

tlement, which said Contract for Deed has heretofore been issued by the State of Minnesota, or which may hereafter be issued, he may present a verified petition to make composition on the contract indebtedness, to a Judge of the District Court of Ramsey County setting forth the facts, and said judge, if satisfied that it is for the best interest of the State, may hear such petition, either with or without notice, and make his order granting such petition, and authorizing the Conservator of Rural Credit to compromise said indebtedness as requested in said petition. Said petition shall be verified by the Conservator of Rural Credit and shall contain a complete recital of all the material facts. The court may request the contract purchaser to be present when said matter is being considered.

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

Approved April 22, 1939.

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#### CHAPTER 418—S. F. No. 1421

*An act creating an interim commission composed of House and Senate members and the Commissioner of Conservation; Authorizing and directing such commission to make a study and investigation in respect to forest fire protection, management of state timber, afforestation and reforestation, establishment and maintenance of woodlots, windbreaks and shelterbelts throughout the state, tax remissions as an inducement for forest practices, that state appropriations needed in carrying out a long-time comprehensive forestry program and related matter pertaining to the development of an adequate state wide program; requiring such commission to make a report thereon with its recommendations to the Legislature at its next regular session; and appropriating money to defray expenses incurred pursuant to this act.*

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

**Section 1. Interim commission on forest fire protection.—** There is hereby created an interim commission which shall consist of three members of the house of representatives appointed by the speaker thereof, three members of the senate appointed by the president thereof, and the commissioner of conservation, all of whom shall be members of such commission until its report hereinafter mentioned shall have been made to and received by the legislature at the next regular

session thereof. Said commission shall select from its members a chairman and vice-chairman, and may employ and pay a secretary who shall not be a legislative member of the commission. No member of the commission shall receive compensation for his services as such member; but all personal expenses of members of the commission reasonably necessary for carrying out the purposes of this act shall be paid as hereinafter provided.

**Sec. 2. Duties of commission.**—Such commission shall make a study and investigation in respect to forest fire protection, the management of state timber, afforestation and reforestation, establishment and maintenance of woodlots, windbreaks and shelterbelts throughout the state, tax remissions as an inducement for forest practices, state appropriations needed in carrying out a long-time comprehensive forestry program and related matter pertaining to the development of an adequate state wide program as will enable the commission to fully report and make its recommendations.

For any of such purposes the commission shall have power to issue subpoenas or like process requiring the attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production of books and documents before the commission, or any member thereof, at any time and place designated by the commission; and, upon application by the commission the district court shall punish as for a contempt of court any person who refuses to respond to such subpoena or process within the county or judicial district where such application is made. All witnesses shall be paid by the commission the same fees and mileage required by law to be paid to witnesses in civil actions in the district court; but such fees need not be paid in advance unless so ordered by the commission.

The commission is further vested with full power and authority to employ expert and clerical aid or assistance; to purchase stationery and other supplies; to rent or otherwise provide for the use of offices and equipment; and to do any and all other things reasonably necessary or convenient in carrying out the purposes of this act.

**Sec. 3. Report.**—The commission shall make a report at the opening of the next regular session of the legislature, embodying the results of the study and investigation made pursuant to this act, setting forth all data and information in connection therewith which the commission deems of importance to the legislature; and containing all recommendations which

the commission deems proper in respect to legislation concerning any and every matter covered by said report.

**Sec. 4. Appropriation.**—There is hereby appropriated, out of any moneys in the state treasury not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$1000.00, or so much thereof as may be necessary to pay all expenses incurred pursuant to this act. For the payment of such expenses the commission shall draw its warrants upon the state treasurer, which warrants shall be signed by the chairman or vice-chairman and attested by the secretary of the commission; and the state auditor shall then approve and the state treasurer shall pay such warrants as and when presented, but not exceeding in the aggregate the amount herein appropriated. A general summary or statement of expenses so incurred and paid shall be included in the above mentioned report of the commission to the legislature.

Approved April 22, 1939.

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#### CHAPTER 419—S. F. No. 1460

*An act to appropriate money for the payment of claims against the State of Minnesota; to provide for tax and other refundments; to provide for the reimbursement and compensation of certain employes of the state having claims for personal injuries sustained or for loss or damage of property incurred while engaged in the performance of their duties and for the relief of dependents of certain employes of the state for the death of such employes while engaged in the performance of their duties; to provide for the reimbursement and compensation of persons for injuries sustained or for loss or damage to property by certain employes of the state while engaged in the performance of their duties; and by inmates of state institutions; and for relief of dependents of certain employes of the state while engaged in the performance of their duties; and to provide for payments to certain persons for services performed to the state; to authorize the state auditor to cancel certain land and other contracts heretofore entered into by certain persons with the state and to credit payments heretofore made upon other purchases or to refund same; to reimburse certain persons for deeds to certain land erroneously conveyed by the state; to authorize the auditor to credit on certain land contracts the value of improvements found not to be on said land; to provide money for carrying on certain state activities as authorized by law; to authorize and direct certain claims to be paid out of the game and fish department*