

CHAPTER 775—S. F. No. 971

An act relating to taxation levied on income; amending Minnesota Statutes 1953, Sections 290.21, 290.09.

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1953, Section 290.21, is amended to read :

290.21 Credits against taxable net income. The taxes imposed by this chapter shall be on, or measured by, as the case may be, the taxable net income less the following credits against it :

- (1) A credit of \$500 in the case of each corporation ;
- (2) An amount for contributions or gifts made within the taxable year ;
 - (a) to or for the use of the State of Minnesota, or any of its political subdivisions for exclusively public purposes ;
 - (b) to or for the use of any community chest, corporation, organization, trust, fund, association, or foundation operating within this state, organized and operating exclusively for religious, charitable, public cemetery, scientific, literary, artistic or educational purposes, or for the prevention of cruelty to children or animals, no part of the net earnings of which inures to the benefit of any private stockholder or individual ;
 - (c) to a fraternal society, order, or association, operating under the lodge system, if such contributions or gifts are to be used within this state exclusively for the purposes specified in clause (2) (b), or for or to posts or organizations of war veterans or auxiliary units or societies of such posts or organizations, if they are within the state and no part of their net income inures to the benefit of any private shareholder or individual ;
 - (d) to or for the use of the United States of America for exclusively public purposes, and to or for the use of any community chest, corporation, trust, fund, association, or foundation, organized and operated exclusively for any of the purposes specified in clauses (2) (b) and (2) (c), but not operating within this state, in an amount equal to the ratio of Minnesota taxable net income to total net income ;
 - (e) to a political party as defined in section 200.08, or a political candidate as defined in section 211.01, or a political cause when sponsored by any party or association or commit-

tee as defined in section 211.01 in a maximum amount not to exceed the following:

(1) Contributions made by individual natural persons . . . \$100

(2) Contributions made by a national committeeman, national committeewoman, state chairman or state chairwoman of a political party as defined in section 200.08 . . . \$1,000

(3) Contributions made by a congressional district committeeman or committeewoman of a political party as defined in section 200.08 . . . \$350

(4) Contributions made by a county chairman or chairwoman of a political party as defined in section 200.08 . . . \$150

(f) the total credit against net income hereunder shall not exceed 15 percent of the taxpayer's taxable net income;

(3) (a) 85 percent of dividends received by a corporation during the taxable year from another corporation, when the corporate stock with respect to which dividends are paid does not constitute the stock in trade of the taxpayer or would not be included in the inventory of the taxpayer, or does not constitute property held by the taxpayer primarily for sale to customers in the ordinary course of his trade or business, or when the trade or business of the taxpayer does not consist principally of the holding of the stocks and the collection of the income and gains therefrom. The remaining 15 percent shall be allowed if the recipient owns 80 percent or more of all the voting stock of such other corporation, and the dividends were paid from income arising out of business done in this state by the corporation paying such dividends; but if the income out of which the dividends are declared was derived from business done within and without this state, then so much of the remainder shall be allowed as a credit as the amount of the taxable net income of the corporation paying the dividends assignable to this state bears to the entire net income of the corporation, such rate being determined by the returns under this chapter of the corporation paying such dividends for the taxable year preceding the distribution thereof; except that with respect to dividends distributed during the year 1933 the rate shall be determined by the corporation's return for that year; the burden shall be on the taxpayer of showing that the amount of remainder claimed as a credit has been received from income arising out of business done in this state;

(b) If the trade or business of the taxpayer consists principally of the holding of the stocks and the collection of

the net income and gains therefrom, dividends received by a corporation during the taxable year from another corporation, if the recipient owns 80 percent or more of all the voting stock of such other corporation, from income arising out of business done in this state by the corporation paying such dividends; but, if the income out of which the dividends are declared was derived from business done within and without this state, then so much of the dividends shall be allowed as credit as the amount of the taxable net income of the corporation paying the dividends assignable to this state bears to the entire net income of the corporation, such rate being determined by the returns under this chapter of the corporation paying such dividends for the taxable year preceding the distribution thereof; except that with respect to dividends distributed during the year 1933 the rate shall be determined by the corporation's return for that year. The burden shall be on the taxpayer of showing that the amount of dividends claimed as a credit has been received from income arising out of business done in this state;

(4) To each mutual savings bank organized and existing as such under the laws of this state, an amount equal to the interest and dividends paid or credited during the taxable year of its depositors;

