

power generating plant at the proposed site will cause any significant human or environmental impact.

(d) The board shall require environmental review under chapter 116D to assist in making its determination regarding potential significant human and environmental impact.

(e) If the board determines that the proposed plant has an electric power production capacity less than 80 megawatts or is being retrofitted or repowered as described in paragraph (a), and the proposed site will not have a significant human and environmental impact, the board may exempt the construction of the proposed plant at the proposed site from the requirements of sections 116C.51 to 116C.69 with any appropriate conditions.

(f) If an exemption is granted, the utility or person must comply with applicable state rules, local zoning, building, and land use rules, regulations, and ordinances of any regional, county, local, and special purpose governments in which the facility is to be located.

(g) The board may, by rule, require a fee to pay costs incurred in processing exemptions. An estimated cost for processing the exemption application must be discussed with the applicant and be approved by the board when an application is received. The applicant must remit 50 percent of the approved cost within 14 days of acceptance of the application. The balance is due within 30 days after receipt of an invoice from the board. Costs in excess of those approved must be certified by the board and charged to the applicant. Certification is prima facie evidence that the costs are reasonable and necessary. All money received pursuant to this subdivision must be deposited in a special account. Money in the account is appropriated to the board to pay expenses incurred in processing the application and in the event the expenses are less than the fee paid, to refund the excess to the applicant.

Sec. 2. **EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Section 1 is effective the day following final enactment.

Presented to the governor March 24, 2000

Signed by the governor March 28, 2000, 2:32 p.m.

CHAPTER 290—S.F.No. 2756

An act relating to hospital districts; authorizing the annexation of a city or town that is contiguous to a contiguous city or town; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 447.36.

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

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 447.36, is amended to read:

447.36 ANNEXATION OF TERRITORY.

After the creation or reorganization of a hospital district, a city or town whose territory is contiguous to the district or contiguous to a city or town that is contiguous to the district at any point may ask to be annexed to the district. The resolution is subject to referendum according to section 447.31, subdivision 3. Annexed territory is subject to taxation like other property in the district for the support of its facilities and for the payment of principal and interest becoming due after the annexation on bonds of the district, whether authorized or issued before or after the annexation. If the hospital district has outstanding bonds or has voted bonds that are not yet issued, the annexation must not be requested unless approved by a majority of the electors of the city or town voting on the question at a regular or special election. The hospital board may condition its approval of the annexation upon the contribution, by or on behalf of the city or town to be annexed, to the capital improvement fund or the bond sinking fund of the hospital district, of an amount agreed upon as a reasonable estimate of the proportionate share, properly applicable to the annexed territory, of capital costs previously paid by the district, having regard to contributions previously made by cities and towns in the district and their inhabitants, and principal and interest already paid on bonds of the district. A city or town asking to be annexed may appropriate money or may authorize, issue, and sell its bonds or may accept and spend contributions from private parties to pay the proportionate share agreed upon. Each annexation becomes effective upon the date of adoption of the hospital board's resolution approving the annexation, or on a later date as the resolution prescribes. A certified copy of the resolution must be filed as provided in section 447.31, subdivision 4, for resolutions creating the district.

Presented to the governor March 24, 2000

Signed by the governor March 28, 2000, 2:33 p.m.

CHAPTER 291—S.F.No. 3097

An act relating to corrections; authorizing creation of a fugitive apprehension unit in the department of corrections; prescribing duties for the unit; amending Minnesota Statutes 1999 Supplement, section 626.84, subdivision 1; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 241.

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

**Section 1. [241.025] DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS FUGITIVE AP-
PREHENSION UNIT.**

Subdivision 1. AUTHORIZATION. The commissioner of corrections may appoint peace officers, as defined in section 626.84, subdivision 1, paragraph (c), who shall serve in the classified service subject to the provisions of section 43A.01, subdivision 2, and establish a law enforcement agency, as defined in section 626.84,

New language is indicated by underline, deletions by strikeout.