

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1945, Section 168.37, as amended by Laws 1947, Chapter 404, Section 1, is amended to read:

168.37. **Plates; size, form.** Subdivision 1. These number plates shall be substantially of the following size and form: A plate or placard of metal, enamel, or other suitable material, approximately five and five-eighths inches wide and approximately 12 inches long, the length to vary with the number of digits in the number. On the body of such plate there shall be the distinctive registration number assigned to the vehicle, in figures approximately three inches high, each stroke of which shall be of such width as will be most conducive to legibility. A letter or letters similar in size to the figures may be used as a part of the registration number at the beginning thereof to indicate class of registration. Below the registration number there shall be the year of registration number and the word "Minnesota" in characters three-fourths of an inch high. Motor-cycles shall be assigned plates of substantially the same design, but three inches wide and seven inches long, with such proportionate reduction in size of letters and numerals as may be necessary. Dealers' number plates shall be of substantially the same size and design as passenger vehicle and truck plates.

Subd. 2. There shall appear on the number plates issued for the year 1950 and each subsequent year thereafter the following: "10,000 Lakes." Such change in the size and form of the plates and such rearrangement of the words and figures thereon as may be necessary to best carry out the provisions of this subdivision are hereby authorized.

Approved April 14, 1949.

CHAPTER 411—S. F. No. 975

[Not Coded]

An act relating to borrowing funds for the support or relief of the poor, and confirming all bonds issued and all proceedings had for the issuance of such bonds, for the purpose embraced herein.

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

Section 1. **Definitions.** Subdivision 1. As used in this act, unless the subject matter or context requires otherwise :

Subd. 2. The term "political subdivision" shall include *any subdivision of the state or any municipal corporation or public quasi-corporation, however organized.*

Subd. 3. The words "support or relief of the poor" shall have the same meaning as the words are given by Mason's Minnesota Statutes 1927, Chapter 15, and the words "poor persons" shall mean such person for whom a legal liability is imposed under that chapter.

Subd. 4. The term "work relief" shall mean support or relief in wages or other compensation, in cash or in kind, given or paid for work performed under any condition.

Subd. 5. The words "direct relief" shall mean relief to individuals or families incidental to the care of the poor, such as food, clothing, shelter, medical care and supplies, and other necessities of life; provided that nothing in this law should be interpreted as enlarging the responsibility for relief as now imposed by the laws of Minnesota.

Sec. 2. **Borrow funds and pledge credits.** Each political subdivision of the state charged by law with responsibility for the support or relief of poor persons having a legal settlement therein is hereby granted authority to borrow funds and pledge the credit of such political subdivision to meet the expense thereof and to make such loans either from the State of Minnesota, the federal government, or from private sources when necessary for the support or relief of said persons; provided, however, that this act shall not be construed as increasing the limit of debt, if any, prescribed by the special law or home-rule charter or general law under which any political subdivision is organized.

Sec. 3. **Bonds; issuance.** Bonds or other evidences of indebtedness may be issued pursuant to the authority granted and for the purposes specified herein by following the regular statutory or charter procedure applicable to such political subdivision; provided, however, that any political subdivision now required by statute or by charter to submit the question of the issuance of bonds or other evidences of indebtedness to a referendum vote, is hereby authorized to issue and sell such

public welfare bonds or other evidences of indebtedness without submitting the question of such issue to a referendum vote, by following the procedure hereinafter outlined. It is further provided that any political subdivision now required by statute or by charter to submit the question of the issuance of bonds or other evidences of indebtedness to a referendum vote may without a vote of the people, in each of the years 1949 and 1950, if a county, issue such bonds or other evidences of indebtedness in an amount not to exceed \$435,000 for this purpose, and if a city of the first class in an amount not to exceed \$165,000 for this purpose.

