

STATE OF MINNESOTA

# Journal of the Senate

EIGHTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

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SIXTY-NINTH DAY

St. Paul, Minnesota, Tuesday, May 15, 2007

The Senate met at 1:00 p.m. and was called to order by the President.

## CALL OF THE SENATE

Senator Pogemiller imposed a call of the Senate. The Sergeant at Arms was instructed to bring in the absent members.

Prayer was offered by the Chaplain, Intern Pastor Dan Ruth.

The roll was called, and the following Senators answered to their names:

Anderson	Fischbach	Larson	Ortman	Sieben
Bakk	Foley	Latz	Pappas	Skoe
Berglin	Frederickson	Limmer	Pariseau	Skogen
Betzold	Gerlach	Lourey	Pogemiller	Sparks
Bonoff	Gimse	Lynch	Prettner Solon	Tomassoni
Carlson	Hann	Marty	Rest	Torres Ray
Chaudhary	Higgins	Metzen	Robling	Vandever
Clark	Ingebrigtsen	Michel	Rosen	Vickerman
Cohen	Johnson	Moua	Rummel	Wergin
Day	Jungbauer	Murphy	Saltzman	Wiger
Dibble	Koch	Neuville	Saxhaug	
Dille	Koering	Olseen	Scheid	
Doll	Kubly	Olson, G.	Senjem	
Erickson Ropes	Langseth	Olson, M.	Sheran	

The President declared a quorum present.

The reading of the Journal was dispensed with and the Journal, as printed and corrected, was approved.

## MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

Mr. President:

I have the honor to announce the passage by the House of the following Senate Files, herewith returned: S.F. Nos. 1755, 1215 and 1675.

Albin A. Mathiowetz, Chief Clerk, House of Representatives

Returned May 14, 2007

Mr. President:

I have the honor to announce the passage by the House of the following Senate File, AS AMENDED by the House, in which amendments the concurrence of the Senate is respectfully requested:

**S.F. No. 1302:** A bill for an act relating to metropolitan government; modifying provisions governing metropolitan livable communities fund; authorizing the creation of a nonprofit organization; authorizing the use of funds to establish the foundation; requiring a report; authorizing a transfer of funds between metropolitan livable communities fund accounts; authorizing a onetime transfer from the livable communities demonstration account for local planning assistance grants and loans.

Senate File No. 1302 is herewith returned to the Senate.

Albin A. Mathiowetz, Chief Clerk, House of Representatives

Returned May 14, 2007

Senator Pappas moved that the Senate do not concur in the amendments by the House to S.F. No. 1302, and that a Conference Committee of 3 members be appointed by the Subcommittee on Conference Committees on the part of the Senate, to act with a like Conference Committee appointed on the part of the House. The motion prevailed.

Mr. President:

I have the honor to announce the passage by the House of the following Senate File, AS AMENDED by the House, in which amendments the concurrence of the Senate is respectfully requested:

**S.F. No. 167:** A bill for an act relating to unemployment insurance; making various policy, housekeeping, and style changes to the Minnesota Unemployment Insurance Law; incorporating certain administrative rules into Minnesota Statutes; modifying fraud penalties; extending certain unemployment benefits; amending Minnesota Statutes 2006, sections 268.001; 268.03, subdivisions 1, 2; 268.035, subdivisions 1, 4, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 20, 21a, 23, 23a, 24, 26, 29, 30, by adding a subdivision; 268.042, subdivisions 1, 3, 4; 268.043; 268.0435; 268.044, subdivisions 1, 1a, 2, 3, 4; 268.045, subdivision 1; 268.046; 268.047, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, 5; 268.051, subdivisions 1, 1a, 2, 3, 4, 4a, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9; 268.052, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5; 268.0525; 268.053, subdivisions 1, 2, 3; 268.057, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10; 268.058; 268.059; 268.0625, subdivisions 4, 5; 268.063; 268.064; 268.065, subdivisions 1, 3; 268.066; 268.067; 268.0675; 268.068; 268.069, subdivisions 1, 2, 3; 268.07, subdivisions 1, 2, 3a, 3b; 268.084; 268.085, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, 3a, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 13a, 13b, 13c, 16; 268.086, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9; 268.087; 268.095, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 6a, 7, 10, 11; 268.101; 268.103, subdivisions 1, 2; 268.105, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, 3a, 4, 5, 6, 7; 268.115; 268.125, subdivisions 3, 4, 5; 268.131, subdivision 1; 268.135; 268.145, subdivisions 1, 2, 3; 268.155; 268.18, subdivisions 1, 2, 2b, 4, 5, 6; 268.182, subdivisions 1, 2; 268.184, subdivisions 1, 1a; 268.186; 268.188; 268.19, subdivisions 1, 1a, 2; 268.192; 268.194, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6; 268.196, subdivisions 1, 3; 268.20; 268.21; 268.22; 268.23; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 268; repealing Minnesota Statutes 2006, sections 268.0435; 268.0511; 268.085, subdivision 10; 268.103, subdivision 4; Minnesota Rules, parts 3315.0210; 3315.0220; 3315.0515; 3315.0520; 3315.0525; 3315.0530,

subparts 2, 3, 4, 5, 6; 3315.0540; 3315.0550; 3315.0910, subparts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8; 3315.1005, subparts 1, 3; 3315.1315, subpart 4; 3315.2010; 3315.2810, subparts 2, 4.

Senate File No. 167 is herewith returned to the Senate.

Albin A. Mathiowetz, Chief Clerk, House of Representatives

Returned May 14, 2007

Senator Sparks moved that the Senate do not concur in the amendments by the House to S.F. No. 167, and that a Conference Committee of 3 members be appointed by the Subcommittee on Conference Committees on the part of the Senate, to act with a like Conference Committee appointed on the part of the House. The motion prevailed.

Mr. President:

I have the honor to announce the passage by the House of the following Senate File, AS AMENDED by the House, in which amendments the concurrence of the Senate is respectfully requested:

**S.F. No. 1070:** A bill for an act relating to liquor; modifying liquor regulations; authorizing intoxicating liquor licenses; amending Minnesota Statutes 2006, sections 37.21, subdivisions 1, 2; 340A.301, subdivision 7; 340A.315, by adding a subdivision; 340A.404, subdivision 4a; 340A.408, subdivision 3; 340A.412, subdivision 4; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 340A.

Senate File No. 1070 is herewith returned to the Senate.

Albin A. Mathiowetz, Chief Clerk, House of Representatives

Returned May 14, 2007

### CONCURRENCE AND REPASSAGE

Senator Pappas moved that the Senate concur in the amendments by the House to S.F. No. 1070 and that the bill be placed on its repassage as amended. The motion prevailed.

S.F. No. 1070 was read the third time, as amended by the House, and placed on its repassage.

The question was taken on the repassage of the bill, as amended.

The roll was called, and there were yeas 56 and nays 4, as follows:

Those who voted in the affirmative were:

Anderson	Fischbach	Koering	Michel	Prettner Solon
Berglin	Foley	Kubly	Moua	Robling
Betzold	Frederickson	Langseth	Murphy	Rosen
Bonoff	Gerlach	Larson	Neuville	Rummel
Carlson	Gimse	Latz	Olseen	Saltzman
Chaudhary	Higgins	Limmer	Olson, M.	Saxhaug
Clark	Ingebrigtsen	Lourey	Ortman	Scheid
Day	Johnson	Lynch	Pappas	Senjem
Dibble	Jungbauer	Marty	Pariseau	Sheran
Erickson Ropes	Koch	Metzen	Pogemiller	Sieben

Skogen  
Sparks

Torres Ray  
Vickerman

Wergin  
Wiger

Those who voted in the negative were:

Dille

Doll

Hann

Rest

So the bill, as amended, was repassed and its title was agreed to.

### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE - CONTINUED

Mr. President:

I have the honor to announce the passage by the House of the following Senate File, AS AMENDED by the House, in which amendments the concurrence of the Senate is respectfully requested:

**S.F. No. 1724:** A bill for an act relating to human services; making changes to licensing provisions; modifying data practices, program administration, disaster plans, education programs, conditional license provisions, suspensions, sanctions, and contested case hearings, child care center training, family child care training requirements, vulnerable adults, maltreatment of minors, background studies, disqualifications, reconsiderations, disqualification set-asides, fair hearings, appeals, changing definitions of neglect and physical abuse; amending Minnesota Statutes 2006, sections 13.46, subdivisions 2, 4; 245A.03, subdivision 2; 245A.04, subdivision 11, by adding subdivisions; 245A.06, subdivision 4; 245A.07, subdivisions 2a, 3, by adding a subdivision; 245A.08, subdivision 2a; 245A.10, subdivision 2; 245A.14, subdivision 8; 245A.144; 245A.1445; 245A.145, subdivision 1; 245A.18, subdivision 2; 245A.65, subdivision 1, by adding a subdivision; 245C.02, by adding a subdivision; 245C.05, subdivision 3; 245C.07; 245C.08; 245C.09, subdivision 1; 245C.11, by adding a subdivision; 245C.13, subdivision 2; 245C.14, subdivision 1; 245C.15, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, 4; 245C.16, subdivision 1; 245C.17, subdivisions 2, 3; 245C.21, subdivisions 2, 3; 245C.22, subdivisions 4, 5; 245C.24, subdivision 3; 245C.27, subdivision 1; 245C.28, subdivision 1; 245C.301; 256B.0919, by adding a subdivision; 256B.092, by adding a subdivision; 270B.14, subdivision 1; 626.556, subdivisions 2, 10e, 10i; 626.557, subdivisions 9c, 9d; 626.5572, subdivision 17; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 245A; repealing Minnesota Statutes 2006, sections 245A.023; 245A.14, subdivisions 7, 9, 9a, 12, 13; 245C.06; Minnesota Rules, parts 9502.0385; 9503.0035.

Senate File No. 1724 is herewith returned to the Senate.

Albin A. Mathiowetz, Chief Clerk, House of Representatives

Returned May 14, 2007

Senator Prettner Solon moved that the Senate do not concur in the amendments by the House to S.F. No. 1724, and that a Conference Committee of 3 members be appointed by the Subcommittee on Conference Committees on the part of the Senate, to act with a like Conference Committee appointed on the part of the House. The motion prevailed.



**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

Senator Pogemiller moved that the Committee Reports at the Desk be now adopted. The motion prevailed.

**Senator Cohen from the Committee on Finance, to which was re-referred**

**S.F. No. 962:** A bill for an act relating to state finance; modifying aircraft facilities state financing to allow flexibility in obtaining a new lessee for the facility; amending Minnesota Statutes 2006, sections 116R.02, subdivision 5; 116R.03; 116R.12, by adding a subdivision; repealing Minnesota Statutes 2006, sections 116R.02, subdivisions 3, 6, 7, 9; 116R.16.

Reports the same back with the recommendation that the bill be amended as follows:

Page 2, line 35, delete ", subject to the approval of the commissioner" and after the period, insert "The lease or sale is subject to the approval of the commissioner if there are bonds outstanding for financing the facility."

And when so amended the bill do pass. Amendments adopted. Report adopted.

**Senator Cohen from the Committee on Finance, to which was referred**

**S.F. No. 2044:** A bill for an act relating to claims against the state; providing for settlement of various claims; appropriating money.

Reports the same back with the recommendation that the bill be amended as follows:

Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

"Section 1. **DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS.**

The amounts in this section are appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner of corrections in fiscal year 2008 for payment under Minnesota Statutes, sections 3.738 and 3.739, of claims against the state for injuries suffered by and medical services provided to persons injured while performing community service or sentence-to-service work for correctional purposes or while incarcerated in a state correctional facility.

(a) For sentence-to-service claims under \$500 each and other claims already paid by the Department of Corrections, \$3,385.65.

(b) For medical services provided to David Bodin, who required treatment while performing sentence-to-service work in Carlton County, \$881.05.

(c) For payment to David Dawson, who suffered permanent injuries while performing work while incarcerated in Ramsey County, \$3,750.

(d) For medical services provided to Russell Diver, who required treatment while performing sentence-to-service work in Carlton County, \$6,745.87.

(e) For payment to William Faulds for permanent injuries suffered while performing work at MCF-Faribault, \$13,266.85.

(f) For payment to Justus Gaylord for permanent injuries suffered while performing sentence-to-service work in Wadena County, \$4,875; and for medical services provided as a result of that injury, \$810.38.

(g) For payment to Zachary Kizer for permanent injuries suffered while performing work at MCF-Stillwater, \$4,875.

(h) For medical services provided to Jeremy Lindell, who was injured while performing sentence-to-service work in Dakota County, \$4,369.83.

(i) For payment to Ryan Owen for permanent injuries suffered while performing work at MCF-Stillwater, \$1,875.

(j) For payment to Claude Schandorff for permanent injuries suffered while performing work at MCF-St. Cloud, \$750.

(k) For payment to Aloysius Schrom for permanent injuries suffered while performing work at MCF-Stillwater, \$3,712.50; and for reimbursement of payments for medications related to those injuries, \$134.79.

(l) For medical services provided to Brian Woessner, who was injured while performing sentence-to-service work in Hennepin County, \$521.77.

**Sec. 2. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY.**

\$380 is appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner of public safety in fiscal year 2008 as full and final payment of the claim of Kevin L. Vraa, of Embarrass, Minnesota, for reimbursement of unnecessarily large driver's license reinstatement fees occasioned by his military service.

**Sec. 3. DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE.**

The Department of Revenue is directed to pay \$830 to Bette A. Pothen, of Burnsville, Minnesota, as reissuance of her property tax refund check issued in 2003 that was not honored after it was delivered to her by the United States Postal Service in 2006.

**Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Section 3 is effective the day following final enactment."

And when so amended the bill do pass. Amendments adopted. Report adopted.

**Senator Cohen from the Committee on Finance, to which was referred**

**H.F. No. 1396:** A bill for an act relating to guardians and conservators; requiring a study to make recommendations regarding conservatorship and guardianship.

Reports the same back with the recommendation that the bill be amended as follows:

Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

"Section 1. **STUDY.**

The state court administrator shall convene a study group to make recommendations to the legislature regarding the following areas of conservatorship and guardianship, which may include the rights of wards and protected persons; powers and duties of conservators and guardians; certification and registration; pre-screening and diversion from guardianship or conservatorship; complaint processes; training; financial auditing; and reimbursement of attorneys, guardians, and conservators. Membership in the study group must include, but is not limited to, representatives from probate divisions of the district courts in both the metropolitan area and greater Minnesota; county adult protection services; the Minnesota State Bar Association; the Department of Veterans Affairs; the Minnesota Association for Guardianship and Conservatorship; the National Guardianship Association; agencies providing guardianship and conservatorship services; organizations providing training for guardians and conservators; the offices of the ombudsman for mental health and developmental disabilities and the long term care ombudsman; and advocates for seniors and for people with a range of disabilities, including developmental disabilities, mental illness, and traumatic brain injuries.

The study group shall report to the house and senate committees having jurisdiction over the state courts by March 15, 2008."

And when so amended the bill do pass. Amendments adopted. Report adopted.

### **SECOND READING OF SENATE BILLS**

S.F. Nos. 962 and 2044 were read the second time.

### **SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILLS**

H.F. No. 1396 was read the second time.

### **MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS**

Senator Betzold moved that the names of Senators Lynch; Olson, M.; Wergin and Larson be added as co-authors to S.F. No. 430. The motion prevailed.

Senator Moua moved that her name be stricken as a co-author to S.F. No. 886. The motion prevailed.

Senator Vickerman moved that the name of Senator Gimse be added as a co-author to S.F. No. 886. The motion prevailed.

#### **Senator Sparks introduced –**

**Senate Resolution No. 113:** A Senate resolution congratulating Dustin Gillard on winning first prize in C-SPAN Classroom's StudentCam video documentary competition.

Referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

**Senator Sparks introduced –**

**Senate Resolution No. 114:** A Senate resolution congratulating Anthony Hernandez on winning first prize in C-SPAN Classroom's StudentCam video documentary competition.

Referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

Without objection, remaining on the Order of Business of Motions and Resolutions, the Senate proceeded to the Order of Business of Introduction and First Reading of Senate Bills.

**INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING OF SENATE BILLS**

The following bills were read the first time.

**Senators Moua, Pappas, Cohen and Anderson introduced–**

**S.F. No. 2298:** A bill for an act relating to capital improvements; authorizing the sale and issuance of state bonds; appropriating money for acquisition of and improvements to the National Great River Park in St. Paul, including the Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

**Senators Anderson, Moua, Pappas and Cohen introduced–**

**S.F. No. 2299:** A bill for an act relating to capital improvements; authorizing the sale and issuance of state bonds; appropriating money for the Como Zoo.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

**Senator Langseth introduced–**

**S.F. No. 2300:** A bill for an act relating to capital improvements; appropriating money for flood hazard mitigation in the Buffalo-Red River Watershed District; authorizing the sale and issuance of state bonds.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

**Senators Gimse, Ingebrigtsen, Neuville, Vickerman and Kubly introduced–**

**S.F. No. 2301:** A bill for an act relating to capital improvements; appropriating money to establish a veterans facility in Kandiyohi County; authorizing the sale of state bonds.

Referred to the Committee on Finance.

**Senators Clark and Wergin introduced–**

**S.F. No. 2302:** A bill for an act relating to taxation; sales tax; providing an exemption for materials and supplies used in the construction of police and fire stations in St. Cloud; amending Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 297A.71, by adding a subdivision.

Referred to the Committee on Taxes.

**Senator Olson, M. introduced—**

**S.F. No. 2303:** A bill for an act relating to insurance; requiring prior approval of evidence-based underwriting standards based upon life insurance applicants having received mental health care; amending Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 72A.20, subdivision 19.

Referred to the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection.

**MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS - CONTINUED**

Without objection, remaining on the Order of Business of Motions and Resolutions, the Senate proceeded to the Order of Business of General Orders.

**GENERAL ORDERS**

The Senate resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, with Senator Metzen in the chair.

After some time spent therein, the committee arose, and Senator Metzen reported that the committee had considered the following:

H.F. No. 1758, which the committee recommends to pass with the following amendment offered by Senator Olson, M.:

Amend H.F. No. 1758, as amended pursuant to Rule 45, adopted by the Senate May 10, 2007, as follows:

(The text of the amended House File is identical to S.F. No. 1574.)

Page 2, line 31, delete the second "a" and insert "the"

Page 2, line 33, after the period, insert "The remedies under this subdivision are cumulative and do not restrict any other right or remedy otherwise available to the financial institution."

Page 2, delete subdivision 4

Page 3, delete subdivision 5 and insert:

**"EFFECTIVE DATES; APPLICATION.** Subdivisions 1 and 2 are effective August 1, 2007. Subdivision 3 is effective August 1, 2008, and applies to breaches of the security of a system occurring on or after that date."

The motion prevailed. So the amendment was adopted.

H.F. No. 116, which the committee reports progress, after the following motions:

Senator Murphy moved to amend H.F. No. 116, as amended pursuant to Rule 45, adopted by the Senate May 10, 2007, as follows:

(The text of the amended House File is identical to S.F. No. 162.)

Page 1, line 20, before "An" insert "(a)"

Page 2, before line 1, insert:

"(b) An individual who is a Minnesota resident who receives a telephone solicitation from, or places a telephone call to, a customer sales call center or a customer service call center located in a foreign country, which requests the Minnesota resident's financial, credit, or identifying information, has the right, upon reaching a customer service representative, to request an alternative option to contact a customer sales or service center located in the United States before the information is given if the alternative option is available."

The question was taken on the adoption of the amendment.

The roll was called, and there were yeas 21 and nays 41, as follows:

Those who voted in the affirmative were:

Anderson	Erickson Ropes	Murphy	Saxhaug	Wiger
Berglin	Higgins	Olson, M.	Sieben	
Betzold	Latz	Pappas	Skogen	
Carlson	Lourey	Pogemiller	Sparks	
Dibble	Metzen	Prettner Solon	Tomassoni	

Those who voted in the negative were:

Bonoff	Frederickson	Kubly	Ortman	Sheran
Chaudhary	Gerlach	Limmer	Pariseau	Torres Ray
Clark	Gimse	Lynch	Rest	Vandever
Cohen	Hann	Marty	Robling	Vickerman
Day	Ingebrigtsen	Michel	Rosen	Wergin
Dille	Johnson	Moua	Rummel	
Doll	Jungbauer	Neuville	Saltzman	
Fischbach	Koch	Olseen	Scheid	
Foley	Koering	Olson, G.	Senjem	

The motion did not prevail. So the amendment was not adopted.

The question was taken on the recommendation to pass H.F. No. 116.

The roll was called, and there were yeas 32 and nays 33, as follows:

Those who voted in the affirmative were:

Anderson	Dibble	Lourey	Prettner Solon	Sparks
Bakk	Doll	Lynch	Rummel	Tomassoni
Berglin	Erickson Ropes	Metzen	Saxhaug	Vickerman
Betzold	Higgins	Murphy	Sheran	Wiger
Carlson	Kubly	Olson, M.	Sieben	
Clark	Langseth	Pappas	Skoe	
Cohen	Larson	Pogemiller	Skogen	

Those who voted in the negative were:

Bonoff	Gerlach	Koering	Olson, G.	Scheid
Chaudhary	Gimse	Latz	Ortman	Senjem
Day	Hann	Limmer	Pariseau	Torres Ray
Dille	Ingebrigtsen	Michel	Rest	Vandever
Fischbach	Johnson	Moua	Robling	Wergin
Foley	Jungbauer	Neuville	Rosen	
Frederickson	Koch	Olseen	Saltzman	

The motion did not prevail. H.F. No. 116 was then progressed.

On motion of Senator Pogemiller, the report of the Committee of the Whole, as kept by the Secretary, was adopted.

### MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS - CONTINUED

S.F. No. 118 and the Conference Committee Report thereon were reported to the Senate.

### CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT ON S.F. NO. 118

A bill for an act relating to state government; adding legislators who represent the capitol area as nonvoting members of the Capitol Area Architectural and Planning Board; amending Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 15B.03, subdivision 1.

May 14, 2007

The Honorable James P. Metzen  
President of the Senate

The Honorable Margaret Anderson Kelliher  
Speaker of the House of Representatives

We, the undersigned conferees for S.F. No. 118 report that we have agreed upon the items in dispute and recommend as follows:

That the House recede from its amendments and that S.F. No. 118 be further amended as follows:

Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

"Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 15B.03, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Membership.** (a) The Capitol Area Architectural and Planning Board, called the board or the CAAPB in this chapter, has ~~ten~~ 12 members.

(b) The lieutenant governor is a member.

(c) The governor must appoint four members.

(d) The mayor of St. Paul must appoint three members with the advice and consent of the city council. One of the mayor's appointees must be a resident of the planning council district that includes the Capitol Area.

(e) The speaker of the house must appoint ~~a member~~ two members of the house of representatives and the president of the senate must appoint ~~a senator~~ two senators.

(f) Each appointee must qualify by taking the oath of office.

(g) A quorum of the board is six members.

Sec. 2. **EFFECTIVE DATE.**

This act is effective the day following final enactment."

Delete the title and insert:

"A bill for an act relating to state government; adding legislators to the Capitol Area Architectural and Planning Board; specifying a quorum; amending Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 15B.03, subdivision 1."

We request the adoption of this report and repassage of the bill.

Senate Conferees: (Signed) Sandra L. Pappas, James P. Metzen, Dennis R. Frederickson

House Conferees: (Signed) Carlos Mariani, Diane Loeffler, Mary Liz Holberg

Senator Pappas moved that the foregoing recommendations and Conference Committee Report on S.F. No. 118 be now adopted, and that the bill be repassed as amended by the Conference Committee. The motion prevailed. So the recommendations and Conference Committee Report were adopted.

S.F. No. 118 was read the third time, as amended by the Conference Committee, and placed on its repassage.

The question was taken on the repassage of the bill, as amended by the Conference Committee.

The roll was called, and there were yeas 61 and nays 1, as follows:

Those who voted in the affirmative were:

Anderson	Foley	Larson	Pappas	Sieben
Berglin	Frederickson	Latz	Pariseau	Skogen
Bonoff	Gerlach	Limmer	Pogemiller	Sparks
Carlson	Gimse	Lourey	Prettner Solon	Tomassoni
Chaudhary	Hann	Lynch	Rest	Torres Ray
Clark	Higgins	Metzen	Robling	Vandever
Cohen	Ingebrigtsen	Michel	Rosen	Vickerman
Day	Johnson	Moua	Rummel	Wergin
Dibble	Jungbauer	Murphy	Saltzman	Wiger
Dille	Koch	Neuville	Saxhaug	
Doll	Koering	Olseen	Scheid	
Erickson Ropes	Kubly	Olson, G.	Senjem	
Fischbach	Langseth	Olson, M.	Sheran	

Those who voted in the negative were:

Betzold

So the bill, as amended by the Conference Committee, was repassed and its title was agreed to.

### MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS - CONTINUED

Senator Pogemiller moved that H.F. No. 1351 be taken from the table. The motion prevailed.

**H.F. No. 1351:** A bill for an act relating to transportation; modifying or adding provisions related to geotechnical investigations before eminent domain proceedings, the highway sign franchise program, streets and highways, highway safety rest areas, highway construction bids and training, town road abandonment, bridges, special mobile equipment, motor vehicle titles, motor vehicle transfers, traffic regulations, flammable liquid definition, drivers' licenses and identification cards, driver records and education, the Real ID Act, traffic-control signals, transportation goals



and mission, statewide transportation plan, metropolitan transportation system performance evaluations, transportation contracts, rail service improvement, use of rail bank property, local airports, towing, vehicle impoundments, transit and paratransit, special transportation, small vehicle passenger service, transportation accessibility, transit ways and facilities, light rail transit, vehicle license plates, vehicle size and weight restrictions, vehicle load limits and permits, paper product vehicle routes and permits, definition of full-size pickup truck, vehicle idle reduction technology, commercial vehicles and drivers, vehicle registration, insurance requirements for vehicles owned by charitable organizations, the Unified Carrier Registration Agreement, household goods movers, obsolete motor carrier laws and conforming changes, railroad company requirements, the position of state rail safety inspector, and the Railroad Walkways Safety Act; requiring studies and reports; imposing penalties; making clarifying and technical changes; appropriating money; amending Minnesota Statutes 2006, sections 117.041, by adding a subdivision; 160.02, subdivision 19, by adding a subdivision; 160.80; 161.14, subdivision 18, by adding subdivisions; 161.32, subdivisions 1, 1b, 4; 164.06, subdivision 2; 165.01; 165.03; 168.011, subdivision 22; 168.013, subdivision 1e; 168.10, subdivisions 1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, 1g, 1h, 1i; 168.12, subdivisions 1, 2, 2a, 2b, 2c, 2d, 2e; 168A.01, by adding a subdivision; 168A.05, subdivisions 3, 5; 168A.10, subdivision 1; 168A.101; 168A.151, subdivision 1; 168A.153; 168B.04, subdivision 2; 168B.051, subdivision 2; 168B.06, subdivisions 1, 3; 168B.07, by adding subdivisions; 168B.087, subdivision 1, by adding a subdivision; 169.01, subdivisions 4c, 19, 20, 78, by adding subdivisions; 169.041, subdivisions 1, 2; 169.06, subdivision 5; 169.14, subdivision 2, by adding subdivisions; 169.34; 169.471, subdivision 1; 169.781; 169.782, subdivision 1; 169.783, subdivision 1; 169.81, subdivisions 2, 3c; 169.823, subdivision 1; 169.824, subdivision 2; 169.8261; 169.86, subdivision 5, by adding a subdivision; 169.862; 169.864, subdivisions 1, 2; 169.87, subdivision 4; 171.01, by adding a subdivision; 171.02, subdivision 1; 171.06, subdivision 3; 171.07, subdivisions 1, 3; 171.12, subdivision 6; 171.14; 174.01, subdivision 2; 174.02, subdivision 1a; 174.03, subdivision 1, by adding subdivisions; 174.24, subdivision 2a; 174.255, by adding a subdivision; 174.29, by adding subdivisions; 174.30, subdivisions 4, 9; 174.64, subdivisions 2, 4; 174.66; 218.021, subdivision 1; 218.041, subdivision 6; 221.011, subdivision 8, by adding a subdivision; 221.025; 221.026; 221.031, subdivisions 1, 6; 221.0314, subdivision 9, by adding a subdivision; 221.033, subdivision 2d; 221.036, subdivisions 1, 3; 221.037, subdivision 1; 221.091, subdivision 2; 221.131; 221.132; 221.141, subdivisions 1, 4; 221.185; 221.221, subdivision 3; 221.231; 221.291, subdivision 4; 221.60, subdivision 1, by adding a subdivision; 222.50, subdivision 7; 222.63, subdivision 4, by adding a subdivision; 299F.60, subdivision 1; 299J.16, subdivision 1; 325F.665, by adding a subdivision; 473.1466; 473.166; 473.386, subdivisions 1, 2, 2a, 3; 473.399; 473.3993, subdivisions 1, 3, by adding a subdivision; 473.3994; 473.3997; 473.4051; 473.408, by adding subdivisions; Laws 2005, First Special Session chapter 1, article 4, section 39; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapters 160; 161; 169; 174; 219; 221; 473; repealing Minnesota Statutes 2006, sections 168A.05, subdivision 5a; 174.65; 221.011, subdivisions 24, 25, 28, 29, 38, 41, 44, 45; 221.0252, subdivision 7; 221.072; 221.111; 221.121, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 6a, 6c, 6d, 6e, 6f, 7; 221.122; 221.123; 221.131, subdivisions 2a, 3; 221.141, subdivision 6; 221.151; 221.152; 221.153, subdivisions 1, 2; 221.161; 221.171; 221.172, subdivisions 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8; 221.296, subdivisions 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8; 221.60, subdivisions 2, 3, 3a, 4, 5, 6; 221.601; 221.602; 325E.0951, subdivision 3a; 473.1465; 473.247; 473.3994, subdivision 13; Laws 1999, chapter 230, section 44.

### SUSPENSION OF RULES

Senator Pogemiller moved that an urgency be declared within the meaning of Article IV, Section 19, of the Constitution of Minnesota, with respect to H.F. No. 1351 and that the rules of the Senate be so far suspended as to give H.F. No. 1351 its second and third reading and place it on its final passage. The motion prevailed.

H.F. No. 1351 was read the second time.

Senator Murphy moved to amend H.F. No. 1351 as follows:

Delete everything after the enacting clause, and delete the title, of H.F. No. 1351, and insert the language after the enacting clause, and the title, of S.F. No. 1971, the fourth engrossment.

The motion prevailed. So the amendment was adopted.

H.F. No. 1351 was read the third time, as amended, and placed on its final passage.

The question was taken on the passage of the bill, as amended.

The roll was called, and there were yeas 53 and nays 9, as follows:

Those who voted in the affirmative were:

Anderson	Doll	Koering	Murphy	Saltzman
Berglin	Erickson Ropes	Kubly	Neuville	Saxhaug
Betzold	Fischbach	Langseth	Olseen	Senjem
Bonoff	Foley	Larson	Olson, M.	Sheran
Carlson	Frederickson	Latz	Pappas	Sieben
Chaudhary	Gimse	Limmer	Pogemiller	Skogen
Clark	Hann	Lourey	Prettner Solon	Torres Ray
Cohen	Higgins	Lynch	Rest	Wergin
Day	Ingebrigtsen	Metzen	Robling	Wiger
Dibble	Jungbauer	Michel	Rosen	
Dille	Koch	Moua	Rummel	

Those who voted in the negative were:

Gerlach	Olson, G.	Scheid	Tomassoni	Vickerman
Johnson	Pariseau	Sparks	Vandever	

So the bill, as amended, was passed and its title was agreed to.

### MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS - CONTINUED

Without objection, remaining on the Order of Business of Motions and Resolutions, the Senate reverted to the Order of Business of Reports of Committees.

### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Senator Pogemiller moved that the Committee Report at the Desk be now adopted. The motion prevailed.

**Senator Cohen from the Committee on Finance, to which was re-referred**

**S.F. No. 998:** A bill for an act relating to construction codes; recodifying and modifying construction codes and licensing provisions; modifying the State Building Code; providing penalties for enforcement; instructing the revisor to renumber statutory provisions; amending Minnesota Statutes 2006, sections 16B.04, subdivision 2; 16B.60, subdivisions 4, 7, 8, 11; 16B.61; 16B.615, subdivision 4; 16B.617; 16B.6175; 16B.63; 16B.65; 16B.70; 16B.72; 16B.73; 16B.735; 16B.74, subdivisions 1, 2, by adding subdivisions; 16B.741; 16B.744; 16B.745, subdivisions 1, 4; 16B.747; 16B.748; 16B.76; 31.175; 103I.621, subdivision 3; 144.122; 144.99, subdivision 1; 175.16, subdivision 1; 183.38; 183.39, subdivision 1; 183.411, subdivision 2; 183.42; 183.45; 183.46; 183.465; 183.466; 183.48; 183.501; 183.505; 183.51; 183.54, subdivisions 1, 3; 183.545, subdivisions 2, 4, 8, by adding a subdivision; 183.56; 183.57, subdivisions 1, 2, 5, 6; 183.59; 183.60; 183.61, subdivisions 2, 4; 214.01, subdivision 3; 214.04, subdivisions 1, 3; 299F.011, subdivision 1; 325E.58; 326.01, subdivisions 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 6a, 6b, 6c, 6e, 6f, 6g, 6j, 6k, 6l, 7, 8, 9; 326.241; 326.242; 326.243; 326.244, subdivisions 1, 1a, 2, 3, 4, 5, by adding a subdivision; 326.2441; 326.245; 326.247; 326.248; 326.37; 326.38; 326.39; 326.40; 326.401; 326.405; 326.42; 326.46; 326.461, by adding subdivisions; 326.47; 326.48; 326.50; 326.57, subdivision 1; 326.58; 326.59; 326.60; 326.601; 326.61, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, 4; 326.62; 326.65; 326.83, subdivisions 6, 7, 11, 18, 19, 20; 326.84; 326.841; 326.842; 326.86; 326.87; 326.88; 326.89; 326.90, subdivision 1; 326.91, subdivision 1; 326.92; 326.921; 326.93; 326.94; 326.95, subdivision 2; 326.96; 326.97; 326.975, subdivision 1; 326.992; 327.20, subdivision 1; 327.205; 327.31, subdivisions 2, 3, 4, 7, 15, by adding a subdivision; 327.32, subdivision 8; 327.33, subdivisions 2, 6, 7; 327.34, subdivision 3; 327.35, subdivisions 1, 2; 327A.01, subdivision 2; 327B.01, subdivisions 4, 5, 7, 17, by adding subdivisions; 327B.04, subdivisions 1, 4, 6, 7, 8, by adding a subdivision; 327B.05, subdivision 1; 327B.10; 363A.40, subdivision 1; 462.357, subdivision 6a; 462A.07, subdivision 8; 471.465; 471.466; 471.467; 471.471; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 327B; proposing coding for new law as Minnesota Statutes, chapter 326B; repealing Minnesota Statutes 2006, sections 16B.665; 16B.747, subdivision 4; 183.001; 183.02; 183.375, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6; 183.41, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, 4; 183.44, subdivisions 1, 2, 3; 183.52; 183.54, subdivision 2; 183.545, subdivision 9; 183.61, subdivisions 1, 3, 5, 6; 326.01, subdivisions 6h, 10, 11, 12, 13; 326.242, subdivisions 9, 9a, 9b, 9c, 9d, 9e, 9f, 9g, 9h, 9i, 9j, 9k, 10; 326.244, subdivision 6; 326.246; 326.2461; 326.40, subdivision 4; 326.41; 326.44; 326.45; 326.47, subdivision 5; 326.51; 326.52; 326.521; 326.64; 326.83, subdivisions 3, 4, 12, 13; 326.85; 326.875; 326.91, subdivisions 2, 3, 4; 326.945; 326.975; 326.98; 327B.05, subdivisions 2, 3, 4, 5, 6; Minnesota Rules, parts 2809.0230; 2891.0010; 2891.0030; 3800.2650; 3800.3580; 3800.3590; 3800.3602, subpart 2, item C; 3800.3630; 3800.3750; 3800.3835; 4715.5600; 4715.5900; 4717.7000, subpart 1, item I; 5225.0880; 5225.8600, subparts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9; 5230.0010; 5230.0020; 5230.0040; 5230.0060, subpart 2; 5230.0100, subparts 1, 3, 4.

Reports the same back with the recommendation that the bill be amended as follows:

Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

## "ARTICLE 1

### REVISOR'S INSTRUCTION

#### Section 1. REVISOR'S INSTRUCTION.

In Minnesota Rules, chapters 1300, 1301, 1305, 1306, 1307, 1309, 1311, 1315, 1346, 1350, 1360, and 7672, the revisor of statutes shall:

- (1) change the term "commissioner of administration" to "commissioner of labor and industry";
- (2) change the term "Department of Administration" to "Department of Labor and Industry";
- (3) change the term "Department of Administration's Building Codes and Standards Division" to "Department of Labor and Industry"; and
- (4) change the term "director of the Building Codes and Standards Division of the Department of Administration" to "individual appointed by the commissioner of labor and industry to administer the code."

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

## ARTICLE 2

### CONSTRUCTION CODES AND LICENSING

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 299F.011, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **State Fire Code rulemaking authority.** The commissioner of ~~public safety through the Division of Fire Marshal~~ may promulgate labor and industry, consistent with the recommendations of the state fire marshal, shall adopt a State Fire Code and make amendments thereto in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act in chapter 14. The code and its amendments shall conform insofar as practicable to model fire codes generally accepted and in use throughout the United States, with consideration given to existing statewide specialty codes presently in use in the state of Minnesota. Statewide specialty codes and model codes with necessary modifications may be adopted by reference in accordance with section 14.07, subdivision 4.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

#### Sec. 2. **[326B.01] DEFINITIONS.**

Subdivision 1. **Scope.** The definitions in this section apply to chapter 326B.

Subd. 2. **ASME.** "ASME" means the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

Subd. 3. **Commissioner.** "Commissioner" means the commissioner of labor and industry or a duly designated representative of the commissioner who is either an employee of the Department of Labor and Industry or a person working under contract with the department.

Subd. 4. **Department.** "Department" means the Department of Labor and Industry.

Subd. 5. **Day.** "Day" means calendar day unless otherwise provided.

Subd. 6. **Individual.** "Individual" means a human being.

Subd. 7. **Person.** "Person" means any individual, limited liability company, corporation, partnership, incorporated or unincorporated association, sole proprietorship, joint stock company, or any other legal or commercial entity.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

#### Sec. 3. **[326B.02] POWERS.**

Subdivision 1. **Transfer of responsibilities.** The responsibilities of the commissioner of administration relating to the state building code, sections 16B.59 to 16B.76; construction of low-cost manufactured home park storm shelters, section 327.205; manufactured homes, sections 327.31 to 327.36 and 327B.01 to 327B.12; and statutory warranties in connection with the sale of dwellings and home improvement work, chapter 327A, are transferred under section 15.039 to the commissioner of labor and industry as amended and recodified in this chapter. The responsibilities of the commissioner of health relating to the state plumbing code and licensing, sections 16B.61, 144.99 to 144.993, and 326.37 to 326.45, and water conditioning contractors and installers, sections 326.57 to 326.65, are transferred under section 15.039 to the commissioner of labor and industry as amended and recodified in this chapter except for responsibilities transferred to the Plumbing Board as expressly provided in this chapter. The responsibilities of the commissioner of commerce relating to residential contractors, residential remodelers, residential roofers, manufactured home installers, and the contractor's recovery fund under sections 45.027 to 45.23 and 326.83 to 326.992 are transferred under section 15.039 to the commissioner of labor and industry as amended and recodified in this chapter. The responsibilities of the Board of Electricity relating to the State Electrical Code and licensing, sections 16B.61 and 326.241 to 326.248, are transferred under section 15.039 to the commissioner of labor and industry as amended and recodified in this chapter except for responsibilities transferred to the Board of Electricity as expressly provided in this chapter.

Subd. 2. **Transfer of Authority.** The commissioner of administration may not use the authority under section 16B.37 to modify the transfers of authority to the Plumbing Board, the Board of Electricity, or the Board of High Pressure Piping Systems under this chapter.

Subd. 3. **Definition of responsibilities.** For purposes of subdivision 1, responsibilities include powers, duties, rights, obligations, and other authority imposed by law.

Subd. 4. **State fire marshal cooperation.** The state fire marshal shall work with the commissioner to improve the delivery of services to the public through the coordination of services and utilization of technology.

Subd. 5. **General rulemaking authority.** The commissioner may, under the rulemaking provisions of chapter 14 and as otherwise provided by this chapter, adopt, amend, suspend, and repeal rules relating to the commissioner's responsibilities under this chapter, except for rules for which the rulemaking authority is expressly transferred to the Plumbing Board, the Board of Electricity, or the Board of High Pressure Piping Systems.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 4. **[326B.04] DEPOSIT OF MONEY.**

Subdivision 1. **Construction code fund.** There is created in the state treasury a construction code fund as a special revenue fund for the purpose of administering this chapter, sections 327.31 to 327.36, and chapter 327B. All money collected under those sections, except penalties, is credited to the construction code fund unless otherwise specifically designated by law. Any interest or profit accruing from investment of these sums is credited to the construction code fund. All money collected in the construction code fund is appropriated to the commissioner to administer and enforce the provisions identified in this section.

Unless otherwise provided by law, all penalties assessed under this chapter, section 327.35, and

chapter 327B are credited to the assigned risk safety account established by section 79.253.

Subd. 2. **Deposits.** All remaining balances as of June 30, 2007, in the state government special revenue fund and special revenue fund accounts maintained for the Building Codes and Standards Division, Board of Electricity, and plumbing and engineering unit are transferred to the construction code fund. Unless otherwise specifically designated by law: (1) all money collected under chapter 183 and sections 16B.59 to 16B.76; 144.122, paragraph (f); 326.241 to 326.248; 326.37 to 326.521; 326.57 to 326.65; 326.83 to 326.992; 327.31 to 327.36; and 327B.01 to 327B.12, except penalties, is credited to the construction code fund; (2) all fees collected under section 45.23 in connection with continuing education for residential contractors, residential remodelers, and residential roofers are credited to the construction code fund; and (3) all penalties assessed under the sections set forth in clauses (1) and (2) and all penalties assessed under sections 144.99 to 144.993 in connection with any violation of sections 326.37 to 326.45 or 326.57 to 327.65 or the rules adopted under those sections are credited to the assigned risk safety account established by section 79.253.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007.

Sec. 5. **[326B.06] BONDS.**

Bonds issued under this chapter are not state bonds or contracts for purposes of sections 8.05 and 16C.05, subdivision 2.

Sec. 6. **[326B.075] COMMISSIONER NOT SUBJECT TO SUBPOENA.**

The commissioner shall not be subject to subpoena for purposes of providing expert testimony, except in an enforcement proceeding brought by the commissioner.

Sec. 7. **APPOINTMENT AND FIRST MEETING OF BOARDS.**

The governor must make the appointments to the Board of Electricity, the Plumbing Board, and the Board of High Pressure Piping Systems no later than July 1, 2007. The commissioner of labor and industry must convene the first meeting of each board no later than September 1, 2007.

### ARTICLE 3

#### ENFORCEMENT

Section 1. **[326B.081] DEFINITIONS.**

Subdivision 1. **Application.** For purposes of sections 326B.081 to 326B.085, the terms defined in this section have the meanings given them.

Subd. 2. **Administrative order.** "Administrative order" means an order issued under section 326B.082, subdivision 7.

Subd. 3. **Applicable law.** "Applicable law" means the provisions of sections 326B.084 to 326B.998 and 327.31 to 327.36 and chapter 327B, and all rules, orders, stipulation agreements, settlements, compliance agreements, licenses, registrations, certificates, and permits adopted, issued, or enforced by the department under sections 326B.02 or 326B.084 to 326B.998 or 327.31 to 327.36 or chapter 327B.

Subd. 4. **Document or documents.** "Document" or "documents" includes papers; books;

records; memoranda; data; contracts; drawings; graphs; charts; photographs; digital, video, and audio recordings; records; accounts; files; statements; letters; e-mails; invoices; bills; notes; and calendars maintained in any form or manner.

Subd. 5. **Final.** "Final" when used to describe any order issued under section 326B.082 means that:

(1) no request for hearing in connection with the order was filed in the manner and within the time provided by section 326B.082;

(2) all requests for hearing have been withdrawn;

(3) an agreement that resolves the order has been signed by all the parties; or

(4) after the filing of a request for hearing, an order has been issued by the commissioner, the Court of Appeals, or the Supreme Court, and all appeals have been pursued or forgone.

Subd. 6. **Licensing order.** "Licensing order" means an order issued under section 326B.082, subdivision 12, paragraph (a).

Subd. 7. **Minimum qualifications.** "Minimum qualifications" means the educational, experience, fee, examination, application, and other eligibility requirements that an applicant must meet in order to obtain a license, registration, certificate, or permit under the applicable law. For an applicant that is not an individual, the minimum qualifications include the requirement that an employee or other individual associated with the applicant hold a license.

Subd. 8. **Stop order.** "Stop order" means an order issued under section 326B.082, subdivision 10.

## Sec. 2. **[326B.082] ENFORCEMENT.**

Subdivision 1. **Remedies available.** The commissioner may enforce all applicable law under this section. The commissioner may use any enforcement provision in this section, including the assessment of monetary penalties, against a person required to have a license, registration, certificate, or permit under the applicable law based on conduct that would provide grounds for action against a licensee, registrant, certificate holder, or permit holder under the applicable law. The use of an enforcement provision in this section shall not preclude the use of any other enforcement provision in this section or otherwise provided by law.

Subd. 2. **Access to information and property; subpoenas.** (a) In order to carry out the purposes of the applicable law, the commissioner may:

(1) administer oaths and affirmations, certify official acts, interview, question, take oral or written statements, and take depositions;

(2) request, examine, take possession of, test, sample, measure, photograph, record, and copy any documents, apparatus, devices, equipment, or materials;

(3) at a time and place indicated by the commissioner, request persons to appear before the commissioner to give testimony and produce documents, apparatus, devices, equipment, or materials;

(4) issue subpoenas to compel persons to appear before the commissioner to give testimony and produce documents, apparatus, devices, equipment, or materials; and

(5) with or without notice, enter without delay upon any property, public or private, for the purpose of taking any action authorized under this subdivision or the applicable law, including obtaining information, remedying violations, or conducting surveys, inspections, or investigations.

(b) Persons requested by the commissioner to give testimony or produce documents, apparatus, devices, equipment, or materials shall respond within the time and in the manner specified by the commissioner. If no time to respond is specified in the request, then a response shall be submitted within 30 days of the commissioner's service of the request.

(c) Upon the refusal or anticipated refusal of a property owner, lessee, property owner's representative, or lessee's representative to permit the commissioner's entry onto property as provided in paragraph (a), the commissioner may apply for an administrative inspection order in the Ramsey County District Court or, at the commissioner's discretion, in the district court in the county in which the property is located. The commissioner may anticipate that a property owner or lessee will refuse entry if the property owner, lessee, property owner's representative, or lessee's representative has refused to permit entry on a prior occasion or has informed the commissioner that entry will be refused. Upon showing of administrative probable cause by the commissioner, the district court shall issue an administrative inspection order that compels the property owner or lessee to permit the commissioner to enter the property for the purposes specified in paragraph (a).

(d) Upon the application of the commissioner, a district court shall treat the failure of any person to obey a subpoena lawfully issued by the commissioner under this subdivision as a contempt of court.

Subd. 3. **Service.** Unless otherwise specified, service of a document on a person under this section or section 326B.083 may be by mail, by personal service, or in accordance with any consent to service filed with the commissioner. Service by mail shall be accomplished in the manner provided in Minnesota Rules, part 1400.5550, subpart 2. Personal service shall be accomplished in the manner provided in Minnesota Rules, part 1400.5550, subpart 3.

Subd. 4. **Fax transmission.** When this section or section 326B.083 permits a request for reconsideration or request for hearing to be served by fax on the commissioner, the fax shall not exceed 15 pages in length. The request shall be considered timely served if the fax is received by the commissioner, at the fax number identified by the commissioner in the order or notice of violation, no later than 4:30 p.m. central time on the last day permitted for faxing the request. Where the quality or authenticity of the faxed request is at issue, the commissioner may require the original request to be filed. Where the commissioner has not identified quality or authenticity of the faxed request as an issue and the request has been faxed in accordance with this subdivision, the person faxing the request does not need to file the original request with the commissioner.

Subd. 5. **Time computation.** In computing any period of time prescribed or allowed by this section, the day of the act, event, or default from which the designated period of time begins to run shall not be included. The last day of the period so computed shall be included, unless it is a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, in which event the period runs until the next day which is not a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday.

Subd. 6. **Notices of violation.** (a) The commissioner may issue a notice of violation to any



person who the commissioner determines has committed a violation of the applicable law. The notice of violation must state a summary of the facts that constitute the violation and the applicable law violated. The notice of violation may require the person to correct the violation. If correction is required, the notice of violation must state the deadline by which the violation must be corrected.

(b) The commissioner shall issue the notice of violation by:

(1) serving the notice of violation on the property owner or on the person who committed the violation; or

(2) posting the notice of violation at the location where the violation occurred.

(c) If the person to whom the commissioner has issued the notice of violation believes the notice was issued in error, then the person may request reconsideration of the parts of the notice that the person believes are in error. The request for reconsideration must be in writing and must be served on or faxed to the commissioner at the address or fax number specified in the notice of violation by the tenth day after the commissioner issued the notice of violation. The date on which a request for reconsideration is served by mail shall be the postmark date on the envelope in which the request for reconsideration is mailed. If the person does not serve or fax a written request for reconsideration or if the person's written request for reconsideration is not served on or faxed to the commissioner by the tenth day after the commissioner issued the notice of violation, the notice of violation shall become a final order of the commissioner and will not be subject to review by any court or agency. The request for reconsideration must:

(1) specify which parts of the notice of violation the person believes are in error;

(2) explain why the person believes the parts are in error; and

(3) provide documentation to support the request for reconsideration.

The commissioner shall respond in writing to requests for reconsideration made under this paragraph within 15 days after receiving the request. A request for reconsideration does not stay a requirement to correct a violation as set forth in the notice of violation. After reviewing the request for reconsideration, the commissioner may affirm, modify, or rescind the notice of violation. The commissioner's response to a request for reconsideration is final and shall not be reviewed by any court or agency.

Subd. 7. **Administrative orders; correction; assessment of monetary penalties.** (a) The commissioner may issue an administrative order to any person who the commissioner determines has committed a violation of the applicable law. The commissioner shall issue the administrative order by serving the administrative order on the person. The administrative order may require the person to correct the violation, may require the person to cease and desist from committing the violation, and may assess monetary penalties. The commissioner shall follow the procedures in section 326B.083 when issuing administrative orders. Except as provided in paragraph (b), the commissioner may issue to each person a monetary penalty of up to \$10,000 for each violation of applicable law committed by the person. The commissioner may order that part or all of the monetary penalty will be forgiven if the person to whom the order is issued demonstrates to the commissioner by the 31st day after the order is issued that the person has corrected the violation or has developed a correction plan acceptable to the commissioner.

(b) The commissioner may issue an administrative order for failure to correct a violation by the

deadline stated in a final administrative order issued under paragraph (a). Each day after the deadline during which the violation remains uncorrected is a separate violation for purposes of calculating the maximum monetary penalty amount.

(c) Upon the application of the commissioner, a district court shall find the failure of any person to correct a violation as required by a final administrative order issued by the commissioner under this subdivision as a contempt of court.

Subd. 8. **Hearings related to administrative orders.** (a) Within 30 days after the commissioner issues an administrative order or within 20 days after the commissioner issues the notice under section 326B.083, subdivision 3, paragraph (b), clause (3), the person to whom the administrative order or notice is issued may request an expedited hearing to review the commissioner's order or notice. The request for hearing must be in writing and must be served on or faxed to the commissioner at the address or fax number specified in the order or notice. If the person does not request a hearing or if the person's written request for hearing is not served on or faxed to the commissioner by the 30th day after the commissioner issues the administrative order or the 20th day after the commissioner issues the notice under section 326B.083, subdivision 3, paragraph (b), clause (3), the order will become a final order of the commissioner and will not be subject to review by any court or agency. The date on which a request for hearing is served by mail shall be the postmark date on the envelope in which the request for hearing is mailed. The hearing request must specifically state the reasons for seeking review of the order or notice. The person to whom the order or notice is issued and the commissioner are the parties to the expedited hearing. The commissioner must notify the person to whom the order or notice is issued of the time and place of the hearing at least 15 days before the hearing. The expedited hearing must be held within 45 days after a request for hearing has been served on the commissioner unless the parties agree to a later date.

(b) All written arguments must be submitted within ten days following the close of the hearing. The hearing shall be conducted under Minnesota Rules, parts 1400.8510 to 1400.8612, as modified by this subdivision. The Office of Administrative Hearings may, in consultation with the agency, adopt rules specifically applicable to cases under this section.

(c) The administrative law judge shall issue a report making findings of fact, conclusions of law, and a recommended order to the commissioner within 30 days following the close of the record.

(d) If the administrative law judge makes a finding that the hearing was requested solely for purposes of delay or that the hearing request was frivolous, the commissioner may add to the amount of the penalty the costs charged to the department by the Office of Administrative Hearings for the hearing.

(e) If a hearing has been held, the commissioner shall not issue a final order until at least five days after the date of the administrative law judge's report. Any person aggrieved by the administrative law judge's report may, within those five days, serve written comments to the commissioner on the report and the commissioner shall consider the comments. The commissioner's final order may be appealed in the manner provided in sections 14.63 to 14.69.

Subd. 9. **Injunctive relief.** In addition to any other remedy provided by law, the commissioner may bring an action for injunctive relief in the Ramsey County District Court or, at the commissioner's discretion, in the district court in the county in which the commissioner has determined a violation of the applicable law has occurred or is about to occur to enjoin the

violation. A temporary restraining order and other injunctive relief shall be granted by the district court if the court determines that a person has engaged in or is about to engage in an act, conduct, or practice constituting a violation of the applicable law. The commissioner shall not be required to show irreparable harm.

Subd. 10. **Stop orders.** (a) If the commissioner determines based on an inspection or investigation that a person has violated or is about to violate the applicable law, the commissioner may issue to the person a stop order requiring the person to cease and desist from committing the violation.

(b) If the commissioner determines that a condition exists on real property that violates the applicable law, the commissioner may issue a stop order to the owner or lessee of the real property to cease and desist from committing the violation and to correct the condition that is in violation.

(c) The commissioner shall issue the stop work order by:

(1) serving the order on the person who has committed or is about to commit the violation;

(2) posting the order at the location where the violation was committed or is about to be committed or at the location where the violating condition exists; or

(3) serving the order on any owner or lessee of the real property where the violating condition exists.

(d) A stop order shall:

(1) describe the act, conduct, or practice committed or about to be committed, or the condition, and include a reference to the applicable law that the act, conduct, practice, or condition violates or would violate; and

(2) provide notice that any person aggrieved by the stop order may request a hearing as provided in paragraph (e).

(e) Within 30 days after the commissioner issues a stop order, any person aggrieved by the order may request an expedited hearing to review the commissioner's action. The request for hearing must be made in writing and must be served on or faxed to the commissioner at the address or fax number specified in the order. If the person does not request a hearing or if the person's written request for hearing is not served on or faxed to the commissioner on or before the 30th day after the commissioner issued the stop order, the order will become a final order of the commissioner and will not be subject to review by any court or agency. The date on which a request for hearing is served by mail is the postmark date on the envelope in which the request for hearing is mailed. The hearing request must specifically state the reasons for seeking review of the order. The person who requested the hearing and the commissioner are the parties to the expedited hearing. The hearing shall be commenced within ten days after the commissioner receives the request for hearing. The hearing shall be conducted under Minnesota Rules, parts 1400.8510 to 1400.8612, as modified by this subdivision. The administrative law judge shall issue a report containing findings of fact, conclusions of law, and a recommended order within ten days after the conclusion of the hearing. Any party aggrieved by the administrative law judge's report shall have five days after the date of the administrative law judge's report to submit exceptions and argument to the commissioner. Within 15 days after receiving the administrative law judge's report, the commissioner shall issue an order vacating, modifying, or making permanent the stop order. The commissioner and the person

requesting the hearing may by agreement lengthen any time periods described in this paragraph. The Office of Administrative Hearings may, in consultation with the agency, adopt rules specifically applicable to cases under this subdivision.

(f) A stop order issued under this subdivision shall be in effect until it is modified or vacated by the commissioner or an appellate court. The administrative hearing provided by this subdivision and any appellate judicial review as provided in chapter 14 shall constitute the exclusive remedy for any person aggrieved by a stop order.

(g) Upon the application of the commissioner, a district court shall find the failure of any person to comply with a final stop order lawfully issued by the commissioner under this subdivision as a contempt of court.

**Subd. 11. Licensing orders; grounds; reapplication.** (a) The commissioner may deny an application for a permit, license, registration, or certificate if the applicant does not meet or fails to maintain the minimum qualifications for holding the permit, license, registration, or certificate, or has any unresolved violations or unpaid fees or monetary penalties related to the activity for which the permit, license, registration, or certificate has been applied for or was issued.

(b) The commissioner may deny, suspend, limit, place conditions on, or revoke a person's permit, license, registration, or certificate, or censure the person holding the permit, license, registration, or certificate, if the commissioner finds that the person:

(1) committed one or more violations of the applicable law;

(2) submitted false or misleading information to the state in connection with activities for which the permit, license, registration, or certificate was issued, or in connection with the application for the permit, license, registration, or certificate;

(3) allowed the alteration or use of the person's own permit, license, registration, or certificate by another person;

(4) within the previous five years, was convicted of a crime in connection with activities for which the permit, license, registration, or certificate was issued;

(5) violated a final administrative order issued under subdivision 7 or a final stop order issued under subdivision 10, or injunctive relief issued under subdivision 9;

(6) failed to cooperate with a commissioner's request to give testimony, to produce documents, things, apparatus, devices, equipment, or materials, or to access property under subdivision 2;

(7) retaliated in any manner against any employee or person who is questioned by, cooperates with, or provides information to the commissioner or an employee or agent authorized by the commissioner who seeks access to property or things under subdivision 2;

(8) engaged in any fraudulent, deceptive, or dishonest act or practice; or

(9) performed work in connection with the permit, license, registration, or certificate or conducted the person's affairs in a manner that demonstrates incompetence, untrustworthiness, or financial irresponsibility.

(c) If the commissioner revokes a person's permit, license, registration, or certificate under

paragraph (b), the person is prohibited from reapplying for the same type of permit, license, registration, or certificate for at least two years after the effective date of the revocation. The commissioner may, as a condition of reapplication, require the person to obtain a bond or comply with additional reasonable conditions the commissioner considers necessary to protect the public.

(d) If a permit, license, registration, or certificate expires, or is surrendered, withdrawn, or terminated, or otherwise becomes ineffective, the commissioner may institute a proceeding under this subdivision within two years after the permit, license, registration, or certificate was last effective and enter a revocation or suspension order as of the last date on which the permit, license, registration, or certificate was in effect.

Subd. 12. **Issuance of licensing orders; hearings related to licensing orders.** (a) If the commissioner determines that a permit, license, registration, or certificate should be conditioned, limited, suspended, revoked, or denied under subdivision 11, or that the permit holder, licensee, registrant, or certificate holder should be censured under subdivision 11, then the commissioner shall issue to the person an order denying, conditioning, limiting, suspending, or revoking the person's permit, license, registration, or certificate, or censuring the permit holder, licensee, registrant, or certificate holder.

(b) Any order issued under paragraph (a) may include an assessment of monetary penalties and may require the person to cease and desist from committing the violation or committing the act, conduct, or practice set out in subdivision 11, paragraph (b). The monetary penalty may be up to \$10,000 for each violation or act, conduct, or practice committed by the person. The procedures in section 326B.083 must be followed when issuing orders under paragraph (a).

(c) The permit holder, licensee, registrant, certificate holder, or applicant to whom the commissioner issues an order under paragraph (a) shall have 30 days after service of the order to request a hearing. The request for hearing must be in writing and must be served on or faxed to the commissioner at the address or fax number specified in the order by the 30th day after service of the order. If the person does not request a hearing or if the person's written request for hearing is not served on or faxed to the commissioner by the 30th day after service of the order, the order shall become a final order of the commissioner and will not be subject to review by any court or agency. The date on which a request for hearing is served by mail shall be the postmark date on the envelope in which the request for hearing is mailed. If the person submits to the commissioner a timely request for hearing, a contested case hearing shall be held in accordance with chapter 14.

(d) Paragraph (c) does not apply to summary suspension under subdivision 13.

Subd. 13. **Summary suspension.** In any case where the commissioner has issued an order to revoke or suspend a license, registration, certificate, or permit under subdivision 12, the commissioner may summarily suspend the person's permit, license, registration, or certificate before the order becomes final. The commissioner shall issue a summary suspension order when the safety of life or property is threatened or to prevent the commission of fraudulent, deceptive, untrustworthy, or dishonest acts against the public. The summary suspension shall not affect the deadline for submitting a request for hearing under subdivision 12. If the commissioner summarily suspends a person's permit, license, registration, or certificate, a timely request for hearing submitted under subdivision 12 shall also be considered a timely request for hearing on continuation of the summary suspension. If the commissioner summarily suspends a person's permit, license, registration, or certificate under this subdivision and the person submits a timely

request for a hearing, then a hearing on continuation of the summary suspension must be held within ten days after the commissioner receives the request for hearing unless the parties agree to a later date.

Subd. 14. **Plan for assessing penalties.** The commissioner may prepare a plan for assessing penalties in orders issued under subdivision 7 or 12. The commissioner shall provide a 30-day period for public comment on any such plan. Penalties assessed by the commissioner in accordance with the plan shall be presumed reasonable.

Subd. 15. **Effect on other laws.** Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit the application of other state or federal laws, including specifically but not exclusively section 270C.72, that require suspension of, revocation of, denial of, or refusal to renew a permit, license, registration, or certificate issued by the commissioner.

Subd. 16. **Misdemeanor penalties.** Except as otherwise provided by law, a person who violates an applicable law is guilty of a misdemeanor.

Subd. 17. **Revocation and suspension of license.** If a person fails to pay a penalty owed under this section or section 326B.083, the commissioner may revoke, suspend, or deny any or all licenses, permits, certificates, and registrations issued by the department.

### Sec. 3. **[326B.083] AMOUNT OF PENALTY; CONTENTS OF ADMINISTRATIVE AND LICENSING ORDERS.**

Subdivision 1. **Amount of penalty; considerations.** In determining the amount of a penalty assessed under section 326B.082, subdivision 7 or 12, the commissioner shall consider the factors described in section 14.045, subdivision 3.

Subd. 2. **Contents of administrative order and licensing order.** (a) An administrative order and a licensing order must include:

- (1) a summary of the facts that constitute the violation or violations;
- (2) a reference to the applicable law that has been violated; and
- (3) a statement of the person's right to request a hearing.

(b) An administrative order may include a requirement that the violation be corrected. If the order includes a requirement that the violation be corrected, then the order must include, in addition to any statements required under paragraphs (a) and (c), the deadline by which the violation must be corrected.

(c) An administrative order or a licensing order may assess monetary penalties. If the order assesses monetary penalties, then the order must include, in addition to any statements required under paragraphs (a) and (b):

- (1) a statement of the amount of the monetary penalty imposed;
- (2) a statement that, when the order becomes final, the commissioner may file and enforce the unpaid portion of a penalty as a judgment in district court without further notice or additional proceedings; and

(3) if the order is an administrative order, a statement of the amount of the penalty, if any, that will be forgiven if the person who is subject to the order demonstrates to the commissioner by the 31st day after the order is served that the person has corrected the violation or has developed a correction plan acceptable to the commissioner.

Subd. 3. **Penalty.** (a) If an administrative order includes a penalty assessment, then the penalty is due and payable on the date the administrative order becomes final unless some or all of the penalty is forgivable. If a licensing order includes a penalty assessment, then the penalty is due and payable on the date the licensing order becomes final.

(b) This paragraph applies if an administrative order includes a penalty assessment and all or a portion of the penalty is forgivable.

(1) If any portion of the penalty is not forgivable, that portion of the penalty is due and payable ten days after the date the administrative order becomes final.

(2) The commissioner shall forgive the forgivable portion of the penalty if the commissioner determines that the violation has been corrected within the time set by the order or the person to whom the order was issued has developed a correction plan acceptable to the commissioner within the time set by the order.

(3) If the commissioner determines that the person to whom the order was issued has failed to correct the violation within the time set by the order or has failed to develop a correction plan acceptable to the commissioner within the time set by the order, then the forgivable portion of the penalty is due and payable ten days after the commissioner serves notice of the determination on the person or on the date the administrative order becomes final, whichever is later.

(c) This paragraph applies if an administrative order or a licensing order includes a penalty assessment and if the person subject to the order has requested a hearing. The administrative law judge may not recommend a change in the amount of the penalty if the penalty was assessed in accordance with a plan prepared under section 326B.082, subdivision 14. If the commissioner has not prepared a plan under section 326B.082, subdivision 14, then the administrative law judge may not recommend a change in the amount of the penalty unless the administrative law judge determines that, based on the factors in section 14.045, subdivision 3, the amount of the penalty is unreasonable.

(d) The assessment of a penalty does not preclude the use of other enforcement provisions, under which penalties are not assessed, in connection with the violation for which the penalty was assessed.

#### **Sec. 4. [326B.084] FALSE INFORMATION.**

A person subject to any of the requirements in the applicable law may not make a false material statement, representation, or certification in; omit material information from; or alter, conceal, or fail to file or maintain a notice, application, record, report, plan, or other document required under the applicable law.

#### **Sec. 5. [326B.085] RECOVERY OF LITIGATION COSTS AND EXPENSES.**

In any action brought by the commissioner for enforcement of an order issued under section 326B.082 for injunctive relief, or to compel performance pursuant to the applicable law, if the state finally prevails, the state, in addition to other penalties provided by law, may be allowed an amount determined by the court to be the reasonable value of all or part of the litigation expenses incurred

by the state. In determining the amount of the litigation expenses to be allowed, the court shall give consideration to the economic circumstances of the defendant.

Sec. 6. **REVISOR'S INSTRUCTION.**

The revisor of statutes shall renumber Minnesota Statutes, section 299F.011, subdivision 1, as Minnesota Statutes, section 326B.02, subdivision 5.

**ARTICLE 4**

**BUILDING CODE**

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16B.04, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Powers and duties, general.** Subject to other provisions of this chapter, the commissioner is authorized to:

- (1) supervise, control, review, and approve all state contracts and purchasing;
- (2) provide agencies with supplies and equipment and operate all central store or supply rooms serving more than one agency;
- (3) investigate and study the management and organization of agencies, and reorganize them when necessary to ensure their effective and efficient operation;
- (4) manage and control state property, real and personal;
- (5) maintain and operate all state buildings, as described in section 16B.24, subdivision 1;
- (6) supervise, control, review, and approve all capital improvements to state buildings and the capitol building and grounds;
- (7) provide central duplicating, printing, and mail facilities;
- (8) oversee publication of official documents and provide for their sale;
- (9) manage and operate parking facilities for state employees and a central motor pool for travel on state business; and
- ~~(10) establish and administer a State Building Code; and~~
- ~~(11)~~ (10) provide rental space within the capitol complex for a private day care center for children of state employees. The commissioner shall contract for services as provided in this chapter. The commissioner shall report back to the legislature by October 1, 1984, with the recommendation to implement the private day care operation.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16B.60, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Code.** "Code" means the State Building Code adopted by the commissioner of labor and industry in consultation with each industry board and the Construction Codes Advisory Council in accordance with sections 16B.59 to 16B.75.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16B.60, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. ~~**Physically disabled Person with a disability.**~~ "Physically disabled" means having



~~sight disabilities, hearing disabilities, disabilities of incoordination, disabilities of aging, or other disabilities that significantly reduce mobility, flexibility, coordination, or perceptiveness.~~ "Person with a disability" or "persons with disabilities" includes people who have a vision disability, a hearing disability, a disability of coordination, a disability of aging, or any other disability that significantly reduces mobility, flexibility, coordination, or perceptiveness.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16B.60, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

Subd. 8. **Remodeling.** "Remodeling" means deliberate reconstruction of an existing public building in whole or in part in order to bring it ~~up-to-date-in~~ into conformity with present uses of the structure and to which other rules on the upgrading of health and safety provisions are applicable.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16B.60, subdivision 11, is amended to read:

Subd. 11. **State licensed facilities facility.** "State licensed ~~facilities~~ facility" means a building and its grounds that are licensed by the state as a hospital, nursing home, supervised living facility, free-standing outpatient surgical center, ~~or~~ correctional facility, boarding care home, or residential hospice.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16B.61, is amended to read:

#### **16B.61 GENERAL POWERS OF COMMISSIONER OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY.**

Subdivision 1. **Adoption of code.** Subject to sections 16B.59 to 16B.75, the commissioner shall by rule and in consultation with the Construction Codes Advisory Council establish a code of standards for the construction, reconstruction, alteration, and repair of buildings, governing matters of structural materials, design and construction, fire protection, health, sanitation, and safety, including design and construction standards regarding heat loss control, illumination, and climate control. The code must also include duties and responsibilities for code administration, including procedures for administrative action, penalties, and suspension and revocation of certification. The code must conform insofar as practicable to model building codes generally accepted and in use throughout the United States, including a code for building conservation. In the preparation of the code, consideration must be given to the existing statewide specialty codes presently in use in the state. Model codes with necessary modifications and statewide specialty codes may be adopted by reference. The code must be based on the application of scientific principles, approved tests, and professional judgment. To the extent possible, the code must be adopted in terms of desired results instead of the means of achieving those results, avoiding wherever possible the incorporation of specifications of particular methods or materials. To that end the code must encourage the use of new methods and new materials. Except as otherwise provided in sections 16B.59 to 16B.75, the commissioner shall administer and enforce the provisions of those sections.

The commissioner shall develop rules addressing the plan review fee assessed to similar buildings without significant modifications including provisions for use of building systems as specified in the industrial/modular program specified in section 16B.75. Additional plan review fees associated with similar plans must be based on costs commensurate with the direct and indirect costs of the service.

Subd. 1a. **Administration by commissioner.** The commissioner shall administer and enforce the State Building Code as a municipality with respect to public buildings and state licensed facilities in the state. The commissioner shall establish appropriate permit, plan review, ~~and~~ inspection fees, and

~~surcharges for public buildings and state licensed facilities. Fees and surcharges for public buildings and state licensed facilities must be remitted to the commissioner, who shall deposit them in the state treasury for credit to the special revenue fund.~~

Municipalities other than the state having an agreement with the commissioner for code administration and enforcement service for public buildings and state licensed facilities shall charge their customary fees, including surcharge, to be paid directly to the jurisdiction by the applicant seeking authorization to construct a public building or a state licensed facility. The commissioner shall sign an agreement with a municipality other than the state for plan review, code administration, and code enforcement service for public buildings and state licensed facilities in the jurisdiction if the building officials of the municipality meet the requirements of section 16B.65 and wish to provide those services and if the commissioner determines that the municipality has enough adequately trained and qualified building inspectors to provide those services for the construction project.

The commissioner may direct the state building official to assist a community that has been affected by a natural disaster with building evaluation and other activities related to building codes.

Administration and enforcement in a municipality under this section must apply any optional provisions of the State Building Code adopted by the municipality. A municipality adopting any optional code provision shall notify the state building official within 30 days of its adoption.

The commissioner shall administer and enforce the provisions of the code relating to elevators statewide, except as provided for under section 16B.747, subdivision 3.

Subd. 2. **Enforcement by certain bodies.** Under the direction and supervision of the commissioner, the provisions of the code relating to electrical installations ~~shall be enforced by the State Board of Electricity, pursuant to the Minnesota Electrical Act, the provisions relating to, plumbing shall be enforced by the commissioner of health, the provisions relating to, boilers, high pressure steam piping and appurtenances, and ammonia refrigeration piping, and bioprocess piping shall be enforced by the Department of Labor and Industry. Fees for inspections conducted by the State Board of Electricity commissioner shall be paid in accordance with the rules of the State Board of Electricity department.~~ Under direction of the commissioner of public safety, the state fire marshal shall enforce the State Fire Code as provided in chapter 299F. The commissioner, ~~in consultation with the commissioner of labor and industry,~~ shall adopt amendments to the mechanical code portion of the State Building Code to implement standards for process piping.

Subd. 3. **Special requirements.** (a) **Space for commuter vans.** The code must require that any parking ramp or other parking facility constructed in accordance with the code include an appropriate number of spaces suitable for the parking of motor vehicles having a capacity of seven to 16 persons and which are principally used to provide prearranged commuter transportation of employees to or from their place of employment or to or from a transit stop authorized by a local transit authority.

(b) **Smoke detection devices.** The code must require that all dwellings, lodging houses, apartment houses, and hotels as defined in section 299F.362 comply with the provisions of section 299F.362.

(c) **Doors in nursing homes and hospitals.** The State Building Code may not require that each door entering a sleeping or patient's room from a corridor in a nursing home or hospital with an

approved complete standard automatic fire extinguishing system be constructed or maintained as self-closing or automatically closing.

(d) **Child care facilities in churches; ground level exit.** A licensed day care center serving fewer than 30 preschool age persons and which is located in a belowground space in a church building is exempt from the State Building Code requirement for a ground level exit when the center has more than two stairways to the ground level and its exit.

~~(e) **Child care facilities in churches; vertical access.** Until August 1, 1996, an organization providing child care in an existing church building which is exempt from taxation under section 272.02, subdivision 6, shall have five years from the date of initial licensure under chapter 245A to provide interior vertical access, such as an elevator, to persons with disabilities as required by the State Building Code. To obtain the extension, the organization providing child care must secure a \$2,500 performance bond with the commissioner of human services to ensure that interior vertical access is achieved by the agreed upon date.~~

~~(f)~~ (e) **Family and group family day care.** Until the legislature enacts legislation specifying appropriate standards, the definition of Group R-3 occupancies in dwellings constructed in accordance with the International Residential Code as adopted as part of the State Building Code applies to family and group family day care homes licensed by the Department of Human Services under Minnesota Rules, chapter 9502.

~~(g)~~ (f) **Enclosed stairways.** No provision of the code or any appendix chapter of the code may require stairways of existing multiple dwelling buildings of two stories or less to be enclosed.

~~(h)~~ (g) **Double cylinder dead bolt locks.** No provision of the code or appendix chapter of the code may prohibit double cylinder dead bolt locks in existing single-family homes, townhouses, and first floor duplexes used exclusively as a residential dwelling. Any recommendation or promotion of double cylinder dead bolt locks must include a warning about their potential fire danger and procedures to minimize the danger.

~~(i)~~ (h) **Relocated residential buildings.** A residential building relocated within or into a political subdivision of the state need not comply with the State Energy Code or section 326.371 provided that, where available, an energy audit is conducted on the relocated building.

~~(j)~~ (i) **Automatic garage door opening systems.** The code must require all residential buildings as defined in section 325F.82 to comply with the provisions of sections 325F.82 and 325F.83.

~~(k)~~ (j) **Exit sign illumination.** For a new building on which construction is begun on or after October 1, 1993, or an existing building on which remodeling affecting 50 percent or more of the enclosed space is begun on or after October 1, 1993, the code must prohibit the use of internally illuminated exit signs whose electrical consumption during nonemergency operation exceeds 20 watts of resistive power. All other requirements in the code for exit signs must be complied with.

~~(l)~~ (k) **Exterior wood decks, patios, and balconies.** The code must permit the decking surface and upper portions of exterior wood decks, patios, and balconies to be constructed of (1) heartwood from species of wood having natural resistance to decay or termites, including redwood and cedars, (2) grades of lumber which contain sapwood from species of wood having natural resistance to decay or termites, including redwood and cedars, or (3) treated wood. The species and grades of wood products used to construct the decking surface and upper portions of exterior decks, patios,

and balconies must be made available to the building official on request before final construction approval.

~~(m)~~ (l) **Bioprocess piping and equipment.** No permit fee for bioprocess piping may be imposed by municipalities under the State Building Code, except as required under section 326.47, subdivision 1. Permits for bioprocess piping shall be according to section 326.47 administered by the Department of Labor and Industry. All data regarding the material production processes, including the bioprocess system's structural design and layout, are nonpublic data as provided by section 13.7911.

Subd. 3a. **Recycling space.** The code must require suitable space for the separation, collection, and temporary storage of recyclable materials within or adjacent to new or significantly remodeled structures that contain 1,000 square feet or more. Residential structures with fewer than four dwelling units are exempt from this subdivision.

Subd. 4. **Review of plans for public buildings and state licensed facilities.** Construction or remodeling may not begin on any public building or state licensed facility until the plans and specifications have been approved by the commissioner or municipality under contractual agreement pursuant to subdivision 1a. The plans and specifications must be submitted for review, and within 30 days after receipt of the plans and specifications, the commissioner or municipality under contractual agreement shall notify the submitting authority of any corrections.

Subd. 5. **Accessibility.** (a) **Public buildings.** The code must provide for making public buildings constructed or remodeled after July 1, 1963, accessible to and usable by ~~physically disabled~~ persons with disabilities, although this does not require the remodeling of public buildings solely to provide accessibility and usability to ~~the physically disabled~~ persons with disabilities when remodeling would not otherwise be undertaken.

(b) **Leased space.** No agency of the state may lease space for agency operations in a non-state-owned building unless the building satisfies the requirements of the State Building Code for accessibility by ~~the physically disabled~~ persons with disabilities, or is eligible to display the state symbol of accessibility. This limitation applies to leases of 30 days or more for space of at least 1,000 square feet.

(c) **Meetings or conferences.** Meetings or conferences for the public or for state employees which are sponsored in whole or in part by a state agency must be held in buildings that meet the State Building Code requirements relating to accessibility for ~~physically disabled~~ persons with disabilities. This subdivision does not apply to any classes, seminars, or training programs offered by the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities or the University of Minnesota. Meetings or conferences intended for specific individuals none of whom need the accessibility features for ~~disabled~~ persons with disabilities specified in the State Building Code need not comply with this subdivision unless a ~~disabled~~ person with a disability gives reasonable advance notice of an intent to attend the meeting or conference. When sign language interpreters will be provided, meetings or conference sites must be chosen which allow hearing impaired participants to see their signing clearly.

(d) **Exemptions.** The commissioner may grant an exemption from the requirements of paragraphs (b) and (c) in advance if an agency has demonstrated that reasonable efforts were made to secure facilities which complied with those requirements and if the selected facilities are the best available for access for ~~disabled~~ persons with disabilities. Exemptions shall be granted using

criteria developed by the commissioner in consultation with the Council on Disability.

(e) **Symbol indicating access.** The wheelchair symbol adopted by Rehabilitation International's Eleventh World Congress is the state symbol indicating buildings, facilities, and grounds which are accessible to and usable by ~~disabled persons with disabilities~~. In the interests of uniformity, this symbol is the sole symbol for display in or on all public or private buildings, facilities, and grounds which qualify for its use. The secretary of state shall obtain the symbol and keep it on file. No building, facility, or grounds may display the symbol unless it is in compliance with the rules adopted by the commissioner under subdivision 1. Before any rules are proposed for adoption under this paragraph, the commissioner shall consult with the Council on Disability. Rules adopted under this paragraph must be enforced in the same way as other accessibility rules of the State Building Code.

(f) **Municipal enforcement.** Municipalities which have not adopted the State Building Code may enforce the building code requirements for ~~disabled persons with disabilities~~ by either entering into a joint powers agreement for enforcement with another municipality which has adopted the State Building Code; or contracting for enforcement with an individual certified under section 16B.65, subdivision 3, to enforce the State Building Code.

~~(g) **Equipment allowed.** The code must allow the use of vertical wheelchair lifts and inclined stairway wheelchair lifts in public buildings. An inclined stairway wheelchair lift must be equipped with light or sound signaling device for use during operation of the lift. The stairway or ramp shall be marked in a bright color that clearly indicates the outside edge of the lift when in operation. The code shall not require a guardrail between the lift and the stairway or ramp. Compliance with this provision by itself does not mean other disability accessibility requirements have been met.~~

Subd. 6. **Energy efficiency.** The code must provide for building new low-income housing in accordance with energy efficiency standards adopted under subdivision 1. For purposes of this subdivision, low-income housing means residential housing built for low-income persons and families under a program of a housing and redevelopment authority, the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency, or another entity receiving money from the state to construct such housing.

Subd. 7. **Access for the hearing-impaired.** All rooms in the State Office Building and in the Capitol that are used by the house of representatives or the senate for legislative hearings, and the public galleries overlooking the house and senate chambers, must be fitted with assistive listening devices for the hearing-impaired. Each hearing room and the public galleries must have a sufficient number of receivers available so that hearing-impaired members of the public may participate in the committee hearings and public sessions of the house and senate.

Subd. 8. **Separate metering for electric service.** The standards concerning heat loss, illumination, and climate control adopted pursuant to subdivision 1, shall require that electrical service to individual dwelling units in buildings containing two or more units be separately metered, with individual metering readily accessible to the individual occupants. The standards authorized by this subdivision shall only apply to buildings constructed after the effective date of the amended standards. Buildings intended for occupancy primarily by persons who are 62 years of age or older or disabled, or which contain a majority of units not equipped with complete kitchen facilities, shall be exempt from the provisions of this subdivision.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16B.615, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Rules.** The commissioner of ~~administration~~ shall adopt rules to implement this section. The rules may provide for a greater ratio of women's to men's facilities for certain types of occupancies than is required in subdivision 3, and may apply the required ratios to categories of occupancies other than those defined as places of public accommodation under subdivision 1.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16B.617, is amended to read:

**16B.617 ENERGY CODE RULES REMAIN IN EFFECT.**

(a) Notwithstanding Laws 1999, chapter 135, section 9, Minnesota Rules, chapter 7670, does not expire on April 15, 2000, but remains in effect for residential buildings not covered by Minnesota Rules, chapter 7676. The provisions of Minnesota Rules, chapter 7670, that apply to category 1 buildings govern new, detached single one- and two-family R-3 occupancy residential buildings. All new, detached single one- and two-family R-3 occupancy buildings subject to Minnesota Rules, chapter 7670, submitting an application for a building permit after April 14, 2000, must meet the requirements for category 1 buildings, as set out in Minnesota Rules, chapter 7670.

(b) As an alternative to compliance with paragraph (a), compliance with Minnesota Rules, chapters 7672 and 7674, is optional for a contractor or owner.

~~(c) The Department of Administration, Building Codes and Standards Division (BCSD), shall issue a report to the legislature by December 1, 2001, addressing the cost benefit, as well as air quality, building durability, moisture, enforcement, enforceability, and liability regarding implementation of Minnesota Rules, chapters 7670, 7672, and 7674. The report must include a feasibility study of establishing new criteria for category 2 detached single one- and two-family R-3 occupancy buildings that are energy efficient, enforceable, and provide sufficient nonmechanical ventilation or permeability for a home to maintain good air quality, building durability, and adequate release of moisture.~~

~~(d)~~ (c) This section expires when the commissioner of ~~administration~~ adopts a new energy code in accordance with Laws 2002, chapter 317, section 4.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16B.6175, is amended to read:

**16B.6175 ENERGY CODE.**

Notwithstanding section 16B.617, the commissioner of ~~administration~~, in consultation with the Construction Codes Advisory Council, shall explore and review the availability and appropriateness of any model energy codes related to the construction of single one- and two-family residential buildings. In consultation with the council, the commissioner shall take steps to adopt the chosen code with all necessary and appropriate amendments.

The commissioner may not adopt all or part of a model energy code relating to the construction of residential buildings without research and analysis that addresses, at a minimum, air quality, building durability, moisture, enforcement, enforceability cost benefit, and liability. The research and analysis must be completed in cooperation with practitioners in residential construction and building science and an affirmative recommendation by the Construction Codes Advisory Council.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16B.63, is amended to read:

**16B.63 STATE BUILDING OFFICIAL.**

Subdivision 1. **Appointment.** The commissioner shall appoint a state building official who under the direction and supervision of the commissioner shall administer the code.

Subd. 2. **Qualifications.** To be eligible for appointment as state building official an individual must be competent in the field of administration and shall have the experience in building design, construction, and supervision which the commissioner considers necessary.

Subd. 3. **Powers and duties.** The state building official may, with the approval of the commissioner, employ personnel necessary to carry out the inspector's function under sections 16B.59 to 16B.75. The state building official shall distribute without charge ~~one copy~~ a printed or electronic version of the code to each municipality within the state. ~~Additional copies~~ A printed or electronic version of the code shall be made available to municipalities and interested parties for a fee prescribed by the commissioner. The state building official shall perform other duties in administering the code assigned by the commissioner.

Subd. 4. **Accessibility specialists.** The state building official shall, with the approval of the commissioner, assign three department employees to assist municipalities in complying with section 16B.61, subdivision 5.

Subd. 5. **Interpretative authority.** To achieve uniform and consistent application of the State Building Code, ~~the state building official~~ the commissioner has final interpretative authority applicable to all codes adopted as part of the State Building Code except for the Plumbing Code and the Electrical Code ~~when enforced by the State Board of Electricity.~~ A final interpretative committee composed of seven members, consisting of three building officials, two inspectors from the affected field, and two construction industry representatives, shall review requests for final interpretations relating to that field. A request for which the commissioner has final interpretative authority. The Plumbing Board has final interpretative authority applicable to the State Plumbing Code and shall review requests for final interpretation made to the board that relate to the State Plumbing Code. The Board of Electricity has final interpretative authority applicable to the State Electrical Code and shall review requests for final interpretation made to the board that relate to the State Electrical Code. The Board of High Pressure Piping Systems has final interpretative authority applicable to the State High Pressure Piping Code and shall review requests for final interpretation made to the board that relate to the State High Pressure Piping Code. Except for requests for final interpretations that relate to the State Plumbing Code, the State Electrical Code, and the State High Pressure Piping Code, requests for final interpretation must come from a local or state level building code board of appeals. The ~~state building official~~ commissioner must establish procedures for membership of the final interpretative committees. The appropriate committee shall review the request and make a recommendation to the ~~state building official~~ commissioner for the final interpretation within 30 days of the request. The ~~state building official~~ commissioner must issue ~~an~~ a final interpretation within ten business days ~~from~~ after the receipt of the recommendation from the ~~review~~ final interpretive committee. ~~A~~ The Plumbing Board, the Board of Electricity, or the Board of High Pressure Piping Systems shall review a request and issue a final interpretation within 30 days of the request. Any person aggrieved by a final interpretation may be appealed appeal the interpretation within 30 days of its issuance ~~to~~ by the commissioner ~~under section 16B.67~~ or the board in accordance with chapter 14. The final interpretation must be published within ten business days of its issuance and made available to the public. Municipal building officials shall administer all final interpretations issued by the ~~state building official~~ commissioner, the Plumbing Board, the Board of Electricity, or the Board of High Pressure Piping Systems until the final interpretations are considered by the commissioner,

the Plumbing Board, the Board of Electricity, or the Board of High Pressure Piping Systems for adoption as part of the State Building Code, State Plumbing Code, State Electrical Code, and the State High Pressure Piping Code.

Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16B.64, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 8. **Effective date of rules.** A rule to adopt or amend a building code is effective 180 days after the filing of the rule with the secretary of state under section 14.16 or 14.26. The rule may provide for a different effective date if the commissioner or board proposing the rule finds that a different effective date is necessary to protect public health and safety after considering, among other things, the need for time for training of individuals to comply with and enforce the rule.

Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16B.65, is amended to read:

### **16B.65 BUILDING OFFICIALS.**

Subdivision 1. **Designation.** ~~By January 1, 2002,~~ Each municipality shall designate a building official to administer the code. A municipality may designate no more than one building official responsible for code administration defined by each certification category established in rule. Two or more municipalities may combine in the designation of a building official for the purpose of administering the provisions of the code within their communities. In those municipalities for which no building officials have been designated, the state building official may use whichever state employees are necessary to perform the duties of the building official until the municipality makes a temporary or permanent designation. All costs incurred by virtue of these services rendered by state employees must be borne by the involved municipality and receipts arising from these services must be paid ~~into the state treasury and credited to the special revenue fund~~ to the commissioner.

Subd. 2. **Qualifications.** A building official, to be eligible for designation, must be certified and have the experience in design, construction, and supervision which the commissioner deems necessary and must be generally informed on the quality and strength of building materials, accepted building construction requirements, and the nature of equipment and needs conducive to the safety, comfort, and convenience of building occupants. No person may be designated as a building official for a municipality unless the commissioner determines that the official is qualified as provided in subdivision 3.

Subd. 3. **Certification.** The commissioner shall by rule establish certification criteria as proof of qualification pursuant to subdivision 2. The commissioner may:

(1) ~~prepare and conduct~~ develop and administer written and practical examinations to determine if a person is qualified pursuant to subdivision 2 to be a building official;

(2) accept documentation of successful completion of testing programs developed and administered by nationally recognized testing agencies, as proof of qualification pursuant to subdivision 2; or

(3) determine qualifications by ~~both clauses (1) and (2)~~ satisfactory completion of clause (2) and a mandatory training program developed or approved by the commissioner.

Upon a determination of qualification under clause (1), (2), or ~~both of them~~ (3), the commissioner shall issue a certificate to the building official stating that the official is certified. Each person applying for examination and certification pursuant to this section shall pay a



nonrefundable fee of \$70. The commissioner or a designee may establish categories of certification that will recognize the varying complexities of code enforcement in the municipalities within the state. The commissioner shall provide educational programs designed to train and assist building officials in carrying out their responsibilities.

~~The Department of Employee Relations may, at the request of the commissioner, provide statewide testing services.~~

Subd. 4. **Duties.** Building officials shall, in the municipality for which they are designated, be responsible for all aspects of code administration for which they are certified, including the issuance of all building permits and the inspection of all manufactured home installations. The commissioner may direct a municipality with a building official to perform services for another municipality, and in that event the municipality being served shall pay the municipality rendering the services the reasonable costs of the services. The costs may be subject to approval by the commissioner.

Subd. 5. **Oversight committee.** (a) ~~The commissioner shall establish a Code Administration Oversight Committee to evaluate, mediate, and that will, at the commissioner's request, recommend to the commissioner any administrative action, penalty, suspension, or revocation with respect appropriate action pursuant to section 326B.82, in response to complaints filed with or information received or obtained by the commissioner alleging or indicating that supports a finding that: (1) an individual has engaged in, or is about to engage in, the unauthorized performance of official the duties of a certified building official or the unauthorized use of the title certified building official, title; or a violation of (2) a certified building official has violated a statute, rule, stipulation, agreement, settlement, compliance agreement, cease and desist agreement, or order that the commissioner has adopted, issued, or is empowered has the authority to enforce and that is related to the duties of a certified building official.~~

~~(b) The committee consists shall consist of six members. One member shall be the commissioner's designee and five members shall be certified building officials, who are appointed by the commissioner. At least two of whom the appointed certified building officials must be from nonmetropolitan counties. For the committee members must be compensated according to who are not state officials or employees, their compensation and removal from the oversight committee is governed by section 15.059, subdivision 3. The commissioner's designee shall act as an ex-officio member of the oversight committee serve as the chair of the oversight committee and shall not vote. The terms of the appointed members of the oversight committee shall be four years. The terms of three of the appointed members shall be coterminous with the governor and the terms of the remaining two appointed members shall end on the first Monday in January one year after the terms of the other appointed members expire. An appointed member may be reappointed. The committee is not subject to the expiration provisions of section 15.059, subdivision 5.~~

~~(b) (c) If the commissioner has a reasonable basis to believe determines that a person an individual has engaged in an act or practice constituting the unauthorized performance of official the duties, of a certified building official or the unauthorized use of the title certified building official title, or that a violation of certified building official has violated a statute, rule, stipulation, agreement, settlement, compliance agreement, cease and desist agreement, or order that the commissioner has adopted, issued, or is empowered authorized to enforce that is related to the duties of a certified building official, the commissioner may proceed with take administrative actions or penalties as described in subdivision 5a or suspension or revocation as described in subdivision 5b. against the individual pursuant to section 326B.082, subdivisions 7 and 11.~~

~~Subd. 5a. **Administrative action and penalties.** The commissioner shall, by rule, establish a graduated schedule of administrative actions for violations of sections 16B.59 to 16B.75 and rules adopted under those sections. The schedule must be based on and reflect the culpability, frequency, and severity of the violator's actions. The commissioner may impose a penalty from the schedule on a certification holder for a violation of sections 16B.59 to 16B.75 and rules adopted under those sections. The penalty is in addition to any criminal penalty imposed for the same violation. Administrative monetary penalties imposed by the commissioner must be paid to the special revenue fund.~~

~~Subd. 5b. **Suspension; revocation. Grounds.** Except as otherwise provided for by law, the commissioner may, upon notice and hearing, revoke or suspend or refuse to issue or reissue a building official certification if the applicant, building official, or certification holder: In addition to the grounds set forth in section 326B.082, subdivision 11, the commissioner may deny, suspend, limit, place conditions on, or revoke a certificate, or may censure an applicant or individual holding a certificate, if the applicant or individual:~~

- ~~(1) violates a provision of sections 16B.59 to 16B.75 or a rule adopted under those sections; or~~
- ~~(2) engages in fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation while performing the duties of a certified building official;~~
- ~~(3) makes a false statement in an application submitted to the commissioner or in a document required to be submitted to the commissioner; or~~
- ~~(4) violates an order of the commissioner.~~

~~Notice must be provided and the hearing conducted in accordance with the provisions of chapter 14 governing contested case proceedings. Nothing in this subdivision limits or otherwise affects the authority of a municipality to dismiss or suspend a building official at its discretion, except as otherwise provided for by law.~~

~~Subd. 5c. **Action against unlicensed persons.** The commissioner may take any administrative action provided under section 326B.082, against an individual required to be certified under subdivision 3, based upon conduct that would provide grounds for action against a certificate holder under this section.~~

~~Subd. 6. **Vacancies.** In the event that a designated building official position is vacant within a municipality, that municipality shall designate a certified building official to fill the vacancy as soon as possible. The commissioner must be notified of any vacancy or designation in writing within 15 days. If the municipality fails to designate a certified building official within 15 days of the occurrence of the vacancy, the state building official may provide state employees to serve that function as provided in subdivision 1 until the municipality makes a temporary or permanent designation. Municipalities must not issue permits without a designated certified building official.~~

~~Subd. 7. **Continuing education.** Subject to sections 16B.59 to 16B.75, the commissioner may by rule establish or approve continuing education programs for municipal certified building officials dealing with matters of building code administration, inspection, and enforcement.~~

~~Each person certified as a building official for the state must satisfactorily complete applicable educational programs established or approved by the commissioner every three calendar years to retain certification.~~

~~Each person certified as a building official must submit in writing to the commissioner an application for renewal of certification within 60 days of the last day of the third calendar year following the last certificate issued. Each application for renewal must be accompanied by proof of satisfactory completion of minimum continuing education requirements and the certification renewal fee established by the commissioner.~~

Subd. 8. **Renewal.** (a) Subject to sections 16B.59 to 16B.76, the commissioner of labor and industry may by rule adopt standards dealing with renewal requirements.

(b) If the commissioner has not issued a notice of denial of application for a certificate holder and if the certificate holder has properly and timely filed a fully completed renewal application, then the certificate holder may continue to engage in building official activities whether or not the renewed certificate has been received. Applications must be made on a form approved by the commissioner. Each application for renewal must be fully completed, and be accompanied by proof of the satisfactory completion of minimum continuing education requirements and the certification renewal fee established by the commissioner. Applications are timely if received prior to the expiration of the most recently issued certificate. An application for renewal that does not contain all of the information requested is an incomplete application and will not be accepted.

Subd. 9. **Expiration.** All certificates expire at 11:59:59 p.m. central time on the date of expiration if not properly renewed in accordance with subdivision 8, paragraph (b).

Subd. 10. **Failure to renew.** An individual who has failed to make a timely application for renewal of a certificate is not certified and must not serve as the designated building official for any municipality until a renewed certificate has been issued by the commissioner.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007.

Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16B.70, is amended to read:

**16B.70 SURCHARGE.**

Subdivision 1. **Computation.** To defray the costs of administering sections 16B.59 to 16B.76, a surcharge is imposed on all permits issued by municipalities in connection with the construction of or addition or alteration to buildings and equipment or appurtenances after June 30, 1971. The commissioner may use any surplus in surcharge receipts to award grants for code research and development and education.

If the fee for the permit issued is fixed in amount the surcharge is equivalent to one-half mill (.0005) of the fee or 50 cents, whichever amount is greater. For all other permits, the surcharge is as follows:

(1) if the valuation of the structure, addition, or alteration is \$1,000,000 or less, the surcharge is equivalent to one-half mill (.0005) of the valuation of the structure, addition, or alteration;

(2) if the valuation is greater than \$1,000,000, the surcharge is \$500 plus two-fifths mill (.0004) of the value between \$1,000,000 and \$2,000,000;

(3) if the valuation is greater than \$2,000,000, the surcharge is \$900 plus three-tenths mill (.0003) of the value between \$2,000,000 and \$3,000,000;

(4) if the valuation is greater than \$3,000,000, the surcharge is \$1,200 plus one-fifth mill (.0002)

of the value between \$3,000,000 and \$4,000,000;

(5) if the valuation is greater than \$4,000,000, the surcharge is \$1,400 plus one-tenth mill (.0001) of the value between \$4,000,000 and \$5,000,000; and

(6) if the valuation exceeds \$5,000,000, the surcharge is \$1,500 plus one-twentieth mill (.00005) of the value that exceeds \$5,000,000.

Subd. 2. **Collection and reports.** All permit surcharges must be collected by each municipality and a portion of them remitted to the state. Each municipality having a population greater than 20,000 people shall prepare and submit to the commissioner once a month a report of fees and surcharges on fees collected during the previous month but shall retain the greater of two percent or that amount collected up to \$25 to apply against the administrative expenses the municipality incurs in collecting the surcharges. All other municipalities shall submit the report and surcharges on fees once a quarter but shall retain the greater of four percent or that amount collected up to \$25 to apply against the administrative expenses the municipalities incur in collecting the surcharges. The report, which must be in a form prescribed by the commissioner, must be submitted together with a remittance covering the surcharges collected by the 15th day following the month or quarter in which the surcharges are collected. ~~All money collected by the commissioner through surcharges and other fees prescribed by sections 16B.59 to 16B.75 shall be deposited in the state government special revenue fund and is appropriated to the commissioner for the purpose of administering and enforcing the State Building Code under sections 16B.59 to 16B.75.~~

Subd. 3. **Revenue to equal costs.** Revenue received from the surcharge imposed in subdivision 1 should approximately equal the cost, including the overhead cost, of administering sections 16B.59 to 16B.75. By November 30 each year, the commissioner must report to the commissioner of finance and to the legislature on changes in the surcharge imposed in subdivision 1 needed to comply with this policy. In making this report, the commissioner must assume that the services associated with administering sections 16B.59 to 16B.75 will continue to be provided at the same level provided during the fiscal year in which the report is made.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007.

Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16B.72, is amended to read:

**16B.72 REFERENDA ON STATE BUILDING CODE IN NONMETROPOLITAN COUNTIES.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, a county that is not a metropolitan county as defined by section 473.121, subdivision 4, may provide, by a vote of the majority of its electors residing outside of municipalities that have adopted the State Building Code before January 1, 1977, that no part of the State Building Code except the building requirements for disabled persons with disabilities, the requirements for bleacher safety, and the requirements for elevator safety applies within its jurisdiction.

The county board may submit to the voters at a regular or special election the question of adopting the building code. The county board shall submit the question to the voters if it receives a petition for the question signed by a number of voters equal to at least five percent of those voting in the last general election. The question on the ballot must be stated substantially as follows:

"Shall the State Building Code be adopted in ..... County?"

If the majority of the votes cast on the proposition is in the negative, the State Building Code does not apply in the subject county, outside home rule charter or statutory cities or towns that adopted the building code before January 1, 1977, except the building requirements for disabled persons with disabilities, the requirements for bleacher safety, and the requirements for elevator safety do apply.

Nothing in this section precludes a municipality or town that has not adopted the State Building Code from adopting and enforcing by ordinance or other legal means the State Building Code within its jurisdiction.

Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16B.73, is amended to read:

**16B.73 STATE BUILDING CODE IN MUNICIPALITIES UNDER 2,500; LOCAL OPTION.**

The governing body of a municipality whose population is less than 2,500 may provide that the State Building Code, except the requirements for disabled persons with disabilities, the requirements for bleacher safety, and the requirements for elevator safety, will not apply within the jurisdiction of the municipality, if the municipality is located in whole or in part within a county exempted from its application under section 16B.72. If more than one municipality has jurisdiction over an area, the State Building Code continues to apply unless all municipalities having jurisdiction over the area have provided that the State Building Code, except the requirements for disabled persons with disabilities, the requirements for bleacher safety, and the requirements for elevator safety, does not apply within their respective jurisdictions. Nothing in this section precludes a municipality or town from adopting and enforcing by ordinance or other legal means the State Building Code within its jurisdiction.

Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16B.735, is amended to read:

**16B.735 ENFORCEMENT OF REQUIREMENTS FOR ~~DISABLED PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES~~**.

A statutory or home rule charter city that is not covered by the State Building Code because of action taken under section 16B.72 or 16B.73 is responsible for enforcement in the city of the State Building Code's requirements for disabled persons with disabilities. In all other areas where the State Building Code does not apply because of action taken under section 16B.72 or 16B.73, the county is responsible for enforcement of those requirements.

Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16B.74, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Applicability.** ~~As used in~~ For the purposes of sections 16B.61, 16B.72, 16B.73, and 16B.74 to ~~16B.746~~ 16B.748 the terms "passenger or freight elevator," "automatic operation" and "continuous pressure operation" defined in this section shall have the following meanings given them.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16B.74, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Passenger or freight elevator.** "Passenger or freight elevator" means all elevators except those that comply with the safety rules of the department ~~of Administration~~ relating to

construction and installation and that have automatic operation or continuous pressure operation.

Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16B.74, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 7. **Elevator inspection.** "Elevator inspection" means an examination of elevator installations, repairs, alterations, removal, and construction for compliance with the State Building Code that may include witnessing tests performed on elevators by elevator personnel, performing tests on elevators, or an audit of records related to routine and periodic maintenance and testing, or any combination thereof when performed by the department or a municipality authorized to perform such inspections.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16B.74, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 8. **Elevator inspector.** "Elevator inspector" means an individual who meets the requirements established pursuant to section 16B.748, clause (1), who is performing elevator inspections for the department or a municipality authorized to perform such inspections.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16B.741, is amended to read:

**16B.741 ELEVATOR ~~AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION AND REPORTING.~~**

Subdivision 1. **Elevator available for inspection.** A person, ~~firm, entity, or corporation~~ that owns or controls a building or other structure housing an elevator that is subject to inspection by the department, shall, upon request, provide access at a reasonable hour to the elevator for purposes of inspection.

Subd. 2. **Persons required to report.** The following persons shall report the information specified in subdivision 3 to the commissioner by January 1, 2008:

(a) any person that, between August 1, 2005, and July 31, 2007, has provided service, alteration, repair, or maintenance to any elevator located in Minnesota;

(b) any person that, between August 1, 2005, and July 31, 2007, has entered into an agreement to provide service, alteration, repair, or maintenance to any elevator located in Minnesota;

(c) any person that owns or controls an elevator located in Minnesota that, between August 1, 2005, and July 31, 2007, has not received service, alteration, repair, or maintenance on the elevator;  
or

(d) any person that owns or controls an elevator located in Minnesota that, between August 1, 2005, and July 31, 2007, has not entered into an agreement to receive service, alteration, repair, or maintenance on the elevator.

Subd. 3. **Elevator location, type, and installation date.** On a form prescribed by the commissioner, the persons required to report pursuant to subdivision 2 shall provide the following:

(a) the location of each elevator;

(b) the type of each elevator; and

(c) the date the elevator was installed.

Subd. 4. **Definition.** As used in this section, "elevator" is as defined in section 16B.74, subdivision 5.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 22. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16B.744, is amended to read:

**16B.744 ELEVATORS, ENTRANCES SEALED.**

It shall be the duty of the department of ~~Administration~~ and the licensing authority of any municipality which adopts any such ordinance whenever it finds any such elevator under its jurisdiction in use in violation of any provision of sections 16B.74 to 16B.745 to seal the entrances of such elevator and attach a notice forbidding the use of such elevator until the provisions thereof are complied with.

Sec. 23. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16B.745, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Removal of seal.** No person, firm, or corporation may remove any seal or notice forbidding the use of an elevator, except by authority of the department of ~~Administration~~ or the licensing authority having jurisdiction over the elevator, or operate an elevator after a notice has been attached forbidding its use, unless the notice has been removed by authority of the department of ~~Administration~~ or the licensing authority having jurisdiction over the elevator.

Sec. 24. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16B.745, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Penalties.** The commissioner of ~~administration~~ shall administer sections 16B.74 to 16B.749. In addition to the remedies provided for violations of this chapter, the commissioner may impose a penalty of up to ~~\$1,000~~ \$10,000 for a violation of any provision of sections 16B.74 to 16B.749.

Sec. 25. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16B.747, is amended to read:

**16B.747 FEES FOR LICENSURE AND INSPECTION PERMIT.**

Subdivision 1. **Permits.** No person, ~~firm, or corporation~~ may construct, install, alter, or remove an elevator without first filing an application for a permit with the department of ~~Administration~~ or a municipality authorized by subdivision 3 to inspect elevators. ~~Upon successfully completing inspection and the payment of the appropriate fee, the owner must be granted an operating permit for the elevator.~~

Subd. 1a. **Annual operating permit.** No person may operate an elevator without first obtaining an annual operating permit from the department or a municipality authorized by subdivision 3 to issue annual operating permits. A \$100 annual operating permit fee must be paid to the department for each annual operating permit issued by the department, except that the original annual operating permit must be included in the permit fee for the initial installation of the elevator. Annual operating permits must be issued at 12-month intervals from the date of the initial annual operating permit. For each subsequent year, an owner must be granted an annual operating permit for the elevator upon the owner's or owner's agent's submission of a form prescribed by the commissioner and payment of the \$100 fee. Each form must include the location of the elevator, the results of any periodic test required by the code, and any other criteria established by rule. An annual operating permit may

be revoked by the commissioner upon an audit of the periodic testing results submitted with the application or a failure to comply with elevator code requirements, inspections, or any other law related to elevators.

Subd. 2. **Contractor licenses.** The commissioner may establish criteria for the qualifications of elevator contractors and issue licenses based upon proof of the applicant's qualifications.

Subd. 3. **Permissive municipal regulation.** A municipality may conduct a system of elevator inspection in conformity with this chapter, State Building Code requirements, and adopted rules that includes the inspection of elevator installation, repair, alteration, and removal, construction, ~~and the~~ routine and periodic inspection and testing of existing elevators, and the issuance of annual operating permits. The municipality shall employ inspectors meeting the minimum requirements established by Minnesota Rules to perform the inspections and to witness the tests. A municipality may establish and retain its own fees for inspection of elevators and related devices in its jurisdiction. A municipality may establish and retain its own fees for issuance of annual operating permits for elevators in its jurisdiction. A municipality may not adopt standards that do not conform to the uniform standards prescribed by the department.

If the commissioner determines that a municipality is not properly administering and enforcing the law, rules, and codes, the commissioner shall have the inspection, administration, and enforcement undertaken by a qualified inspector employed by the department.

~~Subd. 4. **Deposit of fees.** Fees received under this section must be deposited in the state treasury and credited to the special revenue fund.~~

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007.

Sec. 26. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16B.748, is amended to read:

**16B.748 RULES.**

The commissioner may adopt rules for the following purposes:

(1) to establish minimum qualifications for elevator inspectors that must include possession of a current elevator constructor electrician's license issued by the ~~State Board of Electricity~~ department and proof of successful completion of the national elevator industry education program examination or equivalent experience;

(2) to establish minimum qualifications for limited elevator inspectors;

~~(2)~~ (3) to establish criteria for the qualifications of elevator contractors;

~~(3)~~ (4) to establish elevator standards under sections 16B.61, subdivisions 1 and 2, and 16B.64;

~~(4)~~ (5) to establish procedures for appeals of decisions of the commissioner under chapter 14 and procedures allowing the commissioner, before issuing a decision, to seek advice from the elevator trade, building owners or managers, and others knowledgeable in the installation, construction, and repair of elevators; and

~~(5)~~ (6) to establish requirements for the registration of all elevators.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.



Sec. 27. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16B.76, is amended to read:

**16B.76 CONSTRUCTION CODES ADVISORY COUNCIL.**

Subdivision 1. **Membership.** (a) The Construction Codes Advisory Council consists of the following members:

(1) the commissioner ~~of administration~~ or the commissioner's designee representing the department's ~~Building Codes and Standards~~ Construction Codes and Licensing Division;

~~(2) the commissioner of health or the commissioner's designee representing an Environmental Health Section of the department;~~

~~(3) (2) the commissioner of public safety or the commissioner's designee representing the department's~~ the commissioner of public safety's State Fire Marshal Division;

~~(4) the commissioner of commerce or the commissioner's designee representing the department's State Energy Office; and~~

~~(5) (3) one member representing, appointed by the commissioner, engaged in each of the following occupations or entities, appointed by the commissioner of administration or industries:~~

(i) a certified building ~~official~~ officials;

(ii) a fire ~~service representative~~ chiefs or fire marshals;

(iii) a licensed ~~architect~~ architects;

(iv) a licensed ~~engineer~~ professional engineers;

(v) a ~~building owners and managers representative~~ commercial building owners and managers;

(vi) a the licensed residential building contractor industry;

(vii) a the commercial building contractor industry;

(viii) a the heating and ventilation contractor industry;

(ix) a member of the Plumbing contractor Board;

(x) a ~~representative of a construction and building trades union; and~~ member of the Board of Electricity;

~~(xi) a local unit of government representative.~~ (xi) a member of the Board of High Pressure Piping Systems;

(xii) the boiler industry;

(xiii) the manufactured housing industry;

(xiv) public utility suppliers;

(xv) the Minnesota Building and Construction Trades Council; and

(xvi) local units of government.

(b) The commissioner or the commissioner's designee representing the department's Construction Codes and Licensing Division shall serve as chair of the advisory council. For members who are not state officials or employees, terms, compensation, and removal, and the filling of vacancies of members of the advisory council are governed by section 15.059. The council shall select one of its members to serve as chair. The terms of the members of the advisory council shall be four years. The terms of eight of the appointed members shall be coterminous with the governor and the terms of the remaining nine appointed members shall end on the first Monday in January one year after the terms of the other appointed members expire. An appointed member may be reappointed. Each council member shall appoint an alternate to serve in their absence. The committee is not subject to the expiration provision of section 15.059, subdivision 5.

~~(c) The council expires June 30, 2003.~~

Subd. 2. **Duties of council.** The council shall review laws, codes, rules, standards, and licensing requirements relating to building construction and may:

(1) recommend ways to eliminate inconsistencies, to streamline construction regulation and construction processes procedures, and to improve procedures within and among jurisdictions;

(2) review and comment on current and proposed laws and rules to promote coordination and consistency;

(3) advise agencies on possible changes in rules to make them easier to understand and apply; and

(4) promote the coordination, within each jurisdiction, of the administration and enforcement of construction codes.

The council shall meet a minimum of four times each year. The council shall report its findings and recommendations to the commissioner of administration and the head of any other affected agency by the end of each calendar year. The council may shall recommend changes in laws or rules governing building construction. The council may shall establish subcommittees to facilitate its work. If the council establishes subcommittees, it shall include in their memberships representation from entities and organizations expressing an interest in membership. The commissioner of administration shall maintain a list of interested entities and organizations.

Subd. 3. **Agency cooperation.** State agencies and local governmental units shall cooperate with the council and, so far as possible, provide information or assistance to it upon its request. The commissioner of administration shall provide necessary staff and administrative support to the council.

Sec. 28. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.992, is amended to read:

**326.992 BOND REQUIRED FOR CERTAIN CONTRACTORS.**

(a) A person contracting to do gas, heating, ventilation, cooling, air conditioning, fuel burning, or refrigeration work must give bond to the state in the amount of \$25,000 for all work entered into within the state. The bond must be for the benefit of persons suffering financial loss by reason of the contractor's failure to comply with the requirements of the State Mechanical Code. A bond given to the state must be filed with the commissioner of administration and is in lieu of all other bonds to any political subdivision required for work covered by this section. The bond must be written by a

corporate surety licensed to do business in the state.

(b) The commissioner ~~of administration~~ may charge each person giving bond under this section an annual bond filing fee of \$15. ~~The money must be deposited in a special revenue fund and is appropriated to the commissioner to cover the cost of administering the bond program.~~

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007.

Sec. 29. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 327.31, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Authorized representative.** "Authorized representative" means any person, firm or corporation, or employee thereof, approved or hired by the commissioner of labor and industry to perform inspection services.

Sec. 30. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 327.31, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Manufactured Home Building Code.** "Manufactured Home Building Code" means, for manufactured homes manufactured after July 1, 1972, and prior to June 15, 1976, the standards code promulgated by the American National Standards Institute and identified as ANSI A119.1, including all revisions thereof in effect on May 21, 1971, or the provisions of the National Fire Protection Association and identified as NFPA 501B, and further revisions adopted by the commissioner of labor and industry.

"Manufactured Home Building Code" means, for manufactured homes constructed after June 14, 1976, the manufactured home construction and safety standards promulgated by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development which are in effect at the time of the manufactured home's manufacture.

Sec. 31. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 327.31, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Commissioner.** "Commissioner" means the commissioner of ~~administration~~ labor and industry.

Sec. 32. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 327.31, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 6a. **Individual.** "Individual" means a human being.

Sec. 33. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 327.31, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Person.** "Person" means ~~a person, partnership, corporation or other legal entity~~ any individual, limited liability company, corporation, partnership, incorporated or unincorporated association, sole proprietorship, joint stock company, or any other legal or commercial entity.

Sec. 34. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 327.31, subdivision 15, is amended to read:

Subd. 15. **Purchaser.** "Purchaser" means the first ~~person~~ individual purchasing a manufactured home in good faith for purposes other than resale.

Sec. 35. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 327.32, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

Subd. 8. **Evidence of compliance.** Each manufacturer, distributor, and dealer shall establish and maintain records, make reports, and provide information as the commissioner or the secretary may reasonably require to be able to determine whether the manufacturer, distributor, or dealer has acted

or is acting in compliance with sections 327.31 to 327.35, and shall, upon request of a person duly designated by the commissioner or the secretary, permit that person to inspect appropriate books, papers, records, and documents relevant to determining whether that manufacturer, distributor, or dealer has acted or is acting in compliance with sections 327.31 to 327.35, and the National Manufactured Home Construction and Safety Standards Act of 1974, United States Code, title 42, section 5401, et seq., as amended by the National Manufactured Housing Construction and Safety Standards Act, Title VI, Manufactured Housing Improvement Act of 2000, or other applicable federal or state law.

Sec. 36. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 327.33, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Fees.** The commissioner shall by rule establish reasonable fees for seals, installation seals and inspections which are sufficient to cover all costs incurred in the administration of sections 327.31 to 327.35. The commissioner shall also establish by rule a monitoring inspection fee in an amount that will comply with the secretary's fee distribution program. This monitoring inspection fee shall be an amount paid by the manufacturer for each manufactured home produced in Minnesota. The monitoring inspection fee shall be paid by the manufacturer to the secretary. The rules of the fee distribution program require the secretary to distribute the fees collected from all manufactured home manufacturers among states approved and conditionally approved based on the number of new manufactured homes whose first location after leaving the manufacturer is on the premises of a distributor, dealer or purchaser in that state. ~~All money collected by the commissioner through fees prescribed by sections 327.31 to 327.36 shall be deposited in the state government special revenue fund and is appropriated to the commissioner for the purpose of administering and enforcing the Manufactured Home Building Code under sections 327.31 to 327.36.~~

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007.

Sec. 37. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 327.33, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

Subd. 6. **Authorization as agency.** The commissioner shall apply to the secretary for approval of the commissioner as the administrative agency for the regulation of manufactured homes under the rules of the secretary. The commissioner may make rules for the administration and enforcement of department responsibilities as a state administrative agency including, but not limited to, rules for the handling of citizen's complaints. All money received for services provided by the commissioner or the department's authorized agents as a state administrative agency shall be deposited in the ~~general~~ construction code fund. The commissioner is charged with the adoption, administration, and enforcement of the Manufactured Home Construction and Safety Standards, consistent with rules and regulations promulgated by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. The commissioner may adopt the rules, codes, and standards necessary to enforce the standards promulgated under this section. The commissioner is authorized to conduct hearings and presentations of views consistent with regulations adopted by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development and to adopt rules in order to carry out this function.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007.

Sec. 38. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 327.33, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Employees.** The commissioner may appoint such employees within the Department of ~~Administration~~ Labor and Industry as deemed necessary for the administration of sections 327.31

to 327.35.

Sec. 39. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 327.34, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Removal of seals.** Manufactured home seals remain the property of the Department of ~~Administration~~ Labor and Industry and may be removed by the commissioner from any manufactured home which is in violation of the Manufactured Home Building Code.

Sec. 40. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 327.35, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Civil Monetary penalty.** Notwithstanding the penalty amount of section 326B.082, subdivisions 7 and 12, any person who violates any provision of this section is liable to the state of Minnesota for a civil monetary penalty of not to exceed \$1,000 for each offense violation. Each violation involving a separate manufactured home or involving a separate failure or refusal to allow or perform any act required by this section constitutes a separate offense violation, except that the maximum civil monetary penalties for any related series of violations occurring within one year from the date of the first violation may not exceed \$1,000,000.

Sec. 41. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 327.35, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Willful violations.** Any individual or a director, officer, or agent of a corporation who knowingly and willfully violates any provision of this section in a manner which threatens the health or safety of any purchaser shall be ~~fined not more than \$3,000 or imprisoned not more than one year, or both~~ guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

Sec. 42. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 327B.01, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Commissioner.** "Commissioner" means the commissioner of ~~administration~~ labor and industry.

Sec. 43. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 327B.01, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **Consumer customer.** "Consumer customer" means any ~~natural person~~ individual who, primarily for personal, household or family purposes, buys, sells, or seeks to buy or sell, a manufactured home from, to or through a dealer or manufacturer.

Sec. 44. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 327B.01, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Dealer or retailer.** "Dealer" or "retailer" means any person who engages in the business, either exclusively or in addition to any other occupation, of selling or brokering manufactured homes, new or used, or who offers to sell, solicit, broker or advertise the sale of manufactured homes, new or used.

Sec. 45. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 327B.01, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 10a. **Individual.** "Individual" means a human being.

Sec. 46. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 327B.01, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 11a. **Licensee.** "Licensee" means a person who is licensed as a dealer, limited dealer, or manufacturer by the Department of Labor and Industry.

Sec. 47. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 327B.01, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 11b. **Limited dealer or limited retailer.** "Limited dealer" or "limited retailer" means any person who is an owner of a manufactured home park authorized, as principal only, to engage in the sale, offering for sale, soliciting, or advertising the sale of used manufactured homes located in the owned manufactured home park, who is the title holder and engages in no more than ten sales annually.

Sec. 48. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 327B.01, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 14a. **Manufacturing facility.** "Manufacturing facility" means the physical site where a manufacturer engages in the business of manufacture, assembly, or production of manufactured homes.

Sec. 49. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 327B.01, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 16a. **Owner.** "Owner" means any person holding title to a manufactured home park or manufactured homes.

