

the deaf and hard of hearing in the state as will best promote their personal, economic and social well being. He shall maintain a register of all such persons, with such information as he deems necessary to improve services for them. He shall gather and disseminate information relating to the causes of deafness; he shall collect statistics on the deaf and ascertain what trades or occupations are most suitable for them; and he shall use his best efforts to aid them in securing vocational rehabilitation and employment, through cooperation with other agencies, both public and private.

Sec. 2. **Repealer.** Minnesota Statutes 1953, Section 256.97, is repealed.

Approved April 26, 1957.

CHAPTER 738—S. F. No. 1346

[Coded]

An act relating to minimum annual salaries of county supervisors of assessments.

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

Section 1. [Subd. 7A.] **County supervisors of assessments, annual salary.** The minimum annual salary of county supervisors of assessments as provided by Minnesota Statutes 1953, Section 273.071, Subdivision 7, is hereby increased ten percent above the amount specified for each county according to the classification of counties set forth in the act.

Sec. 2. The provisions of this act shall take effect and be in force from and after May 1, 1957.

Approved April 26, 1957.

CHAPTER 739—S. F. No. 1361

An act relating to defamation by radio; amending Minnesota Statutes 1953, Section 544.043.

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1953, Section 544.043, is amended to read :

544.043 **Defamation by radio, defense.** The owner,

licensee or operator of a visual or sound radio broadcasting station or network of stations, or any agent or employee of any such owner, licensee, or operator, is not liable for damages for any defamatory statement published or uttered in or as a part of a visual or sound radio broadcast, by any one other than such owner, licensee, or operator, or agent or employee thereof, if such owner, licensee, operator, or such agent or employee, shows that he has exercised due care to prevent the publication or utterance of the statement in that broadcast. *Provided, however, the exercise of due care shall be construed to include a bona fide compliance with any federal law or the regulation of any federal regulatory agency.*

The provisions of this act shall not affect any action or proceeding now pending or which shall be commenced within six months after the passage thereof, in any of the courts of the state.

Approved April 26, 1957.

CHAPTER 740—S. F. No. 1424

[Coded]

An act relating to duties of the state water resources board; providing for hearings on and recommendations in respect to state water policy in certain statutory proceedings.

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

Section 1. [104.01] **Declaration of Policy.** The code of water law of Minnesota is contained in numerous statutes enacted from time to time, which must be considered as a whole to effect a systematic administration of water policy for the public welfare. Seeming contradictions in these laws when applied in a specific proceeding create a need for a forum where the conflicting aspects of public interest involved can be presented and by consideration of the whole body of water law the controlling policy can be determined and apparent inconsistencies resolved.

Sec. 2. [104.02] **Definitions.** Unless the context clearly indicates a different meaning is intended, the following terms for the purposes of this chapter shall be given the meanings ascribed to them in this section.

Board—Minnesota Water Resources Board.

Proceeding—Any procedure under any of the laws enu-