

CHAPTER 206—H. F. No. 289.

An Act to amend chapter 343, General Laws for 1905, relating to the construction, equipment, and regulation of hotels, inns, and public lodging houses.

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

Fire escapes on hotel buildings—Violation a misdemeanor.—

Section 1. That chapter 343, General Laws of 1905, be amended so as to read as follows:

“Section 1. Every building or structure kept, used or maintained as, or advertised as, or held out to the public to be an inn, hotel, or public lodging house, or place where sleeping accommodations are furnished to the public, whether with or without meals, shall have and be provided with, at each end of all halls from every story or floor higher than three stories, a suitable fire escape, reaching to within twelve (12) feet of the ground and shall have and be provided with a way of egress to such fire escape, which way of egress and fire escape shall at all times be kept free and clear of any obstruction, and in good repair and ready and suitable for immediate use, or in lieu thereof in any and all buildings or structure kept, used or maintained as, or advertised as, or held out to the public to be an inn, hotel, public lodging house or place where sleeping accommodations are furnished to the public, whether with or without meals, there shall be supplied and kept at all times, in plain sight, and securely attached therein and thereto, in every bedroom, or sleeping apartment on the second floor or above the second floor, a manila rope, with knots not more than 15 inches apart, at least five-eighths of an inch in diameter, and of sufficient strength to sustain a weight and strain of at least five hundred pounds; and every owner of any such building or structure, in this section described, who shall fail to comply with the provisions of this section shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction thereof shall be fined not less than twenty-five dollars, nor more than fifty dollars, and in default of payment thereof shall be imprisoned for not less than ten days. *Provided*, this act shall not apply to hotels or lodging houses which are already provided with ample outside iron fire escapes.

Ropes to be afforded patrons.—Sec. 2. Any person or persons keeping, maintaining, controlling or managing any building or structure kept, used or maintained as, or advertised as, or held out to the public to be an inn, hotel, public lodging house, or place where sleeping accommodations are furnished to the public, whether with or without meals, shall supply and shall keep at all times, and in plain sight, and securely attached therein and thereto, in every bedroom, or sleeping apartment,

on second floor, or above second floor, a manilla rope, with knots not more than 15 inches apart, at least five-eighths of an inch in diameter, and of sufficient strength to sustain a weight and strain of at least five hundred pounds, and on failing to supply such ropes such person or persons shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction thereof shall be fined not less than five dollars, nor more than twenty-five dollars, and in default of payment thereof, may be imprisoned not less than ten days.

Application.—Sec. 3. All inns, hotels, public lodging houses, and places of twelve sleeping rooms or more where sleeping accommodations are furnished to the public, whether with or without meals, in the State of Minnesota, shall be subject to the provisions of this act, except as already herein provided.

Governor to appoint hotel inspector at salary of \$1800—Duties of inspector.—Sec. 4. For the purpose of carrying into effect the provisions of this act, the governor shall appoint an inspector at a salary of \$1,800 a year, who shall hold office for two years, and whose duty it shall be to visit and inspect annually, so far as possible, every building or structure kept, used or maintained as, or advertised as, or held out to the public to be an inn, a hotel, public lodging house, or place where sleeping accommodations are furnished to the public, whether with or without meals. Said inspector is hereby granted police power to enter all hotels, inns, boarding or lodging houses in this state, at reasonable hours to inspect the sanitary conditions thereof, and the fire escapes and their condition. He shall keep a complete set of books for public use and inspection, showing the condition of said hotels, inns, or public lodging or boarding houses and places so inspected, together with the name or names of the owners, proprietors or managers thereof, and showing its sanitary condition, the number and condition of its fire escapes, and any other information for the betterment of the public service.

Inspector to issue certificate—Duties of county attorney.—Sec. 5. If the inspector shall find after examination of any inn, hotel, public lodging house or place where sleeping accommodations are furnished to the public, whether with or without meals, that the law has been fully complied with, and the inspection fee has been paid to the inspector, he shall issue a certificate to the person operating the same, and said certificate shall be kept posted up in a conspicuous place in said inspected building. It shall be the duty of the county attorney in the county where the building is located to bring and prosecute an action for the collection of the inspector's fees in cases where payment of the same is refused.

