

The revisor of statutes shall change the term "benefit" to "unemployment benefit" wherever it appears in Minnesota Statutes, sections 268.03 to 268.23, except when "benefit" refers to "shared work benefit," "social security benefit," "disability benefit," "benefit year," "benefit account," or "fringe benefit."

Sec. 5. **EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Sections 1 to 4 are effective the day following final enactment.

Presented to the governor April 3, 2000

Signed by the governor April 6, 2000, 3:58 p.m.

**CHAPTER 344—S.F.No. 624**

*An act relating to public safety; establishing the board of firefighter training and education; proposing coding for new law as Minnesota Statutes, chapter 299N.*

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

Section 1. **[299N.01] DEFINITIONS.**

Subdivision 1. SCOPE. The terms used in this chapter have the meanings given them in this section.

Subd. 2. FIRE DEPARTMENT. "Fire department" means a regularly organized fire department, fire protection district, or fire company, as defined in the Uniform Fire Code adopted under section 299F.011, regularly charged with the responsibility of providing fire protection to the state or a local government and includes a private nonprofit fire department directly serving a local government. It does not include industrial fire brigades.

Subd. 3. FIREFIGHTER. "Firefighter" means a volunteer, paid on-call, part-time, or career firefighter serving a general population within the boundaries of the state.

Sec. 2. **[299N.02] BOARD OF FIREFIGHTER TRAINING AND EDUCATION.**

Subdivision 1. MEMBERSHIP. Notwithstanding any provision of chapter 15 to the contrary, the board of firefighter training and education consists of the following members:

(1) five members representing the Minnesota state fire department association, four of whom must be volunteer firefighters and one of whom may be a career firefighter, appointed by the governor;

(2) two members representing the Minnesota state fire chiefs association, one of whom must be a volunteer fire chief, appointed by the governor;

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(3) two members representing the Minnesota professional firefighters association, appointed by the governor;

(4) two members representing Minnesota home rule charter and statutory cities, appointed by the governor;

(5) two members representing Minnesota towns, appointed by the governor;

(6) the commissioner of public safety or the commissioner's designee; and

(7) one public member not affiliated or associated with any member or interest represented in clauses (1) to (6), appointed by the governor.

The Minnesota state fire department association shall recommend five persons to be the members described in clause (1), the Minnesota state fire chiefs association shall recommend two persons to be the members described in clause (2), the Minnesota professional firefighters association shall recommend two persons to be the members described in clause (3), the league of Minnesota cities shall recommend two persons to be the members described in clause (4), and the Minnesota association of townships shall recommend two persons to be the members described in clause (5). In making the appointments the governor shall try to achieve representation from all geographic areas of the state.

Subd. 2. TERMS; CHAIR; COMPENSATION. Members of the board shall serve for terms of four years and annually elect a chair from among the members. Terms and filling of vacancies are subject to section 15.0575, subdivisions 3 to 5. Members serve without compensation.

Subd. 3. POWERS AND DUTIES. (a) The board shall:

(1) review fire service training needs and make recommendations on training to Minnesota fire service organizations;

(2) establish standards for educational programs for the fire service and develop procedures for continuing oversight of the programs; and

(3) establish qualifications for fire service training instructors in programs established under clause (2).

(b) The board may:

(1) contract for technical or professional services according to section 15.061;

(2) pay expenses necessary to carry out its duties;

(3) apply for, receive, and accept grants, gifts, devises, and endowments that any entity may make to the board for the purposes of this chapter and may use any money given to it consistent with the terms and conditions under which the money was received and for the purposes stated;

(4) make recommendations to the legislature to improve the quality of firefighter training;

(5) collect and provide data, subject to section 13.03;

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(6) conduct studies and surveys and make reports; and

(7) conduct other activities necessary to carry out its duties.

**Sec. 3. INITIAL TERMS OF BOARD MEMBERS.**

Of the members of the board of firefighter training and education initially appointed by the governor, five members must be appointed for two-year terms, five appointed for three-year terms, and five appointed for four-year terms.

**Sec. 4. EXPIRES.**

Sections 1 to 3 expire effective December 31, 2003.

Presented to the governor April 3, 2000

Signed by the governor April 6, 2000, 4:00 p.m.

**CHAPTER 345—H.F.No. 2803**

*An act relating to courts; authorizing court reporters in certain judicial districts to organize under the Public Employment Labor Relations Act; amending Minnesota Statutes 1999 Supplement, sections 179A.03, subdivision 14; and 179A.101, subdivisions 1 and 2.*

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1999 Supplement, section 179A.03, subdivision 14, is amended to read:

Subd. 14. **PUBLIC EMPLOYEE OR EMPLOYEE.** "Public employee" or "employee" means any person appointed or employed by a public employer except:

- (a) elected public officials;
- (b) election officers;
- (c) commissioned or enlisted personnel of the Minnesota national guard;
- (d) emergency employees who are employed for emergency work caused by natural disaster;
- (e) part-time employees whose service does not exceed the lesser of 14 hours per week or 35 percent of the normal work week in the employee's appropriate unit;
- (f) employees whose positions are basically temporary or seasonal in character and: (1) are not for more than 67 working days in any calendar year; or (2) are not for more than 100 working days in any calendar year and the employees are under the age of 22, are full-time students enrolled in a nonprofit or public educational institution prior to being hired by the employer, and have indicated, either in an application for employment or by being enrolled at an educational institution for the next academic

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