

exclusion from a conference or because of the dissolution of a conference and (2) has made its own good faith attempts for at least 180 days to obtain membership in a conference. The 180 days run from the date of the member school's first written request to join or rejoin a conference. When arranging conference membership for a school, the league shall notify the school seeking membership and all schools already in a proposed conference that, upon request of a notified school, a public hearing on the proposed conference membership will be held in a timely manner. The school seeking conference membership and the schools already in a proposed conference are bound by the league's final decision under this subdivision on a matter of conference membership.

Approved May 26, 1987

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CHAPTER 244—H.F.No. 151

*An act relating to crime victims; permitting the crime victims reparation board to file a claim for reparations; altering the manner of determining reparations claims; requiring law enforcement agencies to aid the board; providing for the classification of various data; clarifying ambiguous language; providing penalties; amending Minnesota Statutes 1986, sections 609.101; 611A.04, by adding a subdivision; 611A.52, subdivision 8; 611A.53, subdivision 2; 611A.57; 611A.66; and 611A.74, subdivision 2; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1986, section 611A.59.*

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1986, section 609.101, is amended to read:

**609.101 SURCHARGE ON FINES, ASSESSMENTS.**

When a court sentences a person convicted of a felony, gross misdemeanor, or misdemeanor, other than a petty misdemeanor such as a traffic or parking violation, and if the sentence does not include payment of a fine, the court shall impose an assessment of not less than \$25 nor more than \$50. If the sentence for the felony, gross misdemeanor, or misdemeanor includes payment of a fine of any amount, including a fine of less than \$100, the court shall impose a surcharge on the fine of ten percent of the fine. This section applies whether or not the person is sentenced to imprisonment and when the sentence is suspended. The court may, ~~upon a showing of indigency or undue hardship upon the convicted person or the person's immediate family,~~ not waive payment or authorize payment of the assessment or surcharge in installments unless it makes written findings on the record that the convicted person is indigent or that the assessment or surcharge would create undue hardship for the convicted person or that person's immediate family; ~~however, if the court waives payment or authorizes payment in installments, it shall state in writing on the record the reasons for its action.~~

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The court shall collect and forward to the commissioner of finance the total amount of the assessment or surcharge and the commissioner shall credit all money so forwarded to a crime victim and witness account, which is established as a special account in the state treasury.

Money credited to the crime victim and witness account may be appropriated for but is not limited to the following purposes:

- (1) use for crime victim reparations under sections 611A.51 to 611A.68;
- (2) use by the crime victim and witness advisory council established under section 611A.71; and
- (3) to supplement the federally funded activities of the crime victim ombudsman under section 611A.74.

If the convicted person is sentenced to imprisonment, the chief executive officer of the correctional facility in which the convicted person is incarcerated may collect the assessment or surcharge from any earnings the inmate accrues for work performed in the correctional facility and forward the amount to the commissioner of finance.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 1986, section 611A.04, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 1a. CRIME BOARD REQUEST. The crime victims reparations board may request restitution on behalf of a victim by filing a copy of a claim for reparations submitted under sections 611A.52 to 611A.67, along with orders of the board, if any, which detail any amounts paid by the board to the victim. The filing of a claim for reparations with the court administrator shall also serve as a request for restitution by the victim. The restitution requested by the board may be considered to be both on its own behalf and on behalf of the victim. If the board has not paid reparations to the victim, restitution may be made directly to the victim. If the board has paid reparations to the victim, the court shall order restitution payments to be made directly to the board.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 1986, section 611A.52, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

Subd. 8. **ECONOMIC LOSS.** "Economic loss" means actual economic detriment incurred as a direct result of injury or death.

