

that year, certify to the state auditor the total ad valorem property tax levy upon all property within the county for the preceding assessment year imposed for the purpose specified in subdivision 2. The state auditor shall compare the certificate required by this subdivision with the certificate required by subdivision 2 relating to 1966 and determine the percentage of increase or decrease indicated thereby. For the year in which the certificate is required by this subdivision and the immediately succeeding year there shall be apportioned to each county from the property tax relief fund and distributed in the manner and on the dates provided in subdivision 6 the amount certified pursuant to subdivision 1, increased or decreased by the percentage so determined.

*A recomputation of payments based upon such amended certificate shall be made for all years for which such court decision or regulation caused a reduction in taxes previously levied, or will result in future reduced valuations.*

*Payment attributable to such preceding years shall be payable along with the next payment made pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, 1967, Section 273.69.*

**Sec. 2. [273.70] Reports of reimbursements and replacements.** *The commissioner of taxation shall require each county auditor to report, at such times as the commissioner shall determine, the amounts of reimbursement and replacement from the property tax relief fund to each taxing jurisdiction within the county.*

Approved May 31, 1969.

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## CHAPTER 900—S. F. No. 303

[Coded]

*An act relating to the blind; declaring the policy of the state with regard to; defining rights as to public streets, highways, and accommodations; providing a penalty.*

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

**Section 1. [256C.01] White cane law; declaration of policy.** It is the policy of this state to encourage and enable the blind, the visually handicapped, and the otherwise physically disabled to participate fully in the social and economic life of the state and to engage in remunerative employment. It is further the policy of this

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state that the blind, the visually handicapped, and the otherwise physically disabled shall be employed by the state, its political subdivisions, the public schools, and in all other employment supported in whole or in part by public funds on the same terms and conditions as the able-bodied, unless it is shown that the particular disability prevents the performance of the work involved.

**Sec. 2. [256C.02] Public accommodations.** The blind, the visually handicapped, and the otherwise physically disabled have the same right as the able-bodied to the full and free use of the streets, highways, sidewalks, walkways, public buildings, public facilities, and other public places; and are entitled to full and equal accommodations, advantages, facilities, and privileges of all common carriers, airplanes, motor vehicles, railroad trains, motor buses, boats, or any other public conveyances or modes of transportation, hotels, lodging places, places of public accommodation, amusement, or resort, and other places to which the general public is invited, subject only to the conditions and limitations established by law and applicable alike to all persons.

Every totally or partially blind person shall have the right to be accompanied by a guide dog in any of the places listed in Minnesota Statutes, Section 327.095; provided that he shall be liable for any damage done to the premises or facilities by such dog.

**Sec. 3. [256C.03] Blind pedestrians; civil liability.** The driver of a vehicle approaching a totally or partially blind pedestrian who is carrying a cane predominantly white or metallic in color, with or without a red tip, or using a guide dog shall take all reasonable precautions to avoid injury to such blind pedestrian.

**Sec. 4. [256C.04] Proclamation by governor.** Each year, the governor may take suitable public notice of October 15 as white cane safety day. He may issue a proclamation in which:

- (a) he comments upon the significance of the white cane;
- (b) he calls upon the citizens of the state to observe the provisions of the white cane law and to take precautions necessary to the safety of the disabled;
- (c) he reminds the citizens of the state of the policies with respect to the disabled herein declared and urges the citizens to cooperate in giving effect to them;
- (d) he emphasizes the need of the citizens to be aware of the presence of disabled persons in the community and to keep safe and functional for the disabled the streets, highways, sidewalks, walkways,

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public buildings, public facilities, other public places, places of public accommodation, amusement and resort, and other places to which the public is invited, and to offer assistance to disabled persons upon appropriate occasions.

Sec. 5. **[256C.05] Criminal penalty.** Any person, or the agent of any person, firm, or corporation who denies or interferes with admittance to or enjoyment of the public facilities enumerated in section 2 or otherwise interferes with the rights of a totally or partially blind or otherwise disabled person under section 2 shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

Sec. 6. **[256C.06] Citation.** This act may be cited the "Minnesota White Cane Law".

Approved June 3, 1969.

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#### CHAPTER 901—S. F. No. 304

*An act relating to blind assistance; restricting claim for assistance furnished; amending Minnesota Statutes 1967, Section 256.65.*

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1967, Section 256.65, is amended to read:

**256.65 Blind assistance; claim against estate.** On the death of any recipient the total amount of assistance and funeral expenses paid under sections 256.49 to 256.71 shall be allowed as a claim against the estate of such person. *However, any three year period during which a blind person is not a recipient of assistance under 256.49 to 256.71 shall nullify any claim for assistance previously paid him under these sections.* When any amount is recovered from any source for assistance furnished under the provisions of sections 256.49 to 256.71, there shall be paid to the United States the amount due under the terms of the social security act, and the balance thereof shall be paid into the treasuries of the state and county, in the proportion in which each contributed toward the total assistance paid.

Approved June 3, 1969.

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