

CHAPTER 299D

STATE PATROL

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299D.01 DIVISION OF STATE PATROL.

Subdivision 1. A division in the department of public safety to be known as the division of state patrol is created, under the supervision and control of the chief supervisor, who shall be appointed by the commissioner and serve at the commissioner's pleasure in the unclassified service of the state civil service.

Subd. 2. The chief supervisor, with the approval of the commissioner, may appoint a chief assistant supervisor who shall serve at his pleasure in the unclassified service. The salary of the chief supervisor and the salary of the chief assistant supervisor is fixed by the commissioner of public safety except when such salaries are otherwise expressly provided for by law. The chief assistant supervisor may perform and exercise every power, duty, and responsibility imposed by law upon the chief supervisor when authorized so to do by the commissioner of public safety. If the chief assistant supervisor is removed from his position for other than cause as defined in section 299D.03, he shall be reinstated to the position that he held in the patrol prior to being promoted to the position of chief assistant supervisor and shall otherwise be subject to the provisions of subdivision 12 of said section.

Subd. 3. Subject to the provisions of this section and to other applicable laws the commissioner of public safety shall organize the division, employ such persons for the Minnesota state patrol including assistant supervisors and sergeants in the manner and in the number otherwise authorized by law and such other employees and agents as he may deem necessary to discharge the functions of the division, define the duties of such employees and agents and to delegate to them such of his powers, duties and responsibilities, which are not specifically fixed by law, subject to his control and under such conditions as he may prescribe. Appointments to exercise delegated power shall be by written order filed with the secretary of state. Except for the chief supervisor, the chief assistant supervisor and state patrol officers of the Minnesota state patrol, the other employees and agents listed in this section are in the classified service of the state civil service.

Subd. 4. Before entering upon the duties of his office the chief supervisor of the Minnesota state patrol shall take and subscribe an oath and give his bond to the state of Minnesota, to be approved by the commissioner of public safety and filed with the secretary of state, in the sum \$10,000 conditioned for the faithful performance of his duties.

Subd. 5. Upon the effective date of this act, the individual occupying the position of chief supervisor shall retain such position for a period of at least 12 months, or until removed for cause.

Subd. 6. Subject to the other provisions of Laws 1969, Chapter 1129, the powers and duties now vested in or imposed upon the commissioner of transportation with reference to the Minnesota highway patrol are transferred to, vested in, and imposed upon the commissioner of public safety. The powers and duties of the commissioner of transportation with reference thereto are hereby abolished.

Subd. 7. The legislature by Laws 1969, Chapter 1129, Article I, is transferring the Minnesota highway patrol to the department of public safety and in so

doing is not enlarging or increasing the statutory duties of the personnel thereof, and no part of Laws 1969, Chapter 1129 shall be construed as in any way indicating an increase or change in such powers and duties of that organization.

Subd. 8. The commissioner of transportation shall furnish the Minnesota state patrol such quarters as may be necessary for the performance of the duties imposed upon it by law and as the governor shall direct.

History: 1969 c 1129 art 1 s 4,12; 1976 c 166 s 7; 1981 c 37 s 1,2

299D.02 TRANSFER OF POWERS.

Subdivision 1. All the powers and duties of the commissioner of transportation with reference to the state highway patrol and the nationwide police communication system not heretofore provided for and enumerated in Minnesota Statutes 1967, Sections 161.48 and 161.49, are hereby transferred to and imposed upon the commissioner of public safety. In conjunction with the transfer persons in the classified service of the state who shall be transferred pursuant to section 15.015, subdivision 5, there shall be transferred to the department of public safety the personnel who are presently serving as radio dispatchers for the highway patrol. Such classified employees serving as highway patrol radio dispatchers shall continue to be paid from the trunk highway fund.

Subd. 2. All powers, duties and responsibilities now assigned to and vested in the commissioner of transportation in Minnesota Statutes 1967, Chapter 352B, are hereby transferred to and vested in the commissioner of public safety.

History: 1969 c 1129 art 1 s 13; 1976 c 166 s 7.

299D.03 STATE PATROL.

Subdivision 1. **Members.** The commissioner is hereby authorized to employ and designate a chief supervisor, a chief assistant supervisor, and such assistant supervisors, sergeants and officers as are provided by law, who shall comprise the Minnesota state patrol. The members of the Minnesota state patrol shall have the power and authority:

(1) As peace officers to enforce the provisions of the law relating to the protection of and use of trunk highways.

(2) At all times to direct all traffic on trunk highways in conformance with law, and in the event of a fire or other emergency, or to expedite traffic or to insure safety, to direct traffic on other roads as conditions may require notwithstanding the provisions of law.

