

Upon adoption of a resolution by the Big Stone county board of commissioners, the Chippewa county board of commissioners, or the Kandiyohi county board of commissioners, the offices of auditor and treasurer in the county adopting the resolution shall be consolidated. The title of the consolidated office will be "auditor-treasurer." All the duties, functions, and responsibilities required by law to be performed by the county auditor and county treasurer shall be vested in and performed by the auditor-treasurer.

Sec. 2. SCHEDULE.

Persons elected at the November 1990 general election to the positions of auditor and treasurer shall serve in those capacities and perform the duties, functions, and responsibilities required by statute, until the completion of the term of office to which each was elected, or until a vacancy occurs in the office, whichever occurs earlier.

Sec. 3. REFERENDUM.

The county board, after adopting a resolution permitted by section 1, shall publish the resolution once each week for two consecutive weeks in the official publication of the county. The resolution may be implemented without the submission of the question to the voters of the county, unless within 21 days after the second publication of the resolution a petition requesting a referendum, signed by at least ten percent of the voters of the county voting in the last general election, is filed with the county auditor. If a petition is filed, the resolution may not be implemented until approved by a majority of the voters voting on the question at a regular or special election.

Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This act takes effect separately for each county the day after the filing of a certificate of local approval by the Big Stone county board, the Chippewa county board, or the Kandiyohi county board in compliance with Minnesota Statutes, section 645.021, subdivision 3.

Presented to the governor April 6, 1992

Signed by the governor April 8, 1992, 4:25 p.m.

CHAPTER 422—H.F.No. 2186

An act relating to retirement; St. Paul fire department relief association; authorizing the payment of benefits to surviving former spouses of certain members.

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

Section 1. **ST. PAUL FIRE DEPARTMENT RELIEF ASSOCIATION; AUTHORIZATION OF BENEFIT.**

New language is indicated by underline, deletions by ~~strikeout~~.

Subdivision 1. APPLICATION. This section applies to the former spouse of a deceased former St. Paul firefighter who began employment with the St. Paul fire department June 1, 1943; who married the former spouse September 7, 1946; who retired June 1, 1972; and who was living with the former spouse at the time of death in October of 1976.

Subd. 2. PAYMENT OF BENEFIT. Notwithstanding any provision of Minnesota Statutes, section 69.48, Laws 1955, chapter 375, section 25, as amended, or article VIII, section 2, of its bylaws to the contrary, the former spouse described in subdivision 1 is entitled, upon application, to surviving spouse benefits from the St. Paul fire department relief association in accordance with article VIII, section 2, of its bylaws. Benefits are payable to the surviving spouse prospectively from the date of application. The application must be filed in a form prescribed by the board of the association, and must be executed by the former spouse.

Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE; LOCAL APPROVAL.

Section 1 is effective upon approval by the city council of the city of St. Paul and compliance with Minnesota Statutes, section 645.021, subdivision 3.

Presented to the governor April 6, 1992

Signed by the governor April 8, 1992, 4:26 p.m.

CHAPTER 423—H.F.No. 2572

An act relating to probate; altering the definition of successors; amending Minnesota Statutes 1990, sections 353A.02, subdivision 21; 524.1-201; 524.3-303; and 524.3-308.

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1990, section 353A.02, subdivision 21, is amended to read:

Subd. 21. **OTHER ITEMS OF VALUE.** "Other items of value" means any real property, personal property, or interest in real or personal property not evidenced by or appropriately characterized as a security as that term is defined by section 524.1-201, clause ~~(37)~~ (32).

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 1990, section 524.1-201, is amended to read:

524.1-201 GENERAL DEFINITIONS.

Subject to additional definitions contained in the subsequent articles which are applicable to specific articles or parts, and unless the context otherwise requires, in chapters 524 and 525:

New language is indicated by underline, deletions by ~~strikeout~~.