

issued by the board. Employees registered in an approved heating, ventilating, air conditioning, or refrigeration program may design, plan, alter, replace, or repair heating, ventilating, air conditioning, or refrigeration equipment, devices, and controls including wiring in or on the equipment, under the direction of an employee who has a certificate of completion from an approved program or any class of personal electrical license issued by the board. The installation of electrical wiring to the unit is covered by sections 326.241 to 326.248.

Sec. 30. TERMS FOR POWER LIMITED CONTRACTORS.

The term of one of the power limited contractors appointed under Minnesota Statutes, section 326.241, subdivision 1, shall expire after two years. That person's successor shall be appointed for a four-year term.

Sec. 31. REPEALER.

Minnesota Rules, part 3800.3500, subpart 12, is repealed.

Presented to the governor April 4, 2002

Signed by the governor April 8, 2002, 4:15 p.m.

CHAPTER 329—H.F.No. 3125

An act relating to telecommunications; authorizing periodic account statements in electronic format; changing name of telecommunications access for communication-impaired persons program to telecommunications access Minnesota program; modifying and clarifying provisions for contracting the telecommunication relay system; allowing the city of Alexandria to enter into a joint venture; amending Minnesota Statutes 2000, section 237.52, subdivision 1; Minnesota Statutes 2001 Supplement, sections 237.51, subdivision 1; 237.54, subdivision 2; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 237.

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

Section 1. [237.101] ELECTRONIC BILLING.

A telephone company may provide a customer's periodic account statement to the customer in electronic format in lieu of paper format if the customer has authorized the electronic format in writing.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2001 Supplement, section 237.51, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **CREATION.** The commissioner of commerce shall (1) administer through interagency agreement with the commissioner of human services a program to distribute communication devices to eligible communication-impaired persons and (2) contract with a ~~local consumer group~~ qualified vendor that serves communication-impaired persons to create and maintain a telecommunication relay service. For purposes of sections 237.51 to 237.56, the department of commerce and any

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organization with which it contracts pursuant to this section or section 237.54, subdivision 2, are not telephone companies or telecommunications carriers as defined in section 237.01.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2000, section 237.52, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **FUND ESTABLISHED.** A telecommunication access for ~~communication-impaired persons~~ Minnesota fund is established as an account in the state treasury. Earnings, such as interest, dividends, and any other earnings arising from fund assets, must be credited to the fund.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2001 Supplement, section 237.54, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **OPERATION.** (a) ~~The commissioner of commerce shall contract with a local consumer organization that serves communication-impaired persons qualified vendor for the operation and maintenance of the telecommunication relay system. The commissioner may contract with other than a local consumer organization if no local consumer organization is available to enter into or perform a reasonable contract or the only available consumer organization fails to comply with terms of a contract.~~

(b) ~~The telecommunication relay service provider shall operate the relay service within the state of Minnesota. The operator of the system shall keep all messages confidential, shall train personnel in the unique needs of communication-impaired people, and shall inform communication-impaired persons and the public of the availability and use of the system. Except in the case of a speech- or mobility-impaired person, the operator shall not relay a message unless it originates or terminates through a communication device for the deaf or a Brailling device for use with a telephone.~~

Sec. 5. **JOINT VENTURE AUTHORITY.**

(a) ~~The city of Alexandria may enter into a joint venture with Runestone Telephone Association and Runestone Electric Association for the purpose of providing local niche service, including internet services, and point to point transmission of digital information.~~

(b) ~~For purposes of this section, with respect to the services described in paragraph (a), the city of Alexandria and a joint venture to which it is a party shall have the rights and authority granted by, and be subject to, Minnesota Statutes 2001 Supplement, section 452.25, except for the provisions of that section which relate specifically and only to electric utilities.~~

(c) ~~For the purposes of this section, "local niche service" refers to point-to-point connections between end-user locations within a service area and any telecommunications services under the public utilities commission's jurisdiction under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 237 that do not fall within the definition of local service or the definition of interexchange service.~~

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Sec. 6. EFFECTIVE DATE; LOCAL APPROVAL.

Section 5 is effective as to the city of Alexandria the day after the city of Alexandria's governing body and its chief clerical officer timely completes their compliance with Minnesota Statutes, section 645.021, subdivisions 2 and 3.

Presented to the governor April 4, 2002

Signed by the governor April 8, 2002, 2:33 p.m.

CHAPTER 330—H.F.No. 2988

An act relating to insurance; regulating certain licenses, fees, rates, practices, and coverages; providing for health care administrative simplification; making certain technical changes; amending Minnesota Statutes 2000, sections 60A.351; 60D.20, subdivision 2; 61A.092, subdivision 6; 62A.02, subdivision 2; 62A.021, subdivision 1; 62A.25, subdivision 2; 62A.31, subdivision 1h; 62A.65, subdivision 5; 62E.11, subdivision 6; 62E.14, subdivisions 4, 5, 6; 62H.01; 62H.04; 62J.51, subdivision 19; 62J.535, subdivision 2; by adding subdivisions; 62J.581; 62L.03, subdivisions 1, 5; 62L.08, by adding a subdivision; 62Q.68, subdivision 1; 72A.08, subdivision 1; 79A.04, subdivision 9; Minnesota Statutes 2001 Supplement, sections 60A.14, subdivision 1; 60K.56, subdivisions 6, 8, 9; 62M.03, subdivision 2; Laws 2001, chapter 117, article 1, section 29; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 62Q; repealing Minnesota Statutes 2000, section 62J.535, subdivision 1.

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2001 Supplement, section 60A.14, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **FEES OTHER THAN EXAMINATION FEES.** In addition to the fees and charges provided for examinations, the following fees must be paid to the commissioner for deposit in the general fund:

(a) by township mutual fire insurance companies:

- (1) for filing certificate of incorporation \$25 and amendments thereto, \$10;
- (2) for filing annual statements, \$15;
- (3) for each annual certificate of authority, \$15;
- (4) for filing bylaws \$25 and amendments thereto, \$10.

(b) by other domestic and foreign companies including fraternal and reciprocal exchanges:

- (1) for filing certified copy of certificate of articles of incorporation, \$100;
- (2) for filing annual statement, \$225;
- (3) for filing certified copy of amendment to certificate or articles of incorporation, \$100;

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