(5) To each regulated investment company as that term is defined and limited by the United States internal revenue code, section 361, (a) and (b) an amount equal to the interest and dividends paid during the taxable year, and to each building and loan and savings and loan association, an amount equal to the dividends paid during the taxable year to its members as members. For the purposes of this paragraph any dividend or portion thereof declared by a regulated investment company after the close of the taxable year and prior to the time prescribed by law for the filing of its return for the taxable year (including the period of any extension of time granted for filing such return) shall, to the extent the company so elects in such return, be treated as having been paid during such taxable year, but only if distribution of such dividend is actually made to shareholders in the 12-month period following the close of such taxable year and not later than the date of the first regular dividend payment made after such declaration.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 1953, Section 290.09, is amended to read:

290.09 Deductions from gross income. The following deductions from gross income shall be allowed in computing net income:

(1) Ordinary and necessary expenses paid or incurred in conducting the activity or in carrying on the trade, profession, gainful occupation or business from which the gross income is derived, including a reasonable allowance for salaries and voluntary or compulsory contributions made by employers to maintain a voluntary or compulsory system of unemployment insurance or a system of old age pensions for their employees, and any welfare work for the benefit of such employee; and including within the following listed limitations any part of his campaign expenditures not subsequently reimbursed, which have been personally paid by a candidate for public office if the candidate has complied with the expenditure limitations set out in Minnesota Statutes, Section 211.06:

(a)	a candidate for governor or United States Senator	\$5,000
(b)	a candidate for other state office or United States Representative	3,500
(c)	a candidate for State Senator	500
(d)	a candidate for State Representative	500
(e)	a candidate for presidential elector at large	500
(f)	a candidate for presidential elector from a congressional district	100
(g)	a candidate for any other public office	$\frac{1}{4}$ annual salary

(2) The interest paid or accrued within the taxable year on indebtedness, except on indebtedness incurred or continued to purchase or carry obligations or securities the income from which is excludible from gross income under section 290.08, or on indebtedness incurred or continued in connection with the purchasing or carrying of an annuity;

(3) Taxes paid or accrued within the taxable year, except (a) income or franchise taxes imposed by this chapter; and (b) taxes assessed against local benefits of a kind deemed in law to increase the value of the property assessed; and (c) inheritance, gift and estate taxes. Income taxes permitted to be deducted hereunder shall, regardless of the methods of accounting employed, be deductible only in the taxable year in which paid. Taxes imposed upon a shareholder's interest in a corporation which are paid by the corporation without reimbursement from the shareholder shall be deductible only by such corporation;

(4) Losses sustained during the taxable year not com-

pensated for by insurance or otherwise if incurred in connection with a business or transaction the gains from which, if any, would be includible in gross income; or if arising from fires not attributable to arson by the taxpayer or some one acting for him, or from storms, wrecks, other casualty, or theft. Losses from wagering transactions shall be allowed only to the extent of the gain from such transactions. No deductions shall be allowed under this clause for any loss sustained in any sale or other disposition of shares of stock or other securities if within 30 days before or after the date of such sale or other disposition the taxpayer has acquired (other than by bequest or inheritance) or entered into a contract or option to acquire substantially identical property and the property so acquired is held by the taxpayer for any period after such sale or disposition; but if such acquisition or the contract or option to acquire is to the extent of part only of substantially identical property, then only a proportionate part of such loss shall be disallowed. Deductible losses arising from fires, storms, wrecks, or other casualty shall be treated as sustained in the taxable year during which the property was injured or destroyed, and deductible losses arising from theft shall be treated as sustained in the taxable year in which the taxpayer discovers the theft. The amount of deductible loss shall be computed on the same basis as is provided by section 290.12 for determining the gain or loss on the sale or other disposition of property;

(5) Debts which become worthless during the taxable year, provided, that the taxpayer may in the alternative deduct a reasonable addition to a reserve for bad debts; provided further, that the commissioner may allow a bad debt to be deducted or charged off in part. Corporations taxable under the provisions of section 290.361 which have heretofore in any taxable year taken such deductions by the reserve method in their income tax returns to the Federal Government may, on or before July 1, 1949, make application to the commissioner for permission to take such deductions for the same year upon the same method;

(6) A reasonable allowance for the exhaustion, wear and tear of property the periodical income from which is includible in gross income, and of property used in an occupation or business, including a reasonable allowance for obsolescence. In the case of property held by one person for life with remainder to another person the deduction shall be computed as if the life tenant were the absolute owner of the property and shall be allowed to the life tenant. In the case of property held in trust the allowable deduction shall be apportioned between the income beneficiary and the trustee in

accordance with the pertinent provisions of the instrument creating the trust, or, in the absence of such provisions, on the basis of the trust income allocable to each. In the case of buildings or other structures or improvements constructed or made on leased premises by a lessee, and the fixtures and machinery therein installed, the lessee alone shall be entitled to the allowance of this deduction;

