

## CHAPTER 157

HOTELS, RESORTS, RESTAURANTS;  
REGULATION, PROTECTION

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**157.01 DEFINITIONS.**

Every building or structure or enclosure, or any part thereof, kept, used as, maintained as, or advertised as, or held out to the public to be an enclosure where sleeping accommodations are furnished to the public and furnishing accommodations for periods of less than one week shall for the purpose of this chapter be deemed an hotel.

Every building or other structure or enclosure, or any part thereof and all buildings in connection, kept, used or maintained as, or advertised as, or held out to the public to be an enclosure where meals or lunches are served or prepared for service elsewhere shall for the purpose of this chapter be deemed to be a restaurant, and the person in charge thereof, whether as owner, lessee, manager or agent, for the purpose of this chapter shall be deemed the proprietor of the restaurant, and whenever the word "restaurant" occurs in this chapter, it shall be construed to mean a structure as described in this section.

Every building or structure, or any part thereof, kept, used as, maintained as, advertised as, or held out to be a place where sleeping accommodations are furnished to the public as regular roomers, for periods of one week or more, and having five or more beds to let to the public, shall, for the purpose of this chapter, be deemed a lodging house.

Every building or structure or enclosure, or any part thereof, used as, maintained as, or advertised as, or held out to be an enclosure where meals or lunches are furnished to five or more regular boarders, whether with or without sleeping accommodations, for periods of one week or more, shall, for the purpose of this chapter, be deemed a boarding house.

Every building or structure, or any part thereof, used as, maintained as, or advertised as, or held out to be a place where confectionery, ice cream, or drinks of various kinds are made, sold or served at retail, shall, for the purpose of this chapter, be deemed to be a place of refreshment. This chapter shall not be applicable in any manner to a general merchandise store, grocery store, oil station, cigar stand, confectionery store, or drug store not providing meals, lunches, lodging, or fountain, bar, booth, or table service.

For the purpose of this chapter, a resort means any building, structure, or enclosure, or any part thereof, located on, or on property neighboring, any lake, stream, or skiing or hunting area for purposes of providing convenient access thereto, kept, used, maintained, or advertised as, or held out to the public to be an enclosure where sleeping accommodations are furnished to the public, and primarily to those seeking recreation, for periods of one day, one week, or longer, and having for rent five or more cottages, rooms, or enclosures.

**History:** 1919 c 499 s 1; 1935 c 77; 1935 c 274 s 1; Ex1936 c 36 s 1; 1943 c 104 s 1; 1945 c 537 s 1; 1945 c 587 s 1; 1963 c 154 s 1; 1975 c 310 s 19 (5903)

**157.02 HOTEL INSPECTOR.**

The hotel inspector shall keep a set of books for public use and inspection showing the condition of all hotels, motels, restaurants, lodging houses, boarding houses, resorts, and places of refreshment, together with the name of the owner, proprietor, or manager thereof, showing their sanitary condition, and any other information that may be for the betterment of the public service, and likewise assist in the enforcement of any orders promulgated by the state commissioner of health and the department of agriculture relating to hotels, motels, restaurants, lodging houses, boarding houses, resorts, and places of refreshment.

**History:** 1919 c 499 s 2; 1925 c 426 art 9 s 2; 1961 c 113 s 1; 1975 c 310 s 20; 1977 c 305 s 45 (53-34, 5904)

**157.03 LICENSES REQUIRED; FEES.**

Each year every person, firm, or corporation engaged in the business of conducting an hotel, motel, restaurant, lodging house, boarding house, or resort, or place of refreshment, or who shall hereafter engage in conducting any such business, except vending machine operators licensed under the license provisions of sections 28A.01 to 28A.16, must procure a license for each hotel, motel, restaurant, lodging house, boarding house, or resort, or place of refreshment so conducted. For any hotel, motel or resort in which food, fountain, or bar service is furnished, one license, in addition to the hotel or resort license, shall be sufficient for all restaurants and places of refreshment conducted on the same premises and under the same management with the hotel, motel or resort. Each license shall expire and be renewed as prescribed by the commissioner pursuant to section 144.122. Any proprietor who operates a place of business after the expiration date without first having made application for a license and without having made payment of the fee thereof shall be deemed to have violated the provisions of this chapter and be subject to prosecution, as provided in this chapter. In addition thereto, a penalty in an amount prescribed by the commissioner pursuant to section 144.122 shall be added to the amount of the license fee and paid by the proprietor, as provided herein, if the application has not reached the office of the state commissioner of health within 30 days following the expiration of license; or, in the case of a new business, 30 days after the opening date of the business. The state commissioner of health shall furnish to any person, firm or corporation desiring to conduct an hotel, motel, restaurant, lodging house, boarding house, or resort, or place of refreshment an application blank to be filled out by the person, firm, or corporation, for a license therefor, which shall require the applicant to state the full name and address of the owner of the building, structure, or enclosure, the lessee and manager of the hotel, motel, restaurant, lodging house, boarding house, or resort, or place of refreshment, the location of the same, the name under which the business is to be conducted, and any other information as may be required therein by the state commissioner of health to complete the application for license. The application shall be accompanied by a license fee as hereinafter provided.

