

# MINNESOTA STATUTES 1977 SUPPLEMENT

## 298.012 OCCUPATION TAXES

### CHAPTER 298. OCCUPATION TAXES

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#### 298.012 Definition.

For purposes of chapter 298, the word "city" includes any home rule charter city, statutory city, or any city however organized.

[ 1977 c 423 art 10 s 6 ]

#### 298.03 Value of ore; how ascertained.

The valuation of iron or other ores for the purposes of determining the amount of tax to be paid under the provisions of section 298.01 shall be ascertained by subtracting from the value of such ore, at the place where the same is brought to the surface of the earth, such value to be determined by the commissioner of revenue:

(1) The reasonable cost of supplies used and labor performed at the mine in separating the ore from the ore body, including hoisting, elevating, or conveying the same to the surface of the earth;

(2) If the ore is taken from an open pit mine, an amount for each ton of ore mined or produced during the year equal to the cost of removing the overburden, divided by the number of tons of ore uncovered, the number of tons of ore uncovered in each case to be determined by the commissioner of revenue;

(3) If the ore is taken from an underground mine, an amount for each ton of ore mined or produced during the year equal to the cost of sinking and constructing shafts and running drifts, divided by the number of tons of ore that can be advantageously taken out through such shafts and drifts, the number of tons of ore that can be advantageously taken out in each case to be determined by the commissioner of revenue;

(4) The amount of royalties paid on the ore mined or produced during the year;

(5) A percentage of the ad valorem taxes levied for such year against the realty in which the ore is deposited equal to the percentage that the tons mined or produced during such year bears to the total tonnage in the mine;

(6) In the case of taconite, semi-taconite and iron sulphide operations, the tax payable under section 298.24, but not exceeding 25 cents per taxable ton, and that payable under section 298.35, on the concentrates produced in said year and any taxes paid under Laws 1955, Chapters 391, 429, 514, 576 or 540, or any other law imposing on such taconite operations a specific tax for school or other governmental purposes;

(7) The amount or amounts of all the foregoing subtractions shall be ascertained and determined by the commissioner of revenue. Deductions for interest on plant investment shall not exceed the greater of (a) four percent of book value, or

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(b) the amount actually paid but not exceeding six percent of book value. No subtraction shall be allowed for shrinkage of iron ore.

[ 1977 c 423 art 10 s 7 ]

NOTE: This section as amended by Laws 1977, Chapter 423, Article 10, Section 7 is effective for iron ore concentrate produced in any year beginning after December 31, 1976.

### 298.045 Declaration of estimated occupation tax.

Subdivision 1. **Requirements of declaration.** Every person subject to the taxes imposed by sections 298.01 to 298.21 shall file with the commissioner of revenue a declaration of estimated tax for the calendar year based on the estimate of the mining and production of ores that will occur in that year. In making the declaration, each person shall aggregate total production from all of that person's natural ore mines located in Minnesota. The declaration shall contain any pertinent information the commissioner of revenue may by rule or form prescribe.

Subd. 2. **Filing requirement for declaration.** The declaration of estimated tax for that year shall be filed on March 15 of that year, except that the declaration for 1977 shall be filed in accordance with subdivision 3.

Subd. 3. **Time for filing declarations for 1977.** The declaration of estimated tax required by this section for 1977 shall be filed on or before July 15, 1977. The amount of the estimated tax shall be paid in four equal installments on the following dates: July 15, September 15, and December 15, of 1977, and March 15, 1978.

Subd. 4. **Extension of time for filing declarations.** The commissioner may grant a reasonable extension of time for filing the declaration required by this section. No extension shall be for more than six months.

Subd. 5. **Amendment.** An amendment of a declaration may be filed in any interval between installment dates prescribed for the year, but only one amendment may be filed in an interval.

[ 1977 c 423 art 9 s 1 ]

### 298.046 Installment payments of estimated occupation tax.

Subdivision 1. **Amount and time for payment of each installment.** The amount of estimated tax with respect to which a declaration is required shall be paid in four equal installments on the 15th day of March, June, September, and December of the calendar year for which the declaration is required.

Subd. 2. **Amendment of declaration.** If an amendment of a declaration is filed, the amount of any remaining installments shall be the amount which would have been payable if the new estimate had been made when the first estimate for the calendar year was made, increased or decreased by any amount computed by dividing:

(a) the difference between (i) the amount of estimated tax required to be paid before the date on which the amendment is made, and (ii) the amount of estimated tax which would have been required to be paid before that date if the new estimate had been made when the first estimate was made, by

(b) the number of installments remaining to be paid on or after the date on which the amendment is made.

Subd. 3. **Installments paid in advance.** At the election of the taxpayer, an installment of the estimated tax may be paid before the date prescribed for its payment.

[ 1977 c 423 art 9 s 2 ]

### 298.047 Failure to pay estimated occupation tax.

Subdivision 1. **Addition to the tax.** In the case of an underpayment of estimated tax by a taxpayer, except as provided in subdivision 4, there shall be added to the estimated tax for the calendar year a penalty of ten percent and interest at the rate specified in section 270.75 upon the amount of the underpayment determined under subdivision 2 for the period of the underpayment determined under subdivision 3.

Subd. 2. **Amount of underpayment.** For purposes of subdivision 1, the amount of the underpayment shall be the excess of:

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(a) the amount of the installment that was due, over

(b) the amount, if any, of the installment paid on or before the last date prescribed for payment.

