

S. F. No. 62

CHAPTER 61.

Railroads.

An act requiring railroad corporations and companies operating railroads in this state to provide platforms for loading and unloading heavy machinery and implements and providing a penalty for the failure so to do.

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

Platforms for heavy machinery.

SECTION 1. That all railroad corporations or companies operating any railroads in this state shall provide at all stations in villages containing a population of two hundred and fifty or more inhabitants on their respective roads suitable platforms immediately along side of the side track or tracks of such company at said stations for the accommodation of patrons of said railroad company and for the use of such patrons in loading upon and unloading from the cars of said railroad company heavy farm machinery, threshing machines, separators, engines, horse powers and other machinery of like character. Said platforms shall be not less than twelve feet in width and thirty-two feet in length, exclusive of the approaches hereinafter prescribed (and of the same height from the ground as the floor of an ordinary box car), and the floor of such platforms shall be constructed of planks not less than three inches in thickness and laid closely together. Such platforms shall be of sufficient strength to permit of the unloading and handling upon the same of the character of machinery hereinbefore set forth with safety. There shall be constructed at each end of the platform an approach or driveway of such slope that teams can be driven up and down the same in handling such machinery. Such approaches shall be floored with the same kind of material as the main part of said platform; provided, however, that at all stations where there are at the date of the passage of this act, platforms with a driveway at one end thereof and of reasonable strength and dimensions, the railroad company owning or operating the railroad on which the same are located shall not be required to replace the same until replacement is necessary by reason of such platform being worn out, but all replacements of present platforms, when the same shall be worn out, shall be in accordance with the provisions of this act.

Penalty for non-compliance.

SEC. 2. Any such railroad company or corporation failing to comply with the provisions of this act shall forfeit and pay to the state of Minnesota a penalty not less than \$500 nor more than \$1,000 for each and every violation of this act. And each period of thirty days that any such railroad company or corporation shall fail to comply with the provisions of this act at any such stations shall be taken and deemed to be a separate violation of this act.

SEC. 3. This act shall take effect and be in force on and after July 1, 1893.

Approved March 30, 1893.