Sec. 50. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 327B.01, subdivision 17, is amended to read:

Subd. 17. **Person.** "Person" means any individual, limited liability company, corporation, firm, partnership, incorporated and unincorporated association, sole proprietorship, joint stock company, or any other legal or commercial entity.

Sec. 51. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 327B.04, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **License ~~and~~, bond, and liability insurance required.** No person shall act as a dealer in manufactured homes, new or used, without a license ~~and~~, a surety bond, and liability insurance as provided in this section. No person shall manufacture manufactured homes without a license ~~and~~ for each manufacturing facility shipping into or located within Minnesota's boundaries, a surety bond, and liability insurance as provided in this section. The licensing and bonding requirements of this section do not apply to any bank, savings bank, savings association, or credit union, chartered by either this state or the federal government, which acts as a dealer only by repossessing manufactured homes and then offering the homes for resale.

Sec. 52. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 327B.04, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **License prerequisites.** No application shall be granted nor license issued until the applicant proves to the commissioner that:

(a) the applicant has a permanent, established place of business at each licensed location. An "established place of business" means a permanent enclosed building other than a residence, or a commercial office space, either owned by the applicant or leased by the applicant for a term of at least one year, located in an area where zoning regulations allow commercial activity, and where the books, records and files necessary to conduct the business are kept and maintained. The owner of a licensed manufactured home park who resides in or adjacent to the park may use the residence as the established place of business required by this subdivision, unless prohibited by local zoning ordinance.

If a license is granted, the licensee may use unimproved lots and premises for sale, storage, and display of manufactured homes, if the licensee first notifies the commissioner in writing;

(b) if the applicant desires to sell, solicit or advertise the sale of new manufactured homes, it has

a bona fide contract or franchise in effect with a manufacturer or distributor of the new manufactured home it proposes to deal in;

(c) the applicant has secured: (1) a surety bond in the amount of \$20,000 for the agency and each subagency location that bears the applicant's name and the name under which the applicant will be licensed and do business in this state. Each bond is for the protection of consumer customers, and must be executed by the applicant as principal and issued by a surety company admitted to do business in this state. The Each bond shall be exclusively for the purpose of reimbursing consumer customers and shall be conditioned upon the faithful compliance by the applicant with all of the laws and rules of this state pertaining to the applicant's business as a dealer or manufacturer, including sections 325D.44, 325F.67 and 325F.69, and upon the applicant's faithful performance of all its legal obligations to consumer customers; and (2) a certificate of liability insurance in the amount of \$1,000,000 that provides coverage for the agency and each subagency location;

(d) the applicant has established a trust account as required by section 327B.08, subdivision 3, unless the applicant states in writing its intention to limit its business to selling, offering for sale, soliciting or advertising the sale of new manufactured homes; and

(e) the applicant has provided evidence of having had at least two years' prior experience in the sale of manufactured homes, working for a licensed dealer.

Sec. 53. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 327B.04, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

Subd. 6. **Certificate of license.** For each license granted the commissioner shall issue a certificate which includes the name of the licensee, the name of the surety company and the amount of the surety bond, and the insurance underwriter and policy number, the names and addresses of any related principal or subagencies, and a license number.

Sec. 54. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 327B.04, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Fees; licenses; when granted.** Each application for a license or license renewal must be accompanied by a fee in an amount established by the commissioner by rule pursuant to section 327B.10. The fees shall be set in an amount which over the fiscal biennium will produce revenues approximately equal to the expenses which the commissioner expects to incur during that fiscal biennium while administering and enforcing sections 327B.01 to 327B.12. ~~All money collected by the commissioner through fees prescribed in sections 327B.01 to 327B.12 shall be deposited in the state government special revenue fund and is appropriated to the commissioner for purposes of administering and enforcing the provisions of this chapter.~~ The commissioner shall grant or deny a license application or a renewal application within 60 days of its filing. If the license is granted, the commissioner shall license the applicant as a dealer or manufacturer for the remainder of the calendar year. Upon application by the licensee, the commissioner shall renew the license for a two year period, if:

(a) the renewal application satisfies the requirements of subdivisions 3 and 4;

(b) the renewal applicant has made all listings, registrations, notices and reports required by the commissioner during the preceding year; and

(c) the renewal applicant has paid all fees owed pursuant to sections 327B.01 to 327B.12 and all taxes, arrearages, and penalties owed to the state.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007.

Sec. 55. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 327B.04, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

Subd. 8. **Limited dealer's license.** The commissioner shall issue a limited dealer's license to an owner of a manufactured home park authorizing the licensee as principal only to engage in the sale, offering for sale, soliciting, or advertising the sale of used manufactured homes located in the owned manufactured home park. The licensee must be the title holder of the homes and may engage in no more than ten sales annually. An owner may, upon payment of the applicable fee and compliance with this subdivision, obtain a separate license for each owned manufactured home park and is entitled to sell up to ten homes per license provided that only one limited dealer license may be issued for each park. The license shall be issued after:

(1) receipt of an application on forms provided by the commissioner containing the following information:

(i) the identity of the applicant;

(ii) the name under which the applicant will be licensed and do business in this state;

(iii) the name and address of the owned manufactured home park, including a copy of the park license, serving as the basis for the issuance of the license; ~~and~~

(iv) the name, home, and business address of the applicant;

(v) the name, address, and telephone number of one individual that is designated by the applicant to receive all communications and cooperate with all inspections and investigations of the commissioner pertaining to the sale of manufactured homes in the manufactured home park owned by the applicant;

(vi) whether the applicant or its designated individual has been convicted of a crime within the previous ten years that is either related directly to the business for which the license is sought or involved fraud, misrepresentation or misuse of funds, or has suffered a judgment in a civil action involving fraud, misrepresentation, or conversion within the previous five years or has had any government license or permit suspended or revoked as a result of an action brought by a federal or state governmental agency in this or any other state within the last five years; and

(vii) the applicant's qualifications and business history, including whether the applicant or its designated individual has ever been adjudged bankrupt or insolvent, or has any unsatisfied court judgments outstanding against it or them;

(2) payment of a \$100 annual fee; and

(3) provision of a surety bond in the amount of \$5,000. A separate surety bond must be provided for each limited license.

The applicant need not comply with section 327B.04, subdivision 4, paragraph (e). The holding of a limited dealer's license does not satisfy the requirement contained in section 327B.04, subdivision 4, paragraph (e), for the licensee or salespersons with respect to obtaining a dealer license. The commissioner may, upon application for a renewal of a license, require only a verification that copies of sales documents have been retained and payment of a \$100 renewal fee. "Sales documents" mean only the safety feature disclosure form defined in section 327C.07,



subdivision 3a, title of the home, financing agreements, and purchase agreements.

The license holder shall, upon request of the commissioner, make available for inspection during business hours sales documents required to be retained under this subdivision.

Sec. 56. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 327B.04, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 8a. **Service.** Service of a document on a limited dealer licensed under this section may be effected by mail to or by personal service on: (1) the licensee at the licensee's last known address; or (2) the individual designated by the licensee at that individual's last known address.

Sec. 57. [327B.042] NOTICE TO COMMISSIONER.

Subdivision 1. **Notification.** A person licensed as a dealer, limited dealer, or manufacturer shall notify the commissioner of the occurrence of any of the events in subdivisions 2 to 5.

Subd. 2. **Change in application information.** A licensee shall notify the commissioner in writing within ten days of the change of any change in information contained in the most recent license application on file with the commissioner, which shall include any change in the information pertaining to the individual designated under section 327B.04, subdivision 8, clause (1), item (vi).

Subd. 3. **Civil judgment.** A licensee shall notify the commissioner in writing within ten days of any decision of a court regarding a proceeding in which the licensee was named as a defendant, and in which fraud, misrepresentation, or the conversion of funds was found to have been committed by the licensee.

Subd. 4. **Disciplinary action in another state.** A licensee shall notify the commissioner in writing within ten days of the condition, reprimand, censure, limitation, suspension, or revocation of any other professional or occupational license, registration, permit, or certificate held by the licensee in this or any other state, or any other United States jurisdiction.

Subd. 5. **Criminal offense.** A licensee shall notify the commissioner in writing within ten days if the licensee is found guilty of a felony, gross misdemeanor, misdemeanor, or any comparable offense related to manufactured home sales, improper business practices, fraud, misrepresentation, misuse of funds, or violation of the consumer laws in this or any other state, or any other United States jurisdiction.

Sec. 58. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 327B.05, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Grounds.** In addition to the grounds in section 326B.082, subdivision 11, the commissioner may by order deny, suspend, limit, place conditions on, or revoke any the application or license on finding (1) that the order is in the public interest and (2) that the of any applicant or licensee or any of its directors, officers, limited or general partners, controlling shareholders, or affiliates for any of the following grounds:

~~(a) has filed an application for a license or a license renewal which fails to disclose any material information or contains any statement which is false or misleading with respect to any material fact;~~

~~(b)~~ (a) has violated any of the provisions of sections 327B.01 to 327B.12 or any rule or order issued by the commissioner or any prior law providing for the licensing of manufactured home dealers or manufacturers;

~~(e)~~ (b) has had a previous manufacturer or dealer license revoked in this or any other state;

~~(d)~~ (c) has engaged in acts or omissions which have been adjudicated or amount to a violation of any of the provisions of section 325D.44, 325F.67 or 325F.69;

~~(e)~~ (d) has sold or brokered the sale of a home containing a material violation of sections 327.31 to 327.35 about which the dealer knew or which should have been obvious to a reasonably prudent dealer;

~~(f)~~ (e) has failed to make or provide all listings, notices and reports required by the commissioner;

~~(g)~~ (f) has failed to pay a civil penalty assessed under subdivision 5 within ten days after the assessment becomes final;

~~(h)~~ (g) has failed to pay to the commissioner or other responsible government agency all taxes, fees and arrearages due;

~~(i)~~ (h) has failed to duly apply for license renewal;

~~(j)~~ (i) has violated any applicable manufactured home building or safety code;

~~(k)~~ (j) has failed or refused to honor any express or implied warranty as provided in section 327B.03;

~~(l)~~ (k) has failed to continuously occupy a permanent, established place of business licensed under section 327B.04;

~~(m)~~ (l) has, without first notifying the commissioner, sold a new and unused manufactured home other than the make of manufactured home described in a franchise or contract filed with the application for license or license renewal;

~~(n)~~ (m) has wrongfully failed to deliver a certificate of title to a person entitled to it;

~~(o)~~ (n) is insolvent or bankrupt;

~~(p)~~ (o) holds an impaired or canceled bond;

~~(q)~~ (p) has failed to notify the commissioner of bankruptcy proceedings within ten days after a petition in bankruptcy has been filed by or against the dealer or manufacturer;

~~(r)~~ (q) has, within the previous ten years, been convicted of a crime that either related directly to the business of the dealer or manufacturer or involved fraud, misrepresentation or misuse of funds;

~~(s)~~ (r) has suffered a judgment within the previous five years in a civil action involving fraud, misrepresentation or misuse of funds; or

~~(t)~~ (s) has failed to reasonably supervise any employee or agent of the dealer or manufacturer, resulting in injury or harm to the public.

The commissioner may establish rules pursuant to section 327B.10 further specifying, defining or establishing standards of conduct for manufactured home dealers and manufacturers.

Sec. 59. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 327B.10, is amended to read:

**327B.10 RULEMAKING AUTHORITY.**

The commissioner may promulgate rules and issue orders reasonably necessary to implement and administer the provisions of sections 327B.01 to 327B.12. The commissioner shall adopt rules establishing and approving education programs for manufactured home installers. Each manufactured home installer must satisfactorily complete the continuing education requirements established by the commissioner in rule.

**Sec. 60. INCORPORATING ADAPTABILITY DESIGN ELEMENTS; REPORT.**

The commissioner of labor and industry shall explore the possibility of incorporating the adaptability design elements in the State Building Code for the following International Residential Codes (IRC) and International Building Codes (IBC):

- (1) IRC-1;
- (2) IRC-2;
- (3) IRC-3;
- (4) IBC R-2; and
- (5) IBC R-3.

The commissioner shall report back to the legislative committees having jurisdiction over these issues by January 15, 2008.

**Sec. 61. REVISOR'S INSTRUCTION.**

The revisor of statutes shall renumber each section of Minnesota Statutes listed in column A with the number listed in column B. The revisor shall also make necessary cross-reference changes consistent with the renumbering.

<u>Column A</u>	<u>Column B</u>
<u>16B.59</u>	<u>326B.101</u>
<u>16B.60, subd. 1</u>	<u>326B.103, subd. 1</u>
<u>16B.60, subd. 2</u>	<u>326B.103, subd. 4</u>
<u>16B.60, subd. 3</u>	<u>326B.103, subd. 9</u>
<u>16B.60, subd. 4</u>	<u>326B.103, subd. 5</u>
<u>16B.60, subd. 5</u>	<u>326B.103, subd. 3</u>
<u>16B.60, subd. 6</u>	<u>326B.103, subd. 11</u>
<u>16B.60, subd. 7</u>	<u>326B.103, subd. 10</u>
<u>16B.60, subd. 8</u>	<u>326B.103, subd. 12</u>
<u>16B.60, subd. 9</u>	<u>326B.103, subd. 8</u>
<u>16B.60, subd. 10</u>	<u>326B.103, subd. 7</u>
<u>16B.60, subd. 11</u>	<u>326B.103, subd. 13</u>

<u>16B.60, subd. 12</u>	<u>326B.103, subd. 6</u>
<u>16B.60, subd. 13</u>	<u>326B.103, subd. 2</u>
<u>16B.61</u>	<u>326B.106</u>
<u>16B.615</u>	<u>326B.109</u>
<u>16B.616</u>	<u>326B.112</u>
<u>16B.617</u>	<u>326B.115</u>
<u>16B.6175</u>	<u>326B.118</u>
<u>16B.62</u>	<u>326B.121</u>
<u>16B.625</u>	<u>326B.124</u>
<u>16B.63</u>	<u>326B.127</u>
<u>16B.64</u>	<u>326B.13</u>
<u>16B.65</u>	<u>326B.133</u>
<u>16B.66</u>	<u>326B.136</u>
<u>16B.67</u>	<u>326B.139</u>
<u>16B.68</u>	<u>326B.142</u>
<u>16B.685</u>	<u>326B.145</u>
<u>16B.70</u>	<u>326B.148</u>
<u>16B.71</u>	<u>326B.151</u>
<u>16B.72</u>	<u>326B.154</u>
<u>16B.73</u>	<u>326B.157</u>
<u>16B.735</u>	<u>326B.16</u>
<u>16B.74</u>	<u>326B.163</u>
<u>16B.741</u>	<u>326B.166</u>
<u>16B.742</u>	<u>326B.169</u>
<u>16B.743</u>	<u>326B.172</u>
<u>16B.744</u>	<u>326B.175</u>
<u>16B.745</u>	<u>326B.178</u>
<u>16B.746</u>	<u>326B.181</u>
<u>16B.747</u>	<u>326B.184</u>
<u>16B.748</u>	<u>326B.187</u>
<u>16B.749</u>	<u>326B.191</u>
<u>16B.75</u>	<u>326B.194</u>
<u>16B.76</u>	<u>326B.07</u>
<u>326.992</u>	<u>326B.197</u>

**ARTICLE 5**  
**ELECTRICAL**

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.01, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Class A master electrician.** ~~The term "Class A master electrician" means a person an individual having the necessary qualifications, training, experience, and technical knowledge to install, alter, repair, plan, lay out, and supervise the installing, altering, and repairing of electrical wiring, apparatus, and equipment for light, heat, power, and other purposes perform and supervise any electrical work, and who is licensed as such a Class A master electrician by the Board of Electricity commissioner.~~

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.01, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Class A journeyman electrician.** ~~The term "Class A journeyman electrician" means a person an individual having the necessary qualifications, training, experience, and technical knowledge to install, alter, repair, and supervise the installing, altering, or repairing of electrical wiring, apparatus, and equipment for light, heat, power, and other purposes perform and supervise any electrical work except for planning or laying out of electrical work, and who is licensed as such a Class A journeyman electrician by the Board of Electricity commissioner.~~

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.01, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 4a. **Elevator constructor.** "Elevator constructor" means an individual having the necessary qualifications, training, experience, and technical knowledge to wire for, install, maintain, and repair electrical wiring, apparatus, and equipment for elevators and escalators and who is licensed as an elevator constructor by the commissioner.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.01, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 4b. **Elevator contractor.** "Elevator contractor" means a licensed contractor whose responsible licensed individual is a licensed master elevator constructor. An elevator contractor license does not itself qualify its holder to perform or supervise the electrical or elevator work authorized by holding any other personal license issued by the commissioner.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.01, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 4c. **Lineman.** "Lineman" means an individual having the necessary qualifications, training, experience, and technical knowledge to construct and maintain transmission and distribution systems that are or will be owned or leased by an electrical utility, and who is licensed as a lineman by the commissioner.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.01, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 4d. **Maintenance electrician.** "Maintenance electrician" means an individual having the necessary qualifications, training, experience, and technical knowledge to properly maintain and repair electrical wiring, apparatus, and equipment, who is licensed as a maintenance electrician by the commissioner or who is exempt from licensing by sections 326.241 to 326.248.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.01, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 4e. **Master elevator constructor.** "Master elevator constructor" means an individual having the necessary qualifications, training, experience, and technical knowledge to properly plan, lay out, and supervise the installation, maintenance, and repair of wiring, apparatus, and equipment for elevators and escalators and who is licensed as a master elevator constructor by the commissioner.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.01, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **Contractor.** ~~The term "Contractor" means a person, partnership, or corporation operating a business that undertakes~~ who performs or offers to undertake to plan for, lay out, or install or to make additions, alterations, or repairs in the installation of electrical wiring, apparatus, or equipment for light, heat, power, and other purposes perform any electrical work, with or without compensation, who is licensed as such a contractor by the Board of Electricity commissioner. A contractor's license does not of itself qualify its holder to perform or supervise the electrical work authorized by holding any class of electrician's or other personal electrical license. Contractor includes electrical contractors and technology system contractors.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.01, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

Subd. 6. **Class B master electrician.** ~~The term "Class B master electrician" means a person~~ an individual having the necessary qualifications, training, experience, and technical knowledge to install, alter, repair, plan, lay out, perform and supervise the installing, altering, and repairing of electrical wiring, apparatus, and equipment any electrical work for single phase systems of not over 200 ampere capacity for light, heat, power, and other purposes on any farm or in any single family dwelling located in any town or municipality which has a population of less than 2500 2,500 inhabitants, and who is licensed as such a Class B master electrician by the Board of Electricity commissioner.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.01, subdivision 6a, is amended to read:

Subd. 6a. **Class B journeyman electrician.** ~~The term "Class B journeyman electrician" means a person~~ an individual having the necessary qualifications, training, experience, and technical knowledge to install, alter, repair, and supervise the installing, altering, or repairing of electrical wiring, apparatus, and equipment for single phase systems of not more than 200 ampere capacity for light, heat, power, and other purposes on any farm or in any single family dwelling located in any town or municipality which has a population of less than 2500 2,500 inhabitants, and who is licensed as such a Class B journeyman electrician by the Board of Electricity commissioner.

Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.01, subdivision 6b, is amended to read:

Subd. 6b. **Class A installer.** ~~The term "Class A installer" means a person~~ an individual who has the necessary qualifications, training, experience, and technical knowledge to properly lay out and install electrical wiring, apparatus, and equipment for major electrical home appliances and such other electrical equipment as is determined by the state Board of Electricity commissioner pursuant to section 326.242, subdivision 3, on the load side of the main service on farmsteads or in any town or municipality with less than 1,500 inhabitants, which is not contiguous to a city of the first class and does not contain an established business of a master electrician, and who is licensed as such a Class A installer by the state Board of Electricity commissioner.

Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.01, subdivision 6c, is amended to read:

Subd. 6c. **Class B installer.** ~~The term "Class B installer" means a person~~ an individual who has the necessary qualifications, training, experience, and technical knowledge to properly lay out and install electrical wiring, apparatus, and equipment on center pivot irrigation booms on the load side of the main service on farmsteads, and install other electrical equipment determined by the ~~state Board of Electricity commissioner, and who is licensed as a Class B installer must be licensed by the Board of Electricity commissioner.~~

Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.01, subdivision 6e, is amended to read:

Subd. 6e. **Owner.** An owner is ~~a natural person~~ an individual who physically performs electrical work on premises the ~~person individual~~ owns and actually occupies as a residence or owns and will occupy as a residence upon completion of its construction.

Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.01, subdivision 6f, is amended to read:

Subd. 6f. **Electrical work.** ~~The term "Electrical work" means the installing, altering, repairing, planning, or laying out of electrical wiring, apparatus, or equipment for electrical light, heat, power, technology circuits or systems, or other purposes. The installing, alteration altering, repairing, planning, or laying out of electrical wiring, apparatus, or equipment for electrical light, heat, power, technology circuits or systems, or other purposes includes, but is not limited to, the performance of any work governed~~ regulated by the standards referred to in section 326.243.

Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.01, subdivision 6g, is amended to read:

Subd. 6g. **Personal Direct supervision.** ~~The term "personal "Direct supervision" means that a person licensed to perform electrical work oversees and directs the electrical work performed by an unlicensed person such that:~~

(1) ~~the licensed person actually reviews the electrical work performed by the unlicensed person~~ an unlicensed individual is being supervised by an individual licensed to perform the electrical work being supervised;

(2) during the entire working day of the unlicensed individual, the licensed individual is physically present at the location where the unlicensed individual is performing electrical work and immediately available to the unlicensed individual;

(3) the licensed ~~person~~ individual is physically present and immediately available to the unlicensed ~~person~~ individual at all times for assistance and direction;

(4) electronic supervision does not meet the requirement of physically present and immediately available;

(5) the licensed individual shall review the electrical work performed by the unlicensed individual before the electrical work is operated; and

~~(3) (6)~~ (6) the licensed ~~person~~ individual is able to and does determine that all electrical work performed by the unlicensed ~~person~~ individual is performed in compliance with section 326.243.

The licensed ~~person~~ individual is responsible for the compliance with section 326.243 of all electrical work performed by the unlicensed ~~person~~ individual.

Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.01, subdivision 6j, is amended to read:

Subd. 6j. **Residential dwelling.** A "residential dwelling" is an individual dwelling of a single dwelling unit that is contained in a one-family, two-family, or multifamily dwelling as defined in the National Electrical Code pursuant to section 326.243, including its garage or accessory building. A residential dwelling includes a garage and accessory building that can only be used by the residents of the single dwelling unit.

Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.01, subdivision 6k, is amended to read:

Subd. 6k. **Power limited technician.** ~~The term "Power limited technician" means a person~~ an individual having the necessary qualifications, training, experience, and technical knowledge to install, alter, repair, plan, lay out, and supervise the installing, altering, and repairing of electrical wiring, apparatus, and equipment for technology circuits or systems, and who is licensed as such a power limited technician by the Board of Electricity commissioner.

Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.01, subdivision 6l, is amended to read:

Subd. 6l. **Technology circuits or systems.** "Technology circuits or systems" means class 2 or class 3 circuits or systems for, but not limited to, remote control, signaling, control, alarm, and audio signal, including associated components as covered by the National Electrical Code, articles 640, 645, 650, 725, 760, 770, and 780, and which are isolated from circuits or systems other than class 2 or class 3 by a demarcation and are not process control circuits or systems; antenna and communication circuits or systems as covered by chapter 8 of the National Electrical Code; and circuitry and equipment for indoor lighting and outdoor landscape lighting systems that are supplied by the secondary circuit of an isolating power supply operating at 30 volts or less as covered by the National Electrical Code, article 411. The planning, laying out, installing, altering, and repairing of technology circuits or systems must be performed in accordance with the applicable requirements of the National Electrical Code pursuant to section 326.243.

Sec. 19. **[326.2415] BOARD OF ELECTRICITY.**

Subdivision 1. **Composition.** (a) The Board of Electricity shall consist of 12 members. Eleven members shall be appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate and shall be voting members. Appointments of members by the governor shall be made in accordance with section 15.066. If the senate votes to refuse to consent to an appointment of a member made by the governor, the governor shall appoint a new member with the advice and consent of the senate. One member shall be the commissioner of labor and industry or the commissioner's designee, who shall be a voting member. Of the 11 appointed members, the composition shall be as follows:

- (1) one member shall be an electrical inspector;
- (2) two members shall be representatives of the electrical suppliers in rural areas;
- (3) two members shall be master electricians, who shall be contractors;
- (4) two members shall be journeyman electricians;
- (5) one member shall be a registered consulting electrical engineer;
- (6) two members shall be power limited technicians, who shall be technology system contractors primarily engaged in the business of installing technology circuit or systems; and
- (7) one member shall be a public member as defined by section 214.02.



The electrical inspector shall be appointed to a term to end December 31, 2011. One of the rural electrical suppliers shall be appointed for a term to end December 31, 2011. The other rural electrical supplier shall be appointed for a term to end December 31, 2010. The consulting electrical engineer shall be appointed for a term to end December 31, 2011. One of the master electrician contractors shall be appointed for a term to end December 31, 2011. The other master electrician contractor shall be appointed for a term to end December 31, 2010. One of the journeyman electricians shall be appointed for a term to end December 31, 2011. The other journeyman electrician shall be appointed for a term to end December 31, 2010. One of the power limited technicians shall be appointed for a term to end December 31, 2011. The other power limited technician shall be appointed for a term to end December 31, 2010. The public member shall be appointed for a term to end December 31, 2010.

(b) The consulting electrical engineer must possess a current Minnesota professional engineering license and maintain the license for the duration of the term on the board. All other appointed members, except for the public member and the representatives of electrical suppliers in rural areas, must possess a current electrical license issued by the Department of Labor and Industry and maintain that license for the duration of their terms. All appointed members must be residents of Minnesota at the time of and throughout the member's appointment. The term of any appointed member that does not maintain membership qualification status shall end on the date of the status change and the governor shall appoint a new member. It is the responsibility of the member to notify the board of their status change.

(c) For appointed members, except the initial terms designated in paragraph (a), each term shall be three years with the terms ending on December 31. Members appointed by the governor shall be limited to three consecutive terms. The governor shall, all or in part, reappoint the current members or appoint replacement members with the advice and consent of the senate. Midterm vacancies shall be filled for the remaining portion of the term. Vacancies occurring with less than six months time remaining in the term shall be filled for the existing term and the following three-year term. Members may serve until their successors are appointed but in no case later than July 1 in a year in which the term expires unless reappointed.

Subd. 2. **Powers; duties; administrative support.** (a) The board shall have the power to:

(1) elect its chair, vice-chair, and secretary;

(2) adopt bylaws that specify the duties of its officers, the meeting dates of the board, and containing such other provisions as may be useful and necessary for the efficient conduct of the business of the board;

(3) the Minnesota Electrical Code shall be the most current edition of the National Electrical Code upon its adoption by the board and any amendments thereto as adopted by the board. The board shall adopt the most current edition of the National Electrical Code and any amendments thereto pursuant to chapter 14 and as provided in subdivision 6, paragraphs (b) and (c);

(4) review requests for final interpretations and issue final interpretations as provided in section 16B.63, subdivision 5;

(5) adopt rules that regulate the licensure or registration of electrical businesses, electrical contractors, master electricians, journeyman electricians, Class A installer, Class B installer, power limited technicians, and other persons who perform electrical work except for those individuals

licensed under section 326.02, subdivisions 2 and 3. The board shall adopt these rules pursuant to chapter 14 and as provided in subdivision 6, paragraphs (d) and (e);

(6) adopt rules that regulate continuing education for individuals licensed or registered as electrical businesses, electrical contractors, master electricians, journeyman electricians, Class A installer, Class B installer, power limited technicians, and other persons who perform electrical work. The board shall adopt these rules pursuant to chapter 14 and as provided in subdivision 6, paragraph (e);

(7) advise the commissioner regarding educational requirements for electrical inspectors;

(8) refer complaints or other communications to the commissioner, whether oral or in writing, as provided in subdivision 8 that alleges or implies a violation of a statute, rule, or order that the commissioner has the authority to enforce pertaining to code compliance, licensure, registration, or an offering to perform or performance of unlicensed electrical services;

(9) approve per diem and expenses deemed necessary for its members as provided in subdivision 3;

(10) approve license reciprocity agreements;

(11) select from its members individuals to serve on any other state advisory council, board, or committee; and

(12) recommend the fees for licenses and certifications.

Except for the powers granted to the Plumbing Board, Board of Electricity, and the Board of High Pressure Piping Systems, the commissioner of labor and industry shall administer and enforce the provisions of this chapter and any rules promulgated pursuant thereto.

(b) The board shall comply with section 15.0597, subdivisions 2 and 4.

(c) The commissioner shall coordinate the board's rulemaking and recommendations with the recommendations and rulemaking conducted by all of the other boards created pursuant to chapter 326B. The commissioner shall provide staff support to the board. The support includes professional, legal, technical, and clerical staff necessary to perform rulemaking and other duties assigned to the board. The commissioner of labor and industry shall supply necessary office space and supplies to assist the board in its duties

Subd. 3. **Compensation.** (a) Members of the board may be compensated at the rate of \$55 a day spent on board activities, when authorized by the board, plus expenses in the same manner and amount as authorized by the commissioner's plan adopted under section 43A.18, subdivision 2. Members who, as a result of time spent attending board meetings, incur child care expenses that would not otherwise have been incurred, may be reimbursed for those expenses upon board authorization.

(b) Members who are state employees or employees of the political subdivisions of the state must not receive the daily payment for activities that occur during working hours for which they are compensated by the state or political subdivision. However, a state or political subdivision employee may receive the daily payment if the employee uses vacation time or compensatory time accumulated in accordance with a collective bargaining agreement or compensation plan for board

activities. Members who are state employees or employees of the political subdivisions of the state may receive the expenses provided for in this subdivision unless the expenses are reimbursed by another source. Members who are state employees or employees of political subdivisions of the state may be reimbursed for child care expenses only for time spent on board activities that are outside their working hours.

(c) The board shall adopt internal standards prescribing what constitutes a day spent on board activities for purposes of making daily payments under this subdivision.

Subd. 4. **Removal; vacancies.** (a) An appointed member of the board may be removed by the governor at any time (1) for cause, after notice and hearing, or (2) after missing three consecutive meetings. The chair of the board shall inform the governor of an appointed member missing the three consecutive meetings. After the second consecutive missed meeting and before the next meeting, the secretary of the board shall notify the appointed member in writing that the member may be removed for missing the next meeting. In the case of a vacancy on the board, the governor shall, with the advice and consent of the Senate, appoint a person to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the unexpired term.

(b) Vacancies shall be filled pursuant to section 15.097, subdivisions 5 and 6.

Subd. 5. **Membership vacancies within three months of appointment.** Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, when a membership on the board becomes vacant within three months after being filled through the appointments process, the governor may, upon notification to the Office of Secretary of State, choose a new member from the applications on hand and need not repeat the process.

Subd. 6. **Officers, quorum, voting.** (a) The board shall elect annually from its members a chair, vice-chair, and secretary. A quorum of the board shall consist of a majority of members of the board qualified to vote on the matter in question. All questions concerning the manner in which a meeting is conducted or called that is not covered by statute shall be determined by Robert's Rules of Order (revised) unless otherwise specified by the bylaws.

(b) Each electrical code amendment considered by the board that receives an affirmative two-thirds or more majority vote of all of the voting members of the board shall be included in the next electrical code rulemaking proceeding initiated by the board. If an electrical code amendment considered, or reconsidered, by the board receives less than a two-thirds majority vote of all of the voting members of the board, the electrical code amendment shall not be included in the next electrical code rulemaking proceeding initiated by the board.

(c) The board may reconsider electrical code amendments during an active electrical code rulemaking proceeding in which the amendment previously failed to receive a two-thirds majority vote or more of all of the voting members of the board only if new or updated information that affects the electrical code amendment is presented to the board. The board may also reconsider failed electrical code amendments in subsequent electrical code rulemaking proceedings.

(d) Each proposed rule and rule amendment considered by the board pursuant to the rulemaking authority specified in subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clauses (5) and (6), that receives an affirmative majority vote of all of the voting members of the board shall be included in the next rulemaking proceeding initiated by the board. If a proposed rule or rule amendment considered, or reconsidered, by the board receives less than an affirmative majority vote of all of the voting members of the

board, the proposed rule or rule amendment shall not be included in the next rulemaking proceeding initiated by the board.

(e) The board may reconsider proposed rule or rule amendment during an active rulemaking proceeding in which the amendment previously failed to receive an affirmative majority vote of all of the voting members of the board only if new or updated information that affects the proposed rule or rule amendment is presented to the board. The board may also reconsider failed proposed rule or rule amendment in subsequent rulemaking proceedings.

Subd. 7. **Board meetings.** (a) The board shall hold meetings at such times as the board shall specify. Notice and conduct of all meetings shall be pursuant to chapter 13D and in a manner as the bylaws may provide.

(b) If compliance with section 13D.02 is impractical, the board may conduct a meeting of its members by telephone or other electronic means so long as the following conditions are met:

(1) all members of the board participating in the meeting, wherever their physical location, can hear one another and can hear all discussion and testimony;

(2) members of the public present at the regular meeting location of the board can hear clearly all discussion and testimony and all votes of members of the board and, if needed, receive those services required by sections 15.44 and 15.441;

(3) at least one member of the board is physically present at the regular meeting location; and

(4) all votes are conducted by roll call, so each member's vote on each issue can be identified and recorded.

Each member of the board participating in a meeting by telephone or other electronic means is considered present at the meeting for purposes of determining a quorum and participating in all proceedings.

If telephone or other electronic means is used to conduct a regular, special, or emergency meeting, the board, to the extent practical, shall allow a person to monitor the meeting electronically from a remote location. The board may require the person making such a connection to pay for documented costs that the board incurs as a result of the additional connection.

If telephone or other electronic means is used to conduct a regular, special, or emergency meeting, the board shall provide notice of the regular meeting location, of the fact that some members may participate by telephone or other electronic means, and that a person may monitor the meeting electronically from a remote location. Any person monitoring the meeting electronically from a remote location may be required to pay documented costs incurred by the board as a result of the additional connection. The timing and method of providing notice is governed by section 13D.04.

Subd. 8. **Complaints.** (a) The board shall promptly forward to the commissioner the substance of any complaint or communication it receives, whether in writing or oral, that alleges or implies a violation of a statute, rule, or order that the commissioner has the authority to enforce pertaining to the license or registration of any person authorized by the department to provide electrical work, the performance or offering to perform electrical work requiring licensure or registration, or electrical code compliance. Each complaint or communication that is forwarded to the commissioner shall be

submitted on a form provided by the commissioner.

(b) The commissioner shall advise the board of the status of the complaint within 90 days after the board's written submission is received, or within 90 days after the board is provided with a written request for additional information or documentation from the commissioner or the commissioner's designee, whichever is later. The commissioner shall advise the board of the disposition of a complaint referred by the board within 180 days after the board's written submission is received. The commissioner shall annually report to the board a summary of the actions taken in response to complaints referred by the board.

Subd. 9. **Data Practices Act.** The board is subject to chapter 13, the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, and shall protect from unlawful disclosure data classified as not public.

Subd. 10. **Official records.** The board shall make and preserve all records necessary to a full and accurate knowledge of its official activities in accordance with section 15.17.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007.

Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.242, is amended to read:

### **326.242 LICENSES.**

Subdivision 1. **Master electrician.** Except as otherwise provided by law, no ~~person~~ individual shall ~~install, alter, repair, plan, lay out, or supervise the installing, altering, or repairing of electrical wiring, apparatus, or equipment for light, heat, power, or other purposes~~ perform or supervise electrical work unless the ~~person~~ individual is: (a) licensed by the ~~board~~ commissioner as a master electrician; and (b)(i) the electrical work is for a licensed contractor and the ~~person~~ individual is an employee, partner, or officer of, or is the licensed contractor, or (ii) the electrical work is performed for the ~~person's~~ individual's employer on ~~electrie~~ electrical wiring, apparatus, equipment, or facilities that are owned or leased by the employer ~~which is~~ and that are located within the limits of property ~~which is~~ operated, maintained, and either owned or leased ~~and operated and maintained~~ by the employer.

(1) An applicant for a Class A master ~~electrician's~~ electrician license shall (a) be a graduate of a four-year electrical course ~~in~~ offered by an accredited college or university; or (b) shall have had at least one ~~year's~~ year of experience, acceptable to the ~~board~~ commissioner, as a licensed journeyman; or (c) shall have had at least five years' experience, acceptable to the ~~board~~ commissioner, in planning for, laying out, supervising and installing wiring, apparatus, or equipment for electrical light, heat and power.

(2) As of August 1, 1985, no new Class B master ~~electrician's~~ electrician licenses shall be issued. An individual who has a Class B master ~~electrician's~~ electrician license as of August 1, 1985, may retain and renew the license and exercise the privileges it grants, which include electrical work limited to single phase systems, not over 200 amperes in capacity, on farmsteads or single-family dwellings located in towns or municipalities with fewer than 2,500 inhabitants.

Subd. 2. **Journeyman electrician.** (a) Except as otherwise provided by law, no ~~person~~ individual shall ~~install, alter, repair, or supervise the installing, altering, or repairing of electrical wiring, apparatus, or equipment for light, heat, power, or other purposes~~ perform and supervise any electrical work except for planning or laying out of electrical work unless:

(1) the person individual is licensed by the board commissioner as a journeyman electrician; and

(2) the electrical work is:

(i) for a contractor and the person individual is an employee, partner, or officer of the licensed contractor; or

(ii) performed under the supervision of a master electrician also employed by the person's individual's employer on electrical wiring, apparatus, equipment, or facilities that are owned or leased by the employer and that is are located within the limits of property operated, maintained, and either owned or leased, operated, and maintained by the employer.

(b) An applicant for a Class A journeyman electrician's electrician license shall have had at least four years of experience, acceptable to the board commissioner, in wiring for, installing, and repairing electrical wiring, apparatus, or equipment, provided however, that the board commissioner may by rule ~~provide for the allowance of~~ allow one year of experience credit for the successful completion of a two-year post high school electrical course approved by the board commissioner.

(c) As of August 1, 1985, no new Class B journeyman electrician's electrician licenses shall be issued. An individual who holds a Class B journeyman electrician's electrician license as of August 1, 1985, may retain and renew the license and exercise the privileges it grants, which include electrical work limited to single phase systems, not over 200 amperes in capacity, on farmsteads or on single-family dwellings located in towns or municipalities with fewer than 2,500 inhabitants.

Subd. 3. **Class A installer.** Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivisions 1, 2, and 6, any person individual holding a Class A installer license may lay out and install and supervise the laying out and installing of electrical wiring, apparatus, or equipment for major electrical home appliances on the load side of the main service on farmsteads and in any town or municipality with fewer than 1,500 inhabitants, which is not contiguous to a city of the first class and does not contain an established business of a contractor. As of December 1, 2007, no new Class A installer licenses shall be issued. An individual who holds a Class A installer license as of December 1, 2007, may retain and renew the license and exercise the privileges it grants.

Subd. 3a. **Class B installer.** Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivisions 1, 2 and 6, any person individual holding a Class B installer license may lay out and install electrical wiring, apparatus and equipment on center pivot irrigation booms on the load side of the main service on farmsteads, and install such other electrical equipment as is ~~determined~~ approved by the board commissioner.

Subd. 3b. **Coursework or experience.** An applicant for a Class A or B installer license shall have completed a post high school course in electricity ~~acceptable to~~ approved by the board commissioner or shall have had at least one year's year of experience, ~~acceptable to~~ approved by the board commissioner, in electrical wiring.

Subd. 3c. **Bond.** Every Class A and Class B installer, as a condition of licensure, shall give bond to the state in the sum of \$1,000 conditioned upon the faithful and lawful performance of all work contracted for or entered upon by the installer within the state of Minnesota, and such bond shall be for the benefit of persons injured or suffering financial loss by reason of failure of such performance. Such bond shall be in lieu of all other license bonds to any political subdivision of the state. Such bond shall be written by a corporate surety licensed to do business in the state of Minnesota.

Subd. 3d. **Power limited technician.** (a) Except as otherwise provided by law, no person individual shall install, alter, repair, plan, lay out, or supervise the installing, altering, ~~or~~ repairing, planning, or laying out of electrical wiring, apparatus, or equipment for technology circuits or systems unless:

(1) the ~~person~~ individual is licensed by the ~~board~~ commissioner as a power limited technician; and

(2) the electrical work is:

(i) for a licensed contractor and the ~~person~~ individual is an employee, partner, or officer of, or is the licensed contractor; or

(ii) performed under the direct supervision of a master electrician or power limited technician also employed by the ~~person's~~ individual's employer on technology circuits, systems, apparatus, equipment, or facilities that are owned or leased by the employer and that are located within the limits of property operated, maintained, and either owned or leased, ~~operated, and maintained~~ by the employer.

(b) An applicant for a power limited technician's license shall (1) be a graduate of a four-year electrical course in offered by an accredited college or university; or (2) have had at least 36 months' experience, acceptable to the board, in planning for, laying out, supervising, and installing, altering, and repairing wiring, apparatus, or equipment for power limited systems, provided however, that the board may by rule provide for the allowance of up to 12 months (2,000 hours) of experience credit for successful completion of a two-year post high school electrical course or other technical training approved by the board.

~~(c) The board may initially set experience requirements without rulemaking, but must adopt rules before July 1, 2004.~~

~~(d)~~ (c) Licensees must attain ~~eight~~ 16 hours of continuing education acceptable to the board every renewal period.

~~(e) A person who has submitted an application by June 30, 2003, to take the alarm and communications examination administered by the board, and who has achieved a minimal score of 70 percent on the examination by September 30, 2003, may obtain a power limited technician license without further examination by submitting an application and a license fee of \$30.~~

~~(f)~~ (d) A company holding an alarm and communication license as of June 30, 2003, may designate one person individual who may obtain a power limited technician license without passing an examination administered by the ~~board~~ commissioner by submitting an application and license fee of \$30.

~~(g)~~ (e) A person who has submitted an application by ~~September 30, 2005~~ December 30, 2007, to take the power limited technician examination administered by the ~~board~~ department is not required to meet the qualifications set forth in paragraph (b).

Subd. 4. **Special electrician.** Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivisions 1, 2, 6, and 7, the board may by rule provide for the issuance of special electrician licenses empowering the licensee to engage in a limited class or classes of electrical work, which class or classes shall be specified on the license certificate. ~~Each licensee shall have had at least two years of experience, acceptable to~~

~~the board, in each such limited class of work for which the licensee is licensed.~~

Subd. 5. **Unlicensed persons individuals.** (a) An unlicensed ~~person~~ individual means an individual who has not been licensed by the department to perform specific electrical work. An unlicensed individual shall not perform electrical work required to be performed by a licensed individual unless the individual has first registered with the department as an unlicensed individual. Thereafter, an unlicensed individual shall not perform electrical work required to be performed by a licensed individual unless the work is performed under the ~~personal~~ direct supervision of a ~~person~~ an individual actually licensed to perform such work ~~and~~. The licensed ~~electrician~~ individual and unlicensed ~~persons~~ are individual must be employed by the same employer. Licensed ~~persons~~ individuals shall not permit unlicensed ~~persons~~ individuals to perform electrical work except under the ~~personal~~ direct supervision of a ~~person~~ an individual actually licensed to perform such work. Unlicensed ~~persons~~ individuals shall not supervise the performance of electrical work or make assignments of electrical work to unlicensed ~~persons~~ individuals. Except for technology circuit or system work, licensed ~~persons~~ individuals shall supervise no more than two unlicensed ~~persons~~ individuals. For technology circuit or system work, licensed ~~persons~~ individuals shall supervise no more than three unlicensed ~~persons~~ individuals.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, no ~~person~~ individual other than a master electrician or power limited technician shall plan or lay out electrical wiring, apparatus, or equipment for light, heat, power, or other purposes, except circuits or systems exempted from personal licensing by subdivision 12, paragraph (b).

(c) Contractors employing unlicensed ~~persons performing~~ individuals to perform electrical work shall maintain records establishing compliance with this subdivision, ~~which that~~ shall ~~designate~~ identify all unlicensed ~~persons~~ individuals performing electrical work, except for ~~persons~~ individuals working on circuits or systems exempted from personal licensing by subdivision 12, paragraph (b), and shall permit the ~~board~~ department to examine and copy all such records as provided for in section 326.244, subdivision 6.

(d) When a licensed individual supervises the electrical work of an unlicensed individual, the licensed individual is responsible for ensuring that the electrical work complies with the Minnesota Electrical Act and all rules adopted under the act.

Subd. 5a. **Registration of unlicensed individuals.** Unlicensed individuals performing electrical work for a contractor or employer shall register with the department in the manner prescribed by the commissioner. Experience credit for electrical work performed in Minnesota after January 1, 2008, by an applicant for a license identified in this section shall not be granted where the applicant has not registered with or is not licensed by the department.

Subd. 6. **Contractor's license required.** Except as otherwise provided by law, no ~~person~~ individual other than an employee, partner, or officer of a licensed contractor, as defined by section ~~326.01~~ 326B.31, subdivision 5 12, shall ~~undertake perform~~ or offer to ~~undertake to plan for, lay out, supervise or install or to make additions, alterations, or repairs in the installation of electrical wiring, apparatus, and equipment for light, heat, power, and other purposes~~ perform electrical work with or without compensation unless the ~~person~~ individual obtains a contractor's license. A contractor's license does not of itself qualify its holder to perform or supervise the electrical work authorized by holding any class of personal ~~electrical~~ license.

Subd. 6a. **Bond required.** As a condition of licensing, each contractor shall give and maintain



bond to the state in the ~~penal~~ sum of ~~\$5,000~~ \$25,000 conditioned upon the faithful and lawful performance of all work ~~entered upon~~ contracted for or performed by the contractor within the state of Minnesota and such bond shall be for the benefit of persons injured or suffering financial loss by reason of failure of such performance. The bond shall be filed with the ~~board~~ commissioner and shall be in lieu of all other license bonds to any other political subdivision. Such bond shall be written by a corporate surety licensed to do business in the state of Minnesota.

Subd. 6b. **Insurance required.** Each contractor shall have and maintain in effect general liability insurance, which includes premises and operations insurance and products and completed operations insurance, with limits of at least \$100,000 per occurrence, \$300,000 aggregate limit for bodily injury, and property damage insurance with limits of at least ~~\$25,000~~ \$50,000 or a policy with a single limit for bodily injury and property damage of \$300,000 per occurrence and \$300,000 aggregate limits. Such insurance shall be written by an insurer licensed to do business in the state of Minnesota and each contractor shall maintain on file with the ~~board~~ commissioner a certificate evidencing such insurance which provides that such insurance shall not be canceled without the insurer first giving 15 days written notice to the ~~board~~ commissioner of such cancellation.

Subd. 6c. **Employment of master electrician or power limited technician.** (a) ~~No contractor shall engage in business of electrical contracting unless the contractor employs a licensed Class A master or Class B~~ Each contractor must designate a responsible master electrician, or power limited technician, who shall be responsible for the performance of all electrical work in accordance with the requirements of sections ~~326.241 to 326.248~~ 326B.31 to 326B.399 or any rule or order adopted or issued under these sections. The classes of work for which the that a licensed contractor is authorized to perform shall be limited to those for which such Class A master electrician, Class B master electrician, or power limited technician employed by the contractor the classes of work that the responsible master electrician or power limited electrician is licensed to perform.

(b) When a contractor's license is held by an individual, sole proprietorship, partnership, limited liability company, or corporation and the individual, proprietor, one of the partners, one of the members, or an officer of the corporation, respectively, is not the responsible master electrician or power limited technician of record, all requests for inspection shall be signed by the responsible master electrician or power limited technician of record. The designated responsible master electrician or power limited technician of record shall be employed by the individual, partnership, limited liability company, or corporation which is applying for a contractor's license and shall not be employed in any capacity as a licensed electrician or licensed technician by any other contractor or employer designated in subdivision 12. If the contractor is an individual or a sole proprietorship, the responsible licensed individual must be the individual, proprietor, or managing employee. If the contractor is a partnership, the responsible licensed individual must be a general partner or managing employee. If the licensed contractor is a limited liability company, the responsible licensed individual must be a chief manager or managing employee. If the contractor is a corporation, the responsible licensed individual must be an officer or managing employee. If the responsible licensed individual is a managing employee, the responsible licensed individual must be actively engaged in performing electrical work on behalf of the contractor, and cannot be employed in any capacity as an electrician or technician by any other contractor or employer designated in subdivision 12. An individual may be the responsible licensed individual for only one contractor or employer.

(c) All applications and renewals for ~~contractor's~~ contractor licenses ~~and all renewals~~ shall

include a verified statement that the applicant or licensee has complied with this subdivision.

Subd. 7. **Examination.** In addition to the other requirements imposed herein described in this section and except as herein otherwise provided in subdivision 11, as a precondition to issuance of a personal license, each applicant must pass a written or oral examination given developed and administered by the board commissioner to insure ensure the competence of each applicant for license. An oral examination shall be administered only to an applicant who furnishes a written statement from a certified teacher or other professional, trained in the area of reading disabilities stating that the applicant has a specific reading disability which would prevent the applicant from performing satisfactorily on a written test. The oral examination shall be structured so that an applicant who passes the examination will not impair the applicant's own safety or that of others while acting as a licensed person individual. No person individual failing an examination may retake it for six months thereafter, but within such six months the person individual may take an examination for a lesser grade of license. Any licensee individual failing to renew a personal license for two years or more after its expiration, and any licensee whose personal license is revoked under this chapter, shall be required to retake the examination before being issued a new license. An individual whose personal license is revoked under any other chapter is not required to retake the examination before being issued a new license, unless the personal license was revoked two years or more before the commissioner received the completed application for a new license. A licensee whose personal license is suspended for any reason is not required to retake the examination before the personal license is reinstated, unless the personal license has not been reinstated within two years after the suspension began.

An applicant for a personal license shall submit to the board commissioner an application and examination fee at the time of application. Upon approval of the application, the board commissioner shall schedule the applicant for the next available examination, which shall be held within 60 days. The applicant shall be allowed one opportunity to reschedule an examination without being required to submit another application and examination fee. Additionally, an applicant who fails an examination, or whose application has been disapproved, must was not approved, shall submit another application and examination fee.

Subd. 8. **License and renewal fees; expiration.** All licenses issued hereunder shall expire in a manner as provided by the board. (a) Unless revoked or suspended under this chapter, all licenses issued or renewed under this section expire on the date specified in this subdivision. Master licenses expire March 1 of each odd-numbered year after issuance or renewal. Electrical contractor licenses expire March 1 of each even-numbered year after issuance or renewal. Technology system contractor licenses expire August 1 of each even-numbered year after issuance or renewal. All other personal licenses expire two years from the date of original issuance and every two years thereafter.

(b) Fees, as set by the board, shall be payable for application and examination, and for the original issuance and each subsequent renewal of the following, are:

(1) For each personal license application and examination: \$35;

Class A Master.

Class B Master.

Class A Journeyman, Class B Journeyman, Installer, Power Limited Technician, or Special Electrician.

(2) For original issuance of original license and each subsequent renewal of:

Class A Master, or master elevator constructor: \$40 per year;

Class B Master: \$25 per year;

Power Limited Technician: \$15 per year;

Class A Journeyman, Class B Journeyman, Installer, ~~or Special~~ Elevator Constructor, Lineman, or Maintenance Electrician: \$15 per year;

~~Electrical contractor:~~ \$100 per year;

~~Technology Systems Contractor~~ Unlicensed individual registration: \$15 per year.

(c) If any new license is issued in accordance with this subdivision for less than two years, the fee for the license shall be prorated on an annual basis.

(d) A license fee may not be refunded after a license is issued or renewed. However, if the fee paid for a license was not prorated in accordance with this subdivision, the amount of the overpayment shall be refunded.

(e) Any contractor who seeks reissuance of a license after it has been revoked or suspended under this chapter shall submit a reissuance fee of \$100 before the license is reinstated.

(f) The fee for the issuance of each duplicate license is \$15.

~~(3)~~ (g) An individual or contractor who fails to renew a license before 30 days after the expiration of the license must submit a late fee equal to one year's license fee in addition to the full renewal fee. Fees for renewed licenses are not prorated. An individual or contractor that fails to renew a license by the expiration date is unlicensed until the license is renewed.

**Subd. 9. Denial, suspension, and revocation of licenses.** ~~The board may by order deny, suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew a license, or may censure a licensee if the board finds (1) in its discretion that the order is in the public interest and (2) that, based upon a preponderance of the evidence presented, the applicant or licensee:~~

~~(a) has filed an application for a license which is incomplete in any material respect or contains any statement which, in light of the circumstances under which it is made, is false or misleading with respect to any material fact;~~

~~(b) has engaged in any fraudulent, deceptive, or dishonest act or practice;~~

~~(c) has been convicted within the past five years of a misdemeanor involving a violation of sections 326.241 to 326.248;~~

~~(d) has violated or failed to comply with sections 326.241 to 326.248 or any rule or order adopted or issued under these sections; or~~

~~(e) has, in the conduct of the applicant's or licensee's affairs, including, but not limited to, the performance of electrical work, been shown to be incompetent or untrustworthy.~~

~~If a licensee engages in conduct that is proven by a preponderance of the evidence to be a basis for discipline pursuant to paragraphs (a) to (e), the conduct shall constitute a violation of this~~

~~subdivision. The board may take action under this subdivision or any other law authorizing action against a licensee regardless of whether the underlying conduct was willful.~~

~~The board may adopt rules further specifying and defining actions, conduct, and omissions that constitute fraudulent, deceptive, dishonest, or prohibited practices, and establishing standards of conduct for applicants and licensees.~~

~~Subd. 9a. **Civil penalties.** Whenever a preponderance of the evidence presented proves that a person has violated or failed to comply with sections 326.241 to 326.248 or any rule or order adopted or issued under these sections, the board may impose a civil penalty upon the person in an amount not to exceed \$10,000 per violation.~~

~~Subd. 9b. **Orders for hearing.** The complaint committee may, on behalf of the board, issue an order requiring a licensee or an applicant for a license to appear at a hearing on the issue of whether the license should be revoked or suspended, the licensee censured, the application denied, or a civil penalty imposed. The order shall be calculated to give reasonable notice of the time and place for hearing, and shall state the reasons for the entry of the order. All hearings shall be conducted in accordance with chapter 14. After the hearing, the board shall enter an order making a disposition of the matter as the facts require. If the licensee or applicant fails to appear at a hearing of which that person has been duly notified, the person is in default and the proceeding may be determined against that person upon consideration of the order for hearing, the allegations of which may be deemed to be true.~~

~~Subd. 9c. **Temporary suspension.** (a) The complaint committee may, on behalf of the board and in the public interest, temporarily suspend a license pending final determination of an order for hearing. The complaint committee shall not issue a temporary suspension order until an investigation of the facts has been conducted pursuant to section 214.10 by the attorney general. The complaint committee shall issue a temporary suspension order only when the safety of life or property is threatened or to prevent the commission of fraudulent, deceptive, or dishonest acts against the public. Service of the temporary suspension order is effective if the order is served on the licensee or counsel of record personally or by first class mail to the most recent address provided to the board for the licensee or the counsel of record.~~

~~(b) If a license is suspended pending final determination of an order for hearing, a hearing on the merits shall be held within 45 days of the issuance of the order of temporary suspension. The administrative law judge shall issue a report within 30 days after closing of the contested case hearing record. The board shall issue a final order within 30 days after receipt of that report and any exceptions.~~

~~(c) If the licensee requests a hearing in writing within ten days of service of the order, the board shall hold a hearing before its own members on the sole issue of whether there is a reasonable basis to continue, modify, or vacate the temporary suspension. The board shall hold the hearing within five working days of the licensee's request for hearing. Evidence presented by the complaint committee or licensee shall be in affidavit form only. The licensee or counsel of record for the licensee may appear for oral argument. Within five working days after the hearing, the board shall issue its order either continuing or vacating the temporary suspension.~~

~~Subd. 9d. **Cease and desist order.** (a) Whenever it appears to the complaint committee that any person has engaged or is about to engage in any act or practice constituting a violation of sections 326.241 to 326.248, any other law authorizing the issuance of a cease and desist order, or any rule or~~

~~order adopted or issued under these sections, the complaint committee may, on behalf of the board, issue and cause to be served upon the person an order requiring the person to cease and desist from violating sections 326.241 to 326.248 or any rule or order adopted or issued under these sections. The complaint committee shall not issue a cease and desist order until an investigation of the facts has been conducted pursuant to section 214.10 by the attorney general. The order shall be calculated to give reasonable notice of the right of the person to request a hearing and shall state the reasons for the entry of the order. If no hearing is requested of the board within 15 days of service of the order, the order shall become final and shall remain in effect until it is modified or vacated by the board and shall not be reviewable by a court.~~

~~(b) A hearing shall be held not later than 30 days from the date of the board's receipt of a written hearing request, unless otherwise agreed by the person requesting the hearing and the complaint committee. Within 30 days of receipt of the administrative law judge's report and any exceptions, the board shall issue a final order modifying, vacating, or making permanent the cease and desist order as the facts require. The final order remains in effect until modified or vacated by the board.~~

~~Subd. 9e. **Costs of proceeding.** The board may impose a fee to reimburse the board for all or part of the cost of the proceedings resulting in disciplinary action or the imposition of civil penalties or the issuance of a cease and desist order. Such fees include, but are not limited to, the amount paid by the board for services from the office of administrative hearings, attorney fees, court reporters, witnesses, reproduction of records, board members' per diem compensation, board staff time, and expense incurred by board members and staff.~~

~~Subd. 9f. **District court action; injunctive relief and civil penalties.** (a) Whenever it appears to the board, or the complaint committee if authorized by the board, that any person has engaged or is about to engage in any act or practice constituting a violation of sections 326.241 to 326.248 or any rule or order adopted or issued under these sections, the board, or the complaint committee if authorized by the board, may bring an action in the name of the board in the Ramsey County District Court or the district court of any other county in which venue is proper.~~

~~(b) The action may be brought to enjoin the acts or practices and to enforce compliance with sections 326.241 to 326.248, any other law authorizing a civil or injunctive action, or any rule or order adopted or issued under these sections and for a civil penalty not to exceed \$10,000 for each separate violation of sections 326.241 to 326.248, any other law authorizing a civil or injunctive action, or any rule or order adopted or issued under these sections.~~

~~(c) A temporary restraining order and other temporary injunctive relief shall be granted in the proceeding whenever it appears that any person has engaged in or is about to engage in any act, conduct, or practice constituting violation of sections 326.241 to 326.248, any other law authorizing a civil or injunctive action, or any rule or order adopted or issued under these sections. The board shall not be required to show irreparable harm.~~

~~Subd. 9g. **Other remedies.** The issuance of a cease and desist order or injunctive relief under this section does not relieve a person from criminal prosecution by any competent authority or from disciplinary action by the board and does not prevent the board from exercising any other authority granted to it.~~

~~Subd. 9h. **Powers additional.** The powers contained in subdivisions 9 to 9g are in addition to all other powers of the board.~~

~~Subd. 9i. **Cooperation required.** A person who is the subject of an investigation, or who is questioned in connection with an investigation, by or on behalf of the board or its complaint committee shall cooperate fully with the investigation. Cooperation includes, but is not limited to:~~

~~(1) responding fully and promptly to questions raised by or on behalf of the board or its complaint committee relating to the subject of the investigation;~~

~~(2) providing copies of records in the person's possession related to the matter under investigation as requested by the board, its complaint committee, or the attorney general within the time limit set by the board, its complaint committee, or the attorney general;~~

~~(3) assisting the board, its complaint committee, or the attorney general in its investigation; and~~

~~(4) appearing at conferences or hearings scheduled by the board or its complaint committee.~~

~~Subd. 9j. **Disciplinary proceedings closed.** Proceedings held before the board or its complaint committee under chapter 214 or subdivisions 9 to 9d are exempt from the requirements of section 13D.01.~~

~~Subd. 9k. **Conflicts of law.** If there is a conflict between sections 326.241 to 326.248 and chapter 214, sections 326.241 to 326.248 shall control.~~

~~Subd. 10. **Continuation of business by estates.** Upon the death of a master who is a contractor, the board may permit the decedent's representative to carry on the business of the decedent for a period not in excess of six months, for the purpose of completing work under contract or otherwise to comply with sections 326.241 to 326.248. The representative shall give such bond as the board may require conditioned upon the faithful and lawful performance of such work and such bond shall be for the benefit of persons injured or suffering financial loss by reason of failure of such performance. Such bond shall be written by a corporate surety licensed to do business in the state of Minnesota. Such representative shall also comply with all public liability and property damage insurance requirements imposed by this chapter upon a licensed contractor.~~

~~Subd. 11. **Reciprocity.** To the extent that any other state which provides for the licensing of electricians provides for similar action the board may grant licenses, without examination, of the same grade and class to an electrician who has been licensed by such other state for at least one year, upon payment by the applicant of the required fee and upon the board being furnished with proof that the required fee and upon the board being furnished with proof that the qualifications of the applicant are equal to the qualifications of holders of similar licenses in Minnesota. The commissioner may enter into reciprocity agreements for personal licenses with another state if approved by the board. Once approved by the board, the commissioner may issue a personal license without requiring the applicant to pass an examination provided the applicant:~~

~~(a) submits an application under section 326.242;~~

~~(b) pays the fee required under section 326.242; and~~

~~(c) holds a valid comparable license in the state participating in the agreement.~~

~~Agreements are subject to the following:~~

~~(1) The parties to the agreement must administer a statewide licensing program that includes examination and qualifying experience or training comparable to Minnesota's.~~

(2) The experience and training requirements under which an individual applicant qualified for examination in the qualifying state must be deemed equal to or greater than required for an applicant making application in Minnesota at the time the applicant acquired the license in the qualifying state.

(3) The applicant must have acquired the license in the qualifying state through an examination deemed equivalent to the same class of license examination in Minnesota. A lesser class of license may be granted where the applicant has acquired a greater class of license in the qualifying state and the applicant otherwise meets the conditions of this subdivision.

(4) At the time of application, the applicant must hold a valid license in the qualifying state and have held the license continuously for at least one year before making application in Minnesota.

(5) An applicant is not eligible for a license under this subdivision if the applicant has failed the same or greater class of license examination in Minnesota, or if the applicant's license of the same or greater class has been revoked or suspended.

(6) An applicant who has failed to renew a personal license for two years or more after its expiration is not eligible for a license under this subdivision.

**Subd. 12. Exemptions from licensing.** (a) An individual who is a maintenance electrician who is supervised by the responsible master electrician for a contractor who has contracted with the maintenance electrician's employer to provide services for which a contractor's license is required or by a master electrician or an electrical engineer registered with the board and who is an employee of an employer and is engaged in the maintenance, and repair of electrical equipment, apparatus, and facilities owned or leased by the employer, and performed within the limits of property which is owned or leased and operated and maintained by said employer, shall is not be required to hold or obtain a license under sections 326.241 to 326.248. 326B.31 to 326B.399 if:

(1) the individual is engaged in the maintenance and repair of electrical equipment, apparatus, and facilities that are owned or leased by the individual's employer and that are located within the limits of property operated, maintained, and either owned or leased by the individual's employer;

(2) the individual is supervised by:

(i) the responsible master electrician for a contractor who has contracted with the individual's employer to provide services for which a contractor's license is required; or

(ii) a licensed master electrician, a licensed maintenance electrician, an electrical engineer, or, if the maintenance and repair work is limited to technology circuit and system work, a licensed power limited technician; and

(3) the individual's employer has filed with the commissioner a certificate of responsible person, signed by the responsible master electrician of the contractor, the licensed master electrician, the licensed maintenance electrician, the electrical engineer, or the licensed power limited technician, and stating that the person signing the certificate is responsible for ensuring that the maintenance and repair work performed by the employer's employees complies with the Minnesota Electrical Act and the rules adopted under that act.

(b) Employees of a licensed electrical or technology systems contractor or other employer where provided with supervision by a master electrician in accordance with subdivision 1, or power limited technician in accordance with subdivision 3d, paragraph (a), clause (1), are not required to hold

a license under sections ~~326.241 to 326.248~~ 326B.31 to 326B.399 for the planning, laying out, installing, altering, and repairing of technology circuits or systems except planning, laying out, or installing:

(1) in other than residential dwellings, class 2 or class 3 remote control circuits that control circuits or systems other than class 2 or class 3, except circuits that interconnect these systems through communication, alarm, and security systems are exempted from this paragraph;

(2) class 2 or class 3 circuits in electrical cabinets, enclosures, or devices containing physically unprotected circuits other than class 2 or class 3; or

(3) technology circuits and systems in hazardous classified locations as covered by chapter 5 of the National Electrical Code.

(c) Companies and their employees that plan, lay out, install, alter, or repair class 2 and class 3 remote control wiring associated with plug or cord and plug connected appliances other than security or fire alarm systems installed in a residential dwelling are not required to hold a license under sections ~~326.241 to 326.248~~ 326B.31 to 326B.399.

(d) Heating, ventilating, air conditioning, and refrigeration contractors and their employees are not required to hold or obtain a license under sections ~~326.241 to 326.248~~ 326B.31 to 326B.399 when performing heating, ventilating, air conditioning, or refrigeration work as described in section 326.245.

(e) Employees of any ~~electric~~ electrical, communications, or railway utility, cable communications company as defined in section 238.02, or a telephone company as defined under section 237.01 or its employees, or of any independent contractor performing work on behalf of any such utility, cable communications company, or telephone company, shall not be required to hold a license under sections ~~326.241 to 326.248~~ 326B.31 to 326B.399:

(1) while performing work on installations, materials, or equipment which are owned or leased, and operated and maintained by such utility, cable communications company, or telephone company in the exercise of its utility, antenna, or telephone function, and which

(i) are used exclusively for the generation, transformation, distribution, transmission, or metering of electric current, or the operation of railway signals, or the transmission of intelligence and do not have as a principal function the consumption or use of electric current or provided service by or for the benefit of any person other than such utility, cable communications company, or telephone company, and

(ii) are generally accessible only to employees of such utility, cable communications company, or telephone company or persons acting under its control or direction, and

(iii) are not on the load side of the service point or point of entrance for communication systems;

(2) while performing work on installations, materials, or equipment which are a part of the street lighting operations of such utility; or

(3) while installing or performing work on outdoor area lights which are directly connected to a utility's distribution system and located upon the utility's distribution poles, and which are generally accessible only to employees of such utility or persons acting under its control or direction.



(f) An owner shall not be required to hold or obtain a license under sections ~~326.241 to 326.248~~ 326B.31 to 326B.399.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective December 1, 2007, except that the amendments to subdivision 8 are effective July 1, 2007, and the amendments to subdivision 11 are effective retroactively from January 1, 2007.

Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.243, is amended to read:

**326.243 SAFETY STANDARDS.**

All electrical wiring, apparatus and equipment for ~~electric~~ electrical light, heat and power, technology circuits or systems shall comply with the rules of the ~~department of Commerce or the Department of Labor and Industry, as applicable,~~ and the board and be installed in conformity with accepted standards of construction for safety to life and property. For the purposes of this chapter, the rules and safety standards stated at the time the work is done in the then most ~~recently published~~ current edition of the National Electrical Code as adopted by the National Fire Protection Association, Inc. and approved by the American National Standards Institute, and the National Electrical Safety Code as published by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc. and approved by the American National Standards Institute, shall be prima facie evidence of accepted standards of construction for safety to life and property; provided further, that in the event a Minnesota Building Code is formulated pursuant to section 16B.61, containing approved methods of electrical construction for safety to life and property, compliance with said methods of electrical construction of said Minnesota Building Code shall also constitute compliance with this section, and provided further, that nothing herein contained shall prohibit any political subdivision from making and enforcing more stringent requirements than set forth herein and such requirements shall be complied with by all licensed electricians working within the jurisdiction of such political subdivisions.

Sec. 22. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.244, subdivision 1a, is amended to read:

Subd. 1a. **Technology systems.** (a) The installation of the technology circuits or systems described in paragraph (b), except:

(1) minor work performed by a contractor;

(2) work performed by a heating, ventilating, or air conditioning contractor as described in section 326.245; and

(3) work performed by cable company employees when installing cable communications systems or telephone company employees when installing telephone systems,

must be inspected as provided in this section for compliance with the applicable provisions of the National Electrical Code and the applicable provisions of the National Electrical Safety Code, as those codes were approved by the American National Standards Institute.

(b) The inspection requirements in paragraph (a) apply to:

(1) ~~remote control circuits controlling~~ class 2 or class 3 remote control circuits that control circuits or systems other than class 2 or class 3 ~~and indoor lighting~~, except circuits that interconnect these systems exempted by section 326.242, subdivision 12, paragraph (b), other than fire alarm;

class 2 or class 3 circuits in electrical cabinets, enclosures, or devices containing physically unprotected circuits other than class 2 or class 3; or technology circuits and systems in hazardous classified locations as covered by chapter 5 of the National Electrical Code;

(2) fire alarm systems, other than in one- or two-family dwellings, as defined in articles 100 and 760 of the National Electrical Code;

(3) technology circuits and systems contained within critical care areas of health care facilities as defined by the safety standards identified in section 326.243, including, but not limited to, anesthesia and resuscitative alarm and alerting systems, medical monitoring, and nurse call systems; ~~and~~

(4) physical security systems within detention facilities; and

(5) circuitry and equipment for indoor lighting systems as defined in article 411 of the National Electrical Code.

(c) For the purposes of this subdivision "minor work" means the adjustment or repair and replacement of worn or defective parts of a technology circuit or system. Minor work may be inspected under this section at the request of the owner of the property or the person doing the work.

(d) Notwithstanding this subdivision, if an electrical inspector observes that a contractor, employer, or owner has not complied with accepted standards when the work was performed, as provided in the most recent editions of the National Electrical Code and the National Electrical Safety Code as approved by the American National Standards Institute, the inspector may order the contractor, employer, or owner who has performed the work to file a request for electrical inspection, pay an inspection fee, and make any necessary repairs to comply with applicable standards and require that the work be inspected.

Sec. 23. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.244, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 1b. **Licenses; bond.** All inspectors shall hold licenses as master or journeyman electricians under this chapter. All inspectors under contract with the department to provide electrical inspection services shall give bond in the amount of \$1,000, conditioned upon the faithful performance of their duties.

Sec. 24. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.244, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Procedure.** (a) At or before commencement of any installation required to be inspected by the ~~board~~ commissioner, the contractor, installer, special electrician, or owner making the installation shall submit to the ~~board~~ commissioner a request for inspection, in a form prescribed by the ~~board~~ commissioner, together with the fees required for the installation.

(b) The fees required are a handling fee and an inspection fee. The handling fee shall be set by the ~~board~~ commissioner in an amount sufficient to pay the cost of printing and handling the form requesting an inspection. The inspection fee shall be set by the ~~board~~ commissioner in an amount sufficient to pay the actual costs of the inspection and the ~~board's~~ commissioner's costs in administering the inspection. All fees shall be set pursuant to the procedure of sections 14.001 to 14.69.

(c) If the inspector finds that the installation is not in compliance with accepted standards of construction for safety to life and property as required by section 326.243, the inspector shall

by written order condemn the installation or noncomplying portion thereof, or order service to the installation disconnected, and shall send a copy of the order to the board commissioner. If the installation or the noncomplying part will seriously and proximately endanger human life and property, the order of the inspector, when approved by the inspector's superior, shall require immediate condemnation or disconnection. In all other cases, the order of the inspector shall permit a reasonable opportunity for the installation to be brought into compliance with accepted standards of construction for safety to life and property prior to the effective time established for condemnation or disconnection.

(d) Copies of each condemnation or disconnection order shall be served personally or by mail upon the property owner, and the contractor, installer, or special electrician making the installation, and other persons as the board commissioner by rule may direct. An aggrieved party may appeal any condemnation or disconnection order by filing with the board commissioner a notice of appeal within ten days after (1) service upon the aggrieved party of the condemnation or disconnection order, if this service is required, or (2) filing of the order with the board commissioner, whichever is later. The appeal shall proceed and the order of the inspector shall have the effect the order, by its terms, and the rules of the board commissioner provides. The board commissioner shall adopt rules providing procedures for the conduct of appeals, including provisions for the stay of enforcement of the order of the inspector pending such appeal when justified by the circumstances.

Sec. 25. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.244, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Duty of electrical utility.** No electrical installation subject to inspection by the board commissioner shall be newly connected or reconnected for use until there is filed with the electrical utility supplying power a certificate of the property owner or licensed electrician, directing the work that inspection has been requested and that the conditions of the installation are safe for energization, provided further, that in all cases where an order of condemnation or disconnection has been issued against the installation or any part thereof, prior to connection or reconnection there shall also first be filed with the electrical utility supplying the power a copy of an order of the inspector or the board commissioner dismissing such prior order of condemnation or disconnection or approving the installation as being in compliance with accepted standards of construction for safety to life and property. With respect to transient projects, the aforesaid certificate shall also contain a certification that the request for inspection has been or will be filed with the board commissioner so as to be received by it at least five days prior to the date and time energization of the installation by the utility is to occur, and that the request for inspection states such date and time, and it shall be the responsibility of the board commissioner to have inspection of such transient project occur prior to the date and time at which the request states energization is to occur.

Sec. 26. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.244, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Powers of political subdivisions.** Any political subdivision or the University of Minnesota may make provision for inspection of electrical installations within its jurisdiction, in which case it shall keep on file with the board commissioner copies of its current inspection ordinances and codes. No political subdivision or the University of Minnesota shall require any individual, partnership, corporation or other business association holding a license from the board commissioner under sections ~~326.241 to 326.248~~ 326B.31 to 326B.399 to pay any license or registration fee, provided however, that any such political subdivision or the University of Minnesota may provide by ordinance a requirement that each individual, partnership, corporation or other business association doing electrical work within the jurisdiction of such political

subdivision or the University of Minnesota have on file with said political subdivision a copy of the current license issued by the ~~board~~ commissioner or such other evidence of such license as may be provided by the ~~board~~ commissioner.

Each electrical inspector of any political subdivision or the University of Minnesota shall be a licensed master or journeyman electrician under section 326.242, subdivision 1, paragraph (1), or 2, paragraph (b), and shall not otherwise engage or be employed in the sale, installing, altering, or repairing of electrical wiring, apparatus, or equipment for light, heat, power, and other purposes and shall have no financial interest in any concern engaged in any such business.

Sec. 27. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.244, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **Exemptions from inspections.** Installations, materials, or equipment shall not be subject to inspection under sections ~~326.241 to 326.248~~ 326B.31 to 326B.399:

(1) when owned or leased, operated and maintained by any employer whose maintenance electricians are exempt from licensing under sections ~~326.241 to 326.248~~ 326B.31 to 326B.399, while performing electrical maintenance work only as defined by board rule;

(2) when owned or leased, and operated and maintained by any ~~electric~~ electrical, communications, or railway utility, cable communications company as defined in section 238.02, or telephone company as defined under section 237.01, in the exercise of its utility, antenna, or telephone function; and

(i) are used exclusively for the generations, transformation, distribution, transmission, or metering of electric current, or the operation of railway signals, or the transmission of intelligence, and do not have as a principal function the consumption or use of electric current by or for the benefit of any person other than such utility, cable communications company, or telephone company; and

(ii) are generally accessible only to employees of such utility, cable communications company, or telephone company or persons acting under its control or direction; and

(iii) are not on the load side of the service point or point of entrance for communication systems;

(3) when used in the street lighting operations of an ~~electric~~ electrical utility;

(4) when used as outdoor area lights which are owned and operated by an ~~electric~~ electrical utility and which are connected directly to its distribution system and located upon the utility's distribution poles, and which are generally accessible only to employees of such utility or persons acting under its control or direction;

(5) when the installation, material, and equipment are in facilities subject to the jurisdiction of the federal Mine Safety and Health Act; or

(6) when the installation, material, and equipment is part of an elevator installation for which the elevator contractor, licensed under section 326.242, is required to obtain a permit from the authority having jurisdiction as provided by section 16B.747, and the inspection has been or will be performed by an elevator inspector certified by the ~~Department of Administration~~ and licensed by the ~~Board of Electricity~~ department. This exemption shall apply only to installations, material, and equipment permitted or required to be connected on the load side of the disconnecting means

required for elevator equipment under National ~~Electric~~ Electrical Code Article 620, and elevator communications and alarm systems within the machine room, car, hoistway, or elevator lobby.

Sec. 28. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.2441, is amended to read:

**326.2441 INSPECTION FEE SCHEDULE.**

Subdivision 1. **Schedule.** State electrical inspection fees shall be ~~paid according to~~ calculated in accordance with subdivisions 2 to 15.

Subd. 2. **Fee for each separate inspection.** The minimum fee for each separate inspection of an installation, replacement, alteration, or repair is ~~\$20.~~ \$35. Except as otherwise provided in this section, the maximum number of separate inspections allowed without payment of an additional fee is the whole number resulting from dividing by 35 the total fee calculated in accordance with this section. Where additional separate inspections are necessary, additional fees are required to result in a value equal to the total number of separate inspections multiplied by 35. The fee for any inspections needed after a "final inspection" is performed shall be calculated without consideration of any fee paid before the final inspection.

Subd. 3. **Fee for services, generators, other power supply sources, or feeders to separate structures.** The inspection fee for the installation, addition, alteration, or repair of each service, change of service, temporary service, generator, other power supply source, or feeder to a separate structure is:

- (1) 0 ampere to and including 400 ampere capacity, ~~\$25~~ \$35;
- (2) 401 ampere to and including 800 ampere capacity, ~~\$50~~ \$60; and
- (3) ampere capacity above 800, ~~\$75~~ \$100.

Where multiple disconnects are grouped at a single location and are supplied by a single set of supply conductors the cumulative rating of the overcurrent devices shall be used to determine the supply ampere capacity.

Subd. 4. **Fee for circuits, feeders, feeder taps, or sets of transformer secondary conductors.** The inspection fee for the installation, addition, alteration, or repair of each circuit, feeder, feeder tap, or set of transformer secondary conductors, including the equipment served, is:

- (1) 0 ampere to and including 200 ampere capacity, ~~\$5~~ \$6; and
- (2) ampere capacity above 200, ~~\$10~~ \$15.

Where existing feeders and circuits are reconnected to overcurrent devices installed as part of the replacement of an existing disconnect, switchboard, motor control center, or panelboard, the inspection fee for each circuit or feeder is \$2.

Subd. 5. ~~Limitations to fees of subdivisions 3 and 4~~ **Inspection fee for dwellings.** (a) The inspection fee for a one-family dwelling and each dwelling unit of a two-family dwelling with a supply of up to 500 amperes where a combination of ten or more sources of supply, feeders, or circuits are installed, added, altered, repaired, or extended is \$80. is the following:

- (1) the fee for each service or other source of power as provided in subdivision 3;

(2) \$100 for up to 30 feeders and circuits; and

(3) for each additional feeder or circuit, the fee as provided in subdivision 4.

This fee applies to each separate installation for new dwellings and additions, alterations, or repairs to existing dwellings and includes not more than two inspections, where 15 or more feeders or circuits are installed or extended in connection with any addition, alteration, or repair to existing dwellings. Where existing feeders and circuits are reconnected to overcurrent devices installed as part of the replacement of an existing panelboard, the fee for each reconnected feeder or circuit is \$2. The maximum number of separate inspections shall be determined in accordance with subdivision 2. The fee for additional inspections or other installations is that specified in subdivisions 2 to 4, 6, and 8. The installer may submit fees for additional inspections when filing the request for electrical inspection. The fee for each detached accessory structure directly associated with a dwelling unit shall be calculated in accordance with subdivisions 3 and 4. When included on the same request for electrical inspection form, inspection fees for detached accessory structures directly associated with the dwelling unit may be combined with the dwelling unit fees to determine the maximum number of separate inspections in accordance with subdivision 2.

(b) The inspection fee for each dwelling unit of a multifamily dwelling with three to 12 or more dwelling units is \$50 and the fee for each additional dwelling unit is \$25. \$70 for a combination of up to 20 feeders and circuits and \$6 for each additional feeder or circuit. This fee applies to each separate installation for each new dwelling unit and where ten or more feeders or circuits are installed or extended in connection with any addition, alteration, or repair to existing dwelling units. Where existing feeders or circuits are reconnected to overcurrent devices installed as part of the replacement of an existing panelboard, the fee for each reconnected feeder or circuit is \$2. The maximum number of separate inspections for each dwelling unit shall be determined in accordance with subdivision 2. The fee for additional inspections or for inspection of other installations is that specified in subdivisions 2, 4, 6, and 8. These fees include only inspection of the wiring within individual dwelling units and the final feeder to that unit. This limitation is subject to the following conditions:-

(1) where the multifamily dwelling is provided with common service equipment and each dwelling unit is supplied by a separate feeder or feeders extended from common service or distribution equipment. The fee for multifamily dwelling services or other power source supplies and all other circuits is that specified in subdivisions 2 to 4; and

(2) this limitation applies only to new installations for multifamily dwellings where the majority of the individual dwelling units are available for inspection during each inspection trip.

(c) A separate request for electrical inspection form must be filed for each dwelling unit that is supplied with an individual set of service entrance conductors. These fees are the one-family dwelling rate specified in paragraph (a).

**Subd. 6. Additions to fees of subdivisions 3 to 5.** (a) The fee for the electrical supply for each manufactured home park lot is \$25 \$35. This fee includes the service or feeder conductors up to and including the service equipment or disconnecting means. The fee for feeders and circuits that extend from the service or disconnecting means is that specified in subdivision 4.

(b) The fee for each recreational vehicle site electrical supply equipment is \$5 \$6 for each circuit originating within the equipment. The fee for recreational vehicle park services, feeders, and circuits

is that specified in subdivisions 3 and 4.

(c) The fee for each street, parking lot, or outdoor area lighting standard is ~~\$1~~, and the fee for each traffic signal standard is \$5. Circuits originating within the standard or traffic signal controller shall not be used when ~~computing~~ calculating the fee for each standard.

(d) The fee for transformers for light, heat, and power is ~~\$10~~ \$15 for transformers rated up to ten kilovolt-amperes and ~~\$20~~ \$30 for transformers rated in excess of ten kilovolt-amperes. The previous sentence does not apply to Class 1 transformers or power supplies for Class 1 power-limited circuits or to Class 2 or Class 3 transformers or power supplies.

(e) The fee for transformers and electronic power supplies for electric signs and outline lighting is \$5 per unit.

(f) The fee for ~~alarm, communication, remote control, and signaling technology~~ technology circuits or systems, and circuits of less than 50 volts, is ~~50~~ 75 cents for each system device or apparatus.

(g) The fee for each separate inspection of the bonding for a swimming pool, spa, fountain, an equipotential plane for an agricultural confinement area, or similar installation ~~shall be \$20~~ is \$35. Bonding conductors and connections require an inspection before being concealed.

(h) The fee for all wiring installed on center pivot irrigation booms is ~~\$40~~ \$35 plus \$5 for each electrical drive unit.

(i) The fee for retrofit modifications to existing lighting fixtures is 25 cents per ~~lighting fixture~~ luminaire.

(j) When a separate inspection of a concrete-encased grounding electrode is performed, the fee is \$35.

(k) The fees required by subdivisions 3 and 4 are doubled for installations over 600 volts.

Subd. 7. **Investigation fees: work without a request for electrical inspection.** (a) Whenever any work for which a request for electrical inspection is required ~~by the board~~ has begun without the request for electrical inspection form being filed with the ~~board~~ commissioner, a special investigation shall be made before a request for electrical inspection form is accepted ~~by the board~~.

(b) An investigation fee, in addition to the full fee required by subdivisions 1 to 6, shall be paid before an inspection is made. The investigation fee is two times the ~~hourly rate~~ minimum fee specified in subdivision ~~40~~ 2 or the inspection fee required by subdivisions 1 to 6, whichever is greater, not to exceed \$1,000. The payment of the investigation fee does not exempt any person from compliance with all other provisions of the ~~board~~ department rules or statutes nor from any penalty prescribed by law.

Subd. 8. **Reinspection fee.** Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivisions 2 and 5, when reinspection is necessary to determine whether unsafe conditions identified during a final inspection have been corrected and the conditions are not the subject of an appeal pending before the board commissioner or any court, a reinspection fee of ~~\$20~~ may \$35 shall be assessed in writing by the inspector.

Subd. 9. **Supplemental fee.** When inspections scheduled by the installer are preempted, obstructed, prevented, or otherwise not able to be completed as scheduled due to circumstances

beyond the control of the inspector, a supplemental inspection fee of ~~\$20~~ \$35 shall be assessed in writing by the inspector.

Subd. 10. **Special inspection.** For inspections not covered in this section, or for requested special inspections or services, the fee ~~shall be \$30~~ is \$80 per hour, including travel time, plus ~~31 cents~~ the standard mileage rate per mile traveled, plus the reasonable cost of equipment or material consumed. This provision is applicable to inspection of empty conduits and other jobs as may be determined by the ~~board~~ commissioner. This fee may also be assessed when installations are not accessible by roadway and require alternate forms of transportation, ~~or are located in the Northwest Angle, or when inspections are performed outside of Minnesota.~~ For purposes of this subdivision, the standard mileage rate is the standard mileage rate effective at the time of travel, as established by the Internal Revenue Service for computing the deductible costs of operating an automobile for business expense purposes.

Subd. 11. **Inspection of transitory projects.** (a) For inspection of transitory projects including, but not limited to, festivals, fairs, carnivals, circuses, shows, production sites, and portable road construction plants, the inspection procedures and fees are as specified in paragraphs (b) to (i).

(b) The fee for inspection of each generator or other source of supply is that specified in subdivision 3. A like fee is required at each engagement or setup.

(c) In addition to the fee for generators or other sources of supply, there must be an inspection of all installed feeders, circuits, and equipment at each engagement or setup at the hourly rate specified in subdivision 10, with a ~~two-hour~~ one-hour minimum.

(d) An owner, operator, or appointed representative of a transitory enterprise including, but not limited to, festivals, fairs, carnivals, circuses, production companies, shows, portable road construction plants, and similar enterprises shall notify the ~~board~~ commissioner of its itinerary or schedule and make application for initial inspection a minimum of 14 days before its first engagement or setup. An owner, operator, or appointed representative of a transitory enterprise who fails to notify the ~~board~~ commissioner 14 days before its first engagement or setup may be subject to the investigation fees specified in subdivision 7. The owner, operator, or appointed representative shall request inspection and pay the inspection fee for each subsequent engagement or setup at the time of the initial inspection. For subsequent engagements or setups not listed on the itinerary or schedule submitted to the ~~board~~ commissioner and where the ~~board~~ commissioner is not notified at least 48 hours in advance, a charge of \$100 may be made in addition to all required fees.

(e) Amusement rides, devices, concessions, attractions, or other units must be inspected at their first appearance of the year. The inspection fee is ~~\$20~~ \$35 per unit with a supply of up to 60 amperes and ~~\$30~~ \$40 per unit with a supply above 60 amperes.

(f) An additional fee at the hourly rate specified in subdivision 10 must be charged for additional time spent by each inspector if equipment is not ready or available for inspection at the time and date specified on the application for initial inspection or the request for electrical inspection form.

(g) In addition to the fees specified in paragraphs (a) and (b), a fee of ~~two hours~~ one hour at the hourly rate specified in subdivision 10 must be charged for inspections required to be performed on Saturdays, Sundays, holidays, or after regular business hours.

(h) The fee for reinspection of corrections or supplemental inspections where an additional trip



is necessary may be assessed as specified in subdivision 8.

(i) ~~The board may~~ commissioner shall retain the inspection fee when an owner, operator, or appointed representative of a transitory enterprise fails to notify the ~~board~~ commissioner at least 48 hours in advance of a scheduled inspection that is canceled.

Subd. 11a. **Negotiated fee.** When the fee calculated in accordance with subdivisions 2 to 11 results in a total fee that unreasonably exceeds the cost of inspection, the commissioner may negotiate a fee that more reasonably offsets the cost of inspection.

Subd. 12. **Handling fee.** The handling fee to pay the cost of printing and handling of the paper form requesting an electrical inspection is up to \$1.

Subd. 13. **National Electrical Code used for interpretation of provisions.** For purposes of interpretation of this section and Minnesota Rules, chapter 3800, the most recently adopted edition of the National Electrical Code shall be prima facie evidence of the definitions, interpretations, and scope of words and terms used.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007.

Sec. 29. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.245, is amended to read:

**326.245 MANUFACTURED ELECTRICAL PARTS; EXEMPTION.**

Subdivision 1. **Manufacturers.** Electrical components, apparatus, or appliances being manufactured within the limits of property which is owned or leased by a manufacturer and such manufacturer's production employees are not covered by sections ~~326.241 to 326.248~~ 326B.31 to 326B.399.

Subd. 2. **Electrical appliance units.** Installation, alteration, or repair of electrical appliance units are not covered by sections ~~326.241 to 326.248~~ 326B.31 to 326B.399. For the purposes of this section, "electrical appliance units" means all electrical and fossil fuel appliances that use electricity including, but not limited to, furnaces, water heaters, stoves, clothes washers, dryers, and dishwashers. The installation of electrical wiring to an electrical appliance unit is covered by sections ~~326.241 to 326.248~~ 326B.31 to 326B.399.

Subd. 3. **Other units.** Planning, laying out, and installation of heating, ventilating, air conditioning, or refrigeration units are not covered by sections ~~326.241 to 326.248~~ 326B.31 to 326B.399. For purposes of this section, heating, ventilating, air conditioning, or refrigeration units include, but are not limited to, air conditioning units, air conditioning evaporators, air conditioning condensers, air conditioning and refrigeration chillers, boilers, furnaces, air handling units, rooftop units, humidifiers, ice makers, and supermarket, ice arena, and bar/restaurant equipment. The installation of electrical wiring to the unit is covered by sections ~~326.241 to 326.248~~ 326B.31 to 326B.399.

Subd. 4. **Other equipment.** Planning, laying out, alteration, replacement, or repair of heating, ventilating, air conditioning, or refrigeration equipment, and associated devices, controls, and wiring including wiring in or on the equipment, are not covered by sections ~~326.241 to 326.248~~ 326B.31 to 326B.399 when the work is performed by an employee of a heating, ventilating, air conditioning, or refrigeration contractor provided that the employee performing the work has received a certificate of completion from a heating, ventilating, air conditioning, or refrigeration

apprenticeship program approved by the state of Minnesota or any class of personal electrical license issued by the ~~board~~ commissioner. Employees registered in an approved heating, ventilating, air conditioning, or refrigeration program may design, plan, alter, replace, or repair heating, ventilating, air conditioning, or refrigeration equipment, devices, and controls including wiring in or on the equipment, under the direction of an employee who has a certificate of completion from an approved program or any class of personal electrical license issued by the ~~board~~ commissioner. The installation of electrical wiring to the unit is covered by sections ~~326.241 to 326.248~~ 326B.31 to 326B.399.

Sec. 30. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.248, is amended to read:

**326.248 CITATION.**

Sections ~~326.241 to 326.248~~ 326B.31 to 326B.399 shall be known as the Minnesota Electrical Act.

Sec. 31. **[326B.31] DEFINITIONS.**

Subdivision 1. **Scope.** For purposes of sections 326B.31 to 326B.399, the terms defined in this section have the meanings given them.

Subd. 2. **Class A electrical contractor.** "Class A electrical contractor" means a licensed contractor whose responsible licensed individual is a licensed Class A master electrician.

Subd. 7. **Class B electrical contractor.** "Class B electrical contractor" means a licensed contractor whose responsible licensed individual is a licensed Class B master electrician.

Subd. 23. **Personal license.** "Personal license" means any license issued by the commissioner under section 326B.33 or the rules adopted under section 326B.33, except a contractor's license.

Subd. 27. **Responsible licensed individual.** A contractor's "responsible licensed individual" means the licensed Class A master electrician, Class B master electrician, master elevator constructor, or power limited technician designated in writing by the contractor in the contractor's license application, or in another manner acceptable to the commissioner, as the individual responsible for the contractor's compliance with sections 326B.31 to 326B.399 and all rules and orders adopted or issued under these sections. The terms "licensed responsible individual" and "licensed responsible master electrician or power limited technician" are synonymous.

Subd. 32. **Technology system contractor.** "Technology system contractor" means a licensed contractor whose responsible licensed individual is a licensed power limited technician.

Sec. 32. **REVISOR'S INSTRUCTION.**

The revisor of statutes shall renumber each section of Minnesota Statutes listed in column A with the number listed in column B. The revisor shall also make necessary cross-reference changes consistent with the renumbering.

<u>Column A</u>	<u>Column B</u>
<u>326.01, subd. 2</u>	<u>326B.31, subd. 6</u>
<u>326.01, subd. 3</u>	<u>326B.31, subd. 5</u>

<u>326.01, subd. 4</u>	<u>326B.31, subd. 28</u>
<u>326.01, subd. 5</u>	<u>326B.31, subd. 12</u>
<u>326.01, subd. 6</u>	<u>326B.31, subd. 10</u>
<u>326.01, subd. 6a</u>	<u>326B.31, subd. 9</u>
<u>326.01, subd. 6b</u>	<u>326B.31, subd. 4</u>
<u>326.01, subd. 6c</u>	<u>326B.31, subd. 8</u>
<u>326.01, subd. 6e</u>	<u>326B.31, subd. 22</u>
<u>326.01, subd. 6f</u>	<u>326B.31, subd. 15</u>
<u>326.01, subd. 6g</u>	<u>326B.31, subd. 14</u>
<u>326.01, subd. 6i</u>	<u>326B.31, subd. 13</u>
<u>326.01, subd. 6j</u>	<u>326B.31, subd. 26</u>
<u>326.01, subd. 6k</u>	<u>326B.31, subd. 24</u>
<u>326.01, subd. 6l</u>	<u>326B.31, subd. 31</u>
<u>326.01, subd. 6m</u>	<u>326B.31, subd. 25</u>
<u>326.2415</u>	<u>326B.32</u>
<u>326.242</u>	<u>326B.33</u>
<u>326.2421</u>	<u>326B.34</u>
<u>326.243</u>	<u>326B.35</u>
<u>326.244</u>	<u>326B.36</u>
<u>326.2441</u>	<u>326B.37</u>
<u>326.245</u>	<u>326B.38</u>
<u>326.247</u>	<u>326B.39</u>
<u>326.248</u>	<u>326B.399</u>

Sec. 33. **REPEALER.**

Minnesota Statutes 2006, sections 326.01, subdivision 4; 326.241; and 326.247, are repealed.

**ARTICLE 6**

**PLUMBING**

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 325E.37, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

Subd. 6. **Scope; limitations.** (a) This section applies to a sales representative who, during some part of the period of the sales representative agreement:

- (1) is a resident of Minnesota or maintains that person's principal place of business in Minnesota;
- or
- (2) whose geographical territory specified in the sales representative agreement includes part or

all of Minnesota.

(b) To be effective, any demand for arbitration under subdivision 5 must be made in writing and delivered to the principal on or before one year after the effective date of the termination of the agreement.

(c) A provision in any contract between a sales representative dealing in plumbing equipment or supplies and a principal purporting to waive any provision of this act, whether by express waiver or by a provision stipulating that the contract is subject to the laws of another state, shall be void.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.01, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Journeyman plumber.** A "journeyman plumber" is ~~any person~~ an individual, other than a master plumber, who, as a principal occupation, is engaged as an employee of, or is otherwise working under the direction of, a master plumber in the practical installation of plumbing.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.01, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

Subd. 8. **Master plumber.** A "master plumber" is ~~any person~~ an individual who is skilled in the planning, superintending, and the practical installation of plumbing ~~and, who is otherwise~~ lawfully qualified to contract for plumbing and installations and to conduct the business of plumbing and who is familiar with the laws and rules governing the same.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.37, is amended to read:

**326.37 RULES; AGREEMENTS WITH MUNICIPALITIES; CAPACITY STANDARDS; LICENSE EXEMPTION.**

Subdivision 1. **Rules.** ~~The state commissioner of health~~ Plumbing Board may, by rule, prescribe minimum standards which shall be uniform, and which ~~standards shall thereafter~~ be effective for all new plumbing installations, including additions, extensions, alterations, and replacements connected with any water or sewage disposal system owned or operated by or for any municipality, institution, factory, office building, hotel, apartment building, or any other place of business regardless of location or the population of the city or town in which the installation is to be located. Notwithstanding the provisions of Minnesota Rules, part 4715.3130, as they apply to review of plans and specifications, the commissioner may allow plumbing construction, alteration, or extension to proceed without approval of the plans or specifications by the commissioner.

The commissioner shall administer the provisions of sections ~~326.37~~ 326.361 to ~~326.45~~ 326.44 and for such purposes may employ plumbing inspectors and other assistants.

Subd. 1a. **Agreements with municipalities.** The commissioner may enter into an agreement with a municipality, in which the municipality agrees to perform plan and specification reviews required to be performed by the commissioner under Minnesota Rules, part 4715.3130, if:

(a) the municipality has adopted:

(1) the plumbing code;

(2) an ordinance that requires plumbing plans and specifications to be submitted to, reviewed, and approved by the municipality, except as provided in paragraph (h);

(3) an ordinance that authorizes the municipality to perform inspections required by the plumbing code; and

(4) an ordinance that authorizes the municipality to enforce the plumbing code in its entirety, except as provided in paragraph (p);

(b) the municipality agrees to review plumbing plans and specifications for all construction for which the plumbing code requires the review of plumbing plans and specifications, except as provided in paragraph (n);

(c) the municipality agrees that, when it reviews plumbing plans and specifications under paragraph (b), the review will:

(1) reflect the degree to which the plans and specifications affect the public health and conform to the provisions of the plumbing code;

(2) ensure that there is no physical connection between water supply systems that are safe for domestic use and those that are unsafe for domestic use; and

(3) ensure that there is no apparatus through which unsafe water may be discharged or drawn into a safe water supply system;

(d) the municipality agrees to perform all inspections required by the plumbing code in connection with projects for which the municipality reviews plumbing plans and specifications under paragraph (b);

(e) the commissioner determines that the individuals who will conduct the inspections and the plumbing plan and specification reviews for the municipality do not have any conflict of interest in conducting the inspections and the plan and specification reviews;

(f) individuals who will conduct the plumbing plan and specification reviews for the municipality are:

(1) licensed master plumbers;

(2) licensed professional engineers; or

(3) individuals who are working under the supervision of a licensed professional engineer or licensed master plumber and who are licensed master or journeyman plumbers or hold a postsecondary degree in engineering;

(g) individuals who will conduct the plumbing plan and specification reviews for the municipality have passed a competency assessment required by the commissioner to assess the individual's competency at reviewing plumbing plans and specifications;

(h) individuals who will conduct the plumbing inspections for the municipality are licensed master or journeyman plumbers, or inspectors meeting the competency requirements established in rules adopted under section 16B.655;

(i) the municipality agrees to enforce in its entirety the plumbing code on all projects, except as provided in paragraph (p);

(j) the municipality agrees to keep official records of all documents received, including plans,

specifications, surveys, and plot plans, and of all plan reviews, permits and certificates issued, reports of inspections, and notices issued in connection with plumbing inspections and the review of plumbing plans and specifications;

(k) the municipality agrees to maintain the records described in paragraph (j) in the official records of the municipality for the period required for the retention of public records under section 138.17, and shall make these records readily available for review at the request of the commissioner;

(l) the municipality and the commissioner agree that if at any time during the agreement the municipality does not have in effect the plumbing code or any of ordinances described in item (a), or if the commissioner determines that the municipality is not properly administering and enforcing the plumbing code or is otherwise not complying with the agreement:

(1) the commissioner may, effective 14 days after the municipality's receipt of written notice, terminate the agreement;

(2) the municipality may challenge the termination in a contested case before the commissioner pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act; and

(3) while any challenge is pending under item (2), the commissioner shall perform plan and specification reviews within the municipality under Minnesota Rules, part 4715.3130;

(m) the municipality and the commissioner agree that the municipality may terminate the agreement with or without cause on 90 days' written notice to the commissioner;

(n) the municipality and the commissioner agree that the municipality shall forward to the state for review all plumbing plans and specifications for the following types of projects within the municipality:

(1) hospitals, nursing homes, supervised living facilities, and similar health-care-related facilities regulated by the Minnesota Department of Health;

(2) buildings owned by the federal or state government; and

(3) projects of a special nature for which department review is requested by either the municipality or the state;

(o) where the municipality forwards to the state for review plumbing plans and specifications, as provided in paragraph (n), the municipality shall not collect any fee for plan review, and the commissioner shall collect all applicable fees for plan review; and

(p) no municipality shall revoke, suspend, or place restrictions on any plumbing license issued by the state.

**Subd. 1b. Existing agreements with municipalities.** Any agreement between the commissioner and a municipality in which the municipality has agreed to perform plan and specification reviews required to be performed by the commissioner under Minnesota Rules, part 4715.3130, that is in effect on the effective date of subdivision 1a, shall remain in effect and shall not be required to be in compliance with subdivision 1a. If any agreement to perform plan and specification reviews required to be performed by the commissioner under Minnesota Rules, part 4715.3130, in effect on the effective date of subdivision 1a is later terminated by operation of the terms of the agreement or by either the commissioner or the municipality, or expires, then any new agreement between

the commissioner and the municipality to perform plan and specification reviews required to be performed by the commissioner under Minnesota Rules, part 4715.3130, shall comply with subdivision 1a.

Subd. 2. **Standards for capacity.** ~~By January 1, 1993,~~ All new floor-mounted water closets in areas under jurisdiction of the State plumbing code may not have a flush volume of more than 1.6 gallons. The water closets must meet the standards ~~of the commissioner and~~ in the plumbing code and the standards of the American National Standards Institute.

Subd. 3. **Exemption.** No license or registration authorized by ~~this section~~ sections 326.361 to 326.44 shall be required of any ~~contractor or employee individual~~ engaged in or employed by a person engaged in the work or business of pipe laying outside of buildings if such person individual or employer is engaged in a business or trade which has traditionally performed such work within the state prior to January 1, 1994.

Subd. 4. **Air admittance valves and water-free urinals prohibited.** (a) Mechanical devices and fittings with internal moving parts are prohibited from installation in plumbing venting systems.

(b) All urinals covered under the jurisdiction of the state plumbing code must have a water flush device with a volume of not more than one gallon per use.

#### Sec. 5. **[326.3705] PLUMBING BOARD.**

Subdivision 1. **Composition.** (a) The plumbing board shall consist of 13 members. Eleven members shall be appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate and shall be voting members. Appointments of members by the governor shall be made in accordance with section 15.066. If the senate votes to refuse to consent to an appointment of a member made by the governor, the governor shall appoint a new member with the advice and consent of the senate. One member shall be the commissioner of labor and industry or the commissioner of labor and industry's designee, who shall be a voting member. One member shall be the commissioner of health or the commissioner of health's designee, who shall not be a voting member. Of the 11 appointed members, the composition shall be as follows:

(1) two members shall be municipal plumbing inspectors, one from the metropolitan area and one from greater Minnesota;

(2) one member shall be a licensed professional engineer specializing in plumbing designs or systems;

(3) two members shall be commercial/industrial plumbing contractors, one from the metropolitan area and one from greater Minnesota;

(4) one member shall be a residential plumbing contractor;

(5) two members shall be commercial/industrial journeymen, one from the metropolitan area and one from greater Minnesota;

(6) one member shall be a residential plumbing journeyman;

(7) one member shall be a water conditioning contractor; and

(8) one member shall be a municipal public water supply system operator or superintendent.

One of the municipal plumbing inspectors shall be appointed for an initial term to end on December 31, 2010. The other municipal plumbing inspector shall be appointed for an initial term to end on December 31, 2011. The professional engineer shall be appointed for an initial term to end on December 31, 2011. One of the commercial/industrial plumbing contractors shall be appointed for an initial term to end on December 31, 2010. The other commercial/industrial plumbing contractor shall be appointed for an initial term to end on December 31, 2011. The residential plumbing contractor shall be appointed for an initial term to end on December 31, 2010. One of the commercial/industrial plumbing journeymen shall be appointed for an initial term to end on December 31, 2011. The other commercial/industrial plumbing journeyman shall be appointed for an initial term to end on December 31, 2010. The residential plumbing journeyman shall be appointed for an initial term to end on December 31, 2011. The water conditioning contractor shall be appointed for an initial term to end on December 31, 2011. The municipal public water supply system operator or superintendent shall be appointed for an initial term to end on December 31, 2010.

(b) The licensed professional engineer must possess a current Minnesota professional engineering license and maintain the license for the duration of their term. All other appointed members, except for the water conditioning contractor and the municipal public water supply system operator or superintendent, must possess a current plumbing license issued by the Department of Labor and Industry and maintain that license for the duration of their term. The water conditioning contractor must be licensed as a water conditioning contractor by the Department of Labor and Industry and maintain the license for the duration of the term on the board. All appointed members must be residents of Minnesota at the time of and throughout the member's appointment. The term of any appointed member that does not maintain membership qualification status shall end on the date of the status change and the governor shall appoint a new member. It is the responsibility of the member to notify the board of the member's status change.

(c) For appointed members, except the initial terms designated in paragraph (a), each term shall be three years with the terms ending on December 31. Members appointed by the governor shall be limited to three consecutive terms. The governor shall, all or in part, reappoint the current members or appoint replacement members with the advice and consent of the senate. Midterm vacancies shall be filled for the remaining portion of the term. Vacancies occurring with less than six months time remaining in the term shall be filled for the existing term and the following three-year term. Members may serve until their successors are appointed but in no case later than July 1 in a year in which the term expires unless reappointed.

Subd. 2. **Powers; duties; administrative support.** (a) The board shall have the power to:

(1) elect its chair, vice-chair, and secretary;

(2) adopt bylaws that specify the duties of its officers, the meeting dates of the board, and containing such other provisions as may be useful and necessary for the efficient conduct of the business of the board;

(3) adopt the plumbing code that must be followed in this state and any plumbing code amendments thereto. The board shall adopt the plumbing code and any amendments thereto pursuant to chapter 14 and as provided in subdivision 6, paragraphs (b), (c), and (d);

(4) review requests for final interpretations and issue final interpretations as provided in section 16B.63, subdivision 5;



(5) except for rules regulating continuing education, adopt rules that regulate the licensure or registration of plumbing contractors, journeymen, apprentices, master plumbers, restricted master plumbers, and restricted journeymen and other persons engaged in the design, installation, and alteration of plumbing systems, except for those individuals licensed under sections 326.02, subdivisions 2 and 3. The board shall adopt these rules pursuant to chapter 14 and as provided in subdivision 6, paragraphs (e) and (f);

(6) advise the commissioner regarding educational requirements for plumbing inspectors;

(7) refer complaints or other communications to the commissioner, whether oral or written, as provided in subdivision 7, that alleges or implies a violation of a statute, rule, or order that the commissioner has the authority to enforce pertaining to code compliance, licensure, or an offering to perform or performance of unlicensed plumbing services;

(8) approve per diem and expenses deemed necessary for its members as provided in subdivision 3;

(9) approve license reciprocity agreements;

(10) select from its members individuals to serve on any other state advisory council, board, or committee; and

(11) recommend the fees for licenses and certifications.

Except for the powers granted to the Plumbing Board, the Board of Electricity, and the Board of High Pressure Piping Systems, the commissioner of labor and industry shall administer and enforce the provisions of this chapter and any rules promulgated pursuant thereto.

(b) The board shall comply with section 15.0597, subdivisions 2 and 4.

(c) The commissioner shall coordinate the board's rulemaking and recommendations with the recommendations and rulemaking conducted by the other boards created pursuant to chapter 326B. The commissioner shall provide staff support to the board. The support includes professional, legal, technical, and clerical staff necessary to perform rulemaking and other duties assigned to the board. The commissioner of labor and industry shall supply necessary office space and supplies to assist the board in its duties.

Subd. 3. **Compensation.** (a) Members of the board may be compensated at a rate of \$55 a day spent on board activities, when authorized by the board, plus expenses in the same manner and amount as authorized by the commissioner's plan adopted under section 43A.18, subdivision 2. Members who, as a result of time spent attending board meetings, incur child care expenses that would not otherwise have been incurred, may be reimbursed for those expenses upon board authorization.

(b) Members who are state employees or employees of the political subdivisions of the state must not receive the daily payment for activities that occur during working hours for which they are compensated by the state or political subdivision. However, a state or political subdivision employee may receive the daily payment if the employee uses vacation time or compensatory time accumulated in accordance with a collective bargaining agreement or compensation plan for board activities. Members who are state employees or employees of the political subdivisions of the state may receive the expenses provided for in this subdivision unless the expenses are reimbursed by

another source. Members who are state employees or employees of political subdivisions of the state may be reimbursed for child care expenses only for time spent on board activities that are outside their working hours.

(c) The board shall adopt internal standards prescribing what constitutes a day spent on board activities for purposes of making daily payments under this subdivision.

Subd. 4. **Removal; vacancies.** (a) An appointed member of the board may be removed by the governor at any time (1) for cause, after notice and hearing, or (2) after missing three consecutive meetings. The chair of the board shall inform the governor of an appointed member missing the three consecutive meetings. After the second consecutive missed meeting and before the next meeting, the secretary of the board shall notify the appointed member in writing that the member may be removed for missing the next meeting. In the case of a vacancy on the board, the governor shall, with the advice and consent of the senate, appoint a person to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the unexpired term.

(b) Vacancies shall be filled pursuant to section 15.0597, subdivisions 5 and 6.

Subd. 5. **Membership vacancies within three months of appointment.** Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, when a membership on the board becomes vacant within three months after being filled through the appointments process, the governor may, upon notification to the office of secretary of state, choose a new member from the applications on hand and need not repeat the process.

Subd. 6. **Officers, quorum, voting.** (a) The board shall elect annually from its members a chair, vice-chair, and secretary. A quorum of the board shall consist of a majority of members of the board qualified to vote on the matter in question. All questions concerning the manner in which a meeting is conducted or called that is not covered by statute shall be determined by Robert's Rules of Order (revised) unless otherwise specified by the bylaws.

(b) Except as provided in paragraph (c), each plumbing code amendment considered by the board that receives an affirmative two-thirds or more majority vote of all of the voting members of the board shall be included in the next plumbing code rulemaking proceeding initiated by the board. If a plumbing code amendment considered, or reconsidered, by the board receives less than a two-thirds majority vote of all the voting members of the board, the plumbing code amendment shall not be included in the next plumbing code rulemaking proceeding initiated by the board.

(c) If the plumbing code amendment considered by the board is to replace the Minnesota Plumbing Code with a model plumbing code, then the amendment may only be included in the next plumbing code rulemaking proceeding if it receives an affirmative two-thirds or more majority vote of all the voting members of the board.

(d) The board may reconsider plumbing code amendments during an active plumbing code rulemaking proceeding in which the amendment previously failed to receive a two-thirds majority vote or more of all the voting members of the board only if new or updated information that affects the plumbing code amendment is presented to the board. The board may also reconsider failed plumbing code amendments in subsequent plumbing code rulemaking proceedings.

(e) Each proposed rule and rule amendment considered by the board pursuant to the rulemaking authority specified in subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clause (5), that receives an affirmative majority

vote of all the voting members of the board shall be included in the next rulemaking proceeding initiated by the board. If a proposed rule or rule amendment considered, or reconsidered, by the board receives less than an affirmative majority vote of all the voting members of the board, the proposed rule or rule amendment shall not be included in the next rulemaking proceeding initiated by the board.

(f) The board may reconsider proposed rules or rule amendments during an active rulemaking proceeding in which the amendment previously failed to receive an affirmative majority vote of all the voting members of the board only if new or updated information that affects the proposed rule or rule amendment is presented to the board. The board may also reconsider failed proposed rules or rule amendments in subsequent rulemaking proceedings.

Subd. 6a. **Board meetings.** (a) The board shall hold meetings at such times as the board shall specify. Notice and conduct of all meetings shall be pursuant to chapter 13D and in such a manner as the bylaws may provide.

(b) If compliance with section 13D.02 is impractical, the board may conduct a meeting of its members by telephone or other electronic means so long as the following conditions are met:

(1) all members of the board participating in the meeting, wherever their physical location, can hear one another and can hear all discussion and testimony;

(2) members of the public present at the regular meeting location of the board can hear clearly all discussion and testimony and all votes of members of the board and, if needed, receive those services required by sections 15.44 and 15.441;

(3) at least one member of the board is physically present at the regular meeting location; and

(4) all votes are conducted by roll call, so each member's vote on each issue can be identified and recorded.

Each member of the board participating in a meeting by telephone or other electronic means is considered present at the meeting for purposes of determining a quorum and participating in all proceedings.

If telephone or other electronic means is used to conduct a regular, special, or emergency meeting, the board, to the extent practical, shall allow a person to monitor the meeting electronically from a remote location. The board may require the person making such a connection to pay for documented costs that the board incurs as a result of the additional connection.

If telephone or other electronic means is used to conduct a regular, special, or emergency meeting, the board shall provide notice of the regular meeting location, of the fact that some members may participate by telephone or other electronic means, and that a person may monitor the meeting electronically from a remote location. Any person monitoring the meeting electronically from a remote location may be required to pay documented costs incurred by the board as a result of the additional connection. The timing and method of providing notice is governed by section 13D.04.

Subd. 7. **Complaints.** (a) The board shall promptly forward to the commissioner the substance of any complaint or communication it receives, whether written or oral, that alleges or implies a violation of a statute, rule, or order that the commissioner has the authority to enforce pertaining to

the license or registration of any person authorized by the department to provide plumbing services, the performance or offering to perform plumbing services requiring licensure by an unlicensed person, or plumbing code compliance. Each complaint or communication that is forwarded to the commissioner shall be submitted on a form provided by the commissioner.

(b) The commissioner shall advise the board of the status of the complaint within 90 days after the board's written submission is received, or within 90 days after the board is provided with a written request for additional information or documentation from the commissioner or the commissioner's designee, whichever is later. The commissioner shall advise the board of the disposition of a complaint referred by the board within 180 days after the board's written submission is received. The commissioner shall annually report to the board a summary of the actions taken in response to complaints referred by the board.

Subd. 8. **Data Practices Act.** The board is subject to chapter 13, the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, and shall protect from unlawful disclosure data classified as not public.

Subd. 9. **Official records.** The board shall make and preserve all records necessary to a full and accurate knowledge of its official activities in accordance with section 15.17.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.38, is amended to read:

**326.38 LOCAL REGULATIONS.**

Any city having a system of waterworks or sewerage, or any town in which reside over 5,000 people exclusive of any statutory cities located therein, or the metropolitan airports commission, Any of the following entities may, by ordinance, adopt local regulations providing for plumbing permits, bonds, approval of plans and specifications, and inspections of plumbing, which regulations are not in conflict with the plumbing standards on the same subject prescribed by the state commissioner of health: any city having a system of waterworks or sewerage, regardless of population; any town having a population of 5,000 or more according to the last federal census, exclusive of any statutory cities located therein; and the Metropolitan Airports Commission. No city or such town such entity shall prohibit plumbers licensed by the state commissioner of health from engaging in or working at the business of plumbing, except cities and statutory cities which, prior to April 21, 1933, by ordinance required the licensing of plumbers. No such entity shall require any person who engages in the business of plumbing to post a bond as a prerequisite for engaging in the business of plumbing, except the bond to the state required under section 326.40 and except any performance bond required under a contract with the person for the performance of plumbing work for the entity. No such entity shall require any person who engages in the business of plumbing to maintain public liability insurance as a prerequisite for engaging in the business of plumbing, except the insurance required under section 326.40 and except any public liability insurance required under a contract with the person for the performance of plumbing work for the entity. Any city by ordinance may prescribe regulations, reasonable standards, and inspections and grant permits to any person, firm, or corporation engaged in the business of installing water softeners, who is not licensed as a master plumber or journeyman plumber by the state commissioner of health, to connect water softening and water filtering equipment to private residence water distribution systems, where provision has been previously made therefor and openings left for that purpose or by use of cold water connections to a domestic water heater; where it is not necessary to rearrange, make any extension or alteration of, or addition to any pipe, fixture

or plumbing connected with the water system except to connect the water softener, and provided the connections so made comply with minimum standards prescribed by the state commissioner of health.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.38, is amended to read:

### **326.38 LOCAL REGULATIONS.**

Any city having a system of waterworks or sewerage, or any town in which reside over 5,000 people exclusive of any statutory cities located therein, or the metropolitan airports commission, may, by ordinance, adopt local regulations providing for plumbing permits, bonds, approval of plans, and inspections of plumbing, which regulations are not in conflict with the plumbing standards on the same subject prescribed by the state commissioner of health Plumbing Board. No city or such town shall prohibit plumbers licensed by the state commissioner of health labor and industry from engaging in or working at the business, except cities and statutory cities which, prior to April 21, 1933, by ordinance required the licensing of plumbers. No city or town may require a license for persons performing building sewer or water service installation who have completed pipe laying training as prescribed by the commissioner of labor and industry. Any city by ordinance may prescribe regulations, reasonable standards, and inspections and grant permits to any person, firm, or corporation engaged in the business of installing water softeners, who is not licensed as a master plumber or journeyman plumber by the state commissioner of health labor and industry, to connect water softening and water filtering equipment to private residence water distribution systems, where provision has been previously made therefor and openings left for that purpose or by use of cold water connections to a domestic water heater; where it is not necessary to rearrange, make any extension or alteration of, or addition to any pipe, fixture or plumbing connected with the water system except to connect the water softener, and provided the connections so made comply with minimum standards prescribed by the state commissioner of health Plumbing Board.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.39, is amended to read:

### **326.39 VIOLATIONS TO BE REPORTED TO STATE COMMISSIONER OF HEALTH.**

Such local authority as may be designated by any such ordinance for the issuance of such plumbing permits and approval of such plans shall report to the state commissioner of health persistent or willful violation of the same and any incompetence of a licensed plumber observed by the local authority.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.40, is amended to read:

### **326.40 LICENSING, BOND AND INSURANCE.**

Subdivision 1. **License required Plumbers must be licensed in certain cities; master and journeyman plumbers; plumbing on one's own premises; rules for examination.** In any city ~~now or hereafter having 5,000 or more population~~ having a population of 5,000 or more, according to the last federal census, and having a system of waterworks or sewerage, no ~~person, firm, or corporation~~ individual shall engage in or work at the business of a master plumber or journeyman plumber unless licensed to do so by the state commissioner of health. A master plumber may also work as a journeyman plumber. ~~Anyone~~ Any individual not so licensed may do plumbing work which complies with the provisions of the minimum standard prescribed by the state commissioner of health on premises or that part of premises owned and actually occupied by the worker as a

residence, unless otherwise forbidden to do so by a local ordinance.

In any such city no person, ~~firm, or corporation~~ shall engage in the business of planning, superintending, or installing plumbing ~~or~~ shall install plumbing in connection with the dealing in and selling of plumbing material and supplies unless at all times a licensed master plumber, who shall be responsible for proper planning, superintending, and installation, is in charge of the plumbing work of the person, ~~firm, or corporation~~.

The ~~Department of Health~~ Plumbing Board shall prescribe rules, not inconsistent herewith, for the examination and licensing of plumbers.

Subd. 2. **Bond; insurance.** Any person contracting to do plumbing work must give bond to the state in the amount of \$25,000 for all work entered into within the state. The bond shall be for the benefit of persons injured or suffering financial loss by reason of failure to comply with the requirements of the State Plumbing Code. ~~A~~ The bond given to the state shall be filed with the commissioner of health and ~~shall be in lieu of all other bonds to any political subdivision required for plumbing work.~~ The bond shall be written by a corporate surety licensed to do business in the state.

