sections 1 to 144 shall be severable, and if any provision thereof or the application of any such provision under any circumstances is held invalid, it shall not affect any other provision of sections 1 to 144 or the application of any provision thereof under different circumstances.

Sec. 146. **LEGISLATIVE INTENT.** The purpose of this act is to recodify the laws relating to metropolitan area agencies. The legislature does not intend by this act to make any substantive changes in the laws relating to metropolitan area agencies as they exist at the time of the passage of this act.

Sec. 147. **REPEALS.** Minnesota Statutes 1974, Sections 360.101; 360.102; 360.103; 360.104; 360.105; 360.106; 360.107; 360.1071; 360.108; 360.109; 360.111; 360.112; 360.113; 360.114; 360.115; 360.116; 360.1161; 360.117; 360.118; 360.1191; 360.121; 360.122; 360.123; 360.124; 360.125; 360.126; 360.127; 360.128; 360.129; 360.131; 360.132; 360.133; 360.135; 360.141; 360.142; 360.143; 360.144; 360.74; 360.75; 360.76; 360.77; 360.78; 360.79; 360.80; Chapters 399; 473A; 473B; 473C; 473D; and 473G are repealed.

Sec. 148. This act shall become effective on the day following final enactment.

Approved March 19, 1975.

CHAPTER 14—S.F.No.103

An act relating to the Gillette hospital authority; authorizing use of certified public accountants to audit and examine the financial records of the authority; amending Minnesota Statutes 1974, Section 250.05, Subdivision 3.

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

Section 1...Minnesota Statutes 1974, Section 250.05, Subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. GILLETTE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY; ANNUAL AUDIT. Members of the board shall serve without compensation, but shall be entitled to reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses. The board shall organize by electing a chairman and such other officers as may be required. In addition the board—The authority may employ an administrator and such other professional, technical, and clerical personnel as may be required. The authority may employ a certified public accountant to annually audit and examine its financial records. The report of an examination or audit by a certified public accountant shall be submitted to the legislative auditor who shall review the audit report and accept it or make additional examinations as he deems to be in the public interest. The working papers of the certified public ac-

Changes or additions indicated by underline deletions by strikeout

countant relating to the authority shall be made available to the legislative auditor upon request.

The authority may contract for the services of individuals who perform medical, technical, or other services of a professional nature, and may contract for the purchase of necessary supplies, services, and equipment. Except as it determines, the authority shall not be subject to the provisions of chapter 16, concerning personnel, budgeting, payroll, or the purchase of goods or services. Any department of state government is authorized, within the limits of its functions and appropriations, to assist the authority upon request.

Sec. 2. This act is effective on and after the day following its final enactment.

Approved March 19, 1975.

CHAPTER 15-S.F.No.348

[Coded in Part]

An act relating to insurance; modifying regulations of farmers and township mutual insurance companies; amending Minnesota Statutes 1974, Sections 67A.01; 67A.03; 67A.06; 67A.07; 67A.09; 67A.10; 67A.11, Subdivisions 1 and 2; 67A.12, Subdivision 4; 67A.13; 67A.14, Subdivisions 1 and 5; 67A.17 by adding a subdivision; 67A.18, Subdivisions 1 and 2; 67A.19; 67A.21; 67A.23; 67A.29, Subdivision 2; 67A.31, Subdivision 2; and Chapter 67A by adding a section; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1974, Sections 67A.12, Subdivision 3; 67A.14, Subdivisions 2, 3, 4 and 6; 67A.16; 67A.18, Subdivision 3; 67A.22; 67A.30, Subdivision 2; and 67A.33.

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1974, Section 67A.01, is amended to read:

67A.01 FARMERS AND TOWNSHIP MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANIES; REGULATIONS; NUMBER OF MEMBERS REQUIRED, PROPERTY AND TERRITORY. It shall be lawful for any number of persons, not less than 25, residing in adjoining townships in this state, who shall collectively own property worth at least \$50,000, to form themselves into a corporation for mutual insurance against loss or damage by the perils listed in section 67A.13. No-Any such company shall operate in no more than 150 adjoining townships in the aggregate at the same time; provided, that when any such company confines its operations to one county it may transact business in the whole thereof by so providing in its certificate of incorporation, and provided further that in case of merger of two or more companies having contiguous territories, the surviving company in the merger shall have the right to transact business in the entire territory of the merged companies, but

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