Before any such bonds or other evidences of indebtedness may be issued hereunder by a political subdivision which is restricted by statute or by charter provision from issuing bonds and pledging the credit thereof without submitting the proposal to make such issue to a referendum vote of the electors of such political subdivision, a resolution shall first be adopted by a two-thirds vote of all the members of the official body or bodies authorized to make loans within the political subdivision, declaring an emergency to exist making it necessary to borrow in the specified amount without submitting the question of issuance of bonds or other evidences of indebtedness to a vote of the electors of said political subdivision. The action of the governing body shall be by resolution, irrespective of any requirement of any home-rule charter, general or special law requiring such action to be by ordinance. This resolution shall then be submitted to the Governor of the State, together with all facts deemed necessary to support such emergency action, including the general financial condition of the political subdivision, the need for the funds, and the funds which may be available, public or private, and such other information as may be required. If after investigation the Governor finds that the amounts requested are within the reasonable needs of the political subdivision and that no other funds are available to meet the same that it is not possible or practicable, in view of other governmental needs of the political subdivision to secure the necessary funds from other sources or by regular methods of borrowing, he shall certify that an emergency exists sufficient to warrant the issuance of such bonds or other evidences of indebtedness subject to the requested exemption. The Governor may reduce but shall not increase the amount requested in such resolution. Upon such certification, the said governing body or bodies may then proceed to issue and sell such bonds or other evidence of indebtedness pursuant to the resolution aforesaid and in the

manner prescribed by Minnesota Statutes 1941, Section 475.15, and they shall be valid legal obligations of the political subdivisions without the referendum vote of the electors.

Sec. 4. Expend for support and relief of poor; work relief. All moneys borrowed hereunder shall be expended only for the support or relief of the poor, through direct relief, placement service, or other service contributing to the support or relief of the poor, including the expense of administration and supervision. No part of the proceeds of such bonds may be expended for "work relief."

Sec. 5. Issuance and sale of bonds. Upon authorization and approval of the issuance of bonds as in this act provided, the governing body or other proper bodies of any such political subdivision may proceed to issue and sell its bonds or other evidences of indebtedness covering such loans, in the manner prescribed by Minnesota Statutes 1941, Section 475.15. Such bonds or evidences of indebtedness shall become due and payable in not more than three years from the date of issue.

The bonds or other evidence of indebtedness issued pursuant to this act shall be subject to the provisions of Laws 1927, Chapter 131, or of such other laws of the state as govern the particular political subdivision in making loans, in regard to the levy of a tax for interest and principal and for the payment thereof. No provision of any act passed during the present session of the Legislature, limiting the tax which may be levied for poor relief purposes shall in any way limit the tax to be levied for the payment of the principal or interest of bonds issued pursuant to the provisions of this act.

Sec. 6. Inconsistent laws suspended. All laws or parts of law inconsistent herewith are hereby suspended during the operation of this act; provided, however, that this action shall not be construed as repealing or suspending any other law authorizing municipalities coming within the provisions of this act to issue bonds for poor relief purposes.

Sec. 7. Prior accounts validated. All bonds heretofore issued by any of the subdivisions of the character embraced in the provisions of this statute, and all proceedings heretofore taken for the issuance of such bonds as hereby authorized, are hereby and in all things ratified, validated and confirmed, and such bonds are hereby declared to be valid and legally binding obligations of the issuing subdivisions of this state.

Sec. 8. **Effective until December 31, 1950.** This act shall be in force and effect until December 31, 1950.

Approved April 14, 1949.

CHAPTER 412—S. F. No. 1022

[Not Coded]

An act creating a commission on the matter of selecting an appropriate bird as an avifaunal symbol for the State of Minnesota.

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

Section 1. State bird avifaunal symbol; commission created. A commission is hereby created for the purpose of making a study of the matter of an appropriate state bird and avifaunal symbol.

Sec. 2. Membership of commission. The commission shall be appointed by the Governor and shall include a member of the House of Representatives, a member of the Senate, the *commissioner of education, the Director of the Minnesota Museum of Natural History, the President of the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union, the director of the Minneapolis Science Museum, and the Minnesota Representative of the National Audubon Society.* The commission shall be appointed forthwith upon the passage of this act, and shall be known as the State Bird Commission. The members of the commission shall elect one member as chairman thereof.

Sec. 3. Duties. The commission shall study and consider the matter of an official state bird and avifaunal symbol appropriate to represent the state, and shall select a slate of birds as candidates for designation as the official state bird. This slate of state bird candidates shall then be publicized throughout the state by the Commission and other groups. Teachers shall be urged to have their pupils study the merits of the various candidates and then take a vote. The totals for each bird shall be recorded by the teacher and forwarded by her to the above committee at an address designated by it. The committee shall be responsible for tallying the votes and shall