Report of the Committee on Labor and Social Security Law

Minn. L. Rev. Editorial Board

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The time allotted to our committee was entirely inadequate for the subject matter assigned. The matter should be referred to some committee for further study and co-operation with the Probate Judges Association.

Respectfully submitted,

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REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND SOCIAL SECURITY LAW

TO THE MINNESOTA STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

RECOMMENDATIONS

The committee recommends that the Bar Association go on record as favoring the following two proposed changes in the labor law of the State of Minnesota.

1. That the Minnesota Labor Relations Act be amended to provide that the services of the Conciliator's office be made available for the purpose of conciliating between public employees and their employers.

2. That a short statute of limitation be passed governing the commencement of actions for the recovery of amounts due on account of the non-payment of statutory overtime.

REPORT

The committee on Labor and Social Security Law met and considered a number of matters coming to its attention and to the attention of its members, relative to the Minnesota Labor Relations Act, including proposed clarification of the right for an election during the existence of a contract, the extensions of bans against secondary or sympathetic boycotts, and a number of other subjects, but the committee decided to make only two recommendations to the membership of the bar association.

The reasons for these two recommendations must be obvious to the membership. During recent months there has been increased dissatisfaction on the part of public employees with their wages and conditions of employment. Most of the terms and conditions of work for public employees are arranged for at the time of the preparation of the budget of the unit employing them, and no method has been devised by which their grievances or the problems of the employing unit can be brought to the attention of the public, so that it is thought advisable that without imposing any obligations on the part of either party to employment contracts the services of the conciliator's office be made available in attempts to iron out difficulties between public employees and their employers.

As to the second recommendation, the committee wishes to call attention to the fact that under the Fair Labor Standards Act and the regulations adopted pursuant to it, overtime pay has been required of many employers who thought they were exempt from the act, and a number of problems have developed in connection with the interpretation of several