(3) To serve warrants and legal documents anywhere in the state.

(4) To serve orders of the commissioner of public safety or his duly authorized agents issued under the provisions of the Drivers License Law, the Safety Responsibility Act, or relating to authorized brake and light testing stations, anywhere in the state and to take possession of any license, permit or certificate ordered to be surrendered.

(5) To inspect official brake and light adjusting stations.

(6) To make appearances anywhere within the state for the purpose of conducting traffic safety educational programs and school bus clinics.

(7) To exercise upon all trunk highways the same powers with respect to the enforcement of laws relating to crimes, as sheriffs, constables and police officers.

(8) To cooperate, under instructions and regulations of the commissioner of public safety, with all sheriffs and other police officers anywhere in the state, provided that said employees shall have no power or authority in connection with strikes or industrial disputes.

(9) To assist and aid any peace officer whose life or safety is in jeopardy.

(10) As peace officers to provide security and protection to the governor, governor elect, either or both houses of the houses of the legislature, and state buildings or property in the manner and to the extent determined to be necessary after consultation with the governor, or his designee. Pursuant to this clause, members of the state patrol, acting as peace officers have the same powers with respect to the enforcement of laws relating to crimes, as sheriffs, constables and police officers have within their respective jurisdictions.

(11) To inspect school buses anywhere in the state for the purposes of determining compliance with vehicle equipment, pollution control, and registration requirements.

(12) As peace officers to make arrests for public offenses committed in their presence anywhere within the state. Persons arrested for violations other than traffic violations shall be referred forthwith to the appropriate local law enforcement agency for further investigation or disposition.

Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the state may contract for state patrol members to render services in excess of their regularly scheduled duty hours to a governmental unit pursuant to section 471.59, and patrol members rendering such services shall be compensated in such amounts, manner and under such conditions as the agreement provides.

Employees thus employed and designated shall subscribe an oath and furnish a bond running to the state of Minnesota, said bond to be approved and filed in the office of the secretary of state.

Subd. 1a. **Commissioner.** For the purposes of this section, the term "commissioner" means the commissioner of public safety.

Subd. 2. **Salaries.** (1) Each employee other than the chief supervisor, lieutenant colonel, majors, captains, corporals and sergeants hereinafter designated shall be known as patrol troopers.

(2) There may be appointed one lieutenant colonel; and such majors, captains, corporals, sergeants and troopers as the commissioner deems necessary to carry out the duties and functions of the state patrol. Persons in above named positions shall be appointed by law and have such duties as the commissioner may direct and, except for troopers, shall be selected from the patrol troopers, corporals, sergeants, captains, and majors who shall have had at least five years' experience as either patrol troopers, corporals, sergeants, or supervisors.

(3) The salary rates for all state patrol troopers, corporals and sergeants shall be deemed to include reimbursement for shift differential, meal and business expenses incurred by state patrol troopers, corporals and sergeants in the performance of their assigned duties in their patrol areas; business expenses include, but are not limited to: uniform costs, home garaging of squad cars and maintenance of home office.

Subd. 3. [Repealed, 1982 c 568 s 13]

Subd. 3a. [Repealed, 1977 c 452 s 36]

Subd. 4. [Repealed, 1977 c 455 s 95]

Subd. 5. **Fines and forfeited bail money.** (a) All fines and forfeited bail money, from traffic and motor vehicle law violations, collected from persons apprehended or arrested by such employees, shall be paid by such person or officer collecting such fines, forfeited bail money or installments thereof, on or before the tenth day after the last day of the month in which such moneys were collected, to the county treasurer of the county where the violation occurred.

Three-eighths of such receipts shall be credited to the general revenue fund of the county. The other five-eighths of such receipts shall be transmitted by that officer to the state treasurer and shall be credited to the trunk highway fund. If, however, the violation occurs within a municipality and the city attorney prosecutes the offense, and a plea of not guilty is entered, one-third of the receipts shall be credited to the general revenue fund of the county, one-third of the receipts shall be paid to the municipality prosecuting the offense, and one-third shall be transmitted to the state treasurer as provided in this subdivision. All costs of participation in a nation-wide police communication system chargeable to the state of Minnesota shall be paid from appropriations for that purpose.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, all fines and forfeited bail money from violations of statutes governing the maximum weight of motor vehicles, collected from persons apprehended or arrested by employees of the state of Minnesota, by means of stationary or portable scales operated by such employees, shall be paid by the person or officer collecting the fines or forfeited bail money, on or before the tenth day after the last day of the month in which the collections were made, to the county treasurer of the county where the violation occurred. Five-eighths of such receipts shall be transmitted by that officer to the state treasurer and shall be credited to the highway user tax distribution fund. Three-eighths of such receipts shall be credited to the general revenue fund of the county.