In addition, each applicant for a master plumber license or renewal thereof, ~~may~~ shall provide evidence of public liability insurance, including products liability insurance with limits of at least \$50,000 per person and \$100,000 per occurrence and property damage insurance with limits of at least \$10,000. The insurance shall be written by an insurer licensed to do business in the state of Minnesota and each licensed master plumber shall maintain on file with the ~~state~~ commissioner of health a certificate evidencing the insurance providing that the insurance shall not be canceled without the insurer first giving 15 days written notice to the commissioner. The term of the insurance shall be concurrent with the term of the license. ~~The certificate shall be in lieu of all other certificates required by any political subdivision for licensing purposes.~~

Subd. 3. **Bond and insurance exemption.** ~~If a master plumber who is an employee of a master plumber or who is an employee engaged within the limits of property owned, leased and operated, or maintained by the employer, in the maintenance and repair of plumbing equipment, apparatus, or facilities owned or leased by the employer, who is in compliance with the bond and insurance requirements of subdivision 2 employs another master plumber, the employee master plumber shall not be required to meet the bond and insurance requirements of subdivision 2. A master plumber who is an employee working on the maintenance and repair of plumbing equipment, apparatus, or facilities owned or leased by their employer and which is within the limits of property owned or leased, and operated or maintained by their employer, shall not be required to meet the bond and insurance requirements of subdivision 2.~~

Subd. 4. ~~**Alternative compliance.** Compliance with the local bond requirements of a locale within which work is to be performed shall be deemed to satisfy the bond and insurance requirements of subdivision 2, provided the local ordinance requires at least a \$25,000 bond.~~

Subd. 5. **Fee.** ~~The state commissioner of health may charge~~ Each person giving bond to the state under subdivision 2 shall pay the department an annual bond filing registration fee commensurate with the cost of administering the bond and insurance requirements of subdivision 2 of \$40.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective December 1, 2007, except that the amendments to subdivision 5 are effective July 1, 2007.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.40, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

~~Subdivision 1. **License required; master and journeyman plumbers.** In any city now or hereafter having 5,000 or more population, according to the last federal census, and having a system of waterworks or sewerage, (a) No person, firm, or corporation shall engage in or work at the business of a master plumber or, restricted master plumber, journeyman plumber, and restricted journeyman plumber unless licensed to do so by the state commissioner of health labor and industry. A license is not required for persons performing building sewer or water service installation who have completed pipe laying training as prescribed by the commissioner of labor and industry. A master plumber may also work as a journeyman plumber, a restricted journeyman plumber, and a restricted master plumber. A journeyman plumber may also work as a restricted journeyman plumber. Anyone not so licensed may do plumbing work which complies with the provisions of the minimum standard standards prescribed by the state commissioner of health Plumbing Board on premises or that part of premises owned and actually occupied by the worker as a residence, unless otherwise forbidden to do so by a local ordinance.~~

~~In any such city (b) No person, firm, or corporation shall engage in the business of installing plumbing nor install plumbing in connection with the dealing in and selling of plumbing material and supplies unless at all times a licensed master plumber, or in cities and towns with a population of fewer than 5,000 according to the federal census a restricted master plumber, who shall be responsible for proper installation, is in charge of the plumbing work of the person, firm, or corporation.~~

~~The Department of Health shall prescribe rules, not inconsistent herewith, for the examination and licensing of plumbers.~~

Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.401, is amended to read:

### **326.401 PLUMBER'S APPRENTICES.**

Subdivision 1. **Registration.** ~~A All plumber's apprentice apprentices must be registered. To be a registered plumber's apprentice, an individual must either:~~

~~(1) be an individual employed in the trade of plumbing under an apprenticeship agreement approved by the department under Minnesota Rules, part 5200.0300; or~~

~~(2) be an unlicensed individual registered with the commissioner of health on a registration application form supplied by the commissioner showing the date of beginning training, age, schooling, previous experience, employer, and other information required by the commissioner under subdivision 3. A plumber's apprentice is authorized to assist in the installation of plumbing only while under the direct supervision of a master, restricted master, journeyman, or restricted journeyman plumber. The master, restricted master, journeyman, or restricted journeyman plumber is responsible for ensuring that all plumbing work performed by the plumber's apprentice complies with the plumbing code.~~

Subd. 2. **Journeyman exam.** A plumber's apprentice who has completed four years of practical plumbing experience is eligible to take the journeyman plumbing examination. Up to 24 months of practical plumbing experience prior to registration as an apprentice becoming a plumber's apprentice may be applied to the four-year experience requirement. However, none of this practical plumbing experience may be applied if the person individual did not have any practical plumbing

experience in the 12-month period immediately prior to ~~registration~~ becoming a plumber's apprentice. The commissioner may adopt rules to evaluate whether the ~~person's~~ individual's past practical plumbing experience is applicable in preparing for the journeyman's examination. If two years after completing the training the ~~person~~ individual has not taken the examination, the four years of experience shall be forfeited.

The commissioner may allow an extension of the two-year period for taking the exam for cases of hardship or other appropriate circumstances.

Subd. 3. **Registration, rules, applications, renewals, and fees.** ~~The Department of Health may assess fees to pay for the administration of the apprentice registration program. An unlicensed individual may register by completing and submitting to the commissioner a registration form provided by the commissioner. A completed registration form must state the date the individual began training, the individual's age, schooling, previous experience, and employer, and other information required by the commissioner. The board may prescribe rules, not inconsistent with this section, for the registration of unlicensed individuals. Each applicant for initial registration as a plumber's apprentice shall pay the department an application fee of \$25. Applications for initial registration may be submitted at any time. Registration must be renewed annually and shall be for the period from July 1 of each year to June 30 of the following year. Applications for renewal registration must be received by the commissioner by June 30 of each registration period on forms provided by the commissioner, and must be accompanied by a fee of \$25. An application for renewal registration received on or after July 1 in any year but no more than three months after expiration of the previously issued registration must pay the past due renewal fee plus a late fee of \$25. No applications for renewal registration will be accepted more than three months after expiration of the previously issued registration.~~

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007.

Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.401, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Journeyman exam.** A plumber's apprentice who has completed four years of practical plumbing experience is eligible to take the journeyman plumbing examination. Up to 24 months of practical plumbing experience prior to registration as an apprentice may be applied to the four-year experience requirement. However, none of this practical plumbing experience may be applied if the person did not have any practical plumbing experience in the 12-month period immediately prior to registration. ~~The commissioner~~ Plumbing Board may adopt rules to evaluate whether the person's past practical plumbing experience is applicable in preparing for the journeyman's examination. If two years after completing the training the person has not taken the examination, the four years of experience shall be forfeited.

The commissioner may allow an extension of the two-year period for taking the exam for cases of hardship or other appropriate circumstances.

Sec. 13. **[326.402] RESTRICTED PLUMBER LICENSE.**

Subdivision 1. **Licensure.** The commissioner of labor and industry shall grant a restricted journeyman or restricted master plumber license to an individual if:

(1) the individual completes an application with information required by the commissioner of labor and industry;



(2) the completed application is accompanied by a fee of \$30;

(3) the commissioner of labor and industry receives the completed application and fee before January 1, 2008;

(4) the completed application demonstrates that the applicant has had at least two years for a restricted journeyman plumber license or four years for a restricted master plumber license of practical plumbing experience in the plumbing trade prior to the application; and

(5) during the entire time for which the applicant is claiming experience in contracting for plumbing work under clause (4), the applicant was in compliance with all applicable bond requirements of section 326.40.

Subd. 2. **Use of license.** A restricted master plumber and restricted journeyman plumber may engage in the plumbing trade in all areas of the state except in cities and towns with a population of more than 5,000 according to the federal census.

Subd. 3. **Application period.** Applications for restricted master plumber and restricted journeyman plumber licenses must be submitted to the commissioner prior to January 1, 2008.

Subd. 4. **Renewal; use period for license.** A restricted master plumber and restricted journeyman plumber license must be renewed annually for as long as that licensee engages in the plumbing trade. Failure to renew a restricted master plumber and restricted journeyman plumber license within 12 months after the expiration date will result in permanent forfeiture of the restricted master plumber and restricted journeyman plumber license.

Subd. 5. **Prohibition of transference.** A restricted master plumber and restricted journeyman plumber license may not be transferred or sold to any other person.

Subd. 6. **Bond; insurance.** A restricted master or a restricted journeyman plumber licensee is subject to the bond and insurance requirements of section 326.40, subdivision 2, unless the exemption provided by section 326.40, subdivision 3, applies.

Subd. 7. **Fee.** The annual fee for the restricted master plumber and restricted journeyman plumber licenses is the same fee as for a master or journeyman plumber license, respectively.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007.

Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.405, is amended to read:

**326.405 RECIPROCITY WITH OTHER STATES.**

~~The commissioner of health may license without examination, upon payment of the required fee, nonresident applicants who are licensed under the laws of a state having standards for licensing plumbers which the commissioner determines are substantially equivalent to the standards of this state if the other state grants similar privileges to Minnesota residents duly licensed in this state.~~  
The commissioner may enter into reciprocity agreements for personal licenses with another state if approved by the board. Once approved by the board, the commissioner may issue a plumber's license without requiring the applicant to pass an examination provided the applicant:

(a) submits an application under section 326.42;

(b) pays the fee required under section 326.42; and

(c) holds a valid comparable license in the state participating in the agreement.

Agreements are subject to the following:

(1) The parties to the agreement must administer a statewide licensing program that includes examination and qualifying experience or training comparable to Minnesota's.

(2) The experience and training requirements under which an individual applicant qualified for examination in the qualifying state must be deemed equal to or greater than required for an applicant making application in Minnesota at the time the applicant acquired the license in the qualifying state.

(3) The applicant must have acquired the license in the qualifying state through an examination deemed equivalent to the same class of license examination in Minnesota. A lesser class of license may be granted where the applicant has acquired a greater class of license in the qualifying state and the applicant otherwise meets the conditions of this subdivision.

(4) At the time of application, the applicant must hold a valid license in the qualifying state and have held the license continuously for at least one year before making application in Minnesota.

(5) An applicant is not eligible for a license under this subdivision if the applicant has failed the same or greater class of license examination in Minnesota, or if the applicant's license of the same or greater class has been revoked or suspended.

(6) An applicant who has failed to renew a plumber's license for two years or more after its expiration is not eligible for a license under this subdivision.

Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.42, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Application.** Applications for plumber's license shall be made to the state commissioner of ~~health~~ labor and industry, with fee. Unless the applicant is entitled to a renewal, the applicant shall be licensed by the state commissioner of ~~health~~ labor and industry only after passing a satisfactory examination developed and administered by the ~~examiners~~ commissioner of labor and industry, based upon rules adopted by the Plumbing Board showing fitness. Examination fees for both journeyman and master plumbers shall be in an amount prescribed by the state commissioner of ~~health~~ labor and industry pursuant to section 144.122. Upon being notified that of having successfully passed the examination for original license the applicant shall submit an application, with the license fee herein provided. License fees shall be in an amount prescribed by the state commissioner of ~~health~~ labor and industry pursuant to section 144.122. Licenses shall expire and be renewed as prescribed by the commissioner pursuant to section 144.122.

Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.42, is amended to read:

### **326.42 APPLICATIONS, FEES.**

Subdivision 1. **Application.** Applications for plumber's license shall be made to the ~~state~~ commissioner of ~~health~~, with fee. Unless the applicant is entitled to a renewal, the applicant shall be licensed by the ~~state~~ commissioner of ~~health~~ only after passing a satisfactory examination by the examiners showing fitness. Examination fees for both journeyman and master plumbers shall be ~~in an amount prescribed by the state commissioner of health pursuant to section 144.122~~ \$50 for each examination. Upon being notified ~~that~~ of having successfully passed the examination for

original license the applicant shall submit an application, with the license fee herein provided. ~~License fees shall be in an amount prescribed by the state commissioner of health pursuant to section 144.122. Licenses shall expire and be renewed as prescribed by the commissioner pursuant to section 144.122.~~ The license fee for each initial and renewal master plumber's license shall be \$120. The license fee for each initial and renewal journeyman plumber's license shall be \$55. The commissioner may by rule prescribe for the expiration and renewal of licenses. Any licensee who does not renew a license within two years after the license expires is no longer eligible for renewal. Such an individual must retake and pass the examination before a new license will be issued. A journeyman or master plumber who submits a license renewal application after the time specified in rule but within two years after the license expired must pay all past due renewal fees plus a late fee of \$25.

Subd. 2. **Fees for plan reviews and audits.** Plumbing system plans and specifications that are submitted to the commissioner for review shall be accompanied by the appropriate plan examination fees. If the commissioner determines, upon review of the plans, that inadequate fees were paid, the necessary additional fees shall be paid prior to plan approval. The commissioner shall charge the following fees for plan reviews and audits of plumbing installations for public, commercial, and industrial buildings:

- (1) systems with both water distribution and drain, waste, and vent systems and having:
  - (i) 25 or fewer drainage fixture units, \$150;
  - (ii) 26 to 50 drainage fixture units, \$250;
  - (iii) 51 to 150 drainage fixture units, \$350;
  - (iv) 151 to 249 drainage fixture units, \$500;
  - (v) 250 or more drainage fixture units, \$3 per drainage fixture unit to a maximum of \$4,000; and
  - (vi) interceptors, separators, or catch basins, \$70 per interceptor, separator, or catch basin design;
- (2) building sewer service only, \$150;
- (3) building water service only, \$150;
- (4) building water distribution system only, no drainage system, \$5 per supply fixture unit or \$150, whichever is greater;
- (5) storm drainage system, a minimum fee of \$150 or:
  - (i) \$50 per drain opening, up to a maximum of \$500; and
  - (ii) \$70 per interceptor, separator, or catch basin design;
- (6) manufactured home park or campground, one to 25 sites, \$300;
- (7) manufactured home park or campground, 26 to 50 sites, \$350;
- (8) manufactured home park or campground, 51 to 125 sites, \$400;
- (9) manufactured home park or campground, more than 125 sites, \$500;

(10) accelerated review, double the regular fee, one-half to be refunded if no response from the commissioner within 15 business days; and

(11) revision to previously reviewed or incomplete plans:

(i) review of plans for which the commissioner has issued two or more requests for additional information, per review, \$100 or ten percent of the original fee, whichever is greater;

(ii) proposer-requested revision with no increase in project scope, \$50 or ten percent of original fee, whichever is greater; and

(iii) proposer-requested revision with an increase in project scope, \$50 plus the difference between the original project fee and the revised project fee.

**Subd. 3. Inspection fees.** The commissioner shall charge the following fees for inspections under sections 326.361 to 326.44:

<u>Residential inspection fee (each visit)</u>	<u>\$50</u>
<u>Public, commercial, and industrial inspections</u>	<u>Inspection fee</u>
<u>25 or fewer drainage fixture units</u>	<u>\$300</u>
<u>26 to 50 drainage fixture units</u>	<u>\$900</u>
<u>51 to 150 drainage fixture units</u>	<u>\$1,200</u>
<u>151 to 249 drainage fixture units</u>	<u>\$1,500</u>
<u>250 or more drainage fixture units</u>	<u>\$1,800</u>
<u>Callback fee (each visit)</u>	<u>\$100</u>

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007.

Sec. 17. **[326B.41] PURPOSE.**

The purpose of sections 326B.41 to 326B.49 is to promote the public health and safety through properly designed, acceptably installed, and adequately maintained plumbing systems.

Sec. 18. **[326B.42] DEFINITIONS.**

Subdivision 1. **Words, terms, and phrases.** For purposes of sections 326B.41 to 326B.49, the terms defined in this section have the meanings given to them.

Subd. 2. **Direct supervision.** The term "direct supervision," with respect to direct supervision of a plumber's apprentice by a master, restricted master, journeyman, or restricted journeyman plumber, means that:

(1) at all times while the plumber's apprentice is performing plumbing work, the supervising plumber is present at the location where the plumber's apprentice is working;

(2) the supervising plumber is physically present and immediately available to the plumber's apprentice at all times for assistance and direction;

(3) any form of electronic supervision does not meet the requirement of physically present;

(4) the supervising plumber actually reviews the plumbing work performed by the plumber's apprentice before the plumbing is operated; and

(5) the supervising plumber is able to and does determine that all plumbing work performed by the plumber's apprentice is performed in compliance with the plumbing code.

Subd. 3. **Municipality.** The term "municipality" shall have the meaning given to it in section 16B.60, subdivision 3.

Subd. 4. **Plumbing code.** "Plumbing code" means Minnesota Rules, chapter 4715.

**Sec. 19. REVISOR'S INSTRUCTION.**

The revisor of statutes shall renumber each section of Minnesota Statutes listed in column A with the number listed in column B. The revisor shall also make necessary cross-referenced changes consistent with the renumbering.

<u>Column A</u>	<u>Column B</u>
<u>326.01, subd. 7</u>	<u>326B.42, subd. 3</u>
<u>326.01, subd. 8</u>	<u>326B.42, subd. 4</u>
<u>326.01, subd. 9</u>	<u>326B.42, subd. 7</u>
<u>326.37</u>	<u>326B.43</u>
<u>326.38</u>	<u>326B.44</u>
<u>326.39</u>	<u>326B.45</u>
<u>326.40</u>	<u>326B.46</u>
<u>326.401</u>	<u>326B.47</u>
<u>326.405</u>	<u>326B.48</u>
<u>326.42</u>	<u>326B.49</u>

**Sec. 20. REPEALER.**

Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.01, subdivision 9, is repealed.

**ARTICLE 7**

**WATER CONDITIONING CONTRACTORS AND INSTALLERS**

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.57, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Rulemaking by commissioner of health.** ~~The state commissioner of health shall, by rule, prescribe minimum standards which shall be uniform, and which standards shall thereafter be effective for all new water conditioning servicing and water conditioning installations, including additions, extensions, alterations, and replacements connected with any water or sewage disposal system owned or operated by or for any municipality, institution, factory, office building, hotel, apartment building or any other place of business, regardless of location or the population of the city, county or town in which located. Such rules, upon approval of the attorney general and their legal publication, shall have the force of law, and the violation of any part thereof shall constitute a~~

~~misdemeanor and may be enjoined by the attorney general.~~

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.58, is amended to read:

**326.58 LOCAL REGULATIONS.**

Any city or town with a population of 5,000 or more ~~persons~~ according to the last federal census may, by ordinance, adopt local regulations providing for water conditioning permits, bonds, approval of plans, and inspections of water conditioning installations and servicing, which regulations shall not be in conflict with the water conditioning standards on the same subject prescribed by the ~~state commissioner of health~~. No such city or town shall prohibit water conditioning contractors or installers licensed by the ~~state commissioner of health~~ from engaging in or working at the business.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.59, is amended to read:

**326.59 VIOLATIONS TO BE REPORTED TO ~~STATE COMMISSIONER OF HEALTH.~~**

Such local authority as may be designated by any such ordinance for the issuance of such water conditioning installation and servicing permits and approval of such plans shall report to the ~~state commissioner of health~~ persistent or willful violations of the same and any incompetence of a licensed water conditioning contractor or licensed water conditioning installer observed by the local authority.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.60, is amended to read:

**326.60 LICENSING IN CERTAIN CITIES; QUALIFICATIONS; RULES.**

Subdivision 1. **Licensing in certain cities.** In any city or town ~~now or hereafter~~ having a population of 5,000 or more according to the last federal census, no person, ~~firm, or corporation~~ shall engage in or work at the business of water conditioning installation or servicing after January 1, 1970, unless ~~(a) (1)~~ (1) at all times ~~a person~~ an individual licensed as a water conditioning contractor by the ~~state commissioner of health~~ shall be responsible for the proper water conditioning installation and servicing work of such person, ~~firm, or corporation~~, and ~~(b) (2)~~ (2) all installations, other than exchanges of portable equipment, are ~~actually made~~ performed by a licensed water conditioning contractor or licensed water conditioning installer. ~~Anyone~~ Any individual not so licensed may ~~do~~ perform water conditioning work ~~which~~ that complies with ~~the provisions of~~ the minimum standard prescribed by the ~~state commissioner of health~~ on premises or that part of premises owned and ~~actually~~ occupied by the worker as a residence, unless otherwise ~~forbidden to do so~~ prohibited by a local ordinance.

Subd. 2. **Qualifications for licensing.** A water conditioning contractor license shall be issued only to ~~a person~~ an individual who has demonstrated skill in planning, superintending, and servicing water conditioning installations. A water conditioning installer license shall only be issued to a ~~person~~ an individual other than a water conditioning contractor who has demonstrated practical knowledge of water conditioning installation.

Subd. 3. **Rules.** The ~~state commissioner of health~~ shall:

~~(a) (1)~~ (1) prescribe rules, not inconsistent herewith, for the licensing of water conditioning contractors and installers;

~~(b)~~ (2) license water conditioning contractors and installers;

~~(e)~~ (3) prescribe rules not inconsistent herewith for the examining of water conditioning contractors and installers prior to first granting a license as a water conditioning contractor or water conditioning installer; and

~~(d)~~ (4) collect an examination fee from each examinee for a license as a water conditioning contractor and ~~a~~ an examination fee from each examinee for a license as a water conditioning installer in an amount prescribed by the state commissioner of health pursuant to set forth in section 144.122 326.62. A water conditioning installer must successfully pass the examination for water conditioning contractors before being licensed as a water conditioning contractor.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.601, is amended to read:

### **326.601 ALTERNATIVE STATE BONDING AND INSURANCE REGULATION.**

Subdivision 1. **Bonds.** (a) An applicant for a water conditioning contractor or installer license or renewal thereof who is required by any political subdivision to give a bond to obtain or maintain the license, may comply with any political subdivision bonding requirement by giving a bond to the state as described in paragraph (b). No applicant for a water conditioning contractor or installer license who maintains the bond under paragraph (b) shall be otherwise required to meet the bond requirements of any political subdivision.

(b) Each bond given to the state under this subdivision shall be in the total ~~penal~~ sum of \$3,000 conditioned upon the faithful and lawful performance of all water conditioning contracting or installing work done within the state. The bond shall be for the benefit of persons suffering injuries or damages due to the work. The bond shall be filed with the commissioner of health and shall be written by a corporate surety licensed to do business in this state. No applicant for a water conditioning contractor or installer license who maintains the bond under this subdivision shall be otherwise required to meet the bond requirements of any political subdivision. The bond must remain in effect at all times while the application is pending and while the license is in effect.

Subd. 2. **Insurance.** (a) ~~Each applicant for a water conditioning contractor or installer license or renewal thereof may, in lieu of all other insurance requirements of any political subdivision for said licensing purposes, maintain the insurance specified by this subdivision.~~ who is required by any political subdivision to maintain insurance to obtain or maintain the license may comply with any political subdivision's insurance requirement by maintaining the insurance described in paragraph (b). No applicant for a water conditioning contractor or installer license who maintains the insurance described in paragraph (b) shall be otherwise required to meet the insurance requirements of any political subdivision.

(b) The insurance shall provide coverage, including products liability coverage, for all damages in connection with licensed work for which the licensee is liable, with personal damage limits of at least \$50,000 per person and \$100,000 per occurrence and property damage insurance with limits of at least \$10,000. The insurance shall be written by an insurer licensed to do business in this state and each licensed water conditioning contractor or installer shall maintain on file with the commissioner of health a certificate evidencing the insurance shall be filed with the commissioner. The insurance must remain in effect at all times while the application is pending and while the license is in effect. The insurance shall not be canceled without the insurer first giving 15 days' written notice to the commissioner.

Subd. 3. **Bond and insurance exemption.** A water conditioning contractor or installer who is an employee of a water conditioning contractor or installer, including an employee engaged in the maintenance and repair of water conditioning equipment, apparatus, or facilities owned, leased and operated, or maintained by the employer, is not required to meet the bond and insurance requirements of subdivisions 1 and 2 or of any political subdivision.

Subd. 4. **Fee.** ~~The commissioner of health may establish by rule an additional fee commensurate with the cost of administering the bond and insurance requirements of subdivisions 1 and 2, which may be charged shall collect a \$40 bond registration fee from each applicant for issuance or renewal of a water conditioning contractor or installer license who elects to proceed under subdivisions 1 and 2.~~

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective December 1, 2007, except that the amendments to subdivision 4 are effective July 1, 2007.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.61, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Water conditioning installation.** ~~"Water conditioning installation" as used in sections 326.57 to 326.65~~ means the installation of appliances, appurtenances, and fixtures designed to treat water so as to alter, modify, add or remove mineral, chemical or bacterial content, said installation to be made in a water distribution system serving a single family residential unit, which has been initially established by a licensed plumber, and does not involve a direct connection without an air gap to a soil or waste pipe.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.61, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Water conditioning servicing.** ~~"Water conditioning servicing" as used in sections 326.57 to 326.65~~ means the servicing (including servicing prior to installation) of a water conditioning installation.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.61, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Rules.** In order to provide effective protection of the public health, the ~~state commissioner of health~~ may by rule prescribe limitations on the nature of alteration to, extension of, or connection with, the said water distribution system initially established by a licensed plumber which may be performed by a person licensed hereunder, and may by rule in appropriate instances require filing of plans, blueprints and specifications prior to commencement of installation. ~~Such rules, upon approval of the attorney general and their legal publication, shall have the force of law, and the violation of any part thereof shall constitute a misdemeanor.~~ The installation of water heaters shall not constitute water conditioning installation and consequently such work shall be accomplished in accordance with the provisions of sections ~~326.37~~ 326.361 to ~~326.45~~ 326.44.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.61, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Single family residential unit.** ~~"Single family residential unit" as used in sections 326.57 to 326.65~~ means a building or portion thereof which is arranged, designed, used or intended to be used for residential occupancy by one family, but not including a motel, hotel or rooming house.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.62, is amended to read:



**326.62 APPLICATIONS; FEES.**

Applications for water conditioning contractor's or installer's licenses shall be made to the state commissioner of health with the fee prescribed by the commissioner pursuant to section 144.122. Licenses shall expire and be renewed as prescribed by the commissioner pursuant to section 144.122. Unless examination fees have been set by a contract under section 326B.05, examination fees for both water conditioning contractors and water conditioning installers shall be \$50 for each examination. Each water conditioning contractor and installer license shall expire on December 31 of the year for which it was issued. The license fee for each initial water conditioning contractor's license shall be \$70, except that the license fee shall be \$35 if the application is submitted during the last three months of the calendar year. The license fee for each renewal water conditioning contractor's license shall be \$70. The license fee for each initial water conditioning installer license shall be \$35, except that the license fee shall be \$17.50 if the application is submitted during the last three months of the calendar year. The license fee for each renewal water conditioning installer license shall be \$35. The commissioner may by rule prescribe for the expiration and renewal of licenses. Any licensee who does not renew a license within two years after the license expires is no longer eligible for renewal. Such an individual must retake and pass the examination before a new license will be issued. A water conditioning contractor or water conditioning installer who submits a license renewal application after the time specified in rule but within two years after the license expired must pay all past due renewal fees plus a late fee of \$25.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007.

Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.65, is amended to read:

**326.65 STATE LICENSE; EXAMINATION; APPLICATION; EXEMPTION.**

The provisions of sections 326.57 to 326.65 which that require the obtaining of licenses to engage in the work or business of water conditioning installation, and the provisions which that provide for the examination of applicants for such licenses, shall only apply to work accomplished in cities or towns having populations of 5,000 or more according to the last federal census, and shall not apply to master plumbers and journeymen plumbers licensed under the provisions of sections 326.37 326.361 to 326.45 326.44.

**Sec. 12. [326B.50] DEFINITIONS.**

Subdivision 1. Words, terms, and phrases. For the purposes of sections 326B.50 to 326B.59, the terms defined in this section have the meanings given them.

**Sec. 13. REVISOR'S INSTRUCTION.**

The revisor of statutes shall renumber each section of Minnesota Statutes listed in column A with the number listed in column B. The revisor shall also make necessary cross-reference changes consistent with the renumbering.

<u>Column A</u>	<u>Column B</u>
<u>326.57</u>	<u>326B.52</u>
<u>326.58</u>	<u>326B.53</u>
<u>326.59</u>	<u>326B.54</u>

<u>326.60</u>	<u>326B.55</u>
<u>326.601</u>	<u>326B.56</u>
<u>326.61, subd. 1</u>	<u>326B.50, subd. 3</u>
<u>326.61, subd. 2</u>	<u>326B.50, subd. 4</u>
<u>326.61, subd. 3</u>	<u>326B.57</u>
<u>326.61, subd. 4</u>	<u>326B.50, subd. 2</u>
<u>326.62</u>	<u>326B.58</u>
<u>326.65</u>	<u>326B.59</u>

## ARTICLE 8

### RESIDENTIAL BUILDING CONTRACTOR AND REMODELER STATUTES

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 325E.58, is amended to read:

#### **325E.58 SIGN CONTRACTOR; BOND.**

(a) A sign contractor may post a compliance bond with the commissioner, conditioned that the sign contractor shall faithfully perform duties and comply with laws, ordinances, rules, and contracts entered into for the installation of signs. The bond must be renewed annually and maintained for so long as determined by the commissioner. The aggregate liability of the surety on the bond to any and all persons, regardless of the number of claims made against the bond, may not exceed the annual amount of the bond. The bond may be canceled as to future liability by the surety upon 30 days' written notice mailed to the commissioner by United States mail.

(b) The amount of the bond shall be \$8,000. The bond may be drawn upon only by a local unit of government that requires sign ~~installers~~ contractors to post a compliance bond. The bond is in lieu of any compliance bond required by a local unit of government.

(c) For purposes of this section, "sign" means a device, structure, fixture, or placard using graphics, symbols, or written copy that is erected on the premises of an establishment including the name of the establishment or identifying the merchandise, services, activities, or entertainment available on the premises.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.83, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

Subd. 6. **Lessee.** "Lessee" means one who rents or leases residential real estate pursuant to a written lease agreement of at least one year's duration.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.83, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Licensee.** "Licensee" means a residential building contractor, residential remodeler, manufactured home installer, or residential roofer licensed under sections 326.83 to ~~326.991~~ 326.98.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.83, subdivision 11, is amended to read:

Subd. 11. **Owner.** ~~Except in section 326.91, subdivision 1, "owner" means a person who has any legal or equitable interest in real property. For purposes of sections 326.83 to 326.991, "owner" does~~

~~not include a residential building contractor or residential remodeler who constructs or improves its own property for purposes of speculation. A residential building contractor or residential remodeler will be presumed to be building or improving for purposes of speculation if it constructs or improves more than one property within any 24-month period.~~ "Owner," when used in connection with real property, means a person who has any legal or equitable interest in the real property.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.83, subdivision 18, is amended to read:

Subd. 18. **Residential roofer.** "Residential roofer" means a person in the business of contracting, or offering to contract with an owner, to complete work on residential real estate in roof coverings, roof sheathing, roof weatherproofing and insulation, and repair of roof systems, but not construction of new roof systems.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.83, subdivision 19, is amended to read:

Subd. 19. **Special skill.** "Special skill" means one of the following eight categories:

(a) **Excavation.** Excavation includes work in any of the following areas:

- (1) excavation;
- (2) trenching;
- (3) grading; and
- (4) site grading.

(b) **Masonry and concrete.** Masonry and concrete includes work in any of the following areas:

- (1) drain systems;
- (2) poured walls;
- (3) slabs and poured-in-place footings;
- (4) masonry walls;
- (5) masonry fireplaces;
- (6) masonry veneer; and
- (7) water resistance and waterproofing.

(c) **Carpentry.** Carpentry includes work in any of the following areas:

- (1) rough framing;
- (2) finish carpentry;
- (3) doors, windows, and skylights;
- (4) porches and decks, excluding footings;
- (5) wood foundations; and
- (6) drywall installation, excluding taping and finishing.

(d) **Interior finishing.** Interior finishing includes work in any of the following areas:

- (1) floor covering;
- (2) wood floors;
- (3) cabinet and counter top installation;
- (4) insulation and vapor barriers;
- (5) interior or exterior painting;
- (6) ceramic, marble, and quarry tile;
- (7) ornamental guardrail and installation of prefabricated stairs; and
- (8) wallpapering.

(e) **Exterior finishing.** Exterior finishing includes work in any of the following areas:

- (1) siding;
- (2) soffit, fascia, and trim;
- (3) exterior plaster and stucco;
- (4) painting; and
- (5) rain carrying systems, including gutters and down spouts.

(f) **Drywall and plaster.** Drywall and plaster includes work in any of the following areas:

- (1) installation;
- (2) taping;
- (3) finishing;
- (4) interior plaster;
- (5) painting; and
- (6) wallpapering.

(g) **Residential roofing.** Residential roofing includes work in any of the following areas:

- (1) roof coverings;
- (2) roof sheathing;
- (3) roof weatherproofing and insulation; and
- (4) repair of roof support system, but not construction of new roof support system.

(h) **General installation specialties.** Installation includes work in any of the following areas:

- (1) garage doors and openers;

- (2) pools, spas, and hot tubs;
- (3) fireplaces and wood stoves;
- (4) asphalt paving and seal coating; and
- (5) ~~exterior plaster and stucco; and~~
- ~~(6) ornamental guardrail and prefabricated stairs.~~

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.83, subdivision 20, is amended to read:

Subd. 20. **Specialty contractor.** "Specialty contractor" means a person in the business of contracting or offering to contract to build or improve residential real estate by providing only one special skill as defined in this section.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.84, is amended to read:

### **326.84 LICENSING REQUIREMENTS.**

Subdivision 1. **Persons required to be licensed.** A person who meets the definition of a residential building contractor as defined in section 326.83, subdivision 15, must be licensed as a residential building contractor by the commissioner. A person who meets the definition of a residential remodeler as defined in section 326.83, subdivision 16, or a residential building contractor as defined in section 326.83, subdivision 15, must be licensed as a residential building contractor or residential remodeler. 16, must be licensed by the commissioner as a residential remodeler or residential building contractor. A person who meets the definition of a residential roofer as defined in section 18 must be licensed by the commissioner as a residential roofer, residential building contractor, or residential remodeler. A person who meets the definition of a manufactured home installer as defined in section 327.31, subdivision 6, must be licensed as a manufactured home installer by the commissioner.

Subd. 1a. **Persons who may be licensed.** A person who meets the definition of a specialty contractor as defined in section 326.83, subdivision ~~20~~ 19, may be licensed by the commissioner as a residential building contractor or residential remodeler ~~unless required to be licensed by the state as a specialty contractor.~~

Subd. 1b. **Prohibition.** Except as provided in subdivision 3, no persons required to be licensed by subdivision 1 may act or hold themselves out as a residential building contractor or contractor, residential remodelers remodeler, residential roofer, or manufactured home installer for compensation without a valid license issued by the commissioner.

Subd. 1c. **Licensing criteria.** The examination and education requirements for licensure under sections 326.84 to ~~326.994~~ 326.98 must be fulfilled by a qualifying person designated by the potential licensee. If the qualifying person is a managing employee, the qualifying person must be an employee who is regularly employed by the licensee and is actively engaged in the business of residential contracting or residential remodeling on behalf of the licensee. For a sole proprietorship, the qualifying person must be the proprietor or managing employee. For a partnership, the qualifying person must be a general partner or managing employee. For a limited liability company, the qualifying person must be a chief manager or managing employee. For a corporation, the qualifying person must be ~~a chief executive officer~~ an owner, officer, or managing

employee. A qualifying person for a corporation or limited liability company may act as a the qualifying person for one additional corporation if one of the following conditions exists:

(1) there is a common ownership of at least 25 percent of each licensed corporation for which the person acts in a qualifying capacity; or

(2) one corporation is a subsidiary of another corporation for which the same person acts in a qualifying capacity. "Subsidiary," as used in this section, means a corporation of which at least 25 percent is owned by the parent corporation. more than one corporation or limited liability company if there is common ownership of at least 25 percent among each of the licensed corporations or limited liability companies for which the person acts in the capacity of qualifying person.

Subd. 1d. **Required information.** (a) Each licensee or applicant for licensure shall provide to the commissioner a current street address and telephone number where the licensee resides, and a street address and telephone number where the licensee's business is physically located. A post office box address is not sufficient to satisfy this requirement. Each licensee or applicant for licensure must notify the commissioner in writing of any change in the required information within 15 days of the change.

(b) Each licensee or applicant for licensure must notify the commissioner in writing upon any change in control, ownership, officers or directors, personal name, business name, license name, or qualifying person, within 15 days of the change.

(c) Each licensee or applicant for licensure must notify the commissioner in writing if the licensee or applicant for licensure is found to be a judgment debtor based upon conduct requiring licensure pursuant to sections 326.83 to 326.98 within 15 days of the finding.

(d) Each licensee or applicant for licensure must notify the commissioner in writing within 15 days of filing a petition for bankruptcy.

(e) Each licensee or applicant for licensure must notify the commissioner in writing within ten days if the licensee or applicant for licensure has been found guilty of a felony, gross misdemeanor, misdemeanor, or any comparable offense related to residential contracting, including convictions of fraud, misrepresentation, misuse of funds, theft, criminal sexual conduct, assault, burglary, conversion of funds, or theft of proceeds in this or any other state or any other United States jurisdiction.

Subd. 3. **Exemptions.** The license requirement does not apply to:

(1) an employee of a licensee performing work for the licensee;

(2) a material person, manufacturer, or retailer furnishing finished products, materials, or articles of merchandise who does not install or attach the items;

(3) an owner ~~or owners~~ of residential real estate who ~~build or improve~~ builds or improves any structure on residential real estate and who do the work themselves or jointly with the owner's own, if the building or improving is performed by the owner's bona fide employees or by individual owners personally. This exemption does not apply to a person who engages in a pattern of building or improving real estate for purposes of resale. Such a pattern is presumed to exist if the person constructs or improves more than one property within any 24-month period; an owner who constructs or improves property for purposes of speculation if the building or improving is

performed by the owner's bona fide employees or by individual owners personally. A residential building contractor or residential remodeler will be presumed to be building or improving for purposes of speculation if the contractor or remodeler constructs or improves more than one property within any 24-month period.

(4) an architect or professional engineer engaging in professional practice as defined ~~in this chapter~~ by section 326.02, subdivisions 2 and 3;

(5) a person whose total gross annual receipts ~~from projects regulated under this section~~ for performing specialty skills for which licensure would be required under this section do not exceed \$15,000;

(6) a mechanical contractor;

(7) a plumber, electrician, or other person whose profession is otherwise subject to statewide licensing, when engaged in the activity which is the subject of that licensure;

(8) specialty contractors who provide only one special skill as defined in section 326.83;

(9) a school district, or a technical college governed under chapter 136F; and

~~(10) manufactured housing installers; and~~

~~(11)~~ (10) Habitat for Humanity and Builders Outreach Foundation, and their individual volunteers when engaged in activities on their behalf.

To qualify for the exemption in clause (5), a person must obtain a certificate of exemption from ~~licensing~~ licensure from the commissioner.

A certificate of exemption will be issued upon the applicant's filing with the commissioner, an affidavit stating that the applicant does not expect to exceed \$15,000 in gross annual receipts derived from ~~contracting activities during the calendar year for which the exemption is requested~~ performing services which require licensure under this section.

To renew the exemption in clause (5), the applicant must file an affidavit stating that the applicant did not exceed \$15,000 in gross annual receipts during the past calendar year, ~~and the applicant does not expect to exceed \$15,000 in gross annual receipts during the calendar year for which the exemption is requested.~~

If a person, operating under the exemption in clause (5), exceeds \$15,000 in gross receipts during any calendar year, the person must immediately surrender the exemption certificate and apply for the appropriate license. The person must remain licensed until such time as the person's gross annual receipts during a calendar year fall below \$15,000. The person may then apply for ~~this~~ an exemption for the next calendar year.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.841, is amended to read:

**326.841 MANUFACTURED HOME INSTALLERS.**

(a) Manufactured home installers are subject to all of the requirements of sections 326.83 to 326.98, except for the following:

~~(1) manufactured home installers are not members of the advisory council under section 326.85;~~

~~(2)~~ (1) manufactured home installers are not subject to the continuing education requirements of section 326.87, but are subject to the continuing education requirements established in rules adopted under section 327B.10;

~~(3)~~ (2) the examination requirement of section 326.89, subdivision 3, for manufactured home installers shall be satisfied by successful completion of a written examination ~~designed~~ administered and developed specifically for the examination of manufactured home installers. The examination must be ~~designed~~ administered and developed by the commissioner ~~in conjunction with the state building code division~~. The commissioner and ~~State Building Code Division~~ the state building official shall seek advice on the grading, monitoring, and updating of examinations from the Minnesota Manufactured Housing Association;

~~(4)~~ the amount of the bond required by section 326.94 shall be \$2,500 for manufactured home installers;

~~(5)~~ (3) a local government unit may not place a surcharge on a license fee, and may not charge a separate fee to installers;

~~(6)~~ (4) a dealer or distributor who does not install or repair manufactured homes is exempt from licensure under sections 326.83 to 326.98; ~~and~~

~~(7)~~ (5) the exemption under section 326.84, subdivision 3, clause (5), does not apply; and

(6) manufactured home installers are not subject to the contractor recovery fund in section 326.975.

(b) The commissioner may waive all or part of the requirements for licensure as a manufactured home installer for any individual who holds an unexpired license or certificate issued by any other state or other United States jurisdiction if the licensing requirements of that jurisdiction meet or exceed the corresponding licensing requirements of the department.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.842, is amended to read:

**326.842 RESIDENTIAL ROOFERS.**

Residential roofers are subject to all of the requirements of sections 326.83 to 326.98 ~~and 326.991~~, except the recovery fund in section 326.975.

Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.86, is amended to read:

**326.86 FEES.**

Subdivision 1. **Licensing fee.** The licensing fee for persons licensed pursuant to sections 326.83 to ~~326.991~~ 326.98 is \$100 per year.

Subd. 2. **Local surcharge.** A local government unit may place a surcharge in an amount no greater than \$5 on each land use, zoning, or building permit that requires a licensed residential building contractor, residential remodeler, or specialty contractor residential roofer, or manufactured home installer for the purpose of license verification. The local government may verify a license by telephone ~~or~~, facsimile machine or electronic communication. A local government unit shall not issue a land use, zoning, or building permit unless the required license has been verified and is current.



**EFFECTIVE DATE.** The amendments to subdivision 1 are effective July 1, 2007. The amendments to subdivision 2 are effective December 1, 2007.

Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.87, is amended to read:

**326.87 CONTINUING EDUCATION.**

Subdivision 1. **Standards.** ~~The commissioner, in consultation with the council, may by rule adopt standards for continuing education requirements and course and instructor approval. The standards must include requirements for continuing education in the implementation of energy codes applicable to buildings and other building codes designed to conserve energy. Except for the course content, the standards must be consistent with the standards established for real estate agents and other professions licensed by the Department of Commerce. At a minimum, the content of one hour of any required continuing education must contain information on lead abatement rules and safe lead abatement procedures.~~

Subd. 2. **Hours.** A qualifying person of a licensee must provide proof of completion of seven hours of continuing education per year in the regulated industry in which the licensee is licensed. ~~To the extent the commissioner considers it appropriate, courses or parts of courses may be considered to satisfy both continuing education requirements under this section and continuing real estate education requirements.~~

Credit may not be earned if the licensee has previously obtained credit for the same course as either a student or instructor during the same licensing period.

Subd. 3. **Accessibility.** To the extent possible, the commissioner shall ensure that continuing education courses are offered throughout the state and are easily accessible to all licensees.

Subd. 4. **Renewal of accreditation approval.** The commissioner is authorized to establish a procedure for renewal of course ~~accreditation~~ approval.

Subd. 5. **Content.** (a) Continuing education consists of approved courses that impart appropriate and related knowledge in the regulated industries pursuant to sections 326.83 to 326.98. The burden of demonstrating that courses impart appropriate and related knowledge is upon the person seeking approval or credit.

(b) Course examinations will not be required for continuing education courses unless they are required by the sponsor.

(c) Textbooks are not required to be used for continuing education courses. If textbooks are not used, the coordinator must provide students with a syllabus containing, at a minimum, the course title, the times and dates of the course offering, the names and addresses or telephone numbers of the course coordinator and instructor, and a detailed outline of the subject materials to be covered. Any written or printed material given to students must be of readable quality and contain accurate and current information.

(d) Upon completion of an approved course, licensees shall earn one hour of continuing education credit for each hour approved by the commissioner. Each continuing education course must be attended in its entirety in order to receive credit for the number of approved hours. Courses may be approved for full or partial credit, and for more than one regulated industry.

Continuing education credit in an approved course shall be awarded to presenting instructors on the basis of one credit for each hour of preparation for the initial presentation, which may not exceed three hours total credit for each approved course. Continuing education credit may not be earned if the licensee has previously obtained credit for the same course as a licensee or as an instructor within the three years immediately prior.

(e) The following courses will not be approved for credit:

(1) courses designed solely to prepare students for a license examination;

(2) courses in mechanical office or business skills, including typing, speed reading, or other machines or equipment. Computer courses are allowed, if appropriate and related to the regulated industry of the licensee;

(3) courses in sales promotion, including meetings held in conjunction with the general business of the licensee;

(4) courses in motivation, salesmanship, psychology, time management, or communication; or

(5) courses that are primarily intended to impart knowledge of specific products of specific companies, if the use of the product or products relates to the sales promotion or marketing of one or more of the products discussed.

Subd. 6. **Course approval.** (a) Courses must be approved by the commissioner in advance and will be approved on the basis of the applicant's compliance with the provisions of this section relating to continuing education in the regulated industries. The commissioner shall make the final determination as to the approval and assignment of credit hours for courses. Courses must be at least one hour in length.

Individuals requesting credit for continuing education courses that have not been previously approved shall, on a form prescribed by the commissioner, submit an application for approval of continuing education credit accompanied by a nonrefundable fee of \$10 for each course to be reviewed. To be approved, courses must be in compliance with the provisions of this section governing the types of courses that will and will not be approved.

Approval will not be granted for time spent on meals or other unrelated activities. Breaks may not be accumulated in order to dismiss the class early. Classes shall not be offered by a provider to any one student for longer than eight hours in one day, excluding meal breaks.

(b) Application for course approval must be submitted 30 days before the course offering.

(c) Approval must be granted for a subsequent offering of identical continuing education courses without requiring a new application if a notice of the subsequent offering is filed with the commissioner at least 30 days in advance of the date the course is to be held. The commissioner shall deny future offerings of courses if they are found not to be in compliance with the laws relating to course approval.

Subd. 7. **Courses open to all.** All course offerings must be open to any interested individuals. Access may be restricted by the sponsor based on class size only. Courses must not be approved if attendance is restricted to any particular group of people, except for company-sponsored courses allowed by applicable law.

Subd. 8. **Course coordinator.** (a) Each course of study shall have at least one coordinator, approved by the commissioner, who is responsible for supervising the program and ensuring compliance with all relevant law. Sponsors may engage an additional approved coordinator in order to assist the coordinator or to act as a substitute for the coordinator in the event of an emergency or illness.

(b) The commissioner shall approve as a coordinator a person meeting one or more of the following criteria:

(1) at least three years of full-time experience in the administration of an education program during the five-year period immediately before the date of application;

(2) a degree in education plus two years' experience during the immediately preceding five-year period in one of the regulated industries for which courses are being approved; or

(3) a minimum of five years' experience within the previous six years in the regulated industry for which courses are held.

Subd. 9. **Responsibilities.** A coordinator is responsible for:

(1) ensuring compliance with all laws and rules relating to continuing educational offerings governed by the commissioner;

(2) ensuring that students are provided with current and accurate information relating to the laws and rules governing their licensed activity;

(3) supervising and evaluating courses and instructors. Supervision includes ensuring that all areas of the curriculum are addressed without redundancy and that continuity is present throughout the entire course;

(4) ensuring that instructors are qualified to teach the course offering;

(5) furnishing the commissioner, upon request, with copies of course and instructor evaluations and qualifications of instructors. Evaluations must be completed by students at the time the course is offered and by coordinators within five days after the course offering;

(6) investigating complaints related to course offerings or instructors. A copy of the written complaint must be sent to the commissioner within ten days of receipt of the complaint and a copy of the complaint resolution must be sent not more than ten days after resolution is reached;

(7) maintaining accurate records relating to course offerings, instructors, tests taken by students if required, and student attendance for a period of three years from the date on which the course was completed. These records must be made available to the commissioner upon request. In the event that a sponsor ceases operation for any reason, the coordinator is responsible for maintaining the records or providing a custodian for the records acceptable to the commissioner. The coordinator must notify the commissioner of the name and address of that person. In order to be acceptable to the commissioner, custodians must agree to make copies of acknowledgments available to students at a reasonable fee. Under no circumstances will the commissioner act as custodian of the records;

(8) ensuring that the coordinator is available to instructors and students throughout course offerings and providing to the students and instructor the name of the coordinator and a telephone number at which the coordinator can be reached;

(9) attending workshops or instructional programs as reasonably required by the commissioner;

(10) providing course completion certificates within ten days of, but not before, completion of the entire course. Course completion certificates must be completed in their entirety. Course completion certificates must contain the following statement: "If you have any comments about this course offering, please mail them to the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry." The current address of the department must be included. A coordinator may require payment of the course tuition as a condition for receiving the course completion certificate; and

(11) notifying the commissioner in writing within ten days of any change in the information in an application for approval on file with the commissioner.

Subd. 10. **Instructors.** (a) Each continuing education course shall have an instructor who is qualified by education, training, or experience to ensure competent instruction. Failure to have only qualified instructors teach at an approved course offering will result in loss of course approval. Coordinators are responsible to ensure that an instructor is qualified to teach the course offering.

(b) Qualified continuing education instructors must have one of the following qualifications:

(1) a four-year degree in any area plus two years' practical experience in the subject area being taught;

(2) five years' practical experience in the subject area being taught; or

(3) a college or graduate degree in the subject area being taught.

(c) Approved instructors are responsible for:

(1) compliance with all laws and rules relating to continuing education;

(2) providing students with current and accurate information;

(3) maintaining an atmosphere conducive to learning in the classroom;

(4) verifying attendance of students, and certifying course completion;

(5) providing assistance to students and responding to questions relating to course materials; and

(6) attending the workshops or instructional programs that are required by the commissioner.

Subd. 11. **Prohibited practices for coordinators and instructors.** (a) In connection with an approved continuing education course, coordinators and instructors shall not:

(1) recommend or promote the services or practices of a particular business;

(2) encourage or recruit individuals to engage the services of, or become associated with, a particular business;

(3) use materials, clothing, or other evidences of affiliation with a particular entity;

(4) require students to participate in other programs or services offered by the instructor, coordinator, or sponsor;

(5) attempt, either directly or indirectly, to discover questions or answers on an examination for

a license;

(6) disseminate to any other person specific questions, problems, or information known or believed to be included in licensing examinations;

(7) misrepresent any information submitted to the commissioner;

(8) fail to cover, or ensure coverage of, all points, issues, and concepts contained in the course outline approved by the commissioner during the approved instruction; or

(9) issue inaccurate course completion certificates.

(b) Coordinators shall notify the commissioner within ten days of a felony or gross misdemeanor conviction or of disciplinary action taken against an occupational or professional license held by the coordinator or an instructor teaching an approved course. The notification shall be grounds for the commissioner to withdraw the approval of the coordinator and to disallow the use of the instructor.

Subd. 12. **Fees.** Fees for an approved course of study and related materials must be clearly identified to students. In the event that a course is canceled for any reason, all fees must be returned within 15 days from the date of cancellation. In the event that a course is postponed for any reason, students shall be given the choice of attending the course at a later date or having their fees refunded in full within 15 days from the date of postponement. If a student is unable to attend a course or cancels the registration in a course, sponsor policies regarding refunds shall govern.

Subd. 13. **Facilities.** Each course of study must be conducted in a classroom or other facility that is adequate to comfortably accommodate the instructors and the number of students enrolled. The sponsor may limit the number of students enrolled in a course. Approved courses may be held on the premises of a company doing business in the regulated area only when the company is sponsoring the course offering, or where product application is appropriate and related.

Subd. 14. **Supplementary materials.** An adequate supply of supplementary materials to be used or distributed in connection with an approved course must be available at the time and place of the course offering in order to ensure that each student receives all of the necessary materials. Outlines and any other materials that are reproduced must be of readable quality.

Subd. 15. **Advertising courses.** (a) Paragraphs (b) to (g) govern the advertising of continuing education courses.

(b) Advertising must be truthful and not deceptive or misleading. Courses may not be advertised in any manner as approved unless approval has been granted in writing by the commissioner.

(c) No advertisement, pamphlet, circular, or other similar materials pertaining to an approved offering may be circulated or distributed in this state, unless the following statement is prominently displayed:

"This course has been approved by the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry for ..... (approved number of hours) hours for continuing ..... (relevant industry) education."

(d) Advertising of approved courses must be clearly distinguishable from the advertisement of other nonapproved courses and services.

(e) Continuing education courses may not be advertised before approval unless the course is

described in the advertising as "approval pending" and an application for approval has been timely submitted to the commissioner and a denial has not been received.

(f) The number of hours for which a course has been approved must be prominently displayed on an advertisement for the course. If the course offering is longer than the number of hours of credit to be given, it must be clear that credit is not earned for the entire course.

(g) The course approval number must not be included in any advertisement.

Subd. 16. **Notice to students.** At the beginning of each approved offering, the following notice must be handed out in printed form or must be read to students:

"This educational offering is recognized by the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry as satisfying ..... (insert number of hours approved) hours of credit toward continuing ..... (insert appropriate industry) education requirements."

Subd. 17. **Audits.** The commissioner reserves the right to audit subject offerings with or without notice to the sponsor.

Subd. 18. **Falsification of reports.** A licensee, its qualified person, or an applicant found to have falsified an education report to the commissioner shall be considered to have violated the laws relating to the industry for which the person has a license and shall be subject to censure, limitation, condition, suspension, or revocation of the license or denial of the application for licensure.

The commissioner reserves the right to audit a licensee's continuing education records.

Subd. 19. **Waivers and extensions.** If a licensee provides documentation to the commissioner that the licensee or its qualifying person is unable, and will continue to be unable, to attend actual classroom course work because of a physical disability, medical condition, or similar reason, attendance at continuing education courses shall be waived for a period not to exceed one year. The commissioner shall require that the licensee or its qualifying person satisfactorily complete a self-study program to include reading a sufficient number of textbooks, or listening to a sufficient number of tapes, related to the regulated industry, as would be necessary for the licensee to satisfy continuing educational credit hour needs. The commissioner shall award the licensee credit hours for a self-study program by determining how many credit hours would be granted to a classroom course involving the same material and giving the licensee the same number of credit hours under this part. The licensee may apply each year for a new waiver upon the same terms and conditions as were necessary to secure the original waiver, and must demonstrate that in subsequent years, the licensee was unable to complete actual classroom course work. The commissioner may request documentation of the condition upon which the request for waiver is based as is necessary to satisfy the commissioner of the existence of the condition and that the condition does preclude attendance at continuing education courses.

Upon written proof demonstrating a medical hardship, the commissioner shall extend, for up to 90 days, the time period during which the continuing education must be successfully completed. Loss of income from either attendance at courses or cancellation of a license is not a bona fide financial hardship. Requests for extensions must be submitted to the commissioner in writing no later than 60 days before the education is due and must include an explanation with verification of the hardship, plus verification of enrollment at an approved course of study on or before the extension period expires.

Subd. 20. **Reporting requirements.** Required continuing education must be reported in a manner prescribed by the commissioner. Licensees are responsible for maintaining copies of course completion certificates.

Subd. 21. **Residential building contractor, residential remodeler, and residential roofer education.** (a) Each licensee must, during the licensee's first complete continuing education reporting period, complete and report one hour of continuing education relating to lead abatement rules in safe lead abatement procedures.

(b) Each licensee must, during each continuing education reporting period, complete and report one hour of continuing education relating to energy codes for buildings and other building codes designed to conserve energy.

Subd. 22. **Continuing education approval.** (a) Continuing education courses must be approved in advance by the commissioner of labor and industry. "Sponsor" means any person or entity offering approved education.

(b) For coordinators with an initial approval date before August 1, 2005, approval will expire on December 31, 2005. For courses with an initial approval date on or before December 31, 2000, approval will expire on April 30, 2006. For courses with an initial approval date after January 1, 2001, but before August 1, 2005, approval will expire on April 30, 2007.

Subd. 23. **Continuing education fees.** The following fees shall be paid to the commissioner:

(1) initial course approval, \$10 for each hour or fraction of one hour of continuing education course approval sought. Initial course approval expires on the last day of the 24th month after the course is approved;

(2) renewal of course approval, \$10 per course. Renewal of course approval expires on the last day of the 24th month after the course is renewed;

(3) initial coordinator approval, \$100. Initial coordinator approval expires on the last day of the 24th month after the coordinator is approved; and

(4) renewal of coordinator approval, \$10. Renewal of coordinator approval expires on the last day of the 24th month after the coordinator is renewed.

Subd. 24. **Refunds.** All fees paid to the commissioner under this section are nonrefundable, except that an overpayment of a fee shall be returned upon proper application.

Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.88, is amended to read:

### **326.88 LOSS OF QUALIFYING PERSON.**

Upon the departure or disqualification of a licensee's qualifying person because of death, disability, retirement, position change, or other reason, the licensee must notify the commissioner within 15 business days. The licensee shall have 120 days from the departure of the qualifying person to obtain a new qualifying person. Failure to secure a new qualifying person within 120 days will, with or without notice, result in the automatic termination of the license.

Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.89, is amended to read:

**326.89 APPLICATION AND EXAMINATION.**

Subdivision 1. **Form.** An applicant for a license under sections 326.83 to 326.98 must submit an application ~~to the commissioner~~, under oath and accompanied by the license fee required by section 326.86, on a form prescribed by the commissioner. Within 30 business days of receiving all required information, the commissioner must act on the license request. If one of the categories in the application does not apply, the applicant must identify the category and state the reason the category does not apply. The commissioner may refuse to issue a license if the application is not complete or contains unsatisfactory information.

Subd. 2. **Contents.** ~~The~~ Each application must include the following information regarding the applicant:

- (1) Minnesota workers' compensation insurance certificate;
- (2) employment insurance account number;
- (3) certificate of liability insurance;
- (4) type of license requested;
- (5) name and current address of the applicant, and telephone number where the applicant resides;
- ~~(i)~~ (6) name and address of the applicant's qualifying person, if other than applicant; and
- ~~(ii)~~ (7) if the applicant is a sole proprietorship, the name and address of the sole proprietor; if the applicant is a partnership, the name and address of each partner; if the applicant is a limited liability company, the name and address of each governor and manager; if the applicant is a corporation, the name and address of each of the corporate officers, directors, and all shareholders holding more than ten percent of the outstanding stock in the corporation;
- (8) name and address of the applicant's agent in this state authorized to receive service of process, and a consent to service of process as required by section 326.93;
- (9) current street address and telephone number where the business is physically located;
- ~~(6)~~ (10) whether the applicant, any employee, or qualifying person has ever been licensed in this or any other state and has had a professional or vocational license reprimanded, censured, limited, conditioned, refused, suspended, or revoked, or has been the subject of any administrative action;
- ~~(7)~~ (11) whether the applicant, qualifying person, or any of the applicant's corporate or partnership directors, limited liability company governors, officers, limited or general partners, managers, all shareholders holding more than ten percent of the share of the corporation that have been issued, or all members holding more than ten percent of the voting power of the membership interests that have been issued, has been convicted of a crime that either related directly to the business for which the license is sought or involved fraud, misrepresentation, or misuse of funds; has suffered a judgment in a civil action involving fraud, misrepresentation, construction defect, negligence, or breach of contract, or conversion of funds within the ten years prior to the submission of the application; or has had any government license or permit reprimanded, censured, limited, conditioned, suspended, or revoked as a result of an action brought by a federal, state, or local governmental unit or agency in this or any other state;



~~(8)~~ (12) the applicant's and qualifying person's business history for the past five years and whether the applicant, ~~any~~ a managing employee, or qualifying person has ever filed for bankruptcy or protection from creditors or has any unsatisfied judgments against the applicant, employee, or qualifying person;

~~(9)~~ (13) where the applicant is a firm, partnership, sole proprietorship, limited liability company, corporation, or association, whether there has been a sale or transfer of the business or other change in ownership, control, or name in the last five years and the details thereof, and the names and addresses of all prior, predecessor, subsidiary, affiliated, parent, or related entities, and whether each such entity, or its owners, officers, directors, members or shareholders holding more than ten percent of the stock, or an employee has ever taken or been subject to an action that is subject to clause ~~(6)~~, ~~(7)~~, ~~or (8)~~ (10), (11), or (12) in the last ten years; and

~~(10)~~ (14) whether the qualifying person is the qualifying person for more than one licensee.

For purposes of this subdivision, "applicant" includes employees who exercise management or policy control over the residential contracting ~~and remodeling~~, residential remodeling, residential roofing, or manufactured home installation activities in the state of Minnesota, including affiliates, partners, directors, governors, officers, limited or general partners, managers, all shareholders holding more than ten percent of the shares that have been issued, a shareholder holding more than ten percent of the voting power of the shares that have been issued, or all members holding more than ten percent of the membership interests that have been issued or more than ten percent of the voting power of the membership interests that have been issued.

The commissioner may require further information as the commissioner deems appropriate to administer the provisions and further the purposes of this chapter.

Subd. 3. **Examination.** (a) Each qualifying person must satisfactorily complete a written examination for the type of license requested. The commissioner may establish the examination qualifications, including related education experience and education, the examination procedure, and the examination for each licensing group. The examination must include at a minimum the following areas:

(1) appropriate knowledge of technical terms commonly used and the knowledge of reference materials and code books to be used for technical information; and

(2) understanding of the general principles of business management and other pertinent state laws.

(b) Each examination must be designed for the specified type of license requested. ~~The council shall advise the commissioner on the grading, monitoring, and updating of examinations.~~

(c) ~~A person's~~ An individual's passing examination results expire two years from the examination date. ~~A person~~ An individual who passes the examination but does not choose to apply to act as a qualifying person for a licensee within two years from the examination date, must, upon application provide:

(1) passing examination results within two years from the date of application; or

(2) proof that the person has fulfilled the continuing education requirements in section 326.87 in the manner required for a qualifying person of a licensee for each license period after the expiration

of the examination results.

~~Subd. 4. **Competency skills.** The commissioner shall, in consultation with the council, determine the competency skills and installation knowledge required for the licensing of specialty contractors.~~

Subd. 5. **Exemption.** A general retailer whose primary business is not being a residential building contractor, residential remodeler, ~~or specialty contractor~~ residential roofer, or manufactured home installer, and who has completed a comparable license examination meeting or exceeding Minnesota's examination requirements in another state is exempt from ~~subdivisions~~ subdivision 3 and 4 and sections 326.87 and 326.88.

Subd. 6. **Additional licensing requirements.** As an alternative to denying an application for licensure pursuant to section 326.91, subdivision 1, the commissioner may, as a condition of licensure and based upon information received pursuant to section 326.89, subdivision 2, clauses (6) to (8), or a finding pursuant to section 326.91, subdivision 1, clauses (1) to (9), impose additional insurance, bonding, reporting, record keeping, and other requirements on the applicant as are reasonable to protect the public.

Subd. 7. **License.** A nonresident of Minnesota may be licensed as a residential building contractor, residential remodeler, residential roofer, or manufactured home installer upon compliance with all the provisions of sections 326.83 to 326.98.

Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.90, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Local license prohibited.** Except as provided in sections 326.90, subdivision 2, ~~and 326.991~~, a political subdivision may not require a person licensed under sections 326.83 to ~~326.991~~ 326.98 to also be licensed or pay a registration or other fee related to licensure under any ordinance, law, rule, or regulation of the political subdivision. This section does not prohibit charges for building permits or other charges not directly related to licensure.

Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.91, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Cause Grounds.** ~~The commissioner may by order deny, suspend, or revoke any license or may censure a licensee, and may impose a civil penalty as provided for in section 45.027, subdivision 6, if the commissioner finds that the order is in the public interest, and that the applicant, licensee, or affiliate of an applicant or licensee, or other agent, owner, partner, director, governor, shareholder, member, officer, qualifying person, or managing employee of the applicant or licensee or any person occupying a similar status or performing similar functions: In addition to the grounds set forth in section 326B.082, subdivision 11, the commissioner may deny, suspend, limit, place conditions on, or revoke a license or certificate of exemption, or may censure the person holding the license or certificate of exemption, if the applicant, licensee, certificate of exemption holder, qualifying person, or affiliate of an applicant, licensee, or certificate of exemption holder, or other agent owner has:~~

(1) has filed an application for ~~a license~~ licensure or a certificate of exemption which is incomplete in any material respect or contains any statement which, in light of the circumstances under which it is made, is false or misleading with respect to any material fact;

(2) has engaged in a fraudulent, deceptive, or dishonest practice;

(3) is permanently or temporarily enjoined by any court of competent jurisdiction from engaging in or continuing any conduct or practice involving any aspect of the business;

(4) has failed to reasonably supervise employees, agents, subcontractors, or salespersons, or has performed negligently or in breach of contract, so as to cause injury or harm to the public;

(5) has violated or failed to comply with any provision of sections 326.83 to 326.98 ~~or~~, any rule or order under sections 326.83 to 326.98 or any other law, rule, or order related to the duties and responsibilities entrusted to the commissioner;

~~(6) has been shown to be incompetent, untrustworthy, or financially irresponsible;~~

~~(7) (6) has been convicted of a violation of the State Building Code or, in jurisdictions that do not enforce the State Building Code, has refused to comply with a notice of violation or stop order issued by a certified building official, or in local jurisdictions that have not adopted the State Building Code has refused to correct a violation of the State Building Code when the violation has been certified documented or a notice of violation or stop order issued by a Minnesota-licensed structural engineer certified building official has been received;~~

~~(8) (7) has failed to use the proceeds of any payment made to the licensee for the construction of, or any improvement to, residential real estate, as defined in section 326.83, subdivision 17, for the payment of labor, skill, material, and machinery contributed to the construction or improvement, knowing that the cost of any labor performed, or skill, material, or machinery furnished for the improvement remains unpaid;~~

~~(9) (8) has not furnished to the person making payment either a valid lien waiver as to any unpaid labor performed, or skill, material, or machinery furnished for an improvement, or a payment bond in the basic amount of the contract price for the improvement conditioned for the prompt payment to any person or persons entitled to payment;~~

~~(10) has engaged in conduct which was the basis for a contractor's recovery fund payment pursuant to section 326.975, which payment has not been reimbursed; (9) has engaged in an act or practice that results in compensation to an aggrieved owner or lessee from the contractor recovery fund pursuant to section 36B.825, unless:~~

~~(i) the applicant or licensee has repaid the fund twice the amount paid from the fund, plus interest at the rate of 12 percent per year; and~~

~~(ii) the applicant or licensee has obtained a surety bond in the amount of at least \$40,000, issued by an insurer authorized to transact business in this state.~~

~~(11) (10) has engaged in bad faith, unreasonable delays, or frivolous claims in defense of a civil lawsuit or arbitration arising out of their activities as a licensee or certificate of exemption holder under this chapter;~~

~~(12) (11) has had a judgment entered against them for failure to make payments to employees or subcontractors, or suppliers, that the licensee has failed to satisfy and all appeals of the judgment have been exhausted or the period for appeal has expired;~~

~~(13) (12) if unlicensed, has obtained a building permit by the fraudulent use of a fictitious license number or the license number of another, or, if licensed, has knowingly allowed an unlicensed person~~

to use the licensee's license number for the purpose of fraudulently obtaining a building permit; or has applied for or obtained a building permit for an unlicensed person.

~~(14)~~ (13) has made use of a forged mechanics'-mechanic's lien waivers waiver under chapter 514.;

(14) has provided false, misleading or incomplete information to the commissioner or has refused to allow a reasonable inspection of records or premises;

(15) has engaged in an act or practice whether or not the act or practice directly involves the business for which the person is licensed, that demonstrates that the applicant or licensee is untrustworthy, financially irresponsible, or otherwise incompetent or unqualified to act under the license granted by the commissioner; or

(16) has failed to comply with requests for information, documents, or other requests from the department within the time specified in the request or, if no time is specified, within 30 days of the mailing of the request by the department.

Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.92, is amended to read:

### **326.92 PENALTIES.**

~~Subdivision 1. **Misdemeanor.** A person required to be licensed under sections 326.83 to 326.991 who performs unlicensed work is guilty of a misdemeanor.~~

Subd. 1a. **Gross misdemeanor.** ~~A person required to be licensed under sections 326.84 to 326.991 who violates an order under subdivision 3~~ An individual who violates an order of the commissioner or is the manager, officer, or director of a person who violates an order issued by the commissioner is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

Subd. 2. **Lien rights.** An unlicensed person who knowingly violates sections 326.83 to 326.98 has no right to claim a lien under section 514.01 and the lien is void. Nothing in this section affects the lien rights of material suppliers and licensed contractors to the extent provided by law.

~~Subd. 3. **Commissioner action.** The commissioner may bring actions, including cease and desist actions, against any person licensed or required to be licensed under sections 326.83 to 326.991 to protect the public health, safety, and welfare.~~

Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.921, is amended to read:

### **326.921 BUILDING PERMIT CONDITIONED ON LICENSURE; NOTICE OF PERMIT APPLICATION.**

Subdivision 1. **Building permit.** A political subdivision shall not issue a building permit to an unlicensed person who is required to be licensed under sections 326.83 to ~~326.991~~ 326.98. A political subdivision that issues zoning or land use permits in lieu of a building permit shall not issue those permits to an unlicensed person who is required to be licensed under sections 326.83 to ~~326.991~~ 326.98. The political subdivision shall report the person applying for the permit to the commissioner who may bring an action against the person.

Subd. 2. **Notice of building permit application.** A political subdivision shall notify the department when an application for building permit involving the construction of new residential

real estate has been received from an unlicensed person by submitting a copy of the application to the department within two business days of receipt of the application. The political subdivision may submit a copy of the building permit application by facsimile, United States mail, or electronic communication.

Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.93, is amended to read:

**326.93 SERVICE OF PROCESS; NONRESIDENT LICENSING.**

~~Subdivision 1. **License.** A nonresident of Minnesota may be licensed as a residential building contractor or residential remodeler upon compliance with all the provisions of sections 326.83 to 326.991.~~

~~Subd. 2. **Service of process.** Service of process upon a person performing work in the state of a type that would require a license under sections 326.83 to 326.98 may be made as provided in section 45.028.~~

~~Subd. 3. **Procedure.** Every applicant for licensure or certificate of exemption under sections 326.83 to 326.98 shall irrevocably consent to the appointment of the commissioner and successors in office to be the applicant's agent to receive service of any lawful process in any noncriminal suit, action, or proceeding against the applicant or a successor, executor, or administrator which arises under section 326.83 to 326.98 or any rule or order thereunder after the consent has been filed, with the same force and validity as if served personally on the person filing the consent. Service under this section shall be made in compliance with subdivision 5.~~

~~Subd. 4. **Service on commissioner.** (a) When a person, including any nonresident of this state, engages in conduct prohibited or made actionable by sections 326.83 to 326.98, or any rule or order under those sections, and the person has not consented to service of process under subdivision 3, that conduct is equivalent to an appointment of the commissioner and successors in office as the person's agent to receive service of process in any noncriminal suit, action, or proceeding against the person that is based on that conduct and is brought under sections 326.83 to 326.98, or any rule or order under those sections, with the same force and validity as if served personally on the person consenting to the appointment of the commissioner and successors in office. Service under this section shall be made in compliance with subdivision 5.~~

~~(b) Subdivision 5 applies in all other cases in which a person, including a nonresident of this state, has filed a consent to service of process. This paragraph supersedes any inconsistent provision of law.~~

~~(c) Subdivision 5 applies in all cases in which service of process is allowed to be made on the commissioner.~~

~~(d) Subdivision 5 applies to any document served by the commissioner or the department under section 326B.08.~~

~~Subd. 5. **How made.** Service of process under this section may be made by leaving a copy of the process in the office of the commissioner, or by sending a copy of the process to the commissioner by certified mail, and is not effective unless:~~

~~(1) the plaintiff, who may be the commissioner in an action or proceeding instituted by the commissioner, sends notice of the service and a copy of the process by certified mail to the defendant~~

or respondent at the last known address; and

(2) the plaintiff's affidavit of compliance is filed in the action or proceeding on or before the return day of the process, if any, or within further time as the court allows.

Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.94, is amended to read:

**326.94 BOND; INSURANCE.**

Subdivision 1. **Bond.** (a) Licensed manufactured home installers and licensed residential roofers must post a license surety bond in the name of the licensee with the commissioner, conditioned that the applicant shall faithfully perform the duties and in all things comply with all laws, ordinances, and rules pertaining to the license or permit applied for and all contracts entered into. The annual bond must be continuous and maintained for so long as the licensee remains licensed. The aggregate liability of the surety on the bond to any and all persons, regardless of the number of claims made against the bond, may not exceed the amount of the bond. The bond may be canceled as to future liability by the surety upon 30 days' written notice mailed to the commissioner by regular mail.

(b) A licensed residential roofer must post a bond of at least ~~\$5,000~~ \$15,000.

(c) A licensed manufactured home installer must post a bond of at least \$2,500.

Bonds issued under sections 326.83 to 326.98 are not state bonds or contracts for purposes of sections 8.05 and 16C.05, subdivision 2.

Subd. 2. **Insurance.** Licensees must have public liability insurance with limits of at least ~~\$100,000~~ \$300,000 per occurrence, which must include at least \$10,000 property damage coverage. The insurance must be written by an insurer licensed to do business in this state. The commissioner may increase the minimum amount of insurance required for any licensee or class of licensees if the commissioner considers it to be in the public interest and necessary to protect the interests of Minnesota consumers.

Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.95, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Advertising.** The license number of a licensee must appear in any advertising by that licensee including but not limited to signs, vehicles, business cards, published display ads, flyers, ~~and brochures,~~ Web sites, and Internet ads.

Sec. 22. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.96, is amended to read:

**326.96 PUBLIC EDUCATION.**

The commissioner may develop materials and programs to educate the public concerning licensing licensure requirements and methods. The commissioner may develop materials for reporting unlicensed contracting activity. The commissioner shall provide information in other languages.

Sec. 23. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.97, is amended to read:

**326.97 LICENSE RENEWAL.**

Subdivision 1. **Renewal.** Licensees A licensee whose applications have fully completed renewal application has been properly and timely filed and who have has not received a notice of

denial of renewal ~~are~~ is considered to have been approved for renewal and may continue to transact business whether or not the renewed license has been received. Applications are timely if received ~~or postmarked~~ by March 1 of the renewal year. Applications must be made on a form approved by the commissioner. An application for renewal that does not contain all of the information requested is an incomplete application and will not be processed.

Subd. 1a. **Annual renewal.** Any license issued or renewed after August 1, 1993, must be renewed annually.

Subd. 2. **Failure to apply renew.** A person who has failed to make a timely application for renewal of a license ~~by March 31 of the renewal year~~ is unlicensed at 11:59:59 p.m. central time on March 31 of the renewal year and remains unlicensed until the a renewed license has been issued by the commissioner and is received by the applicant.

Subd. 3. **Expiration.** All licenses expire at 11:59:59 p.m. central time on March 31 of the renewal year if not properly renewed.

Sec. 24. **[326B.801] SCOPE.**

Except as otherwise provided by law, the provisions of sections 326B.801 to 326B.825 apply to residential contractors, residential remodelers, residential roofers, and manufactured home installers.

Sec. 25. **[326B.809] WRITTEN CONTRACT REQUIRED.**

(a) All agreements including proposals, estimates, bids, quotations, contracts, purchase orders, and change orders between a licensee and a customer for the performance of a licensee's services must be in writing and must contain the following:

- (1) a detailed summary of the services to be performed;
- (2) a description of the specific materials to be used or a list of standard features to be included;  
and
- (3) the total contract price or a description of the basis on which the price will be calculated.

(b) All agreements shall be signed and dated by the licensee and customer.

(c) The licensee shall provide to the customer, at no charge, a signed and dated document at the time that the licensee and customer sign and date the document. Documents include agreements and mechanic's lien waivers.

Sec. 26. **[326B.814] REHABILITATION OF CRIMINAL OFFENDERS.**

Chapter 364 does not apply to an applicant for a license or to a licensee where the underlying conduct on which the conviction is based would be grounds for denial, censure, suspension, or revocation of the license.

Sec. 27. **[326B.82] DEFINITIONS.**

Subdivision 1. **Words, terms, and phrases.** For the purposes of section 326.87, the terms defined in this section have the meanings given them, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

Subd. 2. **Appropriate and related knowledge.** "Appropriate and related knowledge" means facts, information, or principles that are clearly relevant to the licensee in performing responsibilities under a license issued by the commissioner. These facts, information, or principles must convey substantive and procedural knowledge as it relates to postlicensing issues and must be relevant to the technical aspects of a particular area of continuing education.

Subd. 3. **Classroom hour.** "Classroom hour" means a 50-minute hour.

Subd. 4. **Coordinator.** "Coordinator" means an individual who is responsible for monitoring approved educational offerings.

Subd. 5. **Instructor.** "Instructor" means an individual lecturing in an approved educational offering.

Subd. 6. **Licensee.** "Licensee" means a person licensed by the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry for whom an examination is required before licensure.

Subd. 7. **Medical hardship.** "Medical hardship" includes a documented physical disability or medical condition.

Subd. 8. **Overpayment.** "Overpayment" means any payment of money in excess of a statutory fee.

Subd. 9. **Regulated industries.** "Regulated industries" means residential contracting, residential remodeling, or residential roofing. Each of these is a regulated industry.

Subd. 10. **Sponsor.** "Sponsor" means any person or entity offering or providing approved continuing education.

## Sec. 28. **[326B.89] CONTRACTOR RECOVERY FUND.**

Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) For the purposes of this section, the following terms have the meanings given them.

(b) "Gross annual receipts" means the total amount derived from residential contracting or residential remodeling activities, regardless of where the activities are performed, and must not be reduced by costs of goods sold, expenses, losses, or any other amount.

(c) "Licensee" means a person licensed as a residential contractor or residential remodeler.

(d) "Residential real estate" means a new or existing building constructed for habitation by one to four families, and includes detached garages.

(e) "Fund" means the contractor recovery fund.

Subd. 2. **Generally.** The contractor recovery fund is created in the state treasury and shall be administered by the commissioner for the purposes described in this section. Any interest or profit accruing from investment of money in the fund shall be credited to the contractor recovery fund.

Subd. 3. **Fund fees.** In addition to any other fees, a person who applies for or renews a license under sections 326.83 to 326.98 shall pay a fee to the fund. The person shall pay, in addition to the appropriate application or renewal fee, the following additional fee that shall be deposited in the fund. The amount of the fee shall be based on the person's gross annual receipts for the person's



most recent fiscal year preceding the application or renewal, on the following scale:

<u>Fee</u>	<u>Gross Annual Receipts</u>
<u>\$160</u>	<u>under \$1,000,000</u>
<u>\$210</u>	<u>\$1,000,000 to \$5,000,000</u>
<u>\$260</u>	<u>over \$5,000,000</u>

Subd. 4. **Purpose of fund.** The purpose of this fund is to:

(1) compensate owners or lessees of residential real estate who meet the requirements of this section;

(2) reimburse the department for all legal and administrative expenses, disbursements, and costs, including staffing costs, incurred in administering and defending the fund;

(3) pay for educational or research projects in the field of residential contracting to further the purposes of sections 326B.801 to 326B.825; and

(4) provide information to the public on residential contracting issues.

Subd. 5. **Payment limitations.** Except as otherwise provided in this section, the commissioner shall not pay compensation from the fund to an owner or a lessee in an amount greater than \$75,000. Except as otherwise provided in this section, the commissioner shall not pay compensation from the fund to owners and lessees in an amount that totals more than \$150,000 per licensee. The commissioner shall not pay compensation from the fund for a final judgment based on a cause of action that arose before the commissioner's receipt of the licensee's fee required by subdivision 3.

Subd. 6. **Verified application.** To be eligible for compensation from the fund, an owner or lessee shall serve on the commissioner a verified application for compensation on a form approved by the commissioner. The application shall verify the following information:

(1) the specific grounds upon which the owner or lessee seeks to recover from the fund:

(2) that the owner or the lessee has obtained a final judgment in a court of competent jurisdiction against a licensee licensed under section 326B.803;

(3) that the final judgment was obtained against the licensee on the grounds of fraudulent, deceptive, or dishonest practices, conversion of funds, or failure of performance that arose directly out of a transaction that occurred when the licensee was licensed and performing any of the special skills enumerated under section 326B.802, subdivision 19;

(4) the amount of the owner's or the lessee's actual and direct out-of-pocket loss on the owner's residential real estate, on residential real estate leased by the lessee, or on new residential real estate that has never been occupied or that was occupied by the licensee for less than one year prior to purchase by the owner;

(5) that the residential real estate is located in Minnesota;

(6) that the owner or the lessee is not the spouse of the licensee or the personal representative of the licensee;

(7) the amount of the final judgment, any amount paid in satisfaction of the final judgment, and the amount owing on the final judgment as of the date of the verified application; and

(8) that the verified application is being served within two years after the judgment became final.

The owner's and the lessee's actual and direct out-of-pocket loss shall not include attorney fees, interest on the loss, and interest on the final judgment obtained as a result of the loss. An owner or lessee may serve a verified application regardless of whether the final judgment has been discharged by a bankruptcy court. A judgment issued by a court is final if all proceedings on the judgment have either been pursued and concluded or been forgone, including all reviews and appeals. For purposes of this section, owners who are joint tenants or tenants in common are deemed to be a single owner. For purposes of this section, owners and lessees eligible for payment of compensation from the fund shall not include government agencies, political subdivisions, financial institutions, and any other entity that purchases, guarantees, or insures a loan secured by real estate.

Subd. 7. **Commissioner review.** The commissioner shall within 120 days after receipt of the verified application:

(1) enter into an agreement with an owner or a lessee that resolves the verified application for compensation from the fund; or

(2) issue an order to the owner or the lessee accepting, modifying, or denying the verified application for compensation from the fund.

Upon receipt of an order issued under clause (2), the owner or the lessee shall have 30 days to serve upon the commissioner a written request for a hearing. If the owner or the lessee does not serve upon the commissioner a timely written request for hearing, the order issued under clause (2) shall become a final order of the commissioner that may not be reviewed by any court or agency. The commissioner shall order compensation from the fund only if the owner or the lessee has filed a verified application that complies with subdivision 6 and if the commissioner determines based on review of the application that compensation should be paid from the fund. The commissioner shall not be bound by any prior settlement, compromise, or stipulation between the owner or the lessee and the licensee.

Subd. 8. **Administrative hearing.** If an owner or a lessee timely serves a request for hearing under subdivision 7, the commissioner shall request that an administrative law judge be assigned and that a hearing be conducted under the contested case provisions of chapter 14 within 30 days after the service of the request for hearing upon the commissioner. Upon petition of the commissioner, the administrative law judge shall continue the hearing up to 60 days and upon a showing of good cause may continue the hearing for such additional period as the administrative law judge deems appropriate. At the hearing the owner or the lessee shall have the burden of proving by substantial evidence under subdivision 6, clauses (1) to (8). The administrative law judge shall issue findings of fact, conclusions of law, and order. If the administrative law judge finds that compensation should be paid to the owner or the lessee, the administrative law judge shall order the commissioner to make payment from the fund of the amount it finds to be payable pursuant to the provisions of and in accordance with the limitations contained in this section. The order of the administrative law judge shall constitute the final decision of the agency in the contested case. Judicial review of the administrative law judge's findings of fact, conclusions of law, and order shall be in accordance with sections 14.63 to 14.69.

Subd. 9. **Satisfaction of applications for compensation.** The commissioner shall pay compensation from the fund to an owner or a lessee pursuant to the terms of an agreement that has been entered into under subdivision 7, clause (1), or pursuant to a final order that has been issued under subdivision 7, clause (2), or subdivision 8 by December 1 of the fiscal year following the fiscal year during which the agreement was entered into or during which the order became final, subject to the limitations of this section. At the end of each fiscal year the commissioner shall calculate the amount of compensation to be paid from the fund pursuant to agreements that have been entered into under subdivision 7, clause (1), and final orders that have been issued under subdivision 7, clause (2), or subdivision 8. If the calculated amount exceeds the amount available for payment, then the commissioner shall allocate the amount available among the owners and the lessees in the ratio that the amount agreed to or ordered to be paid to each owner or lessee bears to the amount calculated. The commissioner shall mail notice of the allocation to all owners and lessees not less than 45 days following the end of the fiscal year. Any compensation paid by the commissioner in accordance with this subdivision shall be deemed to satisfy and extinguish any right to compensation from the fund based upon the verified application of the owner or lessee.

Subd. 10. **Right of subrogation.** If the commissioner pays compensation from the fund to an owner or a lessee pursuant to an agreement under subdivision 7, clause (1), or a final order issued under subdivision 7, clause (2), or subdivision 8, then the commissioner shall be subrogated to all of the rights, title, and interest in the owner's or lessee's final judgment in the amount of compensation paid from the fund and the owner or the lessee shall assign to the commissioner all rights, title, and interest in the final judgment in the amount of compensation paid. The commissioner shall deposit in the fund money recovered under this subdivision.

Subd. 11. **Effect of section on commissioner's authority.** Nothing contained in this section shall limit the authority of the commissioner to take disciplinary action against a licensee under the provisions of this chapter. A licensee's repayment in full of obligations to the fund shall not nullify or modify the effect of any other disciplinary proceeding brought under the provisions of this chapter.

Subd. 12. **Limitation.** Nothing may obligate the fund to compensate:

- (1) insurers or sureties under subrogation or similar theories; or
- (2) owner of residential property for final judgments against a prior owner of the residential property unless the claim is brought and judgment is rendered for breach of the statutory warranty set forth in chapter 327A.

Subd. 13. **Condominiums or townhouses.** For purposes of this section, the owner or the lessee of a condominium or townhouse is considered an owner or a lessee of residential property regardless of the number of residential units per building.

Subd. 14. **Accelerated compensation.** Payments made from the fund to compensate owners and lessees that do not exceed the jurisdiction limits for conciliation court matters as specified in section 491A.01 may be paid on an accelerated basis if all of the following requirements have been satisfied:

- (a) The owner or the lessee has served upon the commissioner a verified application for compensation that complies with the requirements set out in subdivision 6 and the commissioner determines based on review of the application that compensation should be paid from the fund. The commissioner shall calculate the actual and direct out-of-pocket loss in the transaction, minus

attorney fees, interest on the loss and on the judgment obtained as a result of the loss, and any satisfaction of the judgment, and make payment to the owner or the lessee up to the conciliation court jurisdiction limits within 15 days after the owner or lessee serves the verified application.

(b) The commissioner may pay compensation to owners or lessees that totals not more than \$50,000 per licensee per fiscal year under this accelerated process. The commissioner may prorate the amount of compensation paid to owners or lessees under this subdivision if applications submitted by owners and lessees seek compensation in excess of \$50,000 against a licensee. Any unpaid portion of a verified application that has been prorated under this subdivision shall be satisfied in the manner set forth in subdivision 9.

Subd. 15. **Appropriation.** Money in the fund is appropriated to the commissioner for the purposes of this section.

Subd. 16. **Additional assessment.** If the balance in the fund is at any time less than the commissioner determines is necessary to carry out the purposes of this section, every licensee, when renewing a license, shall pay, in addition to the annual renewal fee and the fee set forth in subdivision 3 an assessment not to exceed \$100. The commissioner shall set the amount of assessment based on a reasonable determination of the amount that is necessary to restore a balance in the fund adequate to carry out the purposes of this section.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective December 1, 2007, except that subdivisions 1, 3, and 15 are effective July 1, 2007.

Sec. 29. **REVISOR'S INSTRUCTION.**

The revisor of statutes shall renumber each section of Minnesota Statutes listed in column A with the number listed in column B. The revisor shall also make necessary cross-reference changes consistent with the renumbering.

<u>Column A</u>	<u>Column B</u>
<u>325E.58</u>	<u>326B.865</u>
<u>326.83</u>	<u>326B.802</u>
<u>326.84</u>	<u>326B.805</u>
<u>326.841</u>	<u>327B.041</u>
<u>326.842</u>	<u>326B.81</u>
<u>326.86</u>	<u>326B.815</u>
<u>326.87</u>	<u>326B.82</u>
<u>326.88</u>	<u>326B.825</u>
<u>326.89</u>	<u>326B.83</u>
<u>326.90</u>	<u>326B.835</u>
<u>326.91</u>	<u>326B.84</u>
<u>326.92</u>	<u>326B.845</u>

<u>326.921</u>	<u>326B.85</u>
<u>326.93</u>	<u>326B.855</u>
<u>326.94</u>	<u>326B.86</u>
<u>326.95</u>	<u>326B.87</u>
<u>326.951</u>	<u>326B.875</u>
<u>326.96</u>	<u>326B.88</u>
<u>326.97</u>	<u>326B.885</u>

## ARTICLE 9

### BOILERS; PRESSURE VESSELS; BOATS

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 183.38, is amended to read:

#### **183.38 BOILER INSPECTOR; INSPECTIONS; EXAMINATIONS; LICENSES.**

Subdivision 1. **All boilers inspected.** ~~The Division of Boiler Inspection~~ commissioner shall inspect all boilers and pressure vessels in use not expressly excepted from such inspection by law. ~~Immediately~~ Upon inspection the ~~Division of Boiler Inspection~~ commissioner shall issue a certificate of inspection therefor or a certificate condemning the boiler or pressure vessel and shall seal it. Forms for these licenses and certificates shall be prepared and furnished by the commissioner. The ~~Division of Boiler Inspection~~ commissioner shall examine all applicants for engineer's licenses. The ~~chief of the Division of Boiler Inspection~~ commissioner shall issue such license to an applicant as the examination shall show the applicant is entitled to receive.

Subd. 2. **Inspector's examination.** For the purpose of examining applicants for ~~license a~~ National Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspectors commission, the ~~chief of the Division of Boiler Inspection or the deputy chief~~ commissioner shall fix and determine a time and place for the examinations, and give notice to all applicants of the time and place. The ~~chief or the deputy chief~~ commissioner shall grant and sign such license certificates as applicants are entitled to receive upon examination. Applicants may be examined and issued certificates of competency as inspectors of boilers and pressure vessels.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 183.39, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Inspector requirements.** Each boiler inspector shall be ~~a person of good moral character, shall be~~ licensed in this state as a chief grade A engineer, and must hold a national board commission as a boiler inspector within 12 months of being employed as a boiler inspector by the department. An inspector shall not be interested in the manufacture or sale of boilers or steam machinery or in any patented article required or generally used in the construction of engines or boilers or their appurtenances.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 183.411, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Inspection.** When used for display and demonstration purposes, steam farm traction engines, portable and stationary show engines and portable and stationary show boilers shall be inspected every two years according to law.

(a) Show boilers or engines not certified in Minnesota shall be inspected thoroughly by a boiler inspector certified to inspect boilers in Minnesota, using inspection standards in paragraph (b), before being certified for use in Minnesota.

(b) Standards for inspection of show boilers shall be those established by the National Board Inspection Code ANSI/NB23 and by the rules adopted by the department of ~~Labor and Industry, Division of Boiler Inspection,~~ and as follows:

(1) the boiler shall be subjected to the appropriate method of nondestructive examination, at the owner's expense, as deemed necessary by the boiler inspector to determine soundness and safety of the boiler;

(2) the boiler shall be tested by ultrasonic examination for metal thickness (for purposes of calculating the maximum allowable working pressure the thinnest reading shall be used and a safety factor of six shall be used in calculating maximum allowable working pressure on all non-ASME-code hobby and show boilers); and

(3) repairs and alterations made to show boilers must be made pursuant to section 183.466.

(c) Further each such object shall successfully complete an inspection of:

(1) the fusible plug;

(2) the safety valve, which must be of ~~American Society of Mechanical Engineers'~~ ASME approved design and set at the maximum allowable working pressure and sealed in an appropriate manner not allowing tampering with the valve setting without destroying the seal; and

(3) the boiler power piping.

Any longitudinal cracks found in riveted longitudinal seams requires that the vessel be sealed and not approved for use in Minnesota. If the boiler or show engine is jacketed, the jacket must be removed prior to inspection.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 183.42, is amended to read:

#### **183.42 INSPECTION AND REGISTRATION.**

Subdivision 1. **Inspection.** Every owner, lessee, or other person having charge of boilers or pressure vessels subject to inspection under this chapter shall cause them to be inspected by the ~~Division of Boiler Inspection~~ department. Except as provided in sections 183.411 and 183.45, boilers subject to inspection under this chapter must be inspected at least annually and pressure vessels inspected at least every two years ~~except as provided under section 183.45.~~ The commissioner shall assess a \$250 penalty per applicable boiler or pressure vessel for failure to have the inspection required by this section and may seal the boiler or pressure vessel for refusal to allow an inspection as required by this section.

Subd. 2. **Registration.** Every owner, lessee, or other person having charge of boilers or pressure vessels subject to inspection under this chapter, except hobby boilers under section 183.411, shall register said objects with the ~~Division of Boiler Inspection~~ department. The registration shall be renewed annually and is applicable to each object separately. The fee for registration of a boiler or pressure vessel shall be pursuant to section 183.545, subdivision 10. The ~~Division of Boiler Inspection~~ department may issue a billing statement for each boiler and pressure vessel on record

with the division, and may determine a monthly schedule of billings to be followed for owners, lessees, or other persons having charge of a boiler or pressure vessel subject to inspection under this chapter.

Subd. 3. **Certificate of registration.** The ~~Division of Boiler Inspection~~ department shall issue a certificate of registration that lists the registered boilers and pressure vessels at the location, expiration date of the certificate of registration, last inspection date of each registered boiler and pressure vessel, and maximum allowable working pressure for each registered boiler and pressure vessel. The commissioner may make an electronic certificate of registration available to be printed by the owner, lessee, or other person having charge of the registered boiler or pressure vessel.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 183.45, is amended to read:

### **183.45 INSPECTION.**

Subdivision 1. **Inspection requirements.** All boilers and steam generators must be inspected by the ~~Division of Boiler Inspection~~ department before they are used and all boilers must be inspected at least once each year thereafter except as provided under subdivision 2 or section 183.411. Inspectors may subject all boilers to hydrostatic pressure or hammer test, and shall ascertain by a thorough internal and external examination that they are well made and of good and suitable material; that the openings for the passage of water and steam, respectively, and all pipes and tubes exposed to heat, are of proper dimensions and free from obstructions; that the flues are circular in form; that the arrangements for delivering the feed water are such that the boilers cannot be injured thereby; and that such boilers and their connections may be safely used without danger to life or property. Inspectors shall ascertain that the safety valves are of suitable dimensions, sufficient in number, and properly arranged, and that the safety valves are so adjusted as to allow no greater pressure in the boilers than the amount prescribed by the inspector's certificate; that there is a sufficient number of gauge cocks, properly inserted, to indicate the amount of water, and suitable gauges that will correctly record the pressure; and that the fusible metals are properly inserted where required so as to fuse by the heat of the furnace whenever the water in the boiler falls below its prescribed limit; and that provisions are made for an ample supply of water to feed the boilers at all times; and that means for blowing out are provided, so as to thoroughly remove the mud and sediment from all parts when under pressure.

Subd. 2. **Qualifying boiler.** (a) "Qualifying boiler" means a boiler of 200,000 pounds per hour or more capacity which has an internal continuous water treatment program approved by the department and which the ~~chief boiler inspector~~ commissioner has determined to be in compliance with paragraph (c).

(b) A qualifying boiler must be inspected at least once every 24 months internally and externally while not under pressure and at least once every 18 months externally while under pressure. If the inspector considers it necessary to conduct a hydrostatic test to determine the safety of a boiler, the test must be conducted under the direction of the owner, contractor, or user of the equipment under the supervision of an inspector.

(c) The owner of a qualifying boiler must keep accurate records showing the date and actual time the boiler is out of service, the reason or reasons therefor, and the chemical physical laboratory analysis of samples of the boiler water taken at regular intervals of not more than 48 hours of operation which adequately show the condition of the water, and any elements or characteristics of the water capable of producing corrosion or other deterioration of the boiler or its parts.

(d) If an inspector determines there are substantial deficiencies in equipment or in boiler water treatment operating procedures, inspections of a qualifying boiler may be required once every 12 months until the ~~chief boiler inspector~~ commissioner finds that the substantial deficiencies have been corrected.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 20064, section 183.46, is amended to read:

**183.46 TESTS.**

In subjecting both high and low pressure boilers and pressure vessels to the hydrostatic test, and to determine the safe allowable working pressure, the inspector shall use the latest approved formula of the ~~American Society of Mechanical Engineers~~ ASME Code or National Board Inspection Code, as applicable.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 183.465, is amended to read:

**183.465 STANDARDS OF INSPECTION.**

The engineering standards of boilers and pressure vessels for use in this state shall be that established by the current edition of ~~the and amendments to the ASME Code or the National Board Inspection Code~~, as applicable, for construction, operation and care of, in-service inspection and testing, and controls and safety devices ~~codes of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and amendments thereto~~, and by the rules of the Division of Boiler Inspection adopted by the department of ~~Labor and Industry~~.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 183.466, is amended to read:

**183.466 STANDARDS OF REPAIRS.**

The rules for repair of boilers and pressure vessels for use in this state shall be those established by the National Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspectors inspection code and the rules of ~~the Division of Boiler Inspection~~ adopted by the department of ~~Labor and Industry~~.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 183.48, is amended to read:

**183.48 SPECIAL EXAMINATION.**

~~At any time the inspector deems it necessary an examination shall be made of any~~ If an inspector examines a boiler or pressure vessel which there is reason to believe has become and determines that the boiler or pressure vessel is unsafe, and the inspector shall notify the owners or operators thereof ~~owner or operator of any defect therein, and what repairs are necessary in that boiler or pressure vessel.~~ owner or operator of any defect therein, and what repairs are necessary in that boiler or pressure vessel. Such boiler or pressure vessel shall not thereafter be used until ~~so repaired~~ the defect is corrected. Boilers found to be operated by unlicensed or improperly licensed persons shall not be used until the operators are properly licensed. If circumstances warrant continued operation, approval may be given for continuing operation for a specific period of time, not to exceed 30 days, at the discretion of the boiler inspector.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 183.501, is amended to read:

**183.501 LICENSE REQUIREMENT.**

(a) No ~~person~~ individual shall be entrusted with the operation of or operate any boiler, steam



engine, or turbine who has not received a license of grade covering that boiler, steam engine or turbine. The license shall be renewed annually, except as provided in section 183.411. ~~When a violation of this section occurs the Division of Boiler Inspection may cause a complaint to be made for the prosecution of the offender and shall be entitled to sue for and obtain injunctive relief in the district courts for such violations.~~

(b) For purposes of this chapter, "operation" shall not include monitoring of an automatic boiler, either through on premises inspection of the boiler or by remote electronic surveillance, provided that no operations are performed upon the boiler other than emergency shut down in alarm situations.

(c) No individual under the influence of illegal drugs or alcohol shall be entrusted with the operation of or shall operate any boiler, steam engine, or turbine, or shall be entrusted with the monitoring of or shall monitor an automatic boiler.

Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 183.505, is amended to read:

### **183.505 APPLICATIONS FOR LICENSES.**

~~The chief boiler inspector~~ commissioner shall prepare blank applications on which applications for engineers' licenses shall be made under oath of the applicant. These blanks shall be so formulated as to elicit such information as is desirable needed to enable the examiners to pass on determine whether an applicant meets the qualifications of applicants required for the license.

Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 183.51, is amended to read:

### **183.51 EXAMINATIONS; CLASSIFICATIONS; QUALIFICATIONS.**

Subdivision 1. **Engineers, classes.** Engineers shall be divided into four classes:

(1) Chief engineers; Grade A, Grade B, and Grade C. (2) first class engineers; Grade A, Grade B, and Grade C. (3) second class engineers; Grade A, Grade B, and Grade C. (4) Special engineers.

Subd. 2. **Applications.** ~~Any person individual who desires an engineer's license shall submit a written an application, on blanks furnished by the commissioner or designee on a written or electronic form prescribed by the commissioner, at least 15 days before the requested exam date. The application is valid for permits the applicant to take the examination on one occasion within one year from the date the commissioner or designee received receives the application.~~

Subd. 2a. **Examinations.** Each applicant for a license must pass an examination ~~approved~~ developed and administered by the commissioner. The examinations shall be of sufficient scope to establish the competency of the applicant to operate a boiler of the applicable license class and grade.

Subd. 3. **High and low pressure boilers.** For the purposes of this section and section 183.50, high pressure boilers shall mean boilers operating at a steam or other vapor pressure in excess of 15 p.s.i.g., or a water or other liquid boiler in which the pressure exceeds 160 p.s.i.g. or a temperature of 250 degrees Fahrenheit.

Low pressure boilers shall mean boilers operating at a steam or other vapor pressure of 15 p.s.i.g. or less, or a water or other liquid boiler in which the pressure does not exceed 160 p.s.i.g. or a temperature of 250 degrees Fahrenheit.

Subd. 4. **Chief engineer, Grade A.** ~~A person~~ An individual seeking licensure as a chief engineer, Grade A, shall be at least 18 years of age and have experience which verifies that the ~~person~~ individual is competent to take charge of and be responsible for the safe operation and maintenance of all classes of boilers, steam engines, and turbines and their appurtenances; and, before receiving a license, the applicant shall take and subscribe an oath attesting to at least five years actual experience in operating such boilers, including at least two years experience in operating such engines or turbines.

Subd. 5. **Chief engineer, Grade B.** ~~A person~~ An individual seeking licensure as a chief engineer, Grade B, shall be at least 18 years of age and have habits and experience which justify the belief that the ~~person~~ individual is competent to take charge of and be responsible for the safe operation and maintenance of all classes of boilers and their appurtenances; and, before receiving a license, the applicant shall take and subscribe an oath attesting to at least five years actual experience in operating those boilers.

Subd. 6. **Chief engineer, Grade C.** ~~A person~~ An individual seeking licensure as a chief engineer, Grade C, shall be at least 18 years of age and have habits and experience which justify the belief that the ~~person~~ individual is competent to take charge of and be responsible for the safe operation and maintenance of all classes of low pressure boilers and their appurtenances, and before receiving a license, the applicant shall take and subscribe an oath attesting to at least five years of actual experience in operating such boilers.

Subd. 7. **First-class engineer, Grade A.** ~~A person~~ An individual seeking licensure as a first-class engineer, Grade A, shall be at least 18 years of age and have experience which verifies that the ~~person~~ individual is competent to take charge of and be responsible for the safe operation and maintenance of all classes of boilers, engines, and turbines and their appurtenances of not more than 300 horsepower or to operate as a shift engineer in a plant of unlimited horsepower. Before receiving a license, the applicant shall take and subscribe an oath attesting to at least three years actual experience in operating such boilers, including at least two years experience in operating such engines or turbines.

Subd. 8. **First-class engineer, Grade B.** ~~A person~~ An individual seeking licensure as a first-class engineer, Grade B, shall be at least 18 years of age and have habits and experience which justify the belief that the ~~person~~ individual is competent to take charge of and be responsible for the safe operation and maintenance of all classes of boilers of not more than 300 horsepower or to operate as a shift engineer in a plant of unlimited horsepower. Before receiving a license the applicant shall take and subscribe an oath attesting to at least three years actual experience in operating such boilers.

Subd. 9. **First-class engineer, Grade C.** ~~A person~~ An individual seeking licensure as a first-class engineer, Grade C, shall be at least 18 years of age and have habits and experience which justify the belief that the ~~person~~ individual is competent to take charge of and be responsible for the safe operation and maintenance of all classes of low pressure boilers and their appurtenances of not more than 300 horsepower or to operate as a shift engineer in a low pressure plant of unlimited horsepower. Before receiving a license, the applicant shall take and subscribe an oath attesting to at least three years actual experience in operating such boilers.

Subd. 10. **Second-class engineer, Grade A.** ~~A person~~ An individual seeking licensure as a second-class engineer, Grade A, shall be at least 18 years of age and have experience which verifies that the ~~person~~ individual is competent to take charge of and be responsible for the safe operation

and maintenance of all classes of boilers, engines, and turbines and their appurtenances of not more than 100 horsepower or to operate as a shift engineer in a plant of not more than 300 horsepower, or to assist the shift engineer, under direct supervision, in a plant of unlimited horsepower. Before receiving a license the applicant shall take and subscribe an oath attesting to at least one year of actual experience in operating such boilers, including at least one year of experience in operating such engines or turbines.

Subd. 11. **Second-class engineer, Grade B.** ~~A person~~ An individual seeking licensure as a second-class engineer, Grade B, shall be at least 18 years of age and have habits and experience which justify the belief that the ~~person~~ individual is competent to take charge of and be responsible for the safe operation and maintenance of all classes of boilers of not more than 100 horsepower or to operate as a shift engineer in a plant of not more than 300 horsepower or to assist the shift engineer, under direct supervision, in a plant of unlimited horsepower. Before receiving a license the applicant shall take and subscribe an oath attesting to at least one year of actual experience in operating such boilers.

Subd. 12. **Second-class engineer, Grade C.** ~~A person~~ An individual seeking licensure as a second-class engineer, Grade C, shall be at least 18 years of age and have habits and experience which justify the belief that the ~~person~~ individual is competent to take charge of and be responsible for the safe operation and maintenance of all classes of low pressure boilers and their appurtenances of not more than 100 horsepower or to operate as a shift engineer in a low pressure plant of not more than 300 horsepower, or to assist the shift engineer, under direct supervision, in a low pressure plant of unlimited horsepower. Before receiving a license, the applicant shall take and subscribe an oath attesting to at least one year of actual experience in operating such boilers.

Subd. 13. **Special engineer.** ~~A person~~ An individual seeking licensure as a special engineer shall be at least 18 years of age and have habits and experience which justify the belief that the ~~person~~ individual is competent to take charge of and be responsible for the safe operation and maintenance of all classes of boilers and their appurtenances of not more than 30 horsepower or to operate as a shift engineer in a plant of not more than 100 horsepower, or to serve as an apprentice in any plant under the direct supervision of the properly licensed engineer.

Subd. 14. **Current boiler operators.** Any ~~person~~ individual operating a boiler other than a steam boiler on or before April 15, 1982 shall be qualified for application for the applicable class license upon presentation of an affidavit furnished by an inspector and sworn to by the ~~person's~~ individual's employer or a chief engineer. The applicant must have at least the number of years of actual experience specified for the class of license requested and pass the appropriate examination.

Subd. 15. **Rating horsepower.** For the purpose of rating boiler horsepower for engineer license classifications only: ten square feet of heating surface shall be considered equivalent to one boiler horsepower for conventional boilers and five square feet of heating surface equivalent to one boiler horsepower for steam coil type generators.

Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 183.54, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Safety Inspection certificate.** ~~After examination and tests, if a boiler inspector finds any boiler or pressure vessel safe and suitable for use, the inspector shall deliver to the chief boiler inspector a verified certificate in such form as prescribed by the chief boiler inspector containing a specification of the tests applied and the working pressure allowed. A copy of the certificate is delivered to the owner of the boiler or pressure vessel, who shall place and retain the~~

same in a conspicuous place on or near the boiler or pressure vessel. of the boiler or pressure vessel being inspected, the boiler inspector shall document the condition of the boiler or pressure vessel as required by the commissioner. The inspector shall issue an inspection certificate, as prescribed by the commissioner, to the owner or operator for the inspected boilers and pressure vessels found to be safe and suitable for use. The inspector shall immediately notify the owner or operator of any deficiencies found on the boilers and pressure vessels during the inspection on a form prescribed by the commissioner.

Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 183.54, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Failure to pay fee.** If the owner or lessee of any boiler or pressure vessel, which boiler or pressure vessel has been duly inspected, refuses to pay the required fee within 30 days from the date of the inspection invoice, the ~~chief boiler inspector, or deputy,~~ department may seal the boiler or pressure vessel until the fee is paid.

Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 183.545, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 11. **Late fee.** The commissioner may assess a late fee of up to \$100 for each invoice issued under subdivision 1, 3, or 3a that is not paid in full by the due date stated on the invoice.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007.

Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 183.56, is amended to read:

### **183.56 EXCEPTIONS.**

The provisions of sections 183.38 to 183.62, shall not apply to:

- (1) boilers in buildings occupied solely for residence purposes with accommodations for not more than five families;
- (2) railroad locomotives operated by railroad companies for transportation purposes;
- (3) air tanks installed on the right-of-way of railroads and used directly in the operation of trains;
- (4) boilers and pressure vessels under the direct jurisdiction of the United States;
- (5) unfired pressure vessels having an internal or external working pressure not exceeding 15 p.s.i.g. with no limit on size;
- (6) pressure vessels used for storage of compressed air not exceeding five cubic feet in volume and equipped with an ~~American Society of Mechanical Engineers~~ ASME code stamped safety valve set at a maximum of 100 p.s.i.g.;
- (7) pressure vessels having an inside diameter not exceeding six inches;
- (8) every vessel that contains water under pressure, including those containing air that serves only as a cushion, whose design pressure does not exceed 300 p.s.i.g. and whose design temperature does not exceed 210 degrees Fahrenheit;
- (9) boiler or pressure vessels located on farms used solely for agricultural or horticultural purposes; for purposes of this section, boilers used for mint oil extraction are considered used for agricultural or horticultural purposes, provided that the owner or lessee complies with the

inspection requirements contained in section 183.42;

(10) tanks or cylinders used for storage or transfer of liquefied petroleum gases;

(11) unfired pressure vessels in petroleum refineries;

(12) an air tank or pressure vessel which is an integral part of a passenger motor bus, truck, or trailer;

(13) hot water heating and other hot liquid boilers not exceeding a heat input of 750,000 BTU per hour;

(14) hot water supply boilers (water heaters) not exceeding a heat input of 500,000 BTU per hour, a water temperature of 210 degrees Fahrenheit, a nominal water capacity of 120 gallons, or a pressure of 160 p.s.i.g.;

(15) a laundry and dry cleaning press not exceeding five cubic feet of steam volume;

(16) pressure vessels operated full of water or other liquid not materially more hazardous than water, if the vessel's contents' temperature does not exceed 140 degrees Fahrenheit or a pressure of 200 p.s.i.g.;

(17) steam powered turbines at paper-making facilities which are powered by steam generated by municipal steam district facilities at a remote location; and

(18) manually fired boilers for model locomotive, boat, tractor, stationary engine, or antique motor vehicles constructed or maintained only as a hobby for exhibition, educational or historical purposes and not for commercial use, if the boilers have an inside diameter of 12 inches or less, or a grate area of two square feet or less, and are equipped with an ~~American Society of Mechanical Engineers~~ ASME stamped safety valve of adequate size, a water level indicator, and a pressure gauge.

An engineer's license is not required for hot water supply boilers.

An engineer's license is not required for boilers, steam cookers, steam kettles, steam sterilizers or other steam generators not exceeding 100,000 BTU per hour input, 25 kilowatt, 2-1/2 horsepower ~~or~~ and a pressure of 15 p.s.i.g.

Electric boilers not exceeding a maximum working pressure of 50 p.s.i.g., maximum of 30 kilowatt input or three horsepower rating shall be inspected as pressure vessels and shall not require an engineer license to operate.

Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 183.57, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Report required.** Any insurance company insuring boilers and pressure vessels in this state shall file a report showing the most recent date of inspection, the name of the ~~person~~ individual making the inspection, the condition of the boiler or pressure vessel as disclosed by the inspection, whether the boiler was operated by a properly licensed engineer, whether a policy of insurance has been issued by the company with reference to the boiler or pressure vessel, and other information as directed by the ~~chief boiler inspector~~ commissioner. Within 21 days after the inspection, the insurance company shall file the report with the ~~chief boiler inspector or designee~~ commissioner. The insurer shall provide a copy of the report to the person, ~~firm, or corporation~~

owning or operating the inspected boiler or pressure vessel. Such report shall be made annually for boilers and biennially for pressure vessels.

Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 183.57, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Exemption.** Every boiler or pressure vessel as to which any insurance company authorized to do business in this state has issued a policy of insurance, after the inspection thereof, is exempt from inspection by the department made under sections 183.375 to 183.62, while the same continues to be insured and provided it continues to be inspected in accordance with the inspection schedule set forth in sections 183.42 and 183.45, and the person, ~~firm, or corporation~~ owning or operating the same has an unexpired certificate of registration.

Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 183.57, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **Notice of insurance coverage.** The insurer shall notify the commissioner ~~or designee~~ in writing of its policy to insure and inspect boilers and pressure vessels at a location within 30 days of receipt of notification from the insured that a boiler or pressure vessel is present at an insured location. The insurer must also provide a duplicate of the notification to the insured.

Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 183.57, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

Subd. 6. **Notice of discontinued coverage.** The insurer shall notify the commissioner ~~or designee~~ in writing, within 30 days of the effective date, of the discontinuation of insurance coverage of the boilers and pressure vessels at a location and the cause or reason for the discontinuation if the insurer has received notice from the insured that a boiler or pressure vessel is present at an insured location, as provided under subdivision 5. This notice shall show the effective date when the discontinued policy takes effect.

Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 183.59, is amended to read:

#### **183.59 VIOLATIONS BY INSPECTORS.**

Every inspector who willfully certifies falsely regarding any boiler or its attachments, or pressure vessel, or the hull and equipments of any steam vessel, or who grants a license to any ~~person individual~~ to act as engineer, or master, ~~or pilot~~ contrary to any provision of sections 183.375 to 183.62, is guilty of a misdemeanor. In addition to this punishment the inspector shall be removed from office forthwith.

Sec. 22. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 183.60, is amended to read:

#### **183.60 VIOLATIONS IN CONSTRUCTION; REPAIR; SALE.**

Subdivision 1. **Construction violation.** ~~Every~~ No person who constructs shall construct a boiler, boiler piping, or pressure vessel so as not to meet the minimum construction requirements of the ~~American Society of Mechanical Engineers~~ ASME boiler and pressure vessel code, and the rules of the ~~Division of Boiler Inspection adopted by the department of Labor and Industry~~ is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

Subd. 2. **Repair violation.** ~~Every~~ No person who repairs a boiler or pressure vessel by welding or riveting so as not to meet the minimum requirements established by the current edition of the National Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspectors inspection code and the rules of the ~~Division of Boiler Inspection adopted by the department of Labor and Industry~~ is guilty of a gross

misdemeanor.

Subd. 3. **Sale violation.** ~~Every~~ No manufacturer, jobber, dealer, or other person selling or offering shall sell or offer for sale a boiler or pressure vessel that does not meet the minimum construction requirements of the ~~American Society of Mechanical Engineers~~ ASME boiler and pressure vessel code and the rules of the ~~Division of Boiler Inspection~~ adopted by the department of Labor and Industry ~~is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.~~

Sec. 23. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 183.61, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Inspection violation.** ~~Any~~ No person ~~who causes~~ shall cause to be operated, or ~~operates~~ shall operate, any boiler or boat without having the same inspected at least once each year, or pressure vessel, steam farm traction engine, portable or stationary show engine, or portable or stationary show boiler without having it inspected biennially, ~~and~~ or without having the proper engineer or pilot master license ~~is guilty of a misdemeanor.~~

Sec. 24. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 183.61, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Failure to repair.** ~~Every person operating or causing to be operated~~ After any boiler or pressure vessel ~~after it has been examined and found to be unsafe and after the owner or operator thereof~~ of the boiler or pressure vessel has been notified of any defect ~~therein and what repairs are necessary to remedy the defect~~ who fails to comply with the inspector's requirements is guilty of a misdemeanor in it, no person shall operate the boiler or pressure vessel or cause it to be operated unless and until the defect has been corrected.

Sec. 25. **[326B.93] INSPECTION PERSONNEL.**

Subdivision 1. **Inspectors.** The department may employ such inspectors and other persons as are necessary to efficiently perform the duties and exercise the powers imposed upon the department.

Subd. 2. **Chief boiler inspector.** The commissioner shall appoint a chief boiler inspector who, under the direction and supervision of the commissioner, shall administer this chapter and the rules adopted under this chapter. The chief boiler inspector must:

(1) be licensed as a chief Grade A engineer; and

(2) possess a current commission issued by the National Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspectors.

The chief boiler inspector shall be the state of Minnesota representative on the National Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspectors, shall be the final interpretative authority of the rules adopted under this chapter, and shall perform other duties in administering this chapter and the rules adopted under this chapter as assigned by the commissioner. Any person aggrieved by a ruling of the chief boiler inspector may appeal the ruling in accordance with chapter 14.

Sec. 26. **[326B.94] BOATS; MASTERS.**

Subdivision 1. **Boat.** "Boat" means any vessel navigating inland waters of the state that is propelled by machinery or sails, is carrying passengers for hire, and is 21 feet or more in length.

Subd. 2. **Number of passengers.** The department shall designate the number of passengers that each boat may safely carry, and no such boat shall carry a greater number than is allowed by the

inspector's certificate.

Subd. 3. **Annual permit.** The commissioner shall issue an annual permit to a boat for the purpose of carrying passengers for hire on the inland waters of the state provided the boat satisfies the inspection requirements of this section. A boat subject to inspection under this chapter shall be registered with the department and shall be inspected before a permit may be issued. No person shall operate a boat or cause a boat to be operated for the purpose of carrying passengers for hire on the inland waters of the state without a valid annual permit issued under this section.

Subd. 4. **Examinations, licensing.** The commissioner shall develop and administer an examination for all masters of boats carrying passengers for hire on the inland waters of the state as to their qualifications and fitness. If found qualified and competent to perform their duties as a master of a boat carrying passengers for hire, they shall be issued a license authorizing them to act as such on the inland waters of the state. The license shall be renewed annually. Fees for the original issue and renewal of the license authorized under this section shall be pursuant to section 183.545, subdivision 2.

Subd. 5. **Rules.** (a) The department shall prescribe rules for the inspection of the hulls, machinery, boilers, steam connections, firefighting apparatus, lifesaving appliances, and lifesaving equipment of all power boats navigating the inland waters of the state, which shall conform to the requirements and specifications of the United States Coast Guard in similar cases as provided in Code of Federal Regulations, title 46, as applicable inland waters; these rules shall have the force of law.

(b) The commissioner shall make such rules for inspection and operation of boats subject to inspection under this chapter, the licensing of masters, and the navigation of any such boat as will require its operation without danger to life or property.

Subd. 6. **Drugs, alcohol.** No master shall be under the influence of illegal drugs or alcohol when on duty.

Sec. 27. **REVISOR'S INSTRUCTION.**

The revisor of statutes shall renumber each section of Minnesota Statutes listed in column A with the number listed in column B. The revisor shall also make necessary cross-reference changes consistent with the renumbering.

<u>Column A</u>	<u>Column B</u>
<u>183.38</u>	<u>326B.952</u>
<u>183.39</u>	<u>326B.954</u>
<u>183.411</u>	<u>326B.956</u>
<u>183.42</u>	<u>326B.958</u>
<u>183.45</u>	<u>326B.96</u>
<u>183.46</u>	<u>326B.962</u>
<u>183.465</u>	<u>326B.964</u>
<u>183.466</u>	<u>326B.966</u>



<u>183.48</u>	<u>326B.968</u>
<u>183.50</u>	<u>326B.97</u>
<u>183.501</u>	<u>326B.972</u>
<u>183.502</u>	<u>326B.974</u>
<u>183.505</u>	<u>326B.976</u>
<u>183.51</u>	<u>326B.978</u>
<u>183.53</u>	<u>326B.98</u>
<u>183.54</u>	<u>326B.982</u>
<u>183.545</u>	<u>326B.986</u>
<u>183.56</u>	<u>326B.988</u>
<u>183.57</u>	<u>326B.99</u>
<u>183.59</u>	<u>326B.992</u>
<u>183.60</u>	<u>326B.994</u>
<u>183.61</u>	<u>326B.996</u>
<u>183.62</u>	<u>326B.998</u>

## ARTICLE 10

### HIGH PRESSURE PIPING

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.46, is amended to read:

**326.46 SUPERVISION OF DEPARTMENT TO SUPERVISE HIGH PRESSURE PIPING.**

The department of Labor and Industry shall supervise all high pressure piping used on all projects in this state, and may prescribe minimum standards which shall be uniform.

