

CHAPTER 400—S. F. No. 711

An act creating a postwar planning commission to study the problems of small business enterprises and develop a program to prevent or minimize small business failures, and to make an appropriation therefor.

WHEREAS, The small merchants and manufacturers of the State of Minnesota represent a vitally important segment of the economic life of this commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, These merchants and manufacturers are important taxpayers, employers of thousands of citizens, contributors to the morale and life of the communities of this State; and

WHEREAS, These same groups maintain real estate values, develop and attract patronage for the members of the professions and science and otherwise serve the farmer, the laboring man and the citizen; and

WHEREAS, Thousands of returning war veterans will enter into the field of small business and take an active part in their respective business communities;

NOW THEREFORE,

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

Section 1. Small business commission; established. There is hereby created a commission of nine members to be known as the "Small Business Commission." Three members actively engaged in the field of small business shall be appointed by the Governor, three members of the House of Representatives shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and three of the Senate shall be appointed by the Committee on Committees. The Commission shall report its conclusions, findings and recommendations to the Legislature on or before January 15, 1947. The members of the Commission shall receive no salary but shall be reimbursed for all actual and necessary traveling and other expenses in the discharge of their functions hereunder.

Sec. 2. Study; program. The Commission shall make a study of small business problems in Minnesota and shall develop and recommend a program which will tend to prevent or effectively minimize small business failures.

A. The Commission shall specifically study the problems affecting the life and future welfare of small business, particularly discriminatory trade practices which adversely affect small business.

B. The Commission shall study ways and means of devising such vocational training programs as it may deem necessary and advisable to equip the personnel of small business to meet effectively impending, changing economic conditions.

C. The Commission shall be specifically instructed to study such programs as shall materially aid the returning veteran to enter and establish himself in the field of small business under the principles of the free enterprise system.

D. The Commission shall study the advisability and practicability of establishing a recognized and fully empowered department of commerce whose duties would be to administer and enforce all state laws pertaining to trade and commerce within the State.

In relation to such program, the Commission may hold public hearings and may consult, advise and cooperate with federal agencies. The Commission may employ a secretary and such other assistants as may be necessary to effectuate the purposes of this act.

Sec. 3. Appropriation. From any moneys in the State Treasury to the credit of the general revenue fund and not otherwise appropriated, there is hereby appropriated the sum of \$5,000 to the Small Business Commission to be used in carrying out the purpose of this act.

Approved April 19, 1945.

CHAPTER 401—S. F. No. 714

An act relating to the county board of equalization, and amending Minnesota Statutes 1941, Section 274.13.

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1941, Section 274.13, is amended to read as follows:

274.13. County board of equalization. The county commissioners, or a majority of them, with the county auditor, or if he cannot be present, the deputy county auditor, or, if there be no such deputy, the clerk of the district court, shall form a board for the equalization of the assessment of the property of the county. The board shall meet annually, on the third Monday in July, at the office of the auditor and, each