

CHAPTER 494—H. F. No. 432

[Coded]

An act relating to animal and poultry slaughtering, packing, and processing plants; providing for licensing and supplementary regulation and inspection of non-federally inspected or licensed establishments; providing penalties for violations.

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

Section 1. [31.51] **Definitions.** Subdivision 1. For the purposes of this act the terms defined in this section have the meaning ascribed to them.

Subd. 2. "Slaughter house" means an establishment in which animals other than poultry are slaughtered and dressed for human food.

Subd. 3. "Packing house" means an establishment in which animals are slaughtered and dressed for human food and in which meat products are canned or otherwise processed or packed for shipment or storage.

Subd. 4. "Sausage plant" means an establishment in which meats are processed into sausages or other similar products and packed for shipment or storage.

Subd. 5. "Poultry packing plant" means an establishment in which poultry is killed, dressed and packed, canned or otherwise processed for sale, storage or shipment.

Subd. 6. "Poultry dressing plant" means an establishment in which poultry is killed and dressed for immediate wholesale or retail sale.

Subd. 7. "Rabbit packing plant" means an establishment in which rabbits are killed, dressed and packed, canned or otherwise processed for sale, storage or shipment.

Subd. 8. "Rabbit dressing plant" means an establishment in which rabbits are killed and dressed for immediate wholesale or retail sale.

Subd. 9. "Animal" means cattle, swine, sheep, goats, horses or other large domesticated animals.

Subd. 10. "Person" includes firm, corporation, partnership, association, trust, joint stock company, or unincorporated organization.

Subd. 11. "Processor" means any person or establishment operated as a slaughter house, packing house, sausage

plant, poultry packing plant, poultry dressing plant, rabbit packing plant or establishment in which animals are slaughtered and dressed or packed or packaged for human food.

Subd. 12. "Commissioner" means the commissioner of agriculture, dairy and food.

Sec. 2. [31.52] **Licenses.** No person shall operate or maintain a slaughter house, sausage plant, poultry packing plant, poultry dressing plant, rabbit packing plant or rabbit dressing plant or operate as a processor unless first licensed by the commissioner. Applications for licenses are made on forms provided by the commissioner, and he may cause the place to be inspected before granting the license. If the commissioner finds that the applicant maintains a proper place and equipment he shall issue a license to him. Licenses expire on June 30th, following their issue. Licenses are renewed annually on July 1. The annual fee is \$5. Applications for renewal should be filed on or before June 1. If filed after that date a penalty of \$2.50 is charged.

Sec. 3. [31.53] **Inspections.** The commissioner shall at such times as he deems necessary cause any plant processor or place of business where animal or poultry slaughtering, packing or processing occurs, to be inspected and shall make such order as is necessary to correct unsanitary conditions in any such plant. Each order shall specify the time within which it shall be complied with, and such order shall be served in person or by registered mail. The commissioner or any of his representatives or inspectors may enter any plant or any place of business in which such operations are being conducted, at any reasonable hour for inspection purposes. Free access to every part of the premises shall be afforded and aid and assistance necessary to enable the person making the inspection to make a thorough and complete examination shall be given.

Sec. 4. [31.54] **Rules.** The commissioner may, in order to supplement federal regulation and inspection of any plant, processor or place of business, promulgate rules covering the construction and operation of such plants or processor, the water supply, sanitary conditions and disposal of sewage, offal, vapors, odors and gases and all other sanitary conditions and precautions for the purpose of insuring the purity of the products prepared at any such plant or place of business in which such operation will be or are conducted, where such operations are not then federally inspected or licensed.

Sec. 5. [31.55] **Revocation of license.** After giving the licensee at least seven days notice of the date and place of hearing and an opportunity to be heard, the commissioner

may by order revoke any license when the licensee fails to comply with any of the provisions of this act or any rule or regulation promulgated hereunder. Such notice may be given either by personal service upon the licensee or by mailing the same to him by registered mail. The commissioner may reinstate any license when the licensee has complied with the provisions of this act and the rules promulgated by the commissioner.

Sec. 6. [31.56] **Limitation.** The provisions of this act do not apply to the slaughtering, packing, dressing, sale or distribution, by a producer of animals, rabbits, or poultry that are the surplus which results from the normal operations; provided, that receipts from such operations do not constitute a major portion of the producer's business, but nothing contained in this section shall be construed to limit, modify, or repeal the provisions of Minnesota Statutes 1953, Section 31.28.

Sec. 7. [31.57] **Application.** Anything herein to the contrary notwithstanding, the provisions of this act or regulations promulgated in accordance with the provisions of this act shall not apply to any place or establishment operating under or subject to the Federal Meat Inspection Act of March 4, 1907 (34 U. S. Stat. 1260) and amendments thereto:

Sec. 8. [31.58] **Violations, penalties.** Any person violating any of the provisions of this act or any regulations made hereunder is guilty of a misdemeanor; and upon conviction, may be punished by a fine of not less than \$25, or by imprisonment in the county jail for not less than 30 days for the first offense, and in the sum of not less than \$50 or by imprisonment in the county jail for not less than 60 days for each subsequent offense.

Sec. 9. This act becomes effective July 1, 1955.

Approved April 19, 1955.

CHAPTER 495—H. F. No. 437

An act relating to holidays; amending Minnesota Statutes 1953, Section 645.44, Subdivision 5.

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1953, Section 645.44, Subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **Holidays.** "Holiday" includes New Years' Day, January 1; Lincoln's Birthday, February 12; Washing-