CHAPTER 324-S.F.No.826

An act relating to seaway port authorities; personnel; contracts; authorizing port authorities to employ a certified public accountant to audit the books of the authority and authorizing the state auditor to accept such audits in lieu of his audit; amending Minnesota Statutes 1976, Section 458.18.

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1976, Section 458.18, is amended to read:

458.18 SEAWAY PORT AUTHORITIES; AUDITS; EMPLOYMENT OF PERSONNEL; CONTRACTS; AUDITS. Subdivision 1. PERSONNEL; CONTRACTS. The port authority shall have power and authority, in its own behalf, to employ such engineering, legal, technical, clerical, stenographic, accounting, and other assistance as it may deem advisable; any employee of any port authority created and existing under and pursuant to the provisions of this act shall be considered as an "employee" as the term is used and defined in Laws of Minnesota 1955, Chapter 665, and shall by appropriate action of said port authority be entitled to the benefits provided for in this statute; to enter into contracts for the erection, repair, maintenance or operation of docks, warehouses, terminals, elevators, or other structures upon or in connection with property owned or controlled by it; to contract or make other arrangements with the United States government, or any department thereof, with persons, public corporations, the state of Minnesota or any of its political subdivisions, commissions, or agencies, for separate or joint action, with reference to any matter related to the exercise of the powers or the fulfillment of the duties of such port authority; to contract for the purchase and sale of real and personal property; provided that no such obligation or expense shall be incurred save upon such terms and at such times when existing appropriations, together with the reasonable expected revenue of the port authority from other sources, shall be sufficient to enable the same to be discharged when due; and neither the state nor any municipal subdivision thereof shall be liable on any such obligation.

<u>Subd.</u> 2. SEAWAY PORT AUTHORITIES; AUDITS. Notwithstanding the provisions of any law to the contrary, any seaway port authority may employ a certified public accountant to annually audit and examine the books of the authority. The report of the examination or audit by the certified public accountant shall be submitted to the state auditor who shall review the audit report and may accept the audit or make additional examinations as he deems to be in the public interest.

Sec. 2. This act shall be effective the day following final enactment.

Approved May 27, 1977.

Changes or additions indicated by underline deletions by strikeout