The department shall employ inspectors and other assistants to carry out the provisions of sections 326.46 to 326.52.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.461, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 1a. **Board.** "Board" means the Board of High Pressure Piping Systems.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.461, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 1b. **Contracting high pressure pipefitter.** "Contracting high pressure pipefitter" means an individual, such as a steamfitter, engaged in the planning, superintending, and practical installation of high pressure piping and appurtenances, and otherwise lawfully qualified to construct high pressure piping installations and make replacements to existing plants, who is also qualified to conduct the business of high pressure piping installations and who is familiar with the laws, rules, and minimum standards governing them.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.461, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 2a. **High pressure steam.** "High pressure steam" means a pressure in excess of 15 pounds per square inch.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.461, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 2b. **Journeyman high pressure pipefitter.** "Journeyman high pressure pipefitter" means an individual, such as a steamfitter, who is not a contracting high pressure pipefitter and who is engaged in the practical installation of high pressure piping and appurtenances in the employ of a contracting high pressure pipefitter.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.461, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 4. **Pipefitter apprentice.** A "pipefitter apprentice" is an individual employed in the trade of the practical construction and installation of high pressure piping and appurtenances under an apprenticeship agreement approved by the department under Minnesota Rules, part 5200.0300.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.47, is amended to read:

**326.47 APPLICATION, PERMIT, FILING, AND INSPECTION FEES.**

Subdivision 1. **Required permit.** No person, ~~firm, or corporation~~ shall construct or install high pressure piping systems without first filing an application for a permit with the department of ~~Labor and Industry~~ or a municipality that has complied with subdivision 2. ~~Projects under construction prior to August 1, 1984, are not required to obtain a permit.~~

~~Subd. 2. **Permissive municipal regulation.** A municipality may, by ordinance, provide for the inspection of high pressure piping system materials and construction, and provide that it shall not be constructed or installed except in accordance with minimum state standards. The authority designated by the ordinance for issuing high pressure piping permits and assuring compliance with state standards must report to the Department of Labor and Industry all violations of state high pressure piping standards.~~

~~A municipality may not adopt an ordinance with high pressure piping standards that does not conform to the uniform standards prescribed by the Department of Labor and Industry. The Department of Labor and Industry shall specify by rule the minimum qualifications for municipal inspectors. The commissioner may enter into an agreement with a municipality, in which the municipality agrees to perform inspections and issue permits for the construction and installation of high pressure piping systems within the municipality's geographical area of jurisdiction, if:~~

(a) The municipality has adopted:

(1) the code for power piping systems, Minnesota Rules, parts 5230.0250 to 5230.6200;

(2) an ordinance that authorizes the municipality to issue permits to persons holding a high pressure piping business license issued by the department and only for construction or installation that would, if performed properly, fully comply with all Minnesota Statutes and Minnesota Rules;

(3) an ordinance that authorizes the municipality to perform the inspections that are required under Minnesota Statutes or Minnesota Rules of the construction and installation of high pressure piping systems; and

(4) an ordinance that authorizes the municipality to enforce the code for power piping systems in its entirety.

(b) The municipality agrees to issue permits only to persons holding a high pressure piping business license as required by law at the time of the permit issuance, and only for construction or installation that would, if performed properly, comply with all Minnesota Statutes and Minnesota Rules governing the construction or installation of high pressure piping systems.

(c) The municipality agrees to issue permits only on forms approved by the department.

(d) The municipality agrees that, for each permit issued by the municipality, the municipality shall perform one or more inspections of the construction or installation to determine whether the construction or installation complies with all Minnesota Statutes and Minnesota Rules governing the construction or installation of high pressure piping systems, and shall prepare a written report of each inspection.

(e) The municipality agrees to notify the commissioner within 24 hours after the municipality discovers any violation of the licensing laws related to high pressure piping.

(f) The municipality agrees to notify the commissioner immediately if the municipality discovers that any entity has failed to meet a deadline set by the municipality for correction of a violation of the high pressure piping laws.

(g) The commissioner determines that the individuals who will conduct the inspections for the municipality do not have any conflict of interest in conducting the inspections.

(h) Individuals who will conduct the inspections for the municipality are permanent employees of the municipality and are licensed contracting high pressure pipefitters or licensed journeyman high pressure pipefitters.

(i) The municipality agrees to notify the commissioner within ten days of any changes in the names or qualifications of the individuals who conduct the inspections for the municipality.

(j) The municipality agrees to enforce in its entirety the code for power piping systems on all projects.

(k) The municipality shall not approve any piping installation unless the installation conforms to all applicable provisions of the high pressure piping laws in effect at the time of the installation.

(l) The municipality agrees to promptly require compliance or revoke a permit that it has issued if there is noncompliance with any of the applicable provisions of the high pressure piping laws in connection with the work covered by the permit. The municipality agrees to revoke the permit if any laws regulating the licensing of pipefitters have been violated.

(m) The municipality agrees to keep official records of all documents received, including permit applications, and of all permits issued, reports of inspections, and notices issued in connection with inspections.

(n) The municipality agrees to maintain the records described in paragraph (m) in the official records of the municipality for the period required for the retention of public records under section 138.17, and shall make these records readily available for review according to section 13.37.

(o) Not later than the tenth day of each month, the municipality shall submit to the commissioner a report of all high pressure piping permits issued by the municipality during the preceding month. This report shall be in a format approved by the commissioner and shall include:

- (1) the name of the contractor;
- (2) the license number of the contractor's license issued by the commissioner;
- (3) the permit number;
- (4) the address of the job;
- (5) the date the permit was issued;
- (6) a brief description of the work; and
- (7) the amount of the inspection fee.

(p) Not later than the 31st day of January of each year, the municipality shall submit a summary report to the commissioner identifying the status of each high pressure piping project for which the municipality issued a permit during the preceding year, and the status of high pressure piping projects for which the municipality issued a permit during a prior year where no final inspection had occurred by the first day of the preceding year. This summary report shall include:

- (1) the permit number;
- (2) the date of any final inspection; and
- (3) identification of any violation of high pressure piping laws related to work covered by the permit.

(q) The municipality and the commissioner agree that if at any time during the agreement the municipality does not have in effect the code for high pressure piping systems or any of the ordinances described in paragraph (a), or if the commissioner determines that the municipality is not properly administering and enforcing the code for high pressure piping or is otherwise not complying with the agreement:

(1) the commissioner may, effective 14 days after the municipality's receipt of written notice, terminate the agreement and have the administration and enforcement of the high pressure piping code in the involved municipality undertaken by the department;

(2) the municipality may challenge the termination in a contested case before the commissioner pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act; and

(3) while any challenge under clause (2) is pending, the commissioner may exercise oversight of the municipality to the extent needed to ensure that high pressure piping inspections are performed and permits are issued in accordance with the high pressure piping laws.

(r) The municipality and the commissioner agree that the municipality may terminate the agreement with or without cause on 90 days' written notice to the commissioner.

(s) The municipality and the commissioner agree that no municipality shall revoke, suspend, or place restrictions on any high pressure piping license issued by the commissioner. If the municipality

identifies during an inspection any violation that may warrant revocation, suspension, or placement of restrictions on a high pressure piping license issued by the commissioner, the municipality shall promptly notify the commissioner of the violation and the commissioner shall determine whether revocation, suspension, or placement of restrictions on any high pressure piping license issued by the commissioner is appropriate.

~~Subd. 5. **Reporting of permits issued.** Each municipality must submit to the Department of Labor and Industry a copy of each permit issued within ten days after issuance.~~

~~All permits must be issued on forms prescribed by or approved by the Department of Labor and Industry.~~

~~Subd. 6. **Filing and inspection fees.** (a) The department of Labor and Industry must charge a filing fee set by the commissioner under section 16A.1285 and an inspection fee for all applications for permits to construct or install high pressure piping systems. The filing fee for inspection of high pressure piping system construction or installation shall be set by the commissioner under section 16A.1285 \$100. This subdivision does~~ The inspection fee shall be calculated as follows.

(1) When an application for a permit is filed prior to the start of construction or installation, the inspection fee shall be \$150 plus 0.022 of the first \$1,000,000, plus 0.011 of the next \$2,000,000, plus 0.00055 of the amount over \$3,000,000 of the cost of construction or installation.

(2) Except as provided in paragraph (b), when an application for permit is filed after the start of construction or installation, the inspection fee shall be the greater of: \$1,100; or \$150 plus 0.033 of the first \$1,000,000, plus 0.0165 of the next \$2,000,000, plus 0.011 of the amount over \$3,000,000 of the cost of construction or installation.

(b) The commissioner shall consider any extenuating circumstances that caused an application for permit to be filed after the start of construction or installation. If warranted by such extenuating circumstances, the commissioner may calculate the inspection fee as if the application for permit had been filed prior to the start of construction or installation.

(c) Paragraphs (a) and (b) do not apply where a permit is issued by a municipality ~~complying in~~ accordance with an agreement under subdivision 2.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective December 1, 2007, except that subdivision 6 is effective July 1, 2007.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.48, is amended to read:

### **326.48 LICENSING AND REGISTRATION.**

Subdivision 1. **License required; rules; time credit.** No ~~person~~ individual shall engage in or work at the business of a contracting high pressure pipefitter unless issued an individual contracting high pressure pipefitter license to do so by the department of ~~Labor and Industry~~ under rules adopted by the board. No license shall be required for repairs on existing installations. No ~~person~~ individual shall engage in or work at the business of journeyman pipefitter unless issued an individual journeyman high pressure pipefitter competency license to do so by the department of ~~Labor and Industry~~ under rules adopted by the board. A person possessing an individual contracting high pressure pipefitter competency license may also work as a journeyman high pressure pipefitter.

No person, ~~partnership, firm, or corporation~~ shall construct or install high pressure piping, nor install high pressure piping in connection with the dealing in and selling of high pressure pipe material and supplies, unless, at all times, ~~a person~~ an individual possessing a contracting high pressure pipefitter individual competency license or a journeyman high pressure pipefitter individual competency license is responsible for ensuring that the high pressure pipefitting work conducted by the person, partnership, firm, or corporation being is in conformity with Minnesota Statutes and Minnesota Rules.

The ~~department of Labor and Industry~~ board shall prescribe rules, not inconsistent herewith, for the examination and individual competency licensing of contracting high pressure pipefitters and journeyman high pressure pipefitters and for issuance of permits by the department and municipalities for the installation of high pressure piping.

An employee performing the duties of inspector for the department of ~~Labor and Industry~~ in regulating pipefitting shall not receive time credit for the inspection duties when making an application for a license required by this section.

Subd. 2. **High pressure pipefitting business license.** Before obtaining a permit for high pressure piping work, a person, ~~partnership, firm, or corporation~~ must obtain or utilize a business with a high pressure piping business license.

A person, ~~partnership, firm, or corporation~~ must have at all times as a full-time employee at least one individual holding an individual contracting high pressure pipefitter competency license. Only full-time employees who hold individual contracting high pressure pipefitter licenses are authorized to obtain high pressure piping permits in the name of the business. The individual contracting high pressure pipefitter competency license holder can be the employee of only one high pressure piping business at a time.

To retain its business license without reapplication, a person, ~~partnership, firm, or corporation~~ holding a high pressure piping business license that ceases to employ ~~a person~~ an individual holding an individual contracting high pressure pipefitter competency license shall have 60 days from the last day of employment of its previous individual contracting pipefitter competency license holder to employ another license holder. The department of ~~Labor and Industry~~ must be notified no later than five days after the last day of employment of the previous license holder.

No high pressure pipefitting work may be performed during any period when the high pressure pipefitting business does not have an individual contracting high pressure pipefitter competency license holder on staff. If a license holder is not employed within 60 days after the last day of employment of the previous license holder, the pipefitting business license shall lapse.

The ~~department of Labor and Industry~~ board shall prescribe by rule procedures for application for and issuance of business licenses ~~and fees~~.

Subd. 2a. **Registration requirement.** All unlicensed individuals, other than pipefitter apprentices, must be registered under subdivision 2b. No licensed high pressure piping business shall employ an unlicensed individual to assist in the practical construction and installation of high pressure piping and appurtenances unless the unlicensed individual is registered with the department. A pipefitter apprentice or registered unlicensed individual employed by a high pressure piping business may assist in the practical construction and installation of high pressure piping and appurtenances only while under direct supervision of a licensed individual contracting high

pressure pipefitter or licensed journeyman high pressure pipefitter employed by the same high pressure piping business. The licensed individual contracting high pressure pipefitter or licensed journeyman high pressure pipefitter shall supervise no more than two pipefitter apprentices or registered unlicensed individuals. The licensed individual contracting high pressure pipefitter or journeyman high pressure pipefitter is responsible for ensuring that all high pressure piping work performed by the pipefitter apprentice or registered unlicensed individual complies with Minnesota Statutes and Minnesota Rules.

Subd. 2b. **Registration with commissioner.** An unlicensed individual may register to assist in the practical construction and installation of high pressure piping and appurtenances while in the employ of a licensed high pressure piping business by completing and submitting to the commissioner a registration form provided by the commissioner. The Board of High Pressure Piping Systems may prescribe rules, not inconsistent with this section, for the registration of unlicensed individuals.

An unlicensed individual applying for initial registration shall pay the department an application fee of \$50. Applications for initial registration may be submitted at any time. Registration must be renewed annually and shall be valid for one calendar year beginning January 1. Applications for renewal registration must be submitted to the commissioner before December 31 of each registration period on forms provided by the commissioner, and must be accompanied by a fee of \$50. There shall be no refund of fees paid.

Subd. 3. **Bond.** ~~The~~ As a condition of licensing, each applicant for a high pressure piping business license or renewal shall give bond to the state in the total ~~penal~~ sum of \$15,000 conditioned upon the faithful and lawful performance of all work ~~entered upon~~ contracted for or performed within the state. The bond shall run to and be for the benefit of persons injured or suffering financial loss by reason of failure of payment or performance. Claims and actions on the bond may be brought according to sections 574.26 to 574.38.

The term of the bond must be concurrent with the term of the high pressure pipefitting business license and run without interruption from the date of the issuance of the license to the end of the calendar year. All high pressure pipefitting business licenses must be annually renewed on a calendar year basis.

The bond must be filed with the department of ~~Labor and Industry~~ and shall be in lieu of any other business license bonds required by any political subdivision for high pressure pipefitting. The bond must be written by a corporate surety licensed to do business in the state.

Subd. 4. **Insurance.** In addition to the bond described in subdivision 3, each applicant for a high pressure pipefitting business license or renewal shall have in force public liability insurance, including products liability insurance, with limits of at least \$100,000 per person and \$300,000 per occurrence and property damage insurance with limits of at least \$50,000.

The insurance must be kept in force for the entire term of the high pressure pipefitting business license, and the license shall be suspended by the department if at any time the insurance is not in force.

The insurance must be written by an insurer licensed to do business in the state and shall be in lieu of any other insurance required by any subdivision of government for high pressure pipefitting. Each person, ~~partnership, firm, or corporation~~ holding a high pressure pipefitting business license

shall maintain on file with the department a certificate evidencing the insurance. Any purported cancellation of insurance shall not be effective without the insurer first giving 30 days' written notice to the department.

Subd. 5. **License fee.** ~~The state department of Labor and Industry may~~ shall charge each applicant ~~for a high pressure pipefitting business license or for a renewal of a high pressure pipefitting business license and an additional fee commensurate with the cost of administering the bond and insurance requirements of subdivisions 3 and 4.~~ the following license fees:

(a) application for journeyman high pressure piping pipefitter competency license, \$120;

(b) renewal of journeyman high pressure piping pipefitter competency license, \$80;

(c) application for contracting high pressure piping pipefitter competency license, \$270;

(d) renewal of contracting high pressure piping pipefitter competency license, \$240;

(e) application for high pressure piping business license, \$450;

(f) application to inactivate a contracting high pressure piping pipefitter competency license or inactivate a journeyman high pressure piping pipefitter competency license, \$40; and

(g) renewal of an inactive contracting high pressure piping pipefitter competency license or inactive journeyman high pressure piping pipefitter competency license, \$40.

If an application for renewal of an active or inactive journeyman high pressure piping pipefitter competency license or active or inactive contracting high pressure piping competency license is received by the department after the date of expiration of the license, a \$30 late renewal fee shall be added to the license renewal fee.

Payment must accompany the application for a license or renewal of a license. There shall be no refund of fees paid.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective December 1, 2007, except that subdivisions 2a, 2b, and 5 are effective July 1, 2007.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.50, is amended to read:

**326.50 LICENSE APPLICATION; FEES AND RENEWAL.**

Application for an individual contracting high pressure pipefitter competency or an individual journeyman high pressure pipefitter competency license shall be made to the department of Labor and Industry, with fees. The applicant shall be licensed only after passing an examination developed and administered by the department of Labor and Industry in accordance with rules adopted by the board. A competency license issued by the department shall expire on December 31 of each year. A renewal application must be received by the department within one year after expiration of the competency license. A license that has been expired for more than one year cannot be renewed, and can only be reissued if the applicant submits a new application for the competency license, pays a new application fee, and retakes and passes the applicable license examination.

**Sec. 10. [326.505] BOARD OF HIGH PRESSURE PIPING SYSTEMS.**

Subdivision 1. **Composition.** (a) The Board of High Pressure Piping Systems shall consist of



12 members. Eleven members shall be appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate and shall be voting members. Appointments of members by the governor shall be made in accordance with section 15.066. If the senate votes to refuse to consent to an appointment of a member made by the governor, the governor shall appoint a new member with the advice and consent of the senate. One member shall be the commissioner of labor and industry or the commissioner of labor and industry's designee, who shall be a voting member. Of the 11 appointed members, the composition shall be as follows:

- (1) one member shall be a high pressure piping inspector;
- (2) one member shall be a licensed mechanical engineer;
- (3) one member shall be a representative of the high pressure piping industry;
- (4) four members shall be high pressure piping contractors engaged in the scope of high pressure piping, two from the metropolitan area and two from greater Minnesota;
- (5) two members shall be high pressure piping journeymen engaged in the scope of high pressure piping systems installation, one from the metropolitan area and one from greater Minnesota;
- (6) one member shall be a representative of industrial companies that use high pressure piping systems in their industrial process; and
- (7) one member shall be a representative from utility companies in Minnesota.

The high pressure piping inspector shall be appointed for a term to end December 31, 2011. The professional mechanical engineer shall be appointed for a term to end December 31, 2010. The representative of the high pressure piping industry shall be appointed for a term to end December 31, 2011. Two of the high pressure piping contractors shall be appointed for a term to end December 31, 2011. The other two high pressure piping contractors shall be appointed for a term to end December 31, 2010. One of the high pressure piping journeymen shall be appointed for a term to end December 31, 2011. The other high pressure piping journeyman shall be appointed for a term to end December 31, 2010. The one representative of industrial companies that use high pressure piping systems in their industrial process shall be appointed for a term to end December 31, 2010. The one representative of a utility company in Minnesota shall be appointed for a term to end December 31, 2010.

(b) The licensed professional mechanical engineer must possess a current Minnesota professional engineering license and maintain the license for the duration of their term. All other appointed members, except for the representative of the piping industry, the representative of industrial companies that use high pressure piping systems, and the representative of public utility companies in Minnesota, must possess a current high pressure piping license issued by the Department of Labor and Industry and maintain that license for the duration of their term. All appointed members must be residents of Minnesota at the time of and throughout the member's appointment. The term of any appointed member that does not maintain membership qualification status shall end on the date of status change and the governor shall appoint a new member. It is the responsibility of the member to notify the board of the member's status change.

(c) For appointed members, except the initial terms designated in paragraph (a), each term shall be three years with the terms ending on December 31. Members appointed by the governor shall be limited to three consecutive terms. The governor shall, all or in part, reappoint the current members

or appoint replacement members with the advice and consent of the senate. Midterm vacancies shall be filled for the remaining portion of the term. Vacancies occurring with less than six months time remaining in the term shall be filled for the existing term and the following three-year term. Members may serve until their successors are appointed but in no case later than July 1 in a year in which the term expires unless reappointed.

Subd. 2. **Powers; duties; administrative support.** (a) The board shall have the power to:

(1) elect its chair, vice-chair, and secretary;

(2) adopt bylaws that specify the duties of its officers, the meeting dates of the board, and containing such other provisions as may be useful and necessary for the efficient conduct of the business of the board;

(3) adopt the high pressure piping code that must be followed in this state and any high pressure piping code amendments thereto. The board shall adopt the high pressure piping code and any amendments thereto pursuant to chapter 14, and as provided in subdivision 6, paragraphs (b), (c), and (d);

(4) review requests for final interpretations and issue final interpretations as provided in section 16B.63, subdivision 5;

(5) except for rules regulating continuing education, adopt rules that regulate the licensure or registration of high pressure piping contractors, journeymen, and other persons engaged in the design, installation, and alteration of high pressure piping systems, except for those individuals licensed under section 326.02, subdivisions 2 and 3. The board shall adopt these rules pursuant to chapter 14 and as provided in subdivision 6, paragraphs (e) and (f);

(6) advise the commissioner regarding educational requirements for high pressure piping inspectors;

(7) refer complaints or other communications to the commissioner, whether oral or written, as provided in subdivision 7 that alleges or implies a violation of a statute, rule, or order that the commissioner has the authority to enforce pertaining to code compliance, licensure, or an offering to perform or performance of unlicensed high pressure piping services;

(8) approve per diem and expenses deemed necessary for its members as provided in subdivision 3;

(9) select from its members individuals to serve on any other state advisory council, board, or committee;

(10) recommend the fees for licenses and certifications; and

(11) approve license reciprocity agreements.

Except for the powers granted to the Plumbing Board, Board of Electricity, and the Board of High Pressure Piping, the commissioner of labor and industry shall administer and enforce the provisions of this chapter and any rules promulgated pursuant thereto.

(b) The board shall comply with section 15.0597, subdivisions 2 and 4.

(c) The commissioner shall coordinate the board's rulemaking and recommendations with the recommendations and rulemaking conducted by the other boards created pursuant to chapter 326B. The commissioner shall provide staff support to the board. The support includes professional, legal, technical, and clerical staff necessary to perform rulemaking and other duties assigned to the board. The commissioner of labor and industry shall supply necessary office space and supplies to assist the board in its duties.

Subd. 3. **Compensation.** (a) Members of the board may be compensated at the rate of \$55 a day spent on board activities, when authorized by the board, plus expenses in the same manner and amount as authorized by the commissioner's plan adopted under section 43A.18, subdivision 2. Members who, as a result of time spent attending board meetings, incur child care expenses that would not otherwise have been incurred, may be reimbursed for those expenses upon board authorization.

(b) Members who are state employees or employees of the political subdivisions of the state must not receive the daily payment for activities that occur during working hours for which they are compensated by the state or political subdivision. However, a state or political subdivision employee may receive the daily payment if the employee uses vacation time or compensatory time accumulated in accordance with a collective bargaining agreement or compensation plan for board activities. Members who are state employees or employees of the political subdivisions of the state may receive the expenses provided for in this subdivision unless the expenses are reimbursed by another source. Members who are state employees or employees of political subdivisions of the state may be reimbursed for child care expenses only for time spent on board activities that are outside their working hours.

(c) The board shall adopt internal standards prescribing what constitutes a day spent on board activities for purposes of making daily payments under this subdivision.

Subd. 4. **Removal; vacancies.** (a) An appointed member of the board may be removed by the governor at any time (1) for cause, after notice and hearing, or (2) after missing three consecutive meetings. The chair of the board shall inform the governor of an appointed member missing the three consecutive meetings. After the second consecutive missed meeting and before the next meeting, the secretary of the board shall notify the appointed member in writing that the member may be removed for missing the next meeting. In the case of a vacancy on the board, the governor shall, with the advice and consent of the senate, appoint a person to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the unexpired term.

(b) Vacancies shall be filled pursuant to section 15.0597, subdivisions 5 and 6.

Subd. 5. **Membership vacancies within three months of appointment.** Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, when a membership on the board becomes vacant within three months after being filled through the appointments process, the governor may, upon notification to the Office of Secretary of State, choose a new member from the applications on hand and need not repeat the process.

Subd. 6. **Officers, quorum, voting.** (a) The board shall elect annually from its members a chair, vice-chair, and secretary. A quorum of the board shall consist of a majority of members of the board qualified to vote on the matter in question. All questions concerning the manner in which a meeting is conducted or called that is not covered by statute shall be determined by Robert's Rules of Order (revised) unless otherwise specified by the bylaws.

(b) Except as provided in paragraph (c), each high pressure piping code amendment considered by the board that receives an affirmative two-thirds or more majority vote of all the voting members of the board shall be included in the next high pressure piping code rulemaking proceeding initiated by the board. If a high pressure piping code amendment considered, or reconsidered, by the board receives less than a two-thirds majority vote of all the voting members of the board, the high pressure piping code amendment shall not be included in the next high pressure piping code rulemaking proceeding initiated by the board.

(c) If the high pressure piping code amendment considered by the board is to replace the Minnesota High Pressure Piping Code with a model high pressure piping code, then the amendment may only be included in the next high pressure piping code rulemaking proceeding if it receives an affirmative two-thirds or more majority vote of all the voting members of the board.

(d) The board may reconsider high pressure piping code amendments during an active high pressure piping code rulemaking proceeding in which the amendment previously failed to receive a two-thirds majority vote or more of all the voting members of the board only if new or updated information that affects the high pressure piping code amendment is presented to the board. The board may also reconsider failed high pressure piping code amendments in subsequent high pressure piping code rulemaking proceedings.

(e) Each proposed rule and rule amendment considered by the board pursuant to the rulemaking authority specified in subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clause (5), that receives an affirmative majority vote of all the voting members of the board shall be included in the next rulemaking proceeding initiated by the board. If a proposed rule or rule amendment considered, or reconsidered, by the board receives less than an affirmative majority vote of all the voting members of the board, the proposed rule or rule amendment shall not be included in the next rulemaking proceeding initiated by the board.

(f) The board may reconsider the proposed rule or rule amendment during an active rulemaking proceeding in which the amendment previously failed to receive an affirmative majority vote of all the voting members of the board only if new or updated information that affects the proposed rule or rule amendment is presented to the board. The board may also reconsider failed proposed rules or rule amendments in subsequent rulemaking proceedings.

Subd. 7. **Board meetings.** (a) The board shall hold meetings at such times as the board shall specify. Notice and conduct of all meetings shall be pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, chapter 13D, and in such a manner as the bylaws may provide.

(b) If compliance with section 13D.02 is impractical, the board may conduct a meeting of its members by telephone or other electronic means so long as the following conditions are met:

(1) all members of the board participating in the meeting, wherever their physical location, can hear one another and can hear all discussion and testimony;

(2) members of the public present at the regular meeting location of the board can hear clearly all discussion and testimony and all votes of members of the board and, if needed, receive those services required by sections 15.44 and 15.441;

(3) at least one member of the board is physically present at the regular meeting location; and

(4) all votes are conducted by roll call, so each member's vote on each issue can be identified

and recorded.

Each member of the board participating in a meeting by telephone or other electronic means is considered present at the meeting for purposes of determining a quorum and participating in all proceedings.

If telephone or other electronic means is used to conduct a regular, special, or emergency meeting, the board, to the extent practical, shall allow a person to monitor the meeting electronically from a remote location. The board may require the person making such a connection to pay for documented costs that the board incurs as a result of the additional connection.

If telephone or other electronic means is used to conduct a regular, special, or emergency meeting, the board shall provide notice of the regular meeting location, of the fact that some members may participate by telephone or other electronic means, and that a person may monitor the meeting electronically from a remote location. Any person monitoring the meeting electronically from a remote location may be required to pay documented costs incurred by the board as a result of the additional connection. The timing and method of providing notice is governed by section 13D.04.

Subd. 8. **Complaints.** (a) The board shall promptly forward to the commissioner the substance of any complaint or communication it receives, whether written or oral, that alleges or implies a violation of a statute, rule, or order that the commissioner has the authority to enforce pertaining to the license or registration of any person authorized by the department to provide high pressure piping services, the performance or offering to perform high pressure piping services requiring licensure by an unlicensed person, or high pressure code compliance. Each complaint or communication that is forwarded to the commissioner shall be submitted on a form provided by the commissioner.

(b) The commissioner shall advise the board of the status of the complaint within 90 days after the board's written submission is received, or within 90 days after the board is provided with a written request for additional information or documentation from the commissioner or the commissioner's designee, whichever is later. The commissioner shall advise the board of the disposition of a complaint referred by the board within 180 days after the board's written submission is received. The commissioner shall annually report to the board a summary of the actions taken in response to complaints referred by the board.

Subd. 9. **Data practices act.** The board is subject to Minnesota Statutes, chapter 13, the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, and shall protect from unlawful disclosure data classified as not public.

Subd. 10. **Official records.** The board shall make and preserve all records necessary to a full and accurate knowledge of its official activities in accordance with section 15.17.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007.

Sec. 11. **REVISOR'S INSTRUCTION.**

The revisor of statutes shall renumber each section of Minnesota Statutes listed in column A with the number listed in column B. The revisor shall also make necessary cross-reference changes consistent with the renumbering.

Column A

Column B

<u>326.46</u>	<u>326B.90</u>
<u>326.461</u>	<u>326B.91</u>
<u>326.47</u>	<u>326B.92</u>
<u>326.48</u>	<u>326B.93</u>
<u>326.50</u>	<u>326B.94</u>

## ARTICLE 11

### APPRENTICESHIP BOARD

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 178.01, is amended to read:

#### **178.01 PURPOSES.**

The purposes of this chapter are: to open to young people regardless of race, sex, creed, color or national origin, the opportunity to obtain training that will equip them for profitable employment and citizenship; to establish as a means to this end, a program of voluntary apprenticeship under approved apprentice agreements providing facilities for their training and guidance in the arts, skills, and crafts of industry and trade, with concurrent, supplementary instruction in related subjects; to promote employment opportunities under conditions providing adequate training and reasonable earnings; to relate the supply of skilled workers to employment demands; to establish standards for apprentice training; to establish an Apprenticeship Advisory Council Board and apprenticeship committees to assist in effectuating the purposes of this chapter; to provide for a Division of Labor Standards and Apprenticeship within the Department of Labor and Industry; to provide for reports to the legislature regarding the status of apprentice training in the state; to establish a procedure for the determination of apprentice agreement controversies; and to accomplish related ends.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 178.02, is amended to read:

#### **178.02 APPRENTICESHIP ~~ADVISORY COUNCIL~~ BOARD.**

Subdivision 1. **Members.** The commissioner of labor and industry, hereinafter called the commissioner, shall appoint an Apprenticeship ~~Advisory Council~~ Board, hereinafter referred to as the ~~council~~ board, composed of three representatives each from employer and employee organizations, and two representatives of the general public. The director of education responsible for career and technical education or designee shall be an ex officio member of the ~~council~~ board and shall serve in an advisory capacity only.

Subd. 2. **Terms.** The ~~council~~ board shall expire and the terms, compensation, and removal of appointed members shall be as provided in section 15.059, ~~except that the council shall not expire before June 30, 2003.~~

Subd. 4. **Duties.** The ~~council~~ board shall meet at the call of the commissioner. It shall propose occupational classifications for apprenticeship programs; propose minimum standards for apprenticeship programs and agreements; and advise on the establishment of such policies, procedures, and rules as the ~~commissioner~~ board deems necessary in implementing the intent of this chapter.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 178.03, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Duties and functions.** The director, under the supervision of the commissioner, and with the advice and consultation of the ~~Apprenticeship Advisory Council~~ Board, is authorized: to administer the provisions of this chapter; to promote apprenticeship and other forms of on the job training; to establish, in cooperation and consultation with the ~~Apprenticeship Advisory Council~~ Board and with the apprenticeship committees, conditions and training standards for the approval of apprenticeship programs and agreements, which conditions and standards shall in no case be lower than those prescribed by this chapter; to promote equal employment opportunity in apprenticeship and other on the job training and to establish a Minnesota plan for equal employment opportunity in apprenticeship which shall be consistent with standards established under Code of Federal Regulations, title 29, part 30, as amended; to issue certificates of registration to sponsors of approved apprenticeship programs; to act as secretary of the ~~Apprenticeship Advisory Council~~ Board; to approve, if of the opinion that approval is for the best interest of the apprentice, any apprenticeship agreement which meets the standards established hereunder; to terminate any apprenticeship agreement in accordance with the provisions of such agreement; to keep a record of apprenticeship agreements and their disposition; to issue certificates of completion of apprenticeship; and to perform such other duties as the commissioner deems necessary to carry out the intent of this chapter; provided, that the administration and supervision of supplementary instruction in related subjects for apprentices; coordination of instruction on a concurrent basis with job experiences, and the selection and training of teachers and coordinators for such instruction shall be the function of state and local boards responsible for vocational education. The director shall have the authority to make wage determinations applicable to the graduated schedule of wages and journeyman wage rate for apprenticeship agreements, giving consideration to the existing wage rates prevailing throughout the state, except that no wage determination by the director shall alter an existing wage provision for apprentices or journeymen that is contained in a bargaining agreement in effect between an employer and an organization of employees, nor shall the director make any determination for the beginning rate for an apprentice that is below the wage minimum established by federal or state law.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 178.041, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Rules.** The commissioner may, upon receipt of the ~~council's~~ board's proposals, accept, adopt, and issue them by rule with any modifications or amendments the commissioner finds appropriate. The commissioner may refer them back to the ~~council~~ board with recommendations for further study, consideration and revision. If the commissioner refuses to accept, adopt, and issue by rule or other appropriate action a board proposal, the commissioner must provide a written explanation of the reason for the refusal to the board within 30 days after the board submitted the proposal to the commissioner. Additional rules may be issued as the commissioner may deem necessary.

## ARTICLE 12

### CONFORMING CHANGES

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 31.175, is amended to read:

#### **31.175 WATER, PLUMBING, AND SEWAGE.**

A person who is required by statutes administered by the Department of Agriculture, or by rules adopted pursuant to those statutes, to provide a suitable water supply, or plumbing or sewage disposal system, may not engage in the business of manufacturing, processing, selling, handling, or

storing food at wholesale or retail unless the person's water supply is satisfactory under plumbing codes adopted by the Department of ~~Health~~ Labor and Industry and the person's sewage disposal system satisfies the rules of the Pollution Control Agency.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 103I.621, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Construction requirements.** (a) Withdrawal and reinjection for the groundwater thermal exchange device must be accomplished by a closed system in which the waters drawn for thermal exchange do not have contact or commingle with water from other sources or with polluting material or substances. The closed system must be constructed to allow an opening for inspection by the commissioner.

(b) Wells that are part of a groundwater thermal exchange system may not serve another function, except water may be supplied to the domestic water system if:

(1) the supply is taken from the thermal exchange system ahead of the heat exchange unit; and

(2) the domestic water system is protected by an airgap or backflow prevention device as described in rules relating to plumbing enforced by the commissioner of labor and industry.

(c) A groundwater thermal exchange system may be used for domestic water heating only if the water heating device is an integral part of the heat exchange unit that is used for space heating and cooling.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 144.122, is amended to read:

**144.122 LICENSE, PERMIT, AND SURVEY FEES.**

(a) The state commissioner of health, by rule, may prescribe procedures and fees for filing with the commissioner as prescribed by statute and for the issuance of original and renewal permits, licenses, registrations, and certifications issued under authority of the commissioner. The expiration dates of the various licenses, permits, registrations, and certifications as prescribed by the rules shall be plainly marked thereon. Fees may include application and examination fees and a penalty fee for renewal applications submitted after the expiration date of the previously issued permit, license, registration, and certification. The commissioner may also prescribe, by rule, reduced fees for permits, licenses, registrations, and certifications when the application therefor is submitted during the last three months of the permit, license, registration, or certification period. Fees proposed to be prescribed in the rules shall be first approved by the Department of Finance. All fees proposed to be prescribed in rules shall be reasonable. The fees shall be in an amount so that the total fees collected by the commissioner will, where practical, approximate the cost to the commissioner in administering the program. All fees collected shall be deposited in the state treasury and credited to the state government special revenue fund unless otherwise specifically appropriated by law for specific purposes.

(b) The commissioner may charge a fee for voluntary certification of medical laboratories and environmental laboratories, and for environmental and medical laboratory services provided by the department, without complying with paragraph (a) or chapter 14. Fees charged for environment and medical laboratory services provided by the department must be approximately equal to the costs of providing the services.

(c) The commissioner may develop a schedule of fees for diagnostic evaluations conducted at



clinics held by the services for children with disabilities program. All receipts generated by the program are annually appropriated to the commissioner for use in the maternal and child health program.

(d) The commissioner shall set license fees for hospitals and nursing homes that are not boarding care homes at the following levels:

Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) and American Osteopathic Association (AOA) hospitals	\$7,555 plus \$13 per bed
Non-JCAHO and non-AOA hospitals	\$5,180 plus \$247 per bed
Nursing home	\$183 plus \$91 per bed

The commissioner shall set license fees for outpatient surgical centers, boarding care homes, and supervised living facilities at the following levels:

Outpatient surgical centers	\$3,349
Boarding care homes	\$183 plus \$91 per bed
Supervised living facilities	\$183 plus \$91 per bed.

(e) Unless prohibited by federal law, the commissioner of health shall charge applicants the following fees to cover the cost of any initial certification surveys required to determine a provider's eligibility to participate in the Medicare or Medicaid program:

Prospective payment surveys for hospitals	\$900
Swing bed surveys for nursing homes	\$1,200
Psychiatric hospitals	\$1,400
Rural health facilities	\$1,100
Portable x-ray providers	\$500
Home health agencies	\$1,800
Outpatient therapy agencies	\$800
End stage renal dialysis providers	\$2,100
Independent therapists	\$800
Comprehensive rehabilitation outpatient facilities	\$1,200
Hospice providers	\$1,700
Ambulatory surgical providers	\$1,800
Hospitals	\$4,200
Other provider categories or additional resurveys required to complete initial certification	Actual surveyor costs: average surveyor cost x number of hours for the survey process.

These fees shall be submitted at the time of the application for federal certification and shall not be refunded. All fees collected after the date that the imposition of fees is not prohibited by federal law shall be deposited in the state treasury and credited to the state government special revenue fund.

~~(f) The commissioner shall charge the following fees for examinations, registrations, licenses, and inspections:~~

<del>Plumbing examination</del>	<del>\$ 50</del>
<del>Water conditioning examination</del>	<del>\$ 50</del>
<del>Plumbing bond registration fee</del>	<del>\$ 40</del>
<del>Water conditioning bond registration fee</del>	<del>\$ 40</del>
<del>Master plumber's license</del>	<del>\$120</del>
<del>Journeyman plumber's license</del>	<del>\$ 55</del>
<del>Apprentice registration</del>	<del>\$ 25</del>
<del>Water conditioning contractor license</del>	<del>\$ 70</del>
<del>Water conditioning installer license</del>	<del>\$ 35</del>
<del>Residential inspection fee (each visit)</del>	<del>\$ 50</del>
<del>Public, commercial, and industrial inspections</del>	<del>Inspection fee</del>
<del>25 or fewer drainage fixture units</del>	<del>\$ 300</del>
<del>26 to 50 drainage fixture units</del>	<del>\$ 900</del>
<del>51 to 150 drainage fixture units</del>	<del>\$1,200</del>
<del>151 to 249 drainage fixture units</del>	<del>\$1,500</del>
<del>250 or more drainage fixture units</del>	<del>\$1,800</del>
<del>Callback fee (each visit)</del>	<del>\$100</del>

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 144.99, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Remedies available.** The provisions of chapters 103I and 157 and sections 115.71 to 115.77; 144.12, subdivision 1, paragraphs (1), (2), (5), (6), (10), (12), (13), (14), and (15); 144.1201 to 144.1204; 144.121; 144.1222; 144.35; 144.381 to 144.385; 144.411 to 144.417; 144.495; 144.71 to 144.74; 144.9501 to 144.9509; 144.992; ~~326.37 to 326.45; 326.57~~ 326.70 to 326.785; 327.10 to 327.131; and 327.14 to 327.28 and all rules, orders, stipulation agreements, settlements, compliance agreements, licenses, registrations, certificates, and permits adopted or issued by the department or under any other law now in force or later enacted for the preservation of public health may, in addition to provisions in other statutes, be enforced under this section.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 175.16, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Established.** The Department of Labor and Industry shall consist of the following divisions: Division of Workers' Compensation, Division of ~~Boiler Inspection~~ Construction Codes

and Licensing, Division of Occupational Safety and Health, Division of Statistics, ~~Division of Steamfitting Standards~~, Division of Labor Standards and Apprenticeship, and such other divisions as the commissioner of the Department of Labor and Industry may deem necessary and establish. Each division of the department and persons in charge thereof shall be subject to the supervision of the commissioner of the Department of Labor and Industry and, in addition to such duties as are or may be imposed on them by statute, shall perform such other duties as may be assigned to them by the commissioner. Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, the commissioner is the administrator and supervisor of all of the department's dispute resolution functions and personnel and may delegate authority to compensation judges and others to make determinations under sections 176.106, 176.238, and 176.239 and to approve settlement of claims under section 176.521.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 214.01, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Non-health-related licensing board.** "Non-health-related licensing board" means the Board of Teaching established pursuant to section 122A.07, the Board of Barber Examiners established pursuant to section 154.001, the Board of Assessors established pursuant to section 270.41, the Board of Architecture, Engineering, Land Surveying, Landscape Architecture, Geoscience, and Interior Design established pursuant to section 326.04, ~~the Board of Electricity established pursuant to section 326.241~~, the Private Detective and Protective Agent Licensing Board established pursuant to section 326.33, the Board of Accountancy established pursuant to section 326A.02, and the Peace Officer Standards and Training Board established pursuant to section 626.841.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 214.04, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Services provided.** (a) ~~The commissioner of administration with respect to the Board of Electricity;~~ the commissioner of education with respect to the Board of Teaching; the commissioner of public safety with respect to the Board of Private Detective and Protective Agent Services; the panel established pursuant to section 299A.465, subdivision 7; the Board of Peace Officer Standards and Training; and the commissioner of revenue with respect to the Board of Assessors, shall provide suitable offices and other space, joint conference and hearing facilities, examination rooms, and the following administrative support services: purchasing service, accounting service, advisory personnel services, consulting services relating to evaluation procedures and techniques, data processing, duplicating, mailing services, automated printing of license renewals, and such other similar services of a housekeeping nature as are generally available to other agencies of state government. Investigative services shall be provided the boards by employees of the Office of Attorney General. The commissioner of health with respect to the health-related licensing boards shall provide mailing and office supply services and may provide other facilities and services listed in this subdivision at a central location upon request of the health-related licensing boards. The commissioner of commerce with respect to the remaining non-health-related licensing boards shall provide the above facilities and services at a central location for the remaining non-health-related licensing boards. The legal and investigative services for the boards shall be provided by employees of the attorney general assigned to the departments servicing the boards. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the attorney general shall not be precluded by this section from assigning other attorneys to service a board if necessary in order to insure competent and consistent legal representation. Persons providing legal and investigative services shall to the extent practicable provide the services on a regular basis to the same board or boards.

(b) The requirements in paragraph (a) with respect to the panel established in section 299A.465,

subdivision 7, expire July 1, 2008.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 214.04, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Officers; staff.** The executive director of each health-related board and the executive secretary of each non-health-related board shall be the chief administrative officer for the board but shall not be a member of the board. The executive director or executive secretary shall maintain the records of the board, account for all fees received by it, supervise and direct employees servicing the board, and perform other services as directed by the board. The executive directors, executive secretaries, and other employees of the following boards shall be hired by the board, and the executive directors or executive secretaries shall be in the unclassified civil service, except as provided in this subdivision:

- (1) Dentistry;
- (2) Medical Practice;
- (3) Nursing;
- (4) Pharmacy;
- (5) Accountancy;
- (6) Architecture, Engineering, Land Surveying, Landscape Architecture, Geoscience, and Interior Design;
- (7) Barber Examiners;
- (8) Cosmetology;
- ~~(9) Electricity;~~
- ~~(10) (9) Teaching;~~
- ~~(11) (10) Peace Officer Standards and Training;~~
- ~~(12) (11) Social Work;~~
- ~~(13) (12) Marriage and Family Therapy;~~
- ~~(14) (13) Dietetics and Nutrition Practice; and~~
- ~~(15) (14) Licensed Professional Counseling.~~

The executive directors or executive secretaries serving the boards are hired by those boards and are in the unclassified civil service, except for part-time executive directors or executive secretaries, who are not required to be in the unclassified service. Boards not requiring full-time executive directors or executive secretaries may employ them on a part-time basis. To the extent practicable, the sharing of part-time executive directors or executive secretaries by boards being serviced by the same department is encouraged. Persons providing services to those boards not listed in this subdivision, except executive directors or executive secretaries of the boards and employees of the attorney general, are classified civil service employees of the department servicing the board. To the extent practicable, the commissioner shall ensure that staff services are shared by the boards being serviced by the department. If necessary, a board may hire part-time, temporary employees to

administer and grade examinations.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.975, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Generally.** (a) In addition to any other fees, each applicant for a license under sections 326.83 to 326.98 shall pay a fee to the contractor's recovery fund. The contractor's recovery fund is created in the state treasury and must be administered by the commissioner in the manner and subject to all the requirements and limitations provided by section 82.43 with the following exceptions:

~~(1) each licensee who renews a license shall pay in addition to the appropriate renewal fee an additional fee which shall be credited to the contractor's recovery fund. The amount of the fee shall be based on the licensee's gross annual receipts for the licensee's most recent fiscal year preceding the renewal, on the following scale:~~

Fee	Gross Receipts
\$100	under \$1,000,000
\$150	\$1,000,000 to \$5,000,000
\$200	over \$5,000,000

~~Any person who receives a new license shall pay a fee based on the same scale;~~

~~(2)~~ (1) The purpose of this fund is:

(i) to compensate any aggrieved owner or lessee of residential property located within this state who obtains a final judgment in any court of competent jurisdiction against a licensee licensed under section 326.84, on grounds of fraudulent, deceptive, or dishonest practices, conversion of funds, or failure of performance arising directly out of any transaction when the judgment debtor was licensed and performed any of the activities enumerated under section 326.83, subdivision 19, on the owner's residential property or on residential property rented by the lessee, or on new residential construction which was never occupied prior to purchase by the owner, or which was occupied by the licensee for less than one year prior to purchase by the owner, and which cause of action arose on or after April 1, 1994; and

(ii) to reimburse the Department of Commerce for all legal and administrative expenses, including staffing costs, incurred in administering the fund;

~~(3)~~ (2) nothing may obligate the fund for more than \$50,000 per claimant, nor more than \$75,000 per licensee; and

~~(4)~~ (3) nothing may obligate the fund for claims based on a cause of action that arose before the licensee paid the recovery fund fee set in clause (1), or as provided in section 326.945, subdivision 3.

(b) Should the commissioner pay from the contractor's recovery fund any amount in settlement of a claim or toward satisfaction of a judgment against a licensee, the license shall be automatically suspended upon the effective date of an order by the court authorizing payment from the fund. No licensee shall be granted reinstatement until the licensee has repaid in full, plus interest at the rate of 12 percent a year, twice the amount paid from the fund on the licensee's account, and has obtained

a surety bond issued by an insurer authorized to transact business in this state in the amount of at least \$40,000.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 327.20, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Rules.** No domestic animals or house pets of occupants of manufactured home parks or recreational camping areas shall be allowed to run at large, or commit any nuisances within the limits of a manufactured home park or recreational camping area. Each manufactured home park or recreational camping area licensed under the provisions of sections 327.10, 327.11, 327.14 to 327.28 shall, among other things, provide for the following, in the manner hereinafter specified:

(1) A responsible attendant or caretaker shall be in charge of every manufactured home park or recreational camping area at all times, who shall maintain the park or area, and its facilities and equipment in a clean, orderly and sanitary condition. In any manufactured home park containing more than 50 lots, the attendant, caretaker, or other responsible park employee, shall be readily available at all times in case of emergency.

(2) All manufactured home parks shall be well drained and be located so that the drainage of the park area will not endanger any water supply. No wastewater from manufactured homes or recreational camping vehicles shall be deposited on the surface of the ground. All sewage and other water carried wastes shall be discharged into a municipal sewage system whenever available. When a municipal sewage system is not available, a sewage disposal system acceptable to the state commissioner of health shall be provided.

(3) No manufactured home shall be located closer than three feet to the side lot lines of a manufactured home park, if the abutting property is improved property, or closer than ten feet to a public street or alley. Each individual site shall abut or face on a driveway or clear unoccupied space of not less than 16 feet in width, which space shall have unobstructed access to a public highway or alley. There shall be an open space of at least ten feet between the sides of adjacent manufactured homes including their attachments and at least three feet between manufactured homes when parked end to end. The space between manufactured homes may be used for the parking of motor vehicles and other property, if the vehicle or other property is parked at least ten feet from the nearest adjacent manufactured home position. The requirements of this paragraph shall not apply to recreational camping areas and variances may be granted by the state commissioner of health in manufactured home parks when the variance is applied for in writing and in the opinion of the commissioner the variance will not endanger the health, safety, and welfare of manufactured home park occupants.

(4) An adequate supply of water of safe, sanitary quality shall be furnished at each manufactured home park or recreational camping area. The source of the water supply shall first be approved by the state Department of Health.

(5) All plumbing shall be installed in accordance with the rules of the state commissioner of ~~health~~ labor and industry and the provisions of the Minnesota Plumbing Code.

(6) In the case of a manufactured home park with less than ten manufactured homes, a plan for the sheltering or the safe evacuation to a safe place of shelter of the residents of the park in times of severe weather conditions, such as tornadoes, high winds, and floods. The shelter or evacuation plan

shall be developed with the assistance and approval of the municipality where the park is located and shall be posted at conspicuous locations throughout the park. The park owner shall provide each resident with a copy of the approved shelter or evacuation plan, as provided by section 327C.01, subdivision 1c. Nothing in this paragraph requires the Department of Health to review or approve any shelter or evacuation plan developed by a park. Failure of a municipality to approve a plan submitted by a park shall not be grounds for action against the park by the Department of Health if the park has made a good faith effort to develop the plan and obtain municipal approval.

(7) A manufactured home park with ten or more manufactured homes, licensed prior to March 1, 1988, shall provide a safe place of shelter for park residents or a plan for the evacuation of park residents to a safe place of shelter within a reasonable distance of the park for use by park residents in times of severe weather, including tornadoes and high winds. The shelter or evacuation plan must be approved by the municipality by March 1, 1989. The municipality may require the park owner to construct a shelter if it determines that a safe place of shelter is not available within a reasonable distance from the park. A copy of the municipal approval and the plan shall be submitted by the park owner to the Department of Health. The park owner shall provide each resident with a copy of the approved shelter or evacuation plan, as provided by section 327C.01, subdivision 1c.

(8) A manufactured home park with ten or more manufactured homes, receiving a primary license after March 1, 1988, must provide the type of shelter required by section 327.205, except that for manufactured home parks established as temporary, emergency housing in a disaster area declared by the President of the United States or the governor, an approved evacuation plan may be provided in lieu of a shelter for a period not exceeding 18 months.

(9) For the purposes of this subdivision, "park owner" and "resident" have the meaning given them in section 327C.01.

Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 327.205, is amended to read:

**327.205 SHELTER CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS.**

The commissioner of ~~administration~~ labor and industry shall adopt, by rule, minimum standards for the construction of low cost manufactured home park storm shelters by March 1, 1988. All shelters constructed after March 1, 1988, shall be constructed in accordance with these standards.

Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 327A.01, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Building standards.** "Building standards" means the materials and installation standards of the State Building Code, adopted by the commissioner of ~~administration~~ labor and industry pursuant to sections 16B.59 to 16B.75, in effect at the time of the construction or remodeling.

Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 363A.40, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** The definitions in this subdivision apply to this section.

(a) "Accessible unit" means an accessible rental housing unit that meets the ~~disability facility~~ persons with disabilities requirements of the State Building Code, ~~Minnesota Rules, chapter 1340.~~

(b) "Landlord" has the meaning given it in section 504B.001, subdivision 7.

Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 462.357, subdivision 6a, is amended to read:

Subd. 6a. **Normal residential surroundings for ~~disabled persons with disabilities~~.** It is the policy of this state that ~~disabled persons and children with disabilities~~ should not be excluded by municipal zoning ordinances or other land use regulations from the benefits of normal residential surroundings. For purposes of subdivisions 6a through 9, "person" has the meaning given in section 245A.02, subdivision 11.

Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 462A.07, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

Subd. 8. **State Building Code.** It may assist the commissioner of ~~administration~~ labor and industry in the development, implementation and revision of ~~a uniform~~ the State Building Code.

Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 471.465, is amended to read:

**471.465 PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES; BUILDING REGULATIONS; DEFINITIONS.**

Subdivision 1. **Scope.** For the purposes of sections 471.465 to 471.469, the terms defined in this section have the meanings given them.

Subd. 2. **Buildings and facilities.** "Buildings and facilities" means any and all buildings and facilities and the grounds appurtenant thereto within any city, township or other governmental subdivision of the state other than all farm dwellings and buildings and single and two family dwellings. However, on the date on which rules promulgated by the commissioner of ~~administration~~ labor and industry regarding building requirements for ~~disabled persons with disabilities~~ shall become effective, "buildings and facilities" shall mean only those structures which must provide facilities for ~~the disabled persons with disabilities~~ pursuant to said rules.

Subd. 3. **~~Physically disabled~~ Persons with disabilities.** "~~Physically disabled~~ Persons with disabilities" means and includes people having sight disabilities, hearing disabilities, disabilities of incoordination, disabilities of aging, and any other disability that significantly reduces mobility, flexibility, coordination, or perceptiveness.

Subd. 4. **Remodeling.** "Remodeling" means deliberate reconstruction of an existing building or facility in whole or in part in order to bring it up to date to conform with present uses of the structure and to conform with rules and regulations on the upgrading of health and safety aspects of structures.

Subd. 5. **Local authority.** "Local authority" means the local authority having jurisdiction over local building construction.

Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 471.466, is amended to read:

**471.466 ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT.**

The duty and power to administer and enforce sections 471.465 to 471.469 is conferred upon and vested in the commissioner of ~~administration~~ labor and industry and the local authority.

Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 471.467, is amended to read:

**471.467 BUILDING REQUIREMENTS; CONFORMITY.**

Subdivision 1. **Date applicable.** On the date on which rules promulgated by the commissioner



of ~~administration~~ labor and industry regarding building requirements for ~~disabled persons with disabilities~~ shall become effective, said rules shall exclusively govern the provision of facilities.

Subd. 2. **No remodeling if solely for disabled persons with disabilities.** Nothing in sections 471.465 to 471.469 shall be construed to require the remodeling of buildings solely to provide accessibility and usability to ~~the physically disabled persons with disabilities~~ when remodeling would not otherwise be undertaken.

Subd. 3. **Applies to remodeled part.** When any building or facility covered by sections 471.465 to 471.469 undergoes remodeling either in whole or in part, that portion of the building or facility remodeled shall conform to the requirements of sections 471.465 to 471.469.

Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 471.471, is amended to read:

**471.471 ACCESS REVIEW BOARD.**

Subdivision 1. **Membership.** The Access Review Board consists of:

(1) a representative of the ~~Building Code and Standards Division of the Department of Administration~~ Labor and Industry, appointed by the commissioner of ~~administration~~ labor and industry;

(2) a representative of the state fire marshal's office, appointed by the commissioner of public safety;

(3) the commissioner of human rights or the commissioner's designee;

(4) a representative of the elevator safety section, designated by the commissioner of labor and industry or the commissioner's designee; and

(5) the chair of the Council on Disability or the chair's designee.

The board shall elect a chair from among its members. Terms of members coincide with the terms of their appointing authorities or, in the case of ex officio members or their designees, with the terms of the offices by virtue of which they are members of the board. Compensation of members is governed by section 15.0575, subdivision 3.

Subd. 2. **Staff; administrative support.** The commissioner of ~~administration~~ labor and industry shall furnish staff, office space, and administrative support to the board. Staff assigned to the board must be knowledgeable with respect to access codes, site surveys, plan design, and product use and eligibility.

Subd. 3. **Duties.** The board shall consider applications for waivers from the State Building Code to permit the installation of stairway chair lifts to provide limited accessibility for ~~the physically disabled persons with disabilities~~ to buildings in which the provision of access by means permitted under the State Building Code is not architecturally or financially possible. In considering applications, the board shall review other possible access options. The board may approve an application for installation of a stairway chair when the board determines that the installation would be appropriate and no other means of access is possible. In determining whether to approve an application, the board shall consider:

(1) the need for limited accessibility when a higher degree of accessibility is not required by

state or federal law or rule;

(2) the architectural feasibility of providing a greater degree of accessibility than would be provided by the proposed device or equipment;

(3) the total cost of the proposed device or equipment over its projected usable life, including installation, maintenance, and replacement costs;

(4) the reliability of the proposed device or equipment;

(5) the applicant's ability to comply with all recognized access and safety standards for installation and maintenance; and

(6) whether the proposed device or equipment can be operated and used without reducing or compromising minimum safety standards.

The board shall consider the applicant's demonstrated inability to afford a greater degree of accessibility, but may not give greater weight to this factor than to the factors listed in clauses (1) to (6). The board may not approve an application unless the applicant guarantees that the device or equipment will be installed and operated in accordance with nationally recognized standards for such devices or equipment and agrees to obtain any permits needed from the agency responsible for enforcing those standards.

Subd. 4. **Application process.** A person seeking a waiver shall apply to the ~~Building Code and Standards Division of the Department of Administration~~ Labor and Industry on a form prescribed by the board and pay a \$70 fee to the construction code fund. The division shall review the application to determine whether it appears to be meritorious, using the standards set out in subdivision 3. The division shall forward applications it considers meritorious to the board, along with a list and summary of applications considered not to be meritorious. The board may require the division to forward to it an application the division has considered not to be meritorious. The board shall issue a decision on an application within 90 days of its receipt. A board decision to approve an application must be unanimous. An application that contains false or misleading information must be rejected.

Subd. 5. **Liability.** Board members are immune from liability for personal injury or death resulting from the use or misuse of a device or equipment installed and operated under a waiver granted by the board.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007.

## ARTICLE 13

### TRANSFER; REPEALER; EFFECTIVE DATE

#### Section 1. **TRANSFER.**

The commissioner of labor and industry shall transfer \$1,627,000 by June 30, 2008, and \$1,515,000 by June 30, 2009, and each year thereafter from the construction code fund to the general fund. If an annual transfer for this purpose is enacted more than once in the 2007 session, the annual transfer is effective only once.

#### Sec. 2. **APPROPRIATION REDUCTIONS.**

(a) The general fund appropriation to the commissioner of labor and industry is reduced by \$2,800,000 in fiscal year 2008 and \$2,862,000 in fiscal year 2009 and each fiscal year thereafter. If an annual appropriation reduction for this purpose is enacted more than once in the 2007 session, the annual reduction is effective only once.

(b) The state government special revenue fund appropriation to the commissioner of labor and industry is reduced by \$1,874,000 in fiscal year 2008 and \$1,918,000 in fiscal year 2009 and each fiscal year thereafter. If an annual appropriation reduction for this purpose is enacted more than once in the 2007 session, the annual reduction is effective only once.

**Sec. 3. REPEALER.**

(a) Minnesota Statutes 2006, sections 16B.665; 183.001; 183.02; 183.375, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6; 183.41, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, and 4; 183.44, subdivisions 1, 2, and 3; 183.52; 183.54, subdivision 2; 183.61, subdivisions 1, 3, 5, and 6; 326.01, subdivisions 4, 6h, 10, 11, and 12; 326.242, subdivisions 4, 9, 9a, 9b, 9c, 9d, 9e, 9f, 9g, 9h, 9i, 9j, 9k, and 10; 326.244, subdivision 6; 326.246; 326.2461; 326.40, subdivision 4; 326.41; 326.45; 326.47, subdivision 5; 326.51; 326.521; 326.83, subdivisions 3, 4, 12, and 13; 326.85; 326.875; 326.91, subdivisions 2, 3, and 4; 326.945; 326.975; 326.98; and 327B.05, subdivisions 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6, are repealed.

(b) Minnesota Statutes 2006, sections 16B.747, subdivision 4; 183.375, subdivision 5; 183.545, subdivision 9; 326.01, subdivision 13; 326.44; 326.52; and 326.64, are repealed.

(c) Minnesota Rules, parts 2809.0230; 2891.0010; 2891.0030; 3800.2650; 3800.3580; 3800.3590; 3800.3630; 3800.3750; 3800.3835; 4715.5600; 4715.5900; 4717.7000, subpart 1, item I; 5225.0880; 5225.8600, subparts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9; 5230.0010; 5230.0020; 5230.0040; 5230.0060, subpart 2; and 5230.0100, subparts 1, 3, and 4, are repealed.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** Paragraphs (a) and (c) are effective December 1, 2007. Paragraph (b) is effective July 1, 2007.

**Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

This act is effective December 1, 2007, except when another date is specified. The revisor's instructions contained in this act shall be implemented for the 2008 edition of Minnesota Statutes."

Delete the title and insert:

"A bill for an act relating to state government; changing provisions for construction codes and licensing provisions; providing penalties and enforcement; instructing the revisor to renumber certain statutory sections; appropriating money; amending Minnesota Statutes 2006, sections 16B.04, subdivision 2; 16B.60, subdivisions 4, 7, 8, 11; 16B.61; 16B.615, subdivision 4; 16B.617; 16B.6175; 16B.63; 16B.64, by adding a subdivision; 16B.65; 16B.70; 16B.72; 16B.73; 16B.735; 16B.74, subdivisions 1, 2, by adding subdivisions; 16B.741; 16B.744; 16B.745, subdivisions 1, 4; 16B.747; 16B.748; 16B.76; 31.175; 103I.621, subdivision 3; 144.122; 144.99, subdivision 1; 175.16, subdivision 1; 178.01; 178.02; 178.03, subdivision 3; 178.041, subdivision 1; 183.38; 183.39, subdivision 1; 183.411, subdivision 2; 183.42; 183.45; 183.46; 183.465; 183.466; 183.48; 183.501; 183.505; 183.51; 183.54, subdivisions 1, 3; 183.545, by adding a subdivision; 183.56; 183.57, subdivisions 1, 2, 5, 6; 183.59; 183.60; 183.61, subdivisions 2, 4; 214.01, subdivision 3; 214.04, subdivisions 1, 3; 299F.011, subdivision 1; 325E.37, subdivision 6; 325E.58; 326.01, subdivisions 2, 3, 5, 6, 6a, 6b, 6c, 6e, 6f, 6g, 6j, 6k, 6l, 7, 8, by adding subdivisions; 326.242;

326.243; 326.244, subdivisions 1a, 2, 3, 4, 5, by adding a subdivision; 326.2441; 326.245; 326.248; 326.37; 326.38; 326.39; 326.40; 326.401; 326.405; 326.42; 326.46; 326.461, by adding subdivisions; 326.47; 326.48; 326.50; 326.57, subdivision 1; 326.58; 326.59; 326.60; 326.601; 326.61, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, 4; 326.62; 326.65; 326.83, subdivisions 6, 7, 11, 18, 19, 20; 326.84; 326.841; 326.842; 326.86; 326.87; 326.88; 326.89; 326.90, subdivision 1; 326.91, subdivision 1; 326.92; 326.921; 326.93; 326.94; 326.95, subdivision 2; 326.96; 326.97; 326.975, subdivision 1; 326.992; 327.20, subdivision 1; 327.205; 327.31, subdivisions 2, 3, 4, 7, 15, by adding a subdivision; 327.32, subdivision 8; 327.33, subdivisions 2, 6, 7; 327.34, subdivision 3; 327.35, subdivisions 1, 2; 327A.01, subdivision 2; 327B.01, subdivisions 4, 5, 7, 17, by adding subdivisions; 327B.04, subdivisions 1, 4, 6, 7, 8, by adding a subdivision; 327B.05, subdivision 1; 327B.10; 363A.40, subdivision 1; 462.357, subdivision 6a; 462A.07, subdivision 8; 471.465; 471.466; 471.467; 471.471; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapters 326; 327B; proposing coding for new law as Minnesota Statutes, chapter 326B; repealing Minnesota Statutes 2006, sections 16B.665; 16B.747, subdivision 4; 183.001; 183.02; 183.375, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6; 183.41, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, 4; 183.44, subdivisions 1, 2, 3; 183.52; 183.54, subdivision 2; 183.545, subdivision 9; 183.61, subdivisions 1, 3, 5, 6; 326.01, subdivisions 4, 6h, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13; 326.241; 326.242, subdivisions 4, 9, 9a, 9b, 9c, 9d, 9e, 9f, 9g, 9h, 9i, 9j, 9k, 10; 326.244, subdivision 6; 326.246; 326.2461; 326.247; 326.40, subdivision 4; 326.41; 326.44; 326.45; 326.47, subdivision 5; 326.51; 326.52; 326.521; 326.64; 326.83, subdivisions 3, 4, 12, 13; 326.85; 326.875; 326.91, subdivisions 2, 3, 4; 326.945; 326.975; 326.98; 327B.05, subdivisions 2, 3, 4, 5, 6; Minnesota Rules, parts 2809.0230; 2891.0010; 2891.0030; 3800.2650; 3800.3580; 3800.3590; 3800.3630; 3800.3750; 3800.3835; 4715.5600; 4715.5900; 4717.7000, subpart 1, item I; 5225.0880; 5225.8600, subparts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9; 5230.0010; 5230.0020; 5230.0040; 5230.0060, subpart 2; 5230.0100, subparts 1, 3, 4."

And when so amended the bill do pass and be re-referred to the Committee on Business, Industry and Jobs. Amendments adopted. Report adopted.

### MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS - CONTINUED

Senator Pogemiller, for Senator Bakk, moved that S.F. No. 1933, No. 35 on General Orders, be stricken and re-referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration. The motion prevailed.

Without objection, remaining on the Order of Business of Motions and Resolutions, the Senate reverted to the Order of Business of Messages From the House.

### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

Mr. President:

I have the honor to announce the passage by the House of the following Senate File, AS AMENDED by the House, in which amendments the concurrence of the Senate is respectfully requested:

**S.F. No. 2226:** A bill for an act relating to state government; clarifying private cemeteries; amending Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 307.08.

Senate File No. 2226 is herewith returned to the Senate.

Albin A. Mathiowetz, Chief Clerk, House of Representatives

Returned May 15, 2007

Senator Vickerman moved that the Senate do not concur in the amendments by the House to S.F. No. 2226, and that a Conference Committee of 3 members be appointed by the Subcommittee on Conference Committees on the part of the Senate, to act with a like Conference Committee appointed on the part of the House. The motion prevailed.

Mr. President:

I have the honor to announce the passage by the House of the following Senate File, AS AMENDED by the House, in which amendments the concurrence of the Senate is respectfully requested:

**S.F. No. 1048:** A bill for an act relating to state government; changing the state Indian Affairs Council; amending Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 3.922.

Senate File No. 1048 is herewith returned to the Senate.

Albin A. Mathiowetz, Chief Clerk, House of Representatives

Returned May 15, 2007

Senator Lourey moved that the Senate do not concur in the amendments by the House to S.F. No. 1048, and that a Conference Committee of 3 members be appointed by the Subcommittee on Conference Committees on the part of the Senate, to act with a like Conference Committee appointed on the part of the House. The motion prevailed.

Mr. President:

I have the honor to announce the passage by the House of the following Senate File, AS AMENDED by the House, in which amendments the concurrence of the Senate is respectfully requested:

**S.F. No. 1333:** A bill for an act relating to commerce; enacting a car buyers' bill of rights; requiring disclosures; regulating the sale of "certified" used motor vehicles; requiring a cancellation option on purchase of a used motor vehicle; amending Minnesota Statutes 2006, sections 53C.01, by adding subdivisions; 53C.08, by adding a subdivision; 325F.662, subdivision 10, by adding subdivisions; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 53C.

Senate File No. 1333 is herewith returned to the Senate.

Albin A. Mathiowetz, Chief Clerk, House of Representatives

Returned May 15, 2007

Senator Latz moved that the Senate do not concur in the amendments by the House to S.F. No. 1333, and that a Conference Committee of 3 members be appointed by the Subcommittee on Conference Committees on the part of the Senate, to act with a like Conference Committee appointed on the part of the House. The motion prevailed.

**RECESS**

Senator Pogemiller moved that the Senate do now recess subject to the call of the President. The motion prevailed.

After a brief recess, the President called the Senate to order.

**MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS - CONTINUED**

Without objection, remaining on the Order of Business of Motions and Resolutions, the Senate reverted to the Orders of Business of Reports of Committees, Second Reading of Senate Bills and Second Reading of House Bills.

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

Senator Pogemiller moved that the Committee Reports at the Desk be now adopted. The motion prevailed.

**Senator Cohen from the Committee on Finance, to which was referred**

**S.F. No. 2287:** A bill for an act relating to capital improvements; authorizing the issuance of state bonds; appropriating money to design renovation of buildings in the Capitol complex.

Reports the same back with the recommendation that the bill be amended as follows:

Page 1, line 6, delete "\$750,000" and insert "\$24,000"

Page 1, line 15, delete "\$4,000,000" and insert "\$4,700,000"

Page 2, line 1, delete the first "this" and insert "the approved concept plan,"

Page 2, delete lines 3 and 4

Page 2, line 5, delete "(c)" and insert "(b)"

Page 2, line 6, delete "chair of the Committee"

Page 2, line 7, delete "on Rules and Administration" and insert "president"

Page 2, line 11, delete "\$4,000,000" and insert "\$4,700,000"

And when so amended the bill do pass and be re-referred to the Committee on Capital Investment. Amendments adopted. Report adopted.

**Senator Cohen from the Committee on Finance, to which was re-referred**

**S.F. No. 430:** A bill for an act relating to retirement; various retirement plans; authorizing an optional annuity election for the surviving spouse of a deceased former legislator; permitting the optional early division of legislators retirement plan retirement allowances upon a marriage dissolution; expanding the membership of the general state employees retirement plan and the

State Patrol retirement plan; permitting withholding of insurance premiums from public safety employee annuities; providing special coverage to privatized employees of Lakefield Nursing Home, Lakeview Nursing Home, Oakland Park Nursing Home, and Hutchinson Area Health Care; permitting various prior service credit purchases; exempting certain Anoka County employees from reemployed annuitant earnings limitations; permitting certain combined service annuity back payments; permitting a delayed disability benefit application; making various administrative changes in various statewide retirement plans; modifying disability determination procedures and disability benefits in various plans administered by the Public Employees Retirement Association; authorizing investment in the State Board of Investment by the Minneapolis Employees Retirement Fund; relaxing certain Minneapolis Employees Retirement Fund liquidity transfer requirements; expanding the coverage group of the state employees correctional retirement plan to include various Department of Corrections and Department of Human Services employees; modifying various aspects of the volunteer fire supplemental benefit coverage; correcting various 2006 drafting errors; replacing the investment-related postretirement adjustment mechanism for the St. Paul Teachers Retirement Fund Association with a cost of living adjustment mechanism; extending the St. Paul Teachers Retirement Fund Association amortization target date; modifying certain Minneapolis Police Relief Association surviving spouse benefit amounts and validating prior payments; increasing the amount available for distribution by the Minneapolis Firefighters Relief Association as a postretirement adjustment; including the Public Employees Retirement Association staff in the state's postretirement option; extending the 2006 special retirement incentive to 2009 and making certain modifications; authorizing an additional postretirement adjustment for surviving spouses receiving benefits from the Thief River Falls Police Trust Fund; amending Minnesota Statutes 2006, sections 3.85, subdivision 10; 3A.02, subdivisions 1, 5; 3A.05; 13.632, subdivision 1; 43A.346, subdivisions 1, 2; 126C.41, subdivision 4; 352.01, subdivisions 2a, 2b, 11; 352.12, subdivision 2a; 352.27; 352.91, subdivisions 3d, 3e, 3f, 4b; 352.951; 352.98, by adding a subdivision; 352B.01, subdivision 2; 352D.02, subdivisions 1, 3; 352D.06, subdivision 3; 353.01, subdivisions 2a, 2b, 6, 16, 28, 37, by adding subdivisions; 353.03, subdivisions 3, 3a, 4; 353.27, by adding a subdivision; 353.28, subdivision 6; 353.29, subdivision 3; 353.30, subdivisions 1a, 1b, 1c; 353.32, subdivisions 1a, 1b; 353.33, subdivisions 1, 2, 4, 6, 7a; 353.34, subdivision 3; 353.651, subdivision 4; 353.656, subdivisions 1, 1a, 3, 4, 5a, 6a, 8, 10, by adding subdivisions; 353.657, subdivisions 1, 2, 2a, 3; 353B.08, subdivision 11; 353E.06, subdivisions 1, 2, 4, 8; 353F.02, subdivision 4; 353F.04, subdivision 1; 354.05, subdivision 13; 354.093; 354.094; 354.095; 354.096, subdivision 2; 354.35; 354.44, subdivision 6; 354.45, subdivision 1a; 354.48, subdivision 3; 354A.12, subdivisions 3b, 3c, 3d; 354A.29, subdivisions 3, 4; 354B.21, subdivision 3; 355.01, subdivision 3h; 356.195, subdivision 1; 356.215, subdivision 11; 356.405; 356.46, subdivision 3; 356.87; 356A.06, subdivision 6; 422A.01, subdivision 13a; 422A.05, subdivision 2c; 422A.06, subdivisions 3, 5, 7, 8; 422A.101, subdivision 3; 423A.02, subdivisions 3, 5; 423B.10, subdivision 1; 423C.06, subdivision 2; 424A.10, subdivisions 1, 2, 3; 490.121, subdivisions 15a, 21f; 626.84, subdivision 1; Laws 1981, chapter 68, section 42, subdivision 1, as amended; Laws 2006, chapter 271, article 2, sections 12, subdivision 1; 13, subdivision 3; article 3, section 43; article 14, section 2, subdivision 3; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapters 3A; 352; 353; 353E; 354; 356; repealing Minnesota Statutes 2006, sections 352.031; 353.30, subdivision 1; 353.33, subdivisions 6a, 6b, 8; 353.34, subdivision 7; 353.656, subdivisions 5, 9, 11, 12; 353.69; 354.071; 354.49, subdivision 5; 354A.12, subdivision 3d; 354A.29, subdivision 6; 356.90; 422A.101, subdivision 4.

Reports the same back with the recommendation that the bill be amended as follows:

Page 108, delete article 7

Renumber the articles in sequence

Amend the title as follows:

Page 1, line 23, delete everything after the semicolon

Page 1, delete lines 24 and 25

Page 1, line 26, delete everything before "modifying"

Amend the title numbers accordingly

And when so amended the bill do pass. Amendments adopted. Report adopted.

**Senator Cohen from the Committee on Finance, to which was re-referred**

**S.F. No. 1196:** A bill for an act relating to housing; creating the Minnesota manufactured home relocation trust fund; requiring that a manufactured home park owner make specified payments to the trust fund; requiring an owner of a manufactured home who rents a lot in a manufactured home park to make an annual payment to the trust fund; amending Minnesota Statutes 2006, sections 327C.095, subdivisions 1, 4, by adding subdivisions; 462A.21, by adding a subdivision; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 462A.

Reports the same back with the recommendation that the bill be amended as follows:

Page 2, lines 2, 18, 21, and 35, delete "third-party" and after "neutral" insert "third party"

Page 2, line 25, before "third" insert "neutral"

Page 2, line 32, delete "such" and insert "the"

Page 3, line 5, after "receipt" insert "of invoice"

Page 3, line 6, delete "third-party" and after "neutral" insert "third party"

Page 3, line 36, delete everything after "and" and insert "post on the department's Web site"

Page 4, line 1, delete "circulation to its residents,"

Page 4, line 6, delete "community" and insert "park"

Page 4, line 11, before the period, insert ", sent to both the commissioner of finance and the commissioner of the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency"

Page 4, line 14, delete "third-party" and after "neutral" insert "third party"

Page 5, lines 3, 20, and 29, delete "third-party" and after "neutral" insert "third party"

Page 5, line 18, delete "third-party" and after "neutral" insert "third party has acted reasonably and"

Page 6, lines 17, 20, and 32, delete "third-party" and after "neutral" insert "third party"



Page 6, line 31, after the period, insert "Nothing in this paragraph is intended to increase the liability of the park owner."

Page 6, line 34, delete "In such an event,"

Page 6, line 36, after the period, insert "The agency shall notify the chairs of the senate Finance Committee and house of representatives Ways and Means Committee by January 15 of each year of the amount of any insufficiencies encountered during the previous calendar year."

Page 7, delete section 7

Page 8, line 30, after the period, insert "Money in the fund is appropriated to the agency for these purposes and to the commissioner of finance to pay costs incurred by the commissioner of finance to administer the fund."

Page 8, after line 30, insert:

**"Sec. 9. ADVANCES TO THE MINNESOTA MANUFACTURED HOME RELOCATION TRUST FUND.**

(a) The Minnesota Housing Finance Agency may advance money from state appropriations or other resources to the Minnesota manufactured home relocation trust fund established under Minnesota Statutes, section 462A.40, in the event that money in the Minnesota manufactured home relocation trust fund is insufficient to pay the amounts claimed under Minnesota Statutes, section 327.095, subdivision 13. This paragraph sunsets on June 30, 2009.

(b) The Minnesota Housing Finance Agency shall be reimbursed from the Minnesota manufactured home relocation trust fund for any money advanced by the agency under paragraph (a) to the fund. Applications for payment to manufactured home owners shall be paid before reimbursement of money advanced by the agency to the fund."

Page 9, line 5, after the period, insert "Section 6 does not apply to proceedings initiated before the effective date under a local ordinance that provides for compensation for manufactured home owners for the closure or relocation of a manufactured home park, if final action in the proceedings is completed by August 1, 2007."

Renumber the sections in sequence

Amend the title accordingly

And when so amended the bill do pass. Amendments adopted. Report adopted.

**Senator Pogemiller from the Committee on Rules and Administration, to which was referred**

**H.F. No. 548:** A bill for an act relating to state government; requiring state agencies to consider former employees before contracting out previously eliminated jobs; amending Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16C.08, subdivision 2.

Reports the same back with the recommendation that the bill be amended as follows:

Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

**"ARTICLE 1****STATE GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS****Section 1. SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

The amounts shown in this section summarize direct appropriations, by fund, made in this article.

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>General</u>	\$ 357,713,000	\$ 319,107,000	\$ 676,820,000
<u>Health Care Access</u>	\$ 1,871,000	\$ 1,912,000	\$ 3,783,000
<u>State Government Special Revenue</u>	2,119,000	2,124,000	4,243,000
<u>Environmental Remediation</u>	442,000	448,000	890,000
<u>Special Revenue</u>	250,000	250,000	500,000
<u>Highway User Tax Distribution</u>	6,843,000	3,839,000	10,682,000
<u>Workers' Compensation</u>	2,139,000	2,183,000	4,322,000
<u>Workers' Compensation</u>	7,640,000	7,350,000	14,990,000
<b><u>Total</u></b>	<b>\$ 379,017,000</b>	<b>\$ 337,213,000</b>	<b>\$ 716,230,000</b>

**Sec. 2. STATE GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS.**

The sums shown in the columns marked "appropriations" are appropriated to the agencies and for the purposes specified in this article. The appropriations are from the general fund, or another named fund, and are available for the fiscal years indicated for each purpose. The figures "2008" and "2009" used in this article mean that the appropriations listed under them are available for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, or June 30, 2009, respectively. "The first year" is fiscal year 2008. "The second year" is fiscal year 2009. "The biennium" is fiscal years 2008 and 2009.

**APPROPRIATIONS**  
**Available for the Year**  
**Ending June 30**  
**2008**                      **2009**

**Sec. 3. LEGISLATURE**

**Subdivision 1. Total Appropriation**                      **\$ 76,494,000**                      **\$ 71,544,000**

**Appropriations by Fund**

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>
<u>General</u>	76,316,000	71,366,000
<u>Health Care Access</u>	178,000	178,000

The amounts that may be spent for each purpose are specified in the following subdivisions.

<u>Subd. 2. <b>Senate</b></u>	<u>26,320,000</u>	<u>23,677,000</u>
<u>Subd. 3. <b>House of Representatives</b></u>	<u>33,168,000</u>	<u>31,746,000</u>

During the biennium ending June 30, 2009, any revenues received by the house of representatives from sponsorship notices in broadcast or print media are appropriated to the house of representatives.

<u>Subd. 4. <b>Legislative Coordinating Commission</b></u>	<u>16,988,000</u>	<u>16,121,000</u>
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Appropriations by Fund

<u>General</u>	<u>16,810,000</u>	<u>15,943,000</u>
<u>Health Care Access</u>	<u>178,000</u>	<u>178,000</u>

(a) \$5,624,000 the first year and \$5,469,000 the second year are for the Office of the Revisor of Statutes.

(b) \$1,257,000 the first year and \$1,254,000 the second year are for the Legislative Reference Library.

(c) \$5,719,000 the first year and \$5,720,000 the second year are for the Office of the Legislative Auditor.

(d) \$750,000 the first year is to the Legislative Coordinating Commission for a facilitated planning process relating to the Capitol building and the Capitol campus. The process must be conducted in cooperation with the Capitol Area Architectural and Planning Board and the commissioner of administration, and must include consideration of issues relating to renovation and possible expansion of the Capitol building, phasing strategies relating to renovation of the Capitol, and related campus planning issues. The process must include consideration of as many options as feasible relating to renovation of the Capitol and related campus buildings. The process

must be completed by September 30, 2007.

(e) All legislative offices should, whenever possible, implement information technology systems that are compatible and work seamlessly across the legislature. Wherever possible, single systems should be implemented to avoid unnecessary duplication and inefficiency. The directors of information technology for the senate, house of representatives, and the Legislative Coordinating Commission must submit a written report describing their efforts to collaborate on implementing shared information technology systems. The report must be submitted to the chairs of the house of representatives and senate committees with jurisdiction over rules and to the Legislative Coordinating Commission on January 15, 2008, and January 15, 2009.

**Sec. 4. GOVERNOR AND LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR**

\$	<u>3,679,000</u>	\$	<u>3,777,000</u>
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(a) This appropriation is to fund the Office of the Governor and Lieutenant Governor.

\$19,000 the first year and \$19,000 the second year are for necessary expenses in the normal performance of the governor's and lieutenant governor's duties for which no other reimbursement is provided.

(b) By September 1 of each year, the commissioner of finance shall report to the chairs of the senate Governmental Operations Budget Division and the house State Government Finance Division any personnel costs incurred by the Office of the Governor and Lieutenant Governor that were supported by appropriations to other agencies during the previous fiscal year. The Office of the Governor shall inform the chairs of the divisions before initiating any interagency agreements.

**Sec. 5. STATE AUDITOR**

\$	<u>9,234,000</u>	\$	<u>9,220,000</u>
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Sec. 6. ATTORNEY GENERAL \$ 26,182,000 \$ 27,113,000

Appropriations by Fund

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>
<u>General</u>	24,068,000	24,994,000
<u>State Government</u>		
<u>Special Revenue</u>	1,719,000	1,724,000
<u>Environmental</u>	145,000	145,000
<u>Remediation</u>	250,000	250,000

Sec. 7. SECRETARY OF STATE \$ 9,029,000 \$ 6,517,000

Appropriations by Fund

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>
<u>General</u>	6,185,000	6,517,000
<u>Special Revenue</u>	2,844,000	

(a) \$310,000 of this appropriation must be transferred to the Help America Vote Act account and is designated as a portion of the match required by section 253(b)(5) of the Help America Vote Act.

(b) \$2,844,000 the first year is appropriated from the Help America Vote Act account for the purposes and uses authorized by federal law. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2009.

(c) Notwithstanding Laws 2005, chapter 162, section 34, subdivision 7, any balance remaining in the Help America Vote Act account after previous appropriations and the appropriations in this section is appropriated to the secretary of state for the purposes of the account. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2011.

Sec. 8. CAMPAIGN FINANCE AND PUBLIC DISCLOSURE BOARD \$ 714,000 \$ 735,000

Sec. 9. INVESTMENT BOARD \$ 151,000 \$ 151,000

Sec. 10. OFFICE OF ENTERPRISE  
TECHNOLOGY

\$            10,943,000 \$            7,739,000

(a) \$2,000,000 the first year is for the first phase of an electronic licensing system. This is a onetime appropriation. This appropriation carries forward to the second year.

(b) \$3,910,000 the first year and \$3,910,000 the second year are for information technology security. The base appropriation is \$2,682,000 in fiscal year 2010 and \$2,682,000 in fiscal year 2011.

(c) \$1,000,000 the first year is for select small agency technology infrastructure projects.

(d) \$68,000 the first year is for an electronic documents study and report.

(e) \$200,000 the first year is for grants to be distributed to the counties participating in the development of the integrated financial system for enhancements to the system. Enhancements include:

(1) systems to improve the tracking and reporting of state and federal grants;

(2) electronic payments to vendors;

(3) electronic posting of state payments to the financial system;

(4) automating revenue collection and posting through check conversion, automatic clearing house transactions, or credit card processing;

(5) improvements to county budgetary systems;

(6) storage or linkage of electronic documents;

(7) improved executive level reporting and extraction of data; and

(8) improved information and reporting for audits.

The grant funds shall be distributed on a pro rata basis to each of the counties participating

in the development of the integrated financial system. The Minnesota Counties Computer Cooperative, acting as a fiscal agent for the participating counties, shall receive the grant money for the counties. The grants will only be distributed after \$600,000 is expended or provided from other sources. The chief information officer may require a report or such other information as the chief information officer deems appropriate to verify that the requirements of this section have been met. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2011, and cancels on that date.

The chief information officer shall report to the legislative committees and divisions with jurisdiction over state government policy and finance and economic development programs.

Sec. 11. <b>ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b><u>7,823,000</u></b>	<b>\$</b>	<b><u>7,540,000</u></b>
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Appropriations by Fund

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>
<u>General</u>	<u>283,000</u>	<u>290,000</u>
<u>Workers' Compensation</u>	<u>7,540,000</u>	<u>7,250,000</u>

Sec. 12. **ADMINISTRATION**

Subdivision 1. <b>Total Appropriation</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b><u>42,220,000</u></b>	<b>\$</b>	<b><u>22,128,000</u></b>
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The amounts that may be spent for each purpose are specified in the following subdivisions.

Subd. 2. <b>State Facilities Services</b>	<u>14,496,000</u>	<u>11,208,000</u>
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(a) \$7,888,000 the first year and \$7,888,000 the second year are for office space costs of the legislature and veterans organizations, for ceremonial space, and for statutorily free space.

(b) \$2,500,000 the first year is to purchase and implement a Web-enabled, shared computer system to facilitate the state's real property portfolio management.

(c) \$885,000 the first year is for onetime funding of agency relocation expenses for the Department of Public Safety.

**Subd. 3. State and Community Services**

3,456,000

3,547,000

(a) \$60,000 the first year and \$240,000 the second year are to fund activities to prepare for and promote the 2010 census. Base funding for this activity is \$260,000 in fiscal year 2010 and \$180,000 in fiscal year 2011.

(b) \$1,100,000 the first year and \$1,100,000 the second year are for the Land Management Information Center.

(c) \$196,000 the first year and \$196,000 the second year are for the Office of the State Archaeologist.

(d) \$89,000 the first year is for the genetic information work group and report. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2009.

**Subd. 4. Administrative Management Services**

6,197,000

5,418,000

(a) \$125,000 the first year is to create an Office of Grants Management to standardize state grants management policies and procedures. For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2008, the commissioner must deduct up to \$125,000 from state grants to nongovernmental entities, as necessary to fund the commissioner's duties under new Minnesota Statutes, sections 16B.97 and 16B.98. The amount deducted from appropriations for these grants is transferred to the commissioner for purposes of administering these sections.

(b) \$250,000 the first year and \$250,000 the second year are to establish a small agency resource team to consolidate and streamline the human resources and financial management activities for small state agencies, boards, and councils.

(c) \$700,000 the first year is a onetime appropriation for a targeted group business disparity study. The commissioner



must cooperate with units of local government conducting similar studies. The commissioner shall ensure that the results of the study are kept current and that any new or upgraded accounting or procurement systems properly record purchases from minority and female-owned businesses through the use of state contracts, and the availability of bids from those businesses.

(d) \$74,000 the first year and \$74,000 the second year are for the Council on Developmental Disabilities.

(e) \$250,000 in fiscal year 2008 and \$250,000 in fiscal year 2009 are for a grant to the Council on Developmental Disabilities for the purpose of establishing a statewide self-advocacy network for persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities (ID/DD). The self-advocacy network shall:

(1) ensure that persons with ID/DD are informed of their rights in employment, housing, transportation, voting, government policy, and other issues pertinent to the ID/DD community;

(2) provide public education and awareness of the civil and human rights issues persons with ID/DD face;

(3) provide funds, technical assistance, and other resources for self-advocacy groups across the state; and

(4) organize systems of communications to facilitate an exchange of information between self-advocacy groups.

This appropriation is in addition to any other appropriations and must be added to the base appropriation beginning in fiscal year 2010.

(f) \$75,000 is for purposes of promotion of document imaging work in government agencies to be done by persons with developmental disabilities.

Subd. 5. Fiscal Agent

1,000,000

\$1,000,000 is for a grant to Washington County for capital improvements detailed in the approved planned unit development for the Disabled Veteran's Rest Camp to provide increased capacity, amenities, access, and safety for Minnesota veterans. This appropriation is available until spent.

**Subd. 6. Public Broadcasting**

**\$ 17,071,000 \$ 1,955,000**

(a) \$9,750,000 is for grants to noncommercial television stations to assist with the continued conversion to a digital broadcast signal as mandated by the federal government. This appropriation must be used to assist each station to complete its digital production facilities and interconnect with other Minnesota public television stations. In order to qualify for these grants, a station must meet the criteria established for grants in Minnesota Statutes, section 129D.12, subdivision 2.

(b) \$3,000,000 is for grants to Minnesota Public Radio to assist with conversion to a digital broadcast signal.

(c) \$2,263,000 the first year and \$963,000 the second year are for matching grants for public television.

(d) \$398,000 the first year and \$398,000 the second year are for public television equipment grants. Equipment or matching grant allocations shall be made after considering the recommendations of the Minnesota Public Television Association.

(e) \$17,000 the first year and \$17,000 the second year are for grants to the Twin Cities regional cable channel.

(f) \$413,000 in fiscal year 2008 and \$287,000 in fiscal year 2009 are for community service grants to public educational radio stations.

(g) \$400,000 in fiscal year 2008 and \$100,000 in fiscal year 2009 are for equipment grants to public educational radio stations.

(h) The grants in paragraphs (f) and (g) must be allocated after considering the recommendations of the Association of Minnesota Public Educational Radio Stations under Minnesota Statutes, section 129D.14.

(i) \$830,000 the first year and \$190,000 the second year are for equipment grants to Minnesota Public Radio, Inc.

(j) Any unencumbered balance remaining the first year for grants to public television or radio stations does not cancel and is available for the second year.

**Sec. 13. CAPITOL AREA ARCHITECTURAL AND PLANNING BOARD**

\$	<u>427,000</u>	\$	<u>373,000</u>
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\$65,000 in fiscal year 2008 is for the decennial expenses related to the board's duties under Minnesota Statutes, section 473.864, subdivisions 1 and 2. Money appropriated in fiscal year 2008 is available until June 30, 2009. This is a onetime appropriation.

**Sec. 14. FINANCE**

**Subdivision 1. Total Appropriation**

\$	<u>21,765,000</u>	\$	<u>15,596,000</u>
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The amounts that may be spent for each purpose are specified in the following subdivisions.

**Subd. 2. State Financial Management**

<u>8,923,000</u>	<u>8,905,000</u>
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\$250,000 the first year is for the state's share of the cost of bankruptcy counsel representing joint interests of the state and the city of Duluth in the Northwest Airlines bankruptcy. This is a onetime appropriation.

**Subd. 3. Information and Management Services**

<u>12,842,000</u>	<u>6,691,000</u>
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\$6,319,000 the first year is for costs related to the Minnesota Accounting and Procurement System (MAPS).

**Sec. 15. EMPLOYEE RELATIONS**

\$	<u>5,895,000</u>	\$	<u>5,839,000</u>
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the percentage and dollar amounts of valid tax liabilities collected;

(2) the number of businesses noncompliant with the sales and use tax system and the percentage and dollar amount of the valid tax liabilities collected; and

(3) the number of individual noncompliant cases resolved and the percentage and dollar amounts of valid tax liabilities collected.

(c) The reports must also identify base-level expenditures and staff positions related to compliance and audit activities, including baseline information as of January 1, 2006. The information must be provided at the budget activity level.

(d) \$10,550,000 the first year is for the purchase and development of an integrated tax software package.

(e) \$75,000 the first year and \$75,000 the second year are for grants to one or more nonprofit organizations, qualifying under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, to coordinate, facilitate, encourage, and aid in the provision of taxpayer assistance services. For purposes of this paragraph, "taxpayer assistance services" means accounting and tax preparation services provided by volunteers to low-income and disadvantaged Minnesota residents to help them file federal and state income tax returns and Minnesota property tax refund claims and may include providing personal representation before the Department of Revenue and Internal Revenue Service.

**Subd. 3. Accounts Receivable Management**

20,322,000

22,179,000

\$1,750,000 the first year and \$3,110,000 the second year are for additional activities to identify and collect tax liabilities from individuals and businesses that currently do not pay all taxes owed. This initiative is expected to result in new general fund

revenues of \$60,000,000 for the biennium ending June 30, 2009.

Sec. 17. <b><u>GAMBLING CONTROL</u></b>	<b><u>\$</u></b>	<b><u>2,869,000</u></b>	<b><u>\$</u></b>	<b><u>2,940,000</u></b>
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These appropriations are from the lawful gambling regulation account in the special revenue fund.

Sec. 18. <b><u>RACING COMMISSION</u></b>	<b><u>\$</u></b>	<b><u>1,130,000</u></b>	<b><u>\$</u></b>	<b><u>899,000</u></b>
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(a) These appropriations are from racing and card playing regulation accounts in the special revenue fund.

(b) \$295,000 the first year and \$64,000 the second year and thereafter are for information technology improvements implemented in consultation with the Office of Enterprise Technology as part of the small agency technology initiative.

Sec. 19. **STATE LOTTERY**

Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 349A.10, subdivision 3, the operating budget must not exceed \$27,378,000 in fiscal year 2008 and \$28,141,000 in fiscal year 2009.

Sec. 20. <b><u>TORT CLAIMS</u></b>	<b><u>\$</u></b>	<b><u>161,000</u></b>	<b><u>\$</u></b>	<b><u>161,000</u></b>
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To be spent by the commissioner of finance. If the appropriation for either year is insufficient, the appropriation for the other year is available for it.

Sec. 21. **MINNESOTA STATE RETIREMENT SYSTEM**

Subdivision 1. <b><u>Total Appropriation</u></b>	<b><u>\$</u></b>	<b><u>1,608,000</u></b>	<b><u>\$</u></b>	<b><u>1,649,000</u></b>
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The amounts that may be spent for each purpose are specified in the following subdivisions.

Subd. 2. <b><u>Legislators</u></b>		<b><u>1,170,000</u></b>		<b><u>1,200,000</u></b>
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Under Minnesota Statutes, sections 3A.03, subdivision 2; 3A.04, subdivisions 3 and 4;

and 3A.115.

Subd. 3. <b><u>Constitutional Officers</u></b>	<u>438,000</u>	<u>449,000</u>
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Under Minnesota Statutes, section 352C.001.

If an appropriation in this section for either year is insufficient, the appropriation for the other year is available for it.

Sec. 22. <b><u>MINNEAPOLIS EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT FUND</u></b>	<u>\$ 9,000,000</u>	<u>\$ 9,000,000</u>
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These amounts are estimated to be needed under Minnesota Statutes, section 422A.101, subdivision 3.

Sec. 23. <b><u>TEACHERS RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION</u></b>	<u>\$ 15,800,000</u>	<u>\$ 15,800,000</u>
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The amounts estimated to be needed are as follows:

(a) <u>Special direct state aid authorized under Minnesota Statutes, section 354A.12, subdivisions 3a and 3c.</u>	<u>13,300,000</u>	<u>13,300,000</u>
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(b) <u>Special direct state matching aid authorized under Minnesota Statutes, section 354A.12, subdivision 3b.</u>	<u>2,500,000</u>	<u>2,500,000</u>
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Sec. 24. <b><u>ST. PAUL TEACHERS RETIREMENT FUND</u></b>	<u>\$ 2,967,000</u>	<u>\$ 2,967,000</u>
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The amounts estimated to be needed for special direct state aid to first class city teachers retirement funds authorized under Minnesota Statutes, section 354A.12, subdivisions 3a and 3c.

Sec. 25. <b><u>AMATEUR SPORTS COMMISSION</u></b>	<u>\$ 370,000</u>	<u>\$ 372,000</u>
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(a) Of this amount, \$67,000 each year is to be used for an additional event development position. This is a onetime appropriation. The base budget for the Amateur Sports Commission shall be \$220,000 in fiscal year 2010 and \$220,000 in fiscal year 2011.

(b) The amount available for appropriation to the commission under Laws 2005, chapter 156, article 2, section 43, is reduced in the

first year and the second year by the amounts appropriated in this section.

Sec. 26. <u>COUNCIL ON BLACK MINNESOTANS</u>	\$	<u>325,000</u>	\$	<u>333,000</u>
Sec. 27. <u>COUNCIL ON CHICANO/LATINO AFFAIRS</u>	\$	<u>308,000</u>	\$	<u>314,000</u>
Sec. 28. <u>COUNCIL ON ASIAN-PACIFIC MINNESOTANS</u>	\$	<u>289,000</u>	\$	<u>289,000</u>
Sec. 29. <u>INDIAN AFFAIRS COUNCIL</u>	\$	<u>664,000</u>	\$	<u>493,000</u>

(a) \$80,000 in the first year is for the acquisition of an Indian burial site in Becker County. The Indian Affairs Council shall solicit donations from federal, state, nonprofit, private, and tribal sources for this purpose. This is a onetime appropriation and is available for expenditure until June 30, 2009.

(b) \$100,000 in the first year is for transfer to the director of the Minnesota Office of Higher Education for a grant for the Dakota/Ojibwe Language Revitalization Project to expand an existing pilot project to promote activities and programs that are specific to promoting revitalization of indigenous language for American Indian children who do not live on an Indian reservation. The pilot project shall focus on developing programs that meet the language needs of children in prekindergarten through grade 12. This is a onetime appropriation.

Sec. 30. <u>GENERAL CONTINGENT ACCOUNTS</u>	\$	<u>1,000,000</u>	\$	<u>500,000</u>
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Appropriations by Fund

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>
<u>General</u>	<u>500,000</u>	<u>-0-</u>
<u>State Government</u>		
<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>400,000</u>	<u>400,000</u>
<u>Workers' Compensation</u>	<u>100,000</u>	<u>100,000</u>

(a) The appropriations in this section



may only be spent with the approval of the governor after consultation with the Legislative Advisory Commission pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 3.30.

(b) If an appropriation in this section for either year is insufficient, the appropriation for the other year is available for it.

(c) If a contingent account appropriation is made in one fiscal year, it should be considered a biennial appropriation.

**Sec. 31. MANAGERIAL POSITION REDUCTIONS.**

The governor must reduce the number of deputy commissioners, assistant commissioners, and positions designated as unclassified under authority of Minnesota Statutes, section 43A.08, subdivision 1a, by an amount that will generate savings to the general fund of \$ 7,292,000 in the biennium ending June 30, 2009, and \$7,292,000 in the biennium ending June 30, 2011.

**Sec. 32. BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD.**

Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.1522, subdivision 4, any positive unrestricted general fund budgetary balance as of June 30, 2007, is carried forward to the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008.

## ARTICLE 2

### STATE GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 3.303, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 8. **Ethnic heritage and new americans.** The commission shall undertake activities it determines are necessary to assist state government to foster an understanding and appreciation of ethnic and cultural diversity in Minnesota, to identify underutilized resources within the immigrant community, and to facilitate the full participation of immigrants in social, cultural, and political life in this state. The commission may appoint a working group under section 3.305, subdivision 6, to assist the commission in these duties. A working group under this subdivision may include legislators and public members. The commission may provide compensation for public members as provided in section 15.0575. In performing duties under this subdivision, the commission shall collaborate with the councils established in sections 3.9223, 3.9225, and 3.9226. This subdivision expires June 30, 2009.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 3.303, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 9. **Preparedness for terrorism and disasters.** The commission shall undertake activities it determines are necessary to advise the legislature and oversee executive activities on issues related to homeland security, emergency management, man-made and natural disasters, terrorism, bioterrorism, public health emergencies, and vulnerabilities in public and private infrastructures. The commission may appoint a working group under section 3.305, subdivision 6, to assist the commission in these duties. A working group under this subdivision may include legislators and

public members. The commission may provide compensation for public members as provided in section 15.0575. This subdivision expires June 30, 2011.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 4.035, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Expiration date.** Unless an earlier date is specified by statute or by executive order, an executive order shall expire 90 days after the date that the governor who issued the order ~~vacates~~ leaves office.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 4. **[4.60] POET LAUREATE.**

(a) The position of poet laureate of the state of Minnesota is established. The Minnesota Humanities Commission must solicit nominations for the poet laureate appointment and must make recommendations to the governor. After receiving recommendations from the Minnesota Humanities Commission, the governor shall appoint a state poet laureate and conduct appropriate ceremonies to honor the person appointed. The person appointed as poet laureate continues to serve in this position until the governor appoints another person.

(b) State agencies and officers are encouraged to use the services of the poet laureate for appropriate ceremonies and celebrations.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 5.12, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Fees.** The secretary of state shall charge a fee of \$5 for each certificate or certification of a copy of any document filed in the Office of the Secretary of State. The secretary of state shall charge a fee of \$3 for a copy of an original filing of a corporation, limited partnership, assumed name, or trade or service mark, ~~or for the complete record of a certificate of assumed name.~~ The secretary of state shall charge a fee of \$3 for a copy of any or all subsequent filings of a corporation, limited partnership, assumed name, or trade or service mark. The secretary of state shall charge a fee of \$1 per page for copies of other nonuniform commercial code documents filed with the secretary of state. At the time of filing, the secretary of state may provide at the public counter, without charge, a copy of a filing, ten or fewer pages in length, to the person making the filing.

Sec. 6. **[5.32] TEMPORARY TECHNOLOGY SURCHARGE.**

Subdivision 1. **Surcharge.** For fiscal years 2008 and 2009, the following technology surcharges are imposed on the filing fees required under the following statutes:

- (1) \$25 for articles of incorporation filed under section 302A.151;
- (2) \$25 for articles of organization filed under section 322B.17;
- (3) \$25 for applications for certificates of authority to transact business in Minnesota filed under section 303.06;
- (4) \$20 for annual reports filed by non-Minnesota corporations under section 303.14; and
- (5) \$50 for reinstatements to authority to transact business in Minnesota filed under section 303.19.

Subd. 2. **Deposit.** The surcharges listed in subdivision 1 shall be deposited into the uniform commercial code account.

Subd. 3. **Expiration.** This section expires June 30, 2009.

Sec. 7. **[11A.27] REPORT ON INVESTMENT CONSULTANT ACTIVITIES AND DELIVERABLES.**

(a) Annually, on or before November 1, the State Board of Investment shall file a report with the Legislative Reference Library on the activities and work product during that year of any investment consultants retained by the board.

(b) The report must include the following items:

(1) the total contract fee paid to each investment consultant;

(2) a listing of the projects in which the investment consultant was involved; and

(3) examples of the written work product provided by the investment consultant on those projects during the report coverage period.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective June 30, 2007.

Sec. 8. **[13.595] GRANTS.**

Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** For purposes of this section, the following terms have the meanings given them.

(a) "Completion of the evaluation process" means that the granting agency has completed negotiating the grant agreement with the selected grantee.

(b) "Grant agreement" has the meaning given in section 16B.97, subdivision 1.

(c) "Grantee" means a person that applies for or receives a grant.

(d) "Granting agency" means the state agency that provides the grant.

(e) "Opened" means the act that occurs once the deadline for submitting a response to a proposal to the granting agency has been reached.

(f) "Request for proposal" means the data outlining the responsibilities the granting agency wants the grantee to assume.

(g) "Response" means the data submitted by a grantee as required by a request for proposal.

Subd. 2. **Request for applications.** Data created by a granting agency to create a request for proposal is classified as nonpublic until the request for proposal is published. To the extent that a granting agency involves persons outside the granting agency to create the request for proposal, the data remain nonpublic in the hands of all persons who may not further disseminate any data that are created or reviewed as part of the request for proposal development. At publication, the data in the request for proposal is public.

Subd. 3. **Responses to request for proposals.** (a) Responses submitted by a grantee are private or nonpublic until the responses are opened. Once the responses are opened, the name and address

of the grantee and the amount requested is public. All other data in a response is private or nonpublic data until completion of the evaluation process. After a granting agency has completed the evaluation process, all remaining data in the responses is public with the exception of trade secret data as defined and classified in section 13.37. A statement by a grantee that the response is copyrighted or otherwise protected does not prevent public access to the response.

(b) If all responses are rejected prior to completion of the evaluation process, all data, other than that made public at the opening, remain private or nonpublic until a resolicitation of proposals results in completion of the evaluation process or a determination is made to abandon the grant. If the rejection occurs after the completion of the evaluation process, the data remain public. If a resolicitation of proposals does not occur within one year of the grant opening date, the remaining data become public.

Subd. 4. **Evaluation data.** (a) Data created or maintained by a granting agency as part of the evaluation process referred to in this section are protected nonpublic data until completion of the evaluation process at which time the data are public with the exception of trade secret data as defined and classified in section 13.37.

(b) If a granting agency asks individuals outside the granting agency to assist with the evaluation of the responses, the granting agency may share not public data in the responses with those individuals. The individuals participating in the evaluation may not further disseminate the not public data they review.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 15.06, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Term of office; successor.** ~~The term of a commissioner shall end with the term of the office of governor. If the appointing authority is the governor~~ In addition, the term shall end on the date the governor who appointed the commissioner if the governor vacates office. The appointing authority shall submit to the president of the senate the name of an appointee as permanent commissioner as provided by section 15.066, subdivision 2, within 45 legislative days after the end of the term of a commissioner and within 45 legislative days after the occurrence of a vacancy. The appointee shall take office as permanent commissioner when the senate notifies the appointing authority that it has consented to the appointment. A commissioner shall serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 15B.17, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Proposals.** ~~(a) Before a state agency or other public body develops, to submit to the legislature and the governor, a budget proposal or plans for capital improvements within the Capitol Area~~ to submit to the legislature and the governor, it must consult with the board.

(b) The public body must provide enough money for the board's review and planning if the board decides its review and planning services are necessary. Money received by the board under this subdivision is deposited in the special revenue fund and appropriated to the board.

Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16A.102, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Reporting information.** ~~When updated information is available~~ At the time of a state revenue and expenditure forecast as specified in section 16A.103, subdivision 1, and after the

completion of a legislative session, the Department of Finance must report on revenue relative to personal income ~~as specified in subdivision 1.~~ The information must specify (1) the share of personal income to be collected in taxes and other revenues to pay for state and local government services and (2) the division of that revenue between state and local government revenues.

Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16A.103, subdivision 1e, is amended to read:

Subd. 1e. **Economic information.** The commissioner must review economic information including economic forecasts with legislative fiscal staff no later than two weeks before the forecast is released. The commissioner must invite the chairs and lead minority members of the senate ~~State Government~~ Finance Committee and the house Ways and Means Committee, and legislative fiscal staff to attend any meetings held with outside economic advisors. The commissioner must provide legislative fiscal staff with monthly economic forecast information received from outside sources.

Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16A.1286, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Billing procedures.** The commissioner may bill up to \$7,520,000 in each fiscal year for statewide systems services provided to state agencies, judicial branch agencies, the University of Minnesota, the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, and other entities. ~~Billing must be based only on usage of services relating to statewide systems provided by the Intertechnologies Division.~~ Each agency shall transfer from agency operating appropriations to the statewide systems account the amount billed by the commissioner. Billing policies and procedures related to statewide systems services must be developed by the commissioner in consultation with the commissioners of employee relations and administration, the University of Minnesota, and the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities.

Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16A.695, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Leases and management contracts.** (a) A public officer or agency that is authorized by law to lease or enter into a management contract with respect to state bond financed property shall comply with this subdivision. A reference to a lease or management contract in this subdivision includes any amendments, modifications, or alterations to the referenced lease or management contract and refers to the lease wherein the public officer or agency is the lessor of the state bond financed property and the other contracting party is the lessee.

(b) The lease or management contract may be entered into for the express purpose of carrying out a governmental program established or authorized by law and established by official action of the contracting public officer or agency, in accordance with orders of the commissioner intended to ensure the legality and tax-exempt status of bonds issued to finance the property, and with the approval of the commissioner. ~~A lease or management contract, including any renewals that are solely at the option of the lessee,~~ must be for a term substantially less than the useful life of the property, but may allow renewal beyond that term upon a determination by the lessor that the lessee has demonstrated that the use continues to carry out the governmental program. If the lessor and lessee do not renew the lease or management contract and if the lessee has contributed to the land and the capital improvements on the state bond financed property, the lessor may agree to reimburse the lessee for its investment in the land and capital improvements. The reimbursement may be paid, at the option of the lessor and lessee, at the time of nonrenewal without a requirement for a prior escrow of funds or at a later date and on additional terms agreed to by the lessor and the lessee. A lease or management contract must be terminable by the contracting public officer or agency if the other contracting party defaults under the contract or if the governmental program is terminated or

changed, and must provide for program oversight by the contracting public officer or agency. The expiration or termination of a lease or management agreement does not require that the state bond proceeds be repaid or that the property be sold, so long as the property continues to be operated by, or on behalf of, the public officer or agency for the intended governmental program. Money received by the public officer or agency under the lease or management contract that is not needed to pay and not authorized to be used to pay operating costs of the property, or to pay the principal, interest, redemption premiums, and other expenses when due on debt related to the property other than state bonds, must be:

(1) paid to the commissioner in the same proportion as the state bond financing is to the total public debt financing for the property, excluding debt issued by a unit of government for which it has no financial liability;

(2) deposited in the state bond fund; and

(3) used to pay or redeem or defease bonds issued to finance the property in accordance with the commissioner's order authorizing their issuance.

The money paid to the commissioner is appropriated for this purpose.

(c) With the approval of the commissioner, a lease or management contract between a city and a nonprofit corporation under section 471.191, subdivision 1, need not require the lessee to pay rentals sufficient to pay the principal, interest, redemption premiums, and other expenses when due with respect to state bonds issued to acquire and better the facilities.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective retroactively from January 1, 2006, and applies to leases, grant agreements, or management agreements entered into on or after that date.

Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16A.695, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Sale of property.** A public officer or agency shall not sell any state bond financed property unless the public officer or agency determines by official action that the property is no longer usable or needed by the public officer or agency to carry out the governmental program for which it was acquired or constructed, the sale is made as authorized by law, the sale is made for fair market value, and the sale is approved by the commissioner. If any state bonds issued to purchase or better the state bond financed property that is sold remain outstanding on the date of sale, the net proceeds of sale must be applied as follows:

(1) if the state bond financed property was acquired and bettered solely with state bond proceeds, the net proceeds of sale must be paid to the commissioner, and deposited in the state bond fund, and used to pay or redeem or defease the outstanding state bonds in accordance with the commissioner's order authorizing their issuance, and the proceeds are appropriated for this purpose treasury; or

(2) if the state bond financed property was acquired or bettered partly with state bond proceeds and partly with other money, the net proceeds of sale must be used: first, to pay to the state the amount of state bond proceeds used to acquire or better the property; second, to pay in full any outstanding public or private debt incurred to acquire or better the property; and third, to pay interested public and private entities, other than any public officer or agency or any private lender already paid in full, the amount of money contributed to the acquisition or betterment of the property; and fourth, any excess over the amount needed for those purposes must be divided in proportion to the shares contributed to the acquisition or betterment of the property and paid to the interested public and

private entities, other than any private lender already paid in full, and the proceeds are appropriated for this purpose. In calculating the share contributed by each entity, the amount to be attributed to the owner of the property shall be the fair market value of the property that was bettered by state bond proceeds at the time the betterment began.

When all of the net proceeds of sale have been applied as provided in this subdivision, this section no longer applies to the property.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective retroactively from January 1, 2006, and applies to leases, grant agreements, or management agreements entered into on or after that date.

Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16A.695, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

**Subd. 6. Match requirements.** Recipients of grants from money appropriated from the bond proceeds fund may be required to demonstrate a commitment of money from nonstate sources. This matching money may be pledged payments that have been deposited into a segregated account or multiyear pledges that are converted into cash or cash equivalent through a loan or irrevocable letter of credit from a financial institution. The loan or irrevocable letter of credit may be secured by a lien on the state bond financed property.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective retroactively from January 1, 2006, and applies to leases, grant agreements, or management agreements entered into on or after that date.

Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16A.695, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

**Subd. 7. Ground lease for state bond financed property.** A public officer or agency, as lessee, may lease real property and improvements that are to be acquired or improved with state bond proceeds. The lease must be for a term equal to or longer than 125 percent of the useful life of the property. The expiration of the lease upon the end of its term does not require that the state be repaid or that the property be sold and upon the expiration the real property and improvements are no longer state bond financed property.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective retroactively from January 1, 2006, and applies to leases, grant agreements, or management agreements entered into on or after that date.

Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16A.695, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

**Subd. 8. General applicability.** (a) This section establishes requirements for the receipt and use of general obligation grants and the ownership and operation of state bond-financed property. General obligation grants may only be issued and used to finance the acquisition and betterment of public lands and buildings and other public improvements of a capital nature that are used to operate a governmental program, and for predesign and design activities for specifically identified projects that involve the operation of a governmental program or activity. A general obligation grant may not be used for general operating expenses, staffing, or general master planning. A public officer or agency that is the recipient of a general obligation grant must comply with this section in its use of the general obligation grant and operation, management, lease, and sale of state bond-financed property. A public officer or agency that uses the proceeds of a general obligation grant for any unauthorized purpose or in violation of this section must immediately repay the outstanding balance of the grant to the commissioner, and a failure to comply authorizes the commissioner to recover the outstanding balance as a setoff against any state aid provided to the public officer or agency.

(b) This section does not create any new authority regarding the ownership, construction, rehabilitation, use, operation, lease management, or sale of state bond-financed property, or the operation of the governmental program that will be operated on the property. Any authority that is needed to enter into a management contract or lease of property, to sell property, or to operate a governmental program or carry out any activity contained in the law that appropriates money for a general obligation grant must be provided by as contained in some other law.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective on and after July 1, 2007.

Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16A.695, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 9. **Grant agreement.** All general obligation grants must be evidenced by a grant agreement that specifies:

(1) how the general obligation grant will be used;

(2) the governmental program that will be operated on the state bond-financed property; and

(3) that the state bond-financed property must be operated in compliance with this section, all state and federal laws, and in a manner that will not cause the interest on the state general obligation bonds to be or become subject to federal income taxation for any reason. A grant agreement must comply with this section, the Minnesota Constitution, and all commissioner's orders, and also contain other provisions the commissioner of the agency making the grant deems appropriate. The commissioner shall draft and make available forms for grant agreements that satisfy the requirements of this subdivision.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective on and after July 1, 2007.

Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16B.055, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. ~~Governor's Advisory Council on Technology for People with Disabilities~~ **Federal Assistive Technology Act.** (a) ~~The Department of Administration shall serve as the lead agency to assist the Minnesota Governor's Advisory Council on Technology for People with Disabilities in carrying out all responsibilities pursuant to United States Code, title 29, section 2211 et seq., and any other responsibilities related to that program~~ is designated as the lead agency to carry out all the responsibilities under the Assistive Technology Act of 1998, as provided by Public Law 108-364, as amended. The Minnesota Assistive Technology Advisory Council is established to fulfill the responsibilities required by the Assistive Technology Act, as provided by Public Law 108-364, as amended. Because the existence of this council is required by federal law, this council does not expire and the expiration date provided in section 15.059, subdivision 5, does not apply.

(b) The governor shall appoint the membership of the council as required by the Assistive Technology Act of 1998, as provided by Public Law 108-364, as amended. After the governor has completed the appointments required by this subdivision, the commissioner of administration, or the commissioner's designee, shall convene the first meeting of the council following the appointments. Members shall serve two-year terms commencing July 1 of each odd-numbered year, and receive the compensation specified by the Assistive Technology Act of 1998, as provided by Public Law 108-364, as amended. The members of the council shall select their chair at the first meeting following their appointment.

Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16B.24, subdivision 5, is amended to read:



Subd. 5. **Renting out state property.** (a) **Authority.** The commissioner may rent out state property, real or personal, that is not needed for public use, if the rental is not otherwise provided for or prohibited by law. The property may not be rented out for more than five years at a time without the approval of the State Executive Council and may never be rented out for more than 25 years. A rental agreement may provide that the state will reimburse a tenant for a portion of capital improvements that the tenant makes to state real property if the state does not permit the tenant to renew the lease at the end of the rental agreement.

(b) **Restrictions.** Paragraph (a) does not apply to state trust fund lands, other state lands under the jurisdiction of the Department of Natural Resources, lands forfeited for delinquent taxes, lands acquired under section 298.22, or lands acquired under section 41.56 which are under the jurisdiction of the Department of Agriculture.

(c) **Rental of living accommodations.** The commissioner shall establish rental rates for all living accommodations provided by the state for its employees. Money collected as rent by state agencies pursuant to this paragraph must be deposited in the state treasury and credited to the general fund.

(d) **Lease of space in certain state buildings to state agencies.** The commissioner may lease portions of the state-owned buildings ~~in the Capitol complex, the Capitol Square Building, the Health Building, and the building at 1246 University Avenue, St. Paul, Minnesota,~~ under the custodial control of the commissioner to state agencies and the court administrator on behalf of the judicial branch of state government and charge rent on the basis of space occupied. Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, all money collected as rent pursuant to the terms of this section shall be deposited in the state treasury. Money collected as rent to recover the bond interest costs of a building funded from the state bond proceeds fund shall be credited to the general fund. Money collected as rent to recover the depreciation costs of a building funded from the state bond proceeds fund and money collected as rent to recover capital expenditures from capital asset preservation and replacement appropriations and statewide building access appropriations shall be credited to a segregated asset preservation and replacement account in a special revenue fund. Fifty percent of the money credited to the account each fiscal year must be transferred to the general fund. The remaining money in the account is appropriated to the commissioner to be expended for asset preservation projects as determined by the commissioner. Money collected as rent to recover the depreciation and interest costs of a building built with other state dedicated funds shall be credited to the dedicated fund which funded the original acquisition or construction. All other money received shall be credited to the general services revolving fund.