(a) In the case of injury the term is limited to:

(1) reasonable expenses incurred for necessary medical, chiropractic, hospital, rehabilitative, and dental products, services, or accommodations, including ambulance services, drugs, appliances and prosthetic devices;

(2) reasonable expenses incurred for psychological or psychiatric products, services or accommodations where the nature of the injury or the circumstances

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of the crime are such that the treatment is necessary to the rehabilitation of the victim, subject to the following limitations:

(i) if treatment is likely to continue longer than six months after the date the claim is filed and the cost of the additional treatment will exceed \$1,500, or if the total cost of treatment in any case will exceed \$4,000, the provider shall first submit to the board a plan which includes the measurable treatment goals, the estimated cost of the treatment, and the estimated date of completion of the treatment. Claims submitted for treatment that was provided more than 30 days after the estimated date of completion may be paid only after advance approval by the board of an extension of treatment; and

(ii) the board may, in its discretion, elect to pay claims under this clause on a quarterly basis;

(3) loss of income greater than \$50 that the victim would have earned had the victim not been injured; and

(4) reasonable expenses incurred for substitute child care or household services to replace those the victim would have performed had the victim not been injured. As used in this clause, "child care services" means services provided by facilities licensed under and in compliance with either Minnesota Rules, parts 9502.0315 to 9502.0445, or parts 9545.0510 to 9545.0670, or exempted from licensing requirements pursuant to section 245.791. Licensed facilities must be paid at a rate not to exceed their standard rate of payment. Facilities exempted from licensing requirements must be paid at a rate not to exceed \$3 an hour per child for daytime child care or \$4 an hour per child for evening child care.

(b) In the case of death the term is limited to:

(1) reasonable expenses actually incurred for funeral, burial or cremation, not to exceed \$2,250;

(2) reasonable expenses for medical, chiropractic, hospital, rehabilitative, psychological and psychiatric services, products or accommodations which were incurred prior to the victim's death and for which the victim's survivors or estate are liable;

(3) loss of support, including contributions of money, products or goods, but excluding services which the victim would have supplied to dependents if the victim had lived; and

(4) reasonable expenses incurred for substitute child care and household services to replace those which the victim would have performed for the benefit of dependents if the victim had lived.

Claims for loss of support for minor children made under clause (3) must be paid for three years or until the child reaches 18 years old, whichever is the shorter period. After three years, if the child is less than 18 years old a claim for loss of support may be resubmitted to the board, and the board shall evaluate

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the claim giving consideration to the child's financial need and to the availability of funds to the board.

Claims for substitute child care services made under clause (4) must be limited to the actual care that the deceased victim would have provided to enable surviving family members to pursue economic, educational, and other activities other than recreational activities.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 1986, section 611A.53, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. No reparations shall be awarded to a claimant otherwise eligible if:

(a) the crime was not reported to the police within five days of its occurrence or, if it could not reasonably have been reported within that period, within five days of the time when a report could reasonably have been made. A victim of criminal sexual conduct in the first, second, third, or fourth degree who does not report the crime within five days of its occurrence is deemed to have been unable to have reported it within that period;

(b) the victim or claimant failed or refused to cooperate fully with the police and other law enforcement officials;

(c) the claimant was the offender or an accomplice of the offender or an award to the claimant would unjustly benefit the offender or an accomplice;

(d) the claimant was in the act of committing a crime at the time the injury occurred;

(e) no claim was filed with the board within one year of victim's injury or death; except that (1) if the claimant was unable to file a claim within that period, then the claim can be made within one year of the time when a claim could have been filed; and (2) if the victim's injury or death was not reasonably discoverable within one year of the injury or death, then the claim can be made within one year of the time when the injury or death is reasonably discoverable. The following circumstances do not render a claimant unable to file a claim for the purposes of this clause: (1) lack of knowledge of the existence of the Minnesota crime victims reparations act, (2) the failure of a law enforcement agency to provide information or assistance to a potential claimant under section 611A.66, ~~or~~ (3) the incompetency of the claimant if the claimant's affairs were being managed during that period by a guardian, guardian ad litem, conservator, authorized agent, or parent, or (4) the fact that the claimant is not of the age of majority; or

(e) (f) the claim is less than \$100.

The limitations contained in clauses (a) and ~~(d)~~ (e) do not apply to victims of domestic child abuse as defined in section 260.015, subdivision 24. In those cases the one year limitation period commences running with the report of the crime to the police; provided that no claim as a result of loss due to domestic child abuse may be paid when the claimant is 19 years of age or older at the time the claim is filed.

