Report of Committee on Uniform State Laws

Minn. L. Rev. Editorial Board

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REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON TRUST LAW

No written report was filed by this committee.

Wendell O. Rogers, Chairman

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON UNAUTHORIZED PRACTICE OF LAW

No written report was filed by this committee.

Robert Nowack, Chairman

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON UNIFORM STATE LAWS

To the Minnesota State Bar Association:

Your Committee reports as follows:

Report

It does not now appear that any Uniform Act will be passed at the 1949 session of the Minnesota state legislature. Minnesota has in the past adopted nineteen of the Uniform Acts put out by the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws, and also has six other acts similar to Uniform Acts.

The National Conference is now and has been for several years devoting its time in large part to preparing a Uniform Commercial Code, in which undertaking it is working in co-operation with the American Law Institute. In addition to the regular annual meeting of the National Conference each summer, it has held extra meetings in the spring of 1948 and also of 1949 in Washington, jointly with the American Law Institute, to expedite the work on the Uniform Commercial Code, which it hopes to complete in time to be presented for adoption to the 1951 legislative sessions of the various states. Our Committee has outlined the nature and scope of this proposed Commercial Code in its previous reports in 1945, 1946 and 1947. The new Code will cover the field of the following Uniform Commercial Acts adopted in Minnesota: Negotiable Instruments, Sales, Bills of Lading, Warehouse Receipts, Stock Transfer, Fiduciaries, and Trust Receipts. The subject matter of these acts and also of the Uniform Conditional Sales Act and Chattel Mortgage Act is being reviewed, and the statutory statement of the law revised in the light of past experience and present commercial practice. Considerable additional matter on these subjects, not found in the present acts, is being included in the new Code to provide a more definite and fuller statement of the rules governing commercial transactions. It is a great aid to business to have the law clear. Those engaged in drafting the new code have made extensive inquiry into the actual methods of doing business and commercial practice in this country in order to understand the problems to be met in drawing up rules for commerce and to have the Code respond to the questions arising in present day business and to answer such problems of business in a fair manner.

The importance of the new Uniform Commercial Code is such that the National Conference has requested that a special committee on the Code be appointed by the State Bar Associations in each state. Such a committee is being appointed in Minnesota and should be functioning next year and thereafter when the new Code is presented to the Minnesota legislature.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald E. Bridgman, Chairman
Arthur Roberts
Ralph A. Stone
A. L. Brill

Elmer Jensen
Maynard E. Pirsig
Bruce Sanborn
Lewis E. Jones