(e) **Lease of space in Andersen and Freeman buildings.** The commissioner may lease space in the Elmer L. Andersen and Orville L. Freeman buildings to state agencies and charge rent on the basis of space occupied. Money collected as rent under this paragraph to fund future building repairs must be credited to a segregated account for each building in the special revenue fund and is appropriated to the commissioner to make the repairs. When the state acquires title to each building, the account for that building must be abolished and any balance remaining in the account must be transferred to the appropriate asset preservation and replacement account created under paragraph (d).

Sec. 22. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16B.35, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Percent of appropriations for art.** An appropriation for the construction or

alteration of any state building may contain an amount not to exceed ~~the lesser of \$100,000 or one percent of the total appropriation for the building for the acquisition of works of art, excluding landscaping, which may be an integral part of the building or its grounds, attached to the building or grounds or capable of being displayed in other state buildings. If the appropriation for works of art is limited by the \$100,000 cap in this section, the appropriation for the construction or alteration of the building must be reduced to reflect the reduced amount that will be spent on works of art.~~ Money used for this purpose is available only for the acquisition of works of art to be exhibited in areas of a building or its grounds accessible, on a regular basis, to members of the public. No more than ten percent of the total amount available each fiscal year under this subdivision may be used for administrative expenses, either by the commissioner of administration or by any other entity to whom the commissioner delegates administrative authority. For the purposes of this section "state building" means a building the construction or alteration of which is paid for wholly or in part by the state.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007. The repeal of the \$100,000 limit in this section applies to appropriations made before, on, or after that date.

**Sec. 23. [16B.97] GRANTS MANAGEMENT.**

Subdivision 1. **Grant agreement.** (a) A grant agreement is a written instrument or electronic document defining a legal relationship between a granting agency and a grantee when the principal purpose of the relationship is to transfer cash or something of value to the recipient to support a public purpose authorized by law instead of acquiring by professional or technical contract, purchase, lease, or barter property or services for the direct benefit or use of the granting agency.

(b) This section does not apply to capital project grants to political subdivisions as defined by section 16A.86.

Subd. 2. **Grants governance.** The commissioner shall provide leadership and direction for policy related to grants management in Minnesota in order to foster more consistent, streamlined interaction between executive agencies, funders, and grantees that will enhance access to grant opportunities and information and lead to greater program accountability and transparency. The commissioner has the duties and powers stated in this section. An executive agency must do what the commissioner requires under this section.

Subd. 3. **Discretionary powers.** The commissioner has the authority to:

(1) review grants management practices and propose policy and procedure improvements to the governor, legislature, executive agencies, and the federal government;

(2) sponsor, support, and facilitate innovative and collaborative grants management projects with public and private organizations;

(3) review, recommend, and implement alternative strategies for grants management;

(4) collect and disseminate information, issue reports relating to grants management, and sponsor and conduct conferences and studies; and

(5) participate in conferences and other appropriate activities related to grants management issues.

Subd. 4. **Duties.** (a) The commissioner shall:

(1) create general grants management policies and procedures that are applicable to all executive agencies. The commissioner may approve exceptions to these policies and procedures for particular grant programs. Exceptions shall expire or be renewed after five years. Executive agencies shall retain management of individual grants programs;

(2) provide a central point of contact concerning statewide grants management policies and procedures;

(3) serve as a resource to executive agencies in such areas as training, evaluation, collaboration, and best practices in grants management;

(4) ensure grants management needs are considered in the development, upgrade, and use of statewide administrative systems and leverage existing technology wherever possible;

(5) oversee and approve future professional and technical service contracts and other information technology spending related to executive agency grants management activities;

(6) provide a central point of contact for comments about executive agencies violating statewide grants governance policies and about fraud and waste in grants processes;

(7) forward received comments to the appropriate agency for further action, and may follow up as necessary;

(8) provide a single listing of all available executive agency competitive grant opportunities and resulting grant recipients;

(9) selectively review development and implementation of executive agency grants, policies, and practices; and

(10) selectively review executive agency compliance with best practices.

(b) The commissioner may determine that it is cost-effective for agencies to develop and use shared grants management technology systems. This system would be governed under section 16E.01, subdivision 3, paragraph (b).

Sec. 24. **[16B.98] GRANTS MANAGEMENT PROCESS.**

Subdivision 1. **Limitation.** As a condition of receiving a grant from an appropriation of state funds, the recipient of the grant must agree to minimize administrative costs. The granting agency is responsible for negotiating appropriate limits to these costs so that the state derives the optimum benefit for grant funding.

Subd. 2. **Ethical practices and conflict of interest.** An employee of the executive branch involved directly or indirectly in grants processes, at any level, is subject to the code of ethics in section 43A.38.

Subd. 3. **Conflict of interest.** (a) The commissioner must develop policies regarding code of ethics and conflict of interest designed to prevent conflicts of interest for employees, committee members, or others involved in the recommendation, awarding, and administration of grants. The policies must apply to employees who are directly or indirectly in the grants process, which may

include the following:

- (1) developing request for proposals or evaluation criteria;
- (2) drafting, recommending, awarding, amending, revising, or entering into grant agreements;
- (3) evaluating or monitoring performance; or
- (4) authorizing payments.

(b) The policies must include:

(1) a process to make all parties to the grant aware of policies and laws relating to conflict of interest, and training on how to avoid and address potential conflicts; and

(2) a process under which those who have a conflict of interest or a potential conflict of interest must disclose the matter.

(c) If the employee, appointing authority, or commissioner determines that a conflict of interest exists, the matter shall be assigned to another employee who does not have a conflict of interest. If it is not possible to assign the matter to an employee who does not have a conflict of interest, interested personnel shall be notified of the conflict and the employee may proceed with the assignment.

Subd. 4. **Reporting of violations.** A state employee who discovers evidence of violation of laws or rules governing grants is encouraged to report the violation or suspected violation to the employee's supervisor, the commissioner or the commissioner's designee, or the legislative auditor. The legislative auditor shall report to the Legislative Audit Commission if there are multiple complaints about the same agency. The auditor's report to the Legislative Audit Commission under this section must disclose only the number and type of violations alleged. An employee making a good faith report under this section has the protections provided for under section 181.932, prohibiting the employer from discriminating against the employee.

Subd. 5. **Creation and validity of grant agreements.** (a) A grant agreement is not valid and the state is not bound by the grant unless:

(1) the grant has been executed by the head of the agency or a delegate who is party to the grant; and

(2) the accounting system shows an encumbrance for the amount of the grant in accordance with policy approved by the commissioner.

(b) The combined grant agreement and amendments must not exceed five years without specific, written approval by the commissioner according to established policy, procedures, and standards, or unless the commissioner determines that a longer duration is in the best interest of the state.

(c) A fully executed copy of the grant agreement with all amendments and other required records relating to the grant must be kept on file at the granting agency for a time equal to that required of grantees in subdivision 8.

(d) Grant agreements must comply with policies established by the commissioner for minimum grant agreement standards and practices.

(e) The attorney general may periodically review and evaluate a sample of state agency grants

to ensure compliance with applicable laws.

Subd. 6. **Grant administration.** A granting agency shall diligently administer and monitor any grant it has entered into.

Subd. 7. **Grant payments.** Payments to the grantee may not be issued until the grant agreement is fully executed.

Subd. 8. **Audit.** (a) A grant agreement made by an executive agency must include an audit clause that provides that the books, records, documents, and accounting procedures and practices of the grantee or other party that are relevant to the grant or transaction are subject to examination by the granting agency and either the legislative auditor or the state auditor, as appropriate, for a minimum of six years from the grant agreement end date, receipt and approval of all final reports, or the required period of time to satisfy all state and program retention requirements, whichever is later. If a grant agreement does not include an express audit clause, the audit authority under this subdivision is implied.

(b) If the granting agency is a local unit of government, and the governing body of the local unit of government requests that the state auditor examine the books, records, documents, and accounting procedures and practices of the grantee or other party according to this subdivision, the granting agency shall be liable for the cost of the examination. If the granting agency is a local unit of government, and the grantee or other party requests that the state auditor examine all books, records, documents, and accounting procedures and practices related to the grant, the grantee or other party that requested the examination shall be liable for the cost of the examination.

Subd. 9. **Authority of attorney general.** The attorney general may pursue remedies available by law to avoid the obligation of an agency to pay under a grant or to recover payments made if activities under the grant are so unsatisfactory, incomplete, or inconsistent that payment would involve unjust enrichment. The contrary opinion of the granting agency does not affect the power of the attorney general under this subdivision.

Subd. 10. **Grants with Indian tribes and bands.** Notwithstanding any other law, an agency may not require an Indian tribe or band to deny its sovereignty as a requirement or condition of a grant with an agency.

Sec. 25. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16C.02, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 3a. **Best and final offer.** "Best and final offer" means an optional step in the solicitation process in which responders are requested to improve their response by methods including, but not limited to, the reduction of cost, clarification or modification of the response, or the provision of additional information.

Sec. 26. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16C.02, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Best value.** "Best value" describes a result intended in the acquisition of all goods and services. Price must be one of the evaluation criteria when acquiring goods and services. Other evaluation criteria may include, but are not limited to, environmental considerations, quality, and vendor performance. In achieving "best value" strategic sourcing tools, including but not limited to best and final offers, negotiations, contract consolidation, product standardization, and mandatory-use enterprise contracts shall be used at the commissioner's discretion.

Sec. 27. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16C.02, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 6a. **Enterprise procurement.** "Enterprise procurement" means the process undertaken by the commissioner to leverage economies of scale of multiple end users to achieve cost savings and other favorable terms in contracts for goods and services.

Sec. 28. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16C.02, subdivision 12, is amended to read:

Subd. 12. **Request for proposal or RFP.** "Request for proposal" or "RFP" means a solicitation in which it is not advantageous to set forth all the actual, detailed requirements at the time of solicitation and responses are ~~subject to negotiation~~ negotiated to achieve best value for the state.

Sec. 29. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16C.02, subdivision 14, is amended to read:

Subd. 14. **Response.** "Response" means the offer received from a vendor in response to a solicitation. A response includes submissions commonly referred to as "offers," "bids," "quotes," or "proposals," "best and final offers," or "negotiated offers."

Sec. 30. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16C.02, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 20. **Strategic sourcing.** "Strategic sourcing" means methods used to analyze and reduce spending on goods and services, including but not limited to spend analysis, product standardization, contract consolidation, negotiations, multiple jurisdiction purchasing alliances, reverse and forward auctions, life-cycle costing, and other techniques.

Sec. 31. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16C.03, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Rulemaking authority.** Subject to chapter 14, the commissioner may adopt rules, consistent with this chapter and chapter 16B, relating to the following topics:

- (1) procurement process including solicitations and responses to solicitations, bid security, vendor errors, opening of responses, award of contracts, tied bids, and award protest process;
- (2) contract performance and failure to perform;
- (3) authority to debar or suspend vendors, and reinstatement of vendors;
- (4) contract cancellation;
- (5) procurement from rehabilitation facilities; and
- (6) organizational conflicts of interest.

Sec. 32. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16C.03, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Contracting authority.** The commissioner shall conduct all contracting by, for, and between agencies and perform all contract management and review functions for contracts, except those functions specifically delegated to be performed by the contracting agency, the attorney general, or otherwise provided for by law. The commissioner may require that agency staff participate in the development of enterprise procurements including the development of product standards, specifications and other requirements.

Sec. 33. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16C.03, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

Subd. 8. **Policy and procedures.** The commissioner is authorized to issue policies, procedures, and standards applicable to all acquisition activities by and for agencies. Consistent with the authority specified in this chapter, the commissioner shall develop and implement policies, procedures, and standards ensuring the optimal use of strategic sourcing techniques.

Sec. 34. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16C.03, subdivision 16, is amended to read:

Subd. 16. **Delegation of duties.** The commissioner may delegate duties imposed by this chapter to the head of an agency and to any subordinate of the agency head. Delegated duties shall be exercised in the name of the commissioner and under the commissioner's direct supervision and control. A delegation of duties may include, but is not limited to, allowing individuals within agencies to acquire goods, services, and utilities within dollar limitations and for designated types of acquisitions. Delegation of contract management and review functions must be filed with the secretary of state and may not, except with respect to delegations within the Department of Administration, exceed two years in duration. The commissioner may withdraw any delegation at the commissioner's sole discretion. The commissioner may require an agency head or subordinate to accept delegated responsibility to procure goods or services intended for the exclusive use of the agency receiving the delegation.

Sec. 35. **[16C.046] WEB SITE WITH SEARCHABLE DATABASE ON STATE CONTRACTS AND GRANTS.**

(a) The commissioner of administration must maintain a Web site with a searchable database providing the public with information on state contracts, including grant contracts. The database must include the following information for each state contract valued in excess of \$25,000:

- (1) the name and address of the entity receiving the contract;
- (2) the name of the agency entering into the contract;
- (3) whether the contract is:
  - (i) for goods;
  - (ii) for professional or technical services;
  - (iii) for services other than professional and technical services; or
  - (iv) a grant;
- (4) a brief statement of the purpose of the contract or grant;
- (5) the amount of the contract or grant and the fund from which this amount will be paid; and
- (6) the dollar value of state contracts, other than grants, the entity has received in each fiscal year and the dollar value of state grants the entity has received in each fiscal year.

(b) Required information on a new contract or grant must be entered into the database within 30 days of the time the contract is entered into.

(c) For purposes of this section, a "grant" is a contract between a state agency and a recipient, the primary purpose of which is to transfer cash or a thing of value to the recipient to support a public purpose. Grant does not include payments to units of local government, payments to state

employees, or payments made under laws providing for assistance to individuals.

(d) The database must include information on grants and contracts entered into beginning with fiscal year 2008 funds, and must retain that data for ten years.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2008.

Sec. 36. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16C.05, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Agency cooperation.** Agencies shall fully cooperate with the commissioner in the management and review of state contracts and in the development and implementation of strategic sourcing techniques.

Sec. 37. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16C.05, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Creation and validity of contracts.** (a) A contract is not valid and the state is not bound by it and no agency, without the prior written approval of the commissioner granted pursuant to subdivision 2a, may authorize work to begin on it unless:

(1) it has first been executed by the head of the agency or a delegate who is a party to the contract;

(2) it has been approved by the commissioner; and

(3) the accounting system shows an encumbrance for the amount of the contract liability, except as allowed by policy approved by the commissioner and commissioner of finance for routine, low-dollar procurements.

(b) The combined contract and amendments must not exceed five years without specific, written approval by the commissioner according to established policy, procedures, and standards, or unless otherwise provided for by law. The term of the original contract must not exceed two years unless the commissioner determines that a longer duration is in the best interest of the state.

(c) Grants, interagency agreements, purchase orders, work orders, and annual plans need not, in the discretion of the commissioner and attorney general, require the signature of the commissioner and/or the attorney general. A signature is not required for work orders and amendments to work orders related to Department of Transportation contracts. Bond purchase agreements by the Minnesota Public Facilities Authority do not require the approval of the commissioner.

(d) Amendments to contracts must entail tasks that are substantially similar to those in the original contract or involve tasks that are so closely related to the original contract that it would be impracticable for a different contractor to perform the work. The commissioner or an agency official to whom the commissioner has delegated contracting authority under section 16C.03, subdivision 16, must determine that an amendment would serve the interest of the state better than a new contract and would cost no more.

(e) A fully executed copy of every contract, amendments to the contract, and performance evaluations relating to the contract must be kept on file at the contracting agency for a time equal to that specified for contract vendors and other parties in subdivision 5.

(f) The attorney general must periodically review and evaluate a sample of state agency contracts to ensure compliance with laws.



Sec. 38. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16C.08, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 1a. **Enterprise procurement.** Notwithstanding section 15.061 or any other law, the commissioner shall, to the fullest extent practicable, conduct enterprise procurements that result in the establishment of professional or technical contracts for use by multiple state agencies. The commissioner is authorized to mandate use of any contract entered into as a result of an enterprise procurement process. Agencies shall fully cooperate in the development and use of contracts entered into under this section.

Sec. 39. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16C.08, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

**Subd. 2. Duties of contracting agency.** (a) Before an agency may seek approval of a professional or technical services contract valued in excess of \$5,000, it must provide the following:

(1) a description of how the proposed contract or amendment is necessary and reasonable to advance the statutory mission of the agency;

(2) a description of the agency's plan to notify firms or individuals who may be available to perform the services called for in the solicitation; ~~and~~

(3) a description of the performance measures or other tools that will be used to monitor and evaluate contract performance; and

(4) an explanation detailing, if applicable, why this procurement is being pursued unilaterally by the agency and not as an enterprise procurement.

(b) In addition to paragraph (a), the agency must certify that:

(1) no current state employee is able and available to perform the services called for by the contract;

(2) the normal competitive bidding mechanisms will not provide for adequate performance of the services;

(3) reasonable efforts will be made to publicize the availability of the contract to the public;

(4) the agency will develop and implement a written plan providing for the assignment of specific agency personnel to manage the contract, including a monitoring and liaison function, the periodic review of interim reports or other indications of past performance, and the ultimate utilization of the final product of the services;

(5) the agency will not allow the contractor to begin work before the contract is fully executed unless an exception under section 16C.05, subdivision 2a, has been granted by the commissioner and funds are fully encumbered;

(6) the contract will not establish an employment relationship between the state or the agency and any persons performing under the contract; ~~and~~

(7) in the event the results of the contract work will be carried out or continued by state employees upon completion of the contract, the contractor is required to include state employees in development and training, to the extent necessary to ensure that after completion of the contract, state employees can perform any ongoing work related to the same function; and

(8) the agency will not contract out its previously eliminated jobs for four years without first considering the same former employees who are on the seniority unit layoff list who meet the minimum qualifications determined by the agency.

(c) A contract establishes an employment relationship for purposes of paragraph (b), clause (6), if, under federal laws governing the distinction between an employee and an independent contractor, a person would be considered an employee.

Sec. 40. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16C.08, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Reports.** (a) The commissioner shall submit to the governor, the chairs of the house Ways and Means and senate Finance Committees, and the Legislative Reference Library a yearly listing of all contracts for professional or technical services executed. The report must identify the contractor, contract amount, duration, and services to be provided. The commissioner shall also issue yearly reports summarizing the contract review activities of the department by fiscal year.

(b) The fiscal year report must be submitted by September 1 of each year and must:

- (1) be sorted by agency and by contractor;
- (2) show the aggregate value of contracts issued by each agency and issued to each contractor;
- (3) distinguish between contracts that are being issued for the first time and contracts that are being extended;
- (4) state the termination date of each contract;
- (5) identify services by commodity code, including topics such as contracts for training, contracts for research and opinions, and contracts for computer systems; and
- (6) identify which contracts were awarded without following the solicitation process in this chapter because it was determined that there was only a single source for the services.

(c) Within 30 days of final completion of a contract over \$50,000 covered by this subdivision, the head of the agency entering into the contract must submit a one-page report to the commissioner who must submit a copy to the Legislative Reference Library. The report must:

- (1) summarize the purpose of the contract, including why it was necessary to enter into a contract;
- (2) state the amount spent on the contract;
- ~~(3) be accompanied by the performance evaluation prepared according to subdivision 4a; and~~
- ~~(4) (3) if the contract was awarded without following the solicitation process in this chapter because it was determined that there was only a single source for the services, explain why the agency determined there was only a single source for the services; and~~

(4) include a written performance evaluation of the work done under the contract. The evaluation must include an appraisal of the contractor's timeliness, quality, cost, and overall performance in meeting the terms and objectives of the contract. Contractors may request copies of evaluations prepared under this subdivision and may respond in writing. Contractor responses must be maintained with the contract file.

Sec. 41. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16C.08, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 4b. **Limitations on actions.** No action may be maintained by a contractor against an employee or agency who discloses information about a current or former contractor under subdivision 4, unless the contractor demonstrates by clear and convincing evidence that:

(1) the information was false and defamatory;

(2) the employee or agency knew or should have known the information was false and acted with malicious intent to injure the current or former contractor; and

(3) the information was acted upon in a manner that caused harm to the current or former contractor.

Sec. 42. [16C.086] CALL-CENTER.

An agency may not enter into a contract for operation of a call-center, or a contract whose primary purpose is to provide similar services answering or responding to telephone calls on behalf of an agency without determining if the service can be provided by state employees, and the services must be provided at offices located in the United States. For purposes of this section, "agency" includes the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment, and applies to a contract entered into or renewed or otherwise extended after that date.

Sec. 43. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16C.10, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Reverse auction.** (a) For the purpose of this subdivision, "reverse auction" means a purchasing process in which vendors compete to provide goods or ~~computer~~ services at the lowest selling price in an open and interactive environment. Reverse auctions may not be utilized to procure engineering design services or architectural services or to establish building and construction contracts under sections 16C.26 to 16C.29.

(b) The provisions of sections 13.591, subdivision 3, and 16C.06, subdivision 2, do not apply when the commissioner determines that a reverse auction is the appropriate purchasing process.

Sec. 44. [16C.147] DOCUMENT IMAGING; USE OF PERSONS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES.

The commissioner shall promote the use of persons with developmental disabilities to provide document imaging services for state and local government agencies.

Sec. 45. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16C.16, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **Designation of targeted groups.** (a) The commissioner of administration shall periodically designate businesses that are majority owned and operated by women, persons with a substantial physical disability, or specific minorities as targeted group businesses within purchasing categories as determined by the commissioner. A group may be targeted within a purchasing category if the commissioner determines there is a statistical disparity between the percentage of purchasing from businesses owned by group members and the representation of businesses owned by group members among all businesses in the state in the purchasing category.

(b) In addition to designations under paragraph (a), an individual business may be included as a targeted group business if the commissioner determines that inclusion is necessary to remedy discrimination against the owner based on race, gender, or disability in attempting to operate a business that would provide goods or services to public agencies.

(c) In addition to the designations under paragraphs (a) and (b), the commissioner of administration shall designate businesses that are majority owned and operated by veterans who have served in federal active service as defined in section 190.05, subdivision 5c, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom or Operation Iraqi Freedom as targeted group businesses within purchasing categories as determined by the commissioner. "Veteran" has the meaning given in section 197.447, and also includes both currently serving and honorably discharged members of the national guard and other military reserves.

~~(e)~~ (d) The designations of purchasing categories and businesses under paragraphs (a) ~~and~~ (b), and (c) are not rules for purposes of chapter 14, and are not subject to rulemaking procedures of that chapter.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007, and applies to procurement contract bid solicitations issued on and after that date.

Sec. 46. **[16C.251] BEST AND FINAL OFFER.**

A "best and final offer" solicitation process may not be used for building and construction contracts.

Sec. 47. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 43A.08, subdivision 2a, is amended to read:

Subd. 2a. **Temporary unclassified positions.** The commissioner, upon request of an appointing authority, may authorize the temporary designation of a position in the unclassified service. The commissioner may make this authorization only for professional, managerial or supervisory positions which are fully anticipated to be of limited duration. An individual may not be employed by an appointing authority under this subdivision for more than 18 months.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** For individuals who are employed under section 43A.08, subdivision 2a, on the effective date of this section, the 18-month time limit under this section commences the day following final enactment.

Sec. 48. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 43A.346, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Definition.** For purposes of this section, "state employee" means a person currently occupying a civil service position in the executive or legislative branch of state government, the Minnesota State Retirement System, or the Office of the Legislative Auditor, or a person employed by the Metropolitan Council.

Sec. 49. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 161.1419, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

Subd. 8. **Expiration.** The commission expires on June 30, ~~2007~~ 2012.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 50. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 270B.14, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 19. Disclosure to Department of Finance. The commissioner may disclose to the commissioner of finance returns or return information necessary in order to prepare a revenue forecast under section 16A.103.

Sec. 51. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 270C.03, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Powers and duties.** The commissioner shall have and exercise the following powers and duties:

- (1) administer and enforce the assessment and collection of taxes;
- (2) make determinations, corrections, and assessments with respect to taxes, including interest, additions to taxes, and assessable penalties;
- (3) use statistical or other sampling techniques consistent with generally accepted auditing standards in examining returns or records and making assessments;
- (4) investigate the tax laws of other states and countries, and formulate and submit to the legislature such legislation as the commissioner may deem expedient to prevent evasions of state revenue laws and to secure just and equal taxation and improvement in the system of state revenue laws;
- (5) consult and confer with the governor upon the subject of taxation, the administration of the laws in regard thereto, and the progress of the work of the department, and furnish the governor, from time to time, such assistance and information as the governor may require relating to tax matters;
- (6) execute and administer any agreement with the secretary of the treasury or the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives in the Department of Justice of the United States or a representative of another state regarding the exchange of information and administration of the state revenue laws;
- (7) require town, city, county, and other public officers to report information as to the collection of taxes received from licenses and other sources, and such other information as may be needful in the work of the commissioner, in such form as the commissioner may prescribe;
- (8) authorize the use of unmarked motor vehicles to conduct seizures or criminal investigations pursuant to the commissioner's authority; ~~and~~
- (9) maintain toll-free telephone access for taxpayer assistance for calls from locations within the state; and
- (10) exercise other powers and authority and perform other duties required of or imposed upon the commissioner by law.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2008.

Sec. 52. **[270C.21] TAXPAYER ASSISTANCE GRANTS.**

When the commissioner awards grants to nonprofit organizations to coordinate, facilitate, encourage, and aid in the provision of taxpayer assistance services, the commissioner must provide public notice of the grants in a timely manner so that the grant process is completed and grants are awarded by October 1, in order for recipient organizations to adequately plan expenditures for the

filing season. At the time the commissioner provides public notice, the commissioner must also notify nonprofit organizations that received grants in the previous biennium.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 53. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 302A.821, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Penalty; reinstatement.** (a) A corporation that has failed to file a registration pursuant to the requirements of subdivision 2 must be dissolved by the secretary of state as described in paragraph (b).

(b) If the corporation has not filed the registration ~~for two consecutive~~ during any calendar years year, the secretary of state must issue a certificate of administrative dissolution and the certificate must be filed in the Office of the Secretary of State. ~~The secretary of state shall send notice to the corporation that the corporation has been dissolved and that the corporation may be reinstated by filing a registration and a \$25 fee. The notice must be given by United States mail unless the company has indicated to the secretary of state that they are willing to receive notice by electronic notification, in which case the secretary of state may give notice by mail or the indicated means. The secretary of state shall annually inform the attorney general and the commissioner of revenue of the methods by which the names of corporations dissolved under this section during the preceding year may be determined.~~ The secretary of state must also make available in an electronic format the names of the dissolved corporations. A corporation dissolved in this manner is not entitled to the benefits of section 302A.781. The liability, if any, of the shareholders of a corporation dissolved in this manner shall be determined and limited in accordance with section 302A.557, except that the shareholders shall have no liability to any director of the corporation under section 302A.559, subdivision 2.

(c) After administrative dissolution, filing a registration and the \$25 fee with the secretary of state:

- (1) returns the corporation to good standing as of the date of the dissolution;
- (2) validates contracts or other acts within the authority of the articles, and the corporation is liable for those contracts or acts; and
- (3) restores to the corporation all assets and rights of the corporation to the extent they were held by the corporation before the dissolution occurred, except to the extent that assets or rights were affected by acts occurring after the dissolution or sold or otherwise distributed after that time.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2008.

Sec. 54. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 308A.995, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Penalty; dissolution.** (a) A cooperative that has failed to file a registration pursuant to the requirements of this section by December 31 of the calendar year for which the registration was required must be dissolved by the secretary of state as described in paragraph (b).

(b) If the cooperative has not filed the registration by December 31 of that calendar year, the secretary of state must issue a certificate of involuntary dissolution, and the certificate must be filed in the Office of the Secretary of State. ~~The secretary of state must annually inform the attorney general and the commissioner of revenue of the methods by which the names of cooperatives dissolved under~~

~~this section during the preceding year may be determined.~~ The secretary of state must also make available in an electronic format the names of the dissolved cooperatives. A cooperative dissolved in this manner is not entitled to the benefits of section 308A.981.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2008.

Sec. 55. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 308B.121, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Penalty; dissolution.** (a) A cooperative that has failed to file a registration under the requirements of this section must be dissolved by the secretary of state as described in paragraph (b).

(b) If the cooperative has not filed the registration by December 31 of that calendar year, the secretary of state must issue a certificate of involuntary dissolution and the certificate must be filed in the Office of the Secretary of State. ~~The secretary of state must annually inform the attorney general and the commissioner of revenue of the methods by which the names of cooperatives dissolved under this section during the preceding year may be determined. The secretary of state must also make available in an electronic format the names of the dissolved cooperatives.~~ A cooperative dissolved in this manner is not entitled to the benefits of section 308B.971.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2008.

Sec. 56. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 308B.215, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Filing.** The original articles and a designation of the cooperative's registered office and agent, ~~including a registration form under section 308B.121,~~ shall be filed with the secretary of state. The fee for filing the articles with the secretary of state is \$60.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective August 1, 2007.

Sec. 57. **[308B.903] NOTICE OF INTENT TO DISSOLVE.**

Before a cooperative begins dissolution, a notice of intent to dissolve must be filed with the secretary of state. The notice must contain:

- (1) the name of the cooperative;
- (2) the date and place of the members' meeting at which the resolution was approved; and
- (3) a statement that the requisite vote of the members approved the proposed dissolution.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective August 1, 2007.

Sec. 58. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 317A.823, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Annual registration.** (a) The secretary of state must send annually to each corporation at the registered office of the corporation a postcard notice announcing the need to file the annual registration and informing the corporation that the annual registration may be filed online and that paper filings may also be made, and informing the corporation that failing to file the annual registration will result in an administrative dissolution of the corporation.

(b) ~~Except for corporations to which paragraph (d) applies,~~ Each calendar year beginning in the calendar year following the calendar year in which a corporation incorporates, a corporation must

file with the secretary of state by December 31 of each calendar year a registration containing the information listed in paragraph (c).

(c) The registration must include:

- (1) the name of the corporation;
- (2) the address of its registered office;
- (3) the name of its registered agent, if any; and

(4) the name and business address of the officer or other person exercising the principal functions of president of the corporation.

~~(d) The timely filing of an annual financial report and audit or an annual financial statement under section 69.051, subdivision 1 or 1a, by a volunteer firefighter relief association, as reflected in the notification by the state auditor under section 69.051, subdivision 1c, constitutes presentation of the corporate registration. The secretary of state may reject the registration by the volunteer firefighter relief association. Rejection must occur if the information provided to the state auditor does not match the information in the records of the secretary of state. The volunteer firefighter relief association may amend the articles of incorporation as provided in sections 317A.131 to 317A.151 so that the information from the state auditor may be accepted for filing. The timely filing of an annual financial report and audit or an annual financial statement under section 69.051, subdivision 1 or 1a, does not relieve the volunteer firefighter relief association of the requirement to file amendments to the articles of incorporation directly with the secretary of state.~~

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective August 1, 2007.

Sec. 59. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 321.0206, is amended to read:

**321.0206 DELIVERY TO AND FILING OF RECORDS BY SECRETARY OF STATE;  
EFFECTIVE TIME AND DATE.**

(a) A record authorized or required to be delivered to the secretary of state for filing under this chapter must be captioned to describe the record's purpose, be in a medium permitted by the secretary of state, and be delivered to the secretary of state. Unless the secretary of state determines that a record does not comply with the filing requirements of this chapter, and if the appropriate filing fees have been paid, the secretary of state shall file the record and:

(1) for a statement of dissociation, send:

(A) a copy of the filed statement to the person which the statement indicates has dissociated as a general partner; and

(B) a copy of the filed statement to the limited partnership;

(2) for a statement of withdrawal, send:

(A) a copy of the filed statement to the person on whose behalf the record was filed; and

(B) if the statement refers to an existing limited partnership, a copy of the filed statement to the limited partnership; and



(3) for all other records, send a copy of the filed record to the person on whose behalf the record was filed.

(b) Upon request and payment of a fee, the secretary of state shall send to the requester a certified copy of the requested record.

(c) Except as otherwise provided in sections 321.0116 and 321.0207, a record delivered to the secretary of state for filing under this chapter may specify an effective time and a delayed effective date. Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, a record filed by the secretary of state is effective:

(1) if the record does not specify an effective time and does not specify a delayed effective date, on the date and at the time the record is filed as evidenced by the secretary of state's endorsement of the date and time on the record;

(2) if the record specifies an effective time but not a delayed effective date, on the date the record is filed at the time specified in the record;

(3) if the record specifies a delayed effective date but not an effective time, at 12:01 a.m. on the earlier of:

(A) the specified date; or

(B) the 30th day after the record is filed; or

(4) if the record specifies an effective time and a delayed effective date, at the specified time on the earlier of:

(A) the specified date; or

(B) the 30th day after the record is filed.

(d) The appropriate fees for filings under this chapter are:

(1) for filing a certificate of limited partnership, \$100;

(2) for filing an amended certificate of limited partnership, \$50;

(3) for filing any other record, other than the annual report required by section 321.0210, for which no fee must be charged, required or permitted to be delivered for filing, \$35;

(4) for filing a certificate requesting authority to transact business in Minnesota as a foreign limited partnership, \$85;

(5) for filing an application of reinstatement, \$25; ~~and~~

(6) for filing a name reservation for a foreign limited partnership name, \$35; and

(7) for filing any other record, other than the annual report required by section 321.0210, for which no fee must be charged, required or permitted to be delivered for filing on a foreign limited partnership authorized to transact business in Minnesota, \$50.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007.

Sec. 60. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 321.0210, is amended to read:

**321.0210 ANNUAL REPORT FOR SECRETARY OF STATE.**

(a) Subject to subsection (b):

(1) in each calendar year following the calendar year in which a limited partnership becomes subject to this chapter, the limited partnership must deliver to the secretary of state for filing an annual registration containing the information required by subsection (c); and

(2) in each calendar year following the calendar year in which there is first on file with the secretary of state a certificate of authority under section 321.0904 pertaining to a foreign limited partnership, the foreign limited partnership must deliver to the secretary of state for filing an annual registration containing the information required by subsection (c).

(b) A limited partnership's obligation under subsection (a) ends if the limited partnership delivers to the secretary of state for filing a statement of termination under section 321.0203 and the statement becomes effective under section 321.0206. A foreign limited partnership's obligation under subsection (a) ends if the secretary of state issues and files a certificate of revocation under section 321.0906 or if the foreign limited partnership delivers to the secretary of state for filing a notice of cancellation under section 321.0907(a) and that notice takes effect under section 321.0206. If a foreign limited partnership's obligations under subsection (a) end and later the secretary of state files, pursuant to section 321.0904, a new certificate of authority pertaining to that foreign limited partnership, subsection (a)(2), again applies to the foreign limited partnership and, for the purposes of subsection (a)(2), the calendar year of the new filing is treated as the calendar year in which a certificate of authority is first on file with the secretary of state.

(c) The annual registration must contain:

(1) the name of the limited partnership or foreign limited partnership;

(2) the address of its designated office and the name and street and mailing address of its agent for service of process in Minnesota and, if the agent is not an individual, the name, street and mailing address, and telephone number of an individual who may be contacted for purposes other than service of process with respect to the limited partnership;

(3) in the case of a limited partnership, the street and mailing address of its principal office; and

(4) in the case of a foreign limited partnership, the name of the state or other jurisdiction under whose law the foreign limited partnership is formed and any alternate name adopted under section 321.0905(a).

(d) The secretary of state shall:

(1) administratively dissolve under section 321.0809 a limited partnership that has failed to file a registration pursuant to subsection (a); and

(2) revoke under section 321.0906 the certificate of authority of a foreign limited partnership that has failed to file a registration pursuant to subsection (a).

**Sec. 61. [321.0909] NAME CHANGES FILED IN HOME STATE.**

A foreign limited partnership shall notify the secretary of state of any changes to the partnership name filed with the state of formation by filing a certificate from the state of formation certifying to

the change of name.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective August 1, 2007.

Sec. 62. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 323A.1003, is amended to read:

**323A.1003 ANNUAL REGISTRATION.**

(a) Each calendar year beginning in the calendar year following the calendar year in which a partnership files a statement of qualification or in which a foreign partnership becomes authorized to transact business in this state, the secretary of state must mail by first class mail an annual registration form to the street address of the partnership's chief executive office, if located in Minnesota, the office in this state, if the chief executive office is not located in Minnesota, or address of the registered agent of the partnership as shown on the records of the secretary of state when the chief executive office is not located in Minnesota and no other Minnesota office exists. The form must include the following notice:

"NOTICE: Failure to file this form by December 31 of this year will result in the revocation of the statement of qualification of this limited liability partnership without further notice from the secretary of state pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 323A.1003, subsection (d)."

(b) A limited liability partnership, and a foreign limited liability partnership authorized to transact business in this state, shall file an annual registration in the office of the secretary of state which contains:

(1) the name of the limited liability partnership and the state or other jurisdiction under whose laws the foreign limited liability partnership is formed;

(2) the street address, including the zip code, of the partnership's chief executive office and, if different, the street address, including the zip code, of an office of the partnership in this state, if any; ~~and~~

(3) if the partnership does not have an office in this state, the name and street address, including the zip code, of the partnership's current agent for service of process; and

(4) if the agent for service of process under clause (3) is not an individual, the name, street address, and telephone number of an individual who may be contacted for purposes other than service of process with respect to the limited liability partnership.

(c) An annual registration must be filed once each calendar year beginning in the year following the calendar year in which a partnership files a statement of qualification or a foreign partnership becomes authorized to transact business in this state.

(d) The secretary of state must revoke the statement of qualification of a partnership that fails to file an annual registration when due or pay the required filing fee. The secretary of state must issue a certificate of revocation which must be filed in the office of the secretary of state. The secretary of state must also make available in an electronic format the names of the revoked limited liability companies.

(e) A revocation under subsection (d) only affects a partnership's status as a limited liability partnership and is not an event of dissolution of the partnership.

(f) A partnership whose statement of qualification has been revoked may apply to the secretary of state for reinstatement within one year after the effective date of the revocation. A partnership must file an annual registration to apply for reinstatement and pay a reinstatement fee of \$135.

(g) A reinstatement under subsection (f) relates back to and takes effect as of the effective date of the revocation, and the partnership's status as a limited liability partnership continues as if the revocation had never occurred.

Sec. 63. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 336.1-110, is amended to read:

**336.1-110 UNIFORM COMMERCIAL CODE ACCOUNT.**

The Uniform Commercial Code account is established as an account in the state treasury. Fees that are not expressly set by statute but are charged by the secretary of state to offset the costs of providing a service under this chapter must be deposited in the state treasury and credited to the Uniform Commercial Code account.

Fees that are not expressly set by statute but are charged by the secretary of state to offset the costs of providing information contained in the computerized records maintained by the secretary of state must be deposited in the state treasury and credited to the Uniform Commercial Code account.

Money in the Uniform Commercial Code account is continuously appropriated to the secretary of state to implement and maintain the central filing system under this chapter, to provide, improve, and expand other online or remote lien and business entity filing, retrieval, and payment method services provided by the secretary of state, and to provide electronic access to other computerized records maintained by the secretary of state.

Sec. 64. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 336.9-516, is amended to read:

**336.9-516 WHAT CONSTITUTES FILING; EFFECTIVENESS OF FILING.**

(a) **What constitutes filing.** Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b), communication of a record to a filing office and tender of the filing fee or acceptance of the record by the filing office constitutes filing.

(b) **Refusal to accept record; filing does not occur.** Filing does not occur with respect to a record that a filing office refuses to accept because:

(1) the record is not communicated by a method or medium of communication authorized by the filing office. For purposes of filing office authorization, transmission of records using the Extensible Markup Language (XML) format is authorized by the filing office after the later of July 1, 2007, or the determination of the secretary of state that the central filing system is capable of receiving and processing these records;

(2) an amount equal to or greater than the applicable filing fee is not tendered;

(3) the filing office is unable to index the record because:

(A) in the case of an initial financing statement, the record does not provide a name for the debtor;

(B) in the case of an amendment or correction statement, the record:

(i) does not identify the initial financing statement as required by section 336.9-512 or 336.9-518, as applicable; or

(ii) identifies an initial financing statement whose effectiveness has lapsed under section 336.9-515;

(C) in the case of an initial financing statement that provides the name of a debtor identified as an individual or an amendment that provides a name of a debtor identified as an individual which was not previously provided in the financing statement to which the record relates, the record does not identify the debtor's last name; or

(D) in the case of a record filed or recorded in the filing office described in section 336.9-501(a)(1), the record does not provide a sufficient description of the real property to which it relates;

(4) in the case of an initial financing statement or an amendment that adds a secured party of record, the record does not provide a name and mailing address for the secured party of record;

(5) in the case of an initial financing statement or an amendment that provides a name of a debtor which was not previously provided in the financing statement to which the amendment relates, the record does not:

(A) provide a mailing address for the debtor;

(B) indicate whether the debtor is an individual or an organization; or

(C) if the financing statement indicates that the debtor is an organization, provide:

(i) a type of organization for the debtor;

(ii) a jurisdiction of organization for the debtor; or

(iii) an organizational identification number for the debtor or indicate that the debtor has none;

(6) in the case of an assignment reflected in an initial financing statement under section 336.9-514(a) or an amendment filed under section 336.9-514(b), the record does not provide a name and mailing address for the assignee; or

(7) in the case of a continuation statement, the record is not filed within the six-month period prescribed by section 336.9-515(d).

(c) **Rules applicable to subsection (b).** For purposes of subsection (b):

(1) a record does not provide information if the filing office is unable to read or decipher the information; and

(2) a record that does not indicate that it is an amendment or identify an initial financing statement to which it relates, as required by section 336.9-512, 336.9-514, or 336.9-518, is an initial financing statement.

(d) **Refusal to accept record; record effective as filed record.** A record that is communicated to the filing office with tender of the filing fee, but which the filing office refuses to accept for a reason other than one set forth in subsection (b), is effective as a filed record except as against a

purchaser of the collateral which gives value in reasonable reliance upon the absence of the record from the files.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective August 1, 2007.

Sec. 65. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 336.9-525, is amended to read:

**336.9-525 FEES.**

(a) **Initial financing statement or other record: general rule.** Except as otherwise provided in subsection (d), the fee for filing and indexing a record under this part ~~delivered on paper~~ is \$20 ~~and for a record delivered by any electronic means is \$15.~~ \$5 of the fee collected for each filing made online must be deposited in the uniform commercial code account.

(b) **Number of names.** The number of names required to be indexed does not affect the amount of the fee in subsection (a).

(c) **Response to information request.** The fee for responding to a request for information from the filing office, including for issuing a certificate showing whether there is on file any financing statement naming a particular debtor, ~~delivered on paper~~ is \$20 ~~and for a record delivered by any electronic means is \$15.~~ \$5 of the fee collected for each request delivered online must be deposited in the uniform commercial code account.

(d) **Record of mortgage.** This section does not require a fee with respect to a record of a mortgage which is effective as a financing statement filed as a fixture filing or as a financing statement covering as-extracted collateral or timber to be cut under section 336.9-502(c). However, the recording and satisfaction fees that otherwise would be applicable to the record of the mortgage apply.

Sec. 66. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 358.41, is amended to read:

**358.41 DEFINITIONS.**

As used in sections 358.41 to 358.49:

(1) "Notarial act" means any act that a notary public of this state is authorized to perform, and includes taking an acknowledgment, administering an oath or affirmation, taking a verification upon oath or affirmation, witnessing or attesting a signature, certifying or attesting a copy, and noting a protest of a negotiable instrument. A notary public may perform a notarial act by electronic means.

(2) "Acknowledgment" means a declaration by a person that the person has executed an instrument or electronic record for the purposes stated therein and, if the instrument or electronic record is executed in a representative capacity, that the person signed the instrument with proper authority and executed it as the act of the person or entity represented and identified therein.

(3) "Verification upon oath or affirmation" means a declaration that a statement is true made by a person upon oath or affirmation.

(4) "In a representative capacity" means:

(i) for and on behalf of a corporation, partnership, limited liability company, trust, or other entity, as an authorized officer, agent, partner, trustee, or other representative;

(ii) as a public officer, personal representative, guardian, or other representative, in the capacity recited in the instrument;

(iii) as an attorney in fact for a principal; or

(iv) in any other capacity as an authorized representative of another.

(5) "Notarial officer" means a notary public or other officer authorized to perform notarial acts.

(6) "Electronic signature" means an electronic sound, symbol, or process attached to or logically associated with a record and executed or adopted by a person with the intent to sign the record.

(7) "Electronic record" means a record created, generated, sent, communicated, received, or stored by electronic means.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective August 1, 2007.

Sec. 67. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 358.42, is amended to read:

**358.42 NOTARIAL ACTS.**

(a) In taking an acknowledgment, the notarial officer must determine, either from personal knowledge or from satisfactory evidence, that the person appearing before the officer and making the acknowledgment is the person whose true signature is on the instrument or electronic record.

(b) In taking a verification upon oath or affirmation, the notarial officer must determine, either from personal knowledge or from satisfactory evidence, that the person appearing before the officer and making the verification is the person whose true signature is made in the presence of the officer on the statement verified.

(c) In witnessing or attesting a signature the notarial officer must determine, either from personal knowledge or from satisfactory evidence, that the signature is that of the person appearing before the officer and named therein. When witnessing or attesting a signature, the officer must be present when the signature is made.

(d) In certifying or attesting a copy of a document, electronic record, or other item, the notarial officer must determine that the proffered copy is a full, true, and accurate transcription or reproduction of that which was copied.

(e) In making or noting a protest of a negotiable instrument or electronic record the notarial officer must determine the matters set forth in section 336.3-505.

(f) A notarial officer has satisfactory evidence that a person is the person whose true signature is on a document or electronic record if that person (i) is personally known to the notarial officer, (ii) is identified upon the oath or affirmation of a credible witness personally known to the notarial officer, or (iii) is identified on the basis of identification documents.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective August 1, 2007.

Sec. 68. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 358.50, is amended to read:

**358.50 EFFECT OF ACKNOWLEDGMENT.**

An acknowledgment made in a representative capacity for and on behalf of a corporation,

partnership, limited liability company, trust, or other entity and certified substantially in the form prescribed in this chapter is prima facie evidence that the instrument or electronic record was executed and delivered with proper authority.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective August 1, 2007.

Sec. 69. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 359.085, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Verifications.** In taking a verification upon oath or affirmation, the notarial officer must determine, either from personal knowledge or from satisfactory evidence, that the person appearing before the officer and making the verification is the person whose true signature is made in the presence of the officer on the statement verified.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective August 1, 2007.

Sec. 70. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 359.085, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Witnessing or attesting signatures.** In witnessing or attesting a signature, the notarial officer must determine, either from personal knowledge or from satisfactory evidence, that the signature is that of the person appearing before the officer and named in the document or electronic record. When witnessing or attesting a signature, the officer must be present when the signature is made.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective August 1, 2007.

Sec. 71. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 477A.014, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Costs.** The director of the Office of Strategic and Long-Range Planning shall annually bill the commissioner of revenue for one-half of the costs incurred by the state demographer in the preparation of materials required by section 4A.02. The state auditor shall bill the commissioner of revenue for the costs of best practices reviews and the services provided by the Government Information Division and the parts of the constitutional office that are related to the government information function, and for the services provided by the Tax Increment Financing Investment and Finance Division required by section 469.3201, not to exceed ~~\$217,000~~ \$614,000 each fiscal year. The commissioner of administration shall bill the commissioner of revenue for the costs of the local government records program and the intergovernmental information systems activity, not to exceed \$205,800 each fiscal year. The commissioner of employee relations shall bill the commissioner of revenue for the costs of administering the local government pay equity function, not to exceed \$55,000 each fiscal year.

Sec. 72. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 491A.02, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Representation.** (a) A corporation, partnership, limited liability company, sole proprietorship, or association may be represented in conciliation court by an officer, manager, or partner or an agent in the case of a condominium, cooperative, or townhouse association, or may appoint a natural person who is an employee or commercial property manager to appear on its behalf or settle a claim in conciliation court. The state or a political subdivision of the state may be represented in conciliation court by an employee of the pertinent governmental unit without a written authorization. The state also may be represented in conciliation court by an employee of the Division of Risk Management of the Department of Administration without a written authorization. Representation under this subdivision does not constitute the practice of law for purposes of



section 481.02, subdivision 8. In the case of an officer, employee, commercial property manager, or agent of a condominium, cooperative, or townhouse association, an authorized power of attorney, corporate authorization resolution, corporate bylaw, or other evidence of authority acceptable to the court must be filed with the claim or presented at the hearing. This subdivision also applies to appearances in district court by a corporation or limited liability company with five or fewer shareholders or members and to any condominium, cooperative, or townhouse association, if the action was removed from conciliation court.

(b) "Commercial property manager" means a corporation, partnership, or limited liability company or its employees who are hired by the owner of commercial real estate to perform a broad range of administrative duties at the property including tenant relations matters, leasing, repairs, maintenance, the negotiation and resolution of tenant disputes, and related matters. In order to appear in conciliation court, a property manager's employees must possess a real estate license under section 82.20 and be authorized by the owner of the property to settle all disputes with tenants and others within the jurisdictional limits of conciliation court.

(c) A commercial property manager who is appointed to settle a claim in conciliation court may not charge or collect a separate fee for services rendered under paragraph (a).

Sec. 73. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 507.24, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Original signatures required.** (a) Unless otherwise provided by law, an instrument affecting real estate that is to be recorded as provided in this section or other applicable law must contain the original signatures of the parties who execute it and of the notary public or other officer taking an acknowledgment. However, a financing statement that is recorded as a filing pursuant to section 336.9-502(b) need not contain: (1) the signatures of the debtor or the secured party; or (2) an acknowledgment.

(b)(1) Any electronic instruments, including signatures and seals, affecting real estate may only be recorded as part of a pilot project for the electronic filing of real estate documents implemented by the task force created in Laws 2000, chapter 391, or by the Electronic Real Estate Recording Task Force created under section 507.094. The Electronic Real Estate Recording Task Force created under section 507.094 may amend standards set by the task force created in Laws 2000, chapter 391, and may set new or additional standards and establish pilot projects to the full extent permitted in section 507.094, subdivision 2, paragraph (b). Documents recorded in conformity with those standards and in those pilot projects are deemed to meet the requirements of this section.

(2)(i) A county that participated in the pilot project for the electronic filing of real estate documents under the task force created in Laws 2000, chapter 391, may continue to record or file documents electronically, if:

~~(1)~~ (A) the county complies with standards adopted by the task force; and

~~(2)~~ (B) the county uses software that was validated by the task force.

(ii) A county that did not participate in the pilot project may record or file a real estate document electronically, if:

~~(i)~~ (A) the document to be recorded or filed is of a type included in the pilot project for the electronic filing of real estate documents under the task force created in Laws 2000, chapter 391;

~~(ii)~~ (B) the county complies with the standards adopted by the task force;

~~(iii)~~ (C) the county uses software that was validated by the task force; and

~~(iv)~~ (D) the task force created under section 507.094, votes to accept a written certification of compliance with paragraph (b), clause (2), of this section by the county board and county recorder of the county to implement electronic filing under this section.

(c) Notices filed pursuant to section 168A.141, subdivisions 1 and 3, need not contain an acknowledgment.

Sec. 74. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 517.08, subdivision 1b, is amended to read:

Subd. 1b. **Term of license; fee; premarital education.** (a) The local registrar shall examine upon oath the party applying for a license relative to the legality of the contemplated marriage. If at the expiration of a five-day period, on being satisfied that there is no legal impediment to it, including the restriction contained in section 259.13, the local registrar shall issue the license, containing the full names of the parties before and after marriage, and county and state of residence, with the county seal attached, and make a record of the date of issuance. The license shall be valid for a period of six months. In case of emergency or extraordinary circumstances, a judge of the district court of the county in which the application is made, may authorize the license to be issued at any time before the expiration of the five days. Except as provided in paragraph (b), the local registrar shall collect from the applicant a fee of ~~\$100~~ \$110 for administering the oath, issuing, recording, and filing all papers required, and preparing and transmitting to the state registrar of vital statistics the reports of marriage required by this section. If the license should not be used within the period of six months due to illness or other extenuating circumstances, it may be surrendered to the local registrar for cancellation, and in that case a new license shall issue upon request of the parties of the original license without fee. A local registrar who knowingly issues or signs a marriage license in any manner other than as provided in this section shall pay to the parties aggrieved an amount not to exceed \$1,000.

(b) The marriage license fee for parties who have completed at least 12 hours of premarital education is ~~\$30~~ \$40. In order to qualify for the reduced license fee, the parties must submit at the time of applying for the marriage license a signed and dated statement from the person who provided the premarital education confirming that it was received. The premarital education must be provided by a licensed or ordained minister or the minister's designee, a person authorized to solemnize marriages under section 517.18, or a person authorized to practice marriage and family therapy under section 148B.33. The education must include the use of a premarital inventory and the teaching of communication and conflict management skills.

(c) The statement from the person who provided the premarital education under paragraph (b) must be in the following form:

"I, (name of educator), confirm that (names of both parties) received at least 12 hours of premarital education that included the use of a premarital inventory and the teaching of communication and conflict management skills. I am a licensed or ordained minister, a person authorized to solemnize marriages under Minnesota Statutes, section 517.18, or a person licensed to practice marriage and family therapy under Minnesota Statutes, section 148B.33."

The names of the parties in the educator's statement must be identical to the legal names of

the parties as they appear in the marriage license application. Notwithstanding section 138.17, the educator's statement must be retained for seven years, after which time it may be destroyed.

(d) If section 259.13 applies to the request for a marriage license, the local registrar shall grant the marriage license without the requested name change. Alternatively, the local registrar may delay the granting of the marriage license until the party with the conviction:

(1) certifies under oath that 30 days have passed since service of the notice for a name change upon the prosecuting authority and, if applicable, the attorney general and no objection has been filed under section 259.13; or

(2) provides a certified copy of the court order granting it. The parties seeking the marriage license shall have the right to choose to have the license granted without the name change or to delay its granting pending further action on the name change request.

Sec. 75. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 517.08, subdivision 1c, is amended to read:

Subd. 1c. **Disposition of license fee.** (a) Of the marriage license fee collected pursuant to subdivision 1b, paragraph (a), ~~\$15~~ \$25 must be retained by the county. The local registrar must pay \$85 to the commissioner of finance to be deposited as follows:

(1) \$50 in the general fund;

(2) \$3 in the special revenue fund to be appropriated to the commissioner of education for parenting time centers under section 119A.37;

(3) \$2 in the special revenue fund to be appropriated to the commissioner of health for developing and implementing the MN ENABL program under section 145.9255;

(4) \$25 in the special revenue fund is appropriated to the commissioner of employment and economic development for the displaced homemaker program under section 116L.96; and

(5) \$5 in the special revenue fund is appropriated to the commissioner of human services for the Minnesota Healthy Marriage and Responsible Fatherhood Initiative under section 256.742.

(b) Of the ~~\$30~~ \$40 fee under subdivision 1b, paragraph (b), ~~\$15~~ \$25 must be retained by the county. The local registrar must pay \$15 to the commissioner of finance to be deposited as follows:

(1) \$5 as provided in paragraph (a), clauses (2) and (3); and

(2) \$10 in the special revenue fund is appropriated to the commissioner of employment and economic development for the displaced homemaker program under section 116L.96.

(c) The increase in the marriage license fee under paragraph (a) provided for in Laws 2004, chapter 273, and disbursement of the increase in that fee to the special fund for the Minnesota Healthy Marriage and Responsible Fatherhood Initiative under paragraph (a), clause (5), is contingent upon the receipt of federal funding under United States Code, title 42, section 1315, for purposes of the initiative.

Sec. 76. Laws 2005, chapter 156, article 2, section 45, is amended to read:

Sec. 45. **SALE OF STATE LAND.**

Subdivision 1. **State land sales.** The commissioner of administration shall coordinate with the head of each department or agency having control of state-owned land to identify and sell at least \$6,440,000 of state-owned land. Sales should be completed according to law and as provided in this section as soon as practicable but no later than June 30, ~~2007~~ 2009. Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, sections 16B.281 and 16B.282, 94.09 and 94.10, or any other law to the contrary, the commissioner may offer land for public sale by only providing notice of lands or an offer of sale of lands to state departments or agencies, the University of Minnesota, cities, counties, towns, school districts, or other public entities.

Subd. 2. **Anticipated savings.** Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 94.16, subdivision 3, or other law to the contrary, the amount of the proceeds from the sale of land under this section that exceeds the actual expenses of selling the land must be deposited in the general fund, except as otherwise provided by the commissioner of finance. Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 94.11 or 16B.283, the commissioner of finance may establish the timing of payments for land purchased under this section. If the total of all money deposited into the general fund from the proceeds of the sale of land under this section is anticipated to be less than \$6,440,000, the governor must allocate the amount of the difference as reductions to general fund operating expenditures for other executive agencies for the biennium ending June 30, ~~2007~~ 2009.

Subd. 3. **Sale of state lands revolving loan fund.** \$290,000 is appropriated from the general fund in fiscal year 2006 to the commissioner of administration for purposes of paying the actual expenses of selling state-owned lands to achieve the anticipated savings required in this section. From the gross proceeds of land sales under this section, the commissioner of administration must cancel the amount of the appropriation in this subdivision to the general fund by June 30, ~~2007~~ 2009.

Sec. 77. Laws 2006, chapter 253, section 22, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Genetic information; work group.** (a) The commissioner must create a work group to develop principles for public policy on the use of genetic information. The work group must include representatives of state government, including the judicial branch, local government, prosecutors, public defenders, the American Civil Liberties Union - Minnesota, the Citizens Council on Health Care, the University of Minnesota Center on Bioethics, the Minnesota Medical Association, the Mayo Clinic and Foundation, the March of Dimes, and representatives of employers, researchers, epidemiologists, laboratories, and insurance companies.

(b) The commissioner of administration and the work group must conduct reviews of the topics in paragraphs (c) to (f), in light of the issues raised in the report on treatment of genetic information under state law required by Laws 2005, chapter 163, section 87. The commissioner must report the results, including any recommendations for legislative changes, to the chairs of the house Civil Law Committee and the senate Judiciary Committee and the ranking minority members of those committees by January 15, ~~2008~~ 2009.

(c) The commissioner and the work group must determine whether changes are needed in Minnesota Statutes, section 144.69, dealing with collection of information from cancer patients and their relatives.

(d) The commissioner and the work group must make recommendations whether all relatives affected by a formal three-generation pedigree created by the Department of Health should be able to access the entire data set, rather than only allowing individuals access to the data of which they are the subject.

(e) The commissioner and the work group must identify, and may make recommendations among, options for resolving questions of secondary uses of genetic information.

(f) The commissioner and the work group must make recommendations whether legislative changes are needed regarding access to DNA test results and the specimens used to create the test results held by the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension as part of a criminal investigation.

Sec. 78. Laws 2006, chapter 282, article 14, section 5, is amended to read:

**Sec. 5. OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE  
HEARINGS**

320,000

From the workers' compensation fund for costs associated with the relocation of offices to St. Paul. The commissioner of administration shall take all steps as necessary to complete the renovation of the Stassen Building for these purposes by January 1, 2008. Minnesota Statutes, section 16B.33, subdivision 3, does not apply if the estimated cost of construction exceeds \$2,000,000. This is a onetime appropriation. This appropriation is available until spent.

Beginning in fiscal year 2009 and for all fiscal years thereafter, the appropriation base for the workers' compensation fund for the Office of Administrative Hearings is reduced by \$297,000 to reflect savings in rent costs due to the relocation of offices to St. Paul.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

**Sec. 79. FORD BUILDING.**

The Ford Building at 117 University Avenue in St. Paul may not be demolished during the biennium ending June 30, 2009.

**Sec. 80. ELECTRONIC DOCUMENTS STUDY AND REPORT.**

Subdivision 1. **Study.** The chief information officer of the state, in consultation with the state archivist and legislative reference librarian, shall study how electronic documents and the mechanisms and processes for accessing and reading electronic data can be created, maintained, exchanged, and preserved by the state in a manner that encourages appropriate government control, access, choice, and interoperability. The study must consider, but not be limited to, the policies of other states and nations, management guidelines for state archives as they pertain to electronic documents, public access to information, expected storage life of electronic documents, costs of implementation, and potential savings. The chief information officer shall solicit comments from stakeholders, including, but not limited to, the legislative auditor, attorney general, librarians, state services for the blind, representatives of the Minnesota Historical Society, other historians, and the

media. The chief information officer shall also solicit comments from members of the public.

Subd. 2. **Report and recommendations.** The chief information officer shall report the officer's findings and recommendations to the chairs of the senate State and Local Government Operations and Oversight Committee; the house of representatives Government Operations, Reform, Technology and Elections Committee; and the senate and house of representatives State Government Finance Divisions by January 15, 2008.

**Sec. 81. STATE EMPLOYEES ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORDS PILOT PROJECT.**

Subdivision 1. **Project established.** The Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Board of Trustees (MnSCU), in collaboration with the commissioner of employee relations shall establish an enterprise-wide pilot project to provide consumer-owned electronic personal health records to MnSCU employees and all participants in the state employee group insurance program. If the Department of Employee Relations is abolished, then the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Board of Trustees shall work in collaboration with the commissioner of the department responsible for administration of the state employee group insurance program.

Subd. 2. **Project goals.** The goal of the project is to provide consumer-owned electronic personal health records that are portable among health care providers, health plan companies, and employers in order to control costs, improve quality, and enhance safety, and to demonstrate the feasibility of a statewide health information exchange. The pilot project shall coordinate to the extent possible with other health information consumer engagement initiatives in Minnesota designed to support the goal of statewide health information exchange. The electronic personal health records may provide, but are not limited to, the following:

- (1) access to electronic medical records;
- (2) prescription and appointment information;
- (3) information regarding health education, public health, and health cost management; and
- (4) privacy, security, and compliance with HIPAA; Minnesota Statutes, chapter 13; Minnesota Statutes, section 144.335; and other state law related to data privacy.

**Sec. 82. SUSTAINABLE GROWTH WORKING GROUP.**

Subdivision 1. **Creation.** The sustainable growth working group consists of the following members:

- (1) two senators, including one member of the minority caucus, appointed by the Subcommittee on Committees of the Committee on Rules and Administration;
- (2) two members of the house of representatives, one appointed by the speaker and one appointed by the minority leader;
- (3) commissioners of the following agencies, or their designees: Department of Natural Resources, Department of Transportation, Department of Employment and Economic Development, Minnesota Housing Finance Agency, and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency; and the chair of the Metropolitan Council or the chair's designee;
- (4) up to 12 public members who have an interest in promoting sustainable communities

in Minnesota, including up to six public members appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives and up to six public members appointed by the majority leader of the senate. The appointing authorities must use their best efforts to include at least one representative from each of the following sectors: business, environmental, energy, affordable housing, transportation, local government, planning, and philanthropic.

The membership of the working group must include balanced representation from rural, urban, and suburban areas of the state. The commissioners of administration, agriculture, and commerce must consult with and advise the working group in the development of its recommendations.

Subd. 2. **Duties.** The working group must identify strategies, recommendations, and a process for implementing state-level coordination of state and local policies, programs, and regulations in the areas of housing, transportation, natural resource preservation, capital development, economic development, sustainability, and preservation of the environment. The working group must identify sustainable development principles that will guide decision making in Minnesota. The working group must gather information and develop strategies relative to the strategic use of state resources, to be consistent with statewide goals of sustainable development. The working group must report proposed strategies, recommendations, and a process for implementation to the legislature and the governor by February 1, 2008. In its report to the legislature and the governor, the working group must identify its source of funding.

Subd. 3. **Administrative provisions.** (a) The commissioner of administration must convene the initial meeting. Upon request of the working group, the commissioner must provide meeting space and administrative services for the group. The Office of Geographic and Demographic Analysis must provide staff support for the working group. The members of the working group must elect a chair.

(b) Members of the working group serve without compensation but may be reimbursed for expenses under Minnesota Statutes, section 15.059.

(c) The working group expires June 30, 2008.

(d) The working group may accept gifts and grants, which are accepted on behalf of the state and constitute donations to the state. Funds received are appropriated to the commissioner of administration for purposes of the working group.

#### Sec. 83. **TRAINING SERVICES.**

During the biennium ending June 30, 2009, state executive branch agencies must consider using services provided by government training services before contracting with other outside vendors for similar services.

#### Sec. 84. **DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYEE RELATIONS ABOLISHED; DUTIES TRANSFERRED.**

(a) The Department of Employee Relations and the position of the commissioner of employee relations are abolished as of June 1, 2008. Duties of the Department of Employee Relations and the commissioner of employee relations are transferred on or before June 1, 2008, to the commissioner of finance, except as follows:

(1) duties relating to administration of the state employees workers' compensation program are

transferred on or before June 1, 2008, to the commissioner of administration; and

(2) duties relating to health care purchasing improvement under Minnesota Statutes, section 43A.312, are transferred on or before June 1, 2008, to the commissioner of health.

(b) The commissioner of employee relations, in consultation with the commissioner of finance, may specify one or more dates before June 1, 2008, on which any or all of the transfers provided in paragraph (a) will occur.

(c) The governor may, in consultation with the commissioner of employee relations, the commissioner of finance, the commissioner of administration, and the director of the Office of Enterprise Technology, transfer other duties of the Department of Employee Relations to other state agencies in order to most effectively and efficiently accomplish the reorganization required by this act.

(d) Transfer of duties under this section is subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 15.039.

(e) In addition to any other protection, no employee in the classified service shall suffer job loss, have a salary reduced, or have employment benefits reduced as a result of a reorganization mandated or recommended under authority of this section. No action taken after June 1, 2009, shall be considered a result of reorganization for the purposes of this section.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

**Sec. 85. STATE BUDGET TRENDS STUDY COMMISSION.**

(a) The State Budget Trends Study Commission is established for the purpose of completing a study of the implications of state demographic trends for future state budget conditions, including both expected revenue collections and spending for state government services and local services supported by state revenues. The commission shall consist of 15 public members, including five members appointed by the governor; five members appointed by the senate Subcommittee on Committees of the Committee on Rules and Administration; four members appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives; and one member appointed by the minority leader of the house of representatives. The respective appointing authorities must complete their appointments under this section within 30 days of the effective date of this section. The commissioner of finance must convene the commission within 30 days of the completion of appointments under this section. The members shall select their chair at the first meeting. When making appointments under this section, the appointing authorities must consider the education and expertise of appointees in fields such as public finance, demography, and public administration.

(b) Per diem and expense payments to members, removal of members, and vacancies are governed by Minnesota Statutes, section 15.059.

(c) The commissioners of finance and revenue must provide data, analysis, and staff support required by the commission to complete the study, including, but not limited to, the effect of expected demographic changes over the next 25 years on state tax bases and on existing state programs and appropriations. In preparing the study, the commission shall consult with and use the services of the state demographer to estimate the changing profile of the Minnesota population by age and other factors relevant to the study. The commission may also contract with appropriate consultants and experts as needed to complete the study.



(d) In completing the study, the commission must consider:

(1) the effect of expected demographic changes over the next 25 years on the tax base and revenue collections for state income and sales tax, or other state taxes;

(2) estimates of tax revenue collections for the years 2012, 2017, 2022, 2027, and 2032, taking into account the sensitivity of the results for changes in estimated migration rates, labor force participation by older individuals, and other shares of capital versus labor;

(3) the effect of demographic trends on entitlement programs and other large state appropriations relative to current budget commitments;

(4) relative trends in spending for state programs including trends identified in the fast growing expenditures report completed under Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.103, subdivision 4; and

(5) the structure of the state budget with regard to budget stability and flexibility.

(e) The commission may make recommendations for state tax or budget policy changes, including recommendations for changes in tax base, mix of tax types, state and local finance relationships, entitlements, or budget structure. The commission shall present preliminary results to the chairs of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over finance and taxes by February 1, 2008, and a final written report to the same chairs by January 15, 2009, in compliance with Minnesota Statutes, sections 3.195 and 3.197.

(f) This section expires on June 30, 2009.

**Sec. 86. REVISOR'S INSTRUCTION.**

In the next and subsequent editions of Minnesota Statutes and Minnesota Rules, the revisor of statutes must replace references to the Department of Employee Relations and commissioner of employee relations with references to the appropriate department and commissioner specified in section 86. The revisor of statutes, in consultation with affected commissioners of state agencies, must prepare a bill for introduction in the 2008 legislative session making other statutory changes needed to implement or conform with section 86.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

**Sec. 87. REPEALER.**

Minnesota Statutes 2006, sections 16A.102, subdivisions 1, 2, and 3; 16B.055, subdivisions 2 and 3; 16C.055, subdivision 1; 16C.08, subdivision 4a; 69.051, subdivision 1c; and 359.085, subdivision 8, are repealed.

### ARTICLE 3

#### BEST VALUE CONTRACTS

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16C.02, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 4a. **Best value; construction.** For purposes of construction, building, alteration, improvement, or repair services, "best value" describes the result determined by a procurement method that considers price and performance criteria, which may include, but are not limited to:

- (1) the quality of the vendor's or contractor's performance on previous projects;
- (2) the timeliness of the vendor's or contractor's performance on previous projects;
- (3) the level of customer satisfaction with the vendor's or contractor's performance on previous projects;
- (4) the vendor's or contractor's record of performing previous projects on budget and ability to minimize cost overruns;
- (5) the vendor's or contractor's ability to minimize change orders;
- (6) the vendor's or contractor's ability to prepare appropriate project plans;
- (7) the vendor's or contractor's technical capacities;
- (8) the individual qualifications of the contractor's key personnel; or
- (9) the vendor's or contractor's ability to assess and minimize risks.

"Performance on previous projects" does not include the exercise or assertion of a person's legal rights. This definition does not apply to sections 16C.32, 16C.33, 16C.34, and 16C.35.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16C.02, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 20. **Vendor.** "Vendor" means a business, including a construction contractor or a natural person, and includes both if the natural person is engaged in a business.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16C.03, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

**Subd. 3. Acquisition authority.** The commissioner shall acquire all goods, services, and utilities needed by agencies. The commissioner shall acquire goods, services, and utilities by requests for bids, requests for proposals, reverse auctions as provided in section 16C.10, subdivision 7, or other methods provided by law, unless a section of law requires a particular method of acquisition to be used. The commissioner shall make all decisions regarding acquisition activities. The determination of the acquisition method and all decisions involved in the acquisition process, unless otherwise provided for by law, shall be based on best value which includes an evaluation of price and may include other considerations including, but not limited to, environmental considerations, quality, and vendor performance. A best value determination must be based on the evaluation criteria detailed in the solicitation document. If criteria other than price are used, the solicitation document must state the relative importance of price and other factors. ~~Unless it is determined by the commissioner that an alternative solicitation method provided by law should be used to determine best value, a request for bid must be used to solicit formal responses for all building and construction contracts.~~ Any or all responses may be rejected. When using the request for bid process, the bid must be awarded to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, taking into consideration conformity with the specifications, terms of delivery, the purpose for which the contract or purchase is intended, the status and capability of the vendor, and other considerations imposed in the request for bids. The commissioner may decide which is the lowest responsible bidder for all purchases and may use the principles of life-cycle costing, where appropriate, in determining the lowest overall bid. The duties set forth in this subdivision are subject to delegation pursuant to this section.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16C.03, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 3a. **Acquisition authority; construction contracts.** For all building and construction contracts, the commissioner shall award contracts pursuant to section 16C.28, and "best value" shall be defined and applied as set forth in sections 16C.02, subdivision 4a, and 16C.28, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (2), and paragraph (c). The duties set forth in this subdivision are subject to delegation pursuant to this section. The commissioner shall establish procedures for developing and awarding best value requests for proposals for construction projects. The criteria to be used to evaluate the proposals must be included in the solicitation document and must be evaluated in an open and competitive manner.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16C.03, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 19. **Training.** Any personnel administering procurement procedures for a user of best value procurement or any consultant retained by a local unit of government to prepare or evaluate solicitation documents must be trained, either by the department or through other training, in the request for proposals process for best value contracting for construction projects. The commissioner may establish a training program for state and local officials, and vendors and contractors, on best value procurement for construction projects, including those governed by section 16C.28. If the commissioner establishes such a training program, the state may charge a fee for providing training.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16C.26, is amended to read:

#### **16C.26 COMPETITIVE BIDS OR PROPOSALS.**

Subdivision 1. **Application.** Except as otherwise provided by sections 16C.10, 16C.26 and 16C.27, all contracts for building and construction or repairs must be based on competitive bids or proposals. "Competitive proposals" specifically refers to the method of procurement described in section 16C.28, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (2), and paragraph (c).

Subd. 2. **Requirement contracts.** Standard requirement price contracts for building and construction must be established by competitive bids as provided in subdivision 1. The standard requirement price contracts may contain escalation clauses and may provide for a negotiated price increase or decrease based upon a demonstrable industrywide or regional increase or decrease in the vendor's costs or for the addition of similar products or replacement items not significant to the total value of existing contracts. The term of these contracts may not exceed five years including all extensions.

Subd. 3. **Publication of notice; expenditures over \$25,000.** If the amount of an expenditure is estimated to exceed \$25,000, bids or proposals must be solicited by public notice in a manner designated by the commissioner. To the extent practical, this must include posting on a state Web site. For expenditures over \$50,000, when a call for bids is issued, the commissioner shall solicit sealed bids by providing notices to all prospective bidders known to the commissioner by posting notice on a state Web site at least seven days before the final date of submitting bids. All bids over \$50,000 must be sealed when they are received and must be opened in public at the hour stated in the notice. All proposals responsive to a request for proposals according to section 16C.28, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (2), and paragraph (c), shall be submitted and evaluated in the manner described in the request for proposals, regardless of the dollar amount. All original bids and proposals and all documents pertaining to the award of a contract must be retained and made a part of a permanent file or record and remain open to public inspection.

Subd. 4. **Building and construction contracts; \$50,000 or less.** An informal bid may be used

for building, construction, and repair contracts that are estimated at less than \$50,000. Informal bids must be authenticated by the bidder in a manner specified by the commissioner. Alternatively, a request for proposals may be issued according to section 16C.28, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (2), and paragraph (c), for such contracts.

Subd. 5. **Standard specifications, security.** Contracts must be based on the standard specifications prescribed and enforced by the commissioner under this chapter, unless otherwise expressly provided or as authorized under section 16C.28, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (2), and paragraph (c). Each bidder for a contract vendor or contractor must furnish security approved by the commissioner to ensure the making of the contract being bid for.

Subd. 6. **Noncompetitive bids.** Agencies are encouraged to contract with small targeted group businesses designated under section 16C.16 when entering into contracts that are not subject to competitive bidding procedures.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16C.27, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Single source of supply.** Competitive bidding ~~is~~ or proposals are not required for contracts clearly and legitimately limited to a single source of supply, and the contract price may be best established by direct negotiation.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16C.28, is amended to read:

#### **16C.28 CONTRACTS; AWARD.**

Subdivision 1. ~~**Lowest responsible bidder**~~ **Award requirements.** (a) All state building and construction contracts entered into by or under the supervision of the commissioner or an agency for which competitive bids or proposals are required must be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder, taking into consideration conformity with the specifications, terms of delivery, the purpose for which the contract is intended, the status and capability of the vendor, and other considerations imposed in the call for bids. The commissioner may decide which is the lowest responsible bidder for all contracts and may use the principles of life cycle costing, where appropriate, in determining the lowest overall bid. The head of the interested agency shall make the decision, subject to the approval of the commissioner. Any or all bids may be rejected. In a case where competitive bids are required and where all bids are rejected, new bids, if solicited, must be called for as in the first instance, unless otherwise provided by law. may be awarded to either of the following:

(1) the lowest responsible bidder, taking into consideration conformity with the specifications, terms of delivery, the purpose for which the contract is intended, the status and capability of the vendor or contractor, other considerations imposed in the call for bids, and, where appropriate, principles of life-cycle costing; or

(2) the vendor or contractor offering the best value, taking into account the specifications of the request for proposals, the price and performance criteria as set forth in section 16C.02, subdivision 4a, and described in the solicitation document.

(b) The vendor or contractor must secure bonding, commercial general insurance coverage, and workers' compensation insurance coverage under paragraph (a), clause (1) or (2). The commissioner shall determine whether to use the procurement process described in paragraph (a), clause (1), or the procurement process described in paragraph (a), clause (2), and paragraph (c). If the commissioner uses the method in paragraph (a), clause (2), and paragraph (c), the head of the

agency shall determine which vendor or contractor offers the best value, subject to the approval of the commissioner. Any or all bids or proposals may be rejected.

(c) When using the procurement process described in subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (2), the solicitation document must state the relative weight of price and other selection criteria. The award must be made to the vendor or contractor offering the best value applying the weighted selection criteria. If an interview of the vendor's or contractor's personnel is one of the selection criteria, the relative weight of the interview shall be stated in the solicitation document and applied accordingly.

Subd. 1a. **Establishment and purpose.** (a) The state recognizes the importance of the inclusion of a best value contracting system for construction as an alternative to the current low-bid system of procurement. In order to accomplish that goal, state and local governmental entities shall be able to choose the best value system in different phases.

(b) "Best value" means the procurement method defined in section 16C.02, subdivision 4a.

(c) The following entities are eligible to participate in phase I:

(1) state agencies;

(2) counties;

(3) cities; and

(4) school districts with the highest 25 percent enrollment of students in the state.

Phase I begins on the effective date of this section.

(d) The following entities are eligible to participate in phase II:

(1) those entities included in phase I; and

(2) school districts with the highest 50 percent enrollment of students in the state.

Phase II begins two years from the effective date of this section.

(e) The following entities are eligible to participate in phase III:

(1) all entities included in phases I and II; and

(2) all other townships, school districts, and political subdivisions in the state.

Phase III begins three years from the effective date of this section.

(f) The commissioner or any agency for which competitive bids or proposals are required may not use best value contracting as defined in section 16C.02, subdivision 4a, for more than one project annually, or 20 percent of its projects, whichever is greater, in each of the first three fiscal years in which best value construction contracting is used.

**Subd. 2. Alterations and erasures.** A bid containing an alteration or erasure of any price contained in the bid which is used in determining the lowest responsible bid must be rejected unless the alteration or erasure is corrected in a manner that is clear and authenticated by an authorized representative of the responder. An alteration or erasure may be crossed out and the correction printed in ink or typewritten adjacent to it and initialed by an authorized representative of the

responder.

Subd. 3. **Special circumstances.** The commissioner may reject the bid or proposal of any ~~bidder~~ vendor or contractor who has failed to perform a previous contract with the state. In the case of identical low bids from two or more bidders, the commissioner may use negotiated procurement methods with the tied low bidders for that particular transaction so long as the price paid does not exceed the low tied bid price. The commissioner may award contracts to more than one ~~bidder~~ vendor or contractor in accordance with subdivision 1, if doing so does not decrease the service level or diminish the effect of competition.

Subd. 4. **Record.** A record must be kept of all bids or proposals, including names of bidders, amounts of bids or proposals, and each successful bid or proposal. This record is open to public inspection, subject to section 13.591 and other applicable law.

Subd. 5. **Preferences not cumulative.** The preferences under sections 16B.121, 16C.06, subdivision 7, and 16C.16 apply, but are not cumulative. The total percentage of preference granted on a contract may not exceed the highest percentage of preference allowed for that contract under any one of those sections.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 103D.811, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Awarding of contract.** (a) At a time and place specified in the bid notice, the managers may accept or reject any or all bids and may award the contract to the lowest responsible bidder. The bidder to whom the contract is to be awarded must give a bond, with ample security, conditioned by satisfactory completion of the contract.

(b) Bids must not be considered which in the aggregate exceed by more than 30 percent the total estimated cost of construction or implementation.

(c) As an alternative to the procurement method described in paragraph (a), the managers may issue a request for proposals and award the contract to the vendor or contractor offering the best value as described in section 16C.28, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (2), and paragraph (c).

(d) The contract must be in writing and be accompanied by or refer to the plans and specifications for the work to be done as prepared by the engineer for the watershed district. The plans and specifications shall become a part of the contract.

~~(e)~~ (e) The contract shall be approved by the managers and signed by the president, secretary, and contractor.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 103E.505, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **How contract may be awarded.** The contract may be awarded in one job, in sections, or separately for labor and material and ~~must~~ may be let to the lowest responsible bidder. Alternatively, the contract may be awarded to the vendor or contractor offering the best value under a request for proposals as described in section 16C.28, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (2), and paragraph (c).

Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 116A.13, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **How job may be let.** The job may be let in one job, or in sections, or separately for labor and material, and ~~shall~~ may be let to the lowest responsible bidder or bidders therefor. Alternatively,

the contract may be awarded to the vendor or contractor offering the best value under a request for proposals as described in section 16C.28, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (2), and paragraph (c).

Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 123B.52, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Contracts.** A contract for work or labor, or for the purchase of furniture, fixtures, or other property, except books registered under the copyright laws, or for the construction or repair of school houses, the estimated cost or value of which shall exceed that specified in section 471.345, subdivision 3, must not be made by the school board without first advertising for bids or proposals by two weeks' published notice in the official newspaper. This notice must state the time and place of receiving bids and contain a brief description of the subject matter.

Additional publication in the official newspaper or elsewhere may be made as the board shall deem necessary.

After taking into consideration conformity with the specifications, terms of delivery, and other conditions imposed in the call for bids, every such contract for which a call for bids has been issued must be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder, be duly executed in writing, and be otherwise conditioned as required by law. The person to whom the contract is awarded shall give a sufficient bond to the board for its faithful performance. Notwithstanding section 574.26 or any other law to the contrary, on a contract limited to the purchase of a finished tangible product, a board may require, at its discretion, a performance bond of a contractor in the amount the board considers necessary. A record must be kept of all bids, with names of bidders and amount of bids, and with the successful bid indicated thereon. A bid containing an alteration or erasure of any price contained in the bid which is used in determining the lowest responsible bid must be rejected unless the alteration or erasure is corrected as provided in this section. An alteration or erasure may be crossed out and the correction thereof printed in ink or typewritten adjacent thereto and initialed in ink by the person signing the bid. In the case of identical low bids from two or more bidders, the board may, at its discretion, utilize negotiated procurement methods with the tied low bidders for that particular transaction, so long as the price paid does not exceed the low tied bid price. In the case where only a single bid is received, the board may, at its discretion, negotiate a mutually agreeable contract with the bidder so long as the price paid does not exceed the original bid. If no satisfactory bid is received, the board may readvertise. Standard requirement price contracts established for supplies or services to be purchased by the district must be established by competitive bids. Such standard requirement price contracts may contain escalation clauses and may provide for a negotiated price increase or decrease based upon a demonstrable industrywide or regional increase or decrease in the vendor's costs. Either party to the contract may request that the other party demonstrate such increase or decrease. The term of such contracts must not exceed two years with an option on the part of the district to renew for an additional two years. Contracts for the purchase of perishable food items, except milk for school lunches and vocational training programs, in any amount may be made by direct negotiation by obtaining two or more written quotations for the purchase or sale, when possible, without advertising for bids or otherwise complying with the requirements of this section or section 471.345, subdivision 3. All quotations obtained shall be kept on file for a period of at least one year after receipt.

Every contract made without compliance with the provisions of this section shall be void. Except in the case of the destruction of buildings or injury thereto, where the public interest would suffer by delay, contracts for repairs may be made without advertising for bids.

Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 123B.52, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 1b. **Best value alternative.** As an alternative to the procurement method described in subdivision 1, a contract for construction, building, alteration, improvement, or repair work may be awarded to the vendor or contractor offering the best value under a request for proposals as described in section 16C.28, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (2), and paragraph (c).

Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 160.17, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 2a. **Best value alternative.** As an alternative to the procurement method referenced in subdivision 2, counties or towns may issue a request for proposal and award the contract to the vendor or contractor offering the best value as described in section 16C.28, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (2), and paragraph (c).

Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 160.262, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 5. **Best value alternative.** As an alternative to the procurement method described in subdivision 4, the commissioner may allow for the award of design-build contracts for the projects described in subdivision 4 to the vendor or contractor offering the best value under a request for proposals as described in section 16C.28, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (2), and paragraph (c).

Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 161.32, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 1f. **Best value alternative.** As an alternative to the procurement method described in subdivisions 1a to 1e, the commissioner may issue a request for proposals and award the contract to the vendor or contractor offering the best value as described in section 16C.28, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (2), and paragraph (c).

Sec. 17. **[161.3206] BEST VALUE CONTRACTING AUTHORITY.**

Notwithstanding sections 16C.25, 161.32, 161.321, or any other law to the contrary, the commissioner may solicit and award all contracts, other than design-build contracts governed by section 161.3412, for a project on the basis of a best value selection process as defined in section 16C.02, subdivision 4a. Section 16C.08 does not apply to this section.

Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 161.3412, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Best value selection for design-build contracts.** Notwithstanding sections 16C.25, 161.32, and 161.321, or any other law to the contrary, the commissioner may solicit and award a design-build contract for a project on the basis of a best value selection process. Section 16C.08 does not apply to design-build contracts to which the commissioner is a party.

Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 161.38, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Effects on other law of public contract with commissioner.** Whenever the road authority of any city enters into an agreement with the commissioner pursuant to this section, and a portion of the cost is to be assessed against benefited property, the letting of a public contract by the commissioner for the work shall be deemed to comply with statutory or charter provisions requiring the city (1) to advertise for bids before awarding a contract for a public improvement, (2) to let the contract to the lowest responsible bidder or to the vendor or contractor offering the best value, and (3) to require a performance bond to be filed by the contractor before undertaking the



work. The contract so let by the commissioner and the performance bond required of the contractor by the commissioner shall be considered to be the contract and bond of the city for the purposes of complying with the requirements of any applicable law or charter provision, and the bond shall inure to the benefit of the city and operate for their protection to the same extent as though they were parties thereto.

Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 365.37, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 2a. **Best value alternative.** As an alternative to the procurement method described in subdivision 2, a contract for construction, building, alteration, improvement, or repair work may be awarded to the vendor or contractor offering the best value under a request for proposals as described in section 16C.28, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (2), and paragraph (c).

Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 374.13, is amended to read:

### **374.13 TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS.**

Subdivision 1. **Bidding process.** When the plans and specifications are completed and approved by the city council and the county board, the commission shall, after notice appropriate to inform possible bidders, obtain bids or proposals for all or any portion of the work or materials, or both, to be done, performed, or furnished in the construction of the building. All bids or proposals shall be sealed by the bidders or proposers and filed with the commission at or before the time specified for the opening of bids or proposals. At the time and place specified for the opening of bids or proposals, the commission shall meet, open the bids or proposals, tabulate them, and award the contract or contracts to the responsible bidder whose bid or proposal is the most favorable to the city or county, or reject all bids and proposals. If all bids or proposals are rejected, the commission may, after similar notice, obtain more bids or proposals or may modify or change the plans and specifications and submit the modified plans and specifications to the city council and the county board for approval. When the modified or changed plans and specifications are satisfactory to both the city council and the county board, the plans and specifications shall be returned to the commission and the commission shall proceed again, after similar notice, to obtain bids or proposals. Any contract awarded by the commission shall be subject to approval by the city council and the county board.

Subd. 2. **Best value alternative.** As an alternative to the procurement method described in subdivision 1, the commission may issue a request for proposals and award the contract to the vendor or contractor offering the best value as described in section 16C.28, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (2), and paragraph (c).

Sec. 22. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 375.21, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 1b. **Best value alternative.** As an alternative to the procurement method described in subdivision 1, a county board may award a contract for construction, building, alteration, improvement, or repair work to the vendor or contractor offering the best value under a request for proposals as described in section 16C.28, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (2), and paragraph (c).

Sec. 23. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 383C.094, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 1a. **Contracts in excess of \$500; best value alternative.** As an alternative to the procurement method described in subdivision 1, the contract may be awarded to the vendor or contractor offering the best value under a request for proposals as described in section 16C.28,

subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (2), and paragraph (c).

Sec. 24. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 412.311, is amended to read:

**412.311 CONTRACTS.**

Subdivision 1. **Lowest responsible bidder.** Except as provided in sections 471.87 to 471.89, no member of a council shall be directly or indirectly interested in any contract made by the council. Whenever the amount of a contract for the purchase of merchandise, materials or equipment or for any kind of construction work undertaken by the city is estimated to exceed the amount specified by section 471.345, subdivision 3, the contract shall be let to the lowest responsible bidder, after notice has been published once in the official newspaper at least ten days in advance of the last day for the submission of bids. If the amount of the contract exceeds \$1,000, it shall be entered into only after compliance with section 471.345.

Subd. 2. **Best value alternative.** As an alternative to the procurement method described in subdivision 1, a contract for construction, building, alteration, improvement, or repair work may be awarded to the vendor or contractor offering the best value under a request for proposals as described in section 16C.28, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (2), and paragraph (c).

Sec. 25. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 429.041, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 2a. **Best value alternative.** As an alternative to the procurement method described in subdivision 2, the council may issue a request for proposals and award the contract to the vendor or contractor offering the best value as described in section 16C.28, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (2), and paragraph (c).

Sec. 26. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 458D.21, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 2a. **Contracts in excess of \$5,000; best value alternative.** As an alternative to the procurement method described in subdivision 2, the board may issue a request for proposals and award the contract to the vendor or contractor offering the best value as described in section 16C.28, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (2), and paragraph (c).

Sec. 27. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 469.015, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 1a. **Best value alternative.** As an alternative to the procurement method described in subdivision 1, the authority may issue a request for proposals and award the contract to the vendor or contractor offering the best value under a request for proposals as described in section 16C.28, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (2), and paragraph (c).

Sec. 28. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 469.068, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

**Subdivision 1. **Contracts; bids; bonds.**** All construction work and every purchase of equipment, supplies, or materials necessary in carrying out the purposes of sections 469.048 to 469.068, that involve the expenditure of \$1,000 or more, shall be awarded by contract as provided in this subdivision or in subdivision 1a. Before receiving bids under sections 469.048 to 469.068, the authority shall publish, once a week for two consecutive weeks in the official newspaper of the port's city, a notice that bids will be received for the construction work, or purchase of equipment, supplies, or materials. The notice shall state the nature of the work, and the terms and conditions upon which the contract is to be let and name a time and place where the bids

will be received, opened, and read publicly, which time shall be not less than seven days after the date of the last publication. After the bids have been received, opened, read publicly, and recorded, the commissioners shall award the contract to the lowest responsible bidder, reserving the right to reject any or all bids. The contract shall be executed in writing and the person to whom the contract is awarded shall give sufficient bond to the board for its faithful performance. If no satisfactory bid is received, the port authority may readvertise, or, by an affirmative vote of two of its commissioners in the case of a three-member commission, or five of its members in the case of a seven-member commission, may authorize the authority to perform any part or parts of any construction work by day labor under conditions it prescribes. The commissioners may establish reasonable qualifications to determine the fitness and responsibility of bidders, and require bidders to meet the qualifications before bids are accepted. If the commissioners by a two-thirds or five-sevenths vote declare that an emergency exists requiring the immediate purchase of any equipment or material or supplies at a cost in excess of \$1,000, but not exceeding \$5,000, in amount, or making of emergency repairs, it shall not be necessary to advertise for bids, but the material, equipment, or supplies may be purchased in the open market at the lowest price obtainable, or the emergency repairs may be contracted for or performed without securing formal competitive bids. An emergency, for purposes of this section, is unforeseen circumstances or conditions which result in the jeopardizing of human life or property.

In all contracts involving the employment of labor, the commissioners shall stipulate conditions they deem reasonable, as to the hours of labor and wages and may stipulate as to the residence of employees to be employed by the contractors.

Bonds shall be required from contractors for any works of construction as provided in and subject to all the provisions of sections 574.26 to 574.31.

Sec. 29. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 469.068, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 1a. **Contracts; best value alternative.** As an alternative to the procurement method described in subdivision 1, a contract may be awarded to the vendor or contractor offering the best value under a request for proposals as described in section 16C.28, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (2), and paragraph (c).

Sec. 30. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 469.101, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 5a. **Construction contracts.** For all contracts for construction, alteration, repair, or maintenance work, the authority may award contracts to the vendor offering the best value, and "best value" shall be defined and applied as set forth in sections 16C.02, subdivision 4a, and 16C.28, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (2), and paragraph (c). Alternatively, the authority may award all contracts for construction, alteration, repair, or maintenance work to the lowest responsible bidder, reserving the right to reject any or all bids.

Sec. 31. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 471.345, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 3a. **Contracts over \$50,000; best value alternative.** As an alternative to the procurement method described in subdivision 3, municipalities may award a contract for construction, alteration, repair, or maintenance work to the vendor or contractor offering the best value under a request for proposals as described in section 16C.28, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (2), and paragraph (c).

Sec. 32. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 471.345, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 4a. **Contracts from \$10,000 to \$50,000; best value alternative.** As an alternative to the procurement method described in subdivision 4, municipalities may award a contract for construction, alteration, repair, or maintenance work to the vendor or contractor offering the best value under a request for proposals as described in section 16C.28, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (2), and paragraph (c).

Sec. 33. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 471.345, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **Contracts less than \$10,000.** If the amount of the contract is estimated to be \$10,000 or less, the contract may be made either upon quotation or in the open market, in the discretion of the governing body. If the contract is made upon quotation it shall be based, so far as practicable, on at least two quotations which shall be kept on file for a period of at least one year after their receipt. Alternatively, municipalities may award a contract for construction, alteration, repair, or maintenance work to the vendor or contractor offering the best value under a request for proposals as described in section 16C.28, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (2), and paragraph (c).

Sec. 34. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 473.523, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 1a. **Contracts over \$50,000; best value alternative.** As an alternative to the procurement method described in subdivision 1, the council may issue a request for proposals and award the contract to the vendor or contractor offering the best value under a request for proposals as described in section 16C.28, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (2), and paragraph (c).

Sec. 35. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 473.756, subdivision 12, is amended to read:

Subd. 12. **Contracts.** The authority may enter into a development agreement with the team, the county, or any other entity relating to the construction, financing, and use of the ballpark and related facilities and public infrastructure. The authority may contract for materials, supplies, and equipment in accordance with sections 471.345 and 473.754, except that the authority, with the consent of the county, may employ or contract with persons, firms, or corporations to perform one or more or all of the functions of architect, engineer, or construction manager with respect to all or any part of the ballpark and public infrastructure. Alternatively, at the request of the team and with the consent of the county, the authority shall authorize the team to provide for the design and construction of the ballpark and related public infrastructure, subject to terms of Laws 2006, chapter 257. The construction manager may enter into contracts with contractors for labor, materials, supplies, and equipment for the construction of the ballpark and related public infrastructure through the process of public bidding, except that the construction manager may, with the consent of the authority or the team:

(1) narrow the listing of eligible bidders to those which the construction manager determines to possess sufficient expertise to perform the intended functions;

(2) award contracts to the contractors that the construction manager determines provide the best value under a request for proposals as described in section 16C.28, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (2), and paragraph (c), which are not required to be the lowest responsible bidder; and

(3) for work the construction manager determines to be critical to the completion schedule, award contracts on the basis of competitive proposals or perform work with its own forces without soliciting competitive bids if the construction manager provides evidence of competitive pricing.

The authority shall require that the construction manager certify, before the contract is signed, a fixed and stipulated construction price and completion date to the authority and post a performance bond in an amount at least equal to 100 percent of the certified price, to cover any costs which may be incurred in excess of the certified price, including but not limited to costs incurred by the authority or loss of revenues resulting from incomplete construction on the completion date. The authority may secure surety bonds as provided in section 574.26, securing payment of just claims in connection with all public work undertaken by it. Persons entitled to the protection of the bonds may enforce them as provided in sections 574.28 to 574.32, and shall not be entitled to a lien on any property of the authority under the provisions of sections 514.01 to 514.16. Contracts for construction and operation of the ballpark must include programs, including Youthbuild, to provide for participation by small local businesses and businesses owned by people of color, and the inclusion of women and people of color in the workforces of contractors and ballpark operators. The construction of the ballpark is a "project" as that term is defined in section 177.42, subdivision 2, and is subject to the prevailing wage law under sections 177.41 to 177.43."

Amend the title accordingly

And when so amended the bill be reported to the Senate without recommendation. Amendments adopted. Report adopted.

**Senator Pogemiller from the Committee on Rules and Administration, to which was referred**

**H.F. No. 1063:** A bill for an act relating to environment; adopting the Uniform Environmental Covenants Act; amending Minnesota Statutes 2006, sections 115.072; 115B.17, subdivision 15; proposing coding for new law as Minnesota Statutes, chapter 114E.

Reports the same back with the recommendation that the bill be amended as follows:

Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

**"ARTICLE 1**

**HIGHER EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS**

Section 1. **SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

Subdivision 1. **Summary By Fund.** The amounts shown in this subdivision summarize direct appropriations, by fund, made in this article.

	<b><u>SUMMARY BY FUND</u></b>		
	<b><u>2008</u></b>	<b><u>2009</u></b>	<b><u>Total</u></b>
<u>General</u>	\$ 1,572,748,000	\$ 1,590,760,000	\$ 3,163,508,000
<u>Health Care Access</u>	\$ 2,157,000	\$ 2,157,000	\$ 4,314,000
<b><u>Total</u></b>	<b>\$ 1,574,905,000</b>	<b>\$ 1,592,917,000</b>	<b>\$ 3,167,822,000</b>

Subd. 2. **Summary By Agency - All Funds.** The amounts shown in this subdivision summarize direct appropriations, by agency, made in this article.

**SUMMARY BY AGENCY - ALL FUNDS**

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Minnesota Office of Higher Education</u>	\$ 189,079,000	\$ 189,140,000	\$ 378,219,000
<u>Board of Trustees of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities</u>	\$ 665,952,000	\$ 690,228,000	\$ 1,356,180,000
<u>Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota</u>	\$ 712,672,000	\$ 706,299,000	\$ 1,418,971,000
<u>Mayo Medical Foundation</u>	\$ 1,202,000	\$ 1,250,000	\$ 2,452,000
<u>Department of Veterans Affairs</u>	\$ 6,000,000	\$ 6,000,000	\$ 12,000,000
<b><u>Total</u></b>	<b>\$ 1,574,905,000</b>	<b>\$ 1,592,917,000</b>	<b>\$ 3,167,822,000</b>

**Sec. 2. HIGHER EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS.**

The sums shown in the columns marked "Appropriations" are appropriated to the agencies and for the purposes specified in this article. The appropriations are from the general fund, or another named fund, and are available for the fiscal years indicated for each purpose. The figures "2008" and "2009" used in this article mean that the appropriations listed under them are available for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, or June 30, 2009, respectively. "The first year" is fiscal year 2008. "The second year" is fiscal year 2009. "The biennium" is fiscal years 2008 and 2009.

**APPROPRIATIONS**  
**Available for the Year**  
**Ending June 30**  
**2008**                      **2009**

**Sec. 3. MINNESOTA OFFICE OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

**Subdivision 1. Total Appropriation**                      **\$ 189,079,000**                      **\$ 189,140,000**

The amounts that may be spent for each purpose are specified in the following subdivisions.

**Subd. 2. State Grants**    **150,762,000**                      **150,510,000**

If the appropriation in this subdivision for either year is insufficient, the appropriation for the other year is available for it.

For the biennium, the tuition maximum for students in four-year programs is \$9,838 in each year for students in four-year programs,

and for students in two-year programs, is \$6,114 in the first year and \$5,808 in the second year.

This appropriation sets the living and miscellaneous expense allowance at \$5,900 each year.

<u>Subd. 3. <b>Safety Officers Survivors</b></u>	<u>100,000</u>	<u>100,000</u>
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This appropriation is to provide educational benefits under Minnesota Statutes, section 299A.45, to dependent children under age 23 and to the spouses of public safety officers killed in the line of duty.

If the appropriation in this subdivision for either year is insufficient, the appropriation for the other year is available for it.

<u>Subd. 4. <b>Interstate Tuition Reciprocity</b></u>	<u>2,000,000</u>	<u>2,000,000</u>
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If the appropriation in this subdivision for either year is insufficient, the appropriation for the other year is available to meet reciprocity contract obligations.

<u>Subd. 5. <b>State Work Study</b></u>	<u>12,444,000</u>	<u>12,444,000</u>
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<u>Subd. 6. <b>Child Care Grants</b></u>	<u>6,184,000</u>	<u>6,184,000</u>
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<u>Subd. 7. <b>Minitex</b></u>	<u>5,631,000</u>	<u>5,631,000</u>
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<u>Subd. 8. <b>MnLINK Gateway</b></u>	<u>400,000</u>	<u>400,000</u>
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<u>Subd. 9. <b>Learning Network of Minnesota</b></u>	<u>4,800,000</u>	<u>4,800,000</u>
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<u>Subd. 10. <b>Minnesota College Savings Plan</b></u>	<u>1,020,000</u>	<u>1,020,000</u>
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<u>Subd. 11. <b>Midwest Higher Education Compact</b></u>	<u>90,000</u>	<u>90,000</u>
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<u>Subd. 12. <b>Intervention for College Attendance Program Grants</b></u>	<u>624,000</u>	<u>624,000</u>
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No more than \$50,000 of this appropriation each year may be used for administrative expenses for the program under Minnesota Statutes, section 136A.861.

Subd. 13. **Achieve Scholarship Program**400,000935,000

(a) Of this amount, \$200,000 in fiscal year 2008 and \$200,000 in fiscal year 2009 are for transfer to the University of Minnesota and \$200,000 in fiscal year 2008 and \$200,000 in fiscal year 2009 are for transfer to the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities to provide courses under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.09, subdivision 10, to high school students living in remote and underserved areas where the school district lacks the resources to provide academically rigorous educational opportunities, such as Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate programs. Courses may be delivered by a high school or postsecondary faculty member, online, or through distance education. Students who successfully complete a course must receive college credit at no cost to the student. The office must report to the committees of the legislature with responsibility for higher education finance by January 15, 2009, on the program outcomes with recommendations on continuing and expanding the program.

(b) Of this amount, \$535,000 in fiscal year 2009 is for Achieve scholarships under Minnesota Statutes, section 136A.127. The funding base for this program is \$1,071,000 in fiscal year 2010 and \$1,605,000 in fiscal year 2011. Up to \$12,400 of this amount may be used for administration of the program in the 2008-2009 biennium. Up to \$63,200 in the 2010-2011 biennium may be used for administration of the program.

Subd. 14. **Other Programs**1,500,0001,200,000

This appropriation includes funding for student and parent information and the get ready outreach program.

\$240,000 each year is for grants to increase campus-community collaboration and service



learning statewide, including operations of the Minnesota campus compact, grants to member institutions and grants for member institution initiatives. For every \$1 in state funding, grant recipients must contribute \$2 in campus or community-based support.

\$250,000 in the first year is for a grant to Augsburg College for the purpose of its Step UP program to provide educational opportunities to chemically dependent students and to work with other public and private colleges in Minnesota to help replicate this program. This is a onetime appropriation.

\$100,000 each year must be transferred to the Loan Repayment Assistance Program, Inc., for loan repayment assistance awards to attorneys who enter public interest law to ensure that low-income and disadvantaged populations have access to competent legal counsel.

\$50,000 in fiscal year 2008 is for the Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars for a pilot program for scholarships for students enrolling in a Minnesota four-year college or university beginning in the fall semester of 2007. The appropriation shall be available only on a dollar-for-dollar match basis for funds received from nonstate sources. The Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars must work with Minnesota Colleges and Universities to ensure that the scholarships will go to economically disadvantaged Minnesota students, students with demonstrated need of financial assistance, and students traditionally underrepresented in higher education, and will work to ensure racial, ethnic, and gender diversity, as well as urban/rural balance. This is a onetime appropriation.

\$250,000 each year is for the teacher education and compensation helps (TEACH) and the Minnesota early childhood teacher programs in Minnesota Statutes, section

136A.126.

**Subd. 15. United Family Medicine Residency Program**

414,000

431,000

For a grant to the United Family Medicine residency program. This appropriation shall be used to support up to 18 resident physicians each year in family practice at United Family Medicine residency programs and shall prepare doctors to practice family care medicine in underserved rural and urban areas of the state. It is intended that this program will improve health care in underserved communities, provide affordable access to appropriate medical care, and manage the treatment of patients in a more cost-effective manner. The funding base for this program is \$448,000 in fiscal year 2010 and \$467,000 in fiscal year 2011.

**Subd. 16. Agency Administration**

2,710,000

2,771,000

**Subd. 17. Balances Forward**

A balance in the first year under this section does not cancel, but is available for the second year.

**Subd. 18. Transfers**

The Minnesota Office of Higher Education may transfer unencumbered balances from the appropriations in this section to the state grant appropriation, the interstate tuition reciprocity appropriation, the child care grant appropriation, the state work study appropriation, the public safety officers' survivors appropriation, and the Minnesota college savings plan appropriation. Transfers from the child care or state work study appropriations may only be made to the extent there is a projected surplus in the appropriation. A transfer may be made only with the prior written approval of the commissioner of finance and prior written notice to the chairs of the senate and house committees with jurisdiction over higher

education finance.

**Subd. 19. TANF Work Study**

Notwithstanding any rule to the contrary, work study jobs funded by a TANF appropriation do not require employer matching funds.

**Sec. 4. BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE MINNESOTA STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES**

<b>Subdivision 1. <u>Total Appropriation</u></b>	<b><u>\$</u></b>	<b><u>665,952,000</u></b>	<b><u>\$</u></b>	<b><u>690,228,000</u></b>
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The amounts that may be spent for each purpose are specified in the following subdivisions.

<b>Subd. 2. <u>General Appropriation</u></b>		<b><u>665,952,000</u></b>		<b><u>690,228,000</u></b>
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This appropriation includes a permanent increase in each year for Cook County Higher Education to provide educational programs and academic support services to remote regions in northeastern Minnesota. Cook County Higher Education must continue to provide information to the Board of Trustees of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities on the number of students served, credit hours delivered, and services provided to students.

This appropriation includes funding for operation and maintenance of the system, including technology infrastructure improvements to deliver more online programs and services to students; and funding for initiatives to recruit and retain students traditionally underrepresented in higher education to help prepare students for college, encourage their enrollment, and provide services that enable them to continue successfully to graduation.

If the Board of Trustees decides to implement other "Strategic Advancements" initiatives, funding must be from internal reallocation of existing resources or enhanced productivity.

It is the expectation of the legislature that the board will hold tuition increases to no more than four percent per year for fiscal years 2008 and 2009.

One percent of the appropriation in this subdivision is available after the board demonstrates to the commissioner of finance that the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system has achieved at least three of the following five goals:

(1) increase by at least three percent, compared to fiscal year 2005, the number of students who take college level courses in science, technology, engineering, and math;

(2) increase by at least two percent, compared to fiscal year 2005, enrollment in courses at the four existing center of excellence programs;

(3) increase by at least 700, compared to fiscal year 2007, the number of students trained on the use of electronic medical record technology;

(4) increase by at least ten percent, compared to fiscal year 2007, the number of students taking online courses or the number of online courses offered; and

(5) expand by at least ten percent, compared to calendar year 2006, the use of "awards of excellence" or other initiatives that reward member institutions, faculty, administrators, or staff for innovations designed to advance excellence and efficiency.

By October 1, 2007, the Board of Trustees and the Office of Higher Education must agree on specific numerical indicators and definitions for each of the five goals that will be used to demonstrate the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities' attainment of each goal.

On or before April 1, 2008, the Board of Trustees must report to the legislative committees with primary jurisdiction over higher education finance and policy the

progress of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities toward attaining the goals.

This appropriation includes funding to eliminate nonresident undergraduate tuition at Century College, Saint Paul College, Minneapolis Community and Technical College, Rochester Community and Technical College, Inver Hills Community College, St. Cloud Technical College, and Normandale Community College. In addition, the Board of Trustees must not implement a nonresident undergraduate tuition rate at a community college, technical college, or consolidated community and technical college that does not have such a rate as of May 1, 2007, except for a student who is a resident of a state that has entered into a reciprocity agreement under Minnesota Statutes, section 136A.08. This paragraph expires June 30, 2009.

This appropriation includes funding to identify and improve on practices for selecting and purchasing textbooks and course materials that are used by students. The board, in collaboration with the Minnesota State University Student Association (MSUSA) and the Minnesota State College Student Association (MSCSA) must develop and implement pilot projects with this appropriation to address the financial burden that textbook prices and requirements place on students. These projects may include textbook rental programs, cooperative purchasing efforts, training, and education and awareness programs for students and faculty on cost considerations and textbook options. The student associations must be fully involved in the development and implementation of any project using this appropriation. The board must report, with input from MSUSA and MSCSA, to the committees of the legislature responsible for higher education finance by February 15, 2009, on the success of the pilot projects. This money is available until June 30, 2009.

This appropriation includes funding for community-based energy development pilot projects at Mesabi Range Technical and Community College, the Minnesota West Community and Technical College, Riverland Community College, and Inver Hills Community College. Inver Hills Community College must partner with the city of Inver Grove Heights on a community-based pilot project and each of the other campuses must establish partnerships for community-based energy development pilot projects that involve students and faculty. An allocation for the pilot project is available to the participating institutions and the partnerships for the biennium ending June 30, 2009.

This appropriation includes funding for a modular clean-room research and training facility at St. Paul College. This is a onetime appropriation and is available until expended.

This appropriation includes funding for a pilot project with the Northeast Minnesota Higher Education District and high schools in its area. Up to one-half of the first year's appropriation may be used to purchase equipment that is necessary to reestablish a technical education curriculum in the area high schools to provide the students with the technical skills necessary for the workforce. Students from area high schools may also access the facilities and faculty of the Northeast Minnesota Higher Education District for state-of-the-art technical education opportunities, including MnSCU's 2+2 Pathways initiative.

This appropriation includes funding for St. Paul College to collaborate with the United Auto Workers Local 879 to purchase a Ford Ranger pickup truck to retrofit to run on a battery-powered motor. This vehicle must be retrofitted to serve as a prototype that could be mass-produced at the St. Paul Ford assembly plant. This is a onetime appropriation.

This appropriation includes funding for a grant to a Minnesota public postsecondary institution with a total student enrollment under 7,000 students, that has an existing women's hockey team competing in Division I in the Western Collegiate Hockey Association. The institution may use the grant for equipment, facility improvements, travel and compensation for coaches, trainers, and other necessary personnel. This is a onetime appropriation.

This appropriation includes funding for a study of student demand and employer needs for higher education in the Mesabi Range region of northeastern Minnesota including the cities of Grand Rapids through Eveleth to Ely. The board must contract for the study which must be done in cooperation with the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota, the University of Minnesota, Duluth, and the Range Association of Municipalities and Schools, which must act as the lead agency in coordinating the study. The study must specify how the identified regional educational needs can be met by the University of Minnesota, by the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, or through degree programs offered jointly. The final report must be submitted to the committees of the legislature responsible for higher education finance by January 15, 2008, with recommendations and plans for the region.

This appropriation includes funding for a project to establish a center at the Mesabi Range Community and Technical College in cooperation with the Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board (IRRRB) to enhance the use of eFolio Minnesota by providing on-site and Internet-based support and technical assistance to eFolio users to promote workforce development and access to workforce information generated through the eFolio Minnesota system. The board must enhance the eFolio Minnesota system as necessary to serve these purposes and report annually to the legislative committees

responsible for higher education finance on the outcomes of the center's activities.

Any amounts in the base budget allocated to pay competitive compensation under Laws 2005, chapter 107, article 1, section 3, subdivision 2, may also be used to recruit or retain quality faculty.

**Subd. 3. Board Policies**

(a) The board must adopt a policy that allows students to add the cost of textbooks and required course materials purchased at a campus bookstore, owned by or operated under a contract with the campus, to the existing waivers or payment plans for tuition and fees.

(b) By January 1, 2009, the board must adopt a policy setting the maximum number of semester credits required for a baccalaureate degree at 120 semester credits or the equivalent and the number of semester credits required for an associate degree at 60 semester credits or the equivalent. The board policy may provide for a process for granting waivers for specific degree programs in which industry or professional accreditation standards require a greater number of semester credits.

**Sec. 5. BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA**

<b><u>Subdivision 1. Total Appropriation</u></b>	<b><u>\$</u></b>	<b><u>712,672,000</u></b>	<b><u>\$</u></b>	<b><u>706,299,000</u></b>
<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>				
		<u>2008</u>		<u>2009</u>
<u>General</u>		<u>710,515,000</u>		<u>704,142,000</u>
<u>Health Care Access</u>		<u>2,157,000</u>		<u>2,157,000</u>

The amounts that may be spent for each purpose are specified in the following subdivisions.

<b><u>Subd. 2. Operations and Maintenance</u></b>	<u>619,127,000</u>	<u>638,754,000</u>
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This appropriation includes funding for operation and maintenance of the system including amounts to advance the University of Minnesota's efforts to sustain quality and competitiveness; and funding for the "Advancing Education" initiatives including an Ojibwe Indian language program on the Duluth campus.

This appropriation includes funding to establish banded tuition at the Morris, Crookston, and Duluth campuses to reduce tuition costs for students.

This appropriation includes funding for scholarships for undergraduate Minnesota resident students with family income under \$150,000 per year. This appropriation must be matched with \$1.50 of nonstate money for each \$1 of state money.

This appropriation includes funding for the Center for Transportation Studies to complete a study to assess public policy options for reducing the volume of greenhouse gases emitted from the transportation sector in Minnesota. The Center for Transportation Studies must report its preliminary findings to the legislature by February 1, 2008, and must issue its full report by June 1, 2008. This is a onetime appropriation.

This appropriation includes funding to establish an India Center to improve and promote relations with India and Southeast Asia. The center must partner with public and private organizations in Minnesota to:

(1) foster an understanding of the history, culture, and values of India;

(2) serve as a resource and catalyst to promote economic, governmental, and academic pursuits involving India; and

(3) facilitate educational and business exchanges and partnerships, collaborative research, and teaching and training activities for Minnesota students and teachers.

The Board of Regents may establish an advisory council to facilitate the mission and objectives of the India Center and must report on the progress of the India Center by February 15, 2008, to the governor and chairs of the legislative committees responsible for higher education finance. This appropriation must be matched by an equal amount of nonstate money. This is a onetime appropriation.

This appropriation includes funding to assist in the formation of the neighborhood alliance and for projects identified in section 10. The alliance, the Board of Regents, and the city of Minneapolis may cooperate on the projects and may use public services of other entities to complete all or a portion of a project. This is a onetime appropriation.

This appropriation includes funding to establish a Dakota language teacher training immersion program on the Twin Cities campus to prepare teachers to teach in Dakota language immersion programs.

One percent of the appropriation in this subdivision is available when the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota demonstrates to the commissioner of finance that the board has met at least three of the five following performance goals:

(1) increase financial support to pay the cost of attendance for students demonstrating financial need;

(2) maintain or improve the University of Minnesota's rank in its national share of total research and development expenditures reported to the National Science Foundation over the 2007 ranking;

(3) increase by at least five percent, compared to fiscal year 2007, the number of degrees awarded in science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and health sciences disciplines;

(4) increase by at least five percent, compared to fiscal year 2007, the amount of financial

support from key funding sources for renewable energy research; and

(5) increase and improve interaction and research activity beneficial to business and industry.

By October 1, 2007, the Board of Regents and the Office of Higher Education must agree on specific numerical indicators and definitions for each of the five goals that will be used to demonstrate the University of Minnesota's attainment of each goal.

On or before April 1, 2008, the Board of Regents must report to the legislative committees with primary jurisdiction over higher education finance and policy the progress of the University of Minnesota toward attaining the goals.

**Subd. 3. Primary Care Education Initiatives**

2,157,000

2,157,000

This appropriation is from the health care access fund.

**Subd. 4. Special Appropriations**

**(a) Agriculture and Extension Service**

53,175,000

52,175,000

(1) For the Agricultural Experiment Station, Minnesota Extension Service. This appropriation includes additional funding to promote alternative livestock research and outreach, and for an ongoing organic research and education program.

(2) This appropriation includes funding for research efforts that demonstrate a renewed emphasis on the needs of the state's production agriculture community and a continued focus on renewable energy derived from Minnesota biomass resources including agronomic crops, plant and animal wastes, and native plants or trees, with priority for extending the Minnesota vegetable growing season; fertilizer and soil fertility research and development; treating and curing human diseases utilizing plant and livestock cells;

using biofuel production coproducts as feed for livestock; and a rapid agricultural response fund for current or emerging animal, plant, and insect problems affecting production or food safety. In addition, the appropriation may be used to secure a facility and retain current faculty levels for poultry research currently conducted at UMore Park.

(3) In the area of renewable energy, priority should be given to projects pertaining to: biofuel and other energy production from small grains; alternative bioenergy crops and cropping systems; and growing, harvesting, and transporting biomass plant material.

(4) This appropriation includes funding for the college of food, agricultural, and natural resources sciences to establish and maintain a statewide organic research and education initiative to provide leadership for organic agronomic, horticultural, livestock, and food systems research, education, and outreach and for the purchase of state-of-the-art laboratory, planting, tilling, harvesting, and processing equipment necessary for this project.

(5) By February 1, 2009, the Board of Regents must report to the legislative committees with responsibility for agriculture and higher education finance on the research and initiatives under this paragraph.

(6) The base appropriation is \$52,175,000 each year of the biennium ending June 30, 2011.

(7) The Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota is requested to refrain from implementing corresponding reductions in funding for the purposes for which additional funding is provided.

**(b) Health Sciences**

5,275,000

5,275,000

\$346,000 each year is to support up to 12 resident physicians each year in the St. Cloud Hospital family practice residency program. The program must prepare doctors to practice

primary care medicine in the rural areas of the state. The legislature intends this program to improve health care in rural communities, provide affordable access to appropriate medical care, and manage the treatment of patients in a more cost-effective manner.

The remainder of this appropriation is for the rural physicians associates program, the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, health sciences research, dental care, and the Biomedical Engineering Center.

**(c) Institute of Technology**

1,387,000

1,387,000

For the Geological Survey and the talented youth mathematics program.

**(d) System Specials**

6,551,000

6,551,000

For general research, student loans matching money, industrial relations education, Natural Resources Research Institute, Center for Urban and Regional Affairs, Bell Museum of Natural History, and the Humphrey exhibit.

This appropriation includes additional funding each year for industrial relations education. The Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota is requested to refrain from implementing corresponding reductions in funding for this purpose.

**Subd. 5. University of Minnesota and Mayo Foundation Partnership**

25,000,000

-0-

For the direct and indirect expenses of the collaborative research partnership between the University of Minnesota and the Mayo Foundation for research in biotechnology and medical genomics. For fiscal years 2010 and 2011, the base shall be \$8,000,000 in each year. This appropriation is available until expended. An annual report on the expenditure of these funds must be submitted to the governor and the chairs of the senate and house committees responsible for higher education and economic development by June 30 of each fiscal year.

**Subd. 6. Academic Health Center**

The appropriation for Academic Health Center funding under Minnesota Statutes, section 297F.10, is \$22,250,000 each year.

**Sec. 6. MAYO CLINIC**

<b>Subdivision 1. <u>Total Appropriation</u></b>	<b>\$</b>	<b><u>1,202,000</u></b>	<b>\$</b>	<b><u>1,250,000</u></b>
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The amounts that may be spent for each purpose are specified in the following subdivisions.

<b>Subd. 2. <u>Medical School</u></b>		<b><u>591,000</u></b>		<b><u>615,000</u></b>
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The state of Minnesota must pay a capitation each year for each student who is a resident of Minnesota. The appropriation may be transferred between years of the biennium to accommodate enrollment fluctuations. The funding base for this program is \$640,000 in fiscal year 2010 and \$665,000 in fiscal year 2011.

It is intended that during the biennium the Mayo Clinic use the capitation money to increase the number of doctors practicing in rural areas in need of doctors.

<b>Subd. 3. <u>Family Practice and Graduate Residency Program</u></b>		<b><u>611,000</u></b>		<b><u>635,000</u></b>
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The state of Minnesota must pay stipend support for up to 27 residents each year. The funding base for this program is \$660,000 in fiscal year 2010 and \$686,000 in fiscal year 2011.