Subd. 3. **Period of underpayment.** The period of the underpayment shall run from the date the installment was required to be paid to whichever of the following dates is the earlier:

(a) March 1 of the following calendar year; or

(b) with respect to any portion of the underpayment, the date on which the portion is paid. For purposes of this paragraph, a payment of estimated tax on an installment date shall be considered a payment of a previous underpayment only to the extent the payment exceeds the amount of the installment for that installment date.

Subd. 4. **Exception.** Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivisions 1 to 3, penalty and interest with respect to an underpayment of an installment shall not be imposed if the total amount of all payments of estimated tax made on or before the last date prescribed for the payment of the installment equals or exceeds the amount which would have been required to be paid on or before that date if the estimated tax were the lesser of:

(a) (i) in the case of a person subject to the tax imposed by section 298.01, subdivision 2, the tax as finally determined by the commissioner for the preceding calendar year if a tax liability existed for the preceding calendar year; or

(ii) in the case of a person subject to the tax imposed by section 298.01, subdivision 1, the tax shown on the aggregate returns of the taxpayer or a predecessor company for the preceding calendar year reduced by \$100,000, if a return was filed by the taxpayer for the preceding calendar year; or

(iii) in the case of a person subject to the tax imposed by section 298.01, subdivision 1, if that person or its predecessor company had a tax liability of less than \$100,000 in the preceding calendar year, its anticipated tax payment on its aggregate returns reduced by \$100,000; or

(b) an amount equal to the tax computed at the rates applicable to the calendar year but otherwise on the basis of the facts shown on the report of the taxpayer for, and the law applicable to, the preceding calendar year.

Subd. 5. **Failure to file an estimate.** In the case of a taxpayer who fails to file a declaration of estimated tax for a calendar year when one is required, the period of the underpayment shall run from the four installment dates as set forth in section 298.046, subdivision 1, to whichever of the periods set forth in subdivision 3, clauses (a) and (b), is the earlier.

[ 1977 c 423 art 9 s 3 ]

## 298.048 Overpayment of estimated tax.

Where the amount of an installment payment of estimated tax exceeds the amount determined to be the correct amount of the installment payment, the overpayment shall be credited against any unpaid installments. Where the total amount of the estimated tax payments and other payments, if any, exceeds by \$1 or more the taxes and any added penalties and interest as finally determined by the commissioner, the commissioner shall make and file an order determining the amount of the overpayment and credit it against occupation taxes otherwise payable by the person who has overpaid the amount so determined.

[ 1977 c 423 art 9 s 4 ]

## 298.09 Notices; hearings; determination of amount of tax is final; certiorari.

[ For text of subd 1, see M.S.1976 ]

Subd. 2. On the first secular day following the fourteenth day of May, the commissioner of revenue shall hold a hearing at his office in St. Paul which may be adjourned from day to day. All relevant and material evidence having probative value with respect to the issues shall be submitted at the hearing and such hearing

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shall not be a "contested case" within the meaning of section 15.0411, subdivision 4. Every person subject to such tax may at such hearing present evidence and argument on any matter bearing upon the validity or correctness of the tax determined to be due from him, and the commissioner of revenue shall review his determination of such tax.

[For text of subds 3 and 4, see M.S.1976]

[ 1977 c 203 s 4 ]

### 298.22 Iron range resources and rehabilitation.

Subdivision 1. (1) The office of commissioner of iron range resources and rehabilitation is created. The commissioner shall be appointed by the governor under the provisions of section 15.06.

(2) The commissioner may hold such other positions or appointments as are not incompatible with his duties as commissioner of iron range resources and rehabilitation. The commissioner may appoint a deputy commissioner. All expenses of the commissioner, including the payment of such assistance as may be necessary, shall be paid out of the amounts appropriated by section 298.28, subdivision 1.

(3) When the commissioner shall determine that distress and unemployment exists or may exist in the future in any county by reason of the removal of natural resources or a possibly limited use thereof in the future and the decrease in employment resulting therefrom, now or hereafter, he may use such amounts of the appropriation made to him in section 298.28, subdivision 1 as he may determine to be necessary and proper in the development of the remaining resources of said county and in the vocational training and rehabilitation of its residents. For the purposes of this section, "development of remaining resources" includes, but is not limited to, the promotion of tourism.

Subd. 2. There is hereby created the iron range resources and rehabilitation board, consisting of eleven members, five of whom shall be state senators appointed by the subcommittee on committees of the rules committee of the senate, and five of whom shall be representatives, appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives, their terms of office to commence on May 1, 1943, and continue until January 3rd, 1945, or until their successors are appointed and qualified. Their successors shall be appointed each two years in the same manner as the original members were appointed, in January of every second year, commencing in January, 1945. The eleventh member of said board shall be the commissioner of natural resources of the state of Minnesota. Vacancies on the board shall be filled in the same manner as the original members were chosen. All expenditures and projects made by the commissioner of iron range resources and rehabilitation shall first be submitted to said iron range resources and rehabilitation board which shall recommend approval or disapproval or modification of expenditures and projects for rehabilitation purposes as provided by this section, and the method, manner, and time of payment of all said funds proposed to be disbursed shall be first approved or disapproved by said board. The board shall biennially make its report to the governor and the legislature on or before November 15 of each even numbered year. The expenses of said board shall be paid by the state of Minnesota from the funds raised pursuant to this section.

