

CHAPTER 753—H. F. No. 1660  
[Coded]

*An act establishing within the office of the commissioner of administration the Minnesota state employees merit award board, defining its powers and duties, and appropriating money therefor.*

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

Section 1. [16.71] State employees merit award board. [Subdivision 1.] Within the office of the commissioner of administration is created and established the Minnesota State Employees Merit Award Board, herein called the board, composed of five members, appointed by the governor, each of whom is a state officer or employee. The term of the first board shall begin July 1, 1955, and expire February 1, 1957. Thereafter terms of office shall be two years. Members shall be appointed by the governor and serve without compensation, but shall be reimbursed for expenses necessarily incurred in the performance of duty. Vacancies in membership shall be filled by appointment of the governor for the remainder of the unexpired term. The board shall annually elect a member to be chairman.

Sec. 2. [Subd. 2.] The board shall

(1) formulate, establish and maintain plans to encourage and reward unusual and meritorious suggestions and accomplishments by state employees promoting efficiency and economy in state government;

(2) appoint committees to consider suggestions and accomplishments of state employees, make recommendations thereon to the board;

(3) render merit awards to state employes in accordance with such plans.

Sec. 3. [Subd. 3.] The commissioner of administration shall assign for the use of the board such personnel, facilities and equipment required for the proper performance of its work. The commissioner of administration, on behalf of the board, may require assistance from any state department of any of its personnel and facilities.

Sec. 4. [Subd. 4] The board may determine the nature and extent of the merit awards to be made under this act, which may include, but shall not be limited to, the following:

- (1) Certificates, medals and other appropriate insignia;
- (2) Cash awards.

Sec. 5. [Subd. 5.] The board shall have power to adopt and promulgate rules and regulations governing the operation of plans established under this act, the eligibility and qualifications of state employees participating therein, the character and quality of suggestions and accomplishments submitted for consideration, the method of their submission and the procedure for their review, nominations for merit awards, and the kind and value of such awards, and such other rules and regulations as may be deemed necessary or appropriate for the proper administration of this chapter and for the accomplishment of the purposes thereof.

Sec. 6. **Appropriation.** Beginning July 1, 1955, \$10,000 is appropriated to defray the expenses incurred by the merit award board and for the payments of awards.

Sec. 7. This act shall take effect July 1, 1955.

Approved April 23, 1955.

---

#### CHAPTER 754—H. F. No. 1780

*An act relating to the powers of the commissioner of administration; authorizing the purchase, acceptance and distribution of commodities or equipment sold or made available by the federal government; appropriating money therefor; amending Minnesota Statutes 1953, Section 16.06, Subdivision 3.*

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1953, Section 16.06, Subdivision 3, is amended to read:

*Subd. 3. Purchases from federal agencies. The commissioner of administration may purchase, accept, and provide for the distribution of commodities or equipment directly sold or made available by the federal government or any of its agencies to the state at public auction or otherwise upon such terms and conditions as he may agree upon with the federal government or its agencies and in compliance with federal law and the rules and regulations provided thereunder. The commissioner of administration may authorize the head of any state department or agency to do any of the things provided in section 1 hereof under rules and regulations prescribed by him.*

Sec. 2. **Powers additional.** *This act is in addition to*