False certification.—Sec. 6. Any inspector who shall wilfully certify falsely regarding any building inspected by him, and who shall issue a certificate to any person operating any inn, hotel, public lodging house or place where sleeping accommodations are furnished to the public, whether with or without meals, when such person has not complied with the provisions of this act, shall on conviction thereof, be fined not less than fifty dollars, nor to exceed five hundred dollars, and may be imprisoned not to exceed one year in the state prison, or both at the discretion of the court, and removed from office.

Inspector to have access to hotels from 10 a. m. to 4 p. m.—Sec. 7. For the purpose of inspecting them as provided for in this act the inspector shall, during the hours from 10 a. m. to 4 p. m. have free access to all halls in any hotel, inn, public lodging or boarding house, or place where sleeping accommodations are furnished to the public, whether with or without meals. Any person or persons operating the same who shall refuse or hinder the inspector from entering any hall in any building that this law requires him to inspect shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be fined not less than \$5.00 nor more than \$25.00, and in default of payment thereof shall be imprisoned for not less than ten days nor more than thirty days.

Fees for official inspection.—Sec. 8. The inspector shall be authorized to charge and collect the following fees for official inspection of buildings as herein provided, viz.: Buildings of twelve and less than fifty rooms, \$5.00; fifty and less than one hundred rooms, \$7.50; one hundred and less than two hundred rooms, \$10.00, two hundred rooms and over, \$15.00. All of said fees shall be turned into the state treasury.

Office in state capitol building—To appoint one deputy inspector and other office help.—Sec. 9. The inspector shall be provided with an office in the state capitol building and such office supplies as may be necessary, and may appoint one (1) deputy inspector at a salary of not more than fifteen hundred dollars (\$1,500) per year and such other office help as may be necessary to carry this act into effect. The expenses of the inspector and his deputies, necessarily incurred in the discharge of their duties and in the administration of the office, shall be paid on the filing of proper vouchers. The inspector and deputies shall each give a bond in the sum of \$5,000. The inspector shall be required to report all transactions to the state auditor every three months, and also make a report at the end of each year.

\$6,000 appropriated.—Sec. 10. For the payment of the salaries and expenses of the inspector and his deputies, the salaries of such other office help as may be employed, and the expenses

of the office, there is hereby appropriated annually, out of any moneys in the state treasury not otherwise appropriated the sum of six thousand dollars (\$6,000).

Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved April 18, 1911.

CHAPTER 207—H. F. No. 210.

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1289

An Act relating the formation of consolidated school districts, providing state aid for schools in such districts, and repealing sections 1289, 1290, 1291, 1292, 1293, Revised Laws of 1905, and chapter 326, Session Laws of 1905, and chapter 304, Session Laws of 1907, and other acts and parts of acts inconsistent herewith.

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

Procedure for consolidation of school districts.—Section 1. Two or more school districts of any kind may be consolidated, either by the formation of a new district or by annexation of one or more districts to an existing district in which is maintained a state graded, semi-graded or high school, as hereinafter provided.

A district so formed by consolidation or annexation shall be known as a consolidated school district. Before any steps are taken to organize a consolidated school district, the superintendent of the county in which the major portion of territory is situated, from which it is proposed to form a consolidated school district, shall cause a plat to be made showing the size and boundaries of the new district, the location of schoolhouses in the several districts, the location of other adjoining school districts and of schoolhouses therein, together with such other information as may be of essential value, and submit the same to the superintendent of public instruction, who shall approve, modify or reject the plan so proposed, and certify his conclusions to the county superintendent of schools. To receive state aid as a consolidated school of Class A or Class B, as defined in this act, the consolidated district must contain not less than eighteen sections, and to receive state aid as a consolidated school of Class C, not less than twelve sections; but any existing school district or at least such area shall have the rights and privileges of a consolidated school district. A consolidated school district of less than twelve sections may be formed as herein provided, but shall not be entitled to receive special state aid as herein provided for.