

**Sec. 7. ARSON REPORTING FACT SHEET.**

The Minnesota attorney general, in conjunction with the state fire marshal, shall develop and distribute an arson reporting immunity law fact sheet. The fact sheet must be designed to enhance public understanding of the need to report information, help deter arson, and help prosecute when arson occurs. The attorney general shall offer to the property/casualty insurance industry the opportunity to provide assistance in developing the fact sheet.

**Sec. 8. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Sections 1 to 4 are effective January 1, 1998. Sections 5 to 7 are effective the day following final enactment.

Presented to the governor April 29, 1997

Signed by the governor May 2, 1997, 2:00 p.m.

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**CHAPTER 78—H.F.No. 601**

*An act relating to local government; authorizing boundary commissions; amending Minnesota Statutes 1996, section 465.79.*

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1996, section 465.79, is amended to read:

**465.79 ESTABLISHMENT OF BOUNDARY COMMISSION.**

**Subdivision 1. CITY COUNCIL, TOWN OR COUNTY BOARD.** By resolution, the city council of a statutory or home rule charter city, town board, or county board may create a boundary commission. Members of the commission shall be residents of the county or counties in which the city or town is located who are familiar with real property.

**Subd. 2. DUTIES OF BOUNDARY COMMISSION.** Upon initiation by resolution of the governing body or upon petition of an adjoining or affected property owner, the boundary commission shall review property descriptions within the city of the disputed areas in the respective jurisdiction. Upon mailed notice to all known parties in interest, the commission shall attempt to establish agreements between adjoining landowners as to the location of common boundaries as delineated by a certified land survey. If agreement cannot be reached, the commission shall make a recommendation as to the location of the common boundary boundaries within the disputed area. The commission shall prepare a plan designating all agreed and recommended boundary lines and report to the city council, town board, or county board.

**Subd. 3. HEARING.** Upon receipt of the plan and a report from the commission, the city council, town board, or county board shall hold a public hearing. The council, town board, or county board shall give mailed notice to all known parties in interest and published notice 20 days prior to the hearing. The council, town board, or county board shall

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hear all interested parties and may make adjustments to the proposed plan that it deems just and necessary.

Subd. 4. **JUDICIAL REVIEW.** Following the public hearing, the council or board may petition the district court for judicial approval of the proposed plan. If any affected parcel is land registered under chapter 508, the petition must be referred to the examiner of titles for a report. The council or board shall provide sufficient information to identify all parties in interest and shall give notice to parties in interest as the court may order. The court shall determine the location of any contested, disputed, or unagreed boundary and shall determine adverse claims to each parcel as provided in chapter 559. After hearing and determining all disputes, the court shall issue its judgment in the form of a plat complying with chapter 505 and an order designating the owners and encumbrancers of each lot. Real property taxes need not be paid or current as a condition of filing the plat, notwithstanding the requirements of section 505.04.

Subd. 5. **SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS.** The city or board may assess part or all of the cost incurred by it against the benefited properties on a per parcel basis as provided in chapter 429.

Presented to the governor April 29, 1997

Signed by the governor May 1, 1997, 4:06 p.m.

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## CHAPTER 79—H.F.No. 1162

*An act relating to state employment; making changes of a technical and housekeeping nature; amending Minnesota Statutes 1996, sections 43A.01, subdivision 2; 43A.02, subdivisions 1, 14, 20, 30, and 37; 43A.04, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, and 9; 43A.05, subdivisions 1 and 3; 43A.08, subdivisions 1 and 1a; 43A.13, subdivision 7; 43A.27, subdivision 1; 43A.30, subdivision 1; and 43A.36, subdivisions 1 and 2.*

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1996, section 43A.01, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **PRECEDENCE OF MERIT PRINCIPLES AND NONDISCRIMINATION.** It is the policy of this state to provide for equal employment opportunity consistent with chapter 363 by ensuring that all personnel actions be based on the ability to perform the duties and responsibilities assigned to the position without regard to age, race, creed or religion, color, disability, sex, national origin, marital status, status with regard to public assistance, or political affiliation. It is the policy of this state to take affirmative action to eliminate the underutilization of qualified members of protected groups in the civil service, where such action is not in conflict with other provisions of this chapter or chapter 179, in order to correct imbalances and eliminate the present effects of past discrimination.

No contract executed pursuant to chapter 179 ~~179A~~ shall modify, waive or abridge this section and sections 43A.07 to 43A.13, 43A.15, and 43A.17 to 43A.21, except to the extent expressly permitted in those sections.

New language is indicated by underline, deletions by ~~strikeout~~.