

CHAPTER 49—H.F.No. 314

An act relating to traffic regulations; allowing display of flashing blue lights to the front of emergency vehicles; amending Minnesota Statutes 2002, section 169.64, subdivision 4.

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2002, section 169.64, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **BLUE LIGHT.** (a) Except as provided in paragraphs (b) to (d), blue lights are prohibited on all vehicles except road maintenance equipment and snow removal equipment operated by or under contract to the state or a political subdivision thereof.

(b) Authorized emergency vehicles may display flashing blue lights to the rear of the vehicle as a warning signal in combination with other lights permitted or required by this chapter. In addition, authorized emergency vehicles may display, mounted on the passenger side only, flashing blue lights to the front of the vehicle as a warning signal in combination with other lights permitted or required by this chapter.

(c) A motorcycle may display a blue light of up to one-inch diameter as part of the motorcycle's rear brake light.

(d) A motor vehicle may display a blue light of up to one-inch diameter as part of the vehicle's rear brake light if:

- (1) the vehicle is a collector vehicle, as described in section 168.10; or
- (2) the vehicle is eligible to display a collector plate under section 168.10.

Presented to the governor May 12, 2003

Signed by the governor May 14, 2003, 4:30 p.m.

CHAPTER 50—S.F.No. 891

An act relating to housing and redevelopment authorities; authorizing an authority to create certain legal entities to engage in housing activities; amending Minnesota Statutes 2002, section 469.012, subdivision 1.

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2002, section 469.012, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **SCHEDULE OF POWERS.** An authority shall be a public body corporate and politic and shall have all the powers necessary or convenient to carry out the purposes of sections 469.001 to 469.047, except that the power to levy and collect

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taxes or special assessments is limited to the power provided in sections 469.027 to 469.033. Its powers include the following powers in addition to others granted in sections 469.001 to 469.047:

(1) to sue and be sued; to have a seal, which shall be judicially noticed, and to alter it; to have perpetual succession; and to make, amend, and repeal rules consistent with sections 469.001 to 469.047;

(2) to employ an executive director, technical experts, and officers, agents, and employees, permanent and temporary, that it requires, and determine their qualifications, duties, and compensation; for legal services it requires, to call upon the chief law officer of the city or to employ its own counsel and legal staff; so far as practicable, to use the services of local public bodies in its area of operation, provided that those local public bodies, if requested, shall make the services available;

(3) to delegate to one or more of its agents or employees the powers or duties it deems proper;

(4) within its area of operation, to undertake, prepare, carry out, and operate projects and to provide for the construction, reconstruction, improvement, extension, alteration, or repair of any project or part thereof;

(5) subject to the provisions of section 469.026, to give, sell, transfer, convey, or otherwise dispose of real or personal property or any interest therein and to execute leases, deeds, conveyances, negotiable instruments, purchase agreements, and other contracts or instruments, and take action that is necessary or convenient to carry out the purposes of these sections;

(6) within its area of operation, to acquire real or personal property or any interest therein by gifts, grant, purchase, exchange, lease, transfer, bequest, devise, or otherwise, and by the exercise of the power of eminent domain, in the manner provided by chapter 117, to acquire real property which it may deem necessary for its purposes, after the adoption by it of a resolution declaring that the acquisition of the real property is necessary to eliminate one or more of the conditions found to exist in the resolution adopted pursuant to section 469.003 or to provide decent, safe, and sanitary housing for persons of low and moderate income, or is necessary to carry out a redevelopment project. Real property needed or convenient for a project may be acquired by the authority for the project by condemnation pursuant to this section. Prior to adoption of a resolution authorizing acquisition of property by condemnation, the governing body of the authority must hold a public hearing on the proposed acquisition after published notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipality, which must be made at least one time not less than ten days nor more than 30 days prior to the date of the hearing. The notice must reasonably describe the property to be acquired and state that the purpose of the hearing is to consider acquisition by exercise of the authority's powers of eminent domain. Not less than ten days before the hearing, notice of the hearing must also be mailed to the owner of each parcel proposed to be acquired, but failure to give mailed notice or any defects in the notice does not invalidate the acquisition. For the purpose of giving mailed notice, owners are determined in accordance with section 429.031, subdivision 1, paragraph (a). Property acquired by

