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**CHAPTER 267—S.F.No.526**

*An act relating to aquatic vegetation; providing authority for the commissioner of natural resources to charge a fee for permits for the destruction of harmful or undesirable aquatic vegetation; amending Minnesota Statutes 1971, Section 98.48, Subdivision 9.*

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1971, Section 98.48, Subdivision 9, is amended to read:

**Subd. 9. AQUATIC VEGETATION; DESTRUCTION PERMIT FEE.**

(a) The commissioner may issue special permits, ~~without~~ with fee, to gather or harvest any aquatic plants, or plant parts, other than wild rice from public waters of the state, to transplant any aquatic plants into other public waters, or to destroy any harmful or undesirable aquatic vegetation or organisms in public waters by such means and under such conditions as he may prescribe for protection of such waters and desirable species of fish, vegetation, and other forms of aquatic life therein and for the protection of the public.

(b) Each application for a permit shall be accompanied by a permit fee when required by a fee schedule established by the commissioner pursuant to rules and regulations adopted after public hearing and published in the manner provided by Minnesota Statutes, Section 97.53. The schedule may provide exemptions from fees, maximum fees not to exceed \$50 per permit based upon the cost of receiving, processing, analyzing and issuing the permit and additional costs which may be imposed subsequent to the application for inspecting and monitoring the activities authorized by the permit. No fee may be imposed on any state or federal governmental agency applying for a permit. All money received pursuant to this subdivision shall be deposited in the game and fish fund.

(c) The commissioner shall promulgate, by January 1, 1975, after public hearing and shall publish in the manner provided by Minnesota Statutes, Section 97.53, rules and regulations containing standards and criteria governing the issuance and denial of permits for activities affecting aquatic plants including, but not limited to, provisions to insure that aquatic plant control is consistent with shoreland conservation ordinances, lake management plans and programs, wild and scenic river plans, penalties for failure to comply with permit regulations and enforcement procedures.

Approved March 27, 1974.

Changes or additions indicated by underline deletions by ~~strikeout~~