

or wire transfers of funds notwithstanding any other law to the contrary.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 383B.116, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 6. AUTHORITY TO ACCEPT PAYMENT BY CREDIT CARD OR OTHER METHODS. The county may accept payment by use of a credit card, debit card, or all forms of electronic or wire funds transfer. Subject to any other law to the contrary, the county may add to the amount due a service charge for the acceptance of a payment method authorized in this subdivision. The county shall adopt policies and procedures regarding the payments.

Sec. 3. [383B.1161] ELECTRONIC APPROVALS.

“Electronic approval” means any electronic identifier intended by the person making, executing, or adopting it to authenticate and validate a county administrative action. Notwithstanding any other general or special law to the contrary, the county may use electronic approvals. The electronic approval has the same validity and consequences as the actual signing by the person. The county shall establish policies and procedures to ensure the validity of electronic approvals.

Sec. 4. [383B.1162] CREDIT CARDS.

The county may allow officials, officers, and employees of the county to incur charges for county purposes by use of county credit cards. The county shall adopt policies and procedures regarding such credit card usage to establish individual accountability.

Sec. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This act is effective the day following its final enactment.

Presented to the governor May 11, 2000

Signed by the governor May 15, 2000, 10:45 a.m.

CHAPTER 476—H.F.No. 2516

An act relating to crime; amending the definition of harassment; modifying petition requirements; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 609.748, subdivisions 1, 3, and 4.

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 609.748, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **DEFINITION.** For the purposes of this section, the following terms have the meanings given them in this subdivision.

(a) “Harassment” includes:

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

(1) a single incident of physical or sexual assault or repeated, intrusive, or unwanted acts, words, or gestures that have a substantial adverse effect or are intended to adversely affect have a substantial adverse effect on the safety, security, or privacy of another, regardless of the relationship between the actor and the intended target;

(2) targeted residential picketing; and

(3) a pattern of attending public events after being notified that the actor's presence at the event is harassing to another.

(b) "Respondent" includes any adults or juveniles alleged to have engaged in harassment or organizations alleged to have sponsored or promoted harassment.

(c) "Targeted residential picketing" includes the following acts when committed on more than one occasion:

(1) marching, standing, or patrolling by one or more persons directed solely at a particular residential building in a manner that adversely affects the safety, security, or privacy of an occupant of the building; or

(2) marching, standing, or patrolling by one or more persons which prevents an occupant of a residential building from gaining access to or exiting from the property on which the residential building is located.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 609.748, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **CONTENTS OF PETITION; HEARING; NOTICE.** (a) A petition for relief must allege facts sufficient to show the following:

(1) the name of the alleged harassment victim;

(2) the name of the respondent; and

(3) that the respondent has engaged in harassment.

The petition shall be accompanied by an affidavit made under oath stating the specific facts and circumstances from which relief is sought. The court shall provide simplified forms and clerical assistance to help with the writing and filing of a petition under this section and shall advise the petitioner of the right to sue in forma pauperis under section 563.01. Upon receipt of the petition, the court shall order a hearing, which must be held not later than 14 days from the date of the order. Personal service must be made upon the respondent not less than five days before the hearing. If personal service cannot be completed in time to give the respondent the minimum notice required under this paragraph, the court may set a new hearing date. Nothing in this section shall be construed as requiring a hearing on a matter that has no merit.

(b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), the order for a hearing and a temporary order issued under subdivision 4 may be served on the respondent by means of a one-week published notice under section 645.11, if:

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

(1) the petitioner files an affidavit with the court stating that an attempt at personal service made by a sheriff was unsuccessful because the respondent is avoiding service by concealment or otherwise; and

(2) a copy of the petition and order for hearing and any temporary restraining order has been mailed to the respondent at the respondent's residence or place of business, if the respondent is an organization, or the respondent's residence or place of business is not known to the petitioner.

(c) Regardless of the method of service, if the respondent is a juvenile, whenever possible, the court also shall have notice of the pendency of the case and of the time and place of the hearing served by mail at the last known address upon any parent or guardian of the juvenile respondent who is not the petitioner.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 609.748, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER.** (a) The court may issue a temporary restraining order ordering the respondent to cease or avoid the harassment of another person or to have no contact with that person if the petitioner files a petition in compliance with subdivision 3 and if the court finds reasonable grounds to believe that the respondent has engaged in harassment. When a petition alleges harassment as defined by subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (1), the petition must further allege an immediate and present danger of harassment before the court may issue a temporary restraining order under this section.