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condemnation under this section may include any property devoted to a public use, whether or not held in trust, notwithstanding that the property may have been previously acquired by condemnation or is owned by a public utility corporation, because the public use in conformity with the provisions of sections 469.001 to 469.047 shall be deemed a superior public use. Property devoted to a public use may be so acquired only if the governing body of the municipality has approved its acquisition by the authority. An award of compensation shall not be increased by reason of any increase in the value of the real property caused by the assembly, clearance or reconstruction, or proposed assembly, clearance or reconstruction for the purposes of sections 469.001 to 469.047 of the real property in an area;

(7) within its area of operation, and without the adoption of an urban renewal plan, to acquire, by all means as set forth in clause (6) but without the adoption of a resolution provided for in clause (6), real property, and to demolish, remove, rehabilitate, or reconstruct the buildings and improvements or construct new buildings and improvements thereon, or to so provide through other means as set forth in Laws 1974, chapter 228, or to grade, fill, and construct foundations or otherwise prepare the site for improvements. The authority may dispose of the property pursuant to section 469.029, provided that the provisions of section 469.029 requiring conformance to an urban renewal plan shall not apply. The authority may finance these activities by means of the redevelopment project fund or by means of tax increments or tax increment bonds or by the methods of financing provided for in section 469.033 or by means of contributions from the municipality provided for in section 469.041, clause (9), or by any combination of those means. Real property with buildings or improvements thereon shall only be acquired under this clause when the buildings or improvements are substandard. The exercise of the power of eminent domain under this clause shall be limited to real property which contains, or has contained within the three years immediately preceding the exercise of the power of eminent domain and is currently vacant, buildings and improvements which are vacated and substandard. Notwithstanding the prior sentence, in cities of the first class the exercise of the power of eminent domain under this clause shall be limited to real property which contains, or has contained within the three years immediately preceding the exercise of the power of eminent domain, buildings and improvements which are substandard. For the purpose of this clause, substandard buildings or improvements mean hazardous buildings as defined in section 463.15, subdivision 3, or buildings or improvements that are dilapidated or obsolescent, faultily designed, lack adequate ventilation, light, or sanitary facilities, or any combination of these or other factors that are detrimental to the safety or health of the community. The exercise of the power of eminent domain under this clause is subject to the notice and hearing requirements described in clause (6);

(8) within its area of operation, to determine the level of income constituting low or moderate family income. The authority may establish various income levels for various family sizes. In making its determination, the authority may consider income levels that may be established by the Department of Housing and Urban Development or a similar or successor federal agency for the purpose of federal loan guarantees or subsidies for persons of low or moderate income. The authority may use that

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determination as a basis for the maximum amount of income for admissions to housing development projects or housing projects owned or operated by it;

(9) to provide in federally assisted projects any relocation payments and assistance necessary to comply with the requirements of the Federal Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, and any amendments or supplements thereto;

(10) to make an agreement with the governing body or bodies creating the authority which provides exemption from all ad valorem real and personal property taxes levied or imposed by the body or bodies creating the authority. In the case of low-rent public housing that received financial assistance under the United States Housing Act of 1937, or successor federal legislation, an authority may make an agreement with the governing body or bodies creating the authority to provide exemption from all real and personal property taxes levied or imposed by the state, city, county, or other political subdivision, for which the authority shall make payments in lieu of taxes to the state, city, county, or other political subdivisions as provided in section 469.040. The governing body shall agree on behalf of all the applicable governing bodies affected that local cooperation as required by the federal government shall be provided by the local governing body or bodies in whose jurisdiction the project is to be located, at no cost or at no greater cost than the same public services and facilities furnished to other residents;

(11) to cooperate with or act as agent for the federal government, the state or any state public body, or any agency or instrumentality of the foregoing, in carrying out any of the provisions of sections 469.001 to 469.047 or of any other related federal, state, or local legislation; and upon the consent of the governing body of the city to purchase, lease, manage, or otherwise take over any housing project already owned and operated by the federal government;

