

by the board of directors of the association and the department. In the event of a dispute on balloting procedures, the dispute shall be resolved through informal proceedings before the commission after notice to all parties. The association shall mail ballots to the association's members who shall return the ballots to the department. The department shall keep the ballots sealed until a date agreed upon by the department and the board of directors. On this date, representatives of the department and the association shall count the ballots. If a majority of the association's members or spouses who vote, elect to become subject to rate regulation by the commission, the election shall be effective 30 days after certified copies of the resolutions approving the election are filed with the commission. These provisions also apply to associations that wish to be deregulated. Any cooperative that is regulated by the commission, pursuant to sections 216B.03 to 216B.23 may follow the procedures set forth above. Any association subject to regulation of rates by the commission shall be exempt from the provisions of sections 216B.48, 216B.49, 216B.50, and 216B.51.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 216B.026, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 5. MEMBER DUE PROCESS. Section 216B.027, granting rights to stockholders, applies to the exercise of stockholders' rights regardless of whether a referendum has been held as required by section 216B.027, subdivision 7. Notwithstanding section 216B.027, subdivision 6, a cooperative shall pay the costs of including stockholders' positions on issues as provided under section 216B.027, subdivision 6. This subdivision applies only to elections that require no less than one percent of members to initiate pursuant to subdivision 1.

Sec. 4. **EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Sections 1 to 3 are effective the day following final enactment.

Presented to the governor March 24, 2000

Signed by the governor March 28, 2000, 2:35 p.m.

CHAPTER 293—H.F.No. 3053

An act relating to motor vehicles; allowing collector-type vehicles to display a blue light as part of brake light; amending Minnesota Statutes 1999 Supplement, section 169.64, subdivision 4.

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1999 Supplement, section 169.64, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **BLUE LIGHT.** (a) Except as provided in paragraphs (b) and (e) to (d), blue lights are prohibited on all vehicles except road maintenance equipment and snow

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

removal equipment operated by or under contract to the state or a political subdivision thereof.

(b) Authorized emergency vehicles may display flashing blue lights to the rear of the vehicle as a warning signal in combination with other lights permitted or required by this chapter.

(c) A motorcycle may display a blue light of up to one inch diameter as part of the motorcycle's rear brake light.

(d) A motor vehicle may display a blue light of up to one inch diameter as part of the vehicle's rear brake light if:

(1) the vehicle is a collector vehicle, as described in section 168.10; or

(2) the vehicle is eligible to display a collector plate under section 168.10.

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, 2:36 p.m.

CHAPTER 294—H.F.No. 3196

An act relating to human services; allowing the director of nursing to serve as the administrator in a nursing home with less than 45 beds; allowing a nursing facility's employee pension benefit costs to be treated as PERA contributions; amending Minnesota Statutes 1999 Supplement, sections 144A.04, subdivision 5; and 256B.431, subdivision 28.

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1999 Supplement, section 144A.04, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **ADMINISTRATORS.** Except as otherwise provided by this subdivision, a nursing home must have a full time licensed nursing home administrator serving the facility. Notwithstanding sections 144A.18 to 144A.27, in any nursing home of less than ~~32~~ 45 beds, the director of nursing services may also serve as the licensed nursing home administrator without being licensed as a nursing home administrator, provided the director of nursing services has passed the state law and rules examination administered by the board of examiners for nursing home administrators and maintains evidence of completion of 20 hours of continuing education each year on topics pertinent to nursing home administration. Two nursing homes under common ownership or management pursuant to a lease or management contract having a total of 150 beds or less and located within 75 miles of each other may share the services of a licensed administrator if the administrator divides the full-time work week

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