

Section 1. **Ramsey county; County Abstract Clerks; defacing records.** In counties having *more than 300,000 and less than 450,000* inhabitants:

(a) The records and indices in the office of County Abstract Clerk are hereby designated and defined as public records, open to inspection, but only to the extent in this section provided.

(b) Every record, index, abstract copy, plat, bookkeeping record, or paper of any type whatsoever, prepared in such office, shall be the property of the County for the use of the County Abstract Clerk and his successors in office, and shall at the expiration of the term of any such Abstract Clerk be turned over to his successor in office.

(c) The County Abstract Clerk shall permit, without fee and within such reasonable business hours as not to interfere with the conduct of the work of the office, and under such supervision as shall assure the safety of the records, inspection of the Tract Index as hereinafter defined, by any party interested in the ownership of any particular parcel of land, or his agent or attorney. There shall be no right on the part of anyone to make general or indiscriminate searches of the records or to copy any part thereof for the purpose of making abstracts of title or abstract books or in any manner to deprive the Abstract Clerk of the fees provided by law for his official duties.

(d) Any person who destroys, attempts to destroy, deface or alter any record in the office of the County Abstract Clerk shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be subject to punishment according to law.

Approved February 26, 1949.

CHAPTER 65—H. F. No. 289

[Not Coded]

An act fixing the salary of the county auditor and the number of his employees in counties having more than 300,000 and less than 450,000 inhabitants.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota :

Section 1. **County auditor; salary.** That in all counties having more than 300,000 and less than 450,000 inhabitants the county auditor shall be paid \$4,500.00 per annum.

Sec. 2. **Deputies; appointment of.** Such auditors may appoint and employ one chief deputy and 30 deputies pursuant to the civil service laws relating to such county and the rules and regulations made pursuant thereto.

Sec. 3. **Chief deputy; salary.** Such chief deputy and deputies shall receive the salary fixed by the board of county commissioners.

Sec. 4. **Additional employees.** The board of county commissioners may authorize the employment of such additional employees as it believes necessary.

Approved February 26, 1949.

CHAPTER 66—H. F. No. 290

[Not Coded]

An act providing for the election and term of office of abstract clerks in all counties having a population of more than 300,000 and less than 450,000 inhabitants; amending Laws 1945, Chapter 54, Sections 1 and 2.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota :

Section 1. Laws 1945, Chapter 54, Sections 1 and 2, is amended to read :

Section 1. **Ramsey county; election of Abstract clerk.** In all counties having more than 300,000 and less than 450,000 inhabitants, an abstract clerk shall be elected at the general election for county officers to be held in the year 1950 and each four years thereafter, and his term of office shall be for four years and until his successor is elected and shall have qualified.