[For text of subds 3 to 5, see M.S.1976]

[ 1977 c 305 s 34; 1977 c 423 art 10 s 8,9 ]

NOTE: Subdivision 1 as amended by Laws 1977, Chapter 423, Article 10, Section 8, is effective for distributions made in any year after December 31, 1977, pursuant to Laws 1977, Chapter 423, Article 10, Section 32.

### 298.222 Citation.

Sections 298.222 to 298.226 and Laws 1977, Chapter 423, Article 10, Section 22 shall be known as the taconite environmental protection fund act of 1977.

[ 1977 c 423 art 10 s 19 ]

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### 298.223 Taconite area environmental protection fund.

A fund called the taconite environmental protection fund is created for the purpose of reclaiming, restoring and enhancing those areas of northeast Minnesota adversely affected by the environmentally damaging operations involved in mining taconite and iron ore and producing iron ore concentrate and for the purpose of promoting the economic development of northeast Minnesota. The taconite environmental protection fund shall be used for the following purposes:

- (a) to initiate investigations into matters the Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board determines are in need of study and which will determine the environmental problems requiring remedial action;
- (b) reclamation, restoration or reforestation of minelands not otherwise provided for by state law;
- (c) local economic development projects including construction of sewer and water systems, and other public works;
- (d) monitoring of mineral industry related health problems among mining employees.

The taconite environmental protection fund shall be administered by the commissioner of the Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board. The commissioner shall by September 1 of each year prepare a list of projects to be funded from the taconite environmental protection fund, with such supporting information including description of the projects, plans, and cost estimates as may be necessary. Upon recommendation of the Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board, this list shall be submitted to the legislative advisory commission for its review. This list with the recommendation of the legislative advisory commission shall then be transmitted to the governor by November 1 of each year. By December 1 of each year, the governor shall approve or disapprove, or return for further consideration, each individual project. Funds for a project may be expended only upon approval of the project by the governor.

Notwithstanding the above, in 1977 the commissioner, with the recommendation of the board, shall submit a list of projects to the legislative advisory commission by June 15. This list shall by July 1 be transmitted to the governor for approval. Funds may be expended upon approval by the governor.

There is hereby annually appropriated to the commissioner of the Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board such funds as are necessary to carry out the projects approved and such funds as are necessary for administration of this section. Annual administrative costs, not including detailed engineering expenses for the projects, shall not exceed five percent of the amount annually expended from the fund.

Funds for the purposes of this section are provided by section 298.28, subdivision 1, clause (9) relating to the taconite environmental protection fund.

[ 1977 c 423 art 10 s 20 ]

NOTE: Laws 1977, Chapter 423, Article 10, Section 22, reads as follows:

"Sec. 22. There is hereby appropriated from the general fund to the taconite environmental protection fund on July 1, 1977, the sum of \$1,500,000. The taconite environmental protection fund shall reimburse the general fund plus interest at five percent on June 30, 1978."

### 298.224 Investment of funds; income.

The fund established by section 298.223 shall be invested pursuant to law and the net interest and dividends arising from the investment shall be included and become part of the fund.

[ 1977 c 423 art 10 s 21 ]

### 298.225 Appropriation.

If a taconite producer ceases beneficiation operations, either temporarily or permanently, and if the recipients of the taconite production tax as provided in sec-

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tion 298.28, subdivision 1, clauses (1) to (8), would receive decreased distributions as a result thereof, then the distribution to these recipients in each of the two years immediately following the year in which operations ceased shall be equal to the amount they received in the last full year before operations ceased. There is hereby appropriated from the taconite environmental protection fund to the commissioner of revenue the amount needed to make the above payments. If a taconite producer, which ceases beneficiation operations either temporarily or permanently, is required by a special law to make bond payments for a school district, the taconite environmental protection fund shall assume the payments of the taconite producer if the producer ceases to make the needed payments. There is hereby appropriated from the taconite environmental protection fund to the commissioner of revenue the amounts needed to make these school bond payments.

[ 1977 c 423 art 10 s 23 ]

**298.226 Appropriation.**

There is hereby appropriated from the general fund to the taconite environmental protection fund the amount needed to pay the payments authorized under section 298.225. The commissioner of finance shall transfer the funds only if the taconite environmental protection fund does not have a sufficient balance to pay the payments. No funds may be transferred from the general fund after January 1, 1980. Any amount transferred to the taconite environmental protection fund shall be repaid to the general fund without interest as soon as practicable.

[ 1977 c 423 art 10 s 24 ]

**298.24 Tax on taconite and iron sulphides.**

Subdivision 1. (a) There is hereby imposed upon taconite and iron sulphides, and upon the mining and quarrying thereof, and upon the production of iron ore concentrate therefrom, and upon the concentrate so produced, a tax of \$1.25 cents per gross ton of merchantable iron ore concentrate produced therefrom. The tax on concentrates produced in 1978 and subsequent years shall be equal to \$1.25 multiplied by the steel mill products index during the production year, divided by the steel mill products index in 1977. The index stated in code number 1013, or any subsequent equivalent, as published by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics Wholesale Prices and Price Indexes for the month of January of the year in which the concentrate is produced shall be the index used in calculating the tax imposed herein. In no event shall the tax be less than \$1.25 per gross ton of merchantable iron ore concentrate.

(b) An additional tax is hereby imposed equal to 1.6 percent of the total tax imposed by clause (a) per gross ton for each one percent that the iron content of such product exceeds 62 percent, when dried at 212 degrees Fahrenheit.

