

H. F. No. 493.

CHAPTER 262.

Independent
school dis-
tricts adjoin-
ing may
consolidate.

An act to provide for the organization of independent school districts by consolidating two or more adjoining districts and for the transportation of children to and from school at public expense.

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

Petition.

SECTION 1. Any two or more adjoining school districts, now or hereafter organized may be organized and established as an independent school district in the manner and with the powers hereinafter described, *provided, however*, that the limitations as to territory now provided by law for independent districts shall not apply to districts organized under the provisions of this act.

SEC. 2. Whenever a petition signed by a majority of the resident freeholders of each of the districts which are proposed to be organized as one independent district (which fact shall on said petition be certified to by the clerks of the several districts) is presented to the superintendent of schools of the county wherein such proposed independent district lies in whole or in major part, he shall cause written or printed notices to be posted in three (3) of the most public places in each of said districts, requesting the qualified electors thereof to assemble at some specified place in each district for the purpose of voting by ballot for or against the organization of such independent district. These meetings shall be held at the same time in all the districts included in said petition and the notices thereof shall be posted at least ten (10) days prior to the date of such meetings.

Electors'
meeting.

SEC. 3. The electors of each district assembled pursuant to said notices shall at their several meetings proceed to elect from their own number a chairman, assistant chairman and clerk who shall be judges of election.

The electors in favor of the organization of such independent district shall write or have written or printed, upon their ballots the words "Independent district—Yes;" and those opposed thereto, "Independent district—No." The chairman and clerk of each meeting shall, within ten (10) days thereafter certify the result of such vote to the superintendent of schools above specified.

Superintendent
to notify
auditor.

SEC. 4. If it shall appear from these several reports that of the electors present and voting a majority in each district voted in favor of the organization of such independent district, said superintendent shall, within ten (10) days thereafter certify to the county auditor

or auditors of the county or counties wherein such districts lie that they have been organized into one independent district, which fact shall be immediately entered upon the records of said auditor or auditors. The auditor of the county wherein the approximate center of such independent district lies shall assign a number to said district.

SEC. 5. The superintendent of schools above specified shall within thirty (30) days after the first meetings cause written or printed notices to be posted in five (5) of the most public places of the newly organized independent district requesting the electors thereof to assemble at some specified time and place for the purpose of electing a board of education and transacting such other business as may properly come before the meeting, which notices shall be posted at least ten (10) days prior to the date of such meeting. The officers of the several districts shall continue to exercise their respective duties until the organization of the independent school has been completed by the election of a board of education as provided by law.

Notice of election.

SEC. 6. Districts organized under the provisions of this act shall be governed by the laws relating to independent school districts when not inconsistent with the provisions of this act.

The board of education of any district organized as herein provided shall have power to provide for the transportation of children to and from school at public expense, subject to such rules and regulations as they may adopt; *provided, however*, that every person employed for this purpose shall be required to give a reasonable bond for the faithful discharge of his duties as prescribed by said board of education.

Powers of board of education; transportation of children.

SEC. 7. Independent districts organized under the provisions of this act shall succeed to all the rights and be subject to all the liabilities of the several consolidated districts; and said independent districts may, by complying with the provisions herein prescribed, receive special state aid as provided in chapter three hundred and fifty-two (352) of the General Laws of one thousand eight hundred and ninety-nine (1899).

State aid.

SEC. 8. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved April 11, 1901.