

## CHAPTER 32--H. F. No. 26.

*An act regulating the starting and having of open fires in certain portions of the state, providing for the issuance of permits to set fires in certain cases, and prescribing penalties for violations thereof.*

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

**Section 1. State forester to issue fire permits.**—It shall be unlawful, when the ground is not snow-covered, in those portions of the state of Minnesota where there are standing or growing native coniferous trees, or in areas of ground from which native coniferous trees have been cut, or where there are slashings of such trees, or native brush, timber, slashings thereof, or excavated stumps, or where there is peat or peat roots excavated or growing, to start or have any open fire, except for domestic purposes and to protect persons or property in case of fire, without the written permission of the state forester or other authorized forest officer, unless a fire-break sufficient to check the spread of such fire shall have been freshly made or plowed around the place or area wherein said fire is set.

**Sec. 2. Conditions and restrictions.**—Permission to set fire to any grass, stubble, peat, brush, slash or woods for the purpose of clearing and improving land or preventing other fire shall be given whenever the same may be safely burned, upon such reasonable conditions and restrictions as the state forester may prescribe to prevent same from spreading and getting beyond control. Such permission shall be in the form of a written permit signed by a regular forest officer or a member of the town board to be designated by the state forester as township fire warden, said permits to be on blanks furnished by the state forester. Provided, however, that the forester or any of his assistants or the township fire warden may at his discretion in cases of extreme danger, refuse, revoke or postpone the use of permits to burn when such act is clearly necessary for the safety of life and property.

**Sec. 3. Punishment for violation.**—Any person or corporation violating any of the foregoing provisions of this act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine of not less than twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) nor more than one hundred dollars (\$100.00), or by imprisonment in the county jail for not more than ninety days.

**Sec. 4.** This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved September 22, 1919.