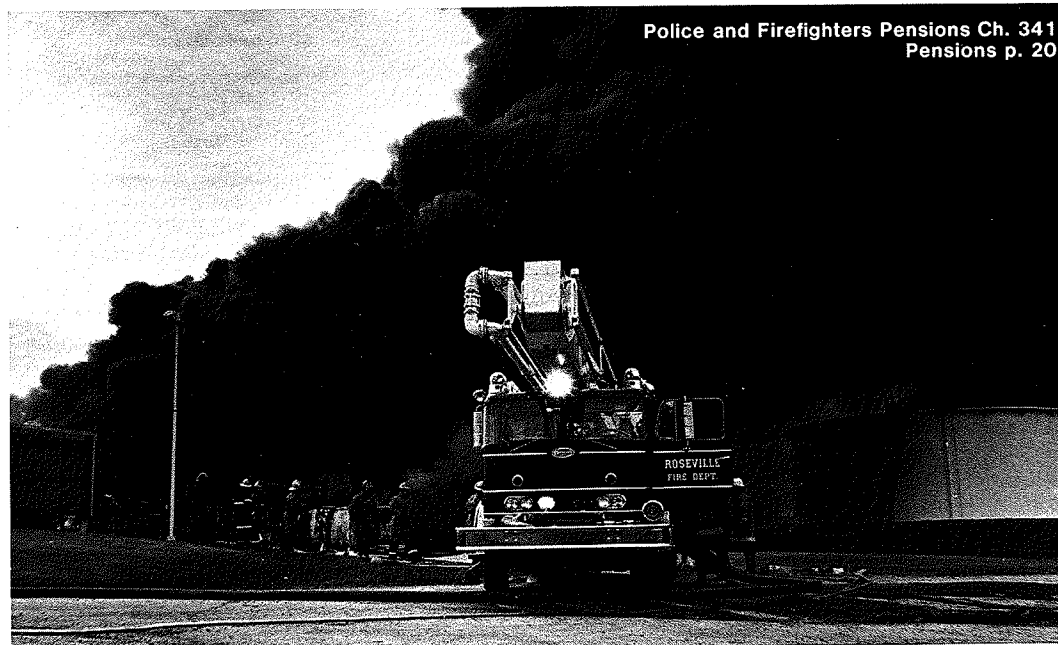
### Constables — DWI tests

Ch. 483 HF2262—Lehto  
SF2341—Willet

Includes constables within the definition of peace officers in the implied consent law (chemical tests for intoxication).

Effective: August 1, 1980

### Police and Firefighters Pensions Ch. 341 Pensions p. 20





## Dental occupations — licensing

Ch. 596 HF0644\*—Berkelman  
SF0786—Strand

Provides for rules on advertising; changes provisions on insurance covering dentists; provides licensing procedures for dentists and related personnel; sets standards for the names under which dentists may practice.

Effective: July 1, 1981/  
June 1, 1980/January 1, 1981/  
day following enactment

## Paramedics — tests for DWI

Ch. 395 HF0711\*—M. Sieben  
SF0714—Sikorski

Permits physician-trained paramedics on mobile intensive care units to withdraw blood to determine the presence of alcohol or controlled substances.

Effective: day following  
final enactment

## Physical therapists — regulation

Ch. 412 HF1491—Clark  
SF0802—Solon

Provides regulations for the occupation of physical therapist; authorizes the commissioner of health to investigate complaints related to licensed occupations.

Effective: August 1, 1980

## Public accounting certification without experience

Ch. 591 HF2223\*—Kroening  
SF1398—Davies

Permits a person with schooling in public accounting to receive certification without the required experience, if the person does not work in accounting. In the future, should the person choose to work as an accountant, he/she must complete the work experience requirement of certified public accountants (CPA).

Effective: day following  
final enactment

## Pensions/ Retirement/ Survivor Benefits

### Police and firefighters contributions

Ch. 341 HF1192—Patton  
SF1128\*—E. Stokowski

Increases the employee contribution to local police and firefighters pension funds.

Effective: January 1, 1980/upon  
local approval/day following final  
enactment

### State retirement benefits short term

Ch. 432 HF0915—Patton  
SF0960\*—Strand

Allows state employees with less than three years of service to collect pension benefits in proportion to their length of service.

Effective: day following  
final enactment

## Public Employees

### Career part-time employment demonstration project

Ch. 572 HF1662\*—Berglin  
SF1629—Staples

Provides for a pilot program of 50 shared positions in state government. The participating employees are eligible for fulltime benefits, pro-rated to a half-time basis.