For hotels, motels, lodging houses, and resorts the license fee may be graduated according to the number of sleeping rooms and the amount of the fees shall be prescribed by the state commissioner of health pursuant to section 144.122.

For restaurants, places of refreshment, and boarding houses the license fee may be based on the average number of employees. If the license fee is so computed, the commissioner shall consider each full time employee as one employee and each part time employee as that fraction of one employee as the number of months in which he is employed is to the 12 months of the year. Employees shall include all persons, except children of the licensee under the age of 18, at work in any capacity, either voluntary or paid, and whether or not reported under the labor laws of this state.

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If the license fee is based upon the average number of employees, every licensee shall, at the time of application, certify as to the number of his employees on forms provided by the state commissioner of health and the state commissioner of health shall have access, on demand, to any and all employment records for purposes of substantiating or correcting numbers of declared employees.

License fees for restaurants, places of refreshment, and boarding houses shall be in an amount prescribed by the state commissioner of health pursuant to section 144.122.

**History:** 1919 c 499 s 3; 1935 c 274 s 1; Ex1936 c 36 s 1; 1945 c 537 s 2; 1963 c 154 s 2; 1967 c 476 s 3; 1971 c 339 s 26; 1974 c 471 s 14; 1975 c 310 s 21; 1977 c 305 s 45 (5905)

**157.04 ANNUAL INSPECTION.**

It shall be the duty of the hotel inspector to inspect, or cause to be inspected, at least once annually, every hotel, motel, restaurant, lodging house, boarding house, or resort, or place of refreshment in this state. For this purpose, he shall have the right to enter and have access thereto at any time during the conduct of business and when, upon inspection, it shall be found that the business and property so inspected is not being conducted, or is not equipped, in the manner required by the provisions of this chapter or the regulations of the state commissioner of health, or is being conducted in violation of any of the laws of this state pertaining to the business, it shall thereupon be the duty of the hotel inspector to notify the owner, proprietor, or agent in charge of the business, or the owner or agent of the buildings so occupied, of the condition so found. Each owner, proprietor, or agent shall forthwith comply with the provisions of this chapter or the regulations of the commissioner, unless otherwise herein provided. A reasonable time may be granted by the hotel inspector for compliance with the provisions of this chapter.

**History:** 1919 c 499 s 4; 1945 c 537 s 3; 1975 c 310 s 22; 1977 c 305 s 45 (5906)

**157.05 PLUMBING, LIGHTING, VENTILATION.**

Subdivision 1. **Approved methods.** Every hotel, motel, restaurant, lodging house, boarding house, resort, or place of refreshment shall be properly plumbed, lighted, and ventilated and shall be conducted in every department with strict regard to the health, comfort, and safety of the guest.

Subd. 2. **Sleeping rooms.** No room shall be used for a sleeping room which does not open to the outside of the building or light wells, air shafts, or courts and all sleeping rooms shall have at least one door opening on a hallway and, unless adequate provision is made for unobstructed egress to the outside of building at the bottom of the aforesaid light wells, air shafts, or courts, the hallway upon which the doors open shall run through to an outside wall and there be provided with proper, safe, and unobstructed egress from the building. Storm windows provided for sleeping rooms must be so arranged that rooms can be thoroughly ventilated. All light wells, air shafts, or courts shall be open at the top or properly ventilated.

Subd. 3. **Screens.** Outside windows and used entrances of all hotels, motels, restaurants, lodging houses, boarding houses, resorts, or places of refreshment shall be properly screened or otherwise protected against the entrance of flies and other insects.

Subd. 4. [ Repealed, 1975 c 310 s 38 ]

Subd. 5. [ Repealed, 1975 c 310 s 38 ]

Subd. 6. [ Repealed, 1975 c 310 s 38 ]

Subd. 7. [ Repealed, 1975 c 310 s 38 ]

**History:** 1919 c 499 s 5; 1973 c 123 art 5 s 7; 1975 c 310 s 23-25 (5907)

**157.06** [ Repealed, 1975 c 310 s 38 ]

**157.07** [ Repealed, 1975 c 310 s 38 ]

**157.08 LINENS, OTHER FURNISHINGS; PENALTY.**

All hotels and motels in this state shall hereafter provide each bedroom with at least two clean towels daily for each guest and provide the main public washroom with clean individual towels. Individual towels shall not be less than nine inches wide and 13 inches long after being washed. This shall not prohibit the use of other acceptable hand drying devices.