(c) The tax imposed by this subdivision shall be computed on the production for the current year or the average of the production for the current year and the previous two years, whichever is higher. This clause shall not apply in the case of the closing of a taconite facility if the property taxes on the facility would be higher if this clause and section 298.25 were not applicable.

(d) If the tax or any part of the tax imposed by this subdivision is held to be unconstitutional, a tax of \$1.25 per gross ton of merchantable iron ore concentrate produced shall be imposed.

Subd. 2. There is hereby imposed upon taconite and iron sulphides, and upon the mining and quarrying thereof, and upon the production of iron ore concentrate therefrom, and upon the tailings so produced an additional tax of 10 cents per 2,000 pounds of tailings produced. For the purposes of this subdivision tailings mean the solid and liquid waste materials resulting from the beneficiation process.

The tax imposed by this subdivision shall only apply to those tailings from a taconite facility which are not deposited on land in accordance with permits issued by the pollution control agency and the department of natural resources.

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The proceeds of the tax imposed by this subdivision shall be deposited in the general fund of the state.

[For text of subd 3, see M.S.1976]

[ 1977 c 423 art 10 s 10,11 ]

NOTE: Subdivision 1, as amended by Laws 1977, Chapter 423, Article 10, Section 10, is effective for iron ore concentrate produced in any year beginning after December 31, 1976.

Subdivision 2, as amended by Laws 1977, Chapter 423, Article 10, Section 11, is effective for tailing produced after June 30, 1977.

**298.241** [ Repealed, 1977 c 423 art 10 s 31 ]

NOTE: This section is repealed effective for iron ore concentrate produced in any year beginning after December 31, 1976.

**298.243** [ Repealed, 1977 c 423 art 10 s 31 ]

NOTE: This section is repealed effective for iron ore concentrate produced in any year beginning after December 31, 1976.

**298.244 Lake Superior water filtration and purification.**

Subdivision 1. [ Repealed, 1977 c 423 art 10 s 30 ]

NOTE: Subdivision 1 is repealed effective for distributions made in any year after December 31, 1977.

Subd. 2. (a) For the purposes of this subdivision, the following terms shall have the meanings given them.

(1) "Agency" means the state board of health.

(2) "Municipality" means any city or any other governmental subdivision having the power or duty to provide drinking water and using Lake Superior as the source of the drinking water.

(3) "Eligible cost" includes all costs incurred by a municipality including acquisition of necessary real and personal property, engineering, system cleaning, construction, alteration, improvements, inspection, supervision of construction and all other costs related to the construction and establishment of a permanent water filtration or purification system. Such costs shall be eligible even if incurred prior to June 7, 1975.

(4) "Municipal water purification system" includes all properties, real or personal, determined by a municipality and the state to be necessary for the elimination of polluting or potentially injurious substances from water used for municipal water supply purposes.

(b) There is hereby appropriated from the general fund to the state board of health the sum of \$2,500,000 and an additional amount of \$1,750,000 for a grant program for the construction of water filtration and purification systems for those communities using Lake Superior as a drinking water source. The board of health shall establish a grant program to implement the provisions of this subdivision. This program shall include the disbursement of funds hereinafter described for the construction of the facilities, the creation of guidelines designed to assure that the funds will be disbursed in accord with the purposes of this subdivision, the continued surveillance of the effectiveness of constructed facilities in cooperation with other related state agencies, and other duties of administration necessary to accomplish the purpose of this subdivision. Grants shall be made in accordance with the guidelines created under authority of this subdivision and shall not exceed 33 percent of the eligible project cost.

(c) A Lake Superior water filtration and purification fund is created as a separate bookkeeping account in the general books of account of the state, to record receipts of the proceeds of moneys appropriated to the fund and disbursements of money appropriated from the fund to municipalities for the acquisition and betterment of public land, buildings, and improvements of a capital nature needed for the construction of water filtration and purification systems, in accordance with the purpose of this subdivision. It is determined that state financial assistance for the construction of water filtration and purification facilities needed to fulfill the purposes of this subdivision is a public purpose and a proper function of state government.

(d) No recipient of financial assistance may receive more than 80 percent of the total amount of funds appropriated in this subdivision. Any recipient of finan-

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cial assistance shall pursue its remedies under the permits granted to the discharges or subrogate to the state those remedies for purposes of obtaining reimbursement of the state funds expended for the purposes of this subdivision. The board of health shall at the time of any disbursement of funds under this subdivision enter into necessary agreements for reimbursement. Any amounts recovered pursuant to this subdivision shall be credited to and disbursed as provided in section 298.28, subdivision 1, clause (4), part (a).

(e) Prior to July 1, 1977, \$2,500,000 of the proceeds of the tax collected under section 298.243 shall be paid to the general fund of the state treasury from those funds distributed to the counties, except from the portion distributed to Itasca county, pursuant to subdivision 1, clause (1).

(f) This subdivision of Laws 1975, Chapter 437, Article 11, Section 2 is effective on June 7, 1975. The \$2,500,000 in funds appropriated pursuant to this subdivision are available as of July 1, 1975. The additional amount of \$1,750,000 appropriated pursuant to this subdivision shall be available July 1, 1977.

(g) The additional \$1,750,000 appropriated by this subdivision shall be repaid to the general fund from proceeds of the tax imposed by section 298.24, subdivision 2.