Effective: July 1, 1980

### Collective bargaining state employees

Ch. 617 HF2154—Simoneau  
SF2085\*—Coleman

Replaces the Department of Personnel with the Department of Employee Relations. The new department consists of two divisions: Personnel and Labor Relations. The act includes organizational details for the new department, qualifications for promotion, and health programs for public employees; changes the collective bargaining procedures of the state, creating 16 occupationally defined bargaining units for public employees and 12 for the University of Minnesota; provides an expanded right to strike by public employees and teachers; establishes arbitration and strike guidelines.

Effective: July 1, 1981  
July 1, 1980/day following final  
enactment but shall not alter  
terms of existing agreements  
before they expire.

### Hastings State Hospital former employees

Ch. 481 HF2028\*—H. Sieben  
SF2357—Vega

Clarifies benefits of employees of the former Hastings State Hospital, preserving employee seniority salaries and benefits.

Effective: August 1, 1980

### State employee assistance program

Ch. 466 HF2086—Elloff  
SF1690\*—Peterson

Provides for the creation of a state employee assistance program within the Department of Administration. Assistance includes help for chemical dependency and other personal problems.

Effective: day following  
final enactment

### Teacher mobility/rural health services

Ch. 454 HF0693—L. Carlson  
SF0210\*—Hughes

Extends to faculty at community colleges and state universities the same opportunities for early retirement, and part-time teaching; appropriates \$25,000 to the University of Minnesota for administrative expenses for its program to improve rural health services.

Effective: day following  
final enactment

## T ransportation

### Aircraft registration tax exemptions

Ch. 422 HF1970—Mehrkens  
SF1957\*—Penny

Permits firms to use substitute aircraft for up to 30 days without paying a registration tax. The tax exception is only for replaced Minnesota aircraft sent out of state for repairs. Also, clarifies the penalty for late payment of the registration tax.

Effective: August 1, 1980



### Airport bonding bill

Ch. 450 HF2156—H. Sieben  
SF2110\*—Purfeerst

Establishes a \$75 million bonding limit for the Metropolitan Airport Commission for construction at metro area airports. Also, sets a deadline of December 31, 1980 for design selection of aircraft noise suppression equipment.

Effective: August 1, 1980

### Auto dealers — transportation of foreign state cars

Ch. 478 HF1962\*—Simoneau  
SF1964—Willet

Permits dealers to bring autos up for auction into Minnesota using out-of-state license plates; requires automobile wholesalers to sell only to dealers with licenses for that make of automobile; permits the use of in-transit plates on used vehicles.

Effective: day following  
final enactment

### Certificate of title — delivery to motor vehicle owner

Ch. 369 HF1656\*—Rees  
SF1703—Kleinbaum

Permits a lender to return motor vehicle certificates of title to owners by regular mail upon final payment of loans.

Effective: day following  
final enactment

### County turnback of roads to townships

Ch. 402 HF1695\*—Berkelman  
SF1756—Chmielewski

Provides that transfers of county highways to township control are not effective until the highway meets county standards.

Effective: August 1, 1980

### Courier services carrier licensing, definition

Ch. 428 HF1732\*—Novak  
SF1704—Schaaf

Defines "courier services carrier" as any door-to-door transportation of packages under 100 pounds in vehicles less than one ton. Also, provides procedures for granting permits to courier services.

Effective: day following  
final enactment

### Drivers permit — allowing driving with licensed adult

Ch. 446 HF1957—D. Peterson  
SF1937\*—Knoll

Allows a person with a driver's permit to operate a motor vehicle if accompanied by a licensed adult, if the permit holder's parents or guardians approve; provides for distinctive Minnesota identification cards and drivers' licenses for senior citizens.

Effective: day following  
final enactment

### Driving violations — clarifying petty misdemeanor

Ch. 520 HF1925—Crandall  
SF1865—Sieloff

Translates three petty misdemeanors, involving traffic violations, into a single misdemeanor with suspension of driver's license.

Effective: August 1, 1980

### Fences along town roads

Ch. 435 HF1906—Redalen  
SF1736—Dunn

Prohibits fencing on township road right-of-ways; provides that petitioners pay damages for access roads across others' property; provides penalties for unlawful uses of and actions on public highways.