(7) In the case of mines, oil and gas wells, other natural deposits, and timber, a reasonable allowance for depletion. In the case of leases the deduction shall be equitably apportioned between the lessor and lessee in accordance with rules prescribed by the commissioner. In the case of property held by one person for life with remainder to another person, the deduction shall be computed as if the life tenant were the absolute owner of the property and shall be allowed to the life tenant. In the case of property held in trust the allowable deduction shall be apportioned between the income beneficiaries and the trustees in accordance with the pertinent provisions of the instrument creating the trust, or, in the absence of such provisions, on the basis of the trust income allocable to each;

(8) The amount of the deduction under clauses (6) and (7) shall be computed on the basis specified in section 290.16;

(9) The deductions provided for herein shall be taken for the taxable year in which paid or accrued, dependent upon the method of accounting employed in computing net income, unless in order to clearly reflect income they should be taken as of a different year;

(10) No deductions shall be allowed unless the taxpayer, when thereunto requested by the commissioner, furnishes him with information sufficient to enable him to determine the validity and correctness thereof;

(11) Payments for expenses for hospital, nursing, medical, surgical, dental and other healing service, including institutional care and treatment for the mentally ill and physically handicapped, and for medical supplies and ambulance hire, incurred by the taxpayer on account of sickness, mental illness, physical handicap or personal injury to himself or his dependents and premiums paid for hospitalization insurance including non-profit hospital service and non-profit medical service plans. Payments for traveling expenses shall not be deductible under the provisions of this subdivision. Payments for hotel or similar lodging expenses shall be deductible in the same manner as payments for hospital services, if the taxpayer or his dependent is not hospitalized but is nevertheless required to remain in a medical center away from his

usual place of abode, for the purpose of receiving prescribed medical treatment;

(12) An allowance for amortization of war facilities to the extent that such deduction is finally allowed under sections 124 or 124A of the internal revenue code provided no deduction has been claimed with respect thereto under clause (6) of this section or any other section, subdivision, or clause of this chapter;

(13) In the case of a corporation, the amount of any income of the taxpayer attributable to the discharge, within the taxable year, of any indebtedness of the taxpayer, or for which the taxpayer is liable evidenced by a security (as hereinafter in this paragraph defined) if the taxpayer makes and files at the time of filing the return, in such manner as the commissioner by regulations prescribes, its consent to the regulations prescribed under section 290.12, subdivision 3, then in effect. In such cases the amount of any income of the taxpayer attributable to any unamortized premium (computed as of the first day of the taxable year in which such discharge occurred) with respect to such indebtedness shall not be included in gross income and amount of the deduction attributable to any unamortized discount (computed as of the first day of the taxable year in which such discharge occurred) with respect to such indebtedness shall not be allowed as a deduction. As used in this paragraph the term "security" means any bond, debenture, note, or certificate, or other evidence of indebtedness issued by any corporation.

(14) An allowance for all taxable years beginning after December 31, 1942, for amortization of bond premiums in accordance with the provisions of section 125 of the Internal Revenue Code adapted to the provisions of this chapter under regulations issued by the commissioner, but only to the extent that such deduction has not been allowed under any other section of this chapter.

(15) Periodic payments to a wife who is divorced or separated from her husband by order of court or by decree of divorce or separate maintenance, received subsequent to such decree in discharge of, or attributable to property transferred in trust or otherwise in discharge of, a legal obligation imposed on the husband by such decree or by written instrument incident to such divorce or separation, shall be deductible from gross income of the husband except to the extent they are excluded from his gross income as provided in section 290.072, subdivision 2. The term "periodic payments" as used in this clause shall not include that part of any amount which is fixed

by order of court or by the decree or written instrument as payable for the support of minor children of the husband. To the extent of the amount so fixed, the entire amount of such payment, if less than the total amount payable, shall be considered as payable for the support of minor children. Instalment payments of lump sum obligations fixed in the decree or written instrument shall not be considered periodic payments under this clause, unless the total amount is to be paid within a period ending more than ten years from the date of the decree or instrument, and then only to the extent that installment payments paid during the taxable year do not exceed ten percent of the total amount so fixed.

(16) In lieu of all deductions provided for in this chapter other than those enumerated in section 290.18, subdivision 2, and in lieu of the credits enumerated in section 290.21, clause (2), an individual may claim or be allowed a standard deduction as follows:

(a) If his adjusted gross income is \$10,000 or more, the standard deduction shall be \$1,000.

