

or other negligence claims for damage made upon such officers, nurses, physicians, or other employees based on their activities while in the performance of their public duties in the treatment of patients in such public hospital, and may defend in the names of or on behalf of such officers, nurses, physicians, or other employees any suits brought against them to enforce claims arising out of such activities as such officers, nurses, physicians or employees of such public hospital. The county or city or both operating such public hospital, by action of the appropriate board or governmental body in charge of the operation of such hospital, is authorized to compromise and settle any such claims or suits, and to pay the amount of such settlement or compromise, or the amount of the judgment rendered against such officer, nurse, physician, or employee on any such claim, without first requiring such officer, nurse, physician, or other employee to pay the same. The maximum amount which may be paid on behalf of any one employee shall be \$4,000.

Sec. 2. Liability of county or city. Nothing herein contained shall in any way impose upon such county or city any liability whatsoever not already imposed by existing laws of the state of Minnesota.

Sec. 3. Resolution of governing body of hospital. The provisions of this act may be made applicable to officers, nurses, physicians, or other employees of such public hospital operated by a county or a city or both of this state, by resolution of the governing body of such hospital, and the provisions of this act may, by appropriate resolution of such governing body, be made retroactive to apply to judgments previously rendered against any such officer, nurse, physician or other employee, and which remain unsatisfied and in force as of the effective date of this act.

Approved April 22, 1953.

CHAPTER 638—H. F. No. 1365

[Not Coded]

An act relating to certain conservation lands; providing for the restoration thereof as tax-forfeited lands subject to repurchase.

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

Section 1. Tax-forfeited lands subject to repurchase. Any tax-forfeited land which has been withdrawn from sale and dedicated to conservation purposes, pursuant to Chapter

511 of the Laws of Minnesota for 1941, located in any county which, at the time of the enactment of this act, has an assessed valuation of not less than \$1,200,000 and not more than \$2,200,000 and having an area of not less than 1,375 square miles and not more than 2,200 square miles, and having a population according to the 1950 federal census figures of not less than 2,800 inhabitants and not more than 8,500 inhabitants, may upon recommendation of the county board be released from such withdrawal from sale and dedication by order of the commissioner of conservation. The commissioner shall transmit a certified copy of such order to the county auditor who shall note the same upon his records and record the same with the register of deeds. Thereupon, the title to said land shall be held by the state in trust in favor of the taxing districts in like manner as if said lands had not been withdrawn from sale. Thereafter said land may be repurchased as provided in Minnesota Statutes, Section 282.35, within one year from the date of recording such order, notwithstanding any limitation upon the time of repurchase therein, provided further such repurchase shall be subject to any easement, lease or other encumbrance granted by the State prior thereto.

Section 2. The authority granted by this act shall expire on January 1, 1954.

Approved April 22, 1953.

CHAPTER 639—H. F. No. 1390

An act relating to aid to dependent children; amending Minnesota Statutes 1949, Section 256.12, Subdivision 15, as amended; section 256.73, as amended; section 256.87.

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1949, Section 256.12, Subdivision 15, as amended by Laws 1951, Chapter 229, Section 1, is amended to read:

Subd. 15. **Continued absence from the home.** "Continued absence from the home," as used in sections 256.71 to 256.87, means the absence from the home of the parent, whether or not entitled to the custody of the child, by reason of being an inmate of a penal institution or a fugitive after escape therefrom, or absence from the home by the parent for a period of at least *three months* continuous duration together with failure on the part of the absent parent to support the child, provided that prior to the granting of such aid all reasonable efforts