Effective: August 1, 1980/day following final enactment

### Highway housekeeping bill

Ch. 533 HF1190—Mehrkens  
SF1940—Penny

Requires municipality consent for certain trunk highway improvements; authorizes the transportation commissioner to convey lands no longer needed for trunk highways; authorizes the transportation commissioner to leave space above and below trunk highway rights-of-way; changes the routes of some trunk highways; modifies the availability of federal reimbursements; prohibits depositing snow on highways; other provisions.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Map and plot notations

Ch. 538 HF1823—Mehrkens  
SF1739—Engler

Simplifies procedures for the county recorder or registrar of titles to make corrections and notations on maps or plats.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Motor carrier regulation

Ch. 465 HF2331—Novak  
SF1679—Laufenburger

Exempts motor carriers with annual revenues less than \$50,000 from filing reports; permits the transportation commissioner to set safety and driver qualification requirements for private carrier vehicle operators; establishes an annual renewal date for motor carrier permits; allows "floater identification cards" for vehicles on short-term use by motor carriers.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Motor vehicles — housekeeping

Ch. 427 HF1408—Mehrkens  
SF1430—Bang

Revises prorated fees for motor vehicles from calendar year to a tax registration year; provides for issuance and use of motor vehicle dealer plates; adjusts bond provisions for certain dealers; authorizes licensing of moped dealers; clarifies grounds for suspension and revocation of dealer's licenses.

Effective: August 1, 1980

### Oversize vehicles annual permit

Ch. 438 HF1877—Erickson  
SF1772—Menning

Permits the transportation commissioner to issue annual permits for oversize vehicles, less than eight feet wide, transporting farm equipment.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Parachutes and parachuting — jurisdiction

Ch. 488 HF1272—Fjosllen  
SF1384—Chmielewski

Removes parachutes and parachuting from the jurisdiction of the Department of Transportation.

Effective: August 1, 1980

### Parallel parking — repeal of certain provisions

Ch. 370 HF1666—Simoneau  
SF1615—Penny

Repeals a MNDOT rule enforcing parallel parking on state aid roads.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Personalized license plates — restrictions

Ch. 372 HF2012—Berkelman  
SF1945—Solon

Permits radio and television stations to use their call letters and numbers on license plates of station vehicles.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Pick-up trucks — allowing two trailers

Ch. 491 HF1742—Niehaus

Permits pickup trucks, involved in farming, to draw two trailers within a 35-mile radius, at 35 miles per hour or less.

Effective: August 1, 1980

### Pipelines — exclusion definition of construction

Ch. 440 HF2111—Kalls  
SF1811—Setzepfandt

Excludes relocation of less than three-quarters of a mile of pipeline from the definition of construction.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Public safety department bill

Ch. 498 HF1835—Schrelber  
SF1680—Laufenburger

Establishes due dates for installment payments in motor vehicle registration taxes; extends reporting time for coroner's report on auto accident deaths; authorizes certain agencies to use accident statistics; requires bumpers on automobiles and trucks, 9,000 pounds or less; permits cities and towns to post urban district speed limits in certain areas.

Effective: day following final enactment



### Semitrailers exceeding 45 feet in length

Ch. 513 HF1911—Kalls  
SF0523—Purfeerst

Permits the transportation commissioner to issue annual permits for trailers exceeding 45 feet in length.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Show steam engines — inspection

Ch. 601 HF1731—Niehaus,  
SF1753—Chmielewski

Changes inspection of demonstration steam engines from annually to every other year; provides for the licensing of steam farm traction engines and stationary show boilers.

Effective: August 1, 1980

### Tax exempt vehicles — identification

Ch. 364 HF2110—Patton  
SF1812—Setzepfandt

Permits school districts to use removable plates and placards to identify tax exempt drivers' education vehicles.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Transit issues nonappropriations

Ch. 462 HF1802—Osthoff  
SF1619—Staples

Permits the MTC to issue \$9 million in bonds to pay for buses, equipment, and maintenance; establishes a program for the MTC to set aside five percent of capital contracts for businesses disadvantaged persons own; permits the continuation of the para-transit program.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Transportation department bill

Ch. 460 HF1591—Sviggum  
SF1541—Penny

Abolishes the responsibility of MNDOT for inspecting and grading hay and straw; clarifies laws regulating railroads; prescribes the powers of the transportation commissioner and the public service commissioner regarding rates and charges; requires track scales and regulates the weighing of rail cars and freight; provides for railroad grade crossing safety equipment.