[ 1977 c 423 art 10 s 12 ]

**298.25 Taxes additional to other taxes.**

The taxes imposed under section 298.24 shall be in addition to the occupation tax imposed upon the business of mining and producing iron ore and in addition to the royalty tax imposed upon royalties received for permission to mine and produce iron ore. Except as herein otherwise provided, such taxes shall be in lieu of all other taxes upon such taconite and iron sulphides, or the lands in which they are contained, or upon the mining or quarrying thereof, or the production of concentrate therefrom, or upon the concentrate produced, or upon the machinery, equipment, tools, supplies and buildings used in such mining, quarrying or production, or upon the lands occupied by, or used in connection with, such mining, quarrying or production facilities. If electric or steam power for the mining, transportation or concentration of such taconite or the concentrates produced therefrom is generated in plants principally devoted to the generation of power for such purposes, the plants in which such power is generated and all machinery, equipment, tools, supplies, transmission and distribution lines used in the generation and distribution of such power, shall be considered to be machinery, equipment, tools, supplies and buildings used in the mining, quarrying or production of taconite and taconite concentrates within the meaning of this section. If part of the power generated in such a plant is used for purposes other than the mining or concentration of taconite or the transportation or loading of taconite or the concentrates thereof, a proportionate share of the value of such generating facilities, equal to the proportion that the power used for such other purpose bears to the generating capacity of the plant, shall be subject to the general property tax in the same manner as other property; provided, power generated in such a plant and exchanged for an equivalent amount of power which is used for the mining, transportation or concentration of such taconite or concentrates produced therefrom, shall be considered as used for such purposes within the meaning of this section. Nothing herein shall prevent the assessment and taxation of the surface of reserve land containing taconite and not occupied by such facilities or used in connection therewith at the value thereof without regard to the taconite or iron sulphides therein, nor the assessment and taxation of merchantable iron ore or other minerals, or iron-bearing materials other than taconite or iron sulphides in such lands in the manner provided by law, nor the assessment and taxation of facilities used in producing sulphur or sulphur products from iron sulphide concentrates, or in refining such sulphur products, under the general property tax laws. Nothing herein shall except from general taxation or from taxation as provided by other laws any property used for residential or town-site purposes, including utility services thereto.

[ 1977 c 423 art 10 s 13 ]

NOTE: This section as amended by Laws 1977, Chapter 423, Article 10, Section 13, is effective for iron ore concentrate produced in any year beginning after December 31, 1976.



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### 298.26 Tax on unmined iron ore or iron sulphides.

In any year in which at least 1,000 tons of iron ore concentrate is not produced from any 40-acre tract or governmental lot containing taconite or iron sulphides, a tax may be assessed upon the taconite or iron sulphides therein at the mill rate prevailing in the taxing district and spread against the assessed value of the taconite or iron sulphides, such assessed value to be determined in accordance with existing laws. The amount of the tax spread under authority of this section by reason of the taconite and iron sulphides in any tract of land shall not exceed \$10 per acre.

[ 1977 c 423 art 10 s 14 ]

NOTE: This section as amended by Laws 1977, Chapter 423, Article 10, Section 14, is effective for property taxes levied in 1977 and thereafter, payable in 1978 and thereafter.

### 298.27 Collection and payment of tax.

The taxes provided by section 298.24 shall be collected and paid in the same manner as provided by law for the payment of the occupation tax, except that the report required by section 298.05 shall be filed on or before February 15 together with a remittance equal to 90 percent of the estimated tax required to be paid hereunder on or before April 15. On or before February 25, the commissioner of revenue shall make distribution of such estimated payment in the manner provided by section 298.28. The commissioner of revenue shall determine the amount of tax due on or before March 15. The tax found to be due shall be paid on or before April 15 following the production year. Reports shall be made and hearings held upon the determination of the tax in accordance with procedures established by the commissioner of revenue. The commissioner of revenue shall have authority to make reasonable regulations as to the form and manner of filing reports necessary for the determination of the tax hereunder, and by such regulations may require the production of such information as may be reasonably necessary or convenient for the determination and apportionment of the tax. All the provisions of the occupation tax law with reference to the assessment, determination, and collection of the occupation tax, including all provisions for appeals from or review of the orders of the commissioner of revenue relative thereto, are hereby made applicable to the taxes imposed by section 298.24 except in so far as inconsistent herewith. If any person subject to section 298.24 shall fail to make the report provided for in this section at the time and in the manner herein provided, the commissioner of revenue shall in such case, upon such information as he may possess or obtain, ascertain the kind and amount of ore mined or produced and thereon find and determine the amount of the tax due from such person. There shall be added to the amount of tax due a penalty for failure to report on or before February 15, which penalty shall equal ten percent of the tax imposed and be treated as a part thereof.

If any person required to make an estimated tax payment at the time and in the manner herein provided, and fails to do so, there shall be imposed a penalty equal to ten percent of the amount so due, which penalty shall be treated as part of the tax due.

In the case of any underpayment of the estimated tax payment required herein, there may be added and be treated as part of the tax due a penalty equal to ten percent of the amount so underpaid.

If any portion of the taxes provided for in section 298.24 is not paid before the fifteenth day of April of the year in which due and payable, a penalty of ten percent of such unpaid portion shall immediately accrue, and thereafter one percent per month shall be added to such tax and penalty while such tax remains unpaid.