<b>Sec. 7. <u>DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.</u></b>	<b>\$</b>	<b><u>6,000,000</u></b>	<b>\$</b>	<b><u>6,000,000</u></b>
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For grants to eligible veterans or the eligible spouses and children of veterans as provided under Minnesota Statutes, section 197.791. If the appropriation in this subdivision for either year is insufficient, the appropriation for the other year is available for it.

Of this appropriation, no more than three

percent each year may be used for the administrative costs of operating this program.

**Sec. 8. FINANCIAL AID PROGRAM STUDIES.**

Subdivision 1. **State grant.** The Minnesota Office of Higher Education must conduct an analysis and evaluation of the state grant program to provide information to the legislature concerning the role of the program in promoting affordable access to higher education in Minnesota, including promoting access for students traditionally underrepresented in higher education. The analysis and evaluation must include:

(1) evaluation of the assigned student share compared to the current and future income of a student, and analysis of the number of hours a student must work to meet the assigned student share without borrowing;

(2) evaluation of the assigned family contribution, how it is determined under the federal needs analysis, and how it compares to expectations of families in other public programs;

(3) analysis of the ways that students and families pay the assigned student share and the assigned family contribution;

(4) analysis of the recognized cost of attendance compared to actual attendance costs and the ability of individuals and families at various income levels in Minnesota to pay the cost of attendance;

(5) analysis of the actual living and miscellaneous expenses of students, with particular attention to differences between traditional and nontraditional students, and comparison to the amount currently used in the state grant formula; and

(6) analysis of other parameters of the program considered relevant by the office, including prorating the state grant amount instead of the budget for the cost of attendance and changing the definition of full-time enrollment.

Whenever possible, the analysis must include:

(i) cost estimates and information on how recommended changes affect students at various income levels and at different higher education institutions in Minnesota; and

(ii) the distributional effects, by income quintile, of state grant program parameters on students and families.

The office also shall assess the feasibility of expanding the eligibility for state grants to include graduate and first professional students pursuing degree programs deemed to be important to the workforce needs of the state. By February 15, 2008, the Minnesota Office of Higher Education must report its preliminary findings and recommendations to the committees in the house of representatives and senate with primary jurisdiction over higher education policy and finance and workforce development on options to enhance the targeting of financial aid to state grant recipients, with the final report submitted by October 1, 2008.

Subd. 2. **Workforce needs.** The Minnesota Office of Higher Education must examine existing financial aid programs that provide loans and grants to students, and the needs of the workforce for

occupations that are currently in demand or are projected to be in demand in the future and:

(1) evaluate how effective the financial aid programs are in linking the needs of the workforce with the student's financial aid needs;

(2) identify financial aid program options, including loan forgiveness and loan repayment programs, that provide incentives to students to pursue degrees in occupations:

(i) with identified unmet workforce needs like speech pathologists; and

(ii) of social or economic importance to the state; and

(3) identify mechanisms, such as additional resources, to promote the growth of occupations of social or economic importance to the state. By February 15, 2008, the office must report its preliminary findings to the legislative committees with primary jurisdiction over higher education policy and finance and workforce development, and provide options and recommendations on ways to enhance the delivery of financial aid to meet the needs of both students and the state's workforce, with the final report submitted by October 1, 2008.

#### **Sec. 9. POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION PARTICIPATION STUDY.**

The Minnesota Office of Higher Education shall, by January 15, 2008, report to the house and senate committees with jurisdiction over higher education policy and finance on participation in postsecondary education by income, and persistence and graduation rates of state grant recipients compared to students who did not receive state grants. The Minnesota Office of Higher Education is authorized to match individual student data from the student record enrollment database with individual student data from the state grant database on data elements necessary to perform the study.

#### **Sec. 10. UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA MINNEAPOLIS AREA NEIGHBORHOOD ALLIANCE.**

Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) For purposes of this section, the following terms have the meanings given them.

(b) "Alliance" means a representative body of the constituencies, including, but not limited to, the University of Minnesota, the city of Minneapolis, and the recognized neighborhood organizations and business associations referenced in the report.

(c) "Board" means the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota.

(d) "Report" means the report and appendix entitled Moving Forward Together: University of Minnesota Minneapolis Area Neighborhood Impact Report, submitted to the legislature in February 2007.

(e) "University partnership district" or "district" means the area located within the city that includes the neighborhoods of Cedar-Riverside, Marcy-Holmes, South East Como, Prospect Park, and University, as they are defined by the city, and the university's Minneapolis campus.

(f) "Tier two impact zone" means the neighborhoods of northeast Minneapolis that house significant numbers of university students and staff. Transportation and housing policy analysis and planning must include these areas but they must not be included in the projects funded through



the alliance.

(g) "University" means the University of Minnesota.

Subd. 2. **Alliance; functions.** The alliance may facilitate, initiate, or manage projects with the board, city, or other public or private entities that are intended to maintain the university partnership district as a viable place to study, research, and live. Projects may include, but are not limited to, those outlined in the report, as well as efforts to involve students in activities to maintain and improve the university partnership district; cooperative university and university partnership district long-term planning; and incentives to increase homeownership within the district with particular emphasis on employees of the university and of other major employers located within the district.

Subd. 3. **Report.** The board must report to the legislature by January 15, 2009, on the expenditure of funds appropriated under section 3.

## ARTICLE 2

### RELATED HIGHER EDUCATION

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 13.322, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Minnesota Office of Higher Education.** (a) **General.** Data sharing involving the Minnesota Office of Higher Education and other institutions is governed by ~~sections~~ section 136A.05 and 136A.08, subdivision 8.

(b) **Student financial aid.** Data collected and used by the Minnesota Office of Higher Education on applicants for financial assistance are classified under section 136A.162.

(c) **Minnesota college savings plan data.** Account owner data, account data, and data on beneficiaries of accounts under the Minnesota college savings plan are classified under section 136G.05, subdivision 10.

(d) **School financial records.** Financial records submitted by schools registering with the Minnesota Office of Higher Education are classified under section 136A.64.

(e) **Enrollment and financial aid data.** Data collected from eligible institutions on student enrollment and federal and state financial aid are governed by sections 136A.121, subdivision 18, and 136A.1701, subdivision 11.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 41D.01, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Establishment; membership.** (a) The Minnesota Agriculture Education Leadership Council is established. The council is composed of ~~46~~ 17 members as follows:

- (1) the chair of the University of Minnesota agricultural education program;
- (2) a representative of the commissioner of education;
- (3) a representative of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities recommended by the chancellor;
- (4) the president and the president-elect of the Minnesota Association of Agriculture Educators;
- (5) a representative of the Future Farmers of America Foundation;

- (6) a representative of the commissioner of agriculture;
- (7) the dean of the College of Agriculture, Food, and Environmental Sciences at the University of Minnesota;
- (8) a representative of the Minnesota Private Colleges Council;
- (9) two members representing agriculture education and agriculture business appointed by the governor;
- ~~(9)~~ (10) the chair of the senate Committee on Agriculture, General Legislation and Veterans Affairs;
- ~~(10)~~ (11) the chair of the house Committee on Agriculture;
- ~~(11)~~ (12) the ranking minority member of the senate Committee on Agriculture, General Legislation and Veterans Affairs, and a member of the senate Education Committee designated by the Subcommittee on Committees of the Committee on Rules and Administration; and
- ~~(12)~~ (13) the ranking minority member of the house Agriculture Committee, and a member of the house Education Committee designated by the speaker.
- (b) An ex officio member of the council under paragraph (a), clause (1), (4), (7), ~~(9)~~, (10), (11), ~~or~~ (12), or (13), may designate a permanent or temporary replacement member representing the same constituency.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 135A.01, is amended to read:

**135A.01 FUNDING POLICY.**

It is the policy of the legislature to provide stable funding, ~~including recognition of the effects of inflation, for instructional services at~~ public postsecondary institutions and that the state and students share the cost of ~~those services~~ public postsecondary education. The legislature intends to provide at least 67 percent of the ~~instructional services costs for each postsecondary system~~ combined revenue from tuition, the university fee at the University of Minnesota, and state general fund appropriations to public postsecondary institutions. It is also the policy of the legislature that the budgetary process serves to support high quality public postsecondary education.

Sec. 4. [135A.011] STATE HIGHER EDUCATION OBJECTIVES.

Subdivision 1. Statewide objectives. Minnesota's higher education investment is made in pursuit of the following objectives: (1) to ensure quality by providing a level of excellence that is competitive on a national and international level, through high quality teaching, scholarship, and learning in a broad range of arts and sciences, technical education, and professional fields; (2) to foster student success by enabling and encouraging students to choose institutions and programs that are best suited for their talents and abilities, and to provide an educational climate that supports students in pursuing their goals and aspirations; (3) to promote democratic values and enhance Minnesota's quality of life by developing understanding and appreciation of a free and diverse society; (4) to maintain access by providing an opportunity for all Minnesotans, regardless of personal circumstances, to participate in higher education; and (5) to enhance the economy by assisting the state in being competitive in the world market, and to prepare a highly skilled and adaptable workforce that meets Minnesota's opportunities and needs.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 135A.031, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Determination of appropriation.** The direct appropriation to each board for instructional services shall equal 67 percent of the estimated total cost of instruction appropriations for the University of Minnesota, the state universities, and the community colleges, and, for technical colleges, at least 67 percent of the estimated total cost of instruction and the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities are determined by considering the biennial budget documents submitted under section 135A.034, performance in advancing the objectives under section 135A.011, available resources according to the state budget forecast, the relative balance between state support for students and public postsecondary institutions, and other factors the legislature considers important in determining the level of state appropriations for public postsecondary education.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 135A.031, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Reports.** (a) Instructional and noninstructional expenditure data and enrollment data for each instructional category shall be submitted in the biennial budget document must be submitted in the biennial budget document under section 135A.034. This report must include a description of the methodology for determining instructional and noninstructional expenditures and estimates of inflation in higher education and the methodology or index used to determine the inflation rate.

(b) By February 1 of each even-numbered year, the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota and the Board of Trustees of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities must submit a report to the chairs of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over higher education policy and finance. The report must describe the following:

(1) how state appropriations made to the system in the previous odd-numbered year were allocated and the methodology used to determine the allocation;

(2) data describing how the institution reallocated resources to advance the priorities set forth in the budget submitted under section 135A.034 and the statewide objectives under section 135A.011. The information must indicate whether instruction and support programs received a reduction in or additional resources. The total amount reallocated must be clearly explained;

(3) the tuition rates and fees established by the governing board in each of the past ten years and comparison data for peer institutions and national averages;

(4) data on the number and proportion of students graduating within four, five, and six years from universities and within three years from colleges as reported in the integrated postsecondary education data system. These data must be provided for each institution by race, ethnicity, and gender. Data and information must be submitted that describe the system's plan and progress toward attaining the goals set forth in the plan to increase the number and proportion of students that graduate within four, five, or six years from a university or within three years from a college;

(5) data on, and the methodology used to measure, the number of students traditionally underrepresented in higher education enrolled at the system's institutions. Data and information must be submitted that describe the system's plan and progress toward attaining the goals set forth in the plan to increase the recruitment, retention, and timely graduation of students traditionally underrepresented in higher education; and

(6) data on the revenue received from all sources to support research or workforce development

activities or the system's efforts to license, sell, or otherwise market products, ideas, technology, and related inventions created in whole or in part by the system. Data and information must be submitted that describe the system's plan and progress toward attaining the goals set forth in the plan to increase the revenue received to support research or workforce development activities or revenue received from the licensing, sale, or other marketing and technology transfer activities by the system.

(c) Instructional expenditure and enrollment data shall be submitted by the public postsecondary systems to the Minnesota Office of Higher Education and the Department of Finance and included in the biennial budget document. The specific data shall be submitted only after the director of the Minnesota Office of Higher Education has consulted with a data advisory task force to determine the need, content, and detail of the information.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 135A.034, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Operating budget.** The governing boards of the University of Minnesota, and the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities shall each develop, for legislative and executive branch acceptance, its highest budget priorities in accordance with statewide objectives for higher education under section 135A.011. ~~It is the intent of the legislature to appropriate at least 67 percent of the total cost of instruction after adjusting for inflation and enrollment changes. However, in the event of a budget shortfall, or if funding of inflation is not possible, available funding shall first be applied to the agreed-upon budget priorities.~~

Sec. 8. [135A.135] PERSONAL FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT.

During initial student registration, each technical college, community college, or state university shall, and the University of Minnesota is requested to, provide each student information on personal financial management. Students should understand and be able to manage personal finances including, but not limited to, the responsible use of consumer credit. This requirement may be waived for a student who enrolls in a college course providing similar instruction.

Sec. 9. [135A.145] SALE OF STUDENT INFORMATION; MARKETING CREDIT CARDS TO STUDENTS.

Subdivision 1. Prohibited practices. No public or private postsecondary educational institution, including its agents, employees, student or alumni organizations, or affiliates, may:

(1) sell, give, or otherwise transfer to any card issuer the name, address, telephone number, or other contact information of an undergraduate student at the postsecondary educational institution without the student's consent; or

(2) enter into any agreement to market credit cards to undergraduate students at a postsecondary educational institution.

For purposes of this section, the terms "credit," "credit card," and "card issuer" have the meanings given them in the Truth in Lending Act, United States Code, title 15, section 1602.

Subd. 2. Violations. The attorney general may seek the penalties and remedies available under section 8.31 against any person who violates this section.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007, except that it applies to existing

agreements to market credit cards upon the later of the expiration of the original term of the agreement or the expiration of an extension of the original agreement if the extension is in effect on July 1, 2007.

Sec. 10. **[135A.25] TEXTBOOK DISCLOSURE, PRICING, AND ACCESS.**

Subdivision 1. **Short title.** This section may be cited as the Textbook Disclosure, Pricing, and Access Act.

Subd. 2. **Course material disclosures required.** (a) Beginning January 1, 2009, any publisher that sells or distributes course material for classroom use in a postsecondary institution must make the following available in an easily accessible manner to faculty, bookstores, and postsecondary institutions in Minnesota:

(1) the title, edition, author, and International Standard Book Number (ISBN) or other easily identifiable information for all course materials;

(2) the undiscounted price at which the course materials are available to a bookstore;

(3) the formats, including bundled and unbundled, in which those course materials are offered and the undiscounted prices of the various components, both sold separately or packaged together;

(4) a summary of revisions between current and previous editions of course materials; and

(5) the return policy for course material, including any penalties or conditions for returns.

(b) Any publisher that sells or distributes course material for classroom use in a postsecondary institution must make all bundled course material available to bookstores and postsecondary institutions in an unbundled form, or must provide notice if unbundled material is not available.

(c) Disclosure under this section is not required for mass market and trade books that are not published, marketed, or sold primarily for classroom use in or by postsecondary institutions.

(d) Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit any existing academic freedom or rights of faculty members to determine the most appropriate course material for the courses they teach.

Subd. 3. **Educational strategies.** Public postsecondary institutions must develop educational materials considering the recommendations in studies by the Minnesota Office of Higher Education and others and at least annually convene and sponsor meetings and workshops, and provide educational strategies for faculty, students, administrators, institutions, and bookstores to inform all interested parties on strategies for reducing the costs of course materials for students attending postsecondary institutions.

Subd. 4. **Minnesota Office of Higher Education responsibilities.** (a) For private postsecondary institutions, the Minnesota Office of Higher Education must develop educational materials considering the recommendations by the Minnesota Office of Higher Education and others and at least annually convene and sponsor meetings and workshops and provide educational strategies for faculty, students, administrators, institutions, and bookstores to inform all interested parties on strategies for reducing the costs of course materials for students attending postsecondary institutions.

(b) The Minnesota Office of Higher Education must identify methods to compile and distribute

information on publishers that sell or distribute course material for classroom use in postsecondary institutions in a manner that meets the requirements and complies with subdivision 2. The Minnesota Office of Higher Education must also evaluate ways to make this information available for use by students and faculty in postsecondary institutions.

Subd. 5. **Bookstores; course materials.** The University of Minnesota and private colleges are encouraged to comply with the requirements for instructors and bookstores under section 136F.58, subdivision 2.

Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 135A.51, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Senior citizen.** "Senior citizen" means a person who has reached 62 years of age before the beginning of any term, semester or quarter, in which a course of study is pursued, or a person receiving a railroad retirement annuity who has reached 60 years of age before the beginning of the term.

Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 135A.52, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Fees and tuition.** Except for an administration fee established by the governing board at a level to recover costs, to be collected only when a course is taken for credit, a senior citizen who is a legal resident of Minnesota is entitled without payment of tuition or activity fees to attend courses offered for credit, audit any courses offered for credit, or enroll in any noncredit courses in any state supported institution of higher education in Minnesota when space is available after all tuition-paying students have been accommodated. A senior citizen enrolled under this section must pay any materials, personal property, or service charges for the course. In addition, a senior citizen who is enrolled in a course for credit must pay an administrative fee in an amount established by the governing board of the institution to recover the course costs. There shall be no administrative fee charges to a senior citizen auditing a course. For the purposes of this section and section 135A.51, the term "noncredit courses" shall not include those courses designed and offered specifically and exclusively for senior citizens.

The provisions of this section and section 135A.51 do not apply to noncredit courses designed and offered by the University of Minnesota, and the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities specifically and exclusively for senior citizens. Senior citizens enrolled under the provisions of this section and section 135A.51 shall not be included by such institutions in their computation of full-time equivalent students when requesting staff or appropriations.

Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 135A.52, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Term; income of senior citizens.** (a) Except under paragraph (b), there shall be no limit to the number of terms, quarters or semesters a senior citizen may attend courses, nor income limitation imposed in determining eligibility.

(b) A senior citizen enrolled in a closed enrollment contract training ~~or professional continuing education~~ program is not eligible for benefits under subdivision 1.

Sec. 14. **[136A.002] DEFINITIONS.**

Subdivision 1. **Scope.** For purposes of this chapter, the terms defined in this section have the meanings given them.

Subd. 2. **Office of Higher Education or office.** "Office of Higher Education" or "office" means the Minnesota Office of Higher Education.

Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 136A.031, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **Expiration.** Notwithstanding section 15.059, subdivision 5, the advisory groups established in this section do not expire on June 30, 2007.

Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 136A.08, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Reporting.** The Minnesota Office of Higher Education must annually, before the last day in January, submit a report to the committees in the house of representatives and the senate with responsibility for higher education finance on:

(1) participation in the tuition reciprocity program by Minnesota students and students from other states attending Minnesota postsecondary institutions under a reciprocity agreement;

(2) reciprocity and resident tuition rates at each institution; ~~and~~

(3) interstate payments and obligations for each state participating in the tuition reciprocity program in the prior year; and

(4) summary statistics on number of graduates by institution, degree granted, and year of graduation for reciprocity students who attended Minnesota postsecondary institutions.

Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 136A.101, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Eligible institution.** "Eligible institution" means a postsecondary educational institution located in this state or in a state with which the office has entered into a higher education reciprocity agreement on state student aid programs that ~~either~~ (1) is operated by this state or the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota, or (2) is operated ~~publicly or privately~~ and, as determined by the office, meets all of the following: (i) maintains academic standards substantially equivalent to those of comparable institutions operated in this state; (ii) is licensed or registered as a postsecondary institution by the office or another state agency; and (iii) by July 1, 2011, is participating in the federal Pell Grant program under Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended.

Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 136A.101, subdivision 5a, is amended to read:

Subd. 5a. **Assigned family responsibility.** "Assigned family responsibility" means the amount of a ~~family~~ family's contribution to a student's cost of attendance, as determined by a federal need analysis. For dependent students, the assigned family responsibility is 95 percent of the parental contribution. For independent students with dependents other than a spouse, the assigned family responsibility is 85 percent of the student contribution. For independent students without dependents other than a spouse, the assigned family responsibility is 72 67 percent of the student contribution. ~~The assigned family responsibility for all other independent students is 90 percent of the student contribution.~~

Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 136A.121, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **Grant stipends.** The grant stipend shall be based on a sharing of responsibility for covering the recognized cost of attendance by the applicant, the applicant's family, and the

government. The amount of a financial stipend must not exceed a grant applicant's recognized cost of attendance, as defined in subdivision 6, after deducting the following:

- (1) the assigned student responsibility of at least ~~46~~ 45.5 percent of the cost of attending the institution of the applicant's choosing;
- (2) the assigned family responsibility as defined in section 136A.101; and
- (3) the amount of a federal Pell grant award for which the grant applicant is eligible.

The minimum financial stipend is \$100 per academic year.

Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 136A.121, subdivision 7a, is amended to read:

Subd. 7a. **Surplus appropriation.** If the amount appropriated is determined by the office to be more than sufficient to fund projected grant demand in the second year of the biennium, the office may increase the living and miscellaneous expense allowance in the second year of the biennium by up to an amount that retains sufficient appropriations to fund the projected grant demand. The adjustment may be made one or more times. In making the determination that there are more than sufficient funds, the office shall balance the need for sufficient resources to meet the projected demand for grants with the goal of fully allocating the appropriation for state grants. An increase in the living and miscellaneous expense allowance under this subdivision does not carry forward into a subsequent biennium. This subdivision expires June 30, ~~2007~~ 2009.

Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 136A.121, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 19. **Reporting.** By November 1 and February 15, the Office of Higher Education must provide, to the committees of the legislature with jurisdiction over higher education finance and policy, updated state grant spending projections taking into account the most current and projected enrollment and tuition and fee information, economic conditions, and other relevant factors. Before submitting state grant spending projections, the Office of Higher Education must meet and consult with representatives of public and private postsecondary institutions, the Department of Finance, the Governor's Office, legislative staff, and financial aid administrators.

Sec. 22. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 136A.125, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Eligible students.** (a) An applicant is eligible for a child care grant if the applicant:

- (1) is a resident of the state of Minnesota;
- (2) has a child 12 years of age or younger, or 14 years of age or younger who is disabled as defined in section 125A.02, and who is receiving or will receive care on a regular basis from a licensed or legal, nonlicensed caregiver;
- (3) is income eligible as determined by the office's policies and rules, but is not a recipient of assistance from the Minnesota family investment program;
- (4) has not earned a baccalaureate degree and has been enrolled full time less than eight semesters or the equivalent;
- (5) is pursuing a nonsectarian program or course of study that applies to an undergraduate degree,



diploma, or certificate;

(6) is enrolled at least half time in an eligible institution; and

(7) is in good academic standing and making satisfactory academic progress.

(b) A student who withdraws from enrollment for active military service is entitled to an additional semester or the equivalent of grant eligibility and will be considered to be in continuing enrollment status upon return.

Sec. 23. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 136A.125, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Amount and length of grants.** The amount of a child care grant must be based on:

(1) the income of the applicant and the applicant's spouse;

(2) the number in the applicant's family, as defined by the office; and

(3) the number of eligible children in the applicant's family.

The maximum award to the applicant shall be ~~\$2,300~~ \$2,600 for each eligible child per academic year, except that the campus financial aid officer may apply to the office for approval to increase grants by up to ten percent to compensate for higher market charges for infant care in a community. The office shall develop policies to determine community market costs and review institutional requests for compensatory grant increases to ensure need and equal treatment. The office shall prepare a chart to show the amount of a grant that will be awarded per child based on the factors in this subdivision. The chart shall include a range of income and family size.

**Sec. 24. [136A.126] TEACHER EDUCATION AND COMPENSATION HELPS; MINNESOTA EARLY CHILDHOOD TEACHER EDUCATION INCENTIVE PROGRAMS.**

Subdivision 1. **TEACH.** The teacher education and compensation helps program (TEACH) is established to provide tuition scholarships and education incentives to early care and education providers. The director shall make a grant with appropriations for this purpose to a nonprofit organization licensed to administer the TEACH early childhood program.

Subd. 2. **Program components.** (a) The nonprofit organization must use the grant for:

(1) tuition scholarships up to \$5,000 per year for courses leading to the nationally recognized child development associate credential or college-level courses leading to an associate's or bachelor's degree in early childhood development and school-age care; and

(2) education incentives of a minimum of \$100 to participants in the tuition scholarship program if they complete a year of working in the early care and education field.

(b) Applicants for the scholarship must be employed by a licensed early childhood or child care program and working directly with children, a licensed family child care provider, or an employee in a school-age program exempt from licensing under section 245A.03, subdivision 2, clause (12). Lower wage earners must be given priority in awarding the tuition scholarships. Scholarship recipients must contribute ten percent of the total scholarship and must be sponsored by their employers, who must also contribute ten percent of the total scholarship. Scholarship recipients

who are self-employed must contribute 20 percent of the total scholarship.

Subd. 3. **Advisory committee.** The TEACH early childhood and Minnesota early childhood teacher education incentive programs may have an advisory board as prescribed by the national TEACH organization.

**Sec. 25. [136A.127] ACHIEVE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM.**

Subdivision 1. **Establishment.** The Achieve Scholarship Program is established.

Subd. 2. **Definition; qualifying course.** For the purposes of this section, a "qualifying course" means a course that is equivalent to at least one course credit in high school, as defined in section 120B.024, and that is a rigorous course as determined by the local school district.

Subd. 3. **Documentation of qualifying courses.** At the student's request, the high school shall provide a transcript to the Office of Higher Education documenting the qualifying courses the student took. High schools shall certify, on the transcript, which courses on the transcript are qualifying courses and provide a total number of qualifying courses for each student.

Subd. 4. **Review panel.** The director of the office may appoint a review panel to monitor the implementation of the Achieve Scholarship Program. The review panel may assist the director in reviewing a determination by a school district that a high school course is rigorous. The review panel shall include representatives of public and private high schools and postsecondary institutions.

Subd. 5. **Student eligibility.** To be eligible to receive a scholarship under this section, a student must:

(1) take and receive a passing grade for qualifying courses under subdivision 2 in a Minnesota high school and graduate from high school;

(2) have total household income that qualifies for free and reduced price meals under the National School Lunch Program; and

(3) be a Minnesota resident student as defined in section 136A.101, subdivision 8.

Subd. 6. **Administration.** The Achieve Scholarship Program shall be administered by the Minnesota Office of Higher Education. The director shall develop forms and procedures necessary to administer the program.

Subd. 7. **Application.** A student must complete and submit an application for the Achieve scholarship.

Subd. 8. **Deadline.** The deadline for the office to accept applications for Achieve scholarships is 30 days after the beginning of the academic term for which the application is submitted.

Subd. 9. **Documentation of qualifying household income.** Achieve Scholarship Program applicants must certify on the application that they meet the income eligibility requirement in subdivision 5, clause (2). The Office of Higher Education or the postsecondary institution may request documentation needed to confirm income eligibility.

Subd. 10. **Scholarships awards.** (a) A scholarship under this section may be awarded in each of the first four years of postsecondary instruction immediately following graduation from high

school. The amount of the scholarship is \$250 for each qualifying course completed at a Minnesota high school. The maximum annual amount of the scholarship is \$1,250 and the maximum lifetime amount for any student is \$5,000. The scholarship may be used to pay qualifying expenses at eligible institutions.

(b) A student must meet the requirements of section 136A.101, subdivision 10, for the Achieve scholarship to be renewed.

Subd. 11. **Qualifying expenses.** Qualifying expenses are tuition, fees, and other educational expenses.

Subd. 12. **Eligible institutions.** The Achieve scholarship may only be used to pay qualifying expenses at an eligible institution as defined under section 136A.101, subdivision 4.

Subd. 13. **Evaluation report.** By January 15 of each odd-numbered year, the Office of Higher Education shall submit a report, to the committees of the legislature with jurisdiction over higher education finance and policy, regarding the success of the program in increasing the enrollment of students in rigorous high school courses, including, at a minimum, the following information:

- (1) a description of the number of individuals participating in the program;
- (2) the courses taken by the program participants;
- (3) the number of credits program participants received for the courses they completed;
- (4) the high schools attended by the program participants;
- (5) the postsecondary institutions attended by the program participants;
- (6) the academic performance of the students after enrolling in a postsecondary institution; and
- (7) other information as identified by the director.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2008.

Sec. 26. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 136A.15, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Scope.** For purposes of sections 136A.15 to 136A.1702, the terms defined in this section have the meanings ascribed to given them.

Sec. 27. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 136A.15, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

Subd. 6. **Eligible institution.** "Eligible institution" means a postsecondary educational institution that ~~either~~ (1) is operated or regulated by this state, or the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota; (2) is operated publicly or privately in another state, is approved by the United States Secretary of Education, and, as determined by the office, maintains academic standards substantially equal to those of comparable institutions operated in this state; (3) is licensed or registered as a postsecondary institution by the office or another state agency; and (4) by July 1, 2011, is participating in the federal Pell Grant program under Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended. It also includes any institution chartered in a province.

Sec. 28. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 136A.16, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

Subd. 8. **Investment.** Money made available to the office that is not immediately needed for

the purposes of sections 136A.15 to 136A.1702 may be invested by the office. The money must be invested in bonds, certificates of indebtedness, and other fixed income securities, except preferred stocks, which are legal investments for the permanent school fund. The money may also be invested in prime quality commercial paper that is eligible for investment in the state employees retirement fund. All interest and profits from such investments inure to the benefit of the office or may be pledged for security of bonds issued by the office or its predecessor, the Minnesota Higher Education Coordinating Board predecessors.

Sec. 29. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 136A.16, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 16. **Interest rate swaps and other agreements.** (a) The office may enter into interest rate exchange or swap agreements, hedges, forward purchase or sale agreements, or other comparable interest rate protection agreements with a third party in connection with the issuance or proposed issuance of bonds, outstanding bonds or notes, or existing comparable interest rate protection agreements.

(b) The agreements authorized by this subdivision include without limitation master agreements, options, or contracts to enter into those agreements in the future and related agreements, including, without limitation, agreements to provide credit enhancement, liquidity, or remarketing.

(c) The agreements authorized by this subdivision may be entered into on the basis of negotiation with a qualified third party or through a competitive proposal process on terms and conditions as and with covenants and provisions approved by the office and may include, without limitation:

(1) provisions establishing reserves;

(2) pledging assets or revenues of the office for current or other payments or termination payments;

(3) contracting with the other parties to the agreements to provide for the custody, collection, securement, investment, and payment of money of the office or money held in trust; or

(4) requiring the issuance of bonds or other agreements authorized by this section in the future.

(d) With respect to bonds or notes outstanding or proposed to be issued bearing interest at a variable rate, the office may agree to pay sums equal to interest at a fixed rate or at a different variable rate determined in accordance with a formula set out in the agreement on an amount not exceeding the outstanding principal amount of the bonds or notes at the time of payment in exchange for an agreement by the third party to pay sums equal to interest on a like amount at a variable rate determined according to a formula set out in the agreement.

(e) With respect to bonds or notes outstanding or proposed to be issued bearing interest at a fixed rate or rates, the office may agree to pay sums equal to interest at a variable rate determined in accordance with a formula set out in the agreement on an amount not exceeding the outstanding principal amount of the bonds or notes at the time of payment in exchange for an agreement by the third party to pay sums equal to interest on a like amount at a fixed rate or rates determined according to a formula set in the agreement.

(f) Subject to any applicable covenants of the office, payments required to be made by the office under the agreement, including termination payments, may be made from amounts pledged or available to pay debt service on the bonds or notes with respect to which the agreement was made

or from assets of the loan capital fund of the office. The office may issue bonds or notes to provide for any payments, including, without limitation, a termination payment due or to become due under an agreement authorized under this section.

(g) The authority of the office to enter into interest rate protection agreements under this section is limited to agreements related to bonds and notes with an aggregate value of no more than \$20,000,000.

Sec. 30. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 136A.1702, is amended to read:

**136A.1702. COMMISSION APPROVAL-LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT.**

The office shall ~~obtain approval from~~ notify the ~~Legislative Advisory Commission~~ chairs of the legislative committees with primary jurisdiction over higher education finance of any proposed material change to any of its student loan programs prior to taking the following actions with regard to student loan programs described in Laws 1983, chapter 258:

(1) implementing a loan program for parents and students eligible for auxiliary loans as defined in section 136A.15, subdivision 7;

(2) acquiring student loans from other lenders to facilitate student loan programs provided for in section 136A.17; and

(3) providing for programs of supplemental and additional loans as defined in section 136A.1701 making the change.

Sec. 31. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 136A.233, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Payments.** Work-study payments shall be made to eligible students by postsecondary institutions as provided in this subdivision.

(a) Students shall be selected for participation in the program by the postsecondary institution on the basis of student financial need.

(b) In selecting students for participation, priority must be given to students enrolled for at least 12 credits. In each academic year, a student may be awarded work-study payments for one period of nonenrollment or less than half-time enrollment if the student will enroll on at least a half-time basis during the following academic term.

(c) Students will be paid for hours actually worked and the maximum hourly rate of pay shall not exceed the maximum hourly rate of pay permitted under the federal college work-study program.

(d) Minimum pay rates will be determined by an applicable federal or state law.

(e) The office shall annually establish a minimum percentage rate of student compensation to be paid by an eligible employer.

(f) Each postsecondary institution receiving money for state work-study grants shall make a reasonable effort to place work-study students in employment with eligible employers outside the institution. However, a public employer other than the institution may not terminate, lay off, or reduce the working hours of a permanent employee for the purpose of hiring a work-study student, or replace a permanent employee who is on layoff from the same or substantially the same job by

hiring a work-study student.

(g) The percent of the institution's work-study allocation provided to graduate students shall not exceed the percent of graduate student enrollment at the participating institution.

(h) An institution may use up to 30 percent of its allocation for student internships with private, for-profit employers.

Sec. 32. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 136A.29, subdivision 9, is amended to read:

Subd. 9. **Revenue bonds; limit.** The authority is authorized and empowered to issue revenue bonds whose aggregate principal amount at any time shall not exceed ~~\$800,000,000~~ \$950,000,000 and to issue notes, bond anticipation notes, and revenue refunding bonds of the authority under the provisions of sections 136A.25 to 136A.42, to provide funds for acquiring, constructing, reconstructing, enlarging, remodeling, renovating, improving, furnishing, or equipping one or more projects or parts thereof.

Sec. 33. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 136A.861, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Grants.** The director of the Minnesota Office of Higher Education shall award grants to foster postsecondary attendance and retention by providing outreach services to historically underserved students in grades six through 12 and historically underrepresented college students. Grants must be awarded to programs that provide precollege services, including, but not limited to:

- (1) academic counseling;
- (2) mentoring;
- (3) fostering and improving parental involvement in planning for and facilitating a college education;
- (4) services for students with English as a second language;
- (5) academic enrichment activities;
- (6) tutoring;
- (7) career awareness and exploration;
- (8) orientation to college life;
- (9) assistance with high school course selection and information about college admission requirements; and
- (10) financial aid counseling.

Grants shall be awarded to postsecondary institutions, professional organizations, community-based organizations, or others deemed appropriate by the director.

Grants shall be awarded for one year and may be renewed for a second year with documentation to the Minnesota Office of Higher Education of successful program outcomes.

Sec. 34. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 136A.861, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Eligible students.** Eligible students include students in grades six through 12 who meet one or more of the following criteria:

- (1) are counted under section 1124(c) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (Title I);
- (2) are eligible for free or reduced-price lunch under the National School Lunch Act;
- (3) receive assistance under the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Law (Title I of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996); or
- (4) are a member of a group traditionally underrepresented in higher education.

Eligible undergraduate students include those who met the student eligibility criteria as 6th through 12th graders.

Sec. 35. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 136A.861, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Application process.** The director of the Minnesota Office of Higher Education shall develop a grant application process. The director shall attempt to support projects in a manner that ensures that eligible students throughout the state have access to ~~precollege~~ program services.

The grant application must include, at a minimum, the following information:

- (1) a description of the characteristics of the students to be served reflective of the need for services listed in subdivision 1;
- (2) a description of the services to be provided and a timeline for implementation of the activities;
- (3) a description of how the services provided will foster postsecondary attendance and support postsecondary retention;
- (4) a description of how the services will be evaluated to determine whether the program goals were met; and
- (5) other information as identified by the director.

Grant recipients must specify both program and student outcome goals, and performance measures for each goal.

Sec. 36. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 136A.861, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

Subd. 6. **Program evaluation.** Each grant recipient must annually submit a report to the Minnesota Office of Higher Education delineating its program and student outcome goals, and activities implemented to achieve the stated outcomes. The goals must be clearly stated and measurable. Grant recipients are required to collect, analyze, and report on participation and outcome data that enable the office to verify that the program goals were met. The office shall maintain:

- (1) information about successful precollege program and undergraduate student retention program activities for dissemination to individuals throughout the state interested in adopting or replicating successful program practices; and
- (2) data on the success of the funded projects in increasing the high school graduation ~~and~~,

college participation, and college graduation rates of students served by the grant recipients. The office may convene meetings of the grant recipients, as needed, to discuss issues pertaining to the implementation of precollege services and undergraduate retention programs.

Sec. 37. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 136F.02, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Membership.** The board consists of 15 members appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate. At least one member of the board must be a resident of each congressional district. In selecting appointees, the governor must consider the needs of the Board of Trustees and the balance of the board membership with respect to labor and business representation and racial, gender, geographic, and ethnic composition. Three members must be students who are enrolled at least half time in a degree, diploma, or certificate program or have graduated from an institution governed by the board within one year of the date of appointment. The student members shall include: one member from a community college, one member from a state university, and one member from a technical college. The remaining members must be appointed to represent the state at large.

Sec. 38. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 136F.03, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Duties.** (a) The advisory council shall:

(1) develop a statement of the selection criteria to be applied and a description of the responsibilities and duties of a member of the board and shall distribute this to potential candidates; and

(2) for each position on the board, identify and recruit qualified candidates for the board, based on the background and experience of the candidates, and their potential for discharging the responsibilities of a member of the board.

(b) Selection criteria developed under this section must include the requirement that trustees represent diversity in geography, gender, race, occupation, and experience.

(c) Selection criteria developed under this section must also include the identification of the membership needs of the board for individual skills relevant to the governance of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities and the needs for certain individual characteristics that include geographic location, gender, race, occupation, and experience.

Sec. 39. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 136F.03, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Recommendations.** Except for seats filled under section 136F.04, the advisory council shall recommend at least two and not more than four candidates for each seat. By April 15 of each even-numbered year, the advisory council shall submit its recommendations to the governor. The governor is not bound by these recommendations.

Sec. 40. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 136F.42, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Time reporting.** As provided in Executive Order 96-2, the board, in consultation with the commissioners of employee relations and finance, may develop policies to allow system office or campus employees on salaries, as defined in section 43A.17, subdivision 1, to use negative time reporting in which employees report only that time for which leave is taken. ~~By the end of the 1997 fiscal year, the board, in consultation with the commissioners of employee relations and~~



~~finance, shall evaluate the use of negative time reporting and its potential for use with other state employees.~~

Sec. 41. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 136F.58, is amended to read:

**136F.58 BOOKSTORES; COURSE MATERIAL ACQUISITION.**

Subdivision 1. **Authorization.** A state college or university may operate a bookstore in a state college or university building, or may allocate space in a state college or university building and permit a person or corporation to operate a bookstore without rent at the campus' pleasure and on such conditions as the board may impose. The board may provide insurance, at no cost to the state, for the inventory of a bookstore a state college or university conducts in its building.

Subd. 2. **Course material.** (a) An instructor shall attempt to provide adequate notice to a bookstore of the intention to order required or recommended course material so that the bookstore can provide information for the instructor's consideration prior to placing an order for the course material.

(b) A bookstore must make reasonable efforts to obtain from publishers or other sources, prior to the time an instructor requests the bookstore to order course material, the following information, including, but not limited to:

(1) the title, edition, author, and International Standard Book Number (ISBN) of the course material;

(2) the price for the course material;

(3) whether the course material is bundled with optional material, whether it can be unbundled, and the price for each bundled and unbundled component;

(4) whether the material is available in an alternative format and the cost for the alternatively formatted material;

(5) the availability of the course material currently and in the future;

(6) changes to the course material from the previous edition, the revision date, availability, and cost for that edition, if available; and

(7) any known plans for future revisions of the course material.

(c) An instructor ordering course material through a bookstore shall consider the information received from the bookstore prior to placing the final order.

Subd. 3. **Notice to purchase.** (a) An instructor shall make reasonable efforts to notify a bookstore of the final order for required and recommended course material at least 30 days prior to the commencement of the term.

(b) The bookstore must make reasonable efforts to notify students of the following information concerning the required and recommended course material at least 15 days prior to the commencement of the term for which the course material is required including, but not limited to:

(1) the title, edition, author, and International Standard Book Number (ISBN) of the course material;

(2) the price for the course material;

(3) whether the required course material is bundled with optional material, whether it can be unbundled, and the price for each bundled and unbundled component; and

(4) whether the material is available in an alternative format and the cost for the alternatively formatted material.

Subd. 4. **System responsibility.** The board shall, to the extent it considers necessary, adopt uniform forms for bookstores to request information under subdivision 2. The board shall encourage faculty to utilize the information received under subdivision 2 to achieve the lowest cost to students for course materials consistent with the academic freedom and choice of the faculty member.

Sec. 42. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 136F.71, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Activity funds.** All receipts attributable to the state colleges and universities activity funds ~~and deposited in the state treasury~~ are appropriated to the board and are not subject to budgetary control as exercised by the commissioner of finance.

Sec. 43. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 136F.71, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 4. **Banking services.** Notwithstanding section 16A.27, the board shall have authority to control the amount and manner of deposit of all receipts described in this section in depositories selected by the board. The board's authority shall include specifying the considerations, financial activities, and conditions required from the depository, including the requirement of collateral security or a corporate surety bond as described in section 118A.03. The board may compensate the depository, including paying a reasonable charge to the depository, maintaining appropriate compensating balances with the depository, or purchasing non-interest-bearing certificates of deposit from the depository for performing depository-related services.

Sec. 44. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 136G.11, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **Amount of matching grant.** The amount of the matching grant for a beneficiary equals:

(1) if the beneficiary's family income is \$50,000 or less, 15 percent of the sum of the contributions made to the beneficiary's account during the calendar year, not to exceed ~~\$300~~ \$400; and

(2) if the beneficiary's family income is more than \$50,000 but not more than \$80,000, ~~five~~ ten percent of the sum of the contributions made to the beneficiary's account during the calendar year, not to exceed ~~\$300~~ \$400.

Sec. 45. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 137.0245, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Establishment.** A Regent Candidate Advisory Council is established to assist in determining criteria for, and identifying and recruiting qualified candidates for membership on the Board of Regents and making recommendations to the ~~governor~~ joint legislative committee described in section 137.0246, subdivision 2.

Sec. 46. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 137.0245, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Recommendations.** (a) The advisory council shall recommend at least two and not more than four candidates. By January 15 of each odd-numbered year, the advisory council

shall submit its recommendations to the ~~governor~~ joint legislative committee described in section 137.0246, subdivision 2.

(b) The advisory council must submit a report to the ~~governor~~ joint committee on the needs criterion identified under subdivision 3, paragraph (c), at the same time it submits its recommendations.

Sec. 47. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 137.0246, is amended to read:

### **137.0246 REGENT NOMINATION AND ELECTION.**

~~Subdivision 1. **Governor nomination.** By February 15 following the receipt of recommendations from the advisory council, the governor must submit to the joint committee established under subdivision 2 a slate of regent nominations that complies with sections 137.023 and 137.024. The slate must name one nominee for each vacancy. In selecting nominees, the governor must consider the needs of the Board of Regents and the balance of the board membership with respect to gender, racial, and ethnic composition. The governor must inform the joint committee how each candidate and the slate meet the needs identified in the report under section 137.0245, subdivision 4, paragraph (b).~~

Subd. 2. **Regent nomination joint committee.** (a) The joint legislative committee consists of 20 legislator members. Ten members shall be appointed by the speaker of the house. Ten members shall be appointed by the Subcommittee on Committees of the Committee on Rules and Administration from the senate. An equal number of members from the majority and minority party shall be appointed from each house. The members appointed from the minority party must be appointed from among those recommended by the minority leader. The chairs of the education policy committees and the members of the higher education budget and policy divisions and the ranking minority member of those committees and divisions must be appointed in each house of the legislature. The chairs of the divisions from each body shall be co-chairs of the joint legislative committee. A majority of the members from each house is a quorum of the joint committee.

(b) By February 28 of each odd-numbered year, or at a date agreed to by concurrent resolution, the joint legislative committee shall meet to consider the ~~governor's nominees~~ advisory council's recommendations for regent of the University of Minnesota for possible presentation to a joint convention of the legislature.

(c) The joint committee may ~~only~~ recommend to the joint convention ~~nominees~~ candidates recommended by the ~~governor~~ advisory council and the other candidates nominated by the joint committee. ~~If the joint committee does not recommend a governor's nominee, the governor must submit a different nominee for the same vacancy.~~ A candidate other than those recommended by the advisory council may be nominated for consideration by the joint committee only if the nomination receives the support of at least three house of representatives members of the committee and two senate members of the committee. A candidate must receive a majority vote of members from the house of representatives and from the senate on the joint committee to be recommended to the joint convention. The joint committee may recommend no more than one candidate for each vacancy. In recommending nominees, the joint committee must consider the needs of the Board of Regents and the balance of the board membership with respect to gender, racial, and ethnic composition.

(d) The joint committee must meet twice, approximately one week apart. The first meeting is for the purpose of interviewing candidates and recommending candidates for the joint committee to

consider. The second meeting is for the purpose of voting for candidates for recommendation to the joint convention.

Sec. 48. [137.0252] APPROPRIATION; CONTRACT BUYOUT.

No appropriation from the state of Minnesota to the governing board of the University of Minnesota shall be used directly or indirectly for costs related to the early termination of a contract of a coach who reports to the director of athletics.

Sec. 49. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 197.775, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Delayed payment of tuition.** A state college or university may not assess late fees or other late charges for veterans who are eligible to receive federal or state educational assistance and who have applied for that assistance but not yet received it, nor may they prevent these students from registering for a subsequent term because of outstanding tuition charges that arise from delayed federal or state payments. The state college or university may request without delay the amount of tuition above expected federal and state educational assistance and may require payment of the full amount of tuition owed by the veteran within 30 days of receipt of the expected federal or state educational assistance.

Sec. 50. [197.791] MINNESOTA GI BILL PROGRAM.

Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) The definitions in this subdivision apply to this section.

(b) "Commissioner" means the commissioner of veterans affairs, unless otherwise specified.

(c) "Cost of attendance" for both graduate and undergraduate students has the meaning given in section 136A.121, subdivision 6, multiplied by a factor of 1.1. The tuition and fee maximum established by law for four-year programs shall be used to calculate the tuition and fee maximum under section 136A.121, subdivision 6, for a graduate student.

(d) "Child" means a natural or adopted child of a person described in subdivision 4, paragraph (a), clause (1), item (i) or (ii).

(e) "Eligible institution" means a postsecondary institution under section 136A.101, subdivision 4.

(f) "Program" means the Minnesota GI Bill program established in this section, unless otherwise specified.

(g) "Time of hostilities" means any action by the armed forces of the United States that is recognized by the issuance of a presidential proclamation or a presidential executive order in which the armed forces expeditionary medal or other campaign service medals are awarded according to presidential executive order, and any additional period or place that the commissioner determines and designates, after consultation with the United States Department of Defense, to be a period or place where the United States is in a conflict that places persons at such a risk that service in a foreign country during that period or in that place should be considered to be included.

(h) "Veteran" has the meaning given in section 197.447. Veteran also includes a service member who has received an honorable discharge after leaving each period of federal active duty service and has:

(1) served 90 days or more of federal active duty in a foreign country during a time of hostilities in that country; or

(2) received a service-related medical discharge from any period of service in a foreign country during a time of hostilities in that country.

A service member who has fulfilled the requirements for being a veteran under this paragraph but is still serving actively in the United States armed forces is also a veteran for the purposes of this section.

Subd. 2. **Program established.** The Minnesota GI Bill Program is established to provide postsecondary educational assistance to eligible Minnesota veterans and to the children and spouses of deceased and severely disabled Minnesota veterans.

The commissioner, in cooperation with eligible postsecondary educational institutions, shall administer the program for the purpose of providing postsecondary educational assistance to eligible persons in accordance with this section. Each public postsecondary educational institution in the state must participate in the program and each private postsecondary educational institution in the state is encouraged to participate in the program. Any participating private institution may suspend or terminate its participation in the program at the end of any semester or other academic term.

Subd. 3. **Duties; responsibilities.** (a) The commissioner shall establish policies and procedures including, but not limited to, procedures for student application record keeping, information sharing, payment of educational assistance benefits, and other procedures the commissioner considers appropriate and necessary for effective and efficient administration of the program established in this section.

(b) The commissioner may delegate part or all of the administrative procedures for the program to responsible representatives of participating eligible institutions. The commissioner may execute an interagency agreement with the Office of Higher Education for services the commissioner determines necessary to administer the program.

Subd. 4. **Eligibility.** (a) A person is eligible for educational assistance under this section if:

(1) the person is:

(i) a veteran who is serving or has served honorably in any branch or unit of the United States armed forces at any time on or after September 11, 2001;

(ii) a nonveteran who has served honorably for a total of five years or more cumulatively as a member of the Minnesota National Guard or any other active or reserve component of the United States armed forces, and any part of that service occurred on or after September 11, 2001;

(iii) the surviving spouse or child of a person who has served in the military at any time on or after September 11, 2001, and who has died as a direct result of that military service; or

(iv) the spouse or child of a person who has served in the military at any time on or after September 11, 2001, and who has a total and permanent service-connected disability as rated by the United States Veterans Administration;

(2) the person providing the military service described in clause (1), items (i) to (iv), was a Minnesota resident within six months of the time of the person's initial enlistment or any reenlistment

in the United States armed forces;

(3) the person receiving the educational assistance is a Minnesota resident, as defined in section 136A.101, subdivision 8; and

(4) the person receiving the educational assistance:

(i) is an undergraduate or graduate student at an eligible institution;

(ii) is maintaining satisfactory academic progress as defined by the institution for students participating in federal Title IV programs;

(iii) is enrolled in an education program leading to a certificate, diploma, or degree at an eligible institution;

(iv) has applied for educational assistance under this section prior to the end of the academic term for which the assistance is being requested;

(v) is in compliance with child support payment requirements under section 136A.121, subdivision 2, clause (5); and

(vi) if an undergraduate student, has applied for the federal Pell Grant and the Minnesota State Grant.

(b) A person's eligibility terminates when the person becomes eligible for benefits under section 135A.52.

(c) To determine eligibility, the commissioner may require official documentation, including the person's federal form DD-214 or other official military discharge papers; correspondence from the United States Veterans Administration; birth certificate; marriage certificate; proof of enrollment at an eligible institution; signed affidavits; proof of residency; proof of identity; or any other official documentation the commissioner considers necessary to determine eligibility.

(d) The commissioner may deny eligibility or terminate benefits under this section to any person who has not provided sufficient documentation to determine eligibility for the program. An applicant may appeal the commissioner's eligibility determination or termination of benefits in writing to the commissioner at any time. The commissioner must rule on any application or appeal within 30 days of receipt of all documentation that the commissioner requires. The decision of the commissioner regarding an appeal is final. However, an applicant whose appeal of an eligibility determination has been rejected by the commissioner may submit an additional appeal of that determination in writing to the commissioner at any time that the applicant is able to provide substantively significant additional information regarding the applicant's eligibility for the program. An approval of an applicant's eligibility by the commissioner following an appeal by the applicant is not retroactively effective for more than one year or the semester of the person's original application, whichever is later.

(e) Upon receiving an application with insufficient documentation to determine eligibility, the commissioner must notify the applicant within 30 days of receipt of the application that the application is being suspended pending receipt by the commissioner of sufficient documentation from the applicant to determine eligibility.

Subd. 5. **Benefit amount.** (a) On approval by the commissioner of eligibility for the program, the

applicant shall be awarded, on a funds-available basis, the educational assistance under the program for use at any time according to program rules at any eligible institution.

(b) The amount of educational assistance in any semester or term for an eligible person must be determined by subtracting from the eligible person's cost of attendance the amount the person received or was eligible to receive in that semester or term from:

(1) the federal Pell Grant;

(2) the state grant program under section 136A.121; and

(3) any federal military or veterans educational benefits including but not limited to the Montgomery GI Bill, GI Bill Kicker, the federal tuition assistance program, vocational rehabilitation benefits, and any other federal benefits associated with the person's status as a veteran, except veterans disability payments from the United States Veterans Administration.

(c) The amount of educational assistance for any eligible person who is a full-time student must not exceed the following:

(1) \$1,000 per semester or term of enrollment;

(2) \$2,000 per state fiscal year; and

(3) \$10,000 in a lifetime.

For a part-time student, the amount of educational assistance must not exceed \$500 per semester or term of enrollment. For the purpose of this paragraph, a part-time undergraduate student is a student taking fewer than 12 credits for a semester or term of enrollment and a part-time graduate student is a student considered part-time by the eligible institution the graduate student is attending.

Subd. 6. **Insufficient appropriation.** If the amount appropriated is determined by the commissioner to be insufficient to pay the benefit amounts in subdivision 5, the commissioner must reduce the amounts specified in subdivision 5, paragraph (c), clauses (1) and (2).

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007, and applies to qualifying coursework taken on or after that date.

**Sec. 51. MINNESOTA WEST COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE AT WORTHINGTON; YMCA LEASE AGREEMENT.**

(a) The Board of Trustees of Minnesota State Colleges and Universities may enter into a lease agreement with the YMCA not to exceed 40 years, for the lease of land on the Minnesota West Community and Technical College at Worthington campus for the construction of a YMCA facility. The lease may also include the city of Worthington.

(b) Siting and design of the facility must be consistent with the college's master plan and Minnesota State Colleges and Universities' building standards. Minnesota West Community and Technical College may negotiate for use of the facility for college purposes. The lease must contain a provision that the lease shall terminate if the improved property is no longer used for the partial benefit of the students at the Worthington campus.

**Sec. 52. INTEREST RATE PROTECTION AGREEMENTS; REPORT.**

The Office of Higher Education must report by February 1, 2009, to the senate and house of representatives committees with primary jurisdiction over higher education finance and policy on the results of the office's interest rate protection agreement activity under Minnesota Statutes, section 136A.16, subdivision 16.

Sec. 53. **REPEALER.**

(a) Minnesota Statutes 2006, sections 135A.031, subdivisions 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6; 135A.032; 135A.033; 135A.045; 135A.053; 136A.07; and 136A.08, subdivision 8, are repealed.

(b) Laws 2001, First Special Session chapter 1, article 1, sections 3, subdivision 3; and 4, subdivision 5, are repealed.

### ARTICLE 3

#### PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 136A.61, is amended to read:

**136A.61 POLICY.**

The legislature has found and hereby declares that the availability of legitimate courses and programs leading to academic degrees offered by responsible private not-for-profit and for-profit institutions of postsecondary education and the existence of legitimate private colleges and universities are in the best interests of the people of this state. The legislature has found and declares that the state can provide assistance and protection for persons choosing private institutions and programs, by establishing policies and procedures to assure the authenticity and legitimacy of private postsecondary education institutions and programs. The legislature has also found and declares that this same policy applies to any private and public postsecondary educational institution located in another state or country which offers or makes available to a Minnesota resident any course, program or educational activity which does not require the leaving of the state for its completion.

Sec. 2. **[136A.615] CITATION.**

Sections 136A.61 to 136A.71 may be cited as the "Minnesota Private and Out-of-State Public Postsecondary Education Act."

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 136A.62, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **School.** "School" means:

(1) any ~~individual~~, partnership, company, firm, society, trust, association, corporation, or any combination thereof, which ~~(a)~~ (i) is, owns, or operates a private, nonprofit postsecondary education institution; ~~(b)~~ (ii) is, owns, or operates a private, for-profit postsecondary education institution; or (iii) provides a postsecondary instructional program or course leading to a degree whether or not for profit; ~~(c) is, owns, or operates a private, postsecondary education institution which uses the term "college", "academy", "institute" or "university" in its name; or~~ (d) operates for profit and provides programs or courses which are intended to allow an individual to fulfill in part or totally the requirements necessary to maintain a license to practice an occupation. School shall also mean

(2) any public postsecondary educational institution located in another state or country which



offers or makes available to a Minnesota resident any course, program or educational activity which does not require the leaving of the state for its completion; or

(3) any individual, entity, or postsecondary institution located in another state that contracts with any school located within the state of Minnesota for the purpose of providing educational programs, training programs, or awarding postsecondary credits or continuing education credits to Minnesota residents that may be applied to a degree program.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 136A.63, is amended to read:

### **136A.63 REGISTRATION.**

Subdivision 1. **Annual registration.** All schools located within Minnesota and all schools located outside Minnesota which offer degree programs or courses within Minnesota shall register annually with the office.

Subd. 2. **Sale of an institution.** Within 30 days of a change of its ownership a school must submit a registration renewal application, all usual and ordinary information and materials for an initial registration, and applicable registration fees for a new institution. For purposes of this subdivision, "change of ownership" means a merger or consolidation with a corporation; a sale, lease, exchange, or other disposition of all or substantially all of the assets of a school; the transfer of a controlling interest of at least 51 percent of the school's stock; or a change in the not-for-profit or for-profit status of a school.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 136A.64, is amended to read:

### **136A.64 INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR REGISTRATION.**

Subdivision 1. **Schools to provide information.** As a basis for registration, schools shall provide the office with such information as the office needs to determine the nature and activities of the school, including but not limited to, ~~requirements for admission, enrollments, tuition charge, refund policies, curriculum, degrees granted, and faculty employed.~~ The office shall have the authority to verify the accuracy of the information submitted to it by inspection or any other means it deems necessary. the following which shall be accompanied by an affidavit attesting to its accuracy and truthfulness:

- (1) articles of incorporation, constitution, bylaws, or other operating documents;
- (2) a duly adopted statement of the school's mission and goals;
- (3) evidence of current school or program licenses granted by departments or agencies of any state;
- (4) a fiscal balance sheet on an accrual basis, or a certified audit of the immediate past fiscal year including any management letters provided by the independent auditor or, if the school is a public institution outside Minnesota, an income statement for the immediate past fiscal year;
- (5) all current promotional and recruitment materials and advertisements; and
- (6) the current school catalog and, if not contained in the catalog:
  - (i) the members of the board of trustees or directors, if any;

- (ii) the current institutional officers;
- (iii) current full-time and part-time faculty with degrees held or applicable experience;
- (iv) a description of all school facilities;
- (v) a description of all current course offerings;
- (vi) all requirements for satisfactory completion of courses, programs, and degrees;
- (vii) the school's policy about freedom or limitation of expression and inquiry;
- (viii) a current schedule of fees, charges for tuition, required supplies, student activities, housing, and all other standard charges;
- (ix) the school's policy about refunds and adjustments;
- (x) the school's policy about granting credit for prior education, training, and experience; and
- (xi) the school's policies about student admission, evaluation, suspension, and dismissal.

Subd. 2. **Financial records.** The office shall not disclose financial records or accreditation reports provided to it by a school pursuant to this section except for the purpose of defending, at hearings pursuant to chapter 14, or other appeal proceedings, its decision to approve or not to approve the granting of degrees or the use of a name by the school. Section 15.17, subdivision 4, shall not apply to such records.

Subd. 3. **Additional information.** If the office is unable to determine the nature and activities of a school on the basis of the information in subdivision 1, the office shall notify the school of additional information needed.

Subd. 4. **Verification of information.** The office may verify the accuracy of submitted information by inspection, visitation, or any other means it considers necessary.

Subd. 5. **Public information.** All information submitted to the office is public information except financial and accreditation records and information. The office may disclose financial records or information to defend its decision to approve or disapprove granting of degrees or the use of a name or its decisions to revoke the approval at a hearing under chapter 14 or other legal proceedings.

Subd. 6. **Late registration penalty.** Applications for renewal for any registration received after the deadline date specified in the renewal materials provided by the office are subject to a late fee equal to 20 percent of the annual registration renewal fee.

Subd. 7. **Out-of-state expenses.** A school shall reimburse the office for actual costs associated with a site evaluation visit outside Minnesota if the visit is necessary under subdivision 1 or 3.

#### Sec. 6. [136A.645] SCHOOL CLOSURE.

When a school decides to cease postsecondary education operations, it must cooperate with the office in assisting students to find alternative means to complete their studies with a minimum of disruption, and inform the office of the following:

- (1) the planned date for termination of postsecondary education operations;

(2) the planned date for the transfer of the student records;

(3) confirmation of the name and address of the organization to receive and hold the student records; and

(4) the official at the organization receiving the student records who is designated to provide official copies of records or transcripts upon request.

Upon notice from a school of its intention to cease operations, the office shall notify the school of the date on which it must cease the enrollment of students and all postsecondary educational operations.

**Sec. 7. [136A.646] ADDITIONAL SECURITY.**

In the event any registered institution is notified by the United States Department of Education that it has fallen below minimum financial standards and that its continued participation in Title IV will be conditioned upon its satisfying either the Zone Alternative, Code of Federal Regulations, title 34, section 668.175, paragraph (f), or a Letter of Credit Alternative, Code of Federal Regulations, title 34, section 668.175, paragraph (c), the institution shall provide a surety bond conditioned upon the faithful performance of all contracts and agreements with students in a sum equal to the "letter of credit" required by the United States Department of Education in the Letter of Credit Alternative, but in no event shall such bond be less than \$10,000 nor more than \$250,000.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 136A.65, is amended to read:

**136A.65 APPROVAL OF DEGREES AND NAME.**

Subdivision 1. **Prohibition.** No school subject to registration shall grant a degree unless such degree ~~is~~ and its underlying curriculum are approved by the office, nor shall any school subject to registration use the name "college," "academy," "institute" or "university" in its name without approval by the office.

Subd. 1a. **Accreditation; requirement.** A school must not be registered or authorized to offer any degree at any level unless the school is accredited by an agency recognized by the United States Department of Education for purposes of eligibility to participate in Title IV federal financial aid programs. Any registered school undergoing institutional accreditation shall inform the office of site visits by the accrediting agency and provide office staff the opportunity to attend the visits, including any exit interviews. The institution must provide the office with a copy of the final report upon receipt.

Subd. 2. **Procedures.** The office shall establish procedures for approval, including notice and an opportunity for a hearing pursuant to chapter 14 if such approval is not granted. If a hearing is requested, no disapproval shall take effect until after such hearing.

Subd. 3. **Application.** A school subject to registration shall be granted approval to use the term "college," "academy," "institute" or "university" in its name ~~whether or not it offers a program leading to a degree,~~ if it was organized, operating, and using such term in its name on or before August 1, ~~1975~~ 2007, and if it meets the other policies and standards for approval established by the office.

Subd. 4. **Criteria for approval.** (a) A school applying to be registered and to have its degree or degrees and name approved must substantially meet the following criteria:

(1) the school has an organizational framework with administrative and teaching personnel to provide the educational programs offered;

(2) the school has financial resources sufficient to meet the school's financial obligations, including refunding tuition and other charges consistent with its stated policy if the institution is dissolved, or if claims for refunds are made, to provide service to the students as promised, and to provide educational programs leading to degrees as offered;

(3) the school operates in conformity with generally accepted budgeting and accounting principles;

(4) the school provides an educational program leading to the degree it offers;

(5) the school provides appropriate and accessible library, laboratory, and other physical facilities to support the educational program offered;

(6) the school has a policy on freedom or limitation of expression and inquiry for faculty and students which is published or available on request;

(7) the school uses only publications and advertisements which are truthful and do not give any false, fraudulent, deceptive, inaccurate, or misleading impressions about the school, its personnel, programs, services, or occupational opportunities for its graduates for promotion and student recruitment;

(8) the school's compensated recruiting agents who are operating in Minnesota identify themselves as agents of the school when talking to or corresponding with students and prospective students; and

(9) the school provides information to students and prospective students concerning:

(i) comprehensive and accurate policies relating to student admission, evaluation, suspension, and dismissal;

(ii) clear and accurate policies relating to granting credit for prior education, training, and experience and for courses offered by the school;

(iii) current schedules of fees, charges for tuition, required supplies, student activities, housing, and all other standard charges;

(iv) policies regarding refunds and adjustments for withdrawal or modification of enrollment status; and

(v) procedures and standards used for selection of recipients and the terms of payment and repayment for any financial aid program.

(b) An application for degree approval must also include:

(i) title of degree and formal recognition awarded;

(ii) location where such degree will be offered;

(iii) proposed implementation date of the degree;

(iv) admissions requirements for the degree;

- (v) length of the degree;
- (vi) projected enrollment for a period of five years;
- (vii) the curriculum required for the degree, including course syllabi or outlines;
- (viii) statement of academic and administrative mechanisms planned for monitoring the quality of the proposed degree;
- (ix) statement of satisfaction of professional licensure criteria, if applicable;
- (x) documentation of the availability of clinical, internship, externship, or practicum sites, if applicable; and
- (xi) statement of how the degree fulfills the institution's mission and goals, complements existing degrees, and contributes to the school's viability.

Subd. 5. **Requirements for degree approval.** For each degree a school offers to a student, where the student does not leave Minnesota for the major portion of the program or course leading to the degree, the school must have:

- (1) qualified teaching personnel to provide the educational programs for each degree for which approval is sought;
- (2) appropriate educational programs leading to each degree for which approval is sought;
- (3) appropriate and accessible library, laboratory, and other physical facilities to support the educational program for each degree for which approval is sought; and
- (4) a rationale showing that degree programs are consistent with the school's mission and goals.

Subd. 6. **Name.** A school may use the term "academy" or "institute" in its name without meeting any additional requirements. A school may use the term "college" in its name if it offers at least one program leading to an associate degree. A school may use the term "university" in its name if it offers at least one program leading to a master's or doctorate degree.

Subd. 7. **Conditional approval.** The office may grant conditional approval for a degree or use of a term in its name for a period of less than one year if doing so would be in the best interests of currently enrolled students or prospective students.

Subd. 8. **Disapproval of registration appeal.** (a) If a school's degree or use of a term in its name is disapproved by the office, the school may request a hearing under chapter 14. The request must be in writing and made to the office within 30 days of the date the school is notified of the disapproval.

(b) The office may refuse to renew, revoke, or suspend registration, approval of a school's degree, or use of a regulated term in its name by giving written notice and reasons to the school. The school may request a hearing under chapter 14. If a hearing is requested, no revocation or suspension shall take effect until after the hearing.

(c) Reasons for revocation or suspension of registration or approval may be for one or more of the following reasons:

- (1) violating the provisions of sections 136A.61 to 136A.71;

(2) providing false, misleading, or incomplete information to the office;

(3) presenting information about the school which is false, fraudulent, misleading, deceptive, or inaccurate in a material respect to students or prospective students; or

(4) refusing to allow reasonable inspection or to supply reasonable information after a written request by the office has been received.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 136A.657, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 4. **Statement required; religious nature.** Any degree awarded upon completion of a religiously exempt program shall include descriptive language to make the religious nature of the award clear.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 136A.66, is amended to read:

**136A.66 LIST.**

The office shall maintain a list of schools registered institutions authorized to grant degrees and schools authorized to use the name "college," "academy," "institute" or "university," and shall make such list available to the public.

Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 136A.67, is amended to read:

**136A.67 UNAUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIONS.**

No school and none of its officials or employees shall advertise or represent in any manner that such school is approved or accredited by the office or state of Minnesota except that any A school which is duly registered with the office, or any of its officials or employees, may represent in advertising and shall disclose in catalogues, applications, and enrollment materials that the school is registered with the office, by prominently displaying the following statement: "(Name of school) is registered as a private institution with the Minnesota Office of Higher Education pursuant to sections 136A.61 to 136A.71. Registration is not an endorsement of the institution. Credits earned at the institution may not transfer to all other institutions."

**Sec. 12. [136A.675] RISK ANALYSIS.**

The office shall develop a set of financial and programmatic evaluation metrics to aid in the detection of the failure or potential failure of a school to meet the standards established under sections 136A.61 to 136A.71. These metrics shall include indicators of financial stability, changes in the senior management or the financial aid and senior administrative staff of an institution, changes in enrollment, changes in program offerings, and changes in faculty staffing patterns. The development of financial standards shall use industry standards as benchmarks. The development of the nonfinancial standards shall include a measure of trends and dramatic changes in trends or practice. The agency must specify the metrics and standards for each area and provide a copy to each registered institution and post them on the agency Web site. The agency shall use regularly reported data submitted to the federal government or other regulatory or accreditation agencies wherever possible. The agency may require more frequent data reporting by an institution to ascertain whether the standards are being met.

Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 136A.68, is amended to read:

**136A.68 RECORDS.**

After August 1, 1975, all schools located in this state must maintain permanent records of all students enrolled therein at any time. The office may require schools to provide a plan acceptable to the office for preserving all such records for at least ten years. The office may require that such plan include the filing of a continuous surety bond or a deposit of funds in trust in an amount not to exceed \$20,000 for the purpose of preserving records after such school ceases to exist. A registered school shall maintain a permanent record for each student for 50 years from the last date of the student's attendance. A registered school offering distance instruction to a student located in Minnesota shall maintain a permanent record for each Minnesota student for 50 years from the last date of the student's attendance. Records include a student's academic transcript, documents, and files containing student data about academic credits earned, courses completed, grades awarded, degrees awarded, and periods of attendance. To preserve permanent records, a school shall submit a plan that meets the following requirements:

(1) at least one copy of the records must be held in a secure, fireproof depository or duplicate records must be maintained off site in a secure location and in a manner approved by the office;

(2) an appropriate official must be designated to provide a student with copies of records or a transcript upon request;

(3) an alternative method approved by the office of complying with clauses (1) and (2) must be established if the school ceases to exist; and

(4) if the school has no binding agreement approved by the office for preserving student records, a continuous surety bond must be filed with the office in an amount not to exceed \$20,000. The bond shall run to the state of Minnesota.

Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 136A.69, is amended to read:

**136A.69 FEES.**

Subdivision 1. **Registration fees.** The office shall collect reasonable registration fees that are sufficient to recover, but do not exceed, its costs of administering the registration program. The office shall charge \$1,100 for initial registration fees and \$950 for annual renewal fees.

Subd. 2. **Degree level addition fee.** The office processing fee for adding a degree level to an existing program is \$2,000 per program.

Subd. 3. **Program addition fee.** The office processing fee for adding a program that represents a significant departure in the objectives, content, or method of delivery of programs that are currently offered by the school is \$500 per program.

Subd. 4. **Visit or consulting fee.** If the office determines that a fact-finding visit or outside consultant is necessary to review or evaluate any new or revised program, the office shall be reimbursed for the expenses incurred related to the review as follows:

(1) \$300 for the team base fee or for a paper review conducted by a consultant if the office determines that a fact-finding visit is not required;

(2) \$300 for each day or part thereof on site per team member; and

(3) the actual cost of customary meals, lodging, and related travel expenses incurred by team members.

Subd. 5. **Modification fee.** The fee for modification of any existing program is \$100 and is due if there is:

(1) an increase or decrease of 25 percent or more from the original date of program approval, in clock hours, credit hours, or calendar length of an existing program;

(2) a change in academic measurement from clock hours to credit hours or vice versa; or

(3) an addition or alteration of courses that represent a 25 percent change or more in the objectives, content, or methods of delivery.

Sec. 15. **[136A.705] PENALTY.**

The director may assess fines for violations of a provision of sections 136A.61 to 136A.71. Each day's failure to comply with a provision of sections 136A.61 to 136A.71 shall be a separate violation and fines shall not exceed \$500 per day per violation. Amounts received under this section must be deposited in the special revenue fund and are appropriated to the Office of Higher Education for the purposes in sections 136A.61 to 136A.71.

Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 141.21, subdivision 1a, is amended to read:

Subd. 1a. **Office of Higher Education or office.** "Office of Higher Education" or "office" means the Minnesota Office of Higher Education.

Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 141.21, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **School.** "School" means any person, within or outside the state, who maintains, advertises, administers, solicits for, or conducts any program ~~for profit at any less than an associate degree level other than baccalaureate or graduate programs, and is not specifically exempted by sections 141.21 to~~ and is not registered as a private institution under sections 136A.61 to 136A.71 and is not specifically exempted by section 141.35 or 141.37. School also means any person, within or outside the state, who maintains, advertises, administers, solicits for, or conducts any program at less than an associate degree level, is not registered as a private institution pursuant to sections 136A.61 to 136A.71, and uses the term, "college," "institute," "academy," or "university" in its name.

Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 141.25, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Required.** A school must not maintain, advertise, solicit for, administer, or conduct any program in Minnesota without first obtaining a license from the office.

Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 141.25, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **Bond.** (a) No license shall be issued to any school which maintains, conducts, solicits for, or advertises within the state of Minnesota any program, unless the applicant files with the office a continuous corporate surety bond written by a company authorized to do business in Minnesota conditioned upon the faithful performance of all contracts and agreements with students made by the applicant.



(b) The amount of the surety bond shall be ten percent of the preceding year's gross income from student tuition, fees, and other required institutional charges, but in no event less than \$10,000 nor greater than \$250,000, except that a school may deposit a greater amount at its own discretion. A school in each annual application for licensure must compute the amount of the surety bond and verify that the amount of the surety bond complies with this subdivision, unless the school maintains a surety bond equal to at least \$250,000. A school that operates at two or more locations may combine gross income from student tuition, fees, and other required institutional charges for all locations for the purpose of determining the annual surety bond requirement. The gross tuition and fees used to determine the amount of the surety bond required for a school having a license for the sole purpose of recruiting students in Minnesota shall be only that paid to the school by the students recruited from Minnesota.

(c) The bond shall run to the state of Minnesota and to any person who may have a cause of action against the applicant arising at any time after the bond is filed and before it is canceled for breach of any contract or agreement made by the applicant with any student. The aggregate liability of the surety for all breaches of the conditions of the bond shall not exceed the principal sum deposited by the school under paragraph (b). The surety of any bond may cancel it upon giving 60 days' notice in writing to the office and shall be relieved of liability for any breach of condition occurring after the effective date of cancellation.

(d) In lieu of bond, the applicant may deposit with the commissioner of finance a sum equal to the amount of the required surety bond in cash, or securities as may be legally purchased by savings banks or for trust funds in an aggregate market value equal to the amount of the required surety bond.

(e) Failure of a school to post and maintain the required surety bond or deposit under paragraph (d) may shall result in denial, suspension, or revocation of the school's license.

Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 141.25, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Minimum standards.** A license shall be issued if the office first determines:

(1) that the applicant has a sound financial condition with sufficient resources available to:

(i) meet the school's financial obligations;

(ii) refund all tuition and other charges, within a reasonable period of time, in the event of dissolution of the school or in the event of any justifiable claims for refund against the school by the student body;

(iii) provide adequate service to its students and prospective students; and

(iv) maintain and support the school;

(2) that the applicant has satisfactory facilities with sufficient tools and equipment and the necessary number of work stations to prepare adequately the students currently enrolled, and those proposed to be enrolled;

(3) that the applicant employs a sufficient number of qualified teaching personnel to provide the educational programs contemplated;

(4) that the school has an organizational framework with administrative and instructional

personnel to provide the programs and services it intends to offer;

(5) that the premises and conditions under which the students work and study are sanitary, healthful, and safe, according to modern standards;

(6) that the quality and content of each occupational course or program of study provides education and adequate preparation to enrolled students for entry level positions in the occupation for which prepared;

(7) that the living quarters which are owned, maintained, recommended, or approved by the applicant for students are sanitary and safe;

(8) that the contract or enrollment agreement used by the school complies with the provisions in section 141.265;

(9) that contracts and agreements do not contain a wage assignment provision or a confession of judgment clause; and

(10) that there has been no adjudication of fraud or misrepresentation in any criminal, civil, or administrative proceeding in any jurisdiction against the school or its owner, officers, agents, or sponsoring organization.

Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 141.25, subdivision 9, is amended to read:

Subd. 9. **Catalog, brochure, or electronic display.** Before a license is issued to a school, the school shall furnish to the office a catalog, brochure, or electronic display including:

(1) identifying data, such as volume number and date of publication;

(2) name and address of the school and its governing body and officials;

(3) a calendar of the school showing legal holidays, beginning and ending dates of each course quarter, term, or semester, and other important dates;

(4) the school policy and regulations on enrollment including dates and specific entrance requirements for each program;

(5) the school policy and regulations about leave, absences, class cuts, make-up work, tardiness, and interruptions for unsatisfactory attendance;

(6) the school policy and regulations about standards of progress for the student including the grading system of the school, the minimum grades considered satisfactory, conditions for interruption for unsatisfactory grades or progress, a description of any probationary period allowed by the school, and conditions of reentrance for those dismissed for unsatisfactory progress;

(7) the school policy and regulations about student conduct and conditions for dismissal for unsatisfactory conduct;

(8) a detailed schedule of fees, charges for tuition, books, supplies, tools, student activities, laboratory fees, service charges, rentals, deposits, and all other charges;

(9) the school policy and regulations, including an explanation of section 141.271, about refunding tuition, fees, and other charges if the student does not enter the program, withdraws from

the program, or the program is discontinued;

(10) a description of the available facilities and equipment;

(11) a course outline syllabus for each course offered showing course objectives, subjects or units in the course, type of work or skill to be learned, and approximate time, hours, or credits to be spent on each subject or unit;

(12) the school policy and regulations about granting credit for previous education and preparation;

(13) a notice to students relating to the transferability of any credits earned at the school to other institutions;

(14) a procedure for investigating and resolving student complaints; and

~~(14)~~ (15) the name and address of the Minnesota Office of Higher Education.

A school that is exclusively a distance education school is exempt from clauses (3) and (5).

Sec. 22. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 141.25, subdivision 10, is amended to read:

Subd. 10. **Placement records.** (a) Before a license is ~~issued~~ reissued to a school that offers, advertises or implies a placement service, the school shall file with the office for the past year and thereafter at reasonable intervals determined by the office, a certified copy of the school's placement record, containing a list of graduates, a description of their jobs, names of their employers, and other information as the office may prescribe.

(b) Each school that offers a placement service shall furnish to each prospective student, upon request, prior to enrollment, written information concerning the percentage of the previous year's graduates who were placed in the occupation for which prepared or in related employment.

Sec. 23. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 141.25, subdivision 12, is amended to read:

Subd. 12. **Permanent records.** A school licensed under this chapter and located in Minnesota shall maintain a permanent record for each student for 50 years from the last date of the student's attendance. A school licensed under this chapter and offering distance instruction to a student located in Minnesota shall maintain a permanent record for each Minnesota student for 50 years from the last date of the student's attendance. Records include school transcripts, documents, and files containing student data about academic credits earned, courses completed, grades awarded, degrees awarded, and periods of attendance. To preserve permanent records, a school shall submit a plan that meets the following requirements:

(1) at least one copy of the records must be held in a secure, fireproof depository;

(2) an appropriate official must be designated to provide a student with copies of records or a transcript upon request;

(3) an alternative method, approved by the office, of complying with clauses (1) and (2) must be established if the school ceases to exist; and

(4) a continuous surety bond must be filed with the office in an amount not to exceed \$20,000 if the school has no binding agreement approved by the office, for preserving student records ~~or a~~

~~trust must be arranged if the school ceases to exist.~~ The bond shall run to the state of Minnesota.

Sec. 24. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 141.255, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Renewal licensure fee; late fee.** (a) The office processing fee for a renewal licensure application is:

(1) for a category A school, as determined by the office, the fee is \$865 if the school offers one program or \$1,150 if the school offers two or more programs; and

(2) for a category B or C school, as determined by the office, the fee is \$430 if the school offers one program or \$575 if the school offers two or more programs.

(b) If a license renewal application is not received by the office by the close of business at least 60 days before the expiration of the current license, a late fee of \$100 per business day, not to exceed \$3,000, shall be assessed.

Sec. 25. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 141.265, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Contract information.** A contract or enrollment agreement used by a school must include at least the following:

(1) the name and address of the school, clearly stated;

(2) a clear and conspicuous disclosure that the agreement is a legally binding instrument upon written acceptance of the student by the school unless canceled under section 141.271;

(3) the school's cancellation and refund policy that shall be clearly and conspicuously entitled "Buyer's Right to Cancel";

(4) a clear statement of total cost of the program including tuition and all other charges;

(5) the name and description of the program, including the number of hours or credits of classroom instruction, or distance instruction, that shall be included; and

(6) a clear and conspicuous explanation of the form and means of notice the student should use in the event the student elects to cancel the contract or sale, the effective date of cancellation, and the name and address of the seller to which the notice should be sent or delivered.

The contract or enrollment agreement must not include a wage assignment provision or a confession of judgment clause.

Sec. 26. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 141.271, subdivision 10, is amended to read:

Subd. 10. **Cancellation occurrence.** Written notice of cancellation shall take place on the date the letter of cancellation is postmarked or, in the cases where the notice is hand carried, it shall occur on the date the notice is delivered to the school. If a student has not attended ~~classes~~ class for a period of 21 consecutive days without contacting the school to indicate an intent to continue in school or otherwise making arrangements concerning the absence, the student is considered to have withdrawn from school for all purposes as of the student's last documented date of attendance.

Sec. 27. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 141.271, subdivision 12, is amended to read:

Subd. 12. **Instrument not to be negotiated.** A school shall not negotiate any promissory

instrument received as payment of tuition or other charge prior to completion of 50 percent of the program, ~~except that~~ prior to that time, instruments may be transferred by assignment to purchasers who shall be subject to all defenses available against the school named as payee.

Sec. 28. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 141.28, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. ~~Not to advertise state approval~~ **Disclosure required.** ~~Schools, agents of schools, and solicitors may not advertise or represent in writing or orally that such school is approved or accredited by the state of Minnesota, except that any~~ A school, agent, or solicitor may advertise represent in advertisements and shall disclose in catalogues, applications, and enrollment materials that the school and solicitor have been is duly licensed by the state using by prominently displaying the following language statement:

"(Name of school) is licensed as a private career school with the Minnesota Office of Higher Education pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, sections 141.21 to 141.32. Licensure is not an endorsement of the institution. Credits earned at the institution may not transfer to all other institutions. ~~The educational programs may not meet the needs of every student or employer."~~

Sec. 29. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 141.32, is amended to read:

#### **141.32 PENALTY.**

~~Violation of a provision of this chapter shall be a misdemeanor. Each day's failure to comply with this chapter shall be a separate violation. The office shall adopt rules establishing a list of civil penalties and the fine associated with each violation. Fines for violations shall not exceed \$500 per day per violation. The director may assess fines for violations of a provision of this chapter. Each day's failure to comply with this chapter shall be a separate violation and fines shall not exceed \$500 per day per violation. Amounts received under this section must be deposited in the special revenue fund and are appropriated to the Office of Higher Education for the purposes of this chapter.~~

Sec. 30. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 141.35, is amended to read:

#### **141.35 EXEMPTIONS.**

Sections 141.21 to ~~141.35~~ 141.32 shall not apply to the following:

- (1) public postsecondary institutions;
- (2) ~~private~~ postsecondary institutions registered under sections ~~136A.61~~ 136A.615 to 136A.71 ~~that are nonprofit, or that are for profit and registered under sections 136A.61 to 136A.71 as of December 31, 1998, or are approved to offer exclusively baccalaureate or postbaccalaureate programs;~~
- (3) schools of nursing accredited by the state Board of Nursing or an equivalent public board of another state or foreign country;
- (4) private schools complying with the requirements of section 120A.22, subdivision 4;
- (5) courses taught to students in a valid apprenticeship program taught by or required by a trade union;
- (6) schools exclusively engaged in training physically or mentally disabled persons for the state

of Minnesota;

(7) schools licensed by boards authorized under Minnesota law to issue licenses;

(8) schools and educational programs, or training programs, contracted for by persons, firms, corporations, government agencies, or associations, for the training of their own employees, for which no fee is charged the employee;

(9) schools engaged exclusively in the teaching of purely avocational, recreational, or remedial subjects as determined by the office;

~~(10) driver training schools and instructors as defined in section 171.33, subdivisions 1 and 2;~~

~~(11) classes, courses, or programs conducted by a bona fide trade, professional, or fraternal organization, solely for that organization's membership;~~

~~(12)~~ (11) programs in the fine arts provided by organizations exempt from taxation under section 290.05 and registered with the attorney general under chapter 309. For the purposes of this clause, "fine arts" means activities resulting in artistic creation or artistic performance of works of the imagination which are engaged in for the primary purpose of creative expression rather than commercial sale or employment. In making this determination the office may seek the advice and recommendation of the Minnesota Board of the Arts;

~~(13)~~ (12) classes, courses, or programs intended to fulfill the continuing education requirements for licensure or certification in a profession, that have been approved by a legislatively or judicially established board or agency responsible for regulating the practice of the profession, and that are offered exclusively to an individual practicing the profession;

~~(14)~~ (13) classes, courses, or programs intended to prepare students to sit for undergraduate, graduate, postgraduate, or occupational licensing and occupational entrance examinations;

~~(15)~~ (14) classes, courses, or programs providing 16 or fewer clock hours of instruction that are not part of the curriculum for an occupation or entry level employment;

~~(16)~~ (15) classes, courses, or programs providing instruction in personal development, modeling, or acting;

~~(17)~~ (16) training or instructional programs, in which one instructor teaches an individual student, that are not part of the curriculum for an occupation or are not intended to prepare a person for entry level employment; and

~~(18)~~ (17) schools with no physical presence in Minnesota, as determined by the office, engaged exclusively in offering distance instruction that are located in and regulated by other states or jurisdictions.

**Sec. 31. [141.37] EXEMPTION; RELIGIOUS SCHOOLS.**

**Subdivision 1. Exemption.** Any school or any department or branch of a school:

(1) which is substantially owned, operated, or supported by a bona fide church or religious organization;

(2) whose programs are primarily designed for, aimed at, and attended by persons who sincerely

hold or seek to learn the particular religious faith or beliefs of that church or religious organization; and

(3) whose programs are primarily intended to prepare its students to become ministers of, to enter into some other vocation closely related to, or to conduct their lives in consonance with the particular faith of that church or religious organization,

is exempt from the provisions of sections 141.21 to 141.32.

Subd. 2. **Limitations.** (a) An exemption shall not extend to any school, department or branch of a school, or program of a school which through advertisements or solicitations represents to any students or prospective students that the school, its aims, goals, missions, purposes, or programs are different from those described in subdivision 1.

(b) An exemption shall not extend to any school which represents to any student or prospective student that the major purpose of its programs is to:

(1) prepare the student for a vocation not closely related to that particular religious faith; or

(2) provide the student with a general educational program recognized by other schools or the broader educational, business, or social community as being substantially equivalent to the educational programs offered by schools or departments or branches of schools which are not religious in nature and are not exempt from chapter 141 and from rules adopted pursuant under this chapter.

Subd. 3. **Scope.** Nothing in this chapter or the rules adopted under it shall be interpreted as permitting the office to determine the truth or falsity of any particular set of religious beliefs.

Subd. 4. **Descriptive language required.** Any certificate, diploma, degree, or other formal recognition awarded upon completion of any religiously exempt program shall include such descriptive language as to make the religious nature of the award clear.

Sec. 32. **EFFECTIVE DATE; TRANSITION PROCESS.**

This article is effective July 1, 2007. Schools licensed pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, chapter 141, that qualify for private institution registration after July 1, 2007, shall apply for and complete the process for registration prior to the expiration of their current private career school license under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 141. Schools registered as private institutions pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, sections 136A.61 to 136A.71, that are required to obtain a private career school license after July 1, 2007, shall apply for and complete the process for licensure prior to the expiration of the current registration, but in any event no later than December 31, 2007. If the office finds it is necessary to allow for the proper processing of license or registration applications required by this section, the office is authorized to extend existing license or registration for a reasonable period of time."

Amend the title accordingly

And when so amended the bill be reported to the Senate without recommendation. Amendments adopted. Report adopted.

**Senator Pogemiller from the Committee on Rules and Administration, to which was**

**referred**

**H.F. No. 1078:** A bill for an act relating to health; modifying the hospital public interest review; modifying the alternative approval process; amending Minnesota Statutes 2006, sections 144.50, by adding subdivisions; 144.552; 144.553, subdivision 3; 144.699, by adding a subdivision.

Reports the same back with the recommendation that the bill be amended as follows:

Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

**"ARTICLE 1****CHILD WELFARE POLICY**

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256.01, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Specific powers.** Subject to the provisions of section 241.021, subdivision 2, the commissioner of human services shall carry out the specific duties in paragraphs (a) through (cc):

(a) Administer and supervise all forms of public assistance provided for by state law and other welfare activities or services as are vested in the commissioner. Administration and supervision of human services activities or services includes, but is not limited to, assuring timely and accurate distribution of benefits, completeness of service, and quality program management. In addition to administering and supervising human services activities vested by law in the department, the commissioner shall have the authority to:

(1) require county agency participation in training and technical assistance programs to promote compliance with statutes, rules, federal laws, regulations, and policies governing human services;

(2) monitor, on an ongoing basis, the performance of county agencies in the operation and administration of human services, enforce compliance with statutes, rules, federal laws, regulations, and policies governing welfare services and promote excellence of administration and program operation;

(3) develop a quality control program or other monitoring program to review county performance and accuracy of benefit determinations;

(4) require county agencies to make an adjustment to the public assistance benefits issued to any individual consistent with federal law and regulation and state law and rule and to issue or recover benefits as appropriate;

(5) delay or deny payment of all or part of the state and federal share of benefits and administrative reimbursement according to the procedures set forth in section 256.017;

(6) make contracts with and grants to public and private agencies and organizations, both profit and nonprofit, and individuals, using appropriated funds; and

(7) enter into contractual agreements with federally recognized Indian tribes with a reservation in Minnesota to the extent necessary for the tribe to operate a federally approved family assistance program or any other program under the supervision of the commissioner. The commissioner shall consult with the affected county or counties in the contractual agreement negotiations, if the county or counties wish to be included, in order to avoid the duplication of county and tribal assistance



program services. The commissioner may establish necessary accounts for the purposes of receiving and disbursing funds as necessary for the operation of the programs.

(b) Inform county agencies, on a timely basis, of changes in statute, rule, federal law, regulation, and policy necessary to county agency administration of the programs.

(c) Administer and supervise all child welfare activities; promote the enforcement of laws protecting disabled, dependent, neglected and delinquent children, and children born to mothers who were not married to the children's fathers at the times of the conception nor at the births of the children; license and supervise child-caring and child-placing agencies and institutions; supervise the care of children in boarding and foster homes or in private institutions; and generally perform all functions relating to the field of child welfare now vested in the State Board of Control.

(d) Administer and supervise all noninstitutional service to disabled persons, including those who are visually impaired, hearing impaired, or physically impaired or otherwise disabled. The commissioner may provide and contract for the care and treatment of qualified indigent children in facilities other than those located and available at state hospitals when it is not feasible to provide the service in state hospitals.

(e) Assist and actively cooperate with other departments, agencies and institutions, local, state, and federal, by performing services in conformity with the purposes of Laws 1939, chapter 431.

(f) Act as the agent of and cooperate with the federal government in matters of mutual concern relative to and in conformity with the provisions of Laws 1939, chapter 431, including the administration of any federal funds granted to the state to aid in the performance of any functions of the commissioner as specified in Laws 1939, chapter 431, and including the promulgation of rules making uniformly available medical care benefits to all recipients of public assistance, at such times as the federal government increases its participation in assistance expenditures for medical care to recipients of public assistance, the cost thereof to be borne in the same proportion as are grants of aid to said recipients.

(g) Establish and maintain any administrative units reasonably necessary for the performance of administrative functions common to all divisions of the department.

(h) Act as designated guardian of both the estate and the person of all the wards of the state of Minnesota, whether by operation of law or by an order of court, without any further act or proceeding whatever, except as to persons committed as developmentally disabled. For children under the guardianship of the commissioner or a tribe in Minnesota recognized by the Secretary of the Interior whose interests would be best served by adoptive placement, the commissioner may contract with a licensed child-placing agency or a Minnesota tribal social services agency to provide adoption services. A contract with a licensed child-placing agency must be designed to supplement existing county efforts and may not replace existing county programs or tribal social services, unless the replacement is agreed to by the county board and the appropriate exclusive bargaining representative, tribal governing body, or the commissioner has evidence that child placements of the county continue to be substantially below that of other counties. Funds encumbered and obligated under an agreement for a specific child shall remain available until the terms of the agreement are fulfilled or the agreement is terminated.

(i) Act as coordinating referral and informational center on requests for service for newly arrived immigrants coming to Minnesota.

(j) The specific enumeration of powers and duties as hereinabove set forth shall in no way be construed to be a limitation upon the general transfer of powers herein contained.

(k) Establish county, regional, or statewide schedules of maximum fees and charges which may be paid by county agencies for medical, dental, surgical, hospital, nursing and nursing home care and medicine and medical supplies under all programs of medical care provided by the state and for congregate living care under the income maintenance programs.

(l) Have the authority to conduct and administer experimental projects to test methods and procedures of administering assistance and services to recipients or potential recipients of public welfare. To carry out such experimental projects, it is further provided that the commissioner of human services is authorized to waive the enforcement of existing specific statutory program requirements, rules, and standards in one or more counties. The order establishing the waiver shall provide alternative methods and procedures of administration, shall not be in conflict with the basic purposes, coverage, or benefits provided by law, and in no event shall the duration of a project exceed four years. It is further provided that no order establishing an experimental project as authorized by the provisions of this section shall become effective until the following conditions have been met:

(1) the secretary of health and human services of the United States has agreed, for the same project, to waive state plan requirements relative to statewide uniformity; and

(2) a comprehensive plan, including estimated project costs, shall be approved by the Legislative Advisory Commission and filed with the commissioner of administration.

(m) According to federal requirements, establish procedures to be followed by local welfare boards in creating citizen advisory committees, including procedures for selection of committee members.

(n) Allocate federal fiscal disallowances or sanctions which are based on quality control error rates for the aid to families with dependent children program formerly codified in sections 256.72 to 256.87, medical assistance, or food stamp program in the following manner:

(1) one-half of the total amount of the disallowance shall be borne by the county boards responsible for administering the programs. For the medical assistance and the AFDC program formerly codified in sections 256.72 to 256.87, disallowances shall be shared by each county board in the same proportion as that county's expenditures for the sanctioned program are to the total of all counties' expenditures for the AFDC program formerly codified in sections 256.72 to 256.87, and medical assistance programs. For the food stamp program, sanctions shall be shared by each county board, with 50 percent of the sanction being distributed to each county in the same proportion as that county's administrative costs for food stamps are to the total of all food stamp administrative costs for all counties, and 50 percent of the sanctions being distributed to each county in the same proportion as that county's value of food stamp benefits issued are to the total of all benefits issued for all counties. Each county shall pay its share of the disallowance to the state of Minnesota. When a county fails to pay the amount due hereunder, the commissioner may deduct the amount from reimbursement otherwise due the county, or the attorney general, upon the request of the commissioner, may institute civil action to recover the amount due; and

(2) notwithstanding the provisions of clause (1), if the disallowance results from knowing noncompliance by one or more counties with a specific program instruction, and that knowing

noncompliance is a matter of official county board record, the commissioner may require payment or recover from the county or counties, in the manner prescribed in clause (1), an amount equal to the portion of the total disallowance which resulted from the noncompliance, and may distribute the balance of the disallowance according to clause (1).

(o) Develop and implement special projects that maximize reimbursements and result in the recovery of money to the state. For the purpose of recovering state money, the commissioner may enter into contracts with third parties. Any recoveries that result from projects or contracts entered into under this paragraph shall be deposited in the state treasury and credited to a special account until the balance in the account reaches \$1,000,000. When the balance in the account exceeds \$1,000,000, the excess shall be transferred and credited to the general fund. All money in the account is appropriated to the commissioner for the purposes of this paragraph.

(p) Have the authority to make direct payments to facilities providing shelter to women and their children according to section 256D.05, subdivision 3. Upon the written request of a shelter facility that has been denied payments under section 256D.05, subdivision 3, the commissioner shall review all relevant evidence and make a determination within 30 days of the request for review regarding issuance of direct payments to the shelter facility. Failure to act within 30 days shall be considered a determination not to issue direct payments.

(q) Have the authority to establish and enforce the following county reporting requirements:

(1) the commissioner shall establish fiscal and statistical reporting requirements necessary to account for the expenditure of funds allocated to counties for human services programs. When establishing financial and statistical reporting requirements, the commissioner shall evaluate all reports, in consultation with the counties, to determine if the reports can be simplified or the number of reports can be reduced;

(2) the county board shall submit monthly or quarterly reports to the department as required by the commissioner. Monthly reports are due no later than 15 working days after the end of the month. Quarterly reports are due no later than 30 calendar days after the end of the quarter, unless the commissioner determines that the deadline must be shortened to 20 calendar days to avoid jeopardizing compliance with federal deadlines or risking a loss of federal funding. Only reports that are complete, legible, and in the required format shall be accepted by the commissioner;

(3) if the required reports are not received by the deadlines established in clause (2), the commissioner may delay payments and withhold funds from the county board until the next reporting period. When the report is needed to account for the use of federal funds and the late report results in a reduction in federal funding, the commissioner shall withhold from the county boards with late reports an amount equal to the reduction in federal funding until full federal funding is received;

(4) a county board that submits reports that are late, illegible, incomplete, or not in the required format for two out of three consecutive reporting periods is considered noncompliant. When a county board is found to be noncompliant, the commissioner shall notify the county board of the reason the county board is considered noncompliant and request that the county board develop a corrective action plan stating how the county board plans to correct the problem. The corrective action plan must be submitted to the commissioner within 45 days after the date the county board received notice of noncompliance;

(5) the final deadline for fiscal reports or amendments to fiscal reports is one year after the date the report was originally due. If the commissioner does not receive a report by the final deadline, the county board forfeits the funding associated with the report for that reporting period and the county board must repay any funds associated with the report received for that reporting period;

(6) the commissioner may not delay payments, withhold funds, or require repayment under clause (3) or (5) if the county demonstrates that the commissioner failed to provide appropriate forms, guidelines, and technical assistance to enable the county to comply with the requirements. If the county board disagrees with an action taken by the commissioner under clause (3) or (5), the county board may appeal the action according to sections 14.57 to 14.69; and

(7) counties subject to withholding of funds under clause (3) or forfeiture or repayment of funds under clause (5) shall not reduce or withhold benefits or services to clients to cover costs incurred due to actions taken by the commissioner under clause (3) or (5).

(r) Allocate federal fiscal disallowances or sanctions for audit exceptions when federal fiscal disallowances or sanctions are based on a statewide random sample for the foster care program under title IV-E of the Social Security Act, United States Code, title 42, in direct proportion to each county's title IV-E foster care maintenance claim for that period.

(s) Be responsible for ensuring the detection, prevention, investigation, and resolution of fraudulent activities or behavior by applicants, recipients, and other participants in the human services programs administered by the department.

(t) Require county agencies to identify overpayments, establish claims, and utilize all available and cost-beneficial methodologies to collect and recover these overpayments in the human services programs administered by the department.

(u) Have the authority to administer a drug rebate program for drugs purchased pursuant to the prescription drug program established under section 256.955 after the beneficiary's satisfaction of any deductible established in the program. The commissioner shall require a rebate agreement from all manufacturers of covered drugs as defined in section 256B.0625, subdivision 13. Rebate agreements for prescription drugs delivered on or after July 1, 2002, must include rebates for individuals covered under the prescription drug program who are under 65 years of age. For each drug, the amount of the rebate shall be equal to the rebate as defined for purposes of the federal rebate program in United States Code, title 42, section 1396r-8. The manufacturers must provide full payment within 30 days of receipt of the state invoice for the rebate within the terms and conditions used for the federal rebate program established pursuant to section 1927 of title XIX of the Social Security Act. The manufacturers must provide the commissioner with any information necessary to verify the rebate determined per drug. The rebate program shall utilize the terms and conditions used for the federal rebate program established pursuant to section 1927 of title XIX of the Social Security Act.

(v) Have the authority to administer the federal drug rebate program for drugs purchased under the medical assistance program as allowed by section 1927 of title XIX of the Social Security Act and according to the terms and conditions of section 1927. Rebates shall be collected for all drugs that have been dispensed or administered in an outpatient setting and that are from manufacturers who have signed a rebate agreement with the United States Department of Health and Human Services.

(w) Have the authority to administer a supplemental drug rebate program for drugs purchased

under the medical assistance program. The commissioner may enter into supplemental rebate contracts with pharmaceutical manufacturers and may require prior authorization for drugs that are from manufacturers that have not signed a supplemental rebate contract. Prior authorization of drugs shall be subject to the provisions of section 256B.0625, subdivision 13.

(x) Operate the department's communication systems account established in Laws 1993, First Special Session chapter 1, article 1, section 2, subdivision 2, to manage shared communication costs necessary for the operation of the programs the commissioner supervises. A communications account may also be established for each regional treatment center which operates communications systems. Each account must be used to manage shared communication costs necessary for the operations of the programs the commissioner supervises. The commissioner may distribute the costs of operating and maintaining communication systems to participants in a manner that reflects actual usage. Costs may include acquisition, licensing, insurance, maintenance, repair, staff time and other costs as determined by the commissioner. Nonprofit organizations and state, county, and local government agencies involved in the operation of programs the commissioner supervises may participate in the use of the department's communications technology and share in the cost of operation. The commissioner may accept on behalf of the state any gift, bequest, devise or personal property of any kind, or money tendered to the state for any lawful purpose pertaining to the communication activities of the department. Any money received for this purpose must be deposited in the department's communication systems accounts. Money collected by the commissioner for the use of communication systems must be deposited in the state communication systems account and is appropriated to the commissioner for purposes of this section.

(y) Receive any federal matching money that is made available through the medical assistance program for the consumer satisfaction survey. Any federal money received for the survey is appropriated to the commissioner for this purpose. The commissioner may expend the federal money received for the consumer satisfaction survey in either year of the biennium.

(z) Designate community information and referral call centers and incorporate cost reimbursement claims from the designated community information and referral call centers into the federal cost reimbursement claiming processes of the department according to federal law, rule, and regulations. Existing information and referral centers provided by Greater Twin Cities United Way or existing call centers for which Greater Twin Cities United Way has legal authority to represent, shall be included in these designations upon review by the commissioner and assurance that these services are accredited and in compliance with national standards. Any reimbursement is appropriated to the commissioner and all designated information and referral centers shall receive payments according to normal department schedules established by the commissioner upon final approval of allocation methodologies from the United States Department of Health and Human Services Division of Cost Allocation or other appropriate authorities.

(aa) Develop recommended standards for foster care homes that address the components of specialized therapeutic services to be provided by foster care homes with those services.

(bb) Authorize the method of payment to or from the department as part of the human services programs administered by the department. This authorization includes the receipt or disbursement of funds held by the department in a fiduciary capacity as part of the human services programs administered by the department.

(cc) Have the authority to administer a drug rebate program for drugs purchased for

persons eligible for general assistance medical care under section 256D.03, subdivision 3. For manufacturers that agree to participate in the general assistance medical care rebate program, the commissioner shall enter into a rebate agreement for covered drugs as defined in section 256B.0625, subdivisions 13 and 13d. For each drug, the amount of the rebate shall be equal to the rebate as defined for purposes of the federal rebate program in United States Code, title 42, section 1396r-8. The manufacturers must provide payment within the terms and conditions used for the federal rebate program established under section 1927 of title XIX of the Social Security Act. The rebate program shall utilize the terms and conditions used for the federal rebate program established under section 1927 of title XIX of the Social Security Act.

Effective January 1, 2006, drug coverage under general assistance medical care shall be limited to those prescription drugs that:

(1) are covered under the medical assistance program as described in section 256B.0625, subdivisions 13 and 13d; and

(2) are provided by manufacturers that have fully executed general assistance medical care rebate agreements with the commissioner and comply with such agreements. Prescription drug coverage under general assistance medical care shall conform to coverage under the medical assistance program according to section 256B.0625, subdivisions 13 to 13g.

The rebate revenues collected under the drug rebate program are deposited in the general fund.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 259.24, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Child.** When the child to be adopted is over 14 years of age, the child's written consent to adoption by a particular person is also ~~shall be~~ necessary. A child of any age who is under the guardianship of the commissioner and is legally available for adoption may not refuse or waive the commissioner's agent's exhaustive efforts to recruit, identify, and place the child in an adoptive home required under section 260C.317, subdivision 3, paragraph (b), or sign a document relieving county social services agencies of all recruitment efforts on the child's behalf.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 259.53, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Notice to commissioner; referral for postplacement assessment.** (a) Upon the filing of a petition for adoption of a child who is:

(1) under the guardianship of the commissioner or a licensed child-placing agency according to section 260C.201, subdivision 11, or 260C.317;

(2) placed by the commissioner, commissioner's agent, or licensed child-placing agency after a consent to adopt according to section 259.24 or under an agreement conferring authority to place for adoption according to section 259.25; or

(3) placed by preadoptive custody order for a direct adoptive placement ordered by the district court under section 259.47,

the court administrator shall immediately transmit a copy of the petition to the commissioner of human services.

(b) The court shall immediately refer the petition to the agency specified below for completion of a postplacement assessment and report as required by subdivision 2.

(1) If the child to be adopted has been committed to the guardianship of the commissioner or an agency under section 260C.317 or an agency has been given authority to place the child under section 259.25, the court shall refer the petition to that agency, unless another agency is supervising the placement, in which case the court shall refer the petition to the supervising agency.

(2) If the child to be adopted has been placed in the petitioner's home by a direct adoptive placement, the court shall refer the petition to the agency supervising the placement under section 259.47, subdivision 3, paragraph (a), clause (6).

(3) If the child is to be adopted by an individual who is related to the child as defined by section 245A.02, subdivision 13, and in all other instances not described in clause (1) or (2), the court shall refer the petition to the local social services agency of the county in which the prospective adoptive parent lives.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 259.57, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Findings; orders.** Upon the hearing,

(a) if the court finds that it is in the best interests of the child that the petition be granted, a decree of adoption shall be made and recorded in the office of the court administrator, ordering that henceforth the child shall be the child of the petitioner. In the decree the court may change the name of the child if desired. After the decree is granted for a child who is:

(1) under the guardianship of the commissioner or a licensed child-placing agency according to section 260C.201, subdivision 11, or 260C.317;

(2) placed by the commissioner, commissioner's agent, or licensed child-placing agency after a consent to adopt according to section 259.24 or under an agreement conferring authority to place for adoption according to section 259.25; or

(3) adopted after a direct adoptive placement ordered by the district court under section 259.47,

the court administrator shall immediately mail a copy of the recorded decree to the commissioner of human services;

(b) if the court is not satisfied that the proposed adoption is in the best interests of the child, the court shall deny the petition, and shall order the child returned to the custody of the person or agency legally vested with permanent custody or certify the case for appropriate action and disposition to the court having jurisdiction to determine the custody and guardianship of the child.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 259.67, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Reimbursement of costs.** (a) Subject to rules of the commissioner, and the provisions of this subdivision a child-placing agency licensed in Minnesota or any other state, or local or tribal social services agency shall receive a reimbursement from the commissioner equal to 100 percent of the reasonable and appropriate cost of providing adoption services ~~for a child certified as eligible for adoption assistance under subdivision 4. Such assistance.~~ Adoption services under this subdivision may include adoptive family recruitment, counseling, and special training when needed.

(b) An eligible child must have a goal of adoption, which may include an adoption in accordance with tribal law, and meet one of the following criteria:

(1) is a ward of the commissioner of human services or a ward of tribal court pursuant to section 260.755, subdivision 20, who meets one of the criteria in subdivision 4, paragraph (b), clause (1), (2), or (3); or

(2) is under the guardianship of a Minnesota-licensed child-placing agency who meets one of the criteria in subdivision 4, paragraph (b), clause (1) or (2).

(c) A child-placing agency licensed in Minnesota or any other state shall receive reimbursement for adoption services it purchases for or directly provides to an eligible child. Tribal social services shall receive reimbursement for adoption services it purchases for or directly provides to an eligible child. A local or tribal social services agency shall receive such reimbursement only for adoption services it purchases for an eligible child.

~~(b) A child-placing agency licensed in Minnesota or any other state or local or tribal social services agency seeking reimbursement under this subdivision shall enter into~~ Before providing adoption services for which reimbursement will be sought under this subdivision, a reimbursement agreement, on the designated format, must be entered into with the commissioner before providing adoption services for which reimbursement is sought. No reimbursement under this subdivision shall be made to an agency for services provided prior to entering a reimbursement agreement. Separate reimbursement agreements shall be made for each child and separate records shall be kept on each child for whom a reimbursement agreement is made. The commissioner of human services shall agree that the reimbursement costs are reasonable and appropriate. The commissioner may spend up to \$16,000 for each purchase of service agreement. Only one agreement per child is allowed, unless an exception is granted by the commissioner. Funds encumbered and obligated under such an agreement for the child remain available until the terms of the agreement are fulfilled or the agreement is terminated.

~~(c) When a local or tribal social services agency uses a purchase of service agreement to provide services reimbursable under a reimbursement agreement,~~ The commissioner may shall make reimbursement payments directly to the agency providing the service if direct reimbursement is specified by the purchase of service agreement, and if the request for reimbursement is submitted by the local or tribal social services agency along with a verification that the service was provided.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 259.75, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

Subd. 8. **Reasons for deferral.** Deferral of the listing of a child with the state adoption exchange shall be only for one or more of the following reasons:

- (a) the child is in an adoptive placement but is not legally adopted;
- (b) the child's foster parents or other individuals are now considering adoption;
- (c) diagnostic study or testing is required to clarify the child's problem and provide an adequate description; or
- (d) the child is currently in a hospital and continuing need for daily professional care will not permit placement in a family setting; or
- ~~(e) the child is 14 years of age or older and will not consent to an adoption plan.~~

Approval of a request to defer listing for any of the reasons specified in paragraph (b) or (c) shall



be valid for a period not to exceed 90 days, with no subsequent deferrals for those reasons.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 260.012, is amended to read:

**260.012 DUTY TO ENSURE PLACEMENT PREVENTION AND FAMILY REUNIFICATION; REASONABLE EFFORTS.**

(a) Once a child alleged to be in need of protection or services is under the court's jurisdiction, the court shall ensure that reasonable efforts, including culturally appropriate services, by the social services agency are made to prevent placement or to eliminate the need for removal and to reunite the child with the child's family at the earliest possible time, and ~~when a child cannot be reunified with the parent or guardian from whom the child was removed,~~ the court must ensure that the responsible social services agency makes reasonable efforts to finalize an alternative permanent plan for the child as provided in paragraph (e). In determining reasonable efforts to be made with respect to a child and in making those reasonable efforts, the child's best interests, health, and safety must be of paramount concern. Reasonable efforts to prevent placement and for rehabilitation and reunification are always required except upon a determination by the court that a petition has been filed stating a prima facie case that:

(1) the parent has subjected a child to egregious harm as defined in section 260C.007, subdivision 14;

(2) the parental rights of the parent to another child have been terminated involuntarily;

(3) the child is an abandoned infant under section 260C.301, subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clause (2);

(4) the parent's custodial rights to another child have been involuntarily transferred to a relative under section 260C.201, subdivision 11, paragraph (e), clause (1), or a similar law of another jurisdiction; or

(5) the provision of services or further services for the purpose of reunification is futile and therefore unreasonable under the circumstances.

(b) When the court makes one of the prima facie determinations under paragraph (a), either permanency pleadings under section 260C.201, subdivision 11, or a termination of parental rights petition under sections 260C.141 and 260C.301 must be filed. A permanency hearing under section 260C.201, subdivision 11, must be held within 30 days of this determination.

(c) In the case of an Indian child, in proceedings under sections 260B.178 or 260C.178, 260C.201, and 260C.301 the juvenile court must make findings and conclusions consistent with the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978, United States Code, title 25, section 1901 et seq., as to the provision of active efforts. In cases governed by the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978, United States Code, title 25, section 1901, the responsible social services agency must provide active efforts as required under United States Code, title 25, section 1911(d).

(d) "Reasonable efforts to prevent placement" means:

(1) the agency has made reasonable efforts to prevent the placement of the child in foster care;  
or

(2) given the particular circumstances of the child and family at the time of the child's removal,

there are no services or efforts available which could allow the child to safely remain in the home.

(e) "Reasonable efforts to finalize a permanent plan for the child" means due diligence by the responsible social services agency to:

- (1) reunify the child with the parent or guardian from whom the child was removed;
- (2) assess a noncustodial parent's ability to provide day-to-day care for the child and, where appropriate, provide services necessary to enable the noncustodial parent to safely provide the care, as required by section 260C.212, subdivision 4;
- (3) conduct a relative search as required under section 260C.212, subdivision 5; and
- (4) when the child cannot return to the parent or guardian from whom the child was removed, to plan for and finalize a safe and legally permanent alternative home for the child, and considers permanent alternative homes for the child inside or outside of the state, preferably through adoption or transfer of permanent legal and physical custody of the child.

(f) Reasonable efforts are made upon the exercise of due diligence by the responsible social services agency to use culturally appropriate and available services to meet the needs of the child and the child's family. Services may include those provided by the responsible social services agency and other culturally appropriate services available in the community. At each stage of the proceedings where the court is required to review the appropriateness of the responsible social services agency's reasonable efforts as described in paragraphs (a), (d), and (e), the social services agency has the burden of demonstrating that:

- (1) it has made reasonable efforts to prevent placement of the child in foster care;
- (2) it has made reasonable efforts to eliminate the need for removal of the child from the child's home and to reunify the child with the child's family at the earliest possible time;
- (3) it has made reasonable efforts to finalize an alternative permanent home for the child, and considers permanent alternative homes for the child inside or outside of the state; or
- (4) reasonable efforts to prevent placement and to reunify the child with the parent or guardian are not required. The agency may meet this burden by stating facts in a sworn petition filed under section 260C.141, by filing an affidavit summarizing the agency's reasonable efforts or facts the agency believes demonstrate there is no need for reasonable efforts to reunify the parent and child, or through testimony or a certified report required under juvenile court rules.

(g) Once the court determines that reasonable efforts for reunification are not required because the court has made one of the prima facie determinations under paragraph (a), the court may only require reasonable efforts for reunification after a hearing according to section 260C.163, where the court finds there is not clear and convincing evidence of the facts upon which the court based its prima facie determination. In this case when there is clear and convincing evidence that the child is in need of protection or services, the court may find the child in need of protection or services and order any of the dispositions available under section 260C.201, subdivision 1. Reunification of a surviving child with a parent is not required if the parent has been convicted of:

- (1) a violation of, or an attempt or conspiracy to commit a violation of, sections 609.185 to 609.20; 609.222, subdivision 2; or 609.223 in regard to another child of the parent;

(2) a violation of section 609.222, subdivision 2; or 609.223, in regard to the surviving child; or

(3) a violation of, or an attempt or conspiracy to commit a violation of, United States Code, title 18, section 1111(a) or 1112(a), in regard to another child of the parent.

(h) The juvenile court, in proceedings under sections 260B.178 or 260C.178, 260C.201, and 260C.301 shall make findings and conclusions as to the provision of reasonable efforts. When determining whether reasonable efforts have been made, the court shall consider whether services to the child and family were:

- (1) relevant to the safety and protection of the child;
- (2) adequate to meet the needs of the child and family;
- (3) culturally appropriate;
- (4) available and accessible;
- (5) consistent and timely; and
- (6) realistic under the circumstances.

In the alternative, the court may determine that provision of services or further services for the purpose of rehabilitation is futile and therefore unreasonable under the circumstances or that reasonable efforts are not required as provided in paragraph (a).

(i) This section does not prevent out-of-home placement for treatment of a child with a mental disability when the child's diagnostic assessment or individual treatment plan indicates that appropriate and necessary treatment cannot be effectively provided outside of a residential or inpatient treatment program.

(j) If continuation of reasonable efforts to prevent placement or reunify the child with the parent or guardian from whom the child was removed is determined by the court to be inconsistent with the permanent plan for the child or upon the court making one of the prima facie determinations under paragraph (a), reasonable efforts must be made to place the child in a timely manner in a safe and permanent home and to complete whatever steps are necessary to legally finalize the permanent placement of the child.

(k) Reasonable efforts to place a child for adoption or in another permanent placement may be made concurrently with reasonable efforts to prevent placement or to reunify the child with the parent or guardian from whom the child was removed. When the responsible social services agency decides to concurrently make reasonable efforts for both reunification and permanent placement away from the parent under paragraph (a), the agency shall disclose its decision and both plans for concurrent reasonable efforts to all parties and the court. When the agency discloses its decision to proceed on both plans for reunification and permanent placement away from the parent, the court's review of the agency's reasonable efforts shall include the agency's efforts under both plans.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 260.755, subdivision 12, is amended to read:

Subd. 12. **Indian tribe.** "Indian tribe" means an Indian tribe, band, nation, or other organized group or community of Indians recognized as eligible for the services provided to Indians by the secretary because of their status as Indians, including any ~~band~~ Native group under the Alaska

Native Claims Settlement Act, United States Code, title 43, section 1602, ~~and exercising tribal governmental powers.~~

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 260.755, subdivision 20, is amended to read:

Subd. 20. **Tribal court.** "Tribal court" means a court with ~~federally recognized~~ jurisdiction over child custody proceedings and which is either a court of Indian offenses, or a court established and operated under the code or custom of an Indian tribe, or ~~the any other~~ administrative body of a tribe which is vested with authority over child custody proceedings. Except as provided in section 260.771, subdivision 5, nothing in this chapter shall be construed as conferring jurisdiction on an Indian tribe.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 260.761, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Identification of extended family members.** Any agency considering placement of an Indian child shall make ~~reasonable~~ active efforts to identify and locate extended family members.

Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 260.765, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **Identification of extended family members.** Any agency considering placement of an Indian child shall make ~~reasonable~~ active efforts to identify and locate extended family members.

Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 260.771, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Indian tribe jurisdiction.** An Indian tribe ~~with a tribal court~~ has exclusive jurisdiction over a child placement proceeding involving an Indian child who resides or is domiciled within the reservation of ~~such~~ the tribe ~~at the commencement of the proceedings, except where jurisdiction is otherwise vested in the state by existing federal law.~~ When an Indian child is ~~in the legal custody of a person or agency pursuant to an order of a ward of the tribal court,~~ the Indian tribe retains exclusive jurisdiction, notwithstanding the residence or domicile of the child.

Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 260.771, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Court determination of tribal affiliation of child.** In any child placement proceeding, the court shall establish whether an Indian child is involved and the identity of the Indian child's tribe. This chapter and the federal Indian Child Welfare Act are applicable without exception in any child custody proceeding, as defined in the federal act, involving an Indian child. This chapter applies to child custody proceedings involving an Indian child whether the child is in the physical or legal custody of an Indian parent, Indian custodian, Indian extended family member, or other person at the commencement of the proceedings. A court shall not determine the applicability of this chapter or the federal Indian Child Welfare Act to a child custody proceeding based upon whether an Indian child is part of an existing Indian family or based upon the level of contact a child has with the child's Indian tribe, reservation, society, or off-reservation community.

Sec. 14. **[260.852] PLACEMENT PROCEDURES.**

Subdivision 1. **Home study.** The state must have procedures for the orderly and timely interstate placement of children that are implemented in accordance with an interstate compact and that, within 60 days after the state receives from another state a request to conduct a study of a home environment for purposes of assessing the safety and suitability of placing a child in the home, the state shall, directly or by contract, conduct and complete a home study and return to the other state a report on

the results of the study, which shall address the extent to which placement in the home would meet the needs of the child; except in the case of a home study begun before October 1, 2008, if the state fails to comply with conducting and completing the home study within the 60-day period and this is as a result of circumstances beyond the control of the state, the state has 75 days to comply if the state documents the circumstances involved and certifies that completing the home study is in the best interests of the child.