All hotels, motels, lodging houses and resorts where linen is provided, hereafter shall provide each bed, bunk, cot, or sleeping place for the use of guests with pillow-slips and under and top sheets; each sheet shall be not less than 99 inches long nor less than 24 inches wider than the mattress. A sheet shall not be used which measures less than 90 inches in length after being laundered; these sheets and pillow-slips to be made of materials acceptable to the state commissioner of health, and all sheets and pillow-slips, after being used by one guest, must be laundered in a manner acceptable to the commissioner before they are used by another guest, a clean set being furnished each succeeding guest.

All bedding, including mattresses, quilts, blankets, pillows, sheets, and comforts used in any hotel, motel, resort, or lodging house in this state must be kept clean. No bedding, including mattresses, quilts, blankets, pillows, sheets, or comforts, shall be used which are worn out or unfit for further use.

Effective measures shall be taken to eliminate any vermin infestation in any establishment licensed under this chapter. All rugs and carpets in all sleeping rooms shall be kept in good repair and maintained in a clean condition.

All tables, table linens, chairs, and other furniture, all hangings, draperies, curtains, carpets, and floors in all lodging houses, resorts, hotels, restaurants, boarding houses, or places of refreshment, shall be kept in good repair and in a clean and sanitary condition.

All notices to be served by the hotel inspector provided for in this chapter shall be in writing and shall be either delivered personally, or by registered letter, to the owner, agent, lessee, or manager of the hotel, motel, resort, restaurant, lodging house, boarding house, or place of refreshment.

Any person, firm, or corporation who shall operate an hotel, motel, resort, restaurant, lodging house, boarding house, or place of refreshment in this state, or who shall let a building used for such business, without having first complied with the provisions of this chapter and regulations of the state commissioner of health, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

The county attorney of each county in this state shall, upon complaint on oath of the hotel inspector, or his duly authorized deputy, prosecute to termination before any court of competent jurisdiction, in the name of the state, a proper action or proceeding against any person or persons violating the provisions of this chapter or regulation of the state commissioner of health.

**History:** 1919 c 499 s 8; 1975 c 310 s 26; 1977 c 305 s 45 (5910)

**157.09 REVOCATION OF LICENSE.**

It shall be the duty of the state hotel inspector to revoke a license, if and when it be found by him that a place of business is being operated in violation of the provisions of this chapter or regulations of the state commissioner of

health, so as to constitute a filthy, unclean, and insanitary condition and dangerous to public health; or, if the owner or proprietor persistently refuses or fails to comply with the provisions of this chapter or regulations of the commissioner. Upon revocation of a license, the place of business shall be immediately closed to public patronage until such time as the owner or proprietor shall have complied with the provisions of this chapter, as certified to by the issuance of a new license.

The third revocation of license in any one year and on any one proprietor shall be made permanent for a period of one year from the date of the last revocation.

**History:** 1919 c 499 s 9; 1935 c 274; 1975 c 310 s 27; 1977 c 305 s 45 (5911)

**157.10** [ Repealed, 1965 c 45 s 73 ]

**157.11** [ Repealed, 1975 c 310 s 38 ]

### **157.12 LICENSE POSTED IN OFFICE.**

Every hotel, motel, resort, restaurant, lodging house, boarding house, or place of refreshment securing a license or license fee receipt under the provisions of this chapter shall keep the same posted in a conspicuous place in the office of such hotel, motel, resort, restaurant, lodging house, boarding house, or place of refreshment.

All prosecutions under this chapter shall be conducted by the county attorney of the county in which the offense was committed.

**History:** 1919 c 499 s 12; 1975 c 310 s 28 (5914)

### **157.13 PAYMENT OF ALTERATIONS.**

All alterations, changes, reconstruction work, fire escapes, outside standpipes, inside standpipes, and necessary pumps, fittings, and connections, storm windows and screens, and all other changes, alterations, improvements, structural or otherwise, to, in, on, and about any building ordered by the hotel inspector to meet the requirements of this chapter or applicable regulations of the state commissioner of health shall be ordered installed and paid for by the owner of the building in question and not by the lessee.

**History:** 1919 c 499 s 13; 1975 c 310 s 29; 1977 c 305 s 45 (5915)

### **157.14 EXEMPTIONS.**

This chapter shall not be construed to apply to interstate carriers under the supervision of the United States Department of Health, Education and Welfare or to any building constructed and primarily used for religious worship, nor to any building owned, operated and used by a college or university in accordance with regulations promulgated by the college or university. Any person, firm or corporation whose principal mode of business is licensed under sections 28A.04 and 28A.05 is exempt at that premises from licensure as a place of refreshment or restaurant; provided, that the holding of any license pursuant to sections 28A.04 and 28A.05 shall not exempt any person, firm, or corporation from the applicable provisions of the chapter or the regulations of the state commissioner of health relating to food and beverage service establishments.

**History:** 1919 c 499 s 1; 1935 c 77; 1935 c 274 s 1; Ex1936 c 36 s 1; 1943 c 104 s 1; 1945 c 587 s 1; 1963 c 154 s 3; 1975 c 310 s 30; 1977 c 305 s 45 (5903)

**157.15** [ Repealed, 1959 c 592 s 29 ]