

Section 15. **Provisions severable.**—If any provision of this act, or the application of any provision to any person or circumstance, is held invalid, the remainder of the act, and the application of such provision to other persons or circumstances, shall not be affected thereby.

Section 16. **Short title.**—This act may be known and cited as the Minnesota Soil Conservation Districts Law. The Governor of the State of Minnesota shall cause to be furnished to the Secretary of Agriculture of the United States by registered mail, a certified copy of this act within ten days after its approval by him

Approved April 26, 1937.

CHAPTER 442—H. F. No. 1168

An act to furnish counsel and to pay expenses arising from suits of duly qualified officers, under certain conditions, and authorizing cities, municipalities, and other governmental subdivisions to appropriate money for such purposes.

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

Section 1. **Municipalities to furnish counsel to defend public officials.**—On and after the passage of this act, every city, village, borough, township or county of this State employing sheriffs, police officers or peace officers shall be required to furnish competent legal counsel to defend any sheriff, deputy sheriff, police officer or peace officer employed by any such governmental subdivision in all actions brought against such officer to recover damages for alleged false arrest, when such alleged false arrest was made by such officer in good faith and in the performance of his official duties, and shall pay reasonable costs and expenses of defending such suit, including witness fees and counsel fees; notwithstanding any contrary provisions in the laws of this State or in the Charter of any such governmental subdivision.

Section 2. **Cost and disbursements to be assigned to municipalities.**—If, at the termination of such suit, judgment is rendered in favor of the defendant and against the plaintiff, such judgment for costs and disbursements shall be assigned to such governmental subdivision by such officer, and all moneys collected thereon shall be paid to such governmental subdivision. If judgment be rendered in such action against such officer, such governmental subdivision so employing such officer is hereby authorized to

appropriate moneys from any funds available to pay such judgment, if, in the discretion of the governing body of such governmental subdivision, it seems fitting and proper to do so.

Section 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved April 24, 1937.

CHAPTER 443—H. F. No. 1197

An act authorizing the refundment of the amount paid by the purchaser at a tax sale or the purchaser of a state assignment certificate of lands returned and assessed as improved property where in fact such land was not improved at the time of the assessment or since then and without which the land is of little or no value, where such purchase was made in good faith and without actual notice or knowledge of the erroneous assessment; authorizing the Minnesota Tax Commission to grant refundment on applications in the manner permitted in other cases of refundment by such commission, and providing for the reinstatement of the valid portion of the tax.

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

Section 1. **Refundments to purchasers of tax certificates in certain cases.**—In any case where real estate has been erroneously returned as improved property, but which was not in fact then or since improved, and the amount of the assessed valuation was based wholly or largely upon the value of the supposed improvements and without which improvements the land itself would be of little or no value and would therefore justify an assessment of only a small fractional part of the taxes actually levied and extended, and where such taxes have become delinquent and the land sold and bid in at a regular tax sale by an actual purchaser or bid in by the state for the want of such purchaser and the right of the state thereafter assigned to one in good faith and without actual notice or knowledge of such erroneous assessment, the Minnesota Tax Commission shall have power upon approved application, as in other cases, presented to it to grant a refundment of the amount paid by such purchaser or assignee.

Section 2. **Application must be made within two years.**—No such refundment shall be granted unless an application therefor shall be duly approved and presented to the Minnesota Tax Com-