

cents for each pocket gopher; three cents for each common gopher or ground squirrel; 15 cents for each ground hog or woodchuck; \$1 for each rattlesnake, and ten cents a dozen for blackbirds, and 20 cents for each crow killed during such months, as may be designated by the county board or board of town supervisors by resolution.

Approved April 7, 1953.

CHAPTER 248—H. F. No. 777

[Coded]

An act relating to county nursing homes for the care of chronically ill and convalescent persons; amending Laws 1951, Chapter 610, Section 1.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota:

Section 1. Laws 1951, Chapter 610, Section 1, is amended to read:

Section 1. [376.55] **County nursing home.** Subdivision 1. **Authority.** (a) Any county, or any group of counties acting jointly are hereby authorized to establish a county nursing home, in sections 376.55 to 376.66 also termed "nursing home", for the care and treatment of chronically ill or convalescent persons with the unanimous consent of the county board;

(b) In addition to its usual meaning, the phrase "chronically ill or convalescent persons" as used in sections 376.55 to 376.66 includes persons who need nursing home care because old age or infirmity renders them unable to properly care for themselves;

(c) Nursing homes established under sections 376.55 to 376.66 shall be devoted primarily to the care and treatment of persons requiring welfare services.

Subd. 2. **Establishment.** The county board of any county, or any group of counties acting jointly, may establish a nursing home as provided in sections 376.55 to 376.66, by converting suitable existing county-owned buildings, or by acquiring by gift, purchase, or condemnation proceedings instituted in the name of the county, or counties, a suitable site, and erecting suitable buildings thereon, and to equip and maintain the same as a nursing home for chronically ill and convalescent persons; provided, however, that no new site shall be established or a new building constructed for a nursing home unless

such question is submitted to a referendum vote of the people in the county or a group of counties acting jointly, and a majority of the people voting on such question shall approve the same, as provided by Section 376.04, Minnesota Statutes Annotated, as in the case of county hospitals.

Subd. 3. Transfer of funds. The county board of any county in this state may transfer surplus funds from any fund except the road and bridge, sinking or drainage ditch funds for the purpose of establishing a county nursing home. When surplus funds are not available for transfer, a county board may issue bonds to defray the cost of establishing a county nursing home, subject to the provisions of section 376.56.

Subd. 4. Obtaining interest. Any county, not maintaining a nursing home, either alone or in connection with another or other counties, may purchase an interest in an existing county nursing home if the county board or boards owning such nursing home decide by majority vote of each county board to admit such county. The sum to be paid for admission to ownership shall be fixed by the county board or boards owning such home with due regard for their investment in such home. Any county admitted under this provision shall have all the rights and privileges provided for in sections 376.55 to 376.66.

Subd. 5. County defined. Whenever in sections 376.55 to 376.66 the word "county" is used, it refers to a county acting singly, or as one of a group of counties acting jointly, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

Subd. 6. Withdrawal of interest. *Any county board may withdraw its interest in any county nursing home if the county board or boards owning such nursing home decided by majority vote of each county board to allow such withdrawal. The sum to be paid to the county withdrawing shall be fixed by the county board or boards owning such home with due regard for their investment in such home.*

Approved April 7, 1953.

CHAPTER 249—H. F. No. 781

[Not Coded]

An act relating to a county school tax levy in certain counties having an area of more than 5,000 square miles; amending Laws 1949, Chapter 375, Section 1, as amended.