

**8A.455 Certification of payrolls — actions.**

1. A state disbursing or auditing officer shall not make or approve or take part in making or approving a payment for personnel services to any person unless the payroll voucher or account of the pay bears the certification of the director, or of the director's authorized agent, that the persons named have been appointed and employed in accordance with [this subchapter](#) and the rules and orders under [this subchapter](#), and that funds are available for the payment of the persons.

2. The director may, for proper cause, withhold certification from an entire payroll or from any specific item or items on a payroll. The director may, however, provide that certification of payrolls may be made once every year, and such certification shall remain in effect except in the case of any officer or employee whose status has changed after the last certification of the officer's or employee's payroll. In the latter case a voucher for payment of salary to such employee shall not be issued or payment of salary shall not be made without further certification by the director.

3. Any citizen may maintain an action in accordance with [chapter 17A](#) to restrain a disbursing officer from making any payment in contravention of [this subchapter](#), or rule or order under [this subchapter](#). Any sum paid contrary to [this subchapter](#) or any rule or order under [this subchapter](#) may be recovered in an action in accordance with [chapter 17A](#) maintained by any citizen, from any officer who made, approved, or authorized such payment or who signed or countersigned a voucher, payroll, check, or warrant for such payment, or from the sureties on the official bond of any such officer. All moneys recovered in any such action shall be paid into the state treasury.

4. Any person appointed or employed in contravention of [this subchapter](#) or of any rule or order under [this subchapter](#) who performs service for which the person is not paid may maintain an action in accordance with [chapter 17A](#) against the officer or officers who purported so to appoint or employ the person to recover the agreed pay for such services or the reasonable value of the services if no pay was agreed upon. An officer shall not be reimbursed by the state at any time for any sum paid to such person on account of such services.

5. If the director wrongfully withholds certification of the payroll voucher or account of any employee, such employee may maintain a proceeding in accordance with [chapter 17A](#) in the courts to compel the director to certify such a payroll voucher or account.

[2003 Acts, ch 145, §80](#)