

the Workmen's Compensation Law, the amounts so received by them shall not be deducted from the benefits payable under this section. The provisions of this clause are effective retroactively to June 30, 1964.

(e) In the event any patrolman who had separated from service prior to having completed 20 years of service except patrolmen permanently disabled in performance of duty and was not employed as a patrolman at the time of his death, his widow and children or heirs shall be entitled to receive any funds he may have left on deposit in the highway patrolmen's retirement fund, but shall receive no further benefits under Laws 1957, Chapter 869.

Approved April 2, 1973.

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#### CHAPTER 71—S.F.No.700

*An act relating to the public examiner; examination of school district records pursuant to petition by freeholders; amending Minnesota Statutes 1971, Section 215.19.*

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1971, Section 215.19, is amended to read:

**215.19 PUBLIC EXAMINER; SCHOOL DISTRICT RECORDS; EXAMINATION OF MUNICIPAL RECORDS PURSUANT TO PETITION BY FREEHOLDERS.** The freeholders of any city, borough, village, or town may petition the public examiner to examine the books, records, accounts, and affairs of any such city, borough, village, town, or of any organizational unit, activity, project, enterprise, or fund thereof; and the scope of the examination may be limited by the petition, but such examination shall cover, at least, all cash received and disbursed and the transactions relating thereto, provided that the public examiner shall not examine more than the six latest years preceding the circulation of the petition, unless it appears to the public examiner during his examination that the audit period should be extended to permit a full recovery under bonds furnished by public officers or employees, and may if it appears to him in the public interest confine the period or the scope of audit or both period and scope of audit, to less than that requested by the petition. When the population of any such city, borough, village, or town is not more than 2,000, the

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petition shall be signed by at least six freeholders for each 100 inhabitants; when the population thereof is over 2,000 the petition shall be signed by at least four freeholders for each 100 inhabitants. Likewise the freeholders of any school district may petition the public examiner in the same manner and he shall be subject to the same restrictions regarding the scope and period of audit, provided that the petition shall be signed by at least ten freeholders for each 50 resident pupils in average daily attendance membership during the preceding school year as shown on the records in the office of the county superintendent of schools commissioner of education. In no case shall the petition for an examination of a town bear the names of less than 25 freeholders; and in the case of a city, borough, or village having a population over 2,000 said petition shall be signed by not less than 120 freeholders; and provided, that in the case of school districts and all other cities, villages, and boroughs, said petition shall be signed by at least ten freeholders. At the time it is circulated, every petition shall contain a statement that the cost of the audit will be borne by the city, village, borough, town, or school district as provided by law. Before such petition is delivered to the public examiner it shall be presented to the auditor of the county in which such city, borough, town, village, or school district is situated, who shall determine whether such petition is signed by the required number of freeholders and shall certify such fact thereon, and such certificate shall be conclusive evidence thereof in any action or proceeding for the recovery of the costs, charges and expenses of any examination made pursuant to such petition.

Approved April 2, 1973.

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## CHAPTER 72—S.F.No.745

[Not Coded]

*An act authorizing the city of Mankato to establish and maintain a downtown mall.*

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

Section 1. **MANKATO, CITY OF; DOWNTOWN MALL AUTHORIZED.** Subdivision 1. The city of Mankato in Blue Earth county may, by ordinance adopted by its council in accordance with the city charter and this act, designate certain streets and alleys within its central business district as a mall primarily for pedestrian use, which mall may be open or covered as the council directs,

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