(12) to make plans for carrying out a program of voluntary repair and rehabilitation of buildings and improvements, and plans for the enforcement of laws, codes, and regulations relating to the use of land and the use and occupancy of buildings and improvements, and to the compulsory repair, rehabilitation, demolition, or removal of buildings and improvements. The authority may develop, test, and report methods and techniques, and carry out demonstrations and other activities for the prevention and elimination of slums and blight;

(13) to borrow money or other property and accept contributions, grants, gifts, services, or other assistance from the federal government, the state government, state public bodies, or from any other public or private sources;

(14) to include in any contract for financial assistance with the federal government any conditions that the federal government may attach to its financial aid of a project, not inconsistent with purposes of sections 469.001 to 469.047, including obligating itself (which obligation shall be specifically enforceable and not constitute a mortgage, notwithstanding any other laws) to convey to the federal government the project to which the contract relates upon the occurrence of a substantial default with respect to the covenants or conditions to which the authority is subject; to provide in the contract

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that, in case of such conveyance, the federal government may complete, operate, manage, lease, convey, or otherwise deal with the project until the defaults are cured if the federal government agrees in the contract to reconvey to the authority the project as then constituted when the defaults have been cured;

(15) to issue bonds for any of its corporate purposes and to secure the bonds by mortgages upon property held or to be held by it or by pledge of its revenues, including grants or contributions;

(16) to invest any funds held in reserves or sinking funds, or any funds not required for immediate disbursement, in property or securities in which savings banks may legally invest funds subject to their control or in the manner and subject to the conditions provided in section 118A.04 for the deposit and investment of public funds;

(17) within its area of operation, to determine where blight exists or where there is unsafe, unsanitary, or overcrowded housing;

(18) to carry out studies of the housing and redevelopment needs within its area of operation and of the meeting of those needs. This includes study of data on population and family groups and their distribution according to income groups, the amount and quality of available housing and its distribution according to rentals and sales prices, employment, wages, desirable patterns for land use and community growth, and other factors affecting the local housing and redevelopment needs and the meeting of those needs; to make the results of those studies and analyses available to the public and to building, housing, and supply industries;

(19) if a local public body does not have a planning agency or the planning agency has not produced a comprehensive or general community development plan, to make or cause to be made a plan to be used as a guide in the more detailed planning of housing and redevelopment areas;

(20) to lease or rent any dwellings, accommodations, lands, buildings, structures, or facilities included in any project and, subject to the limitations contained in sections 469.001 to 469.047 with respect to the rental of dwellings in housing projects, to establish and revise the rents or charges therefor;

(21) to own, hold, and improve real or personal property and to sell, lease, exchange, transfer, assign, pledge, or dispose of any real or personal property or any interest therein;

(22) to insure or provide for the insurance of any real or personal property or operations of the authority against any risks or hazards;

(23) to procure or agree to the procurement of government insurance or guarantees of the payment of any bonds or parts thereof issued by an authority and to pay premiums on the insurance;

(24) to make expenditures necessary to carry out the purposes of sections 469.001 to 469.047;

(25) to enter into an agreement or agreements with any state public body to provide informational service and relocation assistance to families, individuals,

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business concerns, and nonprofit organizations displaced or to be displaced by the activities of any state public body;

(26) to compile and maintain a catalog of all vacant, open and undeveloped land, or land which contains substandard buildings and improvements as that term is defined in clause (7), that is owned or controlled by the authority or by the governing body within its area of operation and to compile and maintain a catalog of all authority owned real property that is in excess of the foreseeable needs of the authority, in order to determine and recommend if the real property compiled in either catalog is appropriate for disposal pursuant to the provisions of section 469.029, subdivisions 9 and 10;

(27) to recommend to the city concerning the enforcement of the applicable health, housing, building, fire prevention, and housing maintenance code requirements as they relate to residential dwelling structures that are being rehabilitated by low- or moderate-income persons pursuant to section 469.029, subdivision 9, for the period of time necessary to complete the rehabilitation, as determined by the authority;