[ 1977 c 423 art 10 s 15 ]

NOTE: This section as amended by Laws 1977, Chapter 423, Article 10, Section 15 is effective for iron ore concentrate produced in any year beginning after December 31, 1976.

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### 298.28 Division and distribution of proceeds.

Subdivision 1. The proceeds of the taxes collected under section 298.24, except the tax collected under section 298.24, subdivision 2, shall, upon certificate of the commissioner of revenue to the general fund of the state, be paid by the commissioner of revenue as follows:

(1) 2.5 cents per gross ton of merchantable iron ore concentrate, hereinafter referred to as "taxable ton", to the city or town in which the lands from which taconite was mined or quarried were located or within which the concentrate was produced. If the mining, quarrying, and concentration, or different steps in either thereof are carried on in more than one taxing district, the commissioner shall apportion equitably the proceeds of the part of the tax going to cities and towns among such subdivisions upon the basis of attributing 40 percent of the proceeds of the tax to the operation of mining or quarrying the taconite, and the remainder to the concentrating plant and to the processes of concentration, and with respect to each thereof giving due consideration to the relative extent of such operations performed in each such taxing district. His order making such apportionment shall be subject to review by the tax court of appeals at the instance of any of the interested taxing districts, in the same manner as other orders of the commissioner.

(2) 12.5 cents per taxable ton to the taconite municipal aid account in the apportionment fund of the state treasury, to be distributed as provided in section 298.282.

(3) 29 cents per taxable ton to school districts to be distributed as follows:

(a) 6 cents per taxable ton to the school districts in which the lands from which taconite was mined or quarried were located or within which the concentrate was produced. The commissioner shall follow the apportionment formula prescribed in clause (1).

(b) 23 cents per taxable ton, less any amount distributed under part (c), shall be distributed to a group of school districts comprised of those school districts wherein the taconite was mined or quarried or the concentrate produced or in which there is a qualifying municipality as defined by section 273.134 or in which is located property which is entitled to the reduction of tax pursuant to section 273.135, subdivision 2, clause (c). The 23 cents, less any amount distributed under part (c), shall be distributed in direct proportion to school district tax levies as follows: each district shall receive that portion of the total distribution which its permitted levy for the prior year, computed pursuant to section 275.125, comprises of the sum of permitted levies for the prior year for all qualifying districts, computed pursuant to section 275.125. That portion of the amount so distributed to a school district which is not deducted from state aids in section 124.212, subdivision 8a, shall be included in computing the permissible levies under section 275.125. For purposes of distributions pursuant to this part, permitted levies for the prior year computed pursuant to section 275.125 shall not include the amount of any increased levy authorized by referendum pursuant to section 275.125, subdivision 2a, clause (4).

(c) There shall be distributed to any school district the amount which the school district was entitled to receive under section 298.32 in 1975.

(4) 19.5 cents per taxable ton to counties to be distributed as follows:

(a) 15.5 cents per taxable ton shall be distributed to the county in which the taconite is mined or quarried or in which the concentrate is produced, less any amount which is to be distributed pursuant to part (b). The commissioner shall follow the apportionment formula prescribed in clause (1).

(b) If an electric power plant owned by and providing the primary source of power for a taxpayer mining and concentrating taconite is located in a county other than the county in which the mining and the concentrating processes are conducted, one cent per taxable ton of the tax distributed to the counties pursuant to part (a) and imposed on and collected from such taxpayer shall be distributed by the commissioner of revenue to the county in which the power plant is located.

(c) 4 cents per taxable ton shall be paid to the county from which the tacon-

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ite was mined, quarried or concentrated to be deposited in the county road and bridge fund. If the mining, quarrying and concentrating, or separate steps in any of those processes are carried on in more than one county, the commissioner shall follow the apportionment formula prescribed in clause (1).

(5) (a) 25.75 cents per taxable ton, less any amount required to be distributed under part (b), to the taconite property tax relief account in the apportionment fund in the state treasury, to be distributed as provided in sections 273.134 to 273.136.

(b) If an electric power plant owned by and providing the primary source of power for a taxpayer mining and concentrating taconite is located in a county other than the county in which the mining and the concentrating processes are conducted, .75 cent per taxable ton of the tax imposed and collected from such taxpayer shall be distributed by the commissioner of revenue to the county and school district in which the power plant is located as follows: 25 percent to the county and 75 percent to the school district.

(6) 1 cent per taxable ton to the state.

(7) 3 cents per taxable ton shall be deposited in the state treasury to the credit of the iron range resources and rehabilitation board account in the special revenue fund for the purposes of section 298.22. Of this amount, one cent per taxable ton is to be used to provide environmental development grants to local governments located within any county in region 3 as defined in governor's executive order number 60 issued on June 12, 1970, which does not contain a municipality qualifying pursuant to section 273.134.

(8) the amounts determined under clauses (4)(a), (4)(c), and (5) shall be increased in 1979 and subsequent years in the same proportion as the increase in the steel mill products index as provided in section 298.24, subdivision 1.

(9) the proceeds of the tax imposed by section 298.24 which remain after the distributions in clauses (1) to (8) and parts (a), (b), (c), and (d) of this clause have been made shall be divided between the taconite environmental protection fund created in section 298.223 and the northeast Minnesota economic protection fund created in section 298.292 as follows: In 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, and 1982, two-thirds to the taconite environmental protection fund and one-third to the northeast Minnesota economic protection fund; in 1983 and thereafter, one-half to each fund. The proceeds shall be placed in the respective special accounts in the general fund.

