

**17A.23 Construction.**

Except as expressly provided otherwise by [this chapter](#) or by another statute referring to [this chapter](#) by name, the rights created and the requirements imposed by [this chapter](#) shall be in addition to those created or imposed by every other statute in existence on July 1, 1975, or enacted after that date. If any other statute in existence on July 1, 1975, or enacted after that date diminishes a right conferred upon a person by [this chapter](#) or diminishes a requirement imposed upon an agency by [this chapter](#), [this chapter](#) shall take precedence unless the other statute expressly provides that it shall take precedence over all or some specified portion of this named chapter.

[This chapter](#) shall be construed broadly to effectuate its purposes. [This chapter](#) shall also be construed to apply to all agencies not expressly exempted by [this chapter](#) or by another statute specifically referring to [this chapter](#) by name; and except as to proceedings in process on July 1, 1975, [this chapter](#) shall be construed to apply to all covered agency proceedings and all agency action not expressly exempted by [this chapter](#) or by another statute specifically referring to [this chapter](#) by name.

An agency shall have only that authority or discretion delegated to or conferred upon the agency by law and shall not expand or enlarge its authority or discretion beyond the powers delegated to or conferred upon the agency.

[C75, 77, 79, 81, §17A.23]

89 Acts, ch 83, §11; 98 Acts, ch 1202, §25, 46; 2005 Acts, ch 3, §16