Effective: day following final enactment

## Workers & Unemployment Compensation

### Unemployment compensation changes

Ch. 508 HF2191—Minne  
SF1721—Laufenburger

Amends unemployment compensation statutes to relieve non-profit organizations which employ part-time workers from unemployment compensation fees for workers who lose concurrent fulltime jobs with another employer; defines when the purchaser of a business retains the same charges for compensation as the previous owner; grants compensation to an employee fired for misconduct when the employee claims that the cause of misconduct was alcoholism, provided that the employee has consistently attempted to abstain or control the illness; includes government employers in provisions penalizing late payment to the compensation funds; clarifies "voluntary quit" to include loss of employment due to the temporary nature of the job or failure to pass a performance test the employer administers after commencement of the job.

Effective: July 27, 1979/day following final enactment

### Workers compensation flexible rate changes

Ch. 392 HF1946—Simoneau  
SF1892—S. Keefe

Allows partnerships and closely held corporations to purchase workers compensation coverage.

Effective: August 1, 1980

### Workers compensation reinsurance association

Ch. 556 HF1780—Simoneau  
SF1775—S. Keefe

Makes technical changes in statutes defining the workers compensation reinsurance association. The association covers single claims over \$300,000 for its member insurance companies. The law also requires representatives of business and labor to formally intervene in rate setting hearings and provides funds for intervention; exempts any family farm corporation which pays less than \$8,000 a year in farm labor wages from requirements to provide workers compensation insurance.

Effective: day following final enactment

### Workers compensation supplementary benefits

Ch. 389 HF1976—Helnitz  
SF1716—Brataas

Requires the adjustment of workers compensation supplementary benefits each October 1, beginning in 1980.

Effective: August 1, 1980

### Transportation Regulation Board

Ch. 534 HF1443—Rose  
SF1457—Laufenburger

Creates the Transportation Regulation Board to take over the railroad and trucking duties the Public Service Commission and MNDOT currently perform.

Effective: July 1, 1981

### Vehicle weight overload documentary evidence

Ch. 485 HF2208—Patton  
SF2090—Willett

Permits the use of freight bills, bills of lading, weight certificates, or other similar documents as evidence to document overweight trucks; requires receiving clerks to keep weight records for 30 days and present records to officials upon 24 hours notice.

Effective: August 1, 1980

### Volunteer ambulance drivers use of emergency lights

Ch. 404 HF1846—Prah  
SF1914—Perpich

Permits volunteer ambulance drivers to use emergency lights on their privately owned vehicles while on the way to the ambulance.

Effective: August 1, 1980

## Bills the Governor Vetoes

Governor Quie vetoed a bill to increase campaign spending limits, but the Legislature included provisions dealing with campaign financing in the *Initiative and Referendum* bill (p. 4) which the governor signed. Quie also vetoed a fuel assistance/weatherization bill, but signed a lower dollar amount version as part of the *Omnibus Energy Bill*, (p. 8).

**Under the Minnesota Constitution, the governor can line veto spending bills (veto a portion of a bill and sign the rest into law). The governor, under the Constitution, can't line veto non-spending bills. Here are the bills the governor vetoed, and the items he line vetoed in the Omnibus Tax Bill and the Supplemental Appropriations Bill.**

### Campaign spending limits

HF762—Osthoff  
SF50—S. Keefe

Would have increased campaign expenditure limits for candidates for state office, who accept public funds.

### Election judges — redistricting Hennepin County

HF2043—D. Peterson  
SF2122—Stokowski

Would have allowed persons to take time off from work to serve as election judges and established a commission to redraw Hennepin County commissioner districts.

### Fuel assistance weatherization

HF1744—Nelson  
SF1670—Humphrey

Would have appropriated \$33 million for emergency fuel assistance and weatherization, and allowed approximately \$10.5 million in tax credits.

### Medical malpractice Temporary Joint Underwriting Association Act

HF1837—L. Carlson  
SF2029—Luther

Would have authorized issuance of temporary insurance licenses; extended the Joint Underwriting Association Act.

### Standing appropriations

HF1507—Laidig  
SF0527—Moe

Would have abolished certain standing appropriations.

### Omnibus tax bill (vetoed items)

HF1211—H. Sieben  
SF883—E. Stokowski

Vetoed items include: a joint commuter rail study commission to study commuter rail transit between St. Cloud and the Twin Cities, and \$30,000 for heat-applied tax stamps.