(b) Notice need not be given to the respondent before the court issues a temporary restraining order under this subdivision. A copy of the restraining order must be served on the respondent along with the order for hearing and petition, as provided in subdivision 3. If the respondent is a juvenile, whenever possible, a copy of the restraining order, along with notice of the pendency of the case and the time and place of the hearing, shall also be served by mail at the last known address upon any parent or guardian of the juvenile respondent who is not the petitioner. A temporary restraining order may be entered only against the respondent named in the petition.

(c) The temporary restraining order is in effect until a hearing is held on the issuance of a restraining order under subdivision 5. The court shall hold the hearing on the issuance of a restraining order within 14 days after the temporary restraining order is issued unless (1) the time period is extended upon written consent of the parties; or (2) the time period is extended by the court for one additional 14-day period upon a showing that the respondent has not been served with a copy of the temporary restraining order despite the exercise of due diligence or if service is made by published notice under subdivision 3 and the petitioner files the affidavit required under that subdivision.

Sec. 4. **EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Sections 1 to 3 are effective July 1, 2000, and apply to petitions filed on or after that date.

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

Presented to the governor May 11, 2000

Signed by the governor May 15, 2000, 10:42 a.m.

CHAPTER 477—H.F.No. 3312

An act relating to agriculture; changing the scope of the value-added agricultural product processing and marketing grant program; establishing a certification pilot program; including bison in certain definitions of livestock; changing meeting provisions and duties of the board of grain standards; expanding a grants-in-aid program; changing certain fees; making technical changes to pesticide and fertilizer laws; changing certain reimbursement payments; changing seed testing provisions; providing for delegation of certain duties; clarifying the scope of certain regulation of wholesale produce dealers; updating certain food standards; simplifying certain language; providing for uniformity in meat and poultry inspection; changing certain reporting requirements; increasing the amount of livestock dealer bonds; changing rural finance authority loan provisions; clarifying status of certain grain buying transactions; changing certain grain storage provisions; changing the corporate and partnership farming law; providing alternative seed potato regulation in Clearwater county; amending Minnesota Statutes 1998, sections 17.101, subdivision 5; 17A.03, subdivision 5; 17A.05, subdivision 2; 17B.07; 17B.12; 18.023, subdivision 3a; 18C.005, subdivision 34, and by adding subdivisions; 18C.201, by adding subdivisions; 18C.215, subdivisions 1, 2, and by adding a subdivision; 18C.411, subdivision 1; 18C.421, subdivision 1; 18D.201, subdivision 3; 18D.331, by adding a subdivision; 18E.04, subdivision 4; 21.86, subdivision 1; 27.01, subdivision 8; 27.19, subdivision 1; 31.101, as amended; 31.102, subdivision 1; 31.103, subdivision 1; 31.104; 31.632; 31.633, subdivision 1; 31.651; 31A.02, subdivisions 5, 6, 10, 13, and 14; 31A.03; 31A.05; 31A.06; 31A.07, subdivisions 1 and 2; 31A.08; 31A.10; 31A.13; 31A.16; 31A.17; 31B.02, subdivision 4; 41B.03, subdivisions 1 and 2; 41B.039, subdivision 2; 41B.04, subdivision 8; 41B.042, subdivision 4; 41B.043, subdivision 2; 41B.045, subdivision 2; 223.16, subdivision 5; 223.17, subdivision 5; 223.175; 232.21, by adding a subdivision; 232.23, subdivisions 1, 3, and 6; 500.24, subdivisions 3a, 3b, 4, and 5; and 500.245, subdivision 2; Minnesota Statutes 1999 Supplement, sections 17B.15, subdivision 1; 28A.075; 31A.01; 31A.15, subdivision 1; 31B.07, subdivision 3; 500.24, subdivisions 2 and 3; and 500.245, subdivision 1; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 17.

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1998, section 17.101, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. VALUE-ADDED AGRICULTURAL PRODUCT PROCESSING AND MARKETING GRANT PROGRAM. (a) For purposes of this section:

(1) "agricultural commodity" means a material produced for use in or as food, feed, seed, or fiber and includes crops for fiber, food, oilseeds, seeds, livestock, livestock products, dairy, dairy products, poultry, poultry products, and other products or by-products of the farm produced for the same or similar use, except ethanol; and

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