

incurred in the performance of his official duties, to be audited and allowed as other claims against the county.

Approved April 20, 1943.

CHAPTER 548—S. F. No. 1218.

(AMENDING SECTION 169.09 MINNESOTA STATUTES 1941.)

An act relating to automobile accident reports and amending Mason's Supplement 1940, Section 2720-173, Subdivision 8, as amended by the Laws of 1941, Chapter 439.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota :

Section 1. **Law amended.**—That Mason's Supplement 1940, Section 2720-173, Subdivision 8, as amended by the Laws of 1941, Chapter 439 be amended to read as follows:

“Subdivision 8. **Reports confidential—exceptions.**—All required accident reports and supplemental reports shall be without prejudice to the individual so reporting and shall be for the confidential use of the department for accident prevention purposes, except that the department and any law enforcement department of any municipality or county in this state shall upon written request of any person involved in an accident disclose to such person, his executor, administrator or legal counsel, the name and address of any person or persons involved in an accident, the name and address of any witnesses to said accident, the name and address of any officer who has investigated said accident, the license number of any motor vehicle involved therein and the date and place of such accident. No such report or contents thereof shall be used as evidence in any trial, civil or criminal, arising out of an accident, and no person in any trial or action shall be examined or testify as to such report nor as to the making thereof or the contents thereof, except that the department shall furnish upon demand of any person who has, or claims to have, made such a report, or, upon demand of any court, a certificate showing that a specified accident report has or has not been made to the department solely to prove a compliance or a failure to comply with the requirement that such report be made to the department. Disclosing any information contained in any accident report except as provided herein is unlawful and a misdemeanor. *Provided, however, that legally qualified newspaper publications shall upon request to a law enforcement agency be given an oral statement*

covering only the time and place of the accident, the names and addresses of the parties involved, and a general statement as to how the accident happened, without attempting to fix liability upon anyone, but said legally qualified newspaper publications shall not be given access to the hereinbefore mentioned confidential reports, nor shall any such statements or information so orally given be used as evidence in any court proceeding, but shall merely be used for the purpose of a proper publication of the news."

Approved April 20, 1943.

CHAPTER 549—S. F. No. 1248.

(AMENDING SECTION 168.06 MINNESOTA STATUTES 1941.)

An act to permit the licensing of truck-tractors for carrying loads; amending Mason's Supplement 1940, Section 2674 (a)-1.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota:

Section 1. **Law amended—Rate of tax—class Y trucks.**—Mason's Supplement 1940, Section 2674 (a)-1, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"(a)-1. Class "Y" Trucks. The tax on a tractor, or truck-tractor shall be determined by the actual unloaded weight of the vehicle. *A truck-tractor may also be licensed for a gross weight in excess of its actual unloaded weight, and the excess licensed weight thereby applied and paid for may be used to cover change-overs of such truck-tractor to a conventional truck including the weight of the maximum pay-load to be carried thereon, or may be applied on the gross weight of any semi-trailer to which it might be connected.* The tax on a semi-trailer, trailer or truck shall be based on the gross weight of such vehicle. The gross weight shall be the actual unloaded weight of the vehicle plus the weight of the maximum load which the applicant has elected to carry in such vehicle and for which such vehicle has been licensed. This tax shall be known as a "gross weight use tax". The gross weight use tax on each vehicle shall be as follows:

Where the gross weight of the vehicle is 6,000 pounds or less, \$25.00.

Where the gross weight of the vehicle is 6,000 pounds and less than 20,000 pounds the tax shall be \$25.00 plus an additional tax