

When the purchase price of a parcel of land shall be paid in full, the following facts shall be certified by the county auditor to the Minnesota Tax Commission: the descriptions of the land, the date of sale, the name of the purchaser and the date when the final installment of the purchase price is paid. Upon payment in full of the purchase price, the purchaser shall receive a quitclaim deed from the state, to be executed by the Tax Commission. Failure to pay any of the deferred installments, with interest and current taxes, on any parcel before they become delinquent, shall constitute default and upon such default all the right, title and interest of the purchaser or his heirs or representatives in such parcel shall terminate without the doing by the state of any act or thing whatsoever.

**Section 6. Application of act.**—This act shall not apply to lands within the Game Preserve established by Laws of 1929, Chapter 258, or conservation areas established by Laws of 1931, Chapter 407, or by Laws of 1933, Chapter 402, which included in the sum for which said lands were forfeited any ditch assessment.

**Section 7. Timber not to be removed until payment is made in full.**—When any forfeited lands are repurchased, as provided for in this act, no timber or timber products shall be cut and removed until the purchase price has been paid in full.

**Section 8. No sales to be made under Chap. 407, Laws 1933, after Sept. 1, 1937.**—No sales of any lands claimed by the state to have been forfeited to the state shall be made under Laws of 1933, Chapter 407, after September 1, 1937.

**Section 9. Provisions severable.**—If any section or part of this act shall be declared to be unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, the remainder of this act shall not be affected thereby.

Approved July 23, 1937.

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## CHAPTER 89—H. F. No. 91

*An act to promote the public welfare by providing for the issuance of certificates of indebtedness and for the levying of taxes and authorizing the State Board of Investment to purchase said certificates of indebtedness and providing for the administration of said act by the Executive Council and appropriating money for the purposes of this act.*

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

WHEREAS, Conditions of intense distress throughout the state, produced by economic causes, make imperative the giving of direct relief, work relief, and employment; and

WHEREAS, In certain areas within the state because of unprecedented lack of rainfall and moisture in previous years a shortage of grain and forage has resulted in a lack of such feed and forage for livestock; and

WHEREAS, Such conditions have imperiled the future production of livestock and the ability of persons engaged in agricultural pursuits to care for themselves and their families; and

WHEREAS, In providing for drouth relief, work relief and employment, projects can be undertaken to promote the conservation of the various natural resources of the state and of the health, safety and general welfare of its people; and

WHEREAS, The public health, public safety and general welfare are seriously menaced by these conditions; and

WHEREAS, A general emergency exists affecting the public health, public safety and general welfare of the people of the state:

**Section 1. Appropriation for public relief.**—There is hereby appropriated out of the Minnesota Public Relief Fund hereinafter created, and, as hereinafter provided, to the State Executive Council, hereinafter called the Council, for public relief purposes as described herein, including the cost of administration and supervision the sum of \$11,100,000 of which amount the sum of \$5,850,000 shall be available for direct relief for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1938; a sum not to exceed \$1,750,000 thereof to be available for sponsors' contributions to emergency work projects, and any unexpended balance of said \$1,750,000 to be carried over and made available for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1939, the sum of \$750,000 shall be available for aid to drouth stricken farmers, and the sum of \$2,750,000 to be available for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1939, for direct relief.

For the purpose of carrying out the administration of this act the Executive Council is authorized to set apart not more than \$200,000 for the year ending June 30, 1938, and the further sum of \$133,000 for the year ending June 30, 1939.

**Section 2. Work and direct relief.**—Out of the appropriation made in Section 1 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1938, the Council is hereby authorized and directed to spend such sums as it may deem advisable to provide aid, work relief, direct relief, and employment for drouth stricken farmers and distressed farmers in former drouth areas, provided that the sum expended shall not exceed \$750,000, the unexpended balance remaining at the close of the fiscal year 1938 to be available for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1939.

**Section 3. What are included.**—Public relief purposes as used herein shall include drouth relief, direct relief, work relief, unemployment relief, flood control, water supply, water diversion, erosion control, reforestation, afforestation and any other project which will aid in conservation or development of the natural resources of the state and in making studies and surveys, and in promoting and conserving the health, safety and general welfare of the people.

**Section 4. Projects which may be undertaken.**—Said Council may undertake projects involving flood control, water supply, water diversion, control of erosion, reforestation, afforestation, recreation and aviation facilities, and any other project which will aid in the conservation or development of the natural resources of the state and for the promotion and conservation of the health, safety and general welfare of the people of the state.

All persons employed on work relief or re-employment projects shall be employees within the meaning of the provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Act, provided that the Council may, in lieu of purchasing Workmen's Compensation insurance, provide for the direct payment of compensation claims out of funds available for such purpose, and if such funds are not available therefor then out of any moneys appropriated by this act.

