

the general revenue fund or funds not otherwise appropriated, the amount of \$5,000 for the year ending June 30, 1946, and the amount of \$5,000 for the year ending June 30, 1947.

Approved April 17, 1945.

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CHAPTER 351—H. F. No. 225

*An act to authorize the governing body of cities of the first class now or hereafter having a population of 450,000, or over, to levy an annual tax for the maintenance and operation of activities of such cities relating to the health and welfare of their citizens.*

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

Section 1. **Tax levy in support of hospitals.** The governing body of any city of the first class now or hereafter having a population of 450,000, or over, is hereby authorized and empowered to levy an annual tax, in addition to any tax authorized by law or charter of said city, of not to exceed five mills, upon all the taxable property within said city. The proceeds of said tax are to be used solely for the care, conduct, management and operation of hospitals, dispensaries and clinics maintained by said city and for the furnishing by it of medical and dental service to the poor. Such tax shall not at any time be in excess of the maximum rate of taxation fixed for the purpose hereinabove mentioned by any board or department of any such city, upon whom the duty of fixing the maximum rate of taxation for the various boards and departments of the city is placed by the charter of such city.

Approved April 17, 1945.

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CHAPTER 352—H. F. No. 354

*An act relating to cleaning and repairing county drains or ditches causing damage from overflowing of same, by county boards where the State of Minnesota holds title through tax*

*forfeiture laws or otherwise to at least 30 per cent of all the land in any one district of said county drainage system, and the payment thereof out of the general revenue fund and to levy therefor; acceptance of moneys from the State of Minnesota and its agencies to pay for same.*

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

**Section 1. Repair of certain ditches.** The County Board of any county in the State of Minnesota, having an area of not less than 5,000 square miles, now or hereafter having a county or judicial drainage system, where the State of Minnesota holds title pursuant to tax forfeiture laws or other laws to at least 30 per cent of all the land in any one district of said system, is hereby authorized and empowered to clean or to make repairs on any drain or ditch in any one district in said system when said drain or ditch, due to lack of repairs or cleaning, has caused or is causing great damage to county roads, property, crops or lands; to appropriate and expend from the general revenue fund of said county a sum not to exceed \$10,000 annually for the cost of cleaning and repairing said drains or ditches. Said cleaning and repairing may be done by the county with its own equipment and employees, or by contract, but if done by contract and said estimated cost exceeds \$500, then bids for same shall be called for and the contract shall be let to the lowest responsible bidder pursuant to law.

**Sec. 2. Acceptance of aid.** County boards are hereby authorized and empowered to accept gifts of money from the Government of the United States and the State of Minnesota or any of its agencies, to carry out the provisions of this act, and said moneys shall be spent by said county boards only for such purpose.

**Sec. 3. In addition to existing power.** The authority granted in this act is in addition to all existing power and authority granted by law to county boards to repair or clean any drains and ditches in any county or judicial drainage system.

Approved April 17, 1945.