(a) In 1978 and each year thereafter, there shall be distributed to each city, town, school district, and county the amount that they received under section 294.26 in calendar year 1977.

(b) In 1978 and each year thereafter, there shall be distributed to the iron range resources and rehabilitation board the amounts it received in 1977 under section 298.22.

(c) In 1978 and each year thereafter, \$50,000 shall be distributed to the department of revenue for auditing and enforcing the production tax imposed by Laws 1977, Chapter 423, Article 10.

(d) In 1978 and 1979, \$150,000 shall be distributed to the department of revenue for the purpose of administering section 298.48. In 1980 and each year thereafter, \$100,000 shall be distributed to the department of revenue. On or before October 10 of each calendar year each producer of taconite or iron sulphides subject to taxation under section 298.24 (hereinafter called "taxpayer") shall file with the commissioner of revenue and with the county auditor of each county in which such taxpayer operates, and with the chief clerical officer of each school district, city or town which is entitled to participate in the distribution of the tax, an estimate of the amount of tax which would be payable by such taxpayer under said law for such calendar year; provided such estimate shall be in an amount not less than the amount due on the mining and production of concentrates up to September 30 of said year plus the amount becoming due because of probable production between September 30 and December 31 of said year, less any credit allowable as herein-after provided. Such estimate shall list the taxing districts entitled to participate in the distribution of such tax, and the amount of the estimated tax which would be distributable to each such district in the next ensuing calendar year on the basis of

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the last percentage distribution certified by the commissioner of revenue. If there be no such prior certification, the taxpayer shall set forth its estimate of the proper distribution of such tax under the law, which estimate may be corrected by the commissioner if he deems it improper, notice of such correction being given by him to the taxpayer and the public officers receiving such estimate. The officers with whom such report is so filed shall use the amount so indicated as being distributable to each taxing district in computing the permissible tax levy of such county, city or school district in the year in which such estimate is made, and payable in the next ensuing calendar year, except that in 1978 and 1979 two cents per taxable ton, and in 1980 and thereafter, one cent per taxable ton of the amount distributed under clause (4)(c) shall not be deducted in calculating the permissible levy. Such taxpayer shall then pay, at the times payments are required to be made pursuant to section 298.27, as the amount of tax payable under section 298.24, the greater of (a) the amount shown by such estimate, or (b) the amount due under said section as finally determined by the commissioner of revenue pursuant to law. If, as a result of the payment of the amount of such estimate, the taxpayer has paid in any calendar year an amount of tax in excess of the amount due in such year under section 298.24, after application of credits for any excess payments made in previous years, all as determined by the commissioner of revenue, the taxpayer shall be given credit for such excess amount against any taxes which, under said section, may become due from the taxpayer in subsequent years. In any calendar year in which a general property tax levy subject to sections 275.125 or 275.50 to 275.59 has been made, if the taxes distributable to any such county, city or school district are greater than the amount estimated to be paid to any such county, city or school district in such year, the excess of such distribution shall be held in a special fund by the county, city or school district and shall not be expended until the succeeding calendar year, and shall be included in computing the permissible levies under sections 275.125 or 275.50 to 275.59, of such county, city or school district payable in such year. If the amounts distributable to any such county, city or school district, after final determination by the commissioner of revenue under this section are less than the amounts indicated by such estimates, such county, city or school district may issue certificates of indebtedness in the amount of the shortage, and may include in its next tax levy, in excess of the limitations of sections 275.125 or 275.50 to 275.59 an amount sufficient to pay such certificates of indebtedness and interest thereon, or, if no certificates were issued, an amount equal to such shortage.

There is hereby annually appropriated to such taxing districts as are stated herein, to the taconite property tax relief account and to the taconite municipal aid account in the apportionment fund in the state treasury, to the department of revenue, to the iron range resources and rehabilitation board, to the taconite environmental protection fund, and to the northeast Minnesota economic protection fund, from any fund or account in the state treasury to which the money was credited, an amount sufficient to make the payment or transfer. The payment of the amount appropriated to such taxing districts shall be made by the commissioner of revenue on or before May 15 annually.

Subd. 1a. [ Repealed, 1977 c 423 art 10 s 30 ]

[For text of subds 2 and 3, see M.S.1976]

[ 1977 c 423 art 10 s 16 ]

NOTE: Subdivision 1, as amended by Laws 1977, Chapter 423, Article 10, Section 16, and subdivision 1a, as repealed by Laws 1977, Chapter 423, Article 10, Section 30 are effective for distributions made in any year after December 31, 1977.

**298.281** [ Repealed, 1977 c 423 art 10 s 30 ]

NOTE: This section is repealed effective for distributions made in any year after December 31, 1977.

**298.282** Distribution of taconite municipal aid account; taconite municipal aid; payment.

Subdivision 1. The amount deposited to the credit of the taconite municipal aid account in the apportionment fund of the state treasury as provided in section 298.28, subdivision 1, clause (2) shall be distributed as provided by this section,

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among the municipalities comprising a tax relief area under section 273.134, as amended hereby, each being herein referred to as a qualifying municipality.

