

CHAPTER 639—H. F. No. 1166

[Coded]

An act relating to labor; providing for collection by the department of labor and industry of certain wages.

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

Section 1. **[175.38] Labor and industry; wage claims; collection; definitions.** Subdivision 1. For the purposes of sections 1 and 2, the terms defined in this section shall have the meanings given them.

Subd. 2. "Department" means the Minnesota department of labor and industry.

Subd. 3. "Commissioner" means the commissioner of the department of labor and industry.

Subd. 4. "Wages" means any compensation to an employee by an employer in return for services performed by the employee.

Subd. 5. "Employer" means any person who employs another to perform services for hire and includes any individual, partnership, association, corporation, business trust, trustee in bankruptcy, or group of persons.

Subd. 6. "Employee" means any person who performs services for another for hire.

Sec. 2. **[175.39] Powers and duties on wage claims.** Subdivision 1. The commissioner may investigate, mediate, and settle wage claims by an employee against an employer if the failure to pay any such wage may violate Minnesota laws or any order or regulation of the department thereunder.

Subd. 2. The commissioner may commence a civil action in any court of competent jurisdiction for the benefit of any employee for a declaratory judgment with respect to any wage claim which the commissioner deems to be valid, upon a written request being filed with the commissioner by such employee, provided: (1) the failure to pay such wage would constitute a violation of Minnesota laws or any order or regulation of the department thereunder, and (2) the wage claim does not exceed \$300. The employer shall pay all costs and disbursements as may be allowed by the court, and shall further pay an assessment of 10 percent of the amount of any awarded wage claim to the treasurer of the state of Minnesota. In any action here-

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in no security for payment of costs shall be required. Nothing herein shall be construed to prevent an employee from prosecuting his own claim for wages.

Subd. 3. Upon the written request of the commissioner, the attorney general of the state of Minnesota shall commence a civil action for declaratory judgment against the employer as provided in subdivision 2 of this section.

Approved May 23, 1969.

CHAPTER 640—H. F. No. 1194

[Not Coded]

An act relating to the tax levy for county purposes in Sibley county; amending Laws 1959, Chapter 195, Section 1.

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

Section 1. Laws 1959, Chapter 195, Section 1, is amended to read:

Section 1. **Sibley county; general revenue tax levy.** The board of county commissioners of Sibley county may levy taxes annually for general revenue purposes on each dollar of taxable property, as assessed and entered upon the tax lists, for county purposes, not to exceed ~~15~~ *20* mills.

Sec. 2. *This act becomes effective only after its approval by the board of county commissioners of Sibley county, and upon compliance with Minnesota Statutes, Section 645.021.*

Approved May 24, 1969.

CHAPTER 641—H. F. No. 1234

[Not Coded]

An act relating to the city of Rochester and the policemen's relief association and pension fund.

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

Section 1. **Rochester, city of; policemen's relief; definitions.**
Subdivision 1. "Unit" means $1/75$ of the current maximum

Changes or additions indicated by italics, deletions by ~~strikeout~~.