

variances from the requirements of regulations or standards upon such procedure and conditions as it may by regulation prescribe in order to avoid undue hardship and promote the effective and reasonable application and enforcement of laws, regulations, and standards for prevention, abatement and control of water, air, noise, and land pollution, provided that no public hearing shall be required for variances from feed lot regulations and standards relating to family farm and family farm corporation buildings used for the raising of livestock, poultry and other animals in which the animals and waste are confined. Notice of said public hearing shall be given as provided in section 15.0412, subdivision 4.

No local government unit authorized by contract with the pollution control agency pursuant to section 116.05 to exercise administrative powers under this chapter shall grant variances from any law, ordinance, regulation, or standard for prevention, abatement, or control of water, air, noise and land pollution, adopted pursuant to said administrative powers and under the provisions of this chapter, except after notice and public hearing in accordance with this act.

Approved May 24, 1973.

CHAPTER 734—H.F.No.611

An act relating to public safety; division of highway patrol; providing salary adjustments for members of the highway patrol assigned to air patrol duty; amending Minnesota Statutes 1971, Section 299D.03, Subdivision 3.

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1971, Section 299D.03, Subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **HIGHWAY PATROL; AIR PATROL; SALARIES.** The commissioner of public safety may increase the salary of any member of the Minnesota highway patrol in an amount not to exceed ~~\$125~~ \$215 per month for operation of fixed wing aircraft and \$290 per month for operation of helicopter during the period in which such member of the patrol is assigned air patrol duty. The commissioner of public safety may appoint, from among the members of the patrol assigned to air patrol duty, a chief pilot who ~~shall~~ may receive \$50 per month in addition to the air patrol duty

Changes or additions indicated by underline, deletions by ~~strikeout~~.

salary differential permitted by this subdivision, during the period of his assignment as chief pilot.

Approved May 24, 1973.

CHAPTER 735—H.F.No.624

[Coded]

An act relating to the free flow of information, the protection of sources of information of the news media, and prohibiting disclosure of sources of information.

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

Section 1. [595.021] **NEWS MEDIA; PROTECTION OF SOURCES; CITATION.** Sections 1 to 4 may be cited as the Minnesota free flow of information act.

Sec. 2. [595.022] **PUBLIC POLICY.** In order to protect the public interest and the free flow of information, the news media should have the benefit of a substantial privilege not to reveal sources of information or to disclose unpublished information. To this end; the freedom of press requires protection of the confidential relationship between the news gatherer and the source of information. The purpose of this act is to insure and perpetuate, consistent with the public interest, the confidential relationship between the news media and its sources.

Sec. 3. [595.023] **DISCLOSURE PROHIBITED.** No person who is or has been directly engaged in the gathering, procuring, compiling, editing, or publishing of information for the purpose of transmission, dissemination or publication to the public shall be required by any court, grand jury, agency, department or branch of the state, or any of its political subdivisions or other public body, or by either house of the legislature or any committee, officer, member, or employee thereof, to disclose in any proceeding the person or means from or through which information was obtained, or to disclose any unpublished information procured by him in the course of his work or any of his notes, memoranda, recording tapes, film or other reportorial data which would tend to identify the person or means through which the information was obtained.

Sec. 4. [595.024] **EXCEPTION AND PROCEDURE.** Subdivision 1. A person seeking disclosure may apply to the district court of the county where the person employed by or associated with a

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