

## CHAPTER 285—H. F. No. 24

[Coded as Sections 144.71 to 144.76]

*An act for the regulation of children's camps organized for educational, recreational, or vacation purposes; providing for the issuance of an annual permit without fee; requiring annual inspection; authorizing the state board of health to adopt reasonable regulations and standards for health and safety and providing for violations thereof.*

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

[144.71] Section 1. **Children's camps.** Subdivision 1. **Health and safety.** The purpose of this act is to protect the health and safety of children in attendance at children's camps.

Subd. 2. **Definition.** For the purpose of this act a children's camp is defined as a parcel or parcels of land with permanent buildings, tents or other structures together with appurtenances thereon, established or maintained as living quarters where both food and lodging or the facilities therefor are provided for ten or more people, operated continuously for a period of five days or more each year for educational, recreational or vacation purposes, and the use of the camp is offered to minors free of charge or for payment of a fee.

Subd. 3. **What not included in definition.** This definition does not include cabin and trailer camps, fishing and hunting camps, resorts, penal and correctional camps, industrial and construction camps, nor does it include homes operated for care or treatment of children and for the operation of which a license is required under the provisions of Sections 257.08 to 257.17.

[144.72] Sec. 2. **Operation.** Subdivision 1. **Permits.** The state board of health is authorized to issue permits for the operation of such children's camps and such camps are required to obtain such permits.

Subd. 2. **Application.** On or before June first annually, every person, partnership or corporation, operating or seeking to operate a children's camp, shall make application in writing to the board for a permit to conduct a children's camp.

Such application shall be in such form and shall contain such information as the board may find necessary to its determination that the children's camp will be operated and maintained in such a manner as to protect and preserve the health and safety of the persons using the camp. Where a person, partnership or corporation operates or is seeking to operate more than one children's camp, a separate application shall be made for each camp.

**Subd. 3. Issuance of permits.** If the board should determine from the application that the health and safety of the persons using the camp will be properly safeguarded, it may, prior to actual inspection of the camp, issue the permit in writing. No fee shall be charged for the permit. The permit shall be posted in a conspicuous place on the premises occupied by the camp.

[144.73] **Sec. 3. Duties of state board of health.**  
**Subdivision 1. Inspection of camps.** It shall be the duty of the state board of health to make an annual inspection of each children's camp, and where, upon inspection it is found that there is a failure to protect the health and safety of the persons using the camp, or a failure to comply with the camp regulations prescribed by the board, the board shall give notice to the camp operator of such failure, which notice shall set forth the reason or reasons for such failure.

**Subd. 2. Operator of camps to conform to rules.** The camp operator shall have a reasonable time after receiving said notice in which to correct such failure and to comply with the requirements and regulations of the board. In the event the camp operator shall fail to comply with the requirements of said notice within a reasonable time, the board may revoke the permit of such children's camp.

**Subd. 3. Hearings.** The camp operator shall be entitled to a hearing before the board on the revocation of his permit. A request for such hearing shall be made by the camp operator in writing. The hearing shall be held at the time and place designated by the board and at least five days' written notice of such hearing shall be given to the camp operator. The notice may be served by registered mail. The camp operator shall be entitled to be represented by legal counsel and shall have the right to produce evidence and testimony at such hearing. The board may appoint in writing any competent person to preside at such hearing. Such person shall take

testimony, administer oaths, issue subpoenas, compel the attendance of witnesses, and transmit the record of the hearing to the board. The decision of the board shall be based on the evidence and testimony presented at such hearing.

Subd. 4. **Permits; revoked, reinstated.** Where a permit has been revoked by the board it shall be reinstated upon compliance with the requirements and regulations of the state board of health.

[144.74] **Sec. 4.. Regulations and standards of state board of health.** Subdivision 1. The state board of health is authorized to adopt and enforce such reasonable regulations and standards as it determines necessary to protect the health and safety of children in attendance at children's camps. Such regulations and standards may include reasonable restrictions and limitations on the following:

(1) Camp sites and buildings, including location, layout, lighting, ventilation, heating, plumbing, drainage and sleeping quarters;

(2) Sanitary facilities, including water supply, toilet and shower facilities, sewage and excreta disposal, waste and garbage disposal, and the control of insects and rodents, [;] and

(3) Food service, including storage, refrigeration, sanitary preparation and handling of food, the cleanliness of kitchens and the proper functioning of equipment.

[144.75] **Sec. 5. Advisory council.** The state board of health shall appoint an advisory council on children's camps consisting of not more than nine members to advise it in the administration of this act. The members of such council shall serve without compensation.

[144.76] **Sec. 6. Violation, penalty.** Any person violating any provisions of this act or of the regulations or standards promulgated hereunder shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

Approved April 7, 1951.