

CHAPTER 44A

WORLD TRADE CENTER

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44A.01 WORLD TRADE CENTER BOARD.

Subdivision 1. **Membership.** (a) A world trade center board is created to facilitate and support Minnesota world trade center programs and services and promote the growth of international trade in Minnesota. The world trade center board consists of nine voting members and four legislators serving as nonvoting members. Three members are representatives of the membership of the Minnesota world trade center, one member is a representative of the international business community, and one member is a representative of the agricultural community.

(b) The initial voting members are appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate for a term expiring the first Monday in January 1987. A vacancy is filled in the same manner as the appointment.

(c) Legislator members are two members of the senate appointed under the rules of the senate and two members of the house of representatives appointed by the speaker. Except for the initial members, who are to be appointed following enactment, they are appointed at the beginning of each regular session of the legislature for two-year terms. A legislator who remains a member of the body from which he was appointed may serve until a successor is appointed and qualifies. A vacancy in a legislator member's term is filled for the unexpired portion of the term in the same manner as the original appointment.

Subd. 2. **Terms; compensation; removal.** Except as provided in this section, terms, compensation, and removal of members who are not legislators are as provided in section 15.059.

Subd. 3. **Organization.** The chair of the world trade center board is selected by the board members.

History: 1984 c 654 art 2 s 70

44A.02 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.

Subdivision 1. **Selection.** The executive director of the world trade center board is selected by a majority of the board and serves at the pleasure of the board. The executive director must be familiar with the international business community, and have demonstrated proficiency in communication skills, administration and management, and public and private joint ventures. The salary of the executive director is set by the board within the limit set by sections 15A.081, subdivision 1, and 43A.17.

Subd. 2. **Duties.** The executive director is the chief administrative officer of the board and is responsible for performing the executive duties of the board. The executive director is not a member of the board.

Subd. 3. **Employees.** The executive director may appoint unclassified employees in accordance with chapter 43A and prescribe their duties. The executive director may delegate to a subordinate the exercise of specified statutory powers or

duties as the executive director deems advisable, subject to the control of the executive director.

History: 1984 c 654 art 2 s 71

44A.03 WORLD TRADE CENTER FUND.

There is established in the state treasury a world trade center fund. All money collected and gifts received by the world trade center board shall be deposited in the fund. Money in the fund including interest earned is annually appropriated to the board for the operation of services and programs through the world trade center.

History: 1984 c 654 art 2 s 72

44A.04 GIFT ACCEPTANCE.

The world trade center board may accept gifts without regard to sections 7.09 to 7.12 if the board determines that the gift will serve the purposes of the world trade center.

History: 1984 c 654 art 2 s 73

44A.05 CONTRACTING AUTHORITY.

The world trade center board may contract for the development, financing, construction, and management of the world trade center facility and park.

History: 1984 c 654 art 2 s 74

44A.06 WORLD TRADE CENTER COSTS.

If a world trade center project of the kind contemplated by Laws 1983, chapter 301, section 29, is carried out, the participation of the state government is limited as provided in this section.

- (a) The state shall not own space in the center.
- (b) The state shall not rent more than ten percent of the gross space in the center.
- (c) The state shall not incur debt to assist the project.
- (d) The state shall not provide a special property tax classification that would give the center a more favorable property tax treatment than other office buildings.

History: 1984 c 654 art 2 s 75

44A.07 WORLD TRADE CENTER SERVICES.

Subdivision 1. **Services.** The world trade center board may:

- (1) define, formulate, administer, and deliver programs and services through the world trade center;
- (2) provide and contract for services and programs through the world trade center, including: a library and research service providing information on world trade; a trade lead service, providing and authenticating information about international trade opportunities; a club for world trade center club members; telecommunications services; translation and interpretation services; temporary secretarial and other business services; language instruction; educational conferences and seminars; and other programs and services that serve the purposes of the world trade center, in the determination of the board;
- (3) establish and charge fees for services and programs provided without regard to chapter 14;
- (4) establish membership requirements for Minnesota world trade center operations without regard to chapter 14;

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- (5) establish satellite operations of the Minnesota world trade center;
- (6) maintain active membership in the world trade center association;
- (7) create an international communication network to coordinate international trade information and activities;
- (8) compile international trade information from, among other places, the United States Department of Commerce and private sources, and provide marketing information to business persons;
- (9) assist public and private universities or colleges to develop undergraduate or graduate level education programs to train persons regarding export trading; and
- (10) coordinate the international trading activities of state and local agencies and organizations.

Subd. 2. **Joint projects, contracts, expenditures.** In order to implement the authorities of subdivision 1, the board may participate jointly with private persons and public entities in appropriate programs and projects and may enter into contracts to carry out those programs and projects. In making any expenditure or contract the board is not subject to chapter 16.

History: 1984 c 654 art 2 s 76