**Section 5. Council may acquire property.**—The Council is authorized to acquire by gift, purchase or condemnation proceedings under Mason's Minnesota Statutes of 1927, Chapter 41, as amended, any land needed to carry on the work relief and employment herein provided for and, in appropriate cases, to convey land to the United States or political subdivisions of this state for projects financed in whole or in part by the United States or by the political subdivisions of the state. In undertaking projects involving flood control, water supply or water diversion, preference shall be given to projects located in the drought-stricken areas of the state.

**Section 6. Council to disburse moneys.**—The moneys appropriated hereby shall be disbursed by the Council to the various federal, state, county and municipal agencies for the purpose of furnishing aid and relief in such manner as the Council deems advisable.

**Section 7. Recipients to accept suitable employment.**—All employable recipients of direct relief from public relief funds named under Section 1, shall be required to accept suitable employment when offered in lieu of such direct relief; and if the compensation for such employment shall be less than the established budget requirement of such recipients, the difference shall be provided from available relief funds; provided that upon the termination of such employment, persons becoming thus unemployed shall again receive direct relief out of available relief funds provided that they are otherwise qualified for such relief.

**Section 8. Employed persons may receive partial relief.**—In the event that the recipient of any relief is offered employment at what he considers less than a living wage he may continue on relief, but the local public relief agency, in determining whether or not such employment is suitable for any individual, shall consider the degree of risk involved to safety, health and morals, physical fitness, prior training and distance of available work from residence.

Provided, however, that no relief shall be denied any person for refusing to accept employment, nor shall any person be compelled to accept employment, under any of the following conditions:

(1) If the position is vacant due directly to a strike, lockout or labor dispute;

(2) If the wages, hours or other conditions of the work offered are less favorable to the person than those prevailing for similar work in the locality;

(3) If as a condition of being employed, the person is required to join a company union or refrain from joining any bona fide labor organization.

If any relief recipient fails to conform to this requirement, he shall be ineligible to receive relief. The Council shall provide for the enforcement of this provision by appropriate rules and regulations.

**Section 9. Appropriation for fire relief.**—The Council is empowered to do any and all things deemed by it advisable or necessary to provide aid and relief in the matter of preserving the public health, and relieving the needy in the Palo Markham fire area in St. Louis County, Minnesota, which was devastated by forest fires in August, 1936, and is empowered to spend a sum of not more than \$125,000.00 for that purpose, and provided further that an additional sum of \$25,000 may be spent to relieve the needy in any other areas devastated by forest fires in the state.

**Section 10. To be allocated to the State Relief Agency.**—The moneys hereby appropriated shall be allocated to the state relief agency, which is hereby continued, and by said agency, under the direction of the Executive Council, to such local agencies now or hereafter authorized by law to administer relief in such amounts and for such purposes within the restrictions of this act as may be determined by the state relief agency. Such moneys shall be withdrawn from the state treasury only as needed by the requirements of this act and only upon warrants issued by the state auditor upon the order of the Council. The members of said state relief agency may be removed at any time by the Executive Council without cause. In granting relief to the various counties and municipalities of the state, as by this act provided, the Executive Council shall be primarily

guided by the financial and economic conditions and the relief load of the county or municipality asking relief aid.

*In determining the amounts of allocation of moneys to the State Relief Agency and to the local relief agencies, the Executive Council may determine and make the same upon the time basis of the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1937, notwithstanding the later date of the passage of this act.*

**Section 11. Who shall disburse funds.**—The funds allocated by the Executive Council to the State Relief Agency for distribution to the counties of the state shall be granted to the counties and municipalities on a basis determined by the Council and shall be disbursed by the County Welfare board in each county, except in counties containing a city of the first class and operating under the town system, where such funds may be disbursed by the agent of such county board with respect to the portion of the county outside of such city, and except in municipalities where a public welfare agency is provided by charter or by legislative act, then by such public welfare agency in accordance with the provisions of such charter or act; but whether such funds are disbursed by a county or municipality, the funds so allocated shall be used solely for the purpose of furnishing aid to the needy, destitute and disabled persons within the State of Minnesota.

In counties having poor commissions established by law, such poor commission shall administer such duties and expend such funds herein made available for such counties.

The Executive Council is hereby given power to supervise the administration of relief by local agencies under the provisions of this act in so far as such administration involves the expenditure of moneys made available by this act.

There shall be vested in the Executive Council the authority to withhold any funds from any county or municipality, which, in the opinion of the Executive Council, is using and expending funds in conflict with the intent and purposes of this act, or which is not granting proper aid to the needy and destitute persons within the borders thereof.

All counties shall permit free choice of vendor to relief clients for relief orders, provided that the vendors thus chosen conform to the regulations of the Executive Council and of the responsible relief agency.

