the date of the first meeting thereof, upon notice given to him by the county auditor, the county attorney shall also become and be a member the vacancy shall be filled at a special election held for that purpose under the provisions of law relating to special elections in counties. If such vacancy in the office of the county commissioner shall occur in a county in which the township system has been completely abolished, such vacancy shall be filled by the board of county commissioners, and the county auditor. Absence from the county for six consecutive months shall be deemed to create a vacancy.

Approved May 21, 1971.

## CHAPTER 471-S.F.No.2698

An act relating to referees in probate courts; compensation thereof; removing the compensation provisions for certain referees; amending Minnesota Statutes 1969, Section 525.101.

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1969, Section 525.101, is amended to read:

525.101 PROBATE COURT; COMPENSATION OF REFEREE. Such referee shall receive from the county as compensation \$3,600 per annum in counties having more than 500,000 inhabitants, and in counties having more than 350,000 and less than 500,000 inhabitants and for which no provision is made for cost of living increases, compensation of not to exceed \$10,000 per annum shall be fixed by its board of county commissioners, payable from the general funds of the county not otherwise appropriated, at the same time and in the same manner and subject to the provisions of law applicable to the compensation of the judge. The county shall furnish him with a suitable office in the court house or in some other suitable place or places designated by the judge. The judge may assign to the referee from the court's clerks and employees such clerical help as may be necessary to enable him properly to discharge his duties.

Approved May 21, 1971.

Changes or additions indicated by underline, deletions by strikeout.