Subd. 6. Training programs. The commissioner of public safety may provide training programs for the purpose of obtaining qualified personnel for the state patrol. Persons accepted by the commissioner of public safety for training under this training program shall be designated state patrol trainees and shall receive a salary not to exceed 70 percent of the basic salary for patrol officers as prescribed in subdivision 2, during the period of the training. Nothing contained in this subdivision shall be construed to prevent the commissioner of public safety from providing in-service training programs for state patrol officers. The commissioner of transportation shall furnish the commissioner of public safety with lands and buildings necessary in providing in-service training programs and the department of public safety shall reimburse the department of transportation for all reasonable costs incurred due to the provision of these training facilities.

Subd. 7. Discharge of trooper. Every person employed and designated as a state trooper under and pursuant to the provisions of this section, after six months of continuous employment, shall continue in service and hold his position without demotion, until suspended, demoted, or discharged in the manner hereinafter provided for one or more of the causes specified herein.

Subd. 8. Causes for discharge. Causes for suspension, demotion, or discharge shall be:

(1) Conviction of any criminal offense in any court of competent jurisdiction subsequent to the commencement of such employment;

(2) Neglect of duty or wilful violation or disobedience of orders or rules;

(3) Inefficiency in performing duties;

(4) Immoral conduct or conduct injurious to the public welfare, or conduct unbecoming an officer; or

(5) Incapacity or partial incapacity affecting his normal ability to perform his official duties.

Subd. 9. Charges against troopers. (a) Charges against any state trooper shall be made in writing and signed and sworn to by the person making the same, which written charges shall be filed with the commissioner. Upon the filing of

same, if the commissioner shall be of the opinion that such charges constitute a ground for suspension, demotion, or discharge, he shall order a hearing to be had thereon and fix a time for such hearing and may designate a subordinate as his deputy to conduct such hearing. Otherwise he shall dismiss the charges. At least ten days before the time appointed for the hearing, written notice specifying the charges filed and stating the name of the person making the charges, shall be served on the employee personally or by leaving a copy thereof at his usual place of abode with some person of suitable age and discretion then residing therein. If the commissioner orders a hearing he may suspend such employee pending his decision to be made after such hearing.

(b) Members of the state patrol shall have the option of utilizing either the contractual grievance procedure or the legal remedies of this section, but in no event both.

(c) The commissioner, after having been informed by the exclusive representative that the employee against whom charges have been filed desires to utilize the grievance procedure of the labor agreement, may immediately suspend, demote or discharge the employee without the hearing required by clause (a).

Subd. 10. Hearing on charges, decision, punishment. The commissioner or his designated subordinate shall have power to compel the attendance of witnesses at any such hearing and to examine them under oath, and to require the production of books, papers, and other evidence at any such hearing, and for that purpose may issue subpoenas and cause the same to be served and executed in any part of the state. The employee accused shall be entitled to be confronted with the witnesses against him and have an opportunity to cross-examine the same and to introduce at such hearing testimony in his own behalf, and to be represented by counsel at such hearing. If the hearing is conducted by a designated subordinate of the commissioner such designated subordinate upon completion of the hearing shall forthwith transmit a transcript of the testimony of the hearing, together with his recommendations, to the commissioner. The commissioner, within 25 days after such hearing, shall render his decision in writing and file the same in his office. If after such hearing he finds that any such charge made against such state employee is true, he may punish the offending party by reprimand, suspension without pay, demotion, or dismissal. If upon any such hearing the commissioner shall find the charges made against such trooper are not true, or dismiss such charges after such hearing, such trooper shall be reinstated in his position and any salary or wages withheld from him pending the determination or decision of the commissioner upon such charges shall be paid to such trooper by the commissioner out of state funds.

Subd. 11. Review by certiorari. Any state trooper who is so suspended, demoted, or dismissed may have such decision or determination of the commissioner reviewed by a writ of certiorari in the district court of the county where such trooper resides. If such decision or determination of the commissioner shall be finally rejected or modified by the court, the trooper shall be reinstated in his position, and the commissioner shall pay to the trooper so suspended out of the funds of the state the salary or wages withheld from him pending the determination of the charges or as may be directed by the court.

Subd. 12. Application of subdivisions 5 to 12. Subdivisions 5 to 12 shall apply to all persons employed and designated under and pursuant to this section, except the chief supervisor and chief assistant supervisor of the state patrol. If the chief supervisor or the chief assistant supervisor is removed for other than cause as defined herein he shall be reinstated to the position that he held in the patrol prior to being promoted to the position of chief supervisor or chief assistant supervisor.