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Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 1986, section 611A.57, is amended to read:

**611A.57 DETERMINATION OF CLAIMS.**

Subdivision 1. A claim, when accepted for filing, shall be assigned by the chair to ~~the chair or to another~~ a member of the board.

Subd. 2. The board member to whom the claim is assigned shall examine the papers filed in support of the claim and cause an investigation to be conducted into the validity of the claim to the extent that an investigation is necessary.

Subd. 3. The board member to whom a claim is assigned may decide the claim in favor of a claimant in the amount claimed on the basis of the papers filed in support of it and the report of the investigation of such claim. If unable to decide ~~such~~ the claim upon the basis of the papers and any report of investigation, the board member shall ~~order a hearing~~ discuss the matter with other members of the board present at a board meeting. After discussion the board shall vote on whether to grant or deny the claim or whether further investigation is necessary. A decision granting or denying the claim shall then be issued by the executive director or the board member to whom the claim was assigned.

Subd. 4. ~~After examining the papers filed in support of the claim and the report of investigation, and after a hearing, if any, the board member to whom the claim was assigned shall make a decision either granting an award or deny the claim. The written decision granting or denying a claim shall be filed with the board, and a copy shall be provided to the claimant.~~

Subd. 5. The board member making a decision shall file with the board a written report setting forth such decision and reasons therefor. The board shall notify the claimant and furnish the claimant a copy of the report. The claimant may, within 30 days after receiving the decision of the board, apply for reconsideration before the entire board. Upon request for reconsideration, the board shall reexamine all information filed by the claimant, including any new information the claimant provides, and all information obtained by investigation. The board may also conduct additional examination into the validity of the claim. Upon reconsideration, the board may affirm, modify, or reverse its prior ruling. A claimant denied reparations upon reconsideration is entitled to a contested case hearing within the meaning of chapter 14.

Subd. 6. Claims for reparations and supporting documents and reports are investigative data and subject to the provisions of section 13.39 until the claim is paid, denied, withdrawn, or abandoned. Following the payment, denial, withdrawal, or abandonment of a claim, the claim and supporting documents and reports are private data on individuals as defined in section 13.02, subdivision 12.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 1986, section 611A.66, is amended to read:

**611A.66 LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES; DUTY TO INFORM VICTIMS OF RIGHT TO FILE CLAIM.**

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All law enforcement agencies investigating crimes shall provide forms to each person who may be eligible to file a claim pursuant to sections 611A.51 to 611A.67 and to inform them of their rights hereunder. All law enforcement agencies shall obtain from the board and maintain a supply of all forms necessary for the preparation and presentation of claims.

Law enforcement agencies shall assist the board in performing its duties under sections 611A.51 to 611A.67. Law enforcement agencies within ten days after receiving a request from the board shall supply the board with requested reports, notwithstanding any provisions to the contrary in chapter 13, and including reports otherwise maintained as confidential or not open to inspection under section 260.161. All data released to the board retains the data classification that it had in the possession of the law enforcement agency.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 1986, section 611A.74, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **DUTIES.** The crime victim ombudsman may investigate complaints concerning possible violation of the rights of crime victims or witnesses provided under this chapter, the delivery of victim services by victim assistance programs, the administration of the crime victims reparations act, and other complaints of mistreatment by elements of the criminal justice system or victim assistance programs. The ombudsman shall act as a liaison, when the ombudsman deems necessary, between agencies, either in the criminal justice system or in victim assistance programs, and victims and witnesses. The ombudsman must be made available through the use of a toll free telephone number and shall answer questions concerning the criminal justice system and victim services put to the ombudsman by victims and witnesses in accordance with the ombudsman's knowledge of the facts or law, unless the information is otherwise restricted. The ombudsman shall establish a procedure for referral to the crime victim crisis centers, the crime victims reparations board, and other victim assistance programs when services are requested by crime victims or deemed necessary by the ombudsman.

The ombudsman's files are confidential data as defined in section 13.02, subdivision 3, during the course of an investigation or while the files are active. Upon completion of the investigation or when the files are placed on inactive status, they are private data on individuals as defined in section 13.02, subdivision 12.

Sec. 8. **REPEALER.**

Minnesota Statutes 1986, section 611A.59, is repealed.

Approved May 26, 1987

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