(b) If his adjusted gross income is less than \$10,000, the standard deduction shall be an amount equal to ten percent thereof; in such case the standard deductions will be available only through the use of the schedule of taxes provided in section 290.06, subdivision 2.

In the case of a husband and wife living together, the standard deduction shall not be allowed to either if the net income of one of the spouses is determined without regard to the standard deduction. For the purposes of this paragraph the determination of whether an individual is living with his spouse shall be made as of the last day of the taxable year unless the spouse dies during the taxable year in which case such determination shall be made as of the date of such spouse's death.

If a taxable year is less than 12 months because of a change in the accounting period or because of a change in domicile, the standard deduction shall not be allowed.

(17) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 290.10(2), all expenditures (other than expenditures for the purchase of land or depreciable property or for the acquisition of circulation through the purchase of any part of the business of another publisher of a newspaper, magazine, or other periodical) to establish, maintain, or increase the circulation of a newspaper, magazine, or other periodical; except that the deduction shall not be allowed with respect to the por-

tion of such expenditures as, under regulations prescribed by the commissioner, is chargeable to capital account if the taxpayer elects, in accordance with such regulations, to treat such portion as so chargeable. Such election, if made, must be for the total amount of such portion of the expenditures which is so chargeable to capital account, and shall be binding for all subsequent taxable years unless, upon application by the taxpayer, the commissioner permits a revocation of such election subject to such conditions as he deems necessary.

(18) In the case of a tenant-stockholder as defined herein, amounts, not otherwise deductible, paid or accrued to a cooperative apartment corporation within the taxable year, if such amounts represent that proportion of (a) the real estate taxes (allowable as deductions under clause (3) of this section) paid or incurred by the corporation on the apartment building and the land on which it is situated, and (b) the interest (allowable as a deduction under clause (2) of this section) paid or incurred by the corporation on its indebtedness contracted in the acquisition, construction, alteration, rehabilitation, or maintenance of such apartment building or in the acquisition of the land on which the building is located, which the stock of the corporation owned by the tenant-stockholder is of the total outstanding stock of the corporation, including that held by the corporation.

As used in this clause the term "cooperative apartment corporation" means a corporation

- (a) having one and only one class of stock outstanding,
- (b) all of the stockholders of which are entitled, solely by reason of their ownership of stock in the corporation, to occupy for dwelling purposes apartments in a building owned or leased by such corporation, and who are not entitled, either conditionally or unconditionally, except upon a complete or partial liquidation of the corporation, to receive any distribution not out of earnings and profits of the corporation, and
- (c) 80 percent or more of the gross income of which for the taxable year in which the taxes and interest described in this clause are paid or incurred is derived from tenant-stockholders.

The term "tenant-stockholder" means an individual who is a stockholder in a cooperative apartment corporation, and whose stock is fully paid-up in an amount not less than an amount shown to the satisfaction of the commissioner as bearing a reasonable relationship to the portion of the value of the corporation's equity in the building and the land on which

it is situated which is attributable to the apartment which such individual is entitled to occupy.

Approved April 23, 1955.

CHAPTER 776—S. F. No. 1004

An act relating to the payment of the contract price for work performed on state aid roads; amending Minnesota Statutes 1953, Section 160.47.

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1953, Section 160.47, is amended to read:

160.47 State aid roads; constructing, improving. When the county board of any county shall determine to build or improve any state aid road for which aid is to be claimed, it shall proceed as follows:

If the estimated cost of such work does not exceed \$500, the county board shall cause surveys, when necessary, to be made therefor and thereupon receive bids for all or part of such work and let the contract to the lowest responsible bidder, or may cause the same to be done by labor employed therefor. In case the estimated cost exceeds \$500, the county board shall cause surveys, plans, and specifications thereof to be made and submit the same to the commissioner of highways for approval, and when such plans and specifications are approved the county board shall proceed to do such work by contract or labor employed therefor, as the county board and the commissioner of highways may direct. The work shall be done under the supervision of the county highway engineer, who shall, in all matters pertaining to such work, act under the rules and regulations of the commissioner of highways.

In case it shall be determined to do the work by contract, the county board may agree in such contract to pay the contractor, on account of the contract price, an amount not exceeding 90 percent of the value of the work from time to time actually completed, as shown by monthly estimates thereof, based on the contract price, made by the engineer in charge of the work, and in such case it shall be unlawful for the county auditor to issue a warrant on the county treasurer to the contractor for an amount equal to the specified percentage of the value of the work so completed and specified in the engineer's monthly estimate without allowance of a claim therefor by the county board.

Approved April 23, 1955.