(28) to recommend to the city the initiation of municipal powers, against certain real properties, relating to repair, closing, condemnation, or demolition of unsafe, unsanitary, hazardous, and unfit buildings, as provided in section 469.041, clause (5);

(29) to sell, at private or public sale, at the price or prices determined by the authority, any note, mortgage, lease, sublease, lease purchase, or other instrument or obligation evidencing or securing a loan made for the purpose of economic development, job creation, redevelopment, or community revitalization by a public agency to a business, for-profit or nonprofit organization, or an individual;

(30) within its area of operation, to acquire and sell real property that is benefited by federal housing assistance payments, other rental subsidies, interest reduction payments, or interest reduction contracts for the purpose of preserving the affordability of low- and moderate-income multifamily housing;

(31) to apply for, enter into contracts with the federal government, administer, and carry out a section 8 program. Authorization by the governing body creating the authority to administer the program at the authority's initial application is sufficient to authorize operation of the program in its area of operation for which it was created without additional local governing body approval. Approval by the governing body or bodies creating the authority constitutes approval of a housing program for purposes of any special or general law requiring local approval of section 8 programs undertaken by city, county, or multicounty authorities; ~~and~~

(32) to secure a mortgage or loan for a rental housing project by obtaining the appointment of receivers or assignments of rents and profits under sections 559.17 and 576.01, except that the limitation relating to the minimum amounts of the original principal balances of mortgages specified in sections 559.17, subdivision 2, clause (2); and 576.01, subdivision 2, does not apply; ~~and~~

(33) to become members or shareholders in and enter into or form limited partnerships, limited liability companies, or corporations for the purpose of develop-

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ing, constructing, rehabilitating, managing, supporting, or preserving housing projects and housing development projects, including low-income housing tax credit projects. These limited partnerships, limited liability companies, or corporations are subject to all of the provisions of sections 469.001 to 469.047 and other laws that apply to housing and redevelopment authorities, as if the limited partnership, limited liability company, or corporation were a housing and redevelopment authority.

Sec. 2. **EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Section 1 is effective the day following final enactment.

Presented to the governor May 13, 2003

Signed by the governor May 16, 2003, 4:01 p.m.

CHAPTER 51—S.F.No. 1069

An act relating to commerce; regulating financial institution examinations, applications, loans, advertising, and organizational provisions; revising the standard nonforfeiture law for individual deferred annuities; regulating the deposit and investment of local public funds; making various technical changes; repealing obsolete rules; amending Minnesota Statutes 2002, sections 46.04, subdivision 1; 46.041, subdivision 2; 47.015, by adding a subdivision; 47.101, subdivision 2; 47.59, subdivision 2; 47.67; 48.08; 48.24, subdivision 6; 52.06, subdivision 1; 61A.245, subdivisions 3, 4, 5, 6, 12; 118A.03, subdivisions 2, 3; 300.025; 300.23; 332.29, subdivision 1; repealing Minnesota Rules, parts 2675.0300; 2675.2250; 2675.6400.

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2002, section 46.04, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **GENERAL.** The commissioner of commerce, referred to in chapters 46 to 59A, and sections 332.12 to 332.29, as the commissioner, is vested with all the powers, authority, and privileges which, prior to the enactment of Laws 1909, chapter 201, were conferred by law upon the public examiner, and shall take over all duties in relation to state banks, savings banks, trust companies, savings associations, and other financial institutions within the state which, prior to the enactment of chapter 201, were imposed upon the public examiner. The commissioner of commerce shall exercise a constant supervision, either personally or through the examiners herein provided for, over the books and affairs of all state banks, savings banks, trust companies, savings associations, credit unions, industrial loan and thrift companies, and other financial institutions doing business within this state; and shall, through examiners, examine each financial institution at least once every ~~18~~ 24 calendar months. In satisfying this examination requirement, the commissioner may accept reports of examination prepared by a federal agency having comparable supervisory powers and examination procedures. With the exception of industrial loan and thrift

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