All counties and municipalities receiving grants of state funds for relief are hereby directed and required to report all their relief expenditures to the state relief administrator at such times and in such manner as that officer may direct.

The Council in its discretion is authorized and empowered to use and disburse such sums as it deems advisable for the purposes of furnishing aid to honorably discharged disabled veterans of all wars through such agency as said Executive Council may designate or establish therefor.

**Section 12. May carry on safety inspection work.**—The State Executive Council is hereby authorized and empowered to expend out of the amount herein appropriated for sponsors' contribution such sums of money which, in their judgment, may be necessary for safety inspection work required by law for the protection of employees engaged upon such state and federal projects as may be designated by the Council.

**Section 13. Contributions by counties or municipalities.**—Any county or municipality requiring aid and relief shall contribute a sum, which in the opinion of the Council and its authorized agency, is fair and equitable to be so borne by them, financial and economic conditions and the relief load of the county or municipality concerned to be taken into consideration. Provided, however, that no local contribution shall be required for that portion of the \$750,000 appropriated for drouth stricken farmers.

**Section 14. May pay from general revenue fund.**—From time to time as funds may become available in the general revenue fund, the Council, acting upon information provided by the state auditor and state treasurer, shall authorize the payment of a portion of the money herein appropriated for relief purposes from the general revenue fund; provided, that at no time shall a greater amount be authorized to be paid from said fund than one-half of the money estimated by the state auditor and the state treasurer to be available in said fund above necessary expenditures during the next succeeding fiscal year or unexpired portion thereof; provided, further, that the Council shall not authorize payments for this purpose from the general revenue fund in excess of \$10,000,000.00.

**Section 15. Tax levies.**—For the purpose of providing funds with which to discharge the obligations provided by the terms of this act, the state auditor is hereby authorized and directed to levy upon all taxable property in the state in the manner in which other state taxes are levied the sum of \$2,775,000 for the taxable year 1937, \$2,775,000 for the taxable year 1938, \$2,775,000 for the taxable year 1939, \$2,775,000 for the taxable year 1940, and \$2,775,000 for the taxable year 1941, or as much thereof each year as may be found by the state Executive Council to be necessary, taking account of the fact that a portion of the money herein appropriated may be paid from the general revenue fund, and the issue of certificates of indebtedness herein authorized may be correspondingly reduced, and to levy and collect annually such additional sum as may be needed to meet the interest on the certificates of indebtedness hereinafter authorized. The proceeds from such tax levies shall be credited to a special fund to

be known as the "Minnesota Public Relief Certificate Fund of 1937-8", which fund is hereby created. Pending the levy and collection of said taxes, the Council is hereby authorized and empowered to issue and sell, upon sealed bids and after two weeks' published notice, at not less than par, as funds are needed for the purposes of this act, certificates of indebtedness of the state in an aggregate amount not exceeding 80 per cent of the total taxes so to be levied, exclusive of those to be levied for the payment of interest, which certificates shall be known as Minnesota public relief certificates of 1937-1938, shall be numbered consecutively, and shall be in such form and denomination, with or without interest coupons, mature at such time not exceeding six years from the date thereof, bear such rate of interest, payable semi-annually, and be a charge upon and lien against the taxes herein authorized to be levied to such extent and with such priority as the Council shall determine and the certificates and the interest thereon shall be payable from said fund, provided that such interest as may become due on any such certificates prior to the collection of sufficient taxes to pay the same shall be paid out of the revenue fund. Such certificates shall be signed by the state treasurer and attested by the state auditor under their respective seals and the auditor and treasurer shall keep due record thereof. The proceeds of the sale of such certificates shall be credited to the Minnesota Public Relief Fund of 1937-1938, which is hereby created, and the relief provided for in this act shall be paid in part from said fund, and the money in said fund is hereby appropriated to the council for said relief purposes.

**Section 16. State Board of Investment to purchase certificates.**—The State Board of Investment is hereby authorized to invest the state trust funds in said certificates and said State Board of Investment is hereby authorized to purchase said certificates of indebtedness in such sums and amounts as said State Board of Investment may, from time to time, have funds available. The State Board of Investment is authorized to purchase said certificates of indebtedness at a rate of interest of three per cent, any law to the contrary notwithstanding, and such certificates may be sold to said Board without advertisement for bids.

**Section 17. Not to affect appropriations heretofore made.**—Moneys heretofore appropriated by the Council under the provisions of Laws of 1935, Chapter 51, and Extra Session Laws of 1935-36, Chapter 101, out of moneys available for the fiscal years ending July 1, 1936, and July 1, 1937, which have been allocated to municipalities of the state for direct relief or for work improvements in the state, and which have not been expended shall remain so appropriated and such allocations shall remain undisturbed unless cancellation and reallocation is authorized by the Council.

**Section 18.** This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved July 24, 1937.