Upon the effective date of this act the individual occupying the position of chief assistant supervisor of the state patrol shall retain such position for a period of at least 12 months, or until removed for cause.

History: 1929 c 355 s 1; 1931 c 44 s 1; 1935 c 304 s 1; 1937 c 30 s 1; 1939 c 400 s 1; 1941 c 175 s 1; 1943 c 623 s 1; 1945 c 422 s 1; 1945 c 516 s 1; 1947 c 562 s 1; 1951 c 554 s 1,2; 1955 c 593 s 1; 1955 c 667 s 1; 1957 c 824 s 1,3; 1957 c 838 s 1; 1959 c 419 s 1; 1959 c 500 art 2 s 47; 1959 c 603 s 1,2; Ex1959 c 54 s 1; 1961 c 448 s 1,2; 1963 c 458 s 3; 1963 c 884 s 8 subds 1,2; 1965 c 863 s 8 subds 1,3; 1967 c 62 s 1; 1967 c 86 s 1; 1967 c 419 s 1,2; 1969 c 399 s 1; 1969 c 580 s 1; 1969 c 758 s 1; 1969 c 865 s 1,2; 1969 c 1129 art 1 s 5-10; 1971 c 25 s 102; 1971 c 435 s 1; 1971 c 540 s 1; Ex1971 c 32 s 29; 1973 c 35 s 47,48; 1973 c 492 s 14; 1973 c 653 s 23; 1973 c 734 s 1; 1974 c 271 s 1; 1974 c 462 s 1; 1975 c 204 s 79; 1975 c 431 s 22,23; 1976 c 163 s 60; 1976 c 166 s 7; 1977 c 403 s 8; 1977 c 452 s 32,33; 1977 c 454 s 28; 1978 c 487 s 1; 1978 c 793 s 71; 1979 c 332 art 1 s 79-81; 1980 c 614 s 133; 1981 c 37 s 2; 1981 c 363 s 49; 1982 c 568 s 5; 1982 c 617 s 22 (2554)

299D.04 NATIONWIDE POLICE COMMUNICATION SYSTEM.

The commissioner of public safety may enter into the necessary agreements and purchase the necessary equipment for participation in a nationwide police communication system. All costs of participation in such system by the state patrol chargeable to the state of Minnesota shall be paid from the fund in the state treasury credited with fines and forfeited bail money.

History: 1959 c 500 art 2 s 48; 1969 c 1129 art 1 s 11; 1976 c 163 s 61; 1981 c 37 s 2

299D.05 RADIO REPEATER STATION IN WISCONSIN.

Subdivision 1. Authority to acquire site. The commissioner is authorized to acquire by gift or purchase for trunk highway uses and purposes such land in the state of Wisconsin as he may determine necessary for use as a site for and to construct, operate, and maintain thereon a radio repeater station to be used in connection with the Minnesota statewide two-way radio system operated by the Minnesota state patrol.

Subd. 2. Payment of taxes and assessments. The commissioner may in connection with the maintenance, operation, and use of the radio repeater station as provided herein pay any and all taxes or special assessments, if any, that may be assessed against said property by the state of Wisconsin or its political subdivisions or taxing districts.

Subd. 3. Cost to be paid out of trunk highway fund. The cost of the land acquisition, the construction, operation, and maintenance of the radio repeater station provided for herein shall be paid out of the trunk highway fund.

History: 1959 c 500 art 2 s 49; 1981 c 37 s 2

299D.06 INSPECTIONS; WEIGHING.

Personnel to enforce the laws relating to motor vehicle equipment, school bus equipment, drivers license, motor vehicle registration, motor vehicle size and weight, and motor vehicle petroleum tax, to enforce public utilities commission regulations relating to motor carriers, to enforce pollution control agency regulations relating to motor vehicle noise abatement, and to enforce laws relating to directing the movement of vehicles shall be classified employees of the commissioner of public safety assigned to the division of state patrol. Employees engaged in these duties, while actually on the job during their working hours only, shall have power to arrest and prepare notices to appear in court for violation of these

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laws and regulations, in the manner provided in section 169.91. They shall not be armed and shall have none of the other powers and privileges reserved to peace officers.

History: 1975 c 204 s 80; 1980 c 614 s 123; 1981 c 37 s 2

299D.07 HELICOPTERS AND FIXED WING AIRCRAFT; STATE PATROL PURPOSES.

The commissioner of public safety is hereby authorized to retain, acquire, maintain and operate helicopters and fixed wing aircraft for the purposes of highway patrol and to employ state patrol officer pilots as required.

History: 1976 c 281 s 5; 1981 c 37 s 2