

sum not more than \$500 which may be otherwise provided for services as a member of a municipal building commission; county superintendent of schools, \$5,500; county surveyor, \$5,500; county treasurer, \$7,250; clerk of district court, \$7,250; coroner, \$5,500, and the coroner and deputy coroners shall be reimbursed for the use of their own automobiles in the performance of their official duties, on a mileage basis at the rate fixed by law; court commissioner, \$5,500, and in addition thereto the court commissioner may retain fees received for performing marriage ceremonies without accounting for the same or turning them in to the county treasury; register of deeds and registrar of titles, where the two offices are held by one person, \$7,250; sheriff, \$7,250; and each member of the board of county commissioners, \$4,500 and such traveling expenses as are now allowed by law.

**Sec. 2. Retroactive.** The provisions of this act shall be retroactive to January 1, 1949, and the salaries herein fixed shall be paid on county auditor's warrants in equal semi-monthly installments.

**Sec. 3. Effective until January 1, 1951.** This act shall remain in force and effect until January 1, 1951; thereafter the officers covered by this act shall receive the salaries provided for by Laws 1945, Chapter 608, Section 1.

**Sec. 4. Repeal.** Laws 1947, Chapter 583, is hereby repealed.

Approved April 25, 1949.

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#### CHAPTER 711—S. F. No. 787

*An act relating to public assistance, limiting the personal property that may be owned by an applicant for assistance, and the amount of funeral expenses payable from the state agency; amending Minnesota Statutes 1945, Sections 256.51 and 256.53 as amended by Laws 1947, Chapter 343, Sections 1 and 2.*

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1945, Section 256.51, as amended by Laws 1947, Chapter 343, Section 1, is amended to read:

256.51. **Public assistance.** Assistance shall be given under Sections 256.49 to 256.71 to any person who:

1. Has lost his eyesight while a resident of the state, or shall have resided in the state for a period of one year immediately preceding the filing of the application for assistance;

2. Has not sufficient income or other resources to provide a reasonable subsistence compatible with decency and health *which shall mean, with respect to personal property, a person whose personal property is worth not more than \$500 for a single person, or \$750 for a married couple. Personal property shall include stocks and bonds, bank savings, farm machinery and livestock, land contracts, mortgages and cash value of life insurance policies. The first \$500 for a single person or \$750 in the case of a married couple, of the cash surrender value of life insurance, and the first \$500 for a single person, or \$750 for a married couple, of sale value of clothing and household goods shall be disregarded in determining how much personal property is owned;*

3. Is not an inmate of, or being maintained by the municipal, county, state, or national institution at the time of receiving assistance; an inmate of an institution may make application for such assistance, but the assistance, if granted, shall not begin until after he ceases to be an inmate of the institution;

4. Has not made an assignment or transfer of property, so as to render himself eligible for assistance under these sections, at any time within two years immediately prior to the filing of application for assistance pursuant to the provisions thereof;

5. Is not, because of his physical or mental condition, in need of continuing institutional care;

6. Is not, while receiving assistance under these sections, soliciting alms;

7. Is not, while receiving assistance under these sections, receiving old age assistance.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 1945, Section 256.53, as amended by Laws 1947, Chapter 343, Section 2, is amended to read:

**256.53. Amount of assistance.** Subdivision 1. The amount of assistance which any recipient shall receive shall be determined by the state agency, with due regard to the resources and necessary expenditures of the individual and the conditions existing in each case and in accordance with the rules and regulations made by the state agency, and sufficient, when added to all other income and support of the recipient, to provide him with a reasonable subsistence compatible with decency and health.

*Subd. 2.* On the death of a recipient, the state agency may pay an amount for reasonable funeral expenses, not exceeding \$150. No funeral expenses shall be paid if the estate of the deceased is sufficient to pay such expenses, or if the children or spouse, who were legally responsible for the support of the deceased during his lifetime, are able to pay such expenses, provided that the additional payment or donation of the cost of the cemetery lot, interment, religious services, or for the transportation of the body into or out of the community in which deceased resided, shall not limit the payment by the state agency as herein authorized. Provided further that freedom of choice in the selection of a funeral director shall be granted to persons lawfully authorized to make arrangements for the burial of any such deceased recipient. In determining the sufficiency of such estate due regard shall be had for the nature and marketability of the assets of the estate. The state agency may grant funeral expenses where the sale would cause undue loss to the estate.

Approved April 25, 1949.

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CHAPTER 712—S. F. No. 788

*An act relating to gross earnings aid to certain school districts; amending Minnesota Statutes 1945, Section 128.22,*