Subd. 2. Each year commencing in 1977, and following the final determination of the amount of taxes payable under section 298.24, the commissioner of revenue shall determine the amount in the taconite municipal aid account as of July 1 of such year and the amount to be distributed to each qualifying municipality during such year. The amount to be distributed to each qualifying municipality shall be determined by dividing the total amount in said account, after a reduction equal to the amount of the distribution in subdivision 5, as of July 1 by the total population according to the latest federal census of all qualifying municipalities to determine the per capita distributive share for such year and by multiplying the per capita distributive share by the population of such municipality. If the distribution under this section, sections 273.138, 298.26 and 298.28, and chapter 477A, to any municipality would exceed that municipality's permissible levy for the prior year, computed pursuant to sections 275.50 to 275.59, the amount in excess of the permissible levy for the prior year shall reduce the amount distributed to the municipality under this section and this excess amount shall be distributed to the other qualifying municipalities on a per capita basis. Upon completion of such determination, the commissioner of revenue shall certify to the chief clerical officer of each qualifying municipality the amount which will be distributed to such municipality from the taconite municipal aid account that year.

[For text of subds 3 to 5, see M.S.1976]

[ 1977 c 423 art 10 s 17,18 ]

NOTE: Subdivisions 1 and 2, as amended by Laws 1977, Chapter 423, Article 10, Sections 17 and 18 are effective for distributions made in any year after December 31, 1977.

### 298.291 Citation.

Sections 298.291 to 298.294 shall be known as the "northeast Minnesota economic protection fund act of 1977".

[ 1977 c 423 art 10 s 25 ]

### 298.292 Policy.

The legislature is cognizant of the severe economic dislocations and widespread unemployment that result when a single industry on which an area is largely dependent, experiences a drastic reduction in activity. The northeast Minnesota economic protection fund is hereby created to be devoted to economic rehabilitation and diversification of industrial enterprises where these conditions ensue as the result of the decline of such a single industry.

[ 1977 c 423 art 10 s 26 ]

### 298.293 Declaration of emergency; expending funds.

The funds provided by section 298.28, subdivision 1, clause (9), relating to the northeast Minnesota economic protection fund shall not be expended prior to (a) a declaration by the governor to the effect that the economic situation of northeast Minnesota requires remedial action by the legislature as a result of a decline in mineral-related activities, and (b) an appropriation of the funds by the legislature. The governor shall recommend to the legislature those measures that he believes will be appropriate in order to accomplish the purpose of his declaration. The funds provided by this fund may be spent only in those areas that are tax relief areas as defined in section 273.134. The funds provided by section 298.28, subdivision 1, clause (9), for this fund shall not be expended for this purpose prior to January 1, 2002.

[ 1977 c 423 art 10 s 27 ]

### 298.294 Investment of fund.

The fund established by section 298.292 shall be invested pursuant to law and

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the net interest and dividends arising from the investment shall be included and become part of the fund; provided that the governor may authorize the state treasurer to borrow an amount not exceeding 50 percent of the amount in the fund for a period terminating no later than December 31, 2001. The state treasurer, pursuant to the authorization, shall issue notes pledging the full faith and credit of the state for the purpose of repayment, and the notes shall bear interest at five percent per annum until paid.

[ 1977 c 423 art 10 s 28 ]

### 298.48 Mineral rights; exploration data; filing requirements; penalties.

Subdivision 1. **Annual filing.** Every owner or lessee of mineral rights who, in respect thereto, has engaged in any exploration for or mining of taconite, semi-taconite, or iron-sulphide shall, within six months of June 3, 1977, file with the commissioner of revenue all data of the following kinds in the possession or under the control of the owner or lessee which was acquired prior to January 1, 1977:

(a) Maps and other records indicating the location, character and extent of exploration for taconite, semi-taconite, or iron-sulphides;

(b) Logs, notes and other records indicating the nature of minerals encountered during the course of exploration;

(c) The results of any analyses of metallurgical tests or samples taken in connection with exploration;

(d) The ultimate pit layout and the supporting cross sections; and

(e) Any other data which the commissioner of revenue may determine to be relevant to the determination of the location, nature, extent, quality or quantity of unmined ores of said minerals. The commissioner of revenue shall have the power to compel submission of the data. The clerk of any court of record, upon demand of the commissioner, shall issue a subpoena for the production of any data before the commissioner. Disobedience of subpoenas issued under this section shall be punished by the district court of the district in which the subpoena is issued as for a contempt of the district court. By April 1 of each succeeding year every owner or lessee of mineral rights shall file with the commissioner of revenue all such data acquired during the preceding calendar year.

Subd. 2. **Use of data.** Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, the commissioner of revenue may use any data filed pursuant to subdivision 1 and any similar data otherwise obtained to the extent and in the manner he deems necessary to project the future availability, value, and utilization of the metallic mineral resources of this state. In making such projections the commissioner of revenue may consult with the commissioner of natural resources and may provide him with data as he deems appropriate.

Subd. 3. **Penalties.** Any owner or lessee of mineral rights who fails, neglects or refuses to make any filing required by this section is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

Subd. 4. **Confidential nature of information.** The data filed pursuant to subdivision 1 shall be considered confidential for three years from the date it is filed with the commissioner. Nothing herein contained shall be construed to prohibit the commissioner from disclosing information or publishing statistics so classified as not to disclose the identity of particular data.

Notwithstanding the other provisions of this subdivision, the commissioner, at his discretion, may furnish any information supplied under this section to the commissioner of natural resources or the director of the state planning agency. Any person violating the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

[ 1977 c 423 art 10 s 29 ]