### Supplemental appropriations bill (vetoed items)

HF2476—Voss

Vetoed items include: program to microfilm state records; state park inflation expenses; juvenile crime intervention programs; upgrade automatic fingerprint identification; Indian housing development and loans (2/3 for reservations); temporary shelter; Transportation Finance Study Commission; crime victims services; THC research for cancer therapy; Arts board/public television; Total vetoed items—\$4,308,000.

# SESSION '80

Minnesota House of Representatives  
Publication of House Information Office  
Rm 8 • State Capitol  
St. Paul, Minnesota • 55155 • (612) 296-2146

On the cover: The Capitol in the moonlight, highlighting the quadriga, "Progress of the State," by sculptors Daniel C. French and Edward C. Potter, symbolizing the progress of mankind toward prosperity. Two of French's other well-known sculptures are the figure of Lincoln in the Lincoln Memorial, Washington, D.C., and "The Minute Man", historic statue at Concord, Massachusetts.

Editor: Jean Steiner; Assistant Editor: Jean Mehle; Design and production: Marcia Balcken; Contributing Staff: Sue Shepard, Gary Cox, David Russell  
Photos: Tom Olmscheid



June 1980

## Where to get information

### Office of the Chief Clerk (Edward A. Burdick, Chief Clerk)

The full membership of the House elects the Chief Clerk. He is the administrative officer and unofficial parliamentarian and is responsible for the functions of several departments within the Chief Clerk's Office.

### Front Office Room 211 (612) 296-2314

One of these departments is the front office, right next to the chamber on the second floor of the Capitol Building. Here, people pick up the daily and weekly schedules of House committee meetings. They can get answers to their questions about proceedings in the House and other general information from employees staffing the front desk. Copies of General Orders, the calendar for the day's House action, bills, resolutions and the *'Journal of the House'*, the official daily record of legislative action, are available.

### Index Department Room 211 (612) 296-6646

A computerized index follows each bill, recording its status as it makes its way through the Legislature.

The Index Department staff also assists the public, giving people proper file numbers of bills they're interested in, authors names, committee assignments of the various bills, etc., and helping them to use the CRT (Cathode Ray Tube). This is a television-screen-like device people can use to "call up" and view index information. For example:

—Authors lists: lists, by individual representatives' names, all bills members have sponsored in the current session.

- Topical lists: all bills under a given topic, i.e., environment, taxes, education, etc. (175 topics).
- Committee lists: listing of bills in each committee.
- Statute information: list by statute number of all bills affecting a particular statute(s).

### Legislative Information Office Room 8 (612) 296-2146

This office supplies the public with:

**Session Publications:** *Weekly Wrap-up* — lists committee meetings, agendas for upcoming week, bill introductions, bills the governor has signed; summarizes committee meetings, House action. *Session* — magazine on the legislative process. Summary of new laws after each legislative session.

**Interim publications:** *Interim* magazine; follows interim activity in the House; reviews committee activity and special studies.

**Directories:** Membership Directory — lists House and Senate members and committees. Official Directory — lists members, committees, offices, employees, rules for the House and Senate. Telephone Directory — lists members and staff.

**Informational Brochures:** How a Bill Becomes a Law, *Today in the Minnesota House* (daily committee meeting agendas during the session), *Road to Minnesota Laws* (cartoon version of how a bill becomes law, for the younger set), *Citizen's Participation Quiz* (includes legislative district maps), *Three Branches of Government* (wall chart showing the structure of state government).

**General Information:** Office staff answers questions such as: Who is my representative? What district do I live in? and directs people to other information sources.

**Special Projects:** Public information display in the State Departments Building on the State Fairgrounds and Media Day for the press.

### Committee Information

Both the House and Senate provide 24-hour telephone lines for committee meeting schedules (time, place and agenda).

House line: 296-9283  
Senate line: 296-8088

### Office of Educational Services Room 124-D (612) 296-8081

On request from a representative, or a group leader, this office will schedule and arrange visits and seminars which highlight the work of the House and its members.

The office takes reservations for school groups (including teachers and post-secondary students) for clubs, special interest groups, out-of-state visitors and foreign guests.

### In the Senate

Secretary of the Senate's Office and Senate Index, in Room 231 of the Capitol (296-2887), provide the same services as the Front Office/Chief Clerk's Office and the Index Department in the House.

Senate Public Information Office, Room B-29 (296-0504) in the Capitol basement, provides similar services in the Senate as the House Information Office does in the House.