This subdivision does not require the completion within the applicable period of the parts of the home study involving the education and training of the prospective foster or adoptive parents.

Subd. 2. **Effect of received report.** The state shall treat any report described in subdivision 1 that is received from another state, an Indian tribe, or a private agency under contract with another state or Indian tribe as meeting any requirements imposed by the state for the completion of a home study before placing a child in the home, unless, within 14 days after receipt of the report, the state determines, based on grounds that are specific to the content of the report, that making a decision in reliance on the report would be contrary to the welfare of the child.

Subd. 3. **Resources.** The state shall make effective use of cross-jurisdictional resources, including through contract for the purchase of services, and shall eliminate legal barriers to facilitate timely adoptive or permanent placements for waiting children. The state shall not impose any restriction on the use of private agencies for the purpose of conducting a home study to meet the 60-day requirement.

Subd. 4. **Incentive eligibility.** Minnesota is an incentive-eligible state and must:

(1) have an approved plan as required by the United States Secretary of Health and Human Services;

(2) be in compliance with the data requirements of the United States Department of Health and Human Services; and

(3) have data that verify that a home study is completed within 30 days.

Subd. 5. **Data requirements.** The state shall provide to the United States Secretary of Health and Human Services a written report, covering the preceding fiscal year, that specifies:

(1) the total number of interstate home studies requested by the state with respect to children in foster care under the responsibility of the state, and with respect to each study, the identity of the other state involved;

(2) the total number of timely interstate home studies completed by the state with respect to children in foster care under the responsibility of other states and, with respect to each study, the identity of the other state involved; and

(3) other information the United States Secretary of Health and Human Services requires in order to determine whether Minnesota is a home study incentive-eligible state.

Subd. 6. **Definitions.** (a) The definitions in this subdivision apply to this section.

(b) "Home study" means an evaluation of a home environment conducted in accordance with applicable requirements of the state in which the home is located, to determine whether a proposed placement of a child would meet the individual needs of the child, including the child's safety;

permanency; health; well-being; and mental, emotional, and physical development.

(c) "Interstate home study" means a home study conducted by a state at the request of another state to facilitate an adoptive or foster placement in the state of a child in foster care under the responsibility of the state.

(d) "Timely interstate home study" means an interstate home study completed by a state if the state provides to the state that requested the study, within 30 days after receipt of the request, a report on the results of the study, except that there is no requirement for completion within the 30-day period of the parts of the home study involving the education and training of the prospective foster or adoptive parents.

**Subd. 7. Background study requirements for adoption and foster care.** (a) Background study requirements for an adoption home study must be completed consistent with section 259.41, subdivisions 1, 2, and 3.

(b) Background study requirements for a foster care license must be completed consistent with section 245C.08.

**Subd. 8. Home visits.** If a child has been placed in foster care outside the state in which the home of the parents of the child is located, periodically, but at least every six months, a caseworker on the staff of the agency of the state in which the home of the parents of the child is located or the state in which the child has been placed, or a private agency under contract with either state, must visit the child in the home or institution and submit a report on each visit to the agency of the state in which the home of the parents of the child is located.

Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 260B.157, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Investigation.** Upon request of the court the local social services agency or probation officer shall investigate the personal and family history and environment of any minor coming within the jurisdiction of the court under section 260B.101 and shall report its findings to the court. The court may order any minor coming within its jurisdiction to be examined by a duly qualified physician, psychiatrist, or psychologist appointed by the court.

The court shall ~~have~~ order a chemical use assessment conducted when a child is (1) found to be delinquent for violating a provision of chapter 152, or for committing a felony-level violation of a provision of chapter 609 if the probation officer determines that alcohol or drug use was a contributing factor in the commission of the offense, or (2) alleged to be delinquent for violating a provision of chapter 152, if the child is being held in custody under a detention order. The assessor's qualifications and the assessment criteria shall comply with Minnesota Rules, parts 9530.6600 to 9530.6655. If funds under chapter 254B are to be used to pay for the recommended treatment, the assessment and placement must comply with all provisions of Minnesota Rules, parts 9530.6600 to 9530.6655 and 9530.7000 to 9530.7030. The commissioner of human services shall reimburse the court for the cost of the chemical use assessment, up to a maximum of \$100.

The court shall ~~have~~ order a children's mental health screening conducted when a child is found to be delinquent. The screening shall be conducted with a screening instrument approved by the commissioner of human services and shall be conducted by a mental health practitioner as defined in section 245.4871, subdivision 26, or a probation officer who is trained in the use of the screening instrument. If the screening indicates a need for assessment, the local social services agency, in

consultation with the child's family, shall have a diagnostic assessment conducted, including a functional assessment, as defined in section 245.4871.

With the consent of the commissioner of corrections and agreement of the county to pay the costs thereof, the court may, by order, place a minor coming within its jurisdiction in an institution maintained by the commissioner for the detention, diagnosis, custody and treatment of persons adjudicated to be delinquent, in order that the condition of the minor be given due consideration in the disposition of the case. Any funds received under the provisions of this subdivision shall not cancel until the end of the fiscal year immediately following the fiscal year in which the funds were received. The funds are available for use by the commissioner of corrections during that period and are hereby appropriated annually to the commissioner of corrections as reimbursement of the costs of providing these services to the juvenile courts.

Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 260C.152, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **Notice to foster parents and preadoptive parents and relatives.** The foster parents, if any, of a child and any preadoptive parent or relative providing care for the child must be provided notice of and ~~an opportunity~~ a right to be heard in any review or hearing to be held with respect to the child. Any other relative may also request, and must be granted, a notice and the opportunity to be heard under this section. This subdivision does not require that a foster parent, preadoptive parent, or relative providing care for the child be made a party to a review or hearing solely on the basis of the notice and ~~opportunity~~ right to be heard.

Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 260C.163, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **General.** (a) Except for hearings arising under section 260C.425, hearings on any matter shall be without a jury and may be conducted in an informal manner. In all adjudicatory proceedings involving a child alleged to be in need of protection or services, the court shall admit only evidence that would be admissible in a civil trial. To be proved at trial, allegations of a petition alleging a child to be in need of protection or services must be proved by clear and convincing evidence.

(b) Except for proceedings involving a child alleged to be in need of protection or services and petitions for the termination of parental rights, hearings may be continued or adjourned from time to time. In proceedings involving a child alleged to be in need of protection or services and petitions for the termination of parental rights, hearings may not be continued or adjourned for more than one week unless the court makes specific findings that the continuance or adjournment is in the best interests of the child. If a hearing is held on a petition involving physical or sexual abuse of a child who is alleged to be in need of protection or services or neglected and in foster care, the court shall file the decision with the court administrator as soon as possible but no later than 15 days after the matter is submitted to the court. When a continuance or adjournment is ordered in any proceeding, the court may make any interim orders as it deems in the best interests of the minor in accordance with the provisions of sections 260C.001 to 260C.421.

(c) Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, the court shall exclude the general public from hearings under this chapter and shall admit only those persons who, in the discretion of the court, have a direct interest in the case or in the work of the court.

(d) Adoption hearings shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of laws relating to adoptions.

(e) In any permanency hearing, including the transition of a child from foster care to independent living, the court shall ensure that any consult with the child is in an age-appropriate manner.

Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 260C.201, subdivision 11, is amended to read:

Subd. 11. **Review of court-ordered placements; permanent placement determination.** (a) This subdivision and subdivision 11a do not apply in cases where the child is in placement due solely to the child's developmental disability or emotional disturbance, where legal custody has not been transferred to the responsible social services agency, and where the court finds compelling reasons under section 260C.007, subdivision 8, to continue the child in foster care past the time periods specified in this subdivision. Foster care placements of children due solely to their disability are governed by section 260C.141, subdivision 2a. In all other cases where the child is in foster care or in the care of a noncustodial parent under subdivision 1, the court shall commence proceedings to determine the permanent status of a child not later than 12 months after the child is placed in foster care or in the care of a noncustodial parent. At the admit-deny hearing commencing such proceedings, the court shall determine whether there is a prima facie basis for finding that the agency made reasonable efforts, or in the case of an Indian child active efforts, required under section 260.012 and proceed according to the rules of juvenile court.

For purposes of this subdivision, the date of the child's placement in foster care is the earlier of the first court-ordered placement or 60 days after the date on which the child has been voluntarily placed in foster care by the child's parent or guardian. For purposes of this subdivision, time spent by a child under the protective supervision of the responsible social services agency in the home of a noncustodial parent pursuant to an order under subdivision 1 counts towards the requirement of a permanency hearing under this subdivision or subdivision 11a. Time spent on a trial home visit ~~does not count~~ counts towards the requirement of a permanency hearing under this subdivision ~~or~~ and a permanency review for a child under eight years of age under subdivision 11a.

For purposes of this subdivision, 12 months is calculated as follows:

(1) during the pendency of a petition alleging that a child is in need of protection or services, all time periods when a child is placed in foster care or in the home of a noncustodial parent are cumulated;

(2) if a child has been placed in foster care within the previous five years under one or more previous petitions, the lengths of all prior time periods when the child was placed in foster care within the previous five years are cumulated. If a child under this clause has been in foster care for 12 months or more, the court, if it is in the best interests of the child and for compelling reasons, may extend the total time the child may continue out of the home under the current petition up to an additional six months before making a permanency determination.

(b) Unless the responsible social services agency recommends return of the child to the custodial parent or parents, not later than 30 days prior to the admit-deny hearing required under paragraph (a) and the rules of juvenile court, the responsible social services agency shall file pleadings in juvenile court to establish the basis for the juvenile court to order permanent placement of the child, including a termination of parental rights petition, according to paragraph (d). Notice of the hearing and copies of the pleadings must be provided pursuant to section 260C.152.

(c) The permanency proceedings shall be conducted in a timely fashion including that any trial required under section 260C.163 shall be commenced within 60 days of the admit-deny hearing



required under paragraph (a). At the conclusion of the permanency proceedings, the court shall:

(1) order the child returned to the care of the parent or guardian from whom the child was removed; or

(2) order a permanent placement or termination of parental rights if permanent placement or termination of parental rights is in the child's best interests. The "best interests of the child" means all relevant factors to be considered and evaluated. Transfer of permanent legal and physical custody, termination of parental rights, or guardianship and legal custody to the commissioner through a consent to adopt are preferred permanency options for a child who cannot return home.

(d) If the child is not returned to the home, the court must order one of the following dispositions:

(1) permanent legal and physical custody to a relative in the best interests of the child according to the following conditions:

(i) an order for transfer of permanent legal and physical custody to a relative shall only be made after the court has reviewed the suitability of the prospective legal and physical custodian;

(ii) in transferring permanent legal and physical custody to a relative, the juvenile court shall follow the standards applicable under this chapter and chapter 260, and the procedures set out in the juvenile court rules;

(iii) an order establishing permanent legal and physical custody under this subdivision must be filed with the family court;

(iv) a transfer of legal and physical custody includes responsibility for the protection, education, care, and control of the child and decision making on behalf of the child;

(v) the social services agency may bring a petition or motion naming a fit and willing relative as a proposed permanent legal and physical custodian. The commissioner of human services shall annually prepare for counties information that must be given to proposed custodians about their legal rights and obligations as custodians together with information on financial and medical benefits for which the child is eligible; and

(vi) the juvenile court may maintain jurisdiction over the responsible social services agency, the parents or guardian of the child, the child, and the permanent legal and physical custodian for purposes of ensuring appropriate services are delivered to the child and permanent legal custodian or for the purpose of ensuring conditions ordered by the court related to the care and custody of the child are met;

(2) termination of parental rights when the requirements of sections 260C.301 to 260C.328 are met or according to the following conditions:

(i) order the social services agency to file a petition for termination of parental rights in which case all the requirements of sections 260C.301 to 260C.328 remain applicable; and

(ii) an adoption completed subsequent to a determination under this subdivision may include an agreement for communication or contact under section 259.58;

(3) long-term foster care according to the following conditions:

(i) the court may order a child into long-term foster care only if it approves the responsible social service agency's compelling reasons that neither an award of permanent legal and physical custody to a relative, nor termination of parental rights is in the child's best interests;

(ii) further, the court may only order long-term foster care for the child under this section if it finds the following:

(A) the child has reached age 12 and the responsible social services agency has made reasonable efforts to locate and place the child with an adoptive family or with a fit and willing relative who will agree to a transfer of permanent legal and physical custody of the child, but such efforts have not proven successful; or

(B) the child is a sibling of a child described in subitem (A) and the siblings have a significant positive relationship and are ordered into the same long-term foster care home; and

(iii) at least annually, the responsible social services agency reconsiders its provision of services to the child and the child's placement in long-term foster care to ensure that:

(A) long-term foster care continues to be the most appropriate legal arrangement for meeting the child's need for permanency and stability, including whether there is another permanent placement option under this chapter that would better serve the child's needs and best interests;

(B) whenever possible, there is an identified long-term foster care family that is committed to being the foster family for the child as long as the child is a minor or under the jurisdiction of the court;

(C) the child is receiving appropriate services or assistance to maintain or build connections with the child's family and community;

(D) the child's physical and mental health needs are being appropriately provided for; and

(E) the child's educational needs are being met;

(4) foster care for a specified period of time according to the following conditions:

(i) foster care for a specified period of time may be ordered only if:

(A) the sole basis for an adjudication that the child is in need of protection or services is the child's behavior;

(B) the court finds that foster care for a specified period of time is in the best interests of the child; and

(C) the court approves the responsible social services agency's compelling reasons that neither an award of permanent legal and physical custody to a relative, nor termination of parental rights is in the child's best interests;

(ii) the order does not specify that the child continue in foster care for any period exceeding one year; or

(5) guardianship and legal custody to the commissioner of human services under the following procedures and conditions:

(i) there is an identified prospective adoptive home agreed to by the responsible social services agency having legal custody of the child pursuant to court order under this section that has agreed to adopt the child and the court accepts the parent's voluntary consent to adopt under section 259.24, except that such consent executed by a parent under this item, following proper notice that consent given under this provision is irrevocable upon acceptance by the court, shall be irrevocable unless fraud is established and an order issues permitting revocation as stated in item (vii);

(ii) if the court accepts a consent to adopt in lieu of ordering one of the other enumerated permanency dispositions, the court must review the matter at least every 90 days. The review will address the reasonable efforts of the agency to achieve a finalized adoption;

(iii) a consent to adopt under this clause vests all legal authority regarding the child, including guardianship and legal custody of the child, with the commissioner of human services as if the child were a state ward after termination of parental rights;

(iv) the court must forward a copy of the consent to adopt, together with a certified copy of the order transferring guardianship and legal custody to the commissioner, to the commissioner;

(v) if an adoption is not finalized by the identified prospective adoptive parent within 12 months of the execution of the consent to adopt under this clause, the commissioner of human services or the commissioner's delegate shall pursue adoptive placement in another home unless the commissioner certifies that the failure to finalize is not due to either an action or a failure to act by the prospective adoptive parent;

(vi) notwithstanding item (v), the commissioner of human services or the commissioner's designee must pursue adoptive placement in another home as soon as the commissioner or commissioner's designee determines that finalization of the adoption with the identified prospective adoptive parent is not possible, that the identified prospective adoptive parent is not willing to adopt the child, that the identified prospective adoptive parent is not cooperative in completing the steps necessary to finalize the adoption, or upon the commissioner's determination to withhold consent to the adoption.

(vii) unless otherwise required by the Indian Child Welfare Act, United States Code, title 25, section 1913, a consent to adopt executed under this section, following proper notice that consent given under this provision is irrevocable upon acceptance by the court, shall be irrevocable upon acceptance by the court except upon order permitting revocation issued by the same court after written findings that consent was obtained by fraud.

(e) In ordering a permanent placement of a child, the court must be governed by the best interests of the child, including a review of the relationship between the child and relatives and the child and other important persons with whom the child has resided or had significant contact. When the court has determined that permanent placement of the child away from the parent is necessary, the court shall consider permanent alternative homes that are available both inside and outside the state.

(f) Once a permanent placement determination has been made and permanent placement has been established, further court reviews are necessary if:

(1) the placement is long-term foster care or foster care for a specified period of time;

(2) the court orders further hearings because it has retained jurisdiction of a transfer of permanent legal and physical custody matter;

(3) an adoption has not yet been finalized; or

(4) there is a disruption of the permanent or long-term placement.

(g) Court reviews of an order for long-term foster care, whether under this section or section 260C.317, subdivision 3, paragraph (d), must be conducted at least yearly and must review the child's out-of-home placement plan and the reasonable efforts of the agency to finalize the permanent plan for the child including the agency's efforts to:

(1) ensure that long-term foster care continues to be the most appropriate legal arrangement for meeting the child's need for permanency and stability or, if not, to identify and attempt to finalize another permanent placement option under this chapter that would better serve the child's needs and best interests;

(2) identify a specific long-term foster home for the child, if one has not already been identified;

(3) support continued placement of the child in the identified home, if one has been identified;

(4) ensure appropriate services are provided to address the physical health, mental health, and educational needs of the child during the period of long-term foster care and also ensure appropriate services or assistance to maintain relationships with appropriate family members and the child's community; and

(5) plan for the child's independence upon the child's leaving long-term foster care living as required under section 260C.212, subdivision 1.

(h) In the event it is necessary for a child that has been ordered into foster care for a specified period of time to be in foster care longer than one year after the permanency hearing held under this section, not later than 12 months after the time the child was ordered into foster care for a specified period of time, the matter must be returned to court for a review of the appropriateness of continuing the child in foster care and of the responsible social services agency's reasonable efforts to finalize a permanent plan for the child; if it is in the child's best interests to continue the order for foster care for a specified period of time past a total of 12 months, the court shall set objectives for the child's continuation in foster care, specify any further amount of time the child may be in foster care, and review the plan for the safe return of the child to the parent.

(i) An order permanently placing a child out of the home of the parent or guardian must include the following detailed findings:

(1) how the child's best interests are served by the order;

(2) the nature and extent of the responsible social service agency's reasonable efforts, or, in the case of an Indian child, active efforts to reunify the child with the parent or guardian where reasonable efforts are required;

(3) the parent's or parents' efforts and ability to use services to correct the conditions which led to the out-of-home placement; and

(4) that the conditions which led to the out-of-home placement have not been corrected so that the child can safely return home.

(j) An order for permanent legal and physical custody of a child may be modified under sections

518.18 and 518.185. The social services agency is a party to the proceeding and must receive notice. A parent may only seek modification of an order for long-term foster care upon motion and a showing by the parent of a substantial change in the parent's circumstances such that the parent could provide appropriate care for the child and that removal of the child from the child's permanent placement and the return to the parent's care would be in the best interest of the child. The responsible social services agency may ask the court to vacate an order for long-term foster care upon a prima facie showing that there is a factual basis for the court to order another permanency option under this chapter and that such an option is in the child's best interests. Upon a hearing where the court determines that there is a factual basis for vacating the order for long-term foster care and that another permanent order regarding the placement of the child is in the child's best interests, the court may vacate the order for long-term foster care and enter a different order for permanent placement that is in the child's best interests. The court shall not require further reasonable efforts to reunify the child with the parent or guardian as a basis for vacating the order for long-term foster care and ordering a different permanent placement in the child's best interests. The county attorney must file pleadings and give notice as required under the rules of juvenile court in order to modify an order for long-term foster care under this paragraph.

(k) The court shall issue an order required under this section within 15 days of the close of the proceedings. The court may extend issuing the order an additional 15 days when necessary in the interests of justice and the best interests of the child.

(l) This paragraph applies to proceedings required under this subdivision when the child is on a trial home visit:

(1) if the child is on a trial home visit 12 months after the child was placed in foster care or in the care of a noncustodial parent as calculated in this subdivision, the responsible social services agency may file a report with the court regarding the child's and parent's progress on the trial home visit and its reasonable efforts to finalize the child's safe and permanent return to the care of the parent in lieu of filing the pleadings required under paragraph (b). The court shall make findings regarding reasonableness of the responsible social services efforts to finalize the child's return home as the permanent order in the best interests of the child. The court may continue the trial home visit to a total time not to exceed six months as provided in subdivision 1. If the court finds the responsible social services agency has not made reasonable efforts to finalize the child's return home as the permanent order in the best interests of the child, the court may order other or additional efforts to support the child remaining in the care of the parent; and

(2) if a trial home visit ordered or continued at proceedings under this subdivision terminates, the court shall re-commence proceedings under this subdivision to determine the permanent status of the child not later than 30 days after the child is returned to foster care.

Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 260C.212, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Out-of-home placement; plan.** (a) An out-of-home placement plan shall be prepared within 30 days after any child is placed in a residential facility by court order or by the voluntary release of the child by the parent or parents.

For purposes of this section, a residential facility means any group home, family foster home or other publicly supported out-of-home residential facility, including any out-of-home residential facility under contract with the state, county or other political subdivision, or any agency thereof, to provide those services or foster care as defined in section 260C.007, subdivision 18.

(b) An out-of-home placement plan means a written document which is prepared by the responsible social services agency jointly with the parent or parents or guardian of the child and in consultation with the child's guardian ad litem, the child's tribe, if the child is an Indian child, the child's foster parent or representative of the residential facility, and, where appropriate, the child. For a child in placement due solely or in part to the child's emotional disturbance, preparation of the out-of-home placement plan shall additionally include the child's mental health treatment provider. As appropriate, the plan shall be:

(1) submitted to the court for approval under section 260C.178, subdivision 7;

(2) ordered by the court, either as presented or modified after hearing, under section 260C.178, subdivision 7, or 260C.201, subdivision 6; and

(3) signed by the parent or parents or guardian of the child, the child's guardian ad litem, a representative of the child's tribe, the responsible social services agency, and, if possible, the child.

(c) The out-of-home placement plan shall be explained to all persons involved in its implementation, including the child who has signed the plan, and shall set forth:

(1) a description of the residential facility including how the out-of-home placement plan is designed to achieve a safe placement for the child in the least restrictive, most family-like, setting available which is in close proximity to the home of the parent or parents or guardian of the child when the case plan goal is reunification, and how the placement is consistent with the best interests and special needs of the child according to the factors under subdivision 2, paragraph (b);

(2) the specific reasons for the placement of the child in a residential facility, and when reunification is the plan, a description of the problems or conditions in the home of the parent or parents which necessitated removal of the child from home and the changes the parent or parents must make in order for the child to safely return home;

(3) a description of the services offered and provided to prevent removal of the child from the home and to reunify the family including:

(i) the specific actions to be taken by the parent or parents of the child to eliminate or correct the problems or conditions identified in clause (2), and the time period during which the actions are to be taken; and

(ii) the reasonable efforts, or in the case of an Indian child, active efforts to be made to achieve a safe and stable home for the child including social and other supportive services to be provided or offered to the parent or parents or guardian of the child, the child, and the residential facility during the period the child is in the residential facility;

(4) a description of any services or resources that were requested by the child or the child's parent, guardian, foster parent, or custodian since the date of the child's placement in the residential facility, and whether those services or resources were provided and if not, the basis for the denial of the services or resources;

(5) the visitation plan for the parent or parents or guardian, other relatives as defined in section 260C.007, subdivision 27, and siblings of the child if the siblings are not placed together in the residential facility, and whether visitation is consistent with the best interest of the child, during the period the child is in the residential facility;

(6) documentation of steps to finalize the adoption or legal guardianship of the child if the court has issued an order terminating the rights of both parents of the child or of the only known, living parent of the child, ~~and~~. At a minimum, the documentation must include child-specific recruitment efforts such as relative search and the use of state, regional, and national adoption exchanges to facilitate orderly and timely placements in and outside of the state. A copy of this documentation shall be provided to the court in the review required under section 260C.317, subdivision 3, paragraph (b);

(7) ~~to the extent available and accessible,~~ the health and educational records of the child including the most recent information available regarding:

(i) the names and addresses of the child's health and educational providers;

(ii) the child's grade level performance;

(iii) the child's school record;

(iv) assurances that the child's placement in foster care takes into account proximity to the school in which the child is enrolled at the time of placement;

(v) a record of the child's immunizations;

(vi) the child's known medical problems, including any known communicable diseases, as defined in section 144.4172, subdivision 2;

(vii) the child's medications; and

(viii) any other relevant health and education information;

(8) an independent living plan for a child age 16 or older who is in placement as a result of a permanency disposition. The plan should include, but not be limited to, the following objectives:

(i) educational, vocational, or employment planning;

(ii) health care planning and medical coverage;

(iii) transportation including, where appropriate, assisting the child in obtaining a driver's license;

(iv) money management;

(v) planning for housing;

(vi) social and recreational skills; and

(vii) establishing and maintaining connections with the child's family and community; and

(9) for a child in placement due solely or in part to the child's emotional disturbance, diagnostic and assessment information, specific services relating to meeting the mental health care needs of the child, and treatment outcomes.

(d) The parent or parents or guardian and the child each shall have the right to legal counsel in the preparation of the case plan and shall be informed of the right at the time of placement of the child. The child shall also have the right to a guardian ad litem. If unable to employ counsel from

their own resources, the court shall appoint counsel upon the request of the parent or parents or the child or the child's legal guardian. The parent or parents may also receive assistance from any person or social services agency in preparation of the case plan.

After the plan has been agreed upon by the parties involved or approved or ordered by the court, the foster parents shall be fully informed of the provisions of the case plan and shall be provided a copy of the plan.

Upon discharge from foster care, the parent, adoptive parent, or permanent legal and physical custodian, as appropriate, and the child, if appropriate, must be provided with a current copy of the child's health and education record.

Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 260C.212, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Responsible social service agency's duties for children in placement.** (a) When a child is in placement, the responsible social services agency shall make diligent efforts to identify, locate, and, where appropriate, offer services to both parents of the child.

(1) The responsible social services agency shall assess whether a noncustodial or nonadjudicated parent is willing and capable of providing for the day-to-day care of the child temporarily or permanently. An assessment under this clause may include, but is not limited to, obtaining information under section 260C.209. If after assessment, the responsible social services agency determines that a noncustodial or nonadjudicated parent is willing and capable of providing day-to-day care of the child, the responsible social services agency may seek authority from the custodial parent or the court to have that parent assume day-to-day care of the child. If a parent is not an adjudicated parent, the responsible social services agency shall require the nonadjudicated parent to cooperate with paternity establishment procedures as part of the case plan.

(2) If, after assessment, the responsible social services agency determines that the child cannot be in the day-to-day care of either parent, the agency shall:

(i) prepare an out-of-home placement plan addressing the conditions that each parent must meet before the child can be in that parent's day-to-day care; and

(ii) provide a parent who is the subject of a background study under section 260C.209 15 days' notice that it intends to use the study to recommend against putting the child with that parent, as well as the notice provided in section 260C.209, subdivision 4, and the court shall afford the parent an opportunity to be heard concerning the study.

The results of a background study of a noncustodial parent shall not be used by the agency to determine that the parent is incapable of providing day-to-day care of the child unless the agency reasonably believes that placement of the child into the home of that parent would endanger the child's health, safety, or welfare.

(3) If, after the provision of services following an out-of-home placement plan under this section, the child cannot return to the care of the parent from whom the child was removed or who had legal custody at the time the child was placed in foster care, the agency may petition on behalf of a noncustodial parent to establish legal custody with that parent under section 260C.201, subdivision 11. If paternity has not already been established, it may be established in the same proceeding in the manner provided for under chapter 257.



(4) The responsible social services agency may be relieved of the requirement to locate and offer services to both parents by the juvenile court upon a finding of good cause after the filing of a petition under section 260C.141.

(b) The responsible social services agency shall give notice to the parent or parents or guardian of each child in a residential facility, other than a child in placement due solely to that child's developmental disability or emotional disturbance, of the following information:

(1) that residential care of the child may result in termination of parental rights or an order permanently placing the child out of the custody of the parent, but only after notice and a hearing as required under chapter 260C and the juvenile court rules;

(2) time limits on the length of placement and of reunification services, including the date on which the child is expected to be returned to and safely maintained in the home of the parent or parents or placed for adoption or otherwise permanently removed from the care of the parent by court order;

(3) the nature of the services available to the parent;

(4) the consequences to the parent and the child if the parent fails or is unable to use services to correct the circumstances that led to the child's placement;

(5) the first consideration for placement with relatives;

(6) the benefit to the child in getting the child out of residential care as soon as possible, preferably by returning the child home, but if that is not possible, through a permanent legal placement of the child away from the parent;

(7) when safe for the child, the benefits to the child and the parent of maintaining visitation with the child as soon as possible in the course of the case and, in any event, according to the visitation plan under this section; and

(8) the financial responsibilities and obligations, if any, of the parent or parents for the support of the child during the period the child is in the residential facility.

(c) The responsible social services agency shall inform a parent considering voluntary placement of a child who is not developmentally disabled or emotionally disturbed of the following information:

(1) the parent and the child each has a right to separate legal counsel before signing a voluntary placement agreement, but not to counsel appointed at public expense;

(2) the parent is not required to agree to the voluntary placement, and a parent who enters a voluntary placement agreement may at any time request that the agency return the child. If the parent so requests, the child must be returned within 24 hours of the receipt of the request;

(3) evidence gathered during the time the child is voluntarily placed may be used at a later time as the basis for a petition alleging that the child is in need of protection or services or as the basis for a petition seeking termination of parental rights or other permanent placement of the child away from the parent;

(4) if the responsible social services agency files a petition alleging that the child is in need of

protection or services or a petition seeking the termination of parental rights or other permanent placement of the child away from the parent, the parent would have the right to appointment of separate legal counsel and the child would have a right to the appointment of counsel and a guardian ad litem as provided by law, and that counsel will be appointed at public expense if they are unable to afford counsel; and

(5) the timelines and procedures for review of voluntary placements under subdivision 3, and the effect the time spent in voluntary placement on the scheduling of a permanent placement determination hearing under section 260C.201, subdivision 11.

(d) When an agency accepts a child for placement, the agency shall determine whether the child has had a physical examination by or under the direction of a licensed physician within the 12 months immediately preceding the date when the child came into the agency's care. If there is documentation that the child has had an examination within the last 12 months, the agency is responsible for seeing that the child has another physical examination within one year of the documented examination and annually in subsequent years. If the agency determines that the child has not had a physical examination within the 12 months immediately preceding placement, the agency shall ensure that the child has an examination within 30 days of coming into the agency's care and once a year in subsequent years.

(e) If a child leaves foster care by reason of having attained the age of majority under state law, the child must be given at no cost a copy of the child's health and education report.

Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 260C.212, subdivision 9, is amended to read:

Subd. 9. **Review of certain child placements.** (a) When a developmentally disabled child or emotionally disturbed child needs placement in a residential facility for the sole reason of accessing services or a level of skilled care that cannot be provided in the parent's home, the child must be placed pursuant to a voluntary placement agreement between the responsible social services agency and the child's parent. The voluntary placement agreement must give the responsible social services agency legal responsibility for the child's physical care, custody, and control, but must not transfer legal custody of the child to the agency. The voluntary placement agreement must be executed in a form developed and promulgated by the commissioner of human services. The responsible social services agency shall report to the commissioner the number of children who are the subject of a voluntary placement agreement under this subdivision and other information regarding these children as the commissioner may require.

(b) If a developmentally disabled child or a child diagnosed as emotionally disturbed has been placed in a residential facility pursuant to a voluntary release by the child's parent or parents because of the child's disabling conditions or need for long-term residential treatment or supervision, the social services agency responsible for the placement shall report to the court and bring a petition for review of the child's foster care status as required in section 260C.141, subdivision 2a.

~~(c)~~ (c) If a child is in placement due solely to the child's developmental disability or emotional disturbance, and the court finds compelling reasons not to proceed under section 260C.201, subdivision 11, and custody of the child is not transferred to the responsible social services agency under section 260C.201, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (2), and no petition is required by section 260C.201, subdivision 11.

~~(e)~~ (d) Whenever a petition for review is brought pursuant to this subdivision, a guardian ad

litem shall be appointed for the child.

Sec. 22. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 260C.317, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Order; retention of jurisdiction.** (a) A certified copy of the findings and the order terminating parental rights, and a summary of the court's information concerning the child shall be furnished by the court to the commissioner or the agency to which guardianship is transferred. The orders shall be on a document separate from the findings. The court shall furnish the individual to whom guardianship is transferred a copy of the order terminating parental rights.

(b) The court shall retain jurisdiction in a case where adoption is the intended permanent placement disposition until the child's adoption is finalized, the child is 18 years of age, or the child is otherwise ordered discharged from the jurisdiction of the court. The guardian ad litem and counsel for the child shall continue on the case until an adoption decree is entered. A hearing must be held every 90 days following termination of parental rights for the court to review progress toward an adoptive placement and the specific recruitment efforts the agency has taken to find an adoptive family or other placement living arrangement for the child and to finalize the adoption or other permanency plan.

(c) The responsible social services agency may make a determination of compelling reasons for a child to be in long-term foster care when the agency has made exhaustive efforts to recruit, identify, and place the child in an adoptive home, and the child continues in foster care for at least 24 months after the court has issued the order terminating parental rights. A child of any age who is under the guardianship of the commissioner of the Department of Human Services and is legally available for adoption may not refuse or waive the commissioner's agent's exhaustive efforts to recruit, identify, and place the child in an adoptive home required under paragraph (b) or sign a document relieving county social services agencies of all recruitment efforts on the child's behalf. Upon approving the agency's determination of compelling reasons, the court may order the child placed in long-term foster care. At least every 12 months thereafter as long as the child continues in out-of-home placement, the court shall conduct a permanency review hearing to determine the future status of the child using the review requirements of section 260C.201, subdivision 11, paragraph (g).

(d) The court shall retain jurisdiction through the child's minority in a case where long-term foster care is the permanent disposition whether under paragraph (c) or section 260C.201, subdivision 11.

Sec. 23. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 260C.331, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Care, examination, or treatment.** (a) Except where parental rights are terminated,

(1) whenever legal custody of a child is transferred by the court to a responsible social services agency,

(2) whenever legal custody is transferred to a person other than the responsible social services agency, but under the supervision of the responsible social services agency, or

(3) whenever a child is given physical or mental examinations or treatment under order of the court, and no provision is otherwise made by law for payment for the care, examination, or treatment of the child, these costs are a charge upon the welfare funds of the county in which proceedings are held upon certification of the judge of juvenile court.

(b) The court shall order, and the responsible social services agency shall require, the parents or custodian of a child, while the child is under the age of 18, to use the total income and resources attributable to the child for the period of care, examination, or treatment, except for clothing and personal needs allowance as provided in section 256B.35, to reimburse the county for the cost of care, examination, or treatment. Income and resources attributable to the child include, but are not limited to, Social Security benefits, supplemental security income (SSI), veterans benefits, railroad retirement benefits and child support. When the child is over the age of 18, and continues to receive care, examination, or treatment, the court shall order, and the responsible social services agency shall require, reimbursement from the child for the cost of care, examination, or treatment from the income and resources attributable to the child less the clothing and personal needs allowance. Income does not include earnings from a child over the age of 18 who is working as part of a plan under section 260C.212, subdivision 1, paragraph (c), clause (8), to transition from foster care.

(c) If the income and resources attributable to the child are not enough to reimburse the county for the full cost of the care, examination, or treatment, the court shall inquire into the ability of the parents to support the child and, after giving the parents a reasonable opportunity to be heard, the court shall order, and the responsible social services agency shall require, the parents to contribute to the cost of care, examination, or treatment of the child. When determining the amount to be contributed by the parents, the court shall use a fee schedule based upon ability to pay that is established by the responsible social services agency and approved by the commissioner of human services. The income of a stepparent who has not adopted a child shall be excluded in calculating the parental contribution under this section.

(d) The court shall order the amount of reimbursement attributable to the parents or custodian, or attributable to the child, or attributable to both sources, withheld under chapter 518A from the income of the parents or the custodian of the child. A parent or custodian who fails to pay without good reason may be proceeded against for contempt, or the court may inform the county attorney, who shall proceed to collect the unpaid sums, or both procedures may be used.

(e) If the court orders a physical or mental examination for a child, the examination is a medically necessary service for purposes of determining whether the service is covered by a health insurance policy, health maintenance contract, or other health coverage plan. Court-ordered treatment shall be subject to policy, contract, or plan requirements for medical necessity. Nothing in this paragraph changes or eliminates benefit limits, conditions of coverage, co-payments or deductibles, provider restrictions, or other requirements in the policy, contract, or plan that relate to coverage of other medically necessary services.

Sec. 24. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 626.556, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Definitions.** As used in this section, the following terms have the meanings given them unless the specific content indicates otherwise:

(a) "Family assessment" means a comprehensive assessment of child safety, risk of subsequent child maltreatment, and family strengths and needs that is applied to a child maltreatment report that does not allege substantial child endangerment. Family assessment does not include a determination as to whether child maltreatment occurred but does determine the need for services to address the safety of family members and the risk of subsequent maltreatment.

(b) "Investigation" means fact gathering related to the current safety of a child and the risk of subsequent maltreatment that determines whether child maltreatment occurred and whether child

protective services are needed. An investigation must be used when reports involve substantial child endangerment, and for reports of maltreatment in facilities required to be licensed under chapter 245A or 245B; under sections 144.50 to 144.58 and 241.021; in a school as defined in sections 120A.05, subdivisions 9, 11, and 13, and 124D.10; or in a nonlicensed personal care provider association as defined in sections 256B.04, subdivision 16, and 256B.0625, subdivision 19a.

(c) "Substantial child endangerment" means a person responsible for a child's care, and in the case of sexual abuse includes a person who has a significant relationship to the child as defined in section 609.341, or a person in a position of authority as defined in section 609.341, who by act or omission commits or attempts to commit an act against a child under their care that constitutes any of the following:

- (1) egregious harm as defined in section 260C.007, subdivision 14;
- (2) sexual abuse as defined in paragraph (d);
- (3) abandonment under section 260C.301, subdivision 2;
- (4) neglect as defined in paragraph (f), clause (2), that substantially endangers the child's physical or mental health, including a growth delay, which may be referred to as failure to thrive, that has been diagnosed by a physician and is due to parental neglect;
- (5) murder in the first, second, or third degree under section 609.185, 609.19, or 609.195;
- (6) manslaughter in the first or second degree under section 609.20 or 609.205;
- (7) assault in the first, second, or third degree under section 609.221, 609.222, or 609.223;
- (8) solicitation, inducement, and promotion of prostitution under section 609.322;
- (9) criminal sexual conduct under sections 609.342 to 609.3451;
- (10) solicitation of children to engage in sexual conduct under section 609.352;
- (11) malicious punishment or neglect or endangerment of a child under section 609.377 or 609.378;
- (12) use of a minor in sexual performance under section 617.246; or
- (13) parental behavior, status, or condition which mandates that the county attorney file a termination of parental rights petition under section 260C.301, subdivision 3, paragraph (a).

(d) "Sexual abuse" means the subjection of a child by a person responsible for the child's care, by a person who has a significant relationship to the child, as defined in section 609.341, or by a person in a position of authority, as defined in section 609.341, subdivision 10, to any act which constitutes a violation of section 609.342 (criminal sexual conduct in the first degree), 609.343 (criminal sexual conduct in the second degree), 609.344 (criminal sexual conduct in the third degree), 609.345 (criminal sexual conduct in the fourth degree), or 609.3451 (criminal sexual conduct in the fifth degree). Sexual abuse also includes any act which involves a minor which constitutes a violation of prostitution offenses under sections 609.321 to 609.324 or 617.246. Sexual abuse includes threatened sexual abuse.

(e) "Person responsible for the child's care" means (1) an individual functioning within the family unit and having responsibilities for the care of the child such as a parent, guardian, or other person having similar care responsibilities, or (2) an individual functioning outside the family unit and having responsibilities for the care of the child such as a teacher, school administrator, other school employees or agents, or other lawful custodian of a child having either full-time or short-term care responsibilities including, but not limited to, day care, babysitting whether paid or unpaid, counseling, teaching, and coaching.

(f) "Neglect" means:

(1) failure by a person responsible for a child's care to supply a child with necessary food, clothing, shelter, health, medical, or other care required for the child's physical or mental health when reasonably able to do so;

(2) failure to protect a child from conditions or actions that seriously endanger the child's physical or mental health when reasonably able to do so, including a growth delay, which may be referred to as a failure to thrive, that has been diagnosed by a physician and is due to parental neglect;

(3) failure to provide for necessary supervision or child care arrangements appropriate for a child after considering factors as the child's age, mental ability, physical condition, length of absence, or environment, when the child is unable to care for the child's own basic needs or safety, or the basic needs or safety of another child in their care;

(4) failure to ensure that the child is educated as defined in sections 120A.22 and 260C.163, subdivision 11, which does not include a parent's refusal to provide the parent's child with sympathomimetic medications, consistent with section 125A.091, subdivision 5;

(5) nothing in this section shall be construed to mean that a child is neglected solely because the child's parent, guardian, or other person responsible for the child's care in good faith selects and depends upon spiritual means or prayer for treatment or care of disease or remedial care of the child in lieu of medical care; except that a parent, guardian, or caretaker, or a person mandated to report pursuant to subdivision 3, has a duty to report if a lack of medical care may cause serious danger to the child's health. This section does not impose upon persons, not otherwise legally responsible for providing a child with necessary food, clothing, shelter, education, or medical care, a duty to provide that care;

(6) prenatal exposure to a controlled substance, as defined in section 253B.02, subdivision 2, used by the mother for a nonmedical purpose, as evidenced by withdrawal symptoms in the child at birth, results of a toxicology test performed on the mother at delivery or the child at birth, or medical effects or developmental delays during the child's first year of life that medically indicate prenatal exposure to a controlled substance;

(7) "medical neglect" as defined in section 260C.007, subdivision 6, clause (5);

(8) chronic and severe use of alcohol or a controlled substance by a parent or person responsible for the care of the child that adversely affects the child's basic needs and safety; or

(9) emotional harm from a pattern of behavior which contributes to impaired emotional functioning of the child which may be demonstrated by a substantial and observable effect in the child's behavior, emotional response, or cognition that is not within the normal range for the child's age and stage of development, with due regard to the child's culture.

(g) "Physical abuse" means any physical injury, mental injury, or threatened injury, inflicted by a person responsible for the child's care on a child other than by accidental means, or any physical or mental injury that cannot reasonably be explained by the child's history of injuries, or any aversive or deprivation procedures, or regulated interventions, that have not been authorized under section 121A.67 or 245.825. Abuse does not include reasonable and moderate physical discipline of a child administered by a parent or legal guardian which does not result in an injury. Abuse does not include the use of reasonable force by a teacher, principal, or school employee as allowed by section 121A.582. Actions which are not reasonable and moderate include, but are not limited to, any of the following that are done in anger or without regard to the safety of the child:

- (1) throwing, kicking, burning, biting, or cutting a child;
- (2) striking a child with a closed fist;
- (3) shaking a child under age three;
- (4) striking or other actions which result in any nonaccidental injury to a child under 18 months of age;
- (5) unreasonable interference with a child's breathing;
- (6) threatening a child with a weapon, as defined in section 609.02, subdivision 6;
- (7) striking a child under age one on the face or head;
- (8) purposely giving a child poison, alcohol, or dangerous, harmful, or controlled substances which were not prescribed for the child by a practitioner, in order to control or punish the child; or other substances that substantially affect the child's behavior, motor coordination, or judgment or that results in sickness or internal injury, or subjects the child to medical procedures that would be unnecessary if the child were not exposed to the substances;
- (9) unreasonable physical confinement or restraint not permitted under section 609.379, including but not limited to tying, caging, or chaining; or
- (10) in a school facility or school zone, an act by a person responsible for the child's care that is a violation under section 121A.58.

(h) "Report" means any report received by the local welfare agency, police department, county sheriff, or agency responsible for assessing or investigating maltreatment pursuant to this section.

(i) "Facility" means:

- (1) a licensed or unlicensed day care facility, residential facility, agency, hospital, sanitarium, or other facility or institution required to be licensed under sections 144.50 to 144.58, 241.021, or 245A.01 to 245A.16, or chapter 245B;
- (2) a school as defined in sections 120A.05, subdivisions 9, 11, and 13; and 124D.10; or
- (3) a nonlicensed personal care provider organization as defined in sections 256B.04, subdivision 16, and 256B.0625, subdivision 19a.

(j) "Operator" means an operator or agency as defined in section 245A.02.

(k) "Commissioner" means the commissioner of human services.

(l) "Practice of social services," for the purposes of subdivision 3, includes but is not limited to employee assistance counseling and the provision of guardian ad litem and parenting time expeditor services.

(m) "Mental injury" means an injury to the psychological capacity or emotional stability of a child as evidenced by an observable or substantial impairment in the child's ability to function within a normal range of performance and behavior with due regard to the child's culture.

(n) "Threatened injury" means a statement, overt act, condition, or status that represents a substantial risk of physical or sexual abuse or mental injury. Threatened injury includes, but is not limited to, exposing a child to a person responsible for the child's care, as defined in paragraph (e), clause (1), who has:

(1) subjected a child to, or failed to protect a child from, an overt act or condition that constitutes egregious harm, as defined in section 260C.007, subdivision 14, or a similar law of another jurisdiction;

(2) been found to be palpably unfit under section 260C.301, paragraph (b), clause (4), or a similar law of another jurisdiction;

(3) committed an act that has resulted in an involuntary termination of parental rights under section 260C.301, or a similar law of another jurisdiction; or

(4) committed an act that has resulted in the involuntary transfer of permanent legal and physical custody of a child to a relative under section 260C.201, subdivision 11, paragraph (d), clause (1), or a similar law of another jurisdiction.

(o) Persons who conduct assessments or investigations under this section shall take into account accepted child-rearing practices of the culture in which a child participates and accepted teacher discipline practices, which are not injurious to the child's health, welfare, and safety.

Sec. 25. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 626.556, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Persons mandated to report.** (a) A person who knows or has reason to believe a child is being neglected or physically or sexually abused, as defined in subdivision 2, or has been neglected or physically or sexually abused within the preceding three years, shall immediately report the information to the local welfare agency, agency responsible for assessing or investigating the report, police department, or the county sheriff if the person is:

(1) a professional or professional's delegate who is engaged in the practice of the healing arts, social services, hospital administration, psychological or psychiatric treatment, child care, education, correctional supervision, probation and correctional services, or law enforcement; or

(2) employed as a member of the clergy and received the information while engaged in ministerial duties, provided that a member of the clergy is not required by this subdivision to report information that is otherwise privileged under section 595.02, subdivision 1, paragraph (c).

The police department or the county sheriff, upon receiving a report, shall immediately notify the local welfare agency or agency responsible for assessing or investigating the report, orally and in writing. The local welfare agency, or agency responsible for assessing or investigating the



report, upon receiving a report, shall immediately notify the local police department or the county sheriff orally and in writing. The county sheriff and the head of every local welfare agency, agency responsible for assessing or investigating reports, and police department shall each designate a person within their agency, department, or office who is responsible for ensuring that the notification duties of this paragraph and paragraph (b) are carried out. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to require more than one report from any institution, facility, school, or agency.

(b) Any person may voluntarily report to the local welfare agency, agency responsible for assessing or investigating the report, police department, or the county sheriff if the person knows, has reason to believe, or suspects a child is being or has been neglected or subjected to physical or sexual abuse. The police department or the county sheriff, upon receiving a report, shall immediately notify the local welfare agency or agency responsible for assessing or investigating the report, orally and in writing. The local welfare agency or agency responsible for assessing or investigating the report, upon receiving a report, shall immediately notify the local police department or the county sheriff orally and in writing.

(c) A person mandated to report physical or sexual child abuse or neglect occurring within a licensed facility shall report the information to the agency responsible for licensing the facility under sections 144.50 to 144.58; 241.021; 245A.01 to 245A.16; or chapter 245B; or a nonlicensed personal care provider organization as defined in sections 256B.04, subdivision 16; and 256B.0625, subdivision 19. A health or corrections agency receiving a report may request the local welfare agency to provide assistance pursuant to subdivisions 10, 10a, and 10b. A board or other entity whose licensees perform work within a school facility, upon receiving a complaint of alleged maltreatment, shall provide information about the circumstances of the alleged maltreatment to the commissioner of education. Section 13.03, subdivision 4, applies to data received by the commissioner of education from a licensing entity.

(d) Any person mandated to report shall receive a summary of the disposition of any report made by that reporter, including whether the case has been opened for child protection or other services, or if a referral has been made to a community organization, unless release would be detrimental to the best interests of the child. Any person who is not mandated to report shall, upon request to the local welfare agency, receive a concise summary of the disposition of any report made by that reporter, unless release would be detrimental to the best interests of the child.

(e) For purposes of this ~~subdivision~~ section, "immediately" means as soon as possible but in no event longer than 24 hours.

Sec. 26. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 626.556, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

**Subd. 3e. Agency responsibility for assessing or investigating reports of sexual abuse.** The local welfare agency is the agency responsible for investigating allegations of sexual abuse if the alleged offender is the parent, guardian, sibling, or an individual functioning within the family unit as a person responsible for the child's care, or a person with a significant relationship to the child if that person resides in the child's household.

Sec. 27. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 626.556, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

**Subd. 3f. Law enforcement agency responsibility for investigating maltreatment.** The local law enforcement agency has responsibility for investigating any report of child maltreatment if a violation of a criminal statute is alleged. Law enforcement and the responsible agency must

coordinate their investigations or assessments as required under subdivision 10.

Sec. 28. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 626.556, subdivision 10, is amended to read:

**Subd. 10. Duties of local welfare agency and local law enforcement agency upon receipt of a report.** (a) Upon receipt of a report, the local welfare agency shall determine whether to conduct a family assessment or an investigation as appropriate to prevent or provide a remedy for child maltreatment. The local welfare agency:

(1) shall conduct an investigation on reports involving substantial child endangerment;

(2) shall begin an immediate investigation if, at any time when it is using a family assessment response, it determines that there is reason to believe that substantial child endangerment or a serious threat to the child's safety exists;

(3) may conduct a family assessment for reports that do not allege substantial child endangerment. In determining that a family assessment is appropriate, the local welfare agency may consider issues of child safety, parental cooperation, and the need for an immediate response; and

(4) may conduct a family assessment on a report that was initially screened and assigned for an investigation. In determining that a complete investigation is not required, the local welfare agency must document the reason for terminating the investigation and notify the local law enforcement agency if the local law enforcement agency is conducting a joint investigation.

If the report alleges neglect, physical abuse, or sexual abuse by a parent, guardian, or individual functioning within the family unit as a person responsible for the child's care, or sexual abuse by a person with a significant relationship to the child when that person resides in the child's household or by a sibling, the local welfare agency shall immediately conduct a family assessment or investigation as identified in clauses (1) to (4). In conducting a family assessment or investigation, the local welfare agency shall gather information on the existence of substance abuse and domestic violence and offer services for purposes of preventing future child maltreatment, safeguarding and enhancing the welfare of the abused or neglected minor, and supporting and preserving family life whenever possible. If the report alleges a violation of a criminal statute involving sexual abuse, physical abuse, or neglect or endangerment, under section 609.378, the local law enforcement agency and local welfare agency shall coordinate the planning and execution of their respective investigation and assessment efforts to avoid a duplication of fact-finding efforts and multiple interviews. Each agency shall prepare a separate report of the results of its investigation. In cases of alleged child maltreatment resulting in death, the local agency may rely on the fact-finding efforts of a law enforcement investigation to make a determination of whether or not maltreatment occurred. When necessary the local welfare agency shall seek authority to remove the child from the custody of a parent, guardian, or adult with whom the child is living. In performing any of these duties, the local welfare agency shall maintain appropriate records.

If the family assessment or investigation indicates there is a potential for abuse of alcohol or other drugs by the parent, guardian, or person responsible for the child's care, the local welfare agency shall conduct a chemical use assessment pursuant to Minnesota Rules, part 9530.6615. The local welfare agency shall report the determination of the chemical use assessment, and the recommendations and referrals for alcohol and other drug treatment services to the state authority on alcohol and drug abuse.

(b) When a local agency receives a report or otherwise has information indicating that a child who is a client, as defined in section 245.91, has been the subject of physical abuse, sexual abuse, or neglect at an agency, facility, or program as defined in section 245.91, it shall, in addition to its other duties under this section, immediately inform the ombudsman established under sections 245.91 to 245.97. The commissioner of education shall inform the ombudsman established under sections 245.91 to 245.97 of reports regarding a child defined as a client in section 245.91 that maltreatment occurred at a school as defined in sections 120A.05, subdivisions 9, 11, and 13, and 124D.10.

(c) Authority of the local welfare agency responsible for assessing or investigating the child abuse or neglect report, the agency responsible for assessing or investigating the report, and of the local law enforcement agency for investigating the alleged abuse or neglect includes, but is not limited to, authority to interview, without parental consent, the alleged victim and any other minors who currently reside with or who have resided with the alleged offender. The interview may take place at school or at any facility or other place where the alleged victim or other minors might be found or the child may be transported to, and the interview conducted at, a place appropriate for the interview of a child designated by the local welfare agency or law enforcement agency. The interview may take place outside the presence of the alleged offender or parent, legal custodian, guardian, or school official. For family assessments, it is the preferred practice to request a parent or guardian's permission to interview the child prior to conducting the child interview, unless doing so would compromise the safety assessment. Except as provided in this paragraph, the parent, legal custodian, or guardian shall be notified by the responsible local welfare or law enforcement agency no later than the conclusion of the investigation or assessment that this interview has occurred. Notwithstanding rule ~~49.02~~ 32 of the Minnesota Rules of Procedure for Juvenile Courts, the juvenile court may, after hearing on an ex parte motion by the local welfare agency, order that, where reasonable cause exists, the agency withhold notification of this interview from the parent, legal custodian, or guardian. If the interview took place or is to take place on school property, the order shall specify that school officials may not disclose to the parent, legal custodian, or guardian the contents of the notification of intent to interview the child on school property, as provided under this paragraph, and any other related information regarding the interview that may be a part of the child's school record. A copy of the order shall be sent by the local welfare or law enforcement agency to the appropriate school official.

(d) When the local welfare, local law enforcement agency, or the agency responsible for assessing or investigating a report of maltreatment determines that an interview should take place on school property, written notification of intent to interview the child on school property must be received by school officials prior to the interview. The notification shall include the name of the child to be interviewed, the purpose of the interview, and a reference to the statutory authority to conduct an interview on school property. For interviews conducted by the local welfare agency, the notification shall be signed by the chair of the local social services agency or the chair's designee. The notification shall be private data on individuals subject to the provisions of this paragraph. School officials may not disclose to the parent, legal custodian, or guardian the contents of the notification or any other related information regarding the interview until notified in writing by the local welfare or law enforcement agency that the investigation or assessment has been concluded, unless a school employee or agent is alleged to have maltreated the child. Until that time, the local welfare or law enforcement agency or the agency responsible for assessing or investigating a report of maltreatment shall be solely responsible for any disclosures regarding the nature of the assessment or investigation.

Except where the alleged offender is believed to be a school official or employee, the time and place, and manner of the interview on school premises shall be within the discretion of school officials, but the local welfare or law enforcement agency shall have the exclusive authority to determine who may attend the interview. The conditions as to time, place, and manner of the interview set by the school officials shall be reasonable and the interview shall be conducted not more than 24 hours after the receipt of the notification unless another time is considered necessary by agreement between the school officials and the local welfare or law enforcement agency. Where the school fails to comply with the provisions of this paragraph, the juvenile court may order the school to comply. Every effort must be made to reduce the disruption of the educational program of the child, other students, or school staff when an interview is conducted on school premises.

(e) Where the alleged offender or a person responsible for the care of the alleged victim or other minor prevents access to the victim or other minor by the local welfare agency, the juvenile court may order the parents, legal custodian, or guardian to produce the alleged victim or other minor for questioning by the local welfare agency or the local law enforcement agency outside the presence of the alleged offender or any person responsible for the child's care at reasonable places and times as specified by court order.

(f) Before making an order under paragraph (e), the court shall issue an order to show cause, either upon its own motion or upon a verified petition, specifying the basis for the requested interviews and fixing the time and place of the hearing. The order to show cause shall be served personally and shall be heard in the same manner as provided in other cases in the juvenile court. The court shall consider the need for appointment of a guardian ad litem to protect the best interests of the child. If appointed, the guardian ad litem shall be present at the hearing on the order to show cause.

(g) The commissioner of human services, the ombudsman for mental health and developmental disabilities, the local welfare agencies responsible for investigating reports, the commissioner of education, and the local law enforcement agencies have the right to enter facilities as defined in subdivision 2 and to inspect and copy the facility's records, including medical records, as part of the investigation. Notwithstanding the provisions of chapter 13, they also have the right to inform the facility under investigation that they are conducting an investigation, to disclose to the facility the names of the individuals under investigation for abusing or neglecting a child, and to provide the facility with a copy of the report and the investigative findings.

(h) The local welfare agency responsible for conducting a family assessment or investigation shall collect available and relevant information to determine child safety, risk of subsequent child maltreatment, and family strengths and needs and share not public information with an Indian's tribal social services agency without violating any law of the state that may otherwise impose duties of confidentiality on the local welfare agency in order to implement the tribal state agreement. The local welfare agency or the agency responsible for investigating the report shall collect available and relevant information to ascertain whether maltreatment occurred and whether protective services are needed. Information collected includes, when relevant, information with regard to the person reporting the alleged maltreatment, including the nature of the reporter's relationship to the child and to the alleged offender, and the basis of the reporter's knowledge for the report; the child allegedly being maltreated; the alleged offender; the child's caretaker; and other collateral sources having relevant information related to the alleged maltreatment. The local welfare agency or the agency responsible for assessing or investigating the report may make a determination of no maltreatment

early in an assessment, and close the case and retain immunity, if the collected information shows no basis for a full assessment or investigation.

Information relevant to the assessment or investigation must be asked for, and may include:

(1) the child's sex and age, prior reports of maltreatment, information relating to developmental functioning, credibility of the child's statement, and whether the information provided under this clause is consistent with other information collected during the course of the assessment or investigation;

(2) the alleged offender's age, a record check for prior reports of maltreatment, and criminal charges and convictions. The local welfare agency or the agency responsible for assessing or investigating the report must provide the alleged offender with an opportunity to make a statement. The alleged offender may submit supporting documentation relevant to the assessment or investigation;

(3) collateral source information regarding the alleged maltreatment and care of the child. Collateral information includes, when relevant: (i) a medical examination of the child; (ii) prior medical records relating to the alleged maltreatment or the care of the child maintained by any facility, clinic, or health care professional and an interview with the treating professionals; and (iii) interviews with the child's caretakers, including the child's parent, guardian, foster parent, child care provider, teachers, counselors, family members, relatives, and other persons who may have knowledge regarding the alleged maltreatment and the care of the child; and

(4) information on the existence of domestic abuse and violence in the home of the child, and substance abuse.

Nothing in this paragraph precludes the local welfare agency, the local law enforcement agency, or the agency responsible for assessing or investigating the report from collecting other relevant information necessary to conduct the assessment or investigation. Notwithstanding section 13.384 or 144.335, the local welfare agency has access to medical data and records for purposes of clause (3). Notwithstanding the data's classification in the possession of any other agency, data acquired by the local welfare agency or the agency responsible for assessing or investigating the report during the course of the assessment or investigation are private data on individuals and must be maintained in accordance with subdivision 11. Data of the commissioner of education collected or maintained during and for the purpose of an investigation of alleged maltreatment in a school are governed by this section, notwithstanding the data's classification as educational, licensing, or personnel data under chapter 13.

In conducting an assessment or investigation involving a school facility as defined in subdivision 2, paragraph (i), the commissioner of education shall collect investigative reports and data that are relevant to a report of maltreatment and are from local law enforcement and the school facility.

(i) Upon receipt of a report, the local welfare agency shall conduct a face-to-face contact with the child reported to be maltreated and with the child's primary caregiver sufficient to complete a safety assessment and ensure the immediate safety of the child. The face-to-face contact with the child and primary caregiver shall occur immediately if substantial child endangerment is alleged and within five calendar days for all other reports. If the alleged offender was not already interviewed as the primary caregiver, the local welfare agency shall also conduct a face-to-face interview with the alleged offender in the early stages of the assessment or investigation. At the initial contact, the

local child welfare agency or the agency responsible for assessing or investigating the report must inform the alleged offender of the complaints or allegations made against the individual in a manner consistent with laws protecting the rights of the person who made the report. The interview with the alleged offender may be postponed if it would jeopardize an active law enforcement investigation.

(j) When conducting an investigation, the local welfare agency shall use a question and answer interviewing format with questioning as nondirective as possible to elicit spontaneous responses. For investigations only, the following interviewing methods and procedures must be used whenever possible when collecting information:

(1) audio recordings of all interviews with witnesses and collateral sources; and

(2) in cases of alleged sexual abuse, audio-video recordings of each interview with the alleged victim and child witnesses.

(k) In conducting an assessment or investigation involving a school facility as defined in subdivision 2, paragraph (i), the commissioner of education shall collect available and relevant information and use the procedures in paragraphs (i), (k), and subdivision 3d, except that the requirement for face-to-face observation of the child and face-to-face interview of the alleged offender is to occur in the initial stages of the assessment or investigation provided that the commissioner may also base the assessment or investigation on investigative reports and data received from the school facility and local law enforcement, to the extent those investigations satisfy the requirements of paragraphs (i) and (k), and subdivision 3d.

Sec. 29. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 626.556, subdivision 10a, is amended to read:

Subd. 10a. ~~Abuse outside family unit~~ **Law enforcement agency responsibility for investigation; welfare agency reliance on law enforcement fact-finding; welfare agency offer of services.** (a) If the report alleges neglect, physical abuse, or sexual abuse by a person who is not a parent, guardian, sibling, person responsible for the child's care functioning outside within the family unit, or a person who lives in the child's household and who has a significant relationship to the child, in a setting other than a facility as defined in subdivision 2, the local welfare agency shall immediately notify the appropriate law enforcement agency, which shall conduct an investigation of the alleged abuse or neglect if a violation of a criminal statute is alleged.

(b) The local agency may rely on the fact-finding efforts of the law enforcement investigation conducted under this subdivision to make a determination whether or not threatened harm or other maltreatment has occurred under subdivision 2 if an alleged offender has minor children or lives with minors.

(c) The local welfare agency shall offer appropriate social services for the purpose of safeguarding and enhancing the welfare of the abused or neglected minor.

Sec. 30. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 626.556, subdivision 10c, is amended to read:

Subd. 10c. **Duties of local social service agency upon receipt of a report of medical neglect.** If the report alleges medical neglect as defined in section 260C.007, subdivision 4 6, clause (5), the local welfare agency shall, in addition to its other duties under this section, immediately consult with designated hospital staff and with the parents of the infant to verify that appropriate nutrition, hydration, and medication are being provided; and shall immediately secure an independent medical review of the infant's medical charts and records and, if necessary, seek a court order for an

independent medical examination of the infant. If the review or examination leads to a conclusion of medical neglect, the agency shall intervene on behalf of the infant by initiating legal proceedings under section 260C.141 and by filing an expedited motion to prevent the withholding of medically indicated treatment.

Sec. 31. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 626.556, subdivision 10f, is amended to read:

Subd. 10f. **Notice of determinations.** Within ten working days of the conclusion of a family assessment, the local welfare agency shall notify the parent or guardian of the child of the need for services to address child safety concerns or significant risk of subsequent child maltreatment. The local welfare agency and the family may also jointly agree that family support and family preservation services are needed. Within ten working days of the conclusion of an investigation, the local welfare agency or agency responsible for assessing or investigating the report shall notify the parent or guardian of the child, the person determined to be maltreating the child, and if applicable, the director of the facility, of the determination and a summary of the specific reasons for the determination. The notice must also include a certification that the information collection procedures under subdivision 10, paragraphs (h), (i), and (j), were followed and a notice of the right of a data subject to obtain access to other private data on the subject collected, created, or maintained under this section. In addition, the notice shall include the length of time that the records will be kept under subdivision 11c. The investigating agency shall notify the parent or guardian of the child who is the subject of the report, and any person or facility determined to have maltreated a child, of their appeal or review rights under this section or section 256.022. The notice must also state that a finding of maltreatment may result in denial of a license application or background study disqualification under chapter 245C related to employment or services that are licensed by the Department of Human Services under chapter 245A, the Department of Health under chapter 144 or 144A, the Department of Corrections under section 241.021, and from providing services related to an unlicensed personal care provider organization under chapter 256B.

Sec. 32. **REVISOR'S INSTRUCTION.**

(a) The revisor shall renumber Minnesota Statutes, section 626.556, subdivision 3d, as Minnesota Statutes, section 626.556, subdivision 3g.

(b) The revisor shall change references to Minnesota Statutes, section 260.851, to section 260.853 and references to Minnesota Statutes, section 260.851, article 5, to section 260.853, article 4, wherever those references appear in Minnesota Statutes and Minnesota Rules.

## ARTICLE 2

### CHILDREN AND FAMILY

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 13.46, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **General.** (a) Unless the data is summary data or a statute specifically provides a different classification, data on individuals collected, maintained, used, or disseminated by the welfare system is private data on individuals, and shall not be disclosed except:

- (1) according to section 13.05;
- (2) according to court order;

(3) according to a statute specifically authorizing access to the private data;

(4) to an agent of the welfare system, including a law enforcement person, attorney, or investigator acting for it in the investigation or prosecution of a criminal or civil proceeding relating to the administration of a program;

(5) to personnel of the welfare system who require the data to verify an individual's identity; determine eligibility, amount of assistance, and the need to provide services to an individual or family across programs; evaluate the effectiveness of programs; and investigate suspected fraud;

(6) to administer federal funds or programs;

(7) between personnel of the welfare system working in the same program;

(8) to the Department of Revenue to administer and evaluate tax refund or tax credit programs and to identify individuals who may benefit from these programs. The following information may be disclosed under this paragraph: an individual's and their dependent's names, dates of birth, Social Security numbers, income, addresses, and other data as required, upon request by the Department of Revenue. Disclosures by the commissioner of revenue to the commissioner of human services for the purposes described in this clause are governed by section 270B.14, subdivision 1. Tax refund or tax credit programs include, but are not limited to, the dependent care credit under section 290.067, the Minnesota working family credit under section 290.0671, the property tax refund and rental credit under section 290A.04, and the Minnesota education credit under section 290.0674;

(9) between the Department of Human Services, the Department of Education, and the Department of Employment and Economic Development for the purpose of monitoring the eligibility of the data subject for unemployment benefits, for any employment or training program administered, supervised, or certified by that agency, for the purpose of administering any rehabilitation program or child care assistance program, whether alone or in conjunction with the welfare system, or to monitor and evaluate the Minnesota family investment program or the child care assistance program by exchanging data on recipients and former recipients of food support, cash assistance under chapter 256, 256D, 256J, or 256K, child care assistance under chapter 119B, or medical programs under chapter 256B, 256D, or 256L;

(10) to appropriate parties in connection with an emergency if knowledge of the information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the individual or other individuals or persons;

(11) data maintained by residential programs as defined in section 245A.02 may be disclosed to the protection and advocacy system established in this state according to Part C of Public Law 98-527 to protect the legal and human rights of persons with developmental disabilities or other related conditions who live in residential facilities for these persons if the protection and advocacy system receives a complaint by or on behalf of that person and the person does not have a legal guardian or the state or a designee of the state is the legal guardian of the person;

(12) to the county medical examiner or the county coroner for identifying or locating relatives or friends of a deceased person;

(13) data on a child support obligor who makes payments to the public agency may be disclosed to the Minnesota Office of Higher Education to the extent necessary to determine eligibility under section 136A.121, subdivision 2, clause (5);



(14) participant Social Security numbers and names collected by the telephone assistance program may be disclosed to the Department of Revenue to conduct an electronic data match with the property tax refund database to determine eligibility under section 237.70, subdivision 4a;

(15) the current address of a Minnesota family investment program participant may be disclosed to law enforcement officers who provide the name of the participant and notify the agency that:

(i) the participant:

(A) is a fugitive felon fleeing to avoid prosecution, or custody or confinement after conviction, for a crime or attempt to commit a crime that is a felony under the laws of the jurisdiction from which the individual is fleeing; or

(B) is violating a condition of probation or parole imposed under state or federal law;

(ii) the location or apprehension of the felon is within the law enforcement officer's official duties; and

(iii) the request is made in writing and in the proper exercise of those duties;

(16) the current address of a recipient of general assistance or general assistance medical care may be disclosed to probation officers and corrections agents who are supervising the recipient and to law enforcement officers who are investigating the recipient in connection with a felony level offense;

(17) information obtained from food support applicant or recipient households may be disclosed to local, state, or federal law enforcement officials, upon their written request, for the purpose of investigating an alleged violation of the Food Stamp Act, according to Code of Federal Regulations, title 7, section 272.1(c);

(18) the address, Social Security number, and, if available, photograph of any member of a household receiving food support shall be made available, on request, to a local, state, or federal law enforcement officer if the officer furnishes the agency with the name of the member and notifies the agency that:

(i) the member:

(A) is fleeing to avoid prosecution, or custody or confinement after conviction, for a crime or attempt to commit a crime that is a felony in the jurisdiction the member is fleeing;

(B) is violating a condition of probation or parole imposed under state or federal law; or

(C) has information that is necessary for the officer to conduct an official duty related to conduct described in subitem (A) or (B);

(ii) locating or apprehending the member is within the officer's official duties; and

(iii) the request is made in writing and in the proper exercise of the officer's official duty;

(19) the current address of a recipient of Minnesota family investment program, general assistance, general assistance medical care, or food support may be disclosed to law enforcement officers who, in writing, provide the name of the recipient and notify the agency that the recipient is a person required to register under section 243.166, but is not residing at the address at which

the recipient is registered under section 243.166;

(20) certain information regarding child support obligors who are in arrears may be made public according to section 518A.74;

(21) data on child support payments made by a child support obligor and data on the distribution of those payments excluding identifying information on obligees may be disclosed to all obligees to whom the obligor owes support, and data on the enforcement actions undertaken by the public authority, the status of those actions, and data on the income of the obligor or obligee may be disclosed to the other party;

(22) data in the work reporting system may be disclosed under section 256.998, subdivision 7;

(23) to the Department of Education for the purpose of matching Department of Education student data with public assistance data to determine students eligible for free and reduced price meals, meal supplements, and free milk according to United States Code, title 42, sections 1758, 1761, 1766, 1766a, 1772, and 1773; to allocate federal and state funds that are distributed based on income of the student's family; and to verify receipt of energy assistance for the telephone assistance plan;

(24) the current address and telephone number of program recipients and emergency contacts may be released to the commissioner of health or a local board of health as defined in section 145A.02, subdivision 2, when the commissioner or local board of health has reason to believe that a program recipient is a disease case, carrier, suspect case, or at risk of illness, and the data are necessary to locate the person;

(25) to other state agencies, statewide systems, and political subdivisions of this state, including the attorney general, and agencies of other states, interstate information networks, federal agencies, and other entities as required by federal regulation or law for the administration of the child support enforcement program;

(26) to personnel of public assistance programs as defined in section 256.741, for access to the child support system database for the purpose of administration, including monitoring and evaluation of those public assistance programs;

(27) to monitor and evaluate the Minnesota family investment program by exchanging data between the Departments of Human Services and Education, on recipients and former recipients of food support, cash assistance under chapter 256, 256D, 256J, or 256K, child care assistance under chapter 119B, or medical programs under chapter 256B, 256D, or 256L;

(28) to evaluate child support program performance and to identify and prevent fraud in the child support program by exchanging data between the Department of Human Services, Department of Revenue under section 270B.14, subdivision 1, paragraphs (a) and (b), without regard to the limitation of use in paragraph (c), Department of Health, Department of Employment and Economic Development, and other state agencies as is reasonably necessary to perform these functions; or

(29) counties operating child care assistance programs under chapter 119B may disseminate data on program participants, applicants, and providers to the commissioner of education.

(b) Information on persons who have been treated for drug or alcohol abuse may only be disclosed according to the requirements of Code of Federal Regulations, title 42, sections 2.1 to

2.67.

(c) Data provided to law enforcement agencies under paragraph (a), clause (15), (16), (17), or (18), or paragraph (b), are investigative data and are confidential or protected nonpublic while the investigation is active. The data are private after the investigation becomes inactive under section 13.82, subdivision 5, paragraph (a) or (b).

(d) Mental health data shall be treated as provided in subdivisions 7, 8, and 9, but is not subject to the access provisions of subdivision 10, paragraph (b).

For the purposes of this subdivision, a request will be deemed to be made in writing if made through a computer interface system.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16D.13, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Exclusion.** A state agency may not charge interest under this section on overpayments of assistance benefits under the programs formerly codified in sections 256.031 to 256.0361, 256.72 to 256.87, and under chapters 119B, 256D, and 256I, or the federal food stamp program. Notwithstanding this prohibition, any debts that have been reduced to judgment under these programs are subject to the interest charges provided under section 549.09.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 119B.011, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 13a. **Family stabilization services.** "Family stabilization services" means the services under section 256J.575.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 119B.035, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Establishment.** A family in which a parent provides care for the family's infant child may receive a subsidy in lieu of assistance if the family is eligible for or is receiving assistance under the basic sliding fee program. An eligible family must meet the eligibility factors under section 119B.09, except as provided in subdivision 4, and the requirements of this section. Subject to federal match and maintenance of effort requirements for the child care and development fund, and up to available appropriations, the commissioner shall ~~establish a pool of up to three percent of the annual state appropriation for the basic sliding fee program~~ to provide assistance under the at-home infant child care program and for administrative costs associated with the program. At the end of a fiscal year, the commissioner may carry forward any unspent funds under this section to the next fiscal year within the same biennium for assistance under the basic sliding fee program.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 119B.05, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Eligible participants.** Families eligible for child care assistance under the MFIP child care program are:

(1) MFIP participants who are employed or in job search and meet the requirements of section 119B.10;

(2) persons who are members of transition year families under section 119B.011, subdivision 20, and meet the requirements of section 119B.10;

(3) families who are participating in employment orientation or job search, or other employment or training activities that are included in an approved employability development plan under section

256J.95;

(4) MFIP families who are participating in work job search, job support, employment, or training activities as required in their employment plan, or in appeals, hearings, assessments, or orientations according to chapter 256J;

(5) MFIP families who are participating in social services activities under chapter 256J as required in their employment plan approved according to chapter 256J;

(6) families who are participating in services or activities that are included in an approved family stabilization plan under section 256J.575;

(7) families who are participating in programs as required in tribal contracts under section 119B.02, subdivision 2, or 256.01, subdivision 2; and

~~(7)~~ (8) families who are participating in the transition year extension under section 119B.011, subdivision 20a.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 119B.09, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **General Eligibility requirements for all applicants for child care assistance.**

(a) Child care services must be available to families who need child care to find or keep employment or to obtain the training or education necessary to find employment and who:

(1) have household income less than or equal to 250 percent of the federal poverty guidelines, adjusted for family size, and meet the requirements of section 119B.05; ~~receive MFIP assistance; and are participating in employment and training services under chapter 256J or 256K; or~~

(2) have household income less than or equal to 175 percent of the federal poverty guidelines, adjusted for family size, at program entry and less than 250 percent of the federal poverty guidelines, adjusted for family size, at program exit; or

(3) have household income less than or equal to 250 percent of the federal poverty guidelines, adjusted for family size, and were a family whose child care assistance was terminated due to insufficient funds under Minnesota Rules, part 3400.0183.

(b) Child care services must be made available as in-kind services.

(c) All applicants for child care assistance and families currently receiving child care assistance must be assisted and required to cooperate in establishment of paternity and enforcement of child support obligations for all children in the family as a condition of program eligibility. For purposes of this section, a family is considered to meet the requirement for cooperation when the family complies with the requirements of section 256.741.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2008.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 119B.09, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Date of eligibility for assistance.** (a) The date of eligibility for child care assistance under this chapter is the later of the date the application was signed; the beginning date of employment, education, or training; the date the infant is born for applicants to the at-home infant care program; or the date a determination has been made that the applicant is a participant in

employment and training services under Minnesota Rules, part 3400.0080, ~~subpart 2a,~~ or chapter 256J.

(b) Payment ceases for a family under the at-home infant child care program when a family has used a total of 12 months of assistance as specified under section 119B.035. Payment of child care assistance for employed persons on MFIP is effective the date of employment or the date of MFIP eligibility, whichever is later. Payment of child care assistance for MFIP or DWP participants in employment and training services is effective the date of commencement of the services or the date of MFIP or DWP eligibility, whichever is later. Payment of child care assistance for transition year child care must be made retroactive to the date of eligibility for transition year child care.

(c) Notwithstanding paragraph (b), payment of child care assistance for participants eligible under section 119B.05, may only be made retroactively for a maximum of six months from the date of application for child care assistance.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2008.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 119B.09, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

**Subd. 11. Payment of other child care expenses.** Payment by a source other than the family, of part or all of a family's child care expenses not payable under this chapter, does not affect the family's eligibility for child care assistance, and the amount paid is excluded from the family's income, if the funds are paid directly to the family's child care provider on behalf of the family. Child care providers who accept third-party payments must maintain family-specific documentation of payment source, amount, type of expenses, and time period covered by the payment.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 119B.09, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

**Subd. 12. Sliding fee.** Child care services to families must be made available on a sliding fee basis. The commissioner shall convert eligibility requirements in section 119B.09 and parent fee schedules in 119B.12 to state median income, based on a family size of three, adjusted for family size, by July 1, 2008. The commissioner shall report to the 2008 legislature with the necessary statutory changes to codify this conversion to state median income.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 119B.12, is amended to read:

**119B.12 SLIDING FEE SCALE.**

Subdivision 1. **Fee schedule.** In setting the sliding fee schedule, the commissioner shall exclude from the amount of income used to determine eligibility an amount for federal and state income and Social Security taxes attributable to that income level according to federal and state standardized tax tables. The commissioner shall base the parent fee on the ability of the family to pay for child care. The fee schedule must be designed to use any available tax credits.

**PARENT FEE SCHEDULE.** The parent fee schedule is as follows:

<u>Income Range (as a percent of the federal poverty guidelines)</u>	<u>Co-payment (as a percentage of adjusted gross income)</u>
<u>0-74.99%</u>	<u>\$0/month</u>
<u>75.00-99.99%</u>	<u>\$5/month</u>

<u>100.00-104.99%</u>	<u>2.61%</u>
<u>105.00-109.99%</u>	<u>2.61%</u>
<u>110.00-114.99%</u>	<u>2.61%</u>
<u>115.00-119.99%</u>	<u>2.61%</u>
<u>120.00-124.99%</u>	<u>2.91%</u>
<u>125.00-129.99%</u>	<u>2.91%</u>
<u>130.00-134.99%</u>	<u>2.91%</u>
<u>135.00-139.99%</u>	<u>2.91%</u>
<u>140.00-144.99%</u>	<u>3.21%</u>
<u>145.00-149.99%</u>	<u>3.21%</u>
<u>150.00-154.99%</u>	<u>3.21%</u>
<u>155.00-159.99%</u>	<u>3.84%</u>
<u>160.00-164.99%</u>	<u>3.84%</u>
<u>165.00-169.99%</u>	<u>4.46%</u>
<u>170.00-174.99%</u>	<u>4.76%</u>
<u>175.00-179.99%</u>	<u>5.05%</u>
<u>180.00-184.99%</u>	<u>5.65%</u>
<u>185.00-189.99%</u>	<u>5.95%</u>
<u>190.00-194.99%</u>	<u>6.24%</u>
<u>195.00-199.99%</u>	<u>6.84%</u>
<u>200.00-204.99%</u>	<u>7.58%</u>
<u>205.00-209.99%</u>	<u>8.33%</u>
<u>210.00-214.99%</u>	<u>9.20%</u>
<u>215.00-219.99%</u>	<u>10.07%</u>
<u>220.00-224.99%</u>	<u>10.94%</u>
<u>225.00-229.99%</u>	<u>11.55%</u>
<u>230.00-234.99%</u>	<u>12.16%</u>
<u>235.00-239.99%</u>	<u>12.77%</u>
<u>240.00-244.99%</u>	<u>13.38%</u>
<u>245.00-249.99%</u>	<u>14.00%</u>
<u>250%</u>	<u>ineligible</u>

A family's monthly co-payment fee is the fixed percentage established for the income range multiplied by the highest possible income within that income range.

Subd. 2. **Parent fee.** A family must be assessed a parent fee for each service period. A family's

parent fee must be a fixed percentage of its annual gross income. Parent fees must apply to families eligible for child care assistance under sections 119B.03 and 119B.05. Income must be as defined in section 119B.011, subdivision 15. The fixed percent is based on the relationship of the family's annual gross income to 100 percent of the annual federal poverty guidelines. Parent fees must begin at 75 percent of the poverty level. The minimum parent fees for families between 75 percent and 100 percent of poverty level must be \$10 \$5 per month. Parent fees must provide for graduated movement to full payment. Payment of part or all of a family's parent fee directly to the family's child care provider on behalf of the family by a source other than the family shall not affect the family's eligibility for child care assistance, and the amount paid shall be excluded from the family's income. Child care providers who accept third-party payments must maintain family specific documentation of payment source, amount, and time period covered by the payment.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** (a) This section is effective July 1, 2007.

(b) Effective July 1, 2008, the parent fee scale for families with incomes greater than or equal to 100 percent of FPG shall be converted to state median income for a family size of three, adjusted for family size, as directed in section 119B.09, subdivision 12.

Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 119B.125, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Persons who cannot be authorized.** (a) A person who meets any of the conditions under paragraphs (b) to (n) must not be authorized as a legal nonlicensed family child care provider. To determine whether any of the listed conditions exist, the county must request information about the provider from the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, the juvenile courts, and social service agencies. When one of the listed entities does not maintain information on a statewide basis, the county must contact the entity in the county where the provider resides and any other county in which the provider previously resided in the past year. For purposes of this subdivision, a finding that a delinquency petition is proven in juvenile court must be considered a conviction in state district court. If a county has determined that a provider is able to be authorized in that county, and a family in another county later selects that provider, the provider is able to be authorized in the second county without undergoing a new background investigation unless one of the following conditions exists:

- (1) two years have passed since the first authorization;
- (2) another person age 13 or older has joined the provider's household since the last authorization;
- (3) a current household member has turned 13 since the last authorization; or
- (4) there is reason to believe that a household member has a factor that prevents authorization.

(b) The person has been convicted of one of the following offenses or has admitted to committing or a preponderance of the evidence indicates that the person has committed an act that meets the definition of one of the following offenses: sections 609.185 to 609.195, murder in the first, second, or third degree; 609.2661 to 609.2663, murder of an unborn child in the first, second, or third degree; 609.322, solicitation, inducement, promotion of prostitution, or receiving profit from prostitution; 609.342 to 609.345, criminal sexual conduct in the first, second, third, or fourth degree; 609.352, solicitation of children to engage in sexual conduct; 609.365, incest; 609.377, felony malicious punishment of a child; 617.246, use of minors in sexual performance; 617.247, possession of pictorial representation of a minor; 609.2242 to 609.2243, felony domestic assault;

a felony offense of spousal abuse; a felony offense of child abuse or neglect; a felony offense of a crime against children; or an attempt or conspiracy to commit any of these offenses as defined in Minnesota Statutes; or an offense in any other state or country where the elements are substantially similar to any of the offenses listed in this paragraph.

(c) Less than 15 years have passed since the discharge of the sentence imposed for the offense and the person has received a felony conviction for one of the following offenses, or the person has admitted to committing or a preponderance of the evidence indicates that the person has committed an act that meets the definition of a felony conviction for one of the following offenses: sections 609.20 to 609.205, manslaughter in the first or second degree; 609.21, criminal vehicular homicide; 609.215, aiding suicide or aiding attempted suicide; 609.221 to 609.2231, assault in the first, second, third, or fourth degree; 609.224, repeat offenses of fifth degree assault; 609.228, great bodily harm caused by distribution of drugs; 609.2325, criminal abuse of a vulnerable adult; 609.2335, financial exploitation of a vulnerable adult; 609.235, use of drugs to injure or facilitate a crime; 609.24, simple robbery; 617.241, repeat offenses of obscene materials and performances; 609.245, aggravated robbery; 609.25, kidnapping; 609.255, false imprisonment; 609.2664 to 609.2665, manslaughter of an unborn child in the first or second degree; 609.267 to 609.2672, assault of an unborn child in the first, second, or third degree; 609.268, injury or death of an unborn child in the commission of a crime; 609.27, coercion; 609.275, attempt to coerce; 609.324, subdivision 1, other prohibited acts, minor engaged in prostitution; 609.3451, repeat offenses of criminal sexual conduct in the fifth degree; 609.378, neglect or endangerment of a child; 609.52, theft; 609.521, possession of shoplifting gear; 609.561 to 609.563, arson in the first, second, or third degree; 609.582, burglary in the first, second, third, or fourth degree; 609.625, aggravated forgery; 609.63, forgery; 609.631, check forgery, offering a forged check; 609.635, obtaining signature by false pretenses; 609.66, dangerous weapon; 609.665, setting a spring gun; 609.67, unlawfully owning, possessing, or operating a machine gun; 609.687, adulteration; 609.71, riot; 609.713, terrorist threats; 609.749, harassment, stalking; 260C.301, termination of parental rights; 152.021 to 152.022 and 152.0262, controlled substance crime in the first or second degree; 152.023, subdivision 1, clause (3) or (4), or 152.023, subdivision 2, clause (4), controlled substance crime in third degree; 152.024, subdivision 1, clause (2), (3), or (4), controlled substance crime in fourth degree; 617.23, repeat offenses of indecent exposure; an attempt or conspiracy to commit any of these offenses as defined in Minnesota Statutes; or an offense in any other state or country where the elements are substantially similar to any of the offenses listed in this paragraph.

(d) Less than ten years have passed since the discharge of the sentence imposed for the offense and the person has received a gross misdemeanor conviction for one of the following offenses or the person has admitted to committing or a preponderance of the evidence indicates that the person has committed an act that meets the definition of a gross misdemeanor conviction for one of the following offenses: sections 609.224, fifth degree assault; 609.2242 to 609.2243, domestic assault; 518B.01, subdivision 14, violation of an order for protection; 609.3451, fifth degree criminal sexual conduct; 609.746, repeat offenses of interference with privacy; 617.23, repeat offenses of indecent exposure; 617.241, obscene materials and performances; 617.243, indecent literature, distribution; 617.293, disseminating or displaying harmful material to minors; 609.71, riot; 609.66, dangerous weapons; 609.749, harassment, stalking; 609.224, subdivision 2, paragraph (c), fifth degree assault against a vulnerable adult by a caregiver; 609.23, mistreatment of persons confined; 609.231, mistreatment of residents or patients; 609.2325, criminal abuse of a vulnerable adult; 609.2335, financial exploitation of a vulnerable adult; 609.233, criminal neglect of a vulnerable adult; 609.234, failure to report maltreatment of a vulnerable adult; 609.72, subdivision 3, disorderly



conduct against a vulnerable adult; 609.265, abduction; 609.378, neglect or endangerment of a child; 609.377, malicious punishment of a child; 609.324, subdivision 1a, other prohibited acts, minor engaged in prostitution; 609.33, disorderly house; 609.52, theft; 609.582, burglary in the first, second, third, or fourth degree; 609.631, check forgery, offering a forged check; 609.275, attempt to coerce; an attempt or conspiracy to commit any of these offenses as defined in Minnesota Statutes; or an offense in any other state or country where the elements are substantially similar to any of the offenses listed in this paragraph.

(e) Less than seven years have passed since the discharge of the sentence imposed for the offense and the person has received a misdemeanor conviction for one of the following offenses or the person has admitted to committing or a preponderance of the evidence indicates that the person has committed an act that meets the definition of a misdemeanor conviction for one of the following offenses: sections 609.224, fifth degree assault; 609.2242, domestic assault; 518B.01, violation of an order for protection; 609.3232, violation of an order for protection; 609.746, interference with privacy; 609.79, obscene or harassing telephone calls; 609.795, letter, telegram, or package opening, harassment; 617.23, indecent exposure; 609.2672, assault of an unborn child, third degree; 617.293, dissemination and display of harmful materials to minors; 609.66, dangerous weapons; 609.665, spring guns; an attempt or conspiracy to commit any of these offenses as defined in Minnesota Statutes; or an offense in any other state or country where the elements are substantially similar to any of the offenses listed in this paragraph.

(f) The person has been identified by the child protection agency in the county where the provider resides or a county where the provider has resided or by the statewide child protection database as a person found by a preponderance of evidence under section 626.556 to be responsible for physical or sexual abuse of a child within the last seven years.

(g) The person has been identified by the adult protection agency in the county where the provider resides or a county where the provider has resided or by the statewide adult protection database as the person responsible for abuse or neglect of a vulnerable adult within the last seven years.

(h) The person has refused to give written consent for disclosure of criminal history records.

(i) The person has been denied a family child care license or has received a fine or a sanction as a licensed child care provider that has not been reversed on appeal.

(j) The person has a family child care licensing disqualification that has not been set aside.

(k) The person has admitted or a county has found that there is a preponderance of evidence that fraudulent information was given to the county for child care assistance application purposes or was used in submitting child care assistance bills for payment.

(l) The person has been convicted of the crime of theft by wrongfully obtaining public assistance or has been found guilty of wrongfully obtaining public assistance by a federal court, state court, or an administrative hearing determination or waiver, through a disqualification consent agreement, as part of an approved diversion plan under section 401.065, or a court-ordered stay with probationary or other conditions.

(m) The person has a household member age 13 or older who has access to children during the hours that care is provided and who meets one of the conditions listed in paragraphs (b) to (l).

(n) The person has a household member ages ten to 12 who has access to children during the

hours that care is provided; information or circumstances exist which provide the county with articulable suspicion that further pertinent information may exist showing the household member meets one of the conditions listed in paragraphs (b) to (l); and the household member actually meets one of the conditions listed in paragraphs (b) to (l).

Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 119B.13, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Subsidy restrictions.** (a) Beginning July 1, 2006, the maximum rate paid for child care assistance in any county or multicounty region under the child care fund shall be the rate for like-care arrangements in the county effective January 1, 2006, increased by six percent.

(b) Rate changes shall be implemented for services provided in September 2006 unless a participant eligibility redetermination or a new provider agreement is completed between July 1, 2006, and August 31, 2006.

As necessary, appropriate notice of adverse action must be made according to Minnesota Rules, part 3400.0185, subparts 3 and 4.

New cases approved on or after July 1, 2006, shall have the maximum rates under paragraph (a), implemented immediately.

(c) ~~Not less than once every two years~~ Every year, the commissioner shall survey rates charged by child care providers in Minnesota to determine the 75th percentile for like-care arrangements in counties. When the commissioner determines that, using the commissioner's established protocol, the number of providers responding to the survey is too small to determine the 75th percentile rate for like-care arrangements in a county or multicounty region, the commissioner may establish the 75th percentile maximum rate based on like-care arrangements in a county, region, or category that the commissioner deems to be similar.

(d) A rate which includes a special needs rate paid under subdivision 3 or under a school readiness service agreement paid under section 61 may be in excess of the maximum rate allowed under this subdivision.

(e) The department shall monitor the effect of this paragraph on provider rates. The county shall pay the provider's full charges for every child in care up to the maximum established. The commissioner shall determine the maximum rate for each type of care on an hourly, full-day, and weekly basis, including special needs and disability care.

(f) When the provider charge is greater than the maximum provider rate allowed, the parent is responsible for payment of the difference in the rates in addition to any family co-payment fee.

Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 119B.13, subdivision 3a, is amended to read:

Subd. 3a. **Provider rate differential for accreditation.** A family child care provider or child care center shall be paid a 15 percent differential above the maximum rate established in subdivision 1, up to the actual provider rate, if the provider or center holds a current early childhood development credential or is accredited. For a family child care provider, early childhood development credential and accreditation includes an individual who has earned a child development associate degree, a child development associate credential, a diploma in child development from a Minnesota state technical college, or a bachelor's or post baccalaureate degree in early childhood education from an accredited college or university, or who is accredited by the

National Association for Family Child Care or the Competency Based Training and Assessment Program. For a child care center, accreditation includes accreditation by the National Association for the Education of Young Children, the Council on Accreditation, the National Early Childhood Program Accreditation, the National School-Age Care Association, or the National Head Start Association Program of Excellence. For Montessori programs, accreditation includes the American Montessori Society, Association of Montessori International-USA, or the National Center for Montessori Education.

Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 119B.13, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

Subd. 6. **Provider payments.** (a) Counties or the state shall make vendor payments to the child care provider or pay the parent directly for eligible child care expenses.

(b) If payments for child care assistance are made to providers, the provider shall bill the county for services provided within ten days of the end of the service period. If bills are submitted within ten days of the end of the service period, a county or the state shall issue payment to the provider of child care under the child care fund within 30 days of receiving a bill from the provider. Counties or the state may establish policies that make payments on a more frequent basis.

(c) All bills If a provider has received an authorization of care and has been issued a billing form for an eligible family, the bill must be submitted within 60 days of the last date of service on the bill. A county may pay a bill submitted more than 60 days after the last date of service if the provider shows good cause why the bill was not submitted within 60 days. Good cause must be defined in the county's child care fund plan under section 119B.08, subdivision 3, and the definition of good cause must include county error. A county may not pay any bill submitted more than a year after the last date of service on the bill.

(d) If a provider provided care for a time period without receiving an authorization of care and a billing form for an eligible family, payment of child care assistance may only be made retroactively for a maximum of six months from the date the provider is issued an authorization of care and a billing form.

~~(d)~~ (e) A county may stop payment issued to a provider or may refuse to pay a bill submitted by a provider if:

(1) the provider admits to intentionally giving the county materially false information on the provider's billing forms; or

(2) a county finds by a preponderance of the evidence that the provider intentionally gave the county materially false information on the provider's billing forms.

~~(e)~~ (f) A county's payment policies must be included in the county's child care plan under section 119B.08, subdivision 3. If payments are made by the state, in addition to being in compliance with this subdivision, the payments must be made in compliance with section 16A.124.

Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 119B.13, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Absent days.** (a) Child care providers may not be reimbursed for more than 25 full-day absent days per child, excluding holidays, in a fiscal year, or for more than ten consecutive full-day absent days, unless the child has a documented medical condition that causes more frequent absences. Absences due to a documented medical condition of a parent or sibling who lives in the

same residence as the child receiving child care assistance do not count against the 25-day absent day limit in a fiscal year. Documentation of medical conditions must be on the forms and submitted according to the timelines established by the commissioner. A public health nurse or school nurse may verify the illness in lieu of a medical practitioner. If a provider sends a child home early due to a medical reason, including, but not limited to, fever or contagious illness, the child care center director or lead teacher may verify the illness in lieu of a medical practitioner. If a child attends for part of the time authorized to be in care in a day, but is absent for part of the time authorized to be in care in that same day, the absent time will be reimbursed but the time will not count toward the ten consecutive or 25 cumulative absent day limits. Children in families where at least one parent is under the age of 21, does not have a high school or general equivalency diploma, and is a student in a school district or another similar program that provides or arranges for child care, as well as parenting, social services, career and employment supports, and academic support to achieve high school graduation, may be exempt from the absent day limits upon request of the program and approval of the county. If a child attends part of an authorized day, payment to the provider must be for the full amount of care authorized for that day. Child care providers may only be reimbursed for absent days if the provider has a written policy for child absences and charges all other families in care for similar absences.

(b) Child care providers must be reimbursed for up to ten federal or state holidays or designated holidays per year when the provider charges all families for these days and the holiday or designated holiday falls on a day when the child is authorized to be in attendance. Parents may substitute other cultural or religious holidays for the ten recognized state and federal holidays. Holidays do not count toward the ten consecutive or 25 cumulative absent day limits.

(c) A family or child care provider may not be assessed an overpayment for an absent day payment unless (1) there was an error in the amount of care authorized for the family, (2) all of the allowed full-day absent payments for the child have been paid, or (3) the family or provider did not timely report a change as required under law.

(d) The provider and family must receive notification of the number of absent days used upon initial provider authorization for a family and when the family has used 15 cumulative absent days. Upon statewide implementation of the Minnesota Electronic Child Care System, the provider and family authorization for a family and ongoing notification of the number of absent days used as of the date of the notification.

(e) A county may pay for more absent days than the statewide absent day policy established under this subdivision if current market practice in the county justifies payment for those additional days. County policies for payment of absent days in excess of the statewide absent day policy and justification for these county policies must be included in the county's child care fund plan under section 119B.08, subdivision 3. This paragraph may be implemented by counties on or after July 1, 2008.

Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 119B.21, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **Child care services grants.** (a) A child care resource and referral program designated under section 119B.19, subdivision 1a, may award child care services grants for:

(1) creating new licensed child care facilities and expanding existing facilities, including, but not limited to, supplies, equipment, facility renovation, and remodeling;

(2) improving licensed child care facility programs;

(3) staff training and development services including, but not limited to, in-service training, curriculum development, accreditation, certification, consulting, resource centers, ~~and program and resource materials, supporting effective teacher-child interactions, child-focused teaching, and content-driven classroom instruction;~~

(4) interim financing;

(5) capacity building through the purchase of appropriate technology to create, enhance, and maintain business management systems;

(6) emergency assistance for child care programs;

(7) new programs or projects for the creation, expansion, or improvement of programs that serve ethnic immigrant and refugee communities; and

(8) targeted recruitment initiatives to expand and build the capacity of the child care system and to improve the quality of care provided by legal nonlicensed child care providers.

(b) A child care resource and referral program designated under section 119B.19, subdivision 1a, may award child care services grants to:

(1) licensed providers;

(2) providers in the process of being licensed;

(3) corporations or public agencies that develop or provide child care services;

(4) school-age care programs; or

(5) any combination of clauses (1) to (4).

Unlicensed providers are only eligible for grants under paragraph (a), clause (7).

(c) A recipient of a child care services grant for facility improvements, interim financing, or staff training and development must provide a 25 percent local match.

Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256.01, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Duties as state agency.** (a) The state agency shall:

(1) supervise the administration of assistance to dependent children under Laws 1937, chapter 438, by the county agencies in an integrated program with other service for dependent children maintained under the direction of the state agency;

~~(2) may subpoena witnesses and administer oaths, make rules, and take such action as may be necessary, or desirable for carrying out the provisions of Laws 1937, chapter 438. All rules made by the state agency shall be binding on the counties and shall be complied with by the respective county agencies;~~

~~(3)~~ (2) establish adequate standards for personnel employed by the counties and the state agency in the administration of Laws 1937, chapter 438, and make the necessary rules to maintain such standards;

~~(4)~~ (3) prescribe the form of and print and supply to the county agencies blanks for applications, reports, affidavits, and such other forms as it may deem necessary and advisable;

~~(5)~~ (4) cooperate with the federal government and its public welfare agencies in any reasonable manner as may be necessary to qualify for federal aid for temporary assistance for needy families and in conformity with title I of Public Law 104-193, the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 and successor amendments, including the making of such reports and such forms and containing such information as the Federal Social Security Board may from time to time require, and comply with such provisions as such board may from time to time find necessary to assure the correctness and verification of such reports;

~~(6)~~ (5) ~~may cooperate with other state agencies in establishing reciprocal agreements in instances where a child receiving Minnesota family investment program assistance moves or contemplates moving into or out of the state, in order that such child may continue to receive supervised aid from the state moved from until the child shall have resided for one year in the state moved to;~~

~~(7)~~ (5) on or before October 1 in each even-numbered year make a biennial report to the governor concerning the activities of the agency;

~~(8)~~ (6) enter into agreements with other departments of the state as necessary to meet all requirements of the federal government; and

~~(9)~~ (7) cooperate with the commissioner of education to enforce the requirements for program integrity and fraud prevention for investigation for child care assistance under chapter 119B.

(b) The state agency may:

(1) subpoena witnesses and administer oaths, make rules, and take such action as may be necessary or desirable for carrying out the provisions of Laws 1937, chapter 438. All rules made by the state agency shall be binding on the counties and shall be complied with by the respective county agencies;

(2) cooperate with other state agencies in establishing reciprocal agreements in instances where a child receiving Minnesota family investment program assistance moves or contemplates moving into or out of the state, in order that the child may continue to receive supervised aid from the state moved from until the child has resided for one year in the state moved to; and

(3) administer oaths and affirmations, take depositions, certify to official acts, and issue subpoenas to compel the attendance of individuals and the production of documents and other personal property necessary in connection with the administration of programs administered by the Department of Human Services.

(c) The fees for service of a subpoena in paragraph (b), clause (3), must be paid in the same manner as prescribed by law for a service of process issued by a district court. Witnesses must receive the same fees and mileage as in civil actions.

(d) The subpoena in paragraph (b), clause (3), shall be enforceable through the district court in the district where the subpoena is issued.

Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256.01, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 23. **Administrative simplification; county cost study.** (a) The commissioner shall

establish and convene the first meeting of an advisory committee to identify ways to simplify and streamline human services laws and administrative requirements. The advisory committee shall select its chair from its membership at the first meeting.

(b) The committee shall consist of three senators appointed by the senate Subcommittee on Committees of the Committee on Rules and Administration, three state representatives appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives, and nine department staff and county representatives appointed by the commissioner. The appointments required under this paragraph must be completed by September 1, 2007.

(c) The committee shall discuss methods of reducing inconsistency between programs and complexity within programs in order to improve administrative efficiency and reduce the risk of recipient noncompliance. Topics for discussion may include child support enforcement, adoption services, child care licensing, child care assistance, and other programs. The state senators and state representatives on the advisory committee, in consultation with the advisory committee, shall report annually to the chairs of the legislative committees and divisions with jurisdiction over the Department of Human Services, beginning January 15, 2008, with recommendations developed by the advisory group.

(d) The commissioner, in consultation with the advisory committee, shall study and report to the legislature by January 15, 2009, on the transfer of any responsibilities between the department and counties that would result in more efficient and effective administration of human services programs.

(e) This section expires on June 30, 2012.

Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256.015, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Cooperation required.** Upon the request of the Department of Human Services, any state agency or third party payer shall cooperate with the department in furnishing information to help establish a third party liability. Upon the request of the Department of Human Services or county child support or human service agencies, any employer or third party payer shall cooperate in furnishing information about group health insurance plans or medical benefit plans available to its employees. For purposes of section 176.191, subdivision 4, the Department of Labor and Industry may allow the Department of Human Services and county agencies direct access and data matching on information relating to workers' compensation claims in order to determine whether the claimant has reported the fact of a pending claim and the amount paid to or on behalf of the claimant to the Department of Human Services. The Department of Human Services and county agencies shall limit its use of information gained from agencies, third party payers, and employers to purposes directly connected with the administration of its public assistance and child support programs. The provision of information by agencies, third party payers, and employers to the department under this subdivision is not a violation of any right of confidentiality or data privacy.

Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256.017, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Authority and purpose.** The commissioner shall administer a compliance system for the Minnesota family investment program, the food stamp or food support program, emergency assistance, general assistance, medical assistance, general assistance medical care, emergency general assistance, Minnesota supplemental assistance, preadmission screening, and alternative care grants, and the child care assistance program under the powers and authorities named in section 256.01, subdivision 2. The purpose of the compliance system is to permit

the commissioner to supervise the administration of public assistance programs and to enforce timely and accurate distribution of benefits, completeness of service and efficient and effective program management and operations, to increase uniformity and consistency in the administration and delivery of public assistance programs throughout the state, and to reduce the possibility of sanctions and fiscal disallowances for noncompliance with federal regulations and state statutes.

The commissioner shall utilize training, technical assistance, and monitoring activities, as specified in section 256.01, subdivision 2, to encourage county agency compliance with written policies and procedures.

Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256.017, subdivision 9, is amended to read:

Subd. 9. **Timing and disposition of penalty and case disallowance funds.** Quality control case penalty and administrative penalty amounts shall be disallowed or withheld from the next regular reimbursement made to the county agency for state and federal benefit reimbursements and federal administrative reimbursements for all programs covered in this section, according to procedures established in statute, but shall not be imposed sooner than 30 calendar days from the date of written notice of such penalties. Except for penalties withheld under the child care assistance program, all penalties must be deposited in the county incentive fund provided in section 256.018. Penalties withheld under the child care assistance program shall be reallocated to counties using the allocation formula under section 119B.03, subdivision 5. All penalties must be imposed according to this provision until a decision is made regarding the status of a written exception. Penalties must be returned to county agencies when a review of a written exception results in a decision in their favor.

Sec. 22. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256.984, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Declaration.** Every application for public assistance under this chapter or chapters 256B, 256D, 256J, and 256L; child care programs under chapter 119B; and food stamps or food support under chapter 393 shall be in writing or reduced to writing as prescribed by the state agency and shall contain the following declaration which shall be signed by the applicant:

"I declare under the penalties of perjury that this application has been examined by me and to the best of my knowledge is a true and correct statement of every material point. I understand that a person convicted of perjury may be sentenced to imprisonment of not more than five years or to payment of a fine of not more than \$10,000, or both."

Sec. 23. **[256D.0516] EXPIRATION OF FOOD SUPPORT BENEFITS AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.**

Subdivision 1. **Expiration of food support benefits.** Food support benefits shall not be stored off line or expunged from a recipient's account unless the benefits have not been accessed for 12 months after the month they were issued.

Subd. 2. **Food support reporting requirements.** The commissioner of human services shall implement simplified reporting as permitted under the Food Stamp Act of 1977, as amended, and the food stamp regulations in Code of Federal Regulations, title 7, part 273. Food support recipient households required to report periodically shall not be required to report more often than one time every six months. This provision shall not apply to households receiving food benefits under the Minnesota family investment program waiver.



**EFFECTIVE DATE.** Subdivision 1 is effective February 1, 2008, and subdivision 2 is effective May 1, 2008.

Sec. 24. **[256F.15] GRANT PROGRAM FOR CRISIS NURSERIES.**

**Subdivision 1. Crisis nurseries.** The commissioner of human services shall establish a grant program to assist private and public agencies and organizations to provide crisis nurseries to offer services and temporary care to families experiencing crisis situations including children who are at high risk of abuse and neglect, children who have been abused and neglected, and children who are in families receiving child protective services. This service shall be provided without a fee for a maximum of 30 days in any year. Crisis nurseries shall provide short-term case management, family support services, parent education, crisis intervention, referrals, and resources, as needed.

(a) The crisis nurseries must provide a spectrum of services that may include, but are not limited to:

- (1) being available 24 hours a day, seven days a week;
- (2) providing services for children up to 72 hours at any one time;
- (3) providing short-term case management to bridge the gap between crisis and successful living;
- (4) making referrals for parents to counseling services and other community resources to help alleviate the underlying cause of the precipitating stress or crisis;
- (5) providing services without a fee for a maximum of 30 days in any year;
- (6) providing services to families with children from birth through 12 years of age, as services are available;
- (7) providing an immediate response to family needs and strengths with an initial assessment and intake interview, making referrals to appropriate agencies or programs, and providing temporary care of children, as needed;
- (8) maintaining the clients' confidentiality to the extent required by law, and also complying with statutory reporting requirements which may mandate a report to child protective services;
- (9) providing a volunteer component and support for volunteers;
- (10) providing preservice training and ongoing training to providers and volunteers;
- (11) evaluating the services provided by documenting use of services, the result of family referrals made to community resources, and how the services reduced the risk of maltreatment;
- (12) providing developmental assessments;
- (13) providing medical assessments as determined by using a risk screening tool;
- (14) providing parent education classes or programs that include parent-child interaction either on site or in collaboration with other community agencies; and
- (15) having a multidisciplinary advisory board which may include one or more parents who have used the crisis nursery services.

(b) The crisis nurseries are encouraged to provide opportunities for parents to volunteer, if appropriate.

(c) Parents shall retain custody of their children during placement in a crisis facility.

Subd. 2. **Fund distribution.** In distributing funds, the commissioner shall give priority consideration to agencies and organizations with experience in working with abused or neglected children and their families, and with children at high risk of abuse and neglect and their families, and serve communities which demonstrate the greatest need for these services. Funds shall be distributed to crisis nurseries according to a formula developed by the commissioner in consultation with the Minnesota Crisis Nursery Association. The formula shall include funding for all existing crisis nursery programs that have been previously funded through the Department of Human Services and that meet program requirements as specified in subdivision 1, paragraph (a), and consideration of factors reflecting the need for services in each service area, including but not limited to the number of children 18 years of age and under living in the service area, the percent of children 18 years of age and under living in poverty in the service area, and factors reflecting the cost of providing services, including but not limited to the number of hours of service provided in the previous year.

Sec. 25. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256J.01, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 6. **Legislative approval to move programs or activities.** The commissioner shall not move programs or activities funded with MFIP or TANF maintenance of effort funds to other funding sources without legislative approval.

Sec. 26. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256J.02, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Commissioner's authority to administer block grant funds.** The commissioner of human services is authorized to receive, administer, and expend funds available under the TANF block grant authorized under title I of Public Law 104-193, the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, and under Public Law 109-171, the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005.

Sec. 27. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256J.02, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Authority to transfer.** Subject to limitations of title I of Public Law 104-193, the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, as amended, and under Public Law 109-171, the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005, the legislature may transfer money from the TANF block grant to the child care fund under chapter 119B, or the Title XX block grant.

Sec. 28. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256J.021, is amended to read:

**256J.021 SEPARATE STATE PROGRAM FOR USE OF STATE MONEY.**

(a) ~~Until October 1, 2006, the commissioner of human services must treat MFIP expenditures made to or on behalf of any minor child under section 256J.02, subdivision 2, clause (1), who is a resident of this state under section 256J.12, and who is part of a two-parent eligible household as expenditures under a separately funded state program and report those expenditures to the federal Department of Health and Human Services as separate state program expenditures under Code of Federal Regulations, title 45, section 263.5. Families receiving assistance under this section shall comply with all applicable requirements in this chapter.~~

(b) Beginning October 1, 2006, the commissioner of human services must treat MFIP expenditures made to or on behalf of any minor child under section 256J.02, subdivision 2, clause (1), ~~who is a resident of this state under section 256J.12, and who is part of a two-parent eligible household, as expenditures under a separately funded state program. These expenditures shall not count toward the state's maintenance of effort (MOE) requirements under the federal Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) program except if counting certain families would allow the commissioner to avoid a federal penalty. Families receiving assistance under this section must comply with all applicable requirements in this chapter.~~

(c) Beginning July 1, 2007, the commissioner of human services shall treat MFIP expenditures made to or on behalf of any minor child who is part of a household that meets criteria in section 256J.575, subdivision 3, as expenditures under a separately funded state program under section 256J.575, subdivision 8.

Sec. 29. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256J.08, subdivision 65, is amended to read:

Subd. 65. **Participant.** (a) "Participant" means includes any of the following:

(1) a person who is currently receiving cash assistance or the food portion available through MFIP. A person who fails to withdraw or access electronically any portion of the person's cash and food assistance payment by the end of the payment month, who makes a written request for closure before the first of a payment month and repays cash and food assistance electronically issued for that payment month within that payment month, or who returns any uncashed assistance check and food coupons and withdraws from the program is not a participant;

(2) a person who withdraws a cash or food assistance payment by electronic transfer or receives and cashes an MFIP assistance check or food coupons and is subsequently determined to be ineligible for assistance for that period of time is a participant, regardless whether that assistance is repaid. The term "participant" includes;

(3) the caregiver relative and the minor child whose needs are included in the assistance payment;

(4) a person in an assistance unit who does not receive a cash and food assistance payment because the case has been suspended from MFIP is a participant;

(5) a person who receives cash payments under the diversionary work program under section 256J.95 is a participant; and

(6) a person who receives cash payments under family stabilization services under section 256J.575.

(b) "Participant" does not include a person who fails to withdraw or access electronically any portion of the person's cash and food assistance payment by the end of the payment month, who makes a written request for closure before the first of a payment month and repays cash and food assistance electronically issued for that payment month within that payment month, or who returns any uncashed assistance check and food coupons and withdraws from the program.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 30. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256J.20, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Other property limitations.** To be eligible for MFIP, the equity value of all nonexcluded real and personal property of the assistance unit must not exceed \$2,000 for applicants and \$5,000 for ongoing participants. The value of assets in clauses (1) to (19) must be excluded when determining the equity value of real and personal property:

~~(1) a licensed vehicle up to a loan value of less than or equal to \$7,500. The county agency shall apply any excess loan value as if it were equity value to the asset limit described in this section. If the assistance unit owns more than one licensed vehicle, the county agency shall determine the vehicle with the highest loan value and count only the loan value over \$7,500, the loan value of all additional vehicles and exclude the combined loan value of less than or equal to \$7,500. The county agency shall apply any excess loan value as if it were equity value to the asset limit described in this section, excluding: (i) the value of one vehicle per physically disabled person when the vehicle is needed to transport the disabled unit member; this exclusion does not apply to mentally disabled people; (ii) the value of special equipment for a disabled member of the assistance unit; and (iii) any vehicle used for long-distance travel, other than daily commuting, for the employment of a unit member.~~

~~The county agency shall count the loan value of all other vehicles and apply this amount as if it were equity value to the asset limit described in this section. To establish the loan value of vehicles, a county agency must use the N.A.D.A. Official Used Car Guide, Midwest Edition, for newer model cars. When a vehicle is not listed in the guidebook, or when the applicant or participant disputes the loan value listed in the guidebook as unreasonable given the condition of the particular vehicle, the county agency may require the applicant or participant document the loan value by securing a written statement from a motor vehicle dealer licensed under section 168.27, stating the amount that the dealer would pay to purchase the vehicle. The county agency shall reimburse the applicant or participant for the cost of a written statement that documents a lower loan value;~~

(2) the value of life insurance policies for members of the assistance unit;

(3) one burial plot per member of an assistance unit;

(4) the value of personal property needed to produce earned income, including tools, implements, farm animals, inventory, business loans, business checking and savings accounts used at least annually and used exclusively for the operation of a self-employment business, and any motor vehicles if at least 50 percent of the vehicle's use is to produce income and if the vehicles are essential for the self-employment business;

(5) the value of personal property not otherwise specified which is commonly used by household members in day-to-day living such as clothing, necessary household furniture, equipment, and other basic maintenance items essential for daily living;

(6) the value of real and personal property owned by a recipient of Supplemental Security Income or Minnesota supplemental aid;

(7) the value of corrective payments, but only for the month in which the payment is received and for the following month;

(8) a mobile home or other vehicle used by an applicant or participant as the applicant's or participant's home;

(9) money in a separate escrow account that is needed to pay real estate taxes or insurance and

that is used for this purpose;

(10) money held in escrow to cover employee FICA, employee tax withholding, sales tax withholding, employee worker compensation, business insurance, property rental, property taxes, and other costs that are paid at least annually, but less often than monthly;

(11) monthly assistance payments for the current month's or short-term emergency needs under section 256J.626, subdivision 2;

(12) the value of school loans, grants, or scholarships for the period they are intended to cover;

(13) payments listed in section 256J.21, subdivision 2, clause (9), which are held in escrow for a period not to exceed three months to replace or repair personal or real property;

(14) income received in a budget month through the end of the payment month;

(15) savings from earned income of a minor child or a minor parent that are set aside in a separate account designated specifically for future education or employment costs;

(16) the federal earned income credit, Minnesota working family credit, state and federal income tax refunds, state homeowners and renters credits under chapter 290A, property tax rebates and other federal or state tax rebates in the month received and the following month;

(17) payments excluded under federal law as long as those payments are held in a separate account from any nonexcluded funds;

(18) the assets of children ineligible to receive MFIP benefits because foster care or adoption assistance payments are made on their behalf; and

(19) the assets of persons whose income is excluded under section 256J.21, subdivision 2, clause (43).

Sec. 31. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256J.21, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Income exclusions.** The following must be excluded in determining a family's available income:

(1) payments for basic care, difficulty of care, and clothing allowances received for providing family foster care to children or adults under Minnesota Rules, parts 9555.5050 to 9555.6265, 9560.0521, and 9560.0650 to 9560.0655, and payments received and used for care and maintenance of a third-party beneficiary who is not a household member;

(2) reimbursements for employment training received through the Workforce Investment Act of 1998, United States Code, title 20, chapter 73, section 9201;

(3) reimbursement for out-of-pocket expenses incurred while performing volunteer services, jury duty, employment, or informal carpooling arrangements directly related to employment;

(4) all educational assistance, except the county agency must count graduate student teaching assistantships, fellowships, and other similar paid work as earned income and, after allowing deductions for any unmet and necessary educational expenses, shall count scholarships or grants awarded to graduate students that do not require teaching or research as unearned income;

(5) loans, regardless of purpose, from public or private lending institutions, governmental lending institutions, or governmental agencies;

(6) loans from private individuals, regardless of purpose, provided an applicant or participant documents that the lender expects repayment;

(7)(i) state income tax refunds; and

(ii) federal income tax refunds;

(8)(i) federal earned income credits;

(ii) Minnesota working family credits;

(iii) state homeowners and renters credits under chapter 290A; and

(iv) federal or state tax rebates;

(9) funds received for reimbursement, replacement, or rebate of personal or real property when these payments are made by public agencies, awarded by a court, solicited through public appeal, or made as a grant by a federal agency, state or local government, or disaster assistance organizations, subsequent to a presidential declaration of disaster;

(10) the portion of an insurance settlement that is used to pay medical, funeral, and burial expenses, or to repair or replace insured property;

(11) reimbursements for medical expenses that cannot be paid by medical assistance;

(12) payments by a vocational rehabilitation program administered by the state under chapter 268A, except those payments that are for current living expenses;

(13) in-kind income, including any payments directly made by a third party to a provider of goods and services;

(14) assistance payments to correct underpayments, but only for the month in which the payment is received;

(15) payments for short-term emergency needs under section 256J.626, subdivision 2;

(16) funeral and cemetery payments as provided by section 256.935;

(17) nonrecurring cash gifts of \$30 or less, not exceeding \$30 per participant in a calendar month;

(18) any form of energy assistance payment made through Public Law 97-35, Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Act of 1981, payments made directly to energy providers by other public and private agencies, and any form of credit or rebate payment issued by energy providers;

(19) Supplemental Security Income (SSI), including retroactive SSI payments and other income of an SSI recipient, except as described in section 256J.37, subdivision 3b;

(20) Minnesota supplemental aid, including retroactive payments;

(21) proceeds from the sale of real or personal property;

(22) state adoption assistance payments under section 259.67, and up to an equal amount of

county adoption assistance payments;

(23) state-funded family subsidy program payments made under section 252.32 to help families care for children with developmental disabilities, consumer support grant funds under section 256.476, and resources and services for a disabled household member under one of the home and community-based waiver services programs under chapter 256B;

(24) interest payments and dividends from property that is not excluded from and that does not exceed the asset limit;

(25) rent rebates;

(26) income earned by a minor caregiver, minor child through age 6, or a minor child who is at least a half-time student in an approved elementary or secondary education program;

(27) income earned by a caregiver under age 20 who is at least a half-time student in an approved elementary or secondary education program;

(28) MFIP child care payments under section 119B.05;

(29) all other payments made through MFIP to support a caregiver's pursuit of greater economic stability;

(30) income a participant receives related to shared living expenses;

(31) reverse mortgages;

(32) benefits provided by the Child Nutrition Act of 1966, United States Code, title 42, chapter 13A, sections 1771 to 1790;

(33) benefits provided by the women, infants, and children (WIC) nutrition program, United States Code, title 42, chapter 13A, section 1786;

(34) benefits from the National School Lunch Act, United States Code, title 42, chapter 13, sections 1751 to 1769e;

(35) relocation assistance for displaced persons under the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, United States Code, title 42, chapter 61, subchapter II, section 4636, or the National Housing Act, United States Code, title 12, chapter 13, sections 1701 to 1750jj;

(36) benefits from the Trade Act of 1974, United States Code, title 19, chapter 12, part 2, sections 2271 to 2322;

(37) war reparations payments to Japanese Americans and Aleuts under United States Code, title 50, sections 1989 to 1989d;

(38) payments to veterans or their dependents as a result of legal settlements regarding Agent Orange or other chemical exposure under Public Law 101-239, section 10405, paragraph (a)(2)(E);

(39) income that is otherwise specifically excluded from MFIP consideration in federal law, state law, or federal regulation;

(40) security and utility deposit refunds;

(41) American Indian tribal land settlements excluded under Public Laws 98-123, 98-124, and 99-377 to the Mississippi Band Chippewa Indians of White Earth, Leech Lake, and Mille Lacs reservations and payments to members of the White Earth Band, under United States Code, title 25, chapter 9, section 331, and chapter 16, section 1407;

(42) all income of the minor parent's parents and stepparents when determining the grant for the minor parent in households that include a minor parent living with parents or stepparents on MFIP with other children;

(43) income of the minor parent's parents and stepparents equal to 200 percent of the federal poverty guideline for a family size not including the minor parent and the minor parent's child in households that include a minor parent living with parents or stepparents not on MFIP when determining the grant for the minor parent. The remainder of income is deemed as specified in section 256J.37, subdivision 1b;

(44) payments made to children eligible for relative custody assistance under section 257.85;

(45) vendor payments for goods and services made on behalf of a client unless the client has the option of receiving the payment in cash; ~~and~~

(46) the principal portion of a contract for deed payment; and

(47) cash payments to individuals enrolled for full-time service as a volunteer under AmeriCorps programs including AmeriCorps VISTA, AmeriCorps State, AmeriCorps National, and AmeriCorps NCCC.

