

diture on the effective date of this act and shall remain available for expenditure until June 30, 1977, notwithstanding the provisions of Minnesota Statutes, Section 16A.28, or any other law relating to the lapse of appropriations to the contrary.

Sec. 3. This act is effective the day following final enactment.

Approved April 19, 1976.

CHAPTER 323—S.F.No.1644

[Coded in Part]

An act relating to public welfare; establishing a senior companion program; appropriating funds.

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

Section 1. **[256.977] PUBLIC WELFARE; SENIOR COMPANION PROGRAM; CITATION.** [Subdivision 1.] Sections 1 and 2 may be cited as the "Minnesota senior companion act".

Sec. 2. **[Subd. 2.] ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.** There is established a senior companion program to engage the services of low income persons aged 60 or over to provide supportive person to person assistance in health, education, welfare and related fields primarily to handicapped adults and elderly people living in their own homes. Senior companions may also be used to provide such services to handicapped adults and elderly persons living or receiving care in resident group homes for dependent and neglected persons, nursing homes, private homes, or other public or private nonprofit institutions or agencies providing care for handicapped adults or elderly persons. Foster grandparents currently serving individuals over 21 years of age pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 256.976 shall, after the effective date of this act, be called senior companions.

[Subd. 3.] COMPENSATION. Persons serving as senior companions shall be compensated for no more than 20 hours per week at an hourly rate not to exceed the rate established under the Older Americans Act. In addition, senior companions shall receive such other assistance as the Minnesota board on aging may prescribe. No person serving as a senior companion shall be terminated as a result of a change in the eligibility requirements set by the Minnesota board on aging, nor as a result of a change in his income, marital status, or number of dependents.

[Subd. 4.] GRANTS. The Minnesota board on aging may make grants-in-aid for the purchase of senior companion services by nonprofit agencies and institutions and individuals who have access to or re-

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sponsibility for handicapped adults and the elderly. Applications to provide senior companion services to individuals in their homes shall have priority over applications to provide services to individuals living in group homes, nursing homes, or other institutions. Applications for grants shall be made on forms prescribed by the Minnesota board on aging.

Grants shall be paid as follows: 90 percent of the program expenditures authorized by the Minnesota board on aging shall be paid by the state and ten percent shall be paid by local matching funds. Grants shall be for a period of 12 months or less. Grants shall not be used to match other state funds nor shall any person paid from grant funds be used to replace any staff members of the grantee. Each grantee shall file a semiannual report with the Minnesota board on aging at the time and containing the information as the board shall prescribe.

[Subd. 5.] RULES. The Minnesota board on aging shall promulgate rules necessary to implement the provisions of this act and may employ necessary assistance in performing its administrative duties. Rules adopted shall be consistent with applicable federal guidelines.

Sec. 3. APPROPRIATION. There is appropriated from the general fund to the Minnesota board on aging in the department of public welfare the sum of \$100,000 for the biennium ending June 30, 1977, for the purposes of this act.

Sec. 4. This act shall be effective July 1, 1976.

Approved April 20, 1976.

CHAPTER 324—S.F.No.1675

[Coded in Part]

An act relating to public indebtedness; revising and clarifying provisions as to manner of sale and execution of obligations; designation of paying agents; cremation of obligations; payment of grant anticipation certificates; use of investment income from proceeds; administration of debt service funds; refunding; method of payment and interest rate on special assessments and obligations payable from special assessments; amending Minnesota Statutes 1974, Sections 48.15, by adding a subdivision; 124.05, Subdivisions 3 and 4; 138.17, Subdivision 1; 429.061, Subdivision 2; 429.091, Subdivisions 1, 3, and 4; 471.56, Subdivisions 1 and 3; 475.51, Subdivision 6, and adding a subdivision; 475.52, Subdivision 1; 475.55; 475.553, Subdivisions 1, 2, 3, and 5; 475.60, Subdivisions 2 and 3; 475.61, Subdivision 5; 475.65; 475.66; and 475.67, Subdivisions 7 and 12; and repealing Minnesota Statutes 1974, Section 475.553, Subdivision 4; and Minnesota Statutes, 1975 Supplement, Section 471.561.

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

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