

whoever was the record owner in fee simple immediately before the commencement of said period of 40 years. The purpose of the next preceding sentence is to limit the effect of erroneous descriptions or accidental conveyances. Insofar as this subdivision 7 may bar any claim not otherwise barred or extinguished by this section or by some other statute, it shall not be effective until June 1, 1960, and it shall not then apply to any such claim with respect to which a notice has been filed under the provisions of this section prior to that date. This subdivision 7 shall not affect any action or proceeding which is now, or on or before June 1, 1960, shall be, pending in any court.

Approved April 24, 1959.

CHAPTER 493—H. F. No. 766

An act relating to aid to the blind and the examination of applicants for such aid; amending Minnesota Statutes 1957, Sections 256.49, Subdivision 1; 256.50, Subdivision 2; 256.55; and 256.56.

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1957, Section 256.49, Subdivision 1, is amended to read :

256.49 State agency, duties. Subdivision 1. The state agency shall :

(1) Supervise the administration of assistance to the needy blind by the county agencies under sections 256.49 to 256.71;

(2) Make all rules and regulations and take such action as may be necessary or desirable for the carrying out of the provisions of sections 256.49 to 256.71. All rules and regulations made by the state agency shall be binding on the counties, and shall be complied with by the respective county agencies;

(3) Establish minimum standards for personnel employed by the state agency in the administration of sections 256.49 to 256.71, and make rules and regulations necessary to maintain such standards;

(4) Prescribe the form of and print blanks for applications, reports, affidavits, and such other forms as it may deem necessary and advisable;

(5) Cooperate with the federal social security board created under title 7 of the social security act approved August 14, 1935, or other agency of the federal government, in any reasonable manner as may be necessary to qualify for federal aid for assistance to the needy blind and in conformity with the provisions of sections 256.49 to 256.71; including the making of such reports in such form, and containing such information as the federal agency of the federal government may from time to time require, and comply with such provisions as such board may from time to time find necessary to assure the correctness and verification of such reports;

(6) Pay to county agencies from funds appropriated to the state agency, reasonable fees for examination of applicants and recipients by ophthalmologists and optometrists;

(7) Maintain proper records of all persons making application for and receiving assistance under sections 256.49 to 256.71;

(8) Promptly examine all applications and other supporting evidence submitted, as therein provided, and determine:

(a) Eligibility as to blindness; and

(b) The possibility for rehabilitation or other constructive service.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 1957, Section 256.50, Subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Approval of application.** No application shall be approved until:

(a) The applicant has been examined by an ophthalmologist or an optometrist *whichever the applicant selects*, for the purpose of determining the applicant's degree of blindness and such other information as required by rules and regulations of the state agency; and has been found to be blind by the state agency's ophthalmologist; and

(b) The state agency has determined the extent to which the applicant will benefit from medical or surgical treatment; and

(c) The county agency has determined the extent to which the applicant is taking advantage of any opportunity for rehabilitation.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 1957, Section 256.55, is amended to read:

256.55 **Investigations and examinations.** When an application for assistance under sections 256.49 to 256.71 is received the county agency shall immediately arrange for an examination as to the blindness of the applicant by an ophthalmologist or optometrist *whichever the applicant may select*, and shall cause to be made such social and economic investigation as may be necessary to determine facts supporting the application made under sections 256.49 to 256.71, and such other information as may be required by rules and regulations of the state agency.

The county agency and the officers and authorized employees thereof shall have the power to conduct examinations and subpoena witnesses. The officers and employees designated by the county agency may administer oaths.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 1957, Section 256.56, is amended to read:

256.56 **Necessity of examination.** No application shall be approved until the applicant has been examined by an ophthalmologist *selected by the applicant*. The examining ophthalmologist shall certify, in writing, upon forms prescribed by the state agency as to diagnosis, prognosis, and visual acuity of the applicant.

Approved April 24, 1959.

CHAPTER 494—H. F. No. 240

[Coded]

An act relating to the probate court providing for additional jurisdiction in certain civil and criminal cases in certain counties.

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

Section 1. [525.011] **Probate courts: civil and criminal jurisdiction.** Subdivision 1. Except in counties having a city of the first class or in counties having a population of more than 30,000 according to the 1950 federal census, the probate court shall also exercise the powers, duties and jurisdiction conferred upon municipal courts by Minnesota Statutes 1957, Chapter 488 or under any other law enacted in lieu thereof which provides for uniform powers, duties and jurisdiction of municipal courts.

Subd. 2. The county board of a county in which addi-