

CHAPTER 8—H. F. No. 36

[Coded as Section 465.025]

An act authorizing municipal corporations to convey lands to the state without consideration and authorizing the governor to accept such conveyances.

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

[465.025] Section 1. **Gifts of land to state.** Any municipal corporation in the State of Minnesota, owning lands in fee simple and not restricted by the grant, which are no longer necessary for municipal purposes, may convey said lands to the State of Minnesota without consideration when duly authorized by the governing body of said municipal corporation and the governor is authorized to accept such conveyances in behalf of the state.

Approved February 11, 1947.

CHAPTER 9—S. F. No. 15

An act to amend Sections 206.02 and 206.49 of Chapter 206, Minnesota Statutes of 1945, relating to the conduct of elections and manner of voting.

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

Section 1. That Section 206.02 of Chapter 206, Minnesota Statutes of 1945, be and is hereby amended so as to read as follows:

206.02. Ballot boxes; opening and sealing; provisions applying to certain cities. Immediately before opening the polls, one of the judges shall open the ballot boxes in the presence of the people there assembled, turn them upside down so as to empty them of everything that is in them, then lock them and deliver the key to another of the judges. *Provided, however, that in all cities having a population of 50,000 or more, whether operating under home rule charters or otherwise, the city clerk may, upon the adoption of a resolution by its governing body, furnish with each ballot box, and in lieu of such lock and key, two so-called "box-car seals," one of which shall be attached in accordance with the provisions of this section, and the other to be attached after the ballots are counted, as provided in Section 206.49. Each such seal*

shall consist of a metal strap with a number imprinted in the metal, no two straps of which shall bear the same number, together with a self-locking device securely attached to one end of such strap, and so constructed that the other end may likewise be inserted and securely locked in said device. The judge emptying the ballot box shall immediately after so doing lock and seal the same by one of said seals in such a manner that said seal and ballot box cannot be opened without breaking the seal. The judges shall thereupon proclaim that the polls are open, and cause written or printed notices of the hour of closing them to be conspicuously posted outside the polling place. Such boxes shall not be re-opened until opened for the purpose of counting the ballots therein at the close of the polls.

Sec. 2. That Section 206.49 of Chapter 206, Minnesota Statutes of 1945, be and is hereby amended so as to read as follows:

206.49. Disposition of ballots in certain counties. In counties having a population of 200,000 or more, and in all cities having a population of 50,000 or more, whether operating under home rule charters or otherwise, the ballots in each district shall, as soon as practicable after the canvass is completed, and in the presence of all the judges, be strung and fastened together into a single package by passing a substantial twine string through and around the ballots cast in such district, tying the ends of the twine and sealing the same with wax over the knots with a seal provided by the county auditor or the city clerk, as the case may be. After the ballots have been so strung, fastened and sealed, they shall be replaced in the ballot boxes in the presence of all the judges, and each ballot box be locked and shall then be sealed by pasting a firm paper across the lid and body thereof, in such manner that the box cannot be opened without breaking the seal, and each judge shall write his name upon said paper, so that such signatures shall cross the opening between the lid and the body of the box. *Provided, however, that in all cities having a population of 50,000 or more, whether operating under home rule charters or otherwise, the lock of each such ballot box shall, in addition to the foregoing, be sealed securely by the remaining seal issued for that purpose as provided in Section 206.02, and in such manner that said box-car seal and ballot box cannot be opened without breaking such seal.* Such sealing shall be done before the board separates or adjourns, but not until by a canvass of the ballots in all the boxes, it has been ascertained that all of the ballots to be sealed in a box have been placed therein.

In counties having a population of 200,000 or more, and in all cities having a population of 50,000 or more, whether operating under home rule charters or otherwise, the ballot boxes, after the ballots have been placed therein and the boxes have been properly sealed, shall be returned to the office of the county auditor or city clerk, as the case may be, by at least two of the judges in person, and shall thereafter be stored in such manner as to admit at all times of actual, visual inspection of the exterior of the said boxes.

Approved February 13, 1947.

CHAPTER 10—H. F. No. 70
[Not Coded]

An act relating to the powers of the board of county commissioners in certain counties to annually levy a tax to provide for the construction or reconstruction of county buildings, the acquisition of the necessary grounds therefor and the purchase of necessary office furniture and equipment to be used in connection therewith.

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

Section 1. Tax levy in certain counties (Pennington). The board of county commissioners in any county now or hereafter containing more than 10,000 and less than 15,000 inhabitants according to the 1940 Federal census and containing more than 20 and less than 26 full and fractional townships, may hereafter annually levy a tax which will produce an amount not exceeding \$10,000 for the purpose of providing funds for the present or future construction or reconstruction of a building used or to be used for the administration of the affairs of the county and for the purposes of the court house, the acquisition of the necessary grounds therefor, and the purchase of the necessary office furniture and equipment to be used in connection therewith. The proceeds from any tax so levied shall be credited to a fund to be created by the county board and known as the special county building and sinking fund. Any money credited to such fund shall be used solely for the purposes provided for in this act.

Approved February 13, 1947.