CHAPTER 351.

H. F. No. 678.

An act relating to the employment of special attorneys Special by state boards, commissions, departments, or officers.

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

Section 1. Except where otherwise expressly provided by law, no board, commission, department or officer of the state government, shall have authority to employ or contract for the employment of any attorney or attorneys for the rendering of any legal services at the expense of the state, but the attorney general shall be the attorney of all such boards, commissions, departments and officers, and shall perform all legal services therefor. It is hereby made the duty of the respective county attor- Duties of neys when requested by the attorney general, to appear attorneys. and act as assitant attorney for any such board, commission, department or officer. If in any instance for the proper protection of the interests of the state the employment of special attorneys or counsel becomes necessary, the attorney general shall first so certify by an instrument in writing, which shall be filed with the state auditor, and the employment shall be made by the attorney general who shall agree with any attorney so employed as to their compensation, and no such compensation shall be paid until the attorney general shall certify in writing that the same is just and corrrect. If such employment is for any purpose the administration of which is under the control of any board or commission the compensation of such attorney or attorneys, shall be paid out of the appropriation for such board or commission. The compensation of at- Compensation. torneys employed by the attorney general to assist in the prosecution of any criminal cause in any of the courts in this state shall not exceed twenty-five dollars per day.

This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved April 22, 1903.