Sec. 32. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256J.32, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

Subd. 6. **Recertification.** The county agency shall recertify eligibility in an annual face-to-face interview with the participant and verify the following:

(1) presence of the minor child in the home, if questionable;

(2) income, unless excluded, including self-employment expenses used as a deduction or deposits or withdrawals from business accounts;

(3) assets when the value is within \$200 of the asset limit;

(4) information to establish an exception under section 256J.24, subdivision 9, if questionable; ~~and~~

(5) inconsistent information, if related to eligibility; and

(6) whether a single caregiver household meets requirements in section 256J.575, subdivision 3.

Sec. 33. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256J.37, subdivision 3a, is amended to read:

Subd. 3a. **Rental subsidies; unearned income.** (a) Effective July 1, 2003, the county agency shall count ~~\$50~~ \$25 of the value of public and assisted rental subsidies provided through the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) as unearned income to the cash portion of the MFIP grant. The full amount of the subsidy must be counted as unearned income when the subsidy is less than ~~\$50~~ \$25. The income from this subsidy shall be budgeted according to section 256J.34.



(b) The provisions of this subdivision shall not apply to an MFIP assistance unit which includes a participant who is:

(1) age 60 or older;

(2) a caregiver who is suffering from an illness, injury, or incapacity that has been certified by a qualified professional when the illness, injury, or incapacity is expected to continue for more than 30 days and prevents the person from obtaining or retaining employment; or

(3) a caregiver whose presence in the home is required due to the illness or incapacity of another member in the assistance unit, a relative in the household, or a foster child in the household when the illness or incapacity and the need for the participant's presence in the home has been certified by a qualified professional and is expected to continue for more than 30 days.

(c) The provisions of this subdivision shall not apply to an MFIP assistance unit where the parental caregiver is an SSI recipient.

(d) Prior to implementing this provision, the commissioner must identify the MFIP participants subject to this provision and provide written notice to these participants at least 30 days before the first grant reduction. The notice must inform the participant of the basis for the potential grant reduction, the exceptions to the provision, if any, and inform the participant of the steps necessary to claim an exception. A person who is found not to meet one of the exceptions to the provision must be notified and informed of the right to a fair hearing under section 256J.40. The notice must also inform the participant that the participant may be eligible for a rent reduction resulting from a reduction in the MFIP grant and encourage the participant to contact the local housing authority.

Sec. 34. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256J.42, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Time limit.** (a) Except as otherwise provided for in this section, an assistance unit in which any adult caregiver has received 60 months of cash assistance funded in whole or in part by the TANF block grant in this or any other state or United States territory, or from a tribal TANF program, MFIP, the AFDC program formerly codified in sections 256.72 to 256.87, or the family general assistance program formerly codified in sections 256D.01 to 256D.23, funded in whole or in part by state appropriations, is ineligible to receive MFIP. Any cash assistance funded with TANF dollars in this or any other state or United States territory, or from a tribal TANF program, or MFIP assistance funded in whole or in part by state appropriations, that was received by the unit on or after the date TANF was implemented, including any assistance received in states or United States territories of prior residence, counts toward the 60-month limitation. Months during which any cash assistance is received by an assistance unit with a mandatory member who is disqualified for wrongfully obtaining public assistance under section 256.98, subdivision 8, counts toward the time limit for the disqualified member. The 60-month limit applies to a minor caregiver except under subdivision 5. The 60-month time period does not need to be consecutive months for this provision to apply.

(b) The months before July 1998 in which individuals received assistance as part of the field trials as an MFIP, MFIP-R, or MFIP or MFIP-R comparison group family are not included in the 60-month time limit.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective October 1, 2007.

Sec. 35. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256J.46, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 3. **Restrictions on sanctions.** A participant shall not be sanctioned for failure to meet the agreed upon hours in a participant's employment plan under section 256J.521, subdivision 2, when the participant fails to meet the agreed upon hours of participation in paid employment because the participant is not eligible for holiday pay and the participant's place of employment is closed for a holiday.

Sec. 36. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256J.49, subdivision 13, is amended to read:

Subd. 13. **Work activity.** "Work activity" means any activity in a participant's approved employment plan that leads to employment. For purposes of the MFIP program, this includes activities that meet the definition of work activity under the participation requirements of TANF. Work activity includes:

(1) unsubsidized employment, including work study and paid apprenticeships or internships;

(2) subsidized private sector or public sector employment, including grant diversion as specified in section 256J.69, on-the-job training as specified in section 256J.66, the self-employment investment demonstration program (SEID) as specified in section 256J.65, paid work experience, and supported work when a wage subsidy is provided;

(3) unpaid work experience, including community service, volunteer work, the community work experience program as specified in section 256J.67, unpaid apprenticeships or internships, and supported work when a wage subsidy is not provided; Unpaid work experience is only an option if the participant has been unable to obtain or maintain paid employment in the competitive labor market, and no paid work experience programs are available to the participant. Unless a participant consents to participating in unpaid work experience, the participant's employment plan may only include unpaid work experience if including the unpaid work experience in the plan will meet the following criteria:

(i) the unpaid work experience will provide the participant specific skills or experience that cannot be obtained through other work activity options where the participant resides or is willing to reside; and

(ii) the skills or experience gained through the unpaid work experience will result in higher wages for the participant than the participant could earn without the unpaid work experience;

(4) job search including job readiness assistance, job clubs, job placement, job-related counseling, and job retention services;

(5) job readiness education, including English as a second language (ESL) or functional work literacy classes as limited by the provisions of section 256J.531, subdivision 2, general educational development (GED) course work, high school completion, and adult basic education as limited by the provisions of section 256J.531, subdivision 1;

(6) job skills training directly related to employment, including education and training that can reasonably be expected to lead to employment, as limited by the provisions of section 256J.53;

(7) providing child care services to a participant who is working in a community service program;

(8) activities included in the employment plan that is developed under section 256J.521, subdivision 3; and

(9) preemployment activities including chemical and mental health assessments, treatment, and services; learning disabilities services; child protective services; family stabilization services; or other programs designed to enhance employability.

Sec. 37. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256J.521, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Assessments.** (a) For purposes of MFIP employment services, assessment is a continuing process of gathering information related to employability for the purpose of identifying both participant's strengths and strategies for coping with issues that interfere with employment. The job counselor must use information from the assessment process to develop and update the employment plan under subdivision 2 or 3, as appropriate, ~~and~~ to determine whether the participant qualifies for a family violence waiver including an employment plan under subdivision 3, ~~and to determine whether the participant should be referred to family stabilization services under section 256J.575.~~

(b) The scope of assessment must cover at least the following areas:

(1) basic information about the participant's ability to obtain and retain employment, including: a review of the participant's education level; interests, skills, and abilities; prior employment or work experience; transferable work skills; child care and transportation needs;

(2) identification of personal and family circumstances that impact the participant's ability to obtain and retain employment, including: any special needs of the children, the level of English proficiency, family violence issues, and any involvement with social services or the legal system;

(3) the results of a mental and chemical health screening tool designed by the commissioner and results of the brief screening tool for special learning needs. Screening tools for mental and chemical health and special learning needs must be approved by the commissioner and may only be administered by job counselors or county staff trained in using such screening tools. The commissioner shall work with county agencies to develop protocols for referrals and follow-up actions after screens are administered to participants, including guidance on how employment plans may be modified based upon outcomes of certain screens. Participants must be told of the purpose of the screens and how the information will be used to assist the participant in identifying and overcoming barriers to employment. Screening for mental and chemical health and special learning needs must be completed by participants who are unable to find suitable employment after six weeks of job search under subdivision 2, paragraph (b), and participants who are determined to have barriers to employment under subdivision 2, paragraph (d). Failure to complete the screens will result in sanction under section 256J.46; and

(4) a comprehensive review of participation and progress for participants who have received MFIP assistance and have not worked in unsubsidized employment during the past 12 months. The purpose of the review is to determine the need for additional services and supports, including placement in subsidized employment or unpaid work experience under section 256J.49, subdivision 13, or referral to family stabilization services under section 256J.575.

(c) Information gathered during a caregiver's participation in the diversionary work program under section 256J.95 must be incorporated into the assessment process.

(d) The job counselor may require the participant to complete a professional chemical use assessment to be performed according to the rules adopted under section 254A.03, subdivision 3,

including provisions in the administrative rules which recognize the cultural background of the participant, or a professional psychological assessment as a component of the assessment process, when the job counselor has a reasonable belief, based on objective evidence, that a participant's ability to obtain and retain suitable employment is impaired by a medical condition. The job counselor may assist the participant with arranging services, including child care assistance and transportation, necessary to meet needs identified by the assessment. Data gathered as part of a professional assessment must be classified and disclosed according to the provisions in section 13.46.

Sec. 38. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256J.521, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Employment plan; contents.** (a) Based on the assessment under subdivision 1, the job counselor and the participant must develop an employment plan that includes participation in activities and hours that meet the requirements of section 256J.55, subdivision 1. The purpose of the employment plan is to identify for each participant the most direct path to unsubsidized employment and any subsequent steps that support long-term economic stability. The employment plan should be developed using the highest level of activity appropriate for the participant. Activities must be chosen from clauses (1) to (6), which are listed in order of preference. Notwithstanding this order of preference for activities, priority must be given for activities related to a family violence waiver when developing the employment plan. The employment plan must also list the specific steps the participant will take to obtain employment, including steps necessary for the participant to progress from one level of activity to another, and a timetable for completion of each step. Levels of activity include:

- (1) unsubsidized employment;
- (2) job search;
- (3) subsidized employment or unpaid work experience;
- (4) unsubsidized employment and job readiness education or job skills training;
- (5) unsubsidized employment or unpaid work experience and activities related to a family violence waiver or preemployment needs; and
- (6) activities related to a family violence waiver or preemployment needs.

(b) Participants who are determined to possess sufficient skills such that the participant is likely to succeed in obtaining unsubsidized employment must job search at least 30 hours per week for up to six weeks and accept any offer of suitable employment. The remaining hours necessary to meet the requirements of section 256J.55, subdivision 1, may be met through participation in other work activities under section 256J.49, subdivision 13. The participant's employment plan must specify, at a minimum: (1) whether the job search is supervised or unsupervised; (2) support services that will be provided; and (3) how frequently the participant must report to the job counselor. Participants who are unable to find suitable employment after six weeks must meet with the job counselor to determine whether other activities in paragraph (a) should be incorporated into the employment plan. Job search activities which are continued after six weeks must be structured and supervised.

(c) Beginning July 1, 2004, activities and hourly requirements in the employment plan may be adjusted as necessary to accommodate the personal and family circumstances of participants identified under section 256J.561, subdivision 2, paragraph (d). Participants who no longer meet

the provisions of section 256J.561, subdivision 2, paragraph (d), must meet with the job counselor within ten days of the determination to revise the employment plan.

(d) Participants who are determined to have barriers to obtaining or retaining employment that will not be overcome during six weeks of job search under paragraph (b) must work with the job counselor to develop an employment plan that addresses those barriers by incorporating appropriate activities from paragraph (a), clauses (1) to (6). The employment plan must include enough hours to meet the participation requirements in section 256J.55, subdivision 1, unless a compelling reason to require fewer hours is noted in the participant's file.

(e) The job counselor and the participant must sign the employment plan to indicate agreement on the contents.

(f) Except as provided under paragraph (g), failure to develop or comply with activities in the plan, or voluntarily quitting suitable employment without good cause, will result in the imposition of a sanction under section 256J.46.

(g) When a participant fails to meet the agreed upon hours of participation in paid employment because the participant is not eligible for holiday pay and the participant's place of employment is closed for a holiday, the job counselor shall not impose a sanction or increase the hours of participation in any other activity, including paid employment, to offset the hours that were missed due to the holiday.

(f) (h) Employment plans must be reviewed at least every three months to determine whether activities and hourly requirements should be revised. The job counselor is encouraged to allow participants who are participating in at least 20 hours of work activities to also participate in education and training activities in order to meet the federal hourly participations rates.

Sec. 39. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256J.53, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Approval of postsecondary education or training.** (a) In order for a postsecondary education or training program to be an approved activity in an employment plan, the participant must be working in unsubsidized employment at least 20 hours per week. plan must include additional work activities if the education and training activities do not meet the minimum hours required to meet the federal work participation rate under Code of Federal Regulations, title 45, sections 261.31 and 261.35.

(b) Participants seeking approval of a postsecondary education or training plan must provide documentation that:

- (1) the employment goal can only be met with the additional education or training;
- (2) there are suitable employment opportunities that require the specific education or training in the area in which the participant resides or is willing to reside;
- (3) the education or training will result in significantly higher wages for the participant than the participant could earn without the education or training;
- (4) the participant can meet the requirements for admission into the program; and
- (5) there is a reasonable expectation that the participant will complete the training program based on such factors as the participant's MFIP assessment, previous education, training, and work history;

current motivation; and changes in previous circumstances.

~~(c) The hourly unsubsidized employment requirement does not apply for intensive education or training programs lasting 12 weeks or less when full-time attendance is required.~~

~~(d) Participants with an approved employment plan in place on July 1, 2003, which includes more than 12 months of postsecondary education or training shall be allowed to complete that plan provided that hourly requirements in section 256J.55, subdivision 1, and conditions specified in paragraph (b), and subdivisions 3 and 5 are met. A participant whose case is subsequently closed for three months or less for reasons other than noncompliance with program requirements and who returns to MFIP shall be allowed to complete that plan provided that hourly requirements in section 256J.55, subdivision 1, and conditions specified in paragraph (b) and subdivisions 3 and 5 are met.~~

Sec. 40. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256J.55, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Participation requirements.** (a) All caregivers must participate in employment services under sections 256J.515 to 256J.57 concurrent with receipt of MFIP assistance.

(b) Until July 1, 2004, participants who meet the requirements of section 256J.56 are exempt from participation requirements.

(c) Participants under paragraph (a) must develop and comply with an employment plan under section 256J.521 or section 256J.54 in the case of a participant under the age of 20 who has not obtained a high school diploma or its equivalent.

(d) With the exception of participants under the age of 20 who must meet the education requirements of section 256J.54, all participants must meet the hourly participation requirements of TANF or the hourly requirements listed in clauses (1) to (3), whichever is higher.

(1) In single-parent families with no children under six years of age, the job counselor and the caregiver must develop an employment plan that includes 30 to 35 hours per week of work activities 130 hours per month of work activities.

(2) In single-parent families with a child under six years of age, the job counselor and the caregiver must develop an employment plan that includes 20 to 35 hours per week of work activities 87 hours per month of work activities.

(3) In two-parent families, the job counselor and the caregivers must develop employment plans which result in a combined total of at least 55 hours per week of work activities.

(e) Failure to participate in employment services, including the requirement to develop and comply with an employment plan, including hourly requirements, without good cause under section 256J.57, shall result in the imposition of a sanction under section 256J.46.

Sec. 41. **[256J.575] FAMILY STABILIZATION SERVICES.**

Subdivision 1. **Purpose.** (a) The family stabilization services serve families who are not making significant progress within the Minnesota family investment program (MFIP) due to a variety of barriers to employment.

(b) The goal of the services is to stabilize and improve the lives of families at risk of long-term welfare dependency or family instability due to employment barriers such as physical disability,

mental disability, age, or providing care for a disabled household member. These services promote and support families to achieve the greatest possible degree of self-sufficiency.

Subd. 2. **Definitions.** The terms used in this section have the meanings given them in paragraphs (a) to (d).

(a) "Case manager" means the county-designated staff person or employment services counselor.

(b) "Case management" means the services provided by or through the county agency or through the employment services agency to participating families, including assessment, information, referrals, and assistance in the preparation and implementation of a family stabilization plan under subdivision 5.

(c) "Family stabilization plan" means a plan developed by a case manager and the participant, which identifies the participant's most appropriate path to unsubsidized employment, family stability, and barrier reduction, taking into account the family's circumstances.

(d) "Family stabilization services" means programs, activities, and services in this section that provide participants and their family members with assistance regarding, but not limited to:

(1) obtaining and retaining unsubsidized employment;

(2) family stability;

(3) economic stability; and

(4) barrier reduction.

The goal of the services is to achieve the greatest degree of economic self-sufficiency and family well-being possible for the family under the circumstances.

Subd. 3. **Eligibility.** (a) The following MFIP or diversionary work program (DWP) participants are eligible for the services under this section:

(1) a participant who meets the requirements for or has been granted a hardship extension under section 256J.425, subdivision 2 or 3, except that it is not necessary for the participant to have reached or be approaching 60 months of eligibility for this section to apply;

(2) a participant who is applying for supplemental security income or Social Security disability insurance; and

(3) a participant who is a noncitizen who has been in the United States for 12 or fewer months.

(b) Families must meet all other eligibility requirements for MFIP established in this chapter. Families are eligible for financial assistance to the same extent as if they were participating in MFIP.

(c) A participant under paragraph (a), clause (3), must be provided with English as a second language opportunities and skills training for up to 12 months. After 12 months, the case manager and participant must determine whether the participant should continue with English as a second language classes or skills training, or both, and continue to receive family stabilization services.

Subd. 4. **Universal participation.** All caregivers must participate in family stabilization services as defined in subdivision 2.

Subd. 5. **Case management; family stabilization plans; coordinated services.** (a) The county agency or employment services provider shall provide family stabilization services to families through a case management model. A case manager shall be assigned to each participating family within 30 days after the family is determined to be eligible for family stabilization services. The case manager, with the full involvement of the participant, shall recommend, and the county agency shall establish and modify as necessary, a family stabilization plan for each participating family. If a participant is already assigned to a county case manager or a county-designated case manager in social services, disability services, or housing services that case manager already assigned may be the case manager for purposes of these services.

(b) The family stabilization plan must include:

(1) each participant's plan for long-term self-sufficiency, including an employment goal where applicable;

(2) an assessment of each participant's strengths and barriers, and any special circumstances of the participant's family that impact, or are likely to impact, the participant's progress towards the goals in the plan; and

(3) an identification of the services, supports, education, training, and accommodations needed to reduce or overcome any barriers to enable the family to achieve self-sufficiency and to fulfill each caregiver's personal and family responsibilities.

(c) The case manager and the participant shall meet within 30 days of the family's referral to the case manager. The initial family stabilization plan must be completed within 30 days of the first meeting with the case manager. The case manager shall establish a schedule for periodic review of the family stabilization plan that includes personal contact with the participant at least once per month. In addition, the case manager shall review and, if necessary, modify the plan under the following circumstances:

(1) there is a lack of satisfactory progress in achieving the goals of the plan;

(2) the participant has lost unsubsidized or subsidized employment;

(3) a family member has failed or is unable to comply with a family stabilization plan requirement;

(4) services, supports, or other activities required by the plan are unavailable;

(5) changes to the plan are needed to promote the well-being of the children; or

(6) the participant and case manager determine that the plan is no longer appropriate for any other reason.

Subd. 6. **Cooperation with services requirements.** (a) To be eligible, a participant shall comply with paragraphs (b) to (d).

(b) Participants shall engage in family stabilization plan services for the appropriate number of hours per week that the activities are scheduled and available, unless good cause exists for not doing so, as defined in section 256J.57, subdivision 1. The appropriate number of hours must be based on the participant's plan.



(c) The case manager shall review the participant's progress toward the goals in the family stabilization plan every six months to determine whether conditions have changed, including whether revisions to the plan are needed.

(d) A participant's requirement to comply with any or all family stabilization plan requirements under this subdivision is excused when the case management services, training and educational services, or family support services identified in the participant's family stabilization plan are unavailable for reasons beyond the control of the participant, including when money appropriated is not sufficient to provide the services.

Subd. 7. **Sanctions.** (a) The financial assistance grant of a participating family is reduced according to section 256J.46, if a participating adult fails without good cause to comply or continue to comply with the family stabilization plan requirements in this subdivision, unless compliance has been excused under subdivision 6, paragraph (e).

(b) Given the purpose of the family stabilization services in this section and the nature of the underlying family circumstances that act as barriers to both employment and full compliance with program requirements, there must be a review by the county agency prior to imposing a sanction to determine whether the plan was appropriated to the needs of the participant and family, and that the participant in all ways had the ability to comply with the plan, as confirmed by a behavioral health or medical professional.

(c) Prior to the imposition of a sanction, the county agency or employment services provider shall review the participant's case to determine if the family stabilization plan is still appropriate and meet with the participant face-to-face. The participant may bring an advocate to the face-to-face meeting.

During the face-to-face meeting, the county agency shall:

(1) determine whether the continued noncompliance can be explained and mitigated by providing a needed family stabilization service, as defined in subdivision 2, paragraph (d);

(2) determine whether the participant qualifies for a good cause exception under section 256J.57, or if the sanction is for noncooperation with child support requirements, determine if the participant qualifies for a good cause exemption under section 256.741, subdivision 10;

(3) determine whether activities in the family stabilization plan are appropriate based on the family's circumstances;

(4) explain the consequences of continuing noncompliance;

(5) identify other resources that may be available to the participant to meet the needs of the family; and

(6) inform the participant of the right to appeal under section 256J.40.

If the lack of an identified activity or service can explain the noncompliance, the county shall work with the participant to provide the identified activity.

(d) If the participant fails to come to the face-to-face meeting, the case manager or a designee shall attempt at least one home visit. If a face-to-face meeting is not conducted, the county agency shall send the participant a written notice that includes the information under paragraph (c).

(e) After the requirements of paragraphs (c) and (d) are met and prior to imposition of a sanction, the county agency shall provide a notice of intent to sanction under section 256J.57, subdivision 2, and, when applicable, a notice of adverse action under section 256J.31.

(f) Section 256J.57 applies to this section except to the extent that it is modified by this subdivision.

Subd. 8. **Funding.** (a) The commissioner of human services shall treat MFIP expenditures made to or on behalf of any minor child under this section, who is part of a household that meets criteria in subdivision 3, as expenditures under a separately funded state program. These expenditures shall not count toward the state's maintenance of effort requirements under the federal TANF program.

(b) A family is no longer part of a separately funded program under this section if the caregiver no longer meets the criteria for family stabilization services in subdivision 3, or if it is determined at recertification that a caregiver with a child under the age of six is working at least 87 hours per month in paid or unpaid employment, or a caregiver without a child under the age of six is working at least 130 hours per month in paid or unpaid employment, whichever occurs sooner.

Sec. 42. **[256J.621] WORK PARTICIPATION BONUS.**

(a) Upon exiting the diversionary work program (DWP) or upon terminating MFIP cash assistance with earnings, a participant who is employed may be eligible for transitional assistance of \$100 per month to assist in meeting the family's basic needs as the participant continues to move toward self-sufficiency.

(b) To be eligible for a transitional assistance payment, the participant shall not receive MFIP cash assistance or diversionary work program assistance during the month and the participant or participants must meet the following work requirements:

(1) if the participant is a single caregiver and has a child under six years of age, the participant must be employed at least 87 hours per month;

(2) if the participant is a single caregiver and does not have a child under six years of age, the participant must be employed at least 130 hours per month; or

(3) if the household is a two-parent family, at least one of the parents must be employed an average of at least 130 hours per month.

Whenever a participant exits the diversionary work program or is terminated from MFIP cash assistance and meets the other criteria in this section, transitional assistance is available for up to 24 consecutive months.

(c) Expenditures on the program are maintenance of effort state funds for participants under paragraph (b), clauses (1) and (2). Expenditures for participants under paragraph (b), clause (3), are nonmaintenance of effort funds. Months in which a participant receives transitional assistance under this section do not count toward the participant's MFIP 60-month time limit.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective February 1, 2009.

Sec. 43. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256J.626, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Consolidated fund.** The consolidated fund is established to support counties

and tribes in meeting their duties under this chapter. Counties and tribes must use funds from the consolidated fund to develop programs and services that are designed to improve participant outcomes as measured in section 256J.751, subdivision 2. Counties may use the funds for any allowable expenditures under subdivision 2, including case management. Tribes may use the funds for any allowable expenditures under subdivision 2, including case management, except those in subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clauses (1) and (6).

Sec. 44. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256J.626, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Allowable expenditures.** (a) The commissioner must restrict expenditures under the consolidated fund to benefits and services allowed under title IV-A of the federal Social Security Act. Allowable expenditures under the consolidated fund may include, but are not limited to:

(1) short-term, nonrecurring shelter and utility needs that are excluded from the definition of assistance under Code of Federal Regulations, title 45, section 260.31, for families who meet the residency requirement in section 256J.12, subdivisions 1 and 1a. Payments under this subdivision are not considered TANF cash assistance and are not counted towards the 60-month time limit;

(2) transportation needed to obtain or retain employment or to participate in other approved work activities or activities under a family stabilization plan;

(3) direct and administrative costs of staff to deliver employment services for MFIP ~~or~~ the diversionary work program, or family stabilization services; to administer financial assistance; and to provide specialized services intended to assist hard-to-employ participants to transition to work or transition from family stabilization services to MFIP;

(4) costs of education and training including functional work literacy and English as a second language;

(5) cost of work supports including tools, clothing, boots, telephone service, and other work-related expenses;

(6) county administrative expenses as defined in Code of Federal Regulations, title 45, section 260(b);

(7) services to parenting and pregnant teens;

(8) supported work;

(9) wage subsidies;

(10) child care needed for MFIP ~~or~~ the diversionary work program, or family stabilization services participants to participate in social services;

(11) child care to ensure that families leaving MFIP or diversionary work program will continue to receive child care assistance from the time the family no longer qualifies for transition year child care until an opening occurs under the basic sliding fee child care program; ~~and~~

(12) services to help noncustodial parents who live in Minnesota and have minor children receiving MFIP or DWP assistance, but do not live in the same household as the child, obtain or retain employment; and

(13) services to help families participating in family stabilization services achieve the greatest possible degree of self-sufficiency.

(b) Administrative costs that are not matched with county funds as provided in subdivision 8 may not exceed 7.5 percent of a county's or 15 percent of a tribe's allocation under this section. The commissioner shall define administrative costs for purposes of this subdivision.

(c) The commissioner may waive the cap on administrative costs for a county or tribe that elects to provide an approved supported employment, unpaid work, or community work experience program for a major segment of the county's or tribe's MFIP population. The county or tribe must apply for the waiver on forms provided by the commissioner. In no case shall total administrative costs exceed the TANF limits.

Sec. 45. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256J.626, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Eligibility for services.** Families with a minor child, a pregnant woman, or a noncustodial parent of a minor child receiving assistance, with incomes below 200 percent of the federal poverty guideline for a family of the applicable size, are eligible for services funded under the consolidated fund. Counties and tribes must give priority to families currently receiving MFIP ~~or~~, the diversionary work program, or family stabilization services, and families at risk of receiving MFIP or diversionary work program.

Sec. 46. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256J.626, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **County and tribal biennial service agreements.** (a) Effective January 1, 2004, and each two-year period thereafter, each county and tribe must have in place an approved biennial service agreement related to the services and programs in this chapter. In counties with a city of the first class with a population over 300,000, the county must consider a service agreement that includes a jointly developed plan for the delivery of employment services with the city. Counties may collaborate to develop multicounty, multitribal, or regional service agreements.

(b) The service agreements will be completed in a form prescribed by the commissioner. The agreement must include:

(1) a statement of the needs of the service population and strengths and resources in the community;

(2) numerical goals for participant outcomes measures to be accomplished during the biennial period. The commissioner may identify outcomes from section 256J.751, subdivision 2, as core outcomes for all counties and tribes;

(3) strategies the county or tribe will pursue to achieve the outcome targets. Strategies must include specification of how funds under this section will be used and may include community partnerships that will be established or strengthened; ~~and~~

(4) strategies the county or tribe will pursue under family stabilization services ; and

(5) other items prescribed by the commissioner in consultation with counties and tribes.

(c) The commissioner shall provide each county and tribe with information needed to complete an agreement, including: (1) information on MFIP cases in the county or tribe; (2) comparisons with the rest of the state; (3) baseline performance on outcome measures; and (4) promising program

practices.

(d) The service agreement must be submitted to the commissioner by October 15, 2003, and October 15 of each second year thereafter. The county or tribe must allow a period of not less than 30 days prior to the submission of the agreement to solicit comments from the public on the contents of the agreement.

(e) The commissioner must, within 60 days of receiving each county or tribal service agreement, inform the county or tribe if the service agreement is approved. If the service agreement is not approved, the commissioner must inform the county or tribe of any revisions needed prior to approval.

(f) The service agreement in this subdivision supersedes the plan requirements of section 116L.88.

Sec. 47. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256J.626, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **Innovation projects.** Beginning January 1, 2005, no more than \$3,000,000 of the funds annually appropriated to the commissioner for use in the consolidated fund shall be available to the commissioner for projects testing innovative approaches to improving outcomes for MFIP participants, family stabilization services participants, and persons at risk of receiving MFIP as detailed in subdivision 3, and for providing incentives to counties and tribes that exceed performance. Projects shall be targeted to geographic areas with poor outcomes as specified in section 256J.751, subdivision 5, or to subgroups within the MFIP case load who are experiencing poor outcomes. For purposes of an incentive, a county or tribe exceeds performance if the county or tribe is above the top of the county or tribe's annualized range of expected performance on the three-year self-support index under section 256J.751, subdivision 2, clause (6), and achieves a 50 percent MFIP participation rate under section 256J.751, subdivision 2, clause (7), as averaged across the four quarterly measurements for the most recent year for which the measurements are available.

Sec. 48. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256J.626, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

Subd. 6. **Base allocation to counties and tribes; definitions.** (a) For purposes of this section, the following terms have the meanings given.

(1) "2002 historic spending base" means the commissioner's determination of the sum of the reimbursement related to fiscal year 2002 of county or tribal agency expenditures for the base programs listed in clause (6), items (i) through (iv), and earnings related to calendar year 2002 in the base program listed in clause (6), item (v), and the amount of spending in fiscal year 2002 in the base program listed in clause (6), item (vi), issued to or on behalf of persons residing in the county or tribal service delivery area.

(2) "Adjusted caseload factor" means a factor weighted:

(i) 47 percent on the MFIP cases in each county at four points in time in the most recent 12-month period for which data is available multiplied by the county's caseload difficulty factor; and

(ii) 53 percent on the count of adults on MFIP in each county and tribe at four points in time in the most recent 12-month period for which data is available multiplied by the county or tribe's caseload difficulty factor.

(3) "Caseload difficulty factor" means a factor determined by the commissioner for each county and tribe based upon the self-support index described in section 256J.751, subdivision 2, clause ~~(7)~~ (6).

(4) "Initial allocation" means the amount potentially available to each county or tribe based on the formula in paragraphs (b) through ~~(h)~~ (d).

(5) "Final allocation" means the amount available to each county or tribe based on the formula in paragraphs (b) through ~~(h)~~ (d), after adjustment by subdivision 7.

(6) "Base programs" means the:

(i) MFIP employment and training services under Minnesota Statutes 2002, section 256J.62, subdivision 1, in effect June 30, 2002;

(ii) bilingual employment and training services to refugees under Minnesota Statutes 2002, section 256J.62, subdivision 6, in effect June 30, 2002;

(iii) work literacy language programs under Minnesota Statutes 2002, section 256J.62, subdivision 7, in effect June 30, 2002;

(iv) supported work program authorized in Laws 2001, First Special Session chapter 9, article 17, section 2, in effect June 30, 2002;

(v) administrative aid program under section 256J.76 in effect December 31, 2002; and

(vi) emergency assistance program under Minnesota Statutes 2002, section 256J.48, in effect June 30, 2002.

(b) The commissioner shall:

(1) beginning July 1, 2003, determine the initial allocation of funds available under this section according to clause (2);

(2) allocate all of the funds available for the period beginning July 1, 2003, and ending December 31, 2004, to each county or tribe in proportion to the county's or tribe's share of the statewide 2002 historic spending base;

(3) determine for calendar year 2005 the initial allocation of funds to be made available under this section in proportion to the county or tribe's initial allocation for the period of July 1, 2003, to December 31, 2004;

(4) determine for calendar year 2006 the initial allocation of funds to be made available under this section based 90 percent on the proportion of the county or tribe's share of the statewide 2002 historic spending base and ten percent on the proportion of the county or tribe's share of the adjusted caseload factor;

(5) determine for calendar year 2007 the initial allocation of funds to be made available under this section based 70 percent on the proportion of the county or tribe's share of the statewide 2002 historic spending base and 30 percent on the proportion of the county or tribe's share of the adjusted caseload factor; and

(6) determine for calendar year 2008 and subsequent years the initial allocation of funds to be

made available under this section based 50 percent on the proportion of the county or tribe's share of the statewide 2002 historic spending base and 50 percent on the proportion of the county or tribe's share of the adjusted caseload factor.

(c) With the commencement of a new or expanded tribal TANF program or an agreement under section 256.01, subdivision 2, paragraph (g), in which some or all of the responsibilities of particular counties under this section are transferred to a tribe, the commissioner shall:

(1) in the case where all responsibilities under this section are transferred to a tribal program, determine the percentage of the county's current caseload that is transferring to a tribal program and adjust the affected county's allocation accordingly; and

(2) in the case where a portion of the responsibilities under this section are transferred to a tribal program, the commissioner shall consult with the affected county or counties to determine an appropriate adjustment to the allocation.

(d) Effective January 1, 2005, counties and tribes will have their final allocations adjusted based on the performance provisions of subdivision 7.

Sec. 49. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256J.626, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Performance base funds.** (a) Beginning calendar year ~~2005~~ 2008, each county and tribe will be allocated 95 percent of their initial calendar year allocation. Counties and tribes will be allocated additional funds based on performance as follows:

~~(1) for calendar year 2005, a county or tribe that achieves a 30 percent rate or higher on the MFIP participation rate under section 256J.751, subdivision 2, clause (8), as averaged across the four quarterly measurements for the most recent year for which the measurements are available, will receive an additional allocation equal to 2.5 percent of its initial allocation; and~~

~~(2) for calendar year 2006, a county or tribe that achieves a 40 percent rate or a five percentage point improvement over the previous year's MFIP participation rate under section 256J.751, subdivision 2, clause (8), as averaged across the four quarterly measurements for the most recent year for which the measurements are available, will receive an additional allocation equal to 2.5 percent of its initial allocation; and~~

~~(3) for calendar year 2007, a county or tribe that achieves a 50 percent rate or a five percentage point improvement over the previous year's MFIP participation rate under section 256J.751, subdivision 2, clause (8), as averaged across the four quarterly measurements for the most recent year for which the measurements are available, will receive an additional allocation equal to 2.5 percent of its initial allocation; and~~

~~(4) for calendar year 2008 and yearly thereafter, a county or tribe that achieves a 50 percent MFIP participation rate or a five percentage point improvement over the previous year's MFIP participation rate under section 256J.751, subdivision 2, clause (8) (7), as averaged across the four quarterly measurements for the most recent year for which the measurements are available, will receive an additional allocation equal to 2.5 percent of its initial allocation; and~~

~~(5) (2) for calendar years 2005 and thereafter, a county or tribe that performs above the top of its annualized range of expected performance on the three-year self-support index under section 256J.751, subdivision 2, clause (7) (6), will receive an additional allocation equal to five percent of~~

its initial allocation; ~~or~~ and

~~(6)~~ (3) for calendar years 2005 and thereafter, a county or tribe that performs within its range of expected performance on the annualized three-year self-support index under section 256J.751, subdivision 2, clause ~~(7)~~ (6), will receive an additional allocation equal to 2.5 percent of its initial allocation; and

(4) for calendar years 2008 and thereafter, a county or tribe that does not achieve a 50 percent MFIP participation rate or a five percentage point improvement over the previous year's MFIP participation rate under section 256J.751, subdivision 2, clause (7), as averaged across the four quarterly measurements for the most recent year for which the measurements are available, will not receive an additional 2.5 percent of its initial allocation until after negotiating a multiyear improvement plan with the commissioner; or

(5) for calendar years 2008 and thereafter, a county or tribe that does not perform within its range of expected performance on the annualized three-year self-support index under section 256J.751, subdivision 2, clause (6), will not receive an additional allocation equal to 2.5 percent of its initial allocation until after negotiating a multiyear improvement plan with the commissioner.

(b) Performance-based funds for a federally approved tribal TANF program in which the state and tribe have in place a contract under section 256.01, addressing consolidated funding, will be allocated as follows:

(1) for calendar year 2006 and yearly thereafter, a tribe that achieves the participation rate approved in its federal TANF plan using the average of four quarterly measurements for the most recent year for which the measurements are available, will receive an additional allocation equal to 2.5 percent of its initial allocation; and

(2) for calendar years 2006 and thereafter, a tribe that performs above the top of its annualized range of expected performance on the three-year self-support index under section 256J.751, subdivision 2, clause ~~(7)~~ (6), will receive an additional allocation equal to five percent of its initial allocation; or

(3) for calendar years 2006 and thereafter, a tribe that performs within its range of expected performance on the annualized three-year self-support index under section 256J.751, subdivision 2, clause ~~(7)~~ (6), will receive an additional allocation equal to 2.5 percent of its initial allocation; or

(4) for calendar year 2008 and yearly thereafter, a tribe that does not achieve the participation rate approved in its federal TANF plan using the average of four quarterly measurements for the most recent year for which the measurements are available, will not receive an additional allocation equal to 2.5 percent of its initial allocation until after negotiating a multiyear improvement plan with the commissioner; or

(5) for calendar year 2008 and yearly thereafter, a tribe that does not perform within its range of expected performance on the annualized three-year self-support index under section 256J.751, subdivision 2, clause (6), will not receive an additional allocation equal to 2.5 percent until after negotiating a multiyear improvement plan with the commissioner.

(c) Funds remaining unallocated after the performance-based allocations in paragraph (a) are available to the commissioner for innovation projects under subdivision 5.



(d)(1) If available funds are insufficient to meet county and tribal allocations under paragraph (a), the commissioner may make available for allocation funds that are unobligated and available from the innovation projects through the end of the current biennium.

(2) If after the application of clause (1) funds remain insufficient to meet county and tribal allocations under paragraph (a), the commissioner must proportionally reduce the allocation of each county and tribe with respect to their maximum allocation available under paragraph (a).

Sec. 50. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256J.751, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Quarterly comparison report.** The commissioner shall report quarterly to all counties on each county's performance on the following measures:

- (1) percent of MFIP caseload working in paid employment;
- (2) percent of MFIP caseload receiving only the food portion of assistance;
- (3) number of MFIP cases that have left assistance;
- (4) median placement wage rate;
- (5) caseload by months of TANF assistance;

(6) percent of MFIP and diversionary work program (DWP) cases off cash assistance or working 30 or more hours per week at one-year, two-year, and three-year follow-up points from a baseline quarter. This measure is called the self-support index. The commissioner shall report quarterly an expected range of performance for each county, county grouping, and tribe on the self-support index. The expected range shall be derived by a statistical methodology developed by the commissioner in consultation with the counties and tribes. The statistical methodology shall control differences across counties in economic conditions and demographics of the MFIP and DWP case load; and

(7) the MFIP TANF work participation rate, defined as the participation requirements specified ~~in title 1 of Public Law 104-193 applied to all MFIP cases except child-only cases~~ under Public Law 109-171, the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005.

Sec. 51. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256J.751, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **Failure to meet federal performance standards.** (a) If sanctions occur for failure to meet the performance standards specified in title 1 of Public Law 104-193 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act of 1996, and under Public Law 109-171, the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005, the state shall pay 88 percent of the sanction. The remaining 12 percent of the sanction will be paid by the counties. The county portion of the sanction will be distributed across all counties in proportion to each county's percentage of the MFIP average monthly caseload during the period for which the sanction was applied.

(b) If a county fails to meet the performance standards specified in title 1 of Public Law 104-193 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act of 1996, and Public Law 109-171, the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005, for any year, the commissioner shall work with counties to organize a joint state-county technical assistance team to work with the county. The commissioner shall coordinate any technical assistance with other departments and agencies including the Departments of Employment and Economic Development and Education as necessary to achieve the purpose of this paragraph.

(c) For state performance measures, a low-performing county is one that:

(1) performs below the bottom of their expected range for the measure in subdivision 2, clause ~~(7)~~ (6), in an annualized measurement reported in October of each year; or

(2) performs below 40 percent for the measure in subdivision 2, clause ~~(8)~~ (7), as averaged across the four quarterly measurements for the year, or the ten counties with the lowest rates if more than ten are below 40 percent.

(d) Low-performing counties under paragraph (c) must engage in corrective action planning as defined by the commissioner. The commissioner may coordinate technical assistance as specified in paragraph (b) for low-performing counties under paragraph (c).

Sec. 52. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256J.95, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Eligibility for diversionary work program.** (a) Except for the categories of family units listed below, all family units who apply for cash benefits and who meet MFIP eligibility as required in sections 256J.11 to 256J.15 are eligible and must participate in the diversionary work program. Family units that are not eligible for the diversionary work program include:

(1) child only cases;

(2) a single-parent family unit that includes a child under 12 weeks of age. A parent is eligible for this exception once in a parent's lifetime and is not eligible if the parent has already used the previously allowed child under age one exemption from MFIP employment services;

(3) a minor parent without a high school diploma or its equivalent;

(4) an 18- or 19-year-old caregiver without a high school diploma or its equivalent who chooses to have an employment plan with an education option;

(5) a caregiver age 60 or over;

(6) family units with a caregiver who received DWP benefits in the 12 months prior to the month the family applied for DWP, except as provided in paragraph (c);

(7) family units with a caregiver who received MFIP within the 12 months prior to the month the family unit applied for DWP;

(8) a family unit with a caregiver who received 60 or more months of TANF assistance; ~~and~~

(9) a family unit with a caregiver who is disqualified from DWP or MFIP due to fraud; and

(10) refugees as defined in Code of Federal Regulations, title 45, chapter IV, section 444.43, who arrived in the United States in the 12 months prior to the date of application for family cash assistance.

(b) A two-parent family must participate in DWP unless both caregivers meet the criteria for an exception under paragraph (a), clauses (1) through (5), or the family unit includes a parent who meets the criteria in paragraph (a), clause (6), (7), (8), or (9).

(c) Once DWP eligibility is determined, the four months run consecutively. If a participant leaves the program for any reason and reapplies during the four-month period, the county must redetermine

eligibility for DWP.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 53. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256K.45, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 6. **Funding.** Any funds appropriated for this section may be expended on programs described under subdivisions 3 to 5, technical assistance, and capacity building. Up to four percent of funds appropriated may be used for the purpose of monitoring and evaluating runaway and homeless youth programs receiving funding under this section. Funding shall be directed to meet the greatest need, with a significant share of the funding focused on homeless youth providers in greater Minnesota.

Sec. 54. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 259.67, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Eligibility conditions.** (a) The placing agency shall use the AFDC requirements as specified in federal law as of July 16, 1996, when determining the child's eligibility for adoption assistance under title IV-E of the Social Security Act. If the child does not qualify, the placing agency shall certify a child as eligible for state funded adoption assistance only if the following criteria are met:

(1) Due to the child's characteristics or circumstances it would be difficult to provide the child an adoptive home without adoption assistance.

(2)(i) A placement agency has made reasonable efforts to place the child for adoption without adoption assistance, but has been unsuccessful; or

(ii) the child's licensed foster parents desire to adopt the child and it is determined by the placing agency that the adoption is in the best interest of the child.

(3)(i) The child has been a ward of the commissioner, a Minnesota-licensed child-placing agency, or a tribal social service agency of Minnesota recognized by the Secretary of the Interior; or (ii) the child will be adopted according to tribal law without a termination of parental rights or relinquishment, provided that the tribe has documented the valid reason why the child cannot or should not be returned to the home of the child's parent. The placing agency shall not certify a child who remains under the jurisdiction of the sending agency pursuant to section 260.851, article 5, for state-funded adoption assistance when Minnesota is the receiving state.

(b) For purposes of this subdivision, the characteristics or circumstances that may be considered in determining whether a child is a child with special needs under United States Code, title 42, chapter 7, subchapter IV, part E, or meets the requirements of paragraph (a), clause (1), are the following:

(1) The child is a member of a sibling group to be placed as one unit in which at least one sibling is older than 15 months of age or is described in clause (2) or (3).

(2) The child has documented physical, mental, emotional, or behavioral disabilities.

(3) The child has a high risk of developing physical, mental, emotional, or behavioral disabilities.

~~(4) The child is adopted according to tribal law without a termination of parental rights or relinquishment, provided that the tribe has documented the valid reason why the child cannot or~~

~~should not be returned to the home of the child's parent.~~

(4) The child is five years of age or older.

(c) When a child's eligibility for adoption assistance is based upon the high risk of developing physical, mental, emotional, or behavioral disabilities, payments shall not be made under the adoption assistance agreement unless and until the potential disability manifests itself as documented by an appropriate health care professional.

Sec. 55. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 270B.14, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Disclosure to commissioner of human services.** (a) On the request of the commissioner of human services, the commissioner shall disclose return information regarding taxes imposed by chapter 290, and claims for refunds under chapter 290A, to the extent provided in paragraph (b) and for the purposes set forth in paragraph (c).

(b) Data that may be disclosed are limited to data relating to the identity, whereabouts, employment, income, and property of a person owing or alleged to be owing an obligation of child support.

(c) The commissioner of human services may request data only for the purposes of carrying out the child support enforcement program and to assist in the location of parents who have, or appear to have, deserted their children. Data received may be used only as set forth in section 256.978.

(d) The commissioner shall provide the records and information necessary to administer the supplemental housing allowance to the commissioner of human services.

(e) At the request of the commissioner of human services, the commissioner of revenue shall electronically match the Social Security numbers and names of participants in the telephone assistance plan operated under sections 237.69 to 237.711, with those of property tax refund filers, and determine whether each participant's household income is within the eligibility standards for the telephone assistance plan.

(f) The commissioner may provide records and information collected under sections 295.50 to 295.59 to the commissioner of human services for purposes of the Medicaid Voluntary Contribution and Provider-Specific Tax Amendments of 1991, Public Law 102-234. Upon the written agreement by the United States Department of Health and Human Services to maintain the confidentiality of the data, the commissioner may provide records and information collected under sections 295.50 to 295.59 to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services section of the United States Department of Health and Human Services for purposes of meeting federal reporting requirements.

(g) The commissioner may provide records and information to the commissioner of human services as necessary to administer the early refund of refundable tax credits.

(h) The commissioner may disclose information to the commissioner of human services necessary to verify income for eligibility and premium payment under the MinnesotaCare program, under section 256L.05, subdivision 2.

(i) The commissioner may disclose information to the commissioner of human services necessary to verify whether applicants or recipients for the Minnesota family investment program, general assistance, food support, ~~and~~ Minnesota supplemental aid program, and child care

assistance have claimed refundable tax credits under chapter 290 and the property tax refund under chapter 290A, and the amounts of the credits.

**Sec. 56. MFIP PILOT PROGRAM; WORKFORCE U.**

Subdivision 1. **Establishment.** A pilot program is established in Stearns and Benton Counties to expand the Workforce U program administered by the Stearns-Benton Employment and Training Council.

Subd. 2. **Evaluation.** The Workforce U pilot program must be evaluated by a research and evaluation organization with experience evaluating welfare programs. The evaluation must include information on the total number of persons served, percentage of participants exiting the program, percentage of former participants reentering the program, average wages of program participants, and recommendations to the legislature for possible statewide implementation of the program. The evaluation must be presented to the legislature by February 15, 2011.

Subd. 3. **Expiration.** The Workforce U pilot program expires on June 30, 2011.

**Sec. 57. LEECH LAKE YOUTH TREATMENT CENTER PROPOSAL.**

(a) The commissioner of human services shall provide a planning grant to address the unmet need for local, effective, culturally relevant alcohol and drug treatment for American Indian youth, and develop a plan for a family-based youth treatment center in the Leech Lake area. The planning grant must be provided to a volunteer board consisting of at least four members appointed by the commissioner, to include at least the following:

- (1) two members of the Leech Lake Tribal Council or their designees;
  - (2) one member appointed by the Cass County Social Services administrator; and
  - (3) one member appointed by the Cass Lake-Bena Public School superintendent.
- (b) The plan must include:
- (1) an interest, feasibility, and suitability of location study;
  - (2) defining scope of programs and services to be offered;
  - (3) defining site use limitations and restrictions, including physical and capacity;
  - (4) defining facilities required for programs and services offered;
  - (5) identifying partners, partnership roles, and partner resources;
  - (6) developing proposed operating and maintenance budgets;
  - (7) identifying funding sources;
  - (8) developing a long-term funding plan; and
  - (9) developing a formal steering committee, structure, and bylaws.

(c) The plan is due to the legislative committees having jurisdiction over chemical health issues no later than September 2008 in order to provide the 12 months necessary to complete the plan.

**Sec. 58. MINNESOTA FOOD SUPPORT PROGRAM SIMPLIFIED APPLICATION.**

The commissioner of human services shall implement a simplified application form and process for the food support program by January 1, 2008. The commissioner shall consult with counties and representatives of persons served by the program to develop the simplified application form and process. The application process shall:

- (1) include a simple, short form that can be completed by individuals with limited literacy skills;
- (2) include an application form for individuals without dependents;
- (3) include a process that does not require individuals to take time off work for a face-to-face interview; and
- (4) minimize demands on county staff in assisting applicants.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2008.

**Sec. 59. INSPECTION OF LEGAL UNLICENSED CHILD CARE PROVIDERS.**

The commissioner of human services, in consultation with the commissioner of health and the counties, shall develop and present recommendations to the legislature in January 2008 in order for each legally unlicensed child care provider receiving child care assistance funds to receive a onetime home visit to receive information on health and safety, and school readiness.

**Sec. 60. COMMISSIONER OF HUMAN SERVICES DUTIES; EARLY CHILDHOOD AND SCHOOL-AGE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING.**

Subdivision 1. **Development and implementation of an early childhood and school-age professional development system.** (a) The commissioner of human services, in cooperation with the commissioners of education and health, shall develop and phase-in the implementation of a professional development system for practitioners serving children in early childhood and school-age programs. The system shall provide training options and supports for practitioners to voluntarily choose, as they complete or exceed existing licensing requirements.

The system must, at a minimum, include the following features:

- (1) a continuum of training content based on the early childhood and school-age care practitioner core competencies that translates knowledge into improved practice to support children's school success;
- (2) training strategies that provide direct feedback about practice to practitioners through ongoing consultation, mentoring, or coaching with special emphasis on early literacy and early mathematics;
- (3) an approval process for trainers;
- (4) a professional development registry for early childhood and school-age care practitioners that will provide tracking and recognition of practitioner training/career development progress;
- (5) a career lattice that includes a range of professional development and educational opportunities that provide appropriate coursework and degree pathways;

(6) development of a plan with public higher education institutions for an articulated system of education, training, and professional development that includes credit for prior learning and development of equivalences to two- and four-year degrees;

(7) incentives and supports for early childhood and school-age care practitioners to seek additional training and education, including TEACH, other scholarships, and career guidance; and

(8) coordinated and accessible delivery of training to early childhood and school-age care practitioners.

(b) By January 1, 2008, the commissioner, in consultation with the organizations named in subdivision 2 shall develop additional opportunities in order to qualify more licensed family child care providers under section 119B.13, subdivision 3a.

(c) The commissioner of human services must evaluate the professional development system and make continuous improvements.

(d) Beginning July 1, 2007, as appropriations permit, the commissioner shall phase-in the professional development system.

Subd. 2. **Two-hour early childhood training.** By January 15, 2008, the commissioner of human services, with input from the Minnesota Licensed Family Child Care Association and the Minnesota Professional Development Council, shall identify trainings that qualify for the two-hour early childhood development training requirement for new child care practitioners under Minnesota Statutes, section 245A.14, subdivision 9a, paragraphs (a) and (b). For licensed family child care, the commissioner shall also seek the input of labor unions that serve licensed family child care providers, if the union has been recognized by a county to serve licensed family child care providers.

#### Sec. 61. **SCHOOL READINESS SERVICE AGREEMENTS.**

Subdivision 1. **Overview.** (a) Effective July 1, 2007, funds must be made available to allow the commissioner to pay higher rates to up to 50 child care providers who are deemed by the commissioner to meet the requirements of a school readiness service agreement (SRSA) provider and perform services that support school readiness for children and economic stability for parents.

(b) A provider may be paid a rate above that currently allowed under Minnesota Statutes, section 119B.13, if:

(1) the provider has entered into an SRSA with the commissioner;

(2) a family using that provider receives child care assistance under any provision in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 119B, except Minnesota Statutes, section 119B.035;

(3) the family using that provider meets the criteria in this section; and

(4) funding is available under this section.

Subd. 2. **Provider eligibility.** (a) To be considered for an SRSA, a provider shall apply to the commissioner. To be eligible to apply for an SRSA, a provider shall:

(1) be eligible for child care assistance payments under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 119B;

(2) have at least 25 percent of the children enrolled with the provider subsidized through the child care assistance program;

(3) provide full-time, full-year child care services; and

(4) serve at least one child who is subsidized through the child care assistance program and who is expected to enter kindergarten within the following 30 months.

(b) The commissioner may waive the 25 percent requirement in paragraph (a), clause (2), if necessary to achieve geographic distribution of SRSA providers and diversity of types of care provided by SRSA providers.

(c) An eligible provider who would like to enter into an SRSA with the commissioner shall submit an SRSA application. To determine whether to enter into an SRSA with a provider, the commissioner shall evaluate the following factors:

(1) the qualifications of the provider and the provider's staff;

(2) the provider's staff-child ratios;

(3) the provider's curriculum;

(4) the provider's current or planned parent education activities;

(5) the provider's current or planned social service and employment linkages;

(6) the provider's child development assessment plan;

(7) the geographic distribution needed for SRSA providers;

(8) the inclusion of a variety of child care delivery models; and

(9) other related factors determined by the commissioner.

Subd. 3. **Family and child eligibility.** (a) A family eligible to choose an SRSA provider for their children shall:

(1) be eligible to receive child care assistance under any provision in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 119B, except Minnesota Statutes, section 119B.035;

(2) be in an authorized activity for an average of at least 35 hours per week when initial eligibility is determined; and

(3) include a child who has not yet entered kindergarten.

(b) A family who is determined to be eligible to choose an SRSA provider remains eligible to be paid at a higher rate through the SRSA provider when the following conditions exist:

(1) the child attends child care with the SRSA provider a minimum of 25 hours per week, on average;

(2) the family has a child who has not yet entered kindergarten; and

(3) the family maintains eligibility under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 119B, except Minnesota Statutes, section 119B.035.



(c) For the 12 months after initial eligibility has been determined, a decrease in the family's authorized activities to an average of less than 35 hours per week does not result in ineligibility for the SRSA rate.

(d) A family that moves between counties but continues to use the same SRSA provider shall continue to receive SRSA funding for the increased payments.

Subd. 4. **Requirements of providers.** An SRSA must include assessment, evaluation, and reporting requirements that promote the goals of improved school readiness and movement toward appropriate child development milestones. A provider who enters into an SRSA shall comply with the assessment, evaluation, and reporting requirements in the SRSA.

Subd. 5. **Relationship to current law.** (a) The following provisions in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 119B, must be waived or modified for families receiving services under this section.

(b) Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 119B.13, subdivisions 1 and 1a, maximum weekly rates under this section are 125 percent of the existing maximum weekly rate for like-care. Providers eligible for a differential rate under Minnesota Statutes, section 119B.13, subdivision 3a, remain eligible for the differential above the rate identified in this section. Only care for children who have not yet entered kindergarten may be paid at the maximum rate under this section. The provider's charge for service provided through an SRSA may not exceed the rate that the provider charges a private-pay family for like-care arrangements.

(c) A family or child care provider may not be assessed an overpayment for care provided through an SRSA unless:

- (1) there was an error in the amount of care authorized for the family; or
- (2) the family or provider did not timely report a change as required under the law.
- (d) Care provided through an SRSA is authorized on a weekly basis.

(e) Funds appropriated under this section to serve families eligible under Minnesota Statutes, section 119B.03, are not allocated through the basic sliding fee formula under Minnesota Statutes, section 119B.03. Funds appropriated under this section are used to offset increased costs when payments are made under SRSA's.

(f) Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 119B.09, subdivision 6, the maximum amount of child care assistance that may be authorized for a child receiving care through an SRSA in a two-week period is 160 hours per child.

Subd. 6. **Establishment of service agreements.** (a) The commissioner shall approve SRSA's for up to 50 providers that represent diverse parts of the state and a variety of child care delivery models. Entering into a service agreement does not guarantee that a provider will receive payment at a higher rate for families receiving child care assistance. A family eligible under this section shall choose a provider participating in an SRSA in order for a higher rate to be paid. Payments through SRSA's are also limited by the availability of SRSA funds.

(b) Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit parent choice as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 119B.09, subdivision 5.

(c) The commissioner may allow for startup time for some providers if failing to do so would

limit geographic diversity of SRSA providers or a variety of child care delivery models.

**Sec. 62. FAMILY, FRIEND, AND NEIGHBOR GRANT PROGRAM.**

Subdivision 1. **Establishment.** A family, friend, and neighbor (FFN) grant program is established to promote children's early literacy, healthy development, and school readiness, and to foster community partnerships to promote children's school readiness. The commissioner shall attempt to ensure that grants are made in all areas of the state. The commissioner of human services shall make grants available to fund: community-based organizations, nonprofit organizations, and Indian tribes working with FFN caregivers under subdivision 2, paragraph (a); and community-based partnerships to implement early literacy programs under subdivision 2, paragraph (b).

Subd. 2. **Program components.** (a)(1) Grants that the commissioner awards under this section must be used by community-based organizations, nonprofit organizations, and Indian tribes working with FFN caregivers in local communities, cultural communities, and Indian tribes to:

(i) provide training, support, and resources to FFN caregivers in order to improve and promote children's health, safety, nutrition, and school readiness;

(ii) connect FFN caregivers and children's families with appropriate community resources that support the families' health, mental health, economic, and developmental needs;

(iii) connect FFN caregivers and children's families to early childhood screening programs and facilitate referrals where appropriate;

(iv) provide FFN caregivers and children's families with information about early learning guidelines from the Departments of Human Services and Education;

(v) provide FFN caregivers and children's families with information about becoming a licensed family child care provider; and

(vi) provide FFN caregivers and children's families with information about early learning allowances and enrollment opportunities in high quality community-based child-care and preschool programs.

(2) Grants that the commissioner awards under this paragraph also may be used for:

(i) health and safety and early learning kits for FFN caregivers;

(ii) play-and-learn groups with FFN caregivers;

(iii) culturally appropriate early childhood training for FFN caregivers;

(iv) transportation for FFN caregivers and children's families to school readiness and other early childhood training activities;

(v) other activities that promote school readiness;

(vi) data collection and evaluation;

(vii) staff outreach and outreach activities;

(viii) translation needs; or

(ix) administrative costs that equal up to 12 percent of the recipient's grant award.

(b) Grants that the commissioner awards under this section also must be used to fund partnerships among Minnesota public and regional library systems, community-based organizations, nonprofit organizations, and Indian tribes to implement early literacy programs in low-income communities, including tribal communities, to:

(1) purchase and equip early childhood read-mobiles that provide FFN caregivers and children's families with books, training, and early literacy activities;

(2) provide FFN caregivers and children's families with translations of early childhood books, training, and early literacy activities in native languages; or

(3) provide FFN caregivers and children's families with early literacy activities in local libraries.

Subd. 3. **Grant awards.** Interested entities eligible to receive a grant under this section may apply to the commissioner in the form and manner the commissioner determines. The commissioner shall awards grants to eligible entities consistent with the requirements of this section.

Subd. 4. **Evaluation.** The commissioner, in consultation with early childhood care and education experts at the University of Minnesota, must evaluate the impact of the grants under subdivision 2 on children's school readiness and submit a written report to the human services and education finance and policy committees of the legislature by February 15, 2010.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 63. **CHILD CARE PROVIDER STUDY.**

If sufficient resources to support the costs are provided by one or more nongovernmental entities, the commissioner of human services is directed to study the implications of restricting the use of state subsidies in center-based child care to centers meeting state quality standards under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.175, paragraph (c), and to publish the results no later than January 1, 2010. The study must include:

(1) the likelihood of there being sufficient child care providers meeting the standards;

(2) the cost to bring providers up to the standards and how this cost would be funded;

(3) how the standards and the ratings would be communicated to both parents and the general public; and

(4) a determination whether a similar system could be implemented for non-center-based care.

Sec. 64. **DIRECTION TO COMMISSIONER.**

(a) The commissioner of human services shall offer a request for proposals to identify a research and evaluation firm with experience working with:

(1) homeless youth providers;

(2) data; and

(3) the topics of housing, homelessness, and a continuum of care for youth.

(b) The research and evaluation firm identified under paragraph (a) shall monitor and evaluate the programs receiving funding under Minnesota Statutes, section 256K.45.

**Sec. 65. NOT ASSESSING TANF PENALTIES AGAINST COUNTIES.**

From October 2006 through October 2007, if the state does not meet the federal work participation requirements, and the state is penalized by a reduction in the TANF grant, the state shall not assess penalties against the counties.

**Sec. 66. REPEALER.**

(a) Minnesota Statutes 2006, sections 119B.08, subdivision 4; 256J.24, subdivision 6; 256J.29; 256J.37, subdivision 3b; and 256J.626, subdivision 9, are repealed.

(b) Laws 1997, chapter 8, section 1, is repealed.

(c) Minnesota Rules, part 9560.0102, subpart 2, item C, is repealed.

### ARTICLE 3

### LICENSING

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 245A.035, is amended to read:

**245A.035 ~~RELATIVE FOSTER CARE;~~ UNLICENSED EMERGENCY LICENSE  
RELATIVE PLACEMENT.**

Subdivision 1. **Grant of Emergency license placement.** Notwithstanding section 245A.03, subdivision 2a, or 245C.13, subdivision 2, a county agency may place a child ~~for foster care~~ with a relative who is not licensed to provide foster care, provided the requirements of ~~subdivision 2~~ this section are met. As used in this section, the term "relative" has the meaning given it under section 260C.007, subdivision 27.

Subd. 2. **Cooperation with emergency licensing placement process.** (a) A county agency that places a child with a relative who is not licensed to provide foster care must ~~begin the process of securing an emergency license for the relative as soon as possible and~~ must conduct the initial inspection required by subdivision 3, clause (1), whenever possible, prior to placing the child in the relative's home, but no later than three working days after placing the child in the home. A child placed in the home of a relative who is not licensed to provide foster care must be removed from that home if the relative fails to cooperate with the county agency ~~in securing an emergency foster care license. The commissioner may issue an emergency foster care license to a relative with whom the county agency wishes to place or has placed a child for foster care, or to a relative with whom a child has been placed by court order.~~

(b) If a child is to be placed in the home of a relative not licensed to provide foster care, either the placing agency or the county agency in the county in which the relative lives shall conduct the emergency licensing placement process as required in this section.

Subd. 3. **Requirements for emergency license placement.** Before an emergency license placement may be issued ~~made~~, the following requirements must be met:

(1) the county agency must conduct an initial inspection of the premises where the ~~foster care~~

placement is to be ~~provided~~ made to ensure the health and safety of any child placed in the home. The county agency shall conduct the inspection using a form developed by the commissioner;

(2) at the time of the inspection or placement, whichever is earlier, the county agency must provide the relative being considered for an emergency license shall receive placement an application form for a child foster care license;

(3) whenever possible, prior to placing the child in the relative's home, the relative being considered for an emergency license placement shall provide the information required by section 245C.05; and

(4) if the county determines, prior to the ~~issuance of an emergency license~~ placement, that anyone requiring a background study ~~may be prior to licensure of the home is disqualified under section 245C.14 and chapter 245C, and the disqualification is one which the commissioner cannot set aside, an emergency license shall~~ placement must not be issued made.

Subd. 4. **Applicant study.** When the county agency has received the information required by section 245C.05, the county agency shall ~~begin an applicant study according to the procedures in chapter 245C. The commissioner may issue an emergency license upon recommendation of the county agency once the initial inspection has been successfully completed and the information necessary to begin the applicant background study has been provided. If the county agency does not recommend that the emergency license be granted, the agency shall notify the relative in writing that the agency is recommending denial to the commissioner; shall remove any child who has been placed in the home prior to licensure; and shall inform the relative in writing of the procedure to request review pursuant to subdivision 6. An emergency license shall be effective until a child foster care license is granted or denied, but shall in no case remain in effect more than 120 days from the date of placement~~ submit the information to the commissioner according to section 245C.05.

Subd. 5. **Child foster care license application.** (a) The relatives with whom the emergency license holder placement has been made shall complete the child foster care license application and necessary paperwork within ten days of the placement. The county agency shall assist the ~~emergency license holder~~ applicant to complete the application. The granting of a child foster care license to a relative shall be under the procedures in this chapter and according to the standards ~~set forth by foster care rule~~ in Minnesota Rules, chapter 2960. In licensing a relative, the commissioner shall consider the importance of maintaining the child's relationship with relatives as an additional significant factor in determining whether ~~to a background study disqualification should be set aside a licensing disqualifier under section 245C.22, or to grant a variance of licensing requirements~~ should be granted under sections 245C.21 to 245C.27 section 245C.30.

(b) When the county or private child-placing agency is processing an application for child foster care licensure of a relative as defined in section 260B.007, subdivision 12, or 260C.007, subdivision 27, the county agency or child-placing agency must explain the licensing process to the prospective licensee, including the background study process and the procedure for reconsideration of an initial disqualification for licensure. The county or private child-placing agency must also provide the prospective relative licensee with information regarding appropriate options for legal representation in the pertinent geographic area. If a relative is initially disqualified under section 245C.14, the ~~county or child-placing agency~~ commissioner must provide written notice of the reasons for the disqualification and the right to request a reconsideration by the commissioner as required under section 245C.17.

(c) The commissioner shall maintain licensing data so that activities related to applications and licensing actions for relative foster care providers may be distinguished from other child foster care settings.

~~Subd. 6. **Denial of emergency license.** If the commissioner denies an application for an emergency foster care license under this section, that denial must be in writing and must include reasons for the denial. Denial of an emergency license is not subject to appeal under chapter 14. The relative may request a review of the denial by submitting to the commissioner a written statement of the reasons an emergency license should be granted. The commissioner shall evaluate the request for review and determine whether to grant the emergency license. The commissioner's review shall be based on a review of the records submitted by the county agency and the relative. Within 15 working days of the receipt of the request for review, the commissioner shall notify the relative requesting review in written form whether the emergency license will be granted. The commissioner's review shall be based on a review of the records submitted by the county agency and the relative. A child shall not be placed or remain placed in the relative's home while the request for review is pending. Denial of an emergency license shall not preclude an individual from reapplying for an emergency license or from applying for a child foster care license. The decision of the commissioner is the final administrative agency action.~~

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 245A.10, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **County fees for background studies and licensing inspections.** (a) For purposes of family and group family child care licensing under this chapter, a county agency may charge a fee to an applicant or license holder to recover the actual cost of background studies, but in any case not to exceed \$100 annually. A county agency may also charge a license fee to an applicant or license holder to recover the actual cost of licensing inspections, but in any case not to exceed \$150 annually \$50 for a one-year license or \$100 for a two-year license.

(b) A county agency may charge a fee to a legal nonlicensed child care provider or applicant for authorization to recover the actual cost of background studies completed under section 119B.125, but in any case not to exceed \$100 annually.

(c) Counties may elect to reduce or waive the fees in paragraph (a) or (b):

- (1) in cases of financial hardship;
- (2) if the county has a shortage of providers in the county's area;
- (3) for new providers; or
- (4) for providers who have attained at least 16 hours of training before seeking initial licensure.

(d) Counties may allow providers to pay the applicant fees in paragraph (a) or (b) on an installment basis for up to one year. If the provider is receiving child care assistance payments from the state, the provider may have the fees under paragraph (a) or (b) deducted from the child care assistance payments for up to one year and the state shall reimburse the county for the county fees collected in this manner.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2008.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 245A.16, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Delegation of authority to agencies.** (a) County agencies and private agencies that have been designated or licensed by the commissioner to perform licensing functions and activities under section 245A.04 ~~and background studies for adult foster care, family adult day services, and until December 31, 2007, family child care, under chapter 245C;~~ to recommend denial of applicants under section 245A.05; to issue correction orders, to issue variances, and recommend a conditional license under section 245A.06, or to recommend suspending or revoking a license or issuing a fine under section 245A.07, shall comply with rules and directives of the commissioner governing those functions and with this section. The following variances are excluded from the delegation of variance authority and may be issued only by the commissioner:

(1) dual licensure of family child care and child foster care, dual licensure of child and adult foster care, and adult foster care and family child care;

(2) adult foster care maximum capacity;

(3) adult foster care minimum age requirement;

(4) child foster care maximum age requirement;

(5) variances regarding disqualified individuals except that county agencies may issue variances under section 245C.30 regarding disqualified individuals when the county is responsible for conducting a consolidated reconsideration according to sections 245C.25 and 245C.27, subdivision 2, clauses (a) and (b), of a county maltreatment determination and a disqualification based on serious or recurring maltreatment; and

(6) the required presence of a caregiver in the adult foster care residence during normal sleeping hours.

(b) County agencies must report:

~~(1) information about disqualification reconsiderations under sections 245C.25 and 245C.27, subdivision 2, clauses paragraphs (a) and (b), and variances granted under paragraph (a), clause (5), to the commissioner at least monthly in a format prescribed by the commissioner; and~~

~~(2) for relative child foster care applicants and license holders, the number of relatives, as defined in section 260C.007, subdivision 27, and household members of relatives who are disqualified under section 245C.14; the disqualifying characteristics under section 245C.15; the number of these individuals who requested reconsideration under section 245C.21; the number of set-asides under section 245C.22; and variances under section 245C.30 issued. This information shall be reported to the commissioner annually by January 15 of each year in a format prescribed by the commissioner.~~

(c) For family day care programs, the commissioner may authorize licensing reviews every two years after a licensee has had at least one annual review.

(d) For family adult day services programs, the commissioner may authorize licensing reviews every two years after a licensee has had at least one annual review.

(e) A license issued under this section may be issued for up to two years.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 245A.16, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Recommendations to the commissioner.** The county or private agency shall not make recommendations to the commissioner regarding licensure without first conducting an inspection, and for adult foster care, family adult day services, and until December 31, 2007, family child care, a background study of the applicant, and evaluation pursuant to under chapter 245C. The county or private agency must forward its recommendation to the commissioner regarding the appropriate licensing action within 20 working days of receipt of a completed application.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 245C.02, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 14a. **Private agency.** "Private agency" has the meaning given in section 245A.02, subdivision 12.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 245C.04, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Licensed programs.** (a) The commissioner shall conduct a background study of an individual required to be studied under section 245C.03, subdivision 1, at least upon application for initial license for all license types.

(b) The commissioner shall conduct a background study of an individual required to be studied under section 245C.03, subdivision 1, at reapplication for a license for ~~family child care, child foster care, and~~ adult foster care, family adult day services, and until January 1, 2008, family child care.

(c) The commissioner is not required to conduct a study of an individual at the time of reapplication for a license if the individual's background study was completed by the commissioner of human services for an adult foster care license holder that is also:

(1) registered under chapter 144D; or

(2) licensed to provide home and community-based services to people with disabilities at the foster care location and the license holder does not reside in the foster care residence; and

(3) the following conditions are met:

(i) a study of the individual was conducted either at the time of initial licensure or when the individual became affiliated with the license holder;

(ii) the individual has been continuously affiliated with the license holder since the last study was conducted; and

(iii) the last study of the individual was conducted on or after October 1, 1995.

(d) From July 1, 2007, to June 30, 2009, the commissioner of human services shall conduct a study of an individual required to be studied under section 245C.03, at the time of reapplication for a child foster care license. The county or private agency shall collect and forward to the commissioner the information required under section 245C.05, subdivisions 1, paragraphs (a) and (b), and 5, paragraphs (a) and (b). The background study conducted by the commissioner of human services under this paragraph must include a review of the information required under section 245C.08, subdivisions 1, paragraph (a), clauses (1) to (5), 3, and 4.

(e) From January 1, 2008, to December 31, 2009, the commissioner shall conduct a study of an individual required to be studied under section 245C.03, at the time of reapplication for a family child care license. The county shall collect and forward to the commissioner the information required



under section 245C.05, subdivisions 1, paragraphs (a) and (b), and 5, paragraphs (a) and (b). The background study conducted by the commissioner under this paragraph must include a review of the information required under section 245C.08, subdivisions 1, paragraph (a), clauses (1) to (5), 3, and 4.

(f) The commissioner of human services shall conduct a background study of an individual specified under section 245C.03, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clauses (2) to (6), who is newly affiliated with a child foster care license holder, and beginning January 1, 2008, a family child care license. The county or private agency shall collect and forward to the commissioner the information required under section 245C.05, subdivisions 1 and 5. The background study conducted by the commissioner of human services under this paragraph must include a review of the information required under section 245C.08, subdivisions 1, 3, and 4.

(g) Applicants for licensure, license holders, and other entities as provided in this chapter must submit completed background study forms to the commissioner before individuals specified in section 245C.03, subdivision 1, begin positions allowing direct contact in any licensed program.

~~(e)~~ (h) For purposes of this section, a physician licensed under chapter 147 is considered to be continuously affiliated upon the license holder's receipt from the commissioner of health or human services of the physician's background study results.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 245C.05, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Individual studied.** (a) The individual who is the subject of the background study must provide the applicant, license holder, or other entity under section 245C.04 with sufficient information to ensure an accurate study, including:

(1) the individual's first, middle, and last name and all other names by which the individual has been known;

(2) home address, city, and state of residence;

(3) zip code;

(4) sex;

(5) date of birth; and

(6) Minnesota driver's license number or state identification number.

(b) Every subject of a background study conducted or initiated by counties or private agencies under this chapter must also provide the home address, city, county, and state of residence for the past five years.

(c) Every subject of a background study related to private agency adoptions or related to child foster care licensed through a private agency, who is 18 years of age or older, shall also provide the commissioner a signed consent for the release of any information received from national crime information databases to the private agency that initiated the background study.

(d) The subject of a background study shall provide fingerprints as required in subdivision 5, paragraph (c).

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 245C.05, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 2a. **County or private agency.** For background studies related to child foster care, and beginning January 1, 2008, for studies related to family child care, county and private agencies must collect the information under subdivision 1 and forward it to the commissioner.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 245C.05, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Electronic transmission.** For background studies conducted by the Department of Human Services, the commissioner shall implement a system for the electronic transmission of:

- (1) background study information to the commissioner; ~~and~~
- (2) background study results to the license holder; and
- (3) background study results to county and private agencies for background studies conducted by the commissioner for child foster care, and beginning January 1, 2008, also for family child care.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 245C.05, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **Fingerprints.** (a) Except as provided in paragraph (c), for any background study completed under this chapter, when the commissioner has reasonable cause to believe that further pertinent information may exist on the subject of the background study, the subject shall provide the commissioner with a set of classifiable fingerprints obtained from an authorized ~~law enforcement~~ agency.

(b) For purposes of requiring fingerprints, the commissioner has reasonable cause when, but not limited to, the:

- (1) information from the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension indicates that the subject is a multistate offender;
- (2) information from the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension indicates that multistate offender status is undetermined; or
- (3) commissioner has received a report from the subject or a third party indicating that the subject has a criminal history in a jurisdiction other than Minnesota.

(c) Except as specified under section 245C.04, subdivision 1, paragraph (d), for background studies conducted by the commissioner for child foster care or adoptions, the subject of the background study, who is 18 years of age or older, shall provide the commissioner with a set of classifiable fingerprints obtained from an authorized agency.

Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 245C.05, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Probation officer and corrections agent.** (a) A probation officer or corrections agent shall notify the commissioner of an individual's conviction if the individual is:

- (1) affiliated with a program or facility regulated by the Department of Human Services or Department of Health, a facility serving children or youth licensed by the Department of Corrections, or any type of home care agency or provider of personal care assistance services; and
- (2) convicted of a crime constituting a disqualification under section 245C.14.

(b) For the purpose of this subdivision, "conviction" has the meaning given it in section 609.02, subdivision 5.

(c) The commissioner, in consultation with the commissioner of corrections, shall develop forms and information necessary to implement this subdivision and shall provide the forms and information to the commissioner of corrections for distribution to local probation officers and corrections agents.

(d) The commissioner shall inform individuals subject to a background study that criminal convictions for disqualifying crimes will be reported to the commissioner by the corrections system.

(e) A probation officer, corrections agent, or corrections agency is not civilly or criminally liable for disclosing or failing to disclose the information required by this subdivision.

(f) Upon receipt of disqualifying information, the commissioner shall provide the notice required under section 245C.17, as appropriate, to agencies on record as having initiated a background study or making a request for documentation of the background study status of the individual.

(g) This subdivision does not apply to family child care ~~and child foster care~~ programs until January 1, 2008.

Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 245C.08, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Background studies conducted by commissioner of human services.** (a) For a background study conducted by the commissioner, the commissioner shall review:

(1) information related to names of substantiated perpetrators of maltreatment of vulnerable adults that has been received by the commissioner as required under section 626.557, subdivision 9c, paragraph (i);

(2) the commissioner's records relating to the maltreatment of minors in licensed programs, and from ~~county agency~~ findings of maltreatment of minors as indicated through the social service information system;

(3) information from juvenile courts as required in subdivision 4 for individuals listed in section 245C.03, subdivision 1, clauses (2), (5), and (6); ~~and~~

(4) information from the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension;

(5) except as provided in clause (6), information from the national crime information system when the commissioner has reasonable cause as defined under section 245C.05, subdivision 5; and

(6) for a background study related to a child foster care application for licensure or adoptions, the commissioner shall also review:

(i) information from the child abuse and neglect registry for any state in which the background study subject has resided for the past five years; and

(ii) information from national crime information databases, when the background study object is 18 years of age or older.

(b) Notwithstanding expungement by a court, the commissioner may consider information

obtained under paragraph (a), clauses (3) and (4), unless the commissioner received notice of the petition for expungement and the court order for expungement is directed specifically to the commissioner.

Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 245C.08, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

**Subd. 2. Background studies conducted by a county or private agency.** (a) For a background study conducted by a county or private agency for ~~child foster care~~, adult foster care, family adult day services, and until January 1, 2008, family child care homes services, the commissioner shall review:

(1) information from the county agency's record of substantiated maltreatment of adults and the maltreatment of minors;

(2) information from juvenile courts as required in subdivision 4 for individuals listed in section 245C.03, subdivision 1, clauses (2), (5), and (6);

(3) information from the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension; and

(4) arrest and investigative records maintained by the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, county attorneys, county sheriffs, courts, county agencies, local police, the National Criminal Records Repository, and criminal records from other states.

(b) If the individual has resided in the county for less than five years, the study shall include the records specified under paragraph (a) for the previous county or counties of residence for the past five years.

(c) Notwithstanding expungement by a court, the county or private agency may consider information obtained under paragraph (a), clauses (3) and (4), unless the commissioner received notice of the petition for expungement and the court order for expungement is directed specifically to the commissioner.

Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 245C.10, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

**Subd. 4. Temporary personnel agencies, educational programs, and professional services agencies.** The commissioner shall recover the cost of the background studies initiated by temporary personnel agencies, educational programs, and professional services agencies that initiate background studies under section 245C.03, subdivision 4, through a fee of no more than \$20 per study charged to the agency. The fees collected under this subdivision are appropriated to the commissioner for the purpose of conducting background studies.

Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 245C.11, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

**Subdivision 1. Adult foster care; criminal conviction data.** For individuals who are required to have background studies under section 245C.03, subdivisions 1 and 2, and who have been continuously affiliated with a an adult foster care provider that is licensed in more than one county, criminal conviction data may be shared among those counties in which the adult foster care programs are licensed. A county agency's receipt of criminal conviction data from another county agency shall meet the criminal data background study requirements of this chapter.

Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 245C.11, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Jointly licensed programs.** A county agency may accept a background study completed by the commissioner under this chapter in place of the background study required under section 245A.16, subdivision 3, in programs with joint licensure as home and community-based services and adult foster care for people with developmental disabilities when the license holder does not reside in the adult foster care residence and the subject of the study has been continuously affiliated with the license holder since the date of the commissioner's study.

Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 245C.12, is amended to read:

**245C.12 BACKGROUND STUDY; TRIBAL ORGANIZATIONS.**

(a) For the purposes of background studies completed by tribal organizations performing licensing activities otherwise required of the commissioner under this chapter, after obtaining consent from the background study subject, tribal licensing agencies shall have access to criminal history data in the same manner as county licensing agencies and private licensing agencies under this chapter.

(b) Tribal organizations may contract with the commissioner to obtain background study data on individuals under tribal jurisdiction related to adoptions according to section 245C.34. Tribal organizations may also contract with the commissioner to obtain background study data on individuals under tribal jurisdiction related to child foster care according to section 245C.34.

Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 245C.16, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Determining immediate risk of harm.** (a) If the commissioner determines that the individual studied has a disqualifying characteristic, the commissioner shall review the information immediately available and make a determination as to the subject's immediate risk of harm to persons served by the program where the individual studied will have direct contact.

(b) The commissioner shall consider all relevant information available, including the following factors in determining the immediate risk of harm:

- (1) the recency of the disqualifying characteristic;
- (2) the recency of discharge from probation for the crimes;
- (3) the number of disqualifying characteristics;
- (4) the intrusiveness or violence of the disqualifying characteristic;
- (5) the vulnerability of the victim involved in the disqualifying characteristic;

(6) the similarity of the victim to the persons served by the program where the individual studied will have direct contact; and

(7) whether the individual has a disqualification from a previous background study that has not been set aside.

(c) This section does not apply when the subject of a background study is regulated by a health-related licensing board as defined in chapter 214, and the subject is determined to be responsible for substantiated maltreatment under section 626.556 or 626.557.

(d) This section does not apply to a background study related to an initial application for a child

foster care license.

(e) If the commissioner has reason to believe, based on arrest information or an active maltreatment investigation, that an individual poses an imminent risk of harm to persons receiving services, the commissioner may order that the person be continuously supervised or immediately removed pending the conclusion of the maltreatment investigation or criminal proceedings.

Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 245C.17, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 5. **Notice to county or private agency.** For studies on individuals related to a license to provide child foster care, and beginning January 1, 2008, for family child care, the commissioner shall also provide a notice of the background study results to the county or private agency that initiated the background study.

Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 245C.21, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 1a. **Submission of reconsideration request to county or private agency.** (a) For disqualifications related to studies conducted by county agencies, and for disqualifications related to studies conducted by the commissioner for child foster care, and beginning January 1, 2008, for family child care, the individual shall submit the request for reconsideration to the county or private agency that initiated the background study.

(b) A reconsideration request shall be submitted within 30 days of the individual's receipt of the disqualification notice or the time frames specified in subdivision 2, whichever time frame is shorter.

(c) The county or private agency shall forward the individual's request for reconsideration and provide the commissioner with a recommendation whether to set aside the individual's disqualification.

Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 245C.23, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

**Subd. 2. Commissioner's notice of disqualification that is not set aside.** (a) The commissioner shall notify the license holder of the disqualification and order the license holder to immediately remove the individual from any position allowing direct contact with persons receiving services from the license holder if:

(1) the individual studied does not submit a timely request for reconsideration under section 245C.21;

(2) the individual submits a timely request for reconsideration, but the commissioner does not set aside the disqualification for that license holder under section 245C.22;

(3) an individual who has a right to request a hearing under sections 245C.27 and 256.045, or 245C.28 and chapter 14 for a disqualification that has not been set aside, does not request a hearing within the specified time; or

(4) an individual submitted a timely request for a hearing under sections 245C.27 and 256.045, or 245C.28 and chapter 14, but the commissioner does not set aside the disqualification under section 245A.08, subdivision 5, or 256.045.

(b) If the commissioner does not set aside the disqualification under section 245C.22, and the license holder was previously ordered under section 245C.17 to immediately remove the disqualified

individual from direct contact with persons receiving services or to ensure that the individual is under continuous, direct supervision when providing direct contact services, the order remains in effect pending the outcome of a hearing under sections 245C.27 and 256.045, or 245C.28 and chapter 14.

(c) For background studies related to child foster care, and beginning January 1, 2008, for family child care, the commissioner shall also notify the county or private agency that initiated the study of the results of the reconsideration.

**Sec. 22. [245C.33] ADOPTION BACKGROUND STUDY REQUIREMENTS.**

Subdivision 1. **Background studies conducted by commissioner.** Before placement of a child for purposes of adoption, the commissioner shall conduct a background study on individuals listed in section 259.41, subdivision 3, for county agencies and private agencies licensed to place children for adoption.

Subd. 2. **Information and data provided to county or private agency.** The subject of the background study shall provide the information specified in section 245C.05.

Subd. 3. **Information and data provided to commissioner.** The county or private agency shall forward the data collected under subdivision 2 to the commissioner.

Subd. 4. **Information commissioner reviews.** (a) The commissioner shall review the following information regarding the background study subject:

(1) the information under section 245C.08, subdivisions 1, 3, and 4;

(2) information from the child abuse and neglect registry for any state in which the subject has resided for the past five years; and

(3) information from national crime information databases, when required under section 245C.08.

(b) The commissioner shall provide any information collected under this subdivision to the county or private agency that initiated the background study. The commissioner shall indicate if the information collected shows that the subject of the background study has a conviction listed in United States Code, title 42, section 671(a)(20)(A).

**Sec. 23. [245C.34] ADOPTION AND CHILD FOSTER CARE BACKGROUND STUDIES; TRIBAL ORGANIZATIONS.**

Subdivision 1. **Background studies may be conducted by commissioner.** (a) Tribal organizations may contract with the commissioner under section 245C.12 to obtain background study data on individuals under tribal jurisdiction related to adoptions.

(b) Tribal organizations may contract with the commissioner under section 245C.12 to obtain background study data on individuals under tribal jurisdiction related to child foster care.

(c) Background studies initiated by tribal organizations under paragraphs (a) and (b) must be conducted as provided in subdivisions 2 and 3.

Subd. 2. **Information and data provided to tribal organization.** The background study subject must provide the information specified in section 245C.05.

Subd. 3. **Information and data provided to commissioner.** The tribal organization shall forward the data collected under subdivision 2 to the commissioner.

Subd. 4. **Information commissioner reviews.** (a) The commissioner shall review the following information regarding the background study subject:

(1) the information under section 245C.08, subdivisions 1, 3, and 4;

(2) information from the child abuse and neglect registry for any state in which the subject has resided for the past five years; and

(3) information from national crime information databases, when required under section 245C.08.

(b) The commissioner shall provide any information collected under this subdivision to the tribal organization that initiated the background study. The commissioner shall indicate if the information collected shows that the subject of the background study has a conviction listed in United States Code, title 42, section 671(a)(20)(A).

Sec. 24. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 259.20, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Other applicable law.** (a) Portions of chapters 245A, 245C, 257, 260, and 317A may also affect the adoption of a particular child.

(b) Provisions of the Indian Child Welfare Act, United States Code, title 25, chapter 21, sections 1901-1923, may also apply in the adoption of an Indian child, and may preempt specific provisions of this chapter.

(c) Consistent with section 245C.33 and Public Law 109-248, a completed background study is required before the approval of any foster or adoptive placement in a related or an unrelated home.

Sec. 25. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 259.29, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Best interests of the child.** (a) The policy of the state of Minnesota is to ensure that the best interests of the child are met by requiring individualized determination of the needs of the child and of how the adoptive placement will serve the needs of the child.

(b) Among the factors the agency shall consider in determining the needs of the child are those specified under section 260C.193, subdivision 3, paragraph (b).

(c) Except for emergency placements provided for in section 245A.035, a completed background study is required under section 245C.33 before the approval of an adoptive placement in a home.

Sec. 26. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 259.41, is amended to read:

#### **259.41 ADOPTION STUDY.**

Subdivision 1. **Study required before placement; certain relatives excepted.** (a) An approved adoption study; completed background study, as required under section 245C.33; and written report must be completed before the child is placed in a prospective adoptive home under this chapter, except as allowed by section 259.47, subdivision 6. In an agency placement, the report must be filed with the court at the time the adoption petition is filed. In a direct adoptive placement, the report must be filed with the court in support of a motion for temporary preadoptive custody under



section 259.47, subdivision 3, or, if the study and report are complete, in support of an emergency order under section 259.47, subdivision 6. The study and report shall be completed by a licensed child-placing agency and must be thorough and comprehensive. The study and report shall be paid for by the prospective adoptive parent, except as otherwise required under section 259.67 or 259.73.

(b) A placement for adoption with an individual who is related to the child, as defined by section 245A.02, subdivision 13, is not subject to this section except as required by ~~section~~ sections 245C.33 and 259.53, subdivision 2, paragraph (c).

(c) In the case of a licensed foster parent seeking to adopt a child who is in the foster parent's care, any portions of the foster care licensing process that duplicate requirements of the home study may be submitted in satisfaction of the relevant requirements of this section.

**Subd. 2. Form of study.** (a) The adoption study must include at least one in-home visit with the prospective adoptive parent. At a minimum, the study must ~~include~~ document the following information about the prospective adoptive parent:

(1) a background ~~check~~ study as required by subdivision 3 and section 245C.33, and including:

(i) an ~~evaluation~~ assessment of the data and information provided by section 245C.33, subdivision 4, to determine if the prospective adoptive parent and any other person over the age of 13 living in the home has a felony conviction consistent with subdivision 3 and section 471(a)(2) of the Social Security Act; and

(ii) an ~~assessment~~ of the effect of a ~~any~~ conviction or finding of substantiated maltreatment on the ~~ability to~~ capacity of the prospective adoptive parent to safely care for and parent a child;

(2) a medical and social history and assessment of current health;

(3) an assessment of potential parenting skills;

(4) an assessment of ability to provide adequate financial support for a child; and

(5) an assessment of the level of knowledge and awareness of adoption issues including, where appropriate, matters relating to interracial, cross-cultural, and special needs adoptions.

(b) The adoption study is the basis for completion of a written report. The report must be in a format specified by the commissioner and must contain recommendations regarding the suitability of the subject of the study to be an adoptive parent.

**Subd. 3. ~~Background check; affidavit of history~~ study.** (a) At the time an adoption study is commenced, each prospective adoptive parent must:

(1) authorize access by the agency to any private data needed to complete the study;

(2) provide all addresses at which the prospective adoptive parent and anyone in the household over the age of 13 has resided in the previous five years; and

(3) disclose any names used previously other than the name used at the time of the study.

(b) When the requirements of paragraph (a) have been met, the agency shall immediately ~~begin~~ initiate a background ~~check,~~ study under section 245C.33 to be completed by the commissioner on each person over the age of 13 living in the home, ~~consisting, at a minimum, of the following.~~ As

required under section 245C.33 and Public Law 109-248, a completed background study is required before the approval of any foster or adoptive placement in a related or an unrelated home. The required background study must be completed as part of the home study.

~~(1) a check of criminal conviction data with the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension and local law enforcement authorities;~~

~~(2) a check for data on substantiated maltreatment of a child or vulnerable adult and domestic violence data with local law enforcement and social services agencies and district courts; and~~

~~(3) for those persons under the age of 25, a check of juvenile court records.~~

~~Notwithstanding the provisions of section 260B.171 or 260C.171, the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, local law enforcement and social services agencies, district courts, and juvenile courts shall release the requested information to the agency completing the adoption study.~~

~~(c) When paragraph (b) requires checking the data or records of local law enforcement and social services agencies and district and juvenile courts, the agency shall check with the law enforcement and social services agencies and courts whose jurisdictions cover the addresses under paragraph (a), clause (2). In the event that the agency is unable to complete any of the record checks required by paragraph (b), the agency shall document the fact and the agency's efforts to obtain the information.~~

~~(d) For a study completed under this section, when the agency has reasonable cause to believe that further information may exist on the prospective adoptive parent or household member over the age of 13 that may relate to the health, safety, or welfare of the child, the prospective adoptive parent or household member over the age of 13 shall provide the agency with a set of classifiable fingerprints obtained from an authorized law enforcement agency and the agency may obtain criminal history data from the National Criminal Records Repository by submitting fingerprints to the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension. The agency has reasonable cause when, but not limited to, the:~~

~~(1) information from the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension indicates that the prospective adoptive parent or household member over the age of 13 is a multistate offender;~~

~~(2) information from the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension indicates that multistate offender status is undetermined;~~

~~(3) the agency has received a report from the prospective adoptive parent or household member over the age of 13 or a third party indicating that the prospective adoptive parent or household member over the age of 13 has a criminal history in a jurisdiction other than Minnesota; or~~

~~(4) the prospective adoptive parent or household member over the age of 13 is or has been a resident of a state other than Minnesota in the prior five years.~~

~~(e) At any time prior to completion of the background check required under paragraph (b), a prospective adoptive parent may submit to the agency conducting the study a sworn affidavit stating whether they or any person residing in the household have been convicted of a crime. The affidavit shall also state whether the adoptive parent or any other person residing in the household is the subject of an open investigation of, or have been the subject of a substantiated allegation of, child or vulnerable adult maltreatment within the past ten years. A complete description of the crime, open investigation, or substantiated abuse, and a complete description of any sentence, treatment,~~

~~or disposition must be included. The affidavit must contain an acknowledgment that if, at any time before the adoption is final, a court receives evidence leading to a conclusion that a prospective adoptive parent knowingly gave false information in the affidavit, it shall be determined that the adoption of the child by the prospective adoptive parent is not in the best interests of the child.~~

~~(f) For the purposes of subdivision 1 and section 259.47, subdivisions 3 and 6, an adoption study is complete for placement, even though the background checks required by paragraph (b) have not been completed, if each prospective adoptive parent has completed the affidavit allowed by paragraph (e) and the other requirements of this section have been met. The background checks required by paragraph (b) must be completed before an adoption petition is filed. If an adoption study has been submitted to the court under section 259.47, subdivision 3 or 6, before the background checks required by paragraph (b) were complete, an updated adoption study report which includes the results of the background check must be filed with the adoption petition. In the event that an agency is unable to complete any of the records checks required by paragraph (b), the agency shall submit with the petition to adopt an affidavit documenting the agency's efforts to complete the checks.~~

(c) A home study under paragraph (b) used to consider placement of any child on whose behalf Title IV-E adoption assistance payments are to be made must not be approved if a background study reveals a felony conviction at any time for:

- (1) child abuse or neglect;
- (2) spousal abuse;
- (3) a crime against children, including child pornography; or
- (4) a crime involving violence, including rape, sexual assault, or homicide, but not including other physical assault or battery.

(d) A home study under paragraph (b) used to consider placement of any child on whose behalf Title IV-E adoption assistance payments are to be made must not be approved if a background study reveals a felony conviction within the past five years for:

- (1) physical assault or battery; or
- (2) a drug-related offense.

**Subd. 4. Updates to adoption study; period of validity.** An agency may update an adoption study and report as needed, regardless of when the original study and report or most recent update was completed. An update must be in a format specified by the commissioner and must verify the continuing accuracy of the elements of the original report and document any changes to elements of the original report. An update to a study and report not originally completed under this section must ensure that the study and report, as updated, meet the requirements of this section. An adoption study is valid if the report has been completed or updated within the previous 12 months.

Sec. 27. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 259.53, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

**Subd. 2. Adoption agencies; postplacement assessment and report.** (a) The agency to which the petition has been referred under subdivision 1 shall conduct a postplacement assessment and file a report with the court within 90 days of receipt of a copy of the adoption petition. The agency

shall send a copy of the report to the commissioner at the time it files the report with the court. The assessment and report must evaluate the environment and antecedents of the child to be adopted, the home of the petitioners, whether placement with the petitioners meets the needs of the child as described in section 259.57, subdivision 2. The report must include a recommendation to the court as to whether the petition should or should not be granted.

In making evaluations and recommendations, the postplacement assessment and report must, at a minimum, address the following:

- (1) the level of adaptation by the prospective adoptive parents to parenting the child;
- (2) the health and well-being of the child in the prospective adoptive parents' home;
- (3) the level of incorporation by the child into the prospective adoptive parents' home, extended family, and community; and
- (4) the level of inclusion of the child's previous history into the prospective adoptive home, such as cultural or ethnic practices, or contact with former foster parents or biological relatives.

(b) A postplacement adoption report is valid for 12 months following its date of completion.

~~(c) If the petitioner is an individual who is related to the child, as defined by section 245A.02, subdivision 13, the agency, as part of its postplacement assessment and report under paragraph (a), shall conduct a background check meeting the requirements of section 259.41, subdivision 3, paragraph (b). The prospective adoptive parent shall cooperate in the completion of the background check by supplying the information and authorizations described in section 259.41, subdivision 3, paragraph (a).~~

~~(d)~~ (c) If the report recommends that the court not grant the petition to adopt the child, the provisions of this paragraph apply. Unless the assessment and report were completed by the local social services agency, the agency completing the report, at the time it files the report with the court under paragraph (a), must provide a copy of the report to the local social services agency in the county where the prospective adoptive parent lives. The agency or local social services agency may recommend that the court dismiss the petition. If the local social services agency determines that continued placement in the home endangers the child's physical or emotional health, the agency shall seek a court order to remove the child from the home.

~~(e)~~ (d) If, through no fault of the petitioner, the agency to whom the petition was referred under subdivision 1, paragraph (b), fails to complete the assessment and file the report within 90 days of the date it received a copy of the adoption petition, the court may hear the petition upon giving the agency and the local social services agency, if different, five days' notice by mail of the time and place of the hearing.

Sec. 28. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 259.57, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Protection of child's best interests.** (a) The policy of the state of Minnesota is to ensure that the best interests of children are met by requiring an individualized determination of the needs of the child and how the adoptive placement will serve the needs of the child.

(b) Among the factors the court shall consider in determining the needs of the child are those specified under section 260C.193, subdivision 3, paragraph (b). Consistent with section 245C.33 and

Public Law 109-248, a complete background study is required before the approval of an adoptive placement in a home.

(c) In reviewing adoptive placement and in determining appropriate adoption, the court shall consider placement, consistent with the child's best interests and in the following order, with (1) a relative or relatives of the child, or (2) an important friend with whom the child has resided or had significant contact. Placement of a child cannot be delayed or denied based on race, color, or national origin of the adoptive parent or the child. Whenever possible, siblings should be placed together unless it is determined not to be in the best interests of a sibling.

(d) If the child's birth parent or parents explicitly request that relatives and important friends not be considered, the court shall honor that request consistent with the best interests of the child.

If the child's birth parent or parents express a preference for placing the child in an adoptive home of the same or a similar religious background to that of the birth parent or parents, the court shall place the child with a family that also meets the birth parent's religious preference. Only if no family is available as described in clause (a) or (b) may the court give preference to a family described in clause (c) that meets the parent's religious preference.

(e) This subdivision does not affect the Indian Child Welfare Act, United States Code, title 25, sections 1901 to 1923, and the Minnesota Indian Family Preservation Act, sections 260.751 to 260.835.

Sec. 29. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 260C.209, is amended to read:

**260C.209 BACKGROUND CHECKS.**

Subdivision 1. **Subjects.** The responsible social services agency must ~~conduct~~ initiate a background ~~check~~ study to be completed by the commissioner under this section of chapter 245C on the following individuals:

(1) a noncustodial parent or nonadjudicated parent who is being assessed for purposes of providing day-to-day care of a child temporarily or permanently under section 260C.212, subdivision 4, and any member of the parent's household who is over the age of 13 when there is a reasonable cause to believe that the parent or household member over age 13 has a criminal history or a history of maltreatment of a child or vulnerable adult which would endanger the child's health, safety, or welfare;

(2) an individual whose suitability for relative placement under section 260C.212, subdivision 5, is being determined and any member of the relative's household who is over the age of 13 when:

(i) the relative must be licensed for foster care; or

(ii) the ~~agency must conduct~~ a background study is required under section 259.53, subdivision 2; or

(iii) the agency or the commissioner has reasonable cause to believe the relative or household member over the age of 13 has a criminal history which would not make transfer of permanent legal and physical custody to the relative under section 260C.201, subdivision 11, in the child's best interest; and

(3) a parent, following an out-of-home placement, when the responsible social services agency

has reasonable cause to believe that the parent has been convicted of a crime directly related to the parent's capacity to maintain the child's health, safety, or welfare or the parent is the subject of an open investigation of, or has been the subject of a substantiated allegation of, child or vulnerable-adult maltreatment within the past ten years.

"Reasonable cause" means that the agency has received information or a report from the subject or a third person that creates an articulable suspicion that the individual has a history that may pose a risk to the health, safety, or welfare of the child. The information or report must be specific to the potential subject of the background check and shall not be based on the race, religion, ethnic background, age, class, or lifestyle of the potential subject.

Subd. 2. **General procedures.** (a) When ~~conducting~~ initiating a background check under subdivision 1, the agency ~~may~~ shall require the individual being assessed to provide sufficient information to ensure an accurate assessment under this section, including:

(1) the individual's first, middle, and last name and all other names by which the individual has been known;

(2) home address, zip code, city, county, and state of residence for the past ~~ten~~ five years;

(3) sex;

(4) date of birth; and

(5) driver's license number or state identification number.

(b) When notified by the commissioner or the responsible social services agency that it is conducting an assessment under this section, the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, commissioners of health and human services, law enforcement, and county agencies must provide the commissioner or the responsible social services agency or county attorney with the following information on the individual being assessed: criminal history data, reports about the maltreatment of adults substantiated under section 626.557, and reports of maltreatment of minors substantiated under section 626.556.

Subd. 3. **Multistate information.** ~~(a) For any assessment every background study completed under this section, if the responsible social services agency has reasonable cause to believe that the individual is a multistate offender, the individual must~~ the subject of the background study shall provide the responsible social services agency or the county attorney with a set of classifiable fingerprints obtained from an authorized law enforcement agency. The responsible social services agency or county attorney may shall provide the fingerprints to the commissioner, and the commissioner shall obtain criminal history data from the National Criminal Records Repository by submitting the fingerprints to the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension.

~~(b) For purposes of this subdivision, the responsible social services agency has reasonable cause when, but not limited to:~~

~~(1) information from the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension indicates that the individual is a multistate offender;~~

~~(2) information from the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension indicates that multistate offender status is undetermined;~~

~~(3) the social services agency has received a report from the individual or a third party indicating that the individual has a criminal history in a jurisdiction other than Minnesota; or~~

~~(4) the individual is or has been a resident of a state other than Minnesota at any time during the prior ten years.~~

Subd. 4. **Notice upon receipt.** ~~The responsible social services agency commissioner must provide the subject of the background study with the results of the study as required under this section within 15 business days of receipt or at least 15 days prior to the hearing at which the results will be presented, whichever comes first. The subject may provide written information to the agency that the results are incorrect and may provide additional or clarifying information to the agency and to the court through a party to the proceeding. This provision does not apply to any background study conducted under chapters 245A and chapter 245C.~~

Sec. 30. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 260C.212, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Placement decisions based on best interest of the child.** (a) The policy of the state of Minnesota is to ensure that the child's best interests are met by requiring an individualized determination of the needs of the child and of how the selected placement will serve the needs of the child being placed. The authorized child-placing agency shall place a child, released by court order or by voluntary release by the parent or parents, in a family foster home selected by considering placement with relatives and important friends in the following order:

(1) with an individual who is related to the child by blood, marriage, or adoption; or

(2) with an individual who is an important friend with whom the child has resided or had significant contact.

(b) Among the factors the agency shall consider in determining the needs of the child are the following:

(1) the child's current functioning and behaviors;

(2) the medical, educational, and developmental needs of the child;

(3) the child's history and past experience;

(4) the child's religious and cultural needs;

(5) the child's connection with a community, school, and church;

(6) the child's interests and talents;

(7) the child's relationship to current caretakers, parents, siblings, and relatives; and

(8) the reasonable preference of the child, if the court, or the child-placing agency in the case of a voluntary placement, deems the child to be of sufficient age to express preferences.

(c) Placement of a child cannot be delayed or denied based on race, color, or national origin of the foster parent or the child.

(d) Siblings should be placed together for foster care and adoption at the earliest possible time unless it is determined not to be in the best interests of a sibling or unless it is not possible after

appropriate efforts by the responsible social services agency.

(e) Except for emergency placement as provided for in section 245A.035, a completed background study is required under section 245C.08 before the approval of a foster placement in a related or unrelated home.

**Sec. 31. LICENSING MORATORIUM.**

A program operated by a nonpublic school for children 33 months or older is exempt from the human services licensing requirements in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 245A, until July 1, 2009. Nothing in this section prohibits an already licensed nonpublic school program from continuing its licensure or a nonpublic school program from seeking licensure.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This moratorium is effective the day following final enactment.

**Sec. 32. ANNUAL LICENSE REVIEW.**

The commissioner of human services shall work with counties to determine the cost and propose an ongoing funding allocation from the general fund to cover the cost to counties to implement an annual license review for licensed family child care providers. The commissioner shall solicit input from counties to determine the outcome. The commissioner shall report to the house and senate committees having jurisdiction over early childhood programs by January 15, 2008, as to the costs and the funding allocation recommended for future use.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

**Sec. 33. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Changes made to sections in this article related to family child care are effective January 1, 2008.

## **ARTICLE 4**

### **HEALTH CARE POLICY**

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16A.724, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Transfers.** (a) Notwithstanding section 295.581, to the extent available resources in the health care access fund exceed expenditures in that fund, effective ~~with~~ for the biennium beginning July 1, 2007, the commissioner of finance shall transfer the excess funds from the health care access fund to the general fund on June 30 of each year, provided that the amount transferred in any fiscal biennium shall not exceed \$96,000,000. The purpose of this transfer is to meet the rate increase required under Laws 2003, First Special Session chapter 14, article 13C, section 2, subdivision 6.

(b) For fiscal years 2006 to 2009, MinnesotaCare shall be a forecasted program, and, if necessary, the commissioner shall reduce these transfers from the health care access fund to the general fund to meet annual MinnesotaCare expenditures or, if necessary, transfer sufficient funds from the general fund to the health care access fund to meet annual MinnesotaCare expenditures.

**Sec. 2. [254A.171] INTERVENTION AND ADVOCACY PROGRAM.**

Within the limit of money available, the commissioner shall fund voluntary outreach programs targeted at women who deliver children affected by prenatal alcohol or drug use. The programs shall help women obtain treatment, stay in recovery, and plan any future pregnancies. An advocate shall



be assigned to each woman in the program to provide guidance and advice with respect to treatment programs, child safety and parenting, housing, family planning, and any other personal issues that are barriers to remaining free of chemical dependency.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.055, subdivision 14, is amended to read:

Subd. 14. **Persons detained by law.** (a) Medical assistance may be paid for an inmate of a correctional facility who is conditionally released as authorized under section 241.26, 244.065, or 631.425, if the individual does not require the security of a public detention facility and is housed in a halfway house or community correction center, or under house arrest and monitored by electronic surveillance in a residence approved by the commissioner of corrections, and if the individual meets the other eligibility requirements of this chapter.

(b) An individual who is enrolled in medical assistance, and who is charged with a crime and incarcerated for less than 12 months shall be suspended from eligibility at the time of incarceration until the individual is released. Upon release, medical assistance eligibility is reinstated without reapplication using a reinstatement process and form, if the individual is otherwise eligible.

(c) An individual, regardless of age, who is considered an inmate of a public institution as defined in Code of Federal Regulations, title 42, section 435.1009, is not eligible for medical assistance.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.056, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 1d. **Treatment of certain monetary gifts.** The commissioner shall disregard as income any portion of a monetary gift received by an applicant or enrollee that is designated to purchase a prosthetic device not covered by insurance, other third-party payers, or medical assistance.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0625, subdivision 13c, is amended to read:

Subd. 13c. **Formulary committee.** The commissioner, after receiving recommendations from professional medical associations and professional pharmacy associations, and consumer groups shall designate a Formulary Committee to carry out duties as described in subdivisions 13 to 13g. The Formulary Committee shall be comprised of four licensed physicians actively engaged in the practice of medicine in Minnesota one of whom must be actively engaged in the treatment of persons with mental illness; at least three licensed pharmacists actively engaged in the practice of pharmacy in Minnesota; and one consumer representative; the remainder to be made up of health care professionals who are licensed in their field and have recognized knowledge in the clinically appropriate prescribing, dispensing, and monitoring of covered outpatient drugs. Members of the Formulary Committee shall not be employed by the Department of Human Services, but the committee shall be staffed by an employee of the department who shall serve as an ex officio, nonvoting member of the ~~board~~ committee. The department's medical director shall also serve as an ex officio, nonvoting member for the committee. Committee members shall serve three-year terms and may be reappointed by the commissioner. The Formulary Committee shall meet at least quarterly. The commissioner may require more frequent Formulary Committee meetings as needed. An honorarium of \$100 per meeting and reimbursement for mileage shall be paid to each committee member in attendance.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0625, subdivision 13d, is amended to read:

Subd. 13d. **Drug formulary.** (a) The commissioner shall establish a drug formulary. Its establishment and publication shall not be subject to the requirements of the Administrative

Procedure Act, but the Formulary Committee shall review and comment on the formulary contents.

(b) The formulary shall not include:

- (1) drugs or products for which there is no federal funding;
- (2) over-the-counter drugs, except as provided in subdivision 13;
- (3) drugs used for weight loss, except that medically necessary lipase inhibitors may be covered for a recipient with type II diabetes;
- (4) drugs when used for the treatment of impotence or erectile dysfunction;
- (5) drugs for which medical value has not been established; and
- (6) drugs from manufacturers who have not signed a rebate agreement with the Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to section 1927 of title XIX of the Social Security Act.

(c) If a single-source drug used by at least two percent of the fee-for-service medical assistance recipients is removed from the formulary due to the failure of the manufacturer to sign a rebate agreement with the Department of Health and Human Services, the commissioner shall notify prescribing practitioners within 30 days of receiving notification from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) that a rebate agreement was not signed.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0625, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 49. **Community health worker.** (a) Medical assistance covers the care coordination and patient education services provided by a community health worker if the community health worker has:

- (1) received a certificate from the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities System approved community health worker curriculum; or
- (2) at least five years of supervised experience with an enrolled physician, registered nurse, or advanced practice registered nurse.

Community health workers eligible for payment under clause (2) must complete the certification program by January 1, 2010, to continue to be eligible for payment.

(b) Community health workers must work under the supervision of a medical assistance enrolled physician, registered nurse, or advanced practice registered nurse.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256L.03, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **Co-payments and coinsurance.** (a) Except as provided in paragraphs (b) and (c), the MinnesotaCare benefit plan shall include the following co-payments and coinsurance requirements for all enrollees:

- (1) ten percent of the paid charges for inpatient hospital services for adult enrollees, subject to an annual inpatient out-of-pocket maximum of \$1,000 per individual and \$3,000 per family;
- (2) \$3 per prescription for adult enrollees;

(3) \$25 for eyeglasses for adult enrollees;

(4) \$3 per nonpreventive visit. For purposes of this subdivision, a "visit" means an episode of service which is required because of a recipient's symptoms, diagnosis, or established illness, and which is delivered in an ambulatory setting by a physician or physician ancillary, chiropractor, podiatrist, nurse midwife, advanced practice nurse, audiologist, optician, or optometrist; and

(5) \$6 for nonemergency visits to a hospital-based emergency room.

(b) Paragraph (a), clause (1), does not apply to parents and relative caretakers of children under the age of 21 in households with family income equal to or less than 175 percent of the federal poverty guidelines. Paragraph (a), clause (1), does not apply to parents and relative caretakers of children under the age of 21 in households with family income greater than 175 percent of the federal poverty guidelines for inpatient hospital admissions occurring on or after January 1, 2001.

(c) Paragraph (a), ~~clauses (1) to (4), do~~ does not apply to pregnant women and children under the age of 21.

(d) Adult enrollees with family gross income that exceeds 175 percent of the federal poverty guidelines and who are not pregnant shall be financially responsible for the coinsurance amount, if applicable, and amounts which exceed the \$10,000 inpatient hospital benefit limit.

(e) When a MinnesotaCare enrollee becomes a member of a prepaid health plan, or changes from one prepaid health plan to another during a calendar year, any charges submitted towards the \$10,000 annual inpatient benefit limit, and any out-of-pocket expenses incurred by the enrollee for inpatient services, that were submitted or incurred prior to enrollment, or prior to the change in health plans, shall be disregarded.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256L.04, subdivision 12, is amended to read:

Subd. 12. **Persons in detention.** Beginning January 1, 1999, an applicant residing in a correctional or detention facility is not eligible for MinnesotaCare. An enrollee residing in a correctional or detention facility is not eligible at renewal of eligibility under section 256L.05, subdivision ~~3b~~ 3a.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256L.17, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Documentation.** (a) The commissioner of human services shall require individuals and families, at the time of application or renewal, to indicate on a checkoff form developed by the commissioner whether they satisfy the MinnesotaCare asset requirement. ~~This form must include the following or similar language: "To be eligible for MinnesotaCare, individuals and families must not own net assets in excess of \$30,000 for a household of two or more persons or \$15,000 for a household of one person, not including a homestead, household goods and personal effects, assets owned by children, vehicles used for employment, court-ordered settlements up to \$10,000, individual retirement accounts, and capital and operating assets of a trade or business up to \$200,000. Do you and your household own net assets in excess of these limits?"~~

(b) The commissioner may require individuals and families to provide any information the commissioner determines necessary to verify compliance with the asset requirement, if the commissioner determines that there is reason to believe that an individual or family has assets that exceed the program limit.

**ARTICLE 5****HEALTH CARE**

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16A.724, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Transfers.** (a) Notwithstanding section 295.581, to the extent available resources in the health care access fund exceed expenditures in that fund, effective with for the biennium beginning July 1, 2007, the commissioner of finance shall transfer the excess funds from the health care access fund to the general fund on June 30 of each year, provided that the amount transferred in any fiscal biennium shall not exceed \$96,000,000. The purpose of this transfer is to meet the rate increase required under Laws 2003, First Special Session chapter 14, article 13C, section 2, subdivision 6.

(b) For fiscal years 2006 to ~~2009~~ 2011, MinnesotaCare shall be a forecasted program, and, if necessary, the commissioner shall reduce these transfers from the health care access fund to the general fund to meet annual MinnesotaCare expenditures or, if necessary, transfer sufficient funds from the general fund to the health care access fund to meet annual MinnesotaCare expenditures.

**Sec. 2. [256.962] MINNESOTA HEALTH CARE PROGRAMS OUTREACH.**

Subdivision 1. **Public awareness and education.** The commissioner, in consultation with community organizations, health plans, and other public entities experienced in outreach to the uninsured, shall design and implement a statewide campaign to raise public awareness on the availability of health coverage through medical assistance, general assistance medical care, and MinnesotaCare and to educate the public on the importance of obtaining and maintaining health care coverage. The campaign shall include multimedia messages directed to the general population.

Subd. 2. **Outreach grants.** (a) The commissioner shall award grants to public and private organizations, regional collaboratives, and regional health care outreach centers for outreach activities, including, but not limited to:

(1) providing information, applications, and assistance in obtaining coverage through Minnesota public health care programs;

(2) collaborating with public and private entities such as hospitals, providers, health plans, legal aid offices, pharmacies, insurance agencies, and faith-based organizations to develop outreach activities and partnerships to ensure the distribution of information and applications and provide assistance in obtaining coverage through Minnesota health care programs; and

(3) providing or collaborating with public and private entities to provide multilingual and culturally specific information and assistance to applicants in areas of high uninsurance in the state or populations with high rates of uninsurance.

(b) The commissioner shall ensure that all outreach materials are available in languages other than English.

(c) The commissioner shall establish an outreach trainer program to provide training to designated individuals from the community and public and private entities on application assistance in order for these individuals to provide training to others in the community on an as-needed basis.

Subd. 3. **Application and assistance.** (a) The Minnesota health care programs application must be made available at provider offices, local human services agencies, school districts, public and

private elementary schools in which 25 percent or more of the students receive free or reduced price lunches, community health offices, Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program sites, Head Start program sites, public housing councils, child care centers, early childhood education and preschool program sites, legal aid offices, and libraries. The commissioner shall ensure that applications are available in languages other than English.

(b) Local human service agencies, hospitals, and health care community clinics receiving state funds must provide direct assistance in completing the application form, including the free use of a copy machine and a drop box for applications. These locations must ensure that the drop box is checked at least weekly and any applications are submitted to the commissioner. The commissioner shall provide these entities with an identification number to stamp on each application to identify the entity that provided assistance. Other locations where applications are required to be available shall either provide direct assistance in completing the application form or provide information on where an applicant can receive application assistance.

(c) Counties must offer applications and application assistance when providing child support collection services.

(d) Local public health agencies and counties that provide immunization clinics must offer applications and application assistance during these clinics.

(e) The commissioner shall coordinate with the commissioner of health to ensure that maternal and child health outreach efforts include information on Minnesota health care programs and application assistance, when needed.

Subd. 4. **Statewide toll-free telephone number.** The commissioner shall provide funds for a statewide toll-free telephone number to provide information on public and private health coverage options and sources of free and low-cost health care. The statewide telephone number must provide the option of obtaining this information in languages other than English.

Subd. 5. **Incentive program.** Beginning January 1, 2008, the commissioner shall establish an incentive program for organizations that directly identify and assist potential enrollees in filling out and submitting an application. For each applicant who is successfully enrolled in MinnesotaCare, medical assistance, or general assistance medical care, the commissioner shall pay the organization a \$25 application assistance bonus. The organization may provide an applicant a gift certificate or other incentive upon enrollment.

Subd. 6. **School districts.** (a) At the beginning of each school year, a school district shall provide information to each student on the availability of health care coverage through the Minnesota health care programs.

(b) For each child who is determined to be eligible for a free or reduced priced lunch, the district shall provide the child's family with an application for the Minnesota health care programs and information on how to obtain application assistance.

(c) A district shall also ensure that applications and information on application assistance are available at early childhood education sites and public schools located within the district's jurisdiction.

(d) Each district shall designate an enrollment specialist to provide application assistance and follow-up services with families who are eligible for the reduced or free lunch program or who

have indicated an interest in receiving information or an application for the Minnesota health care program.

(e) Each school district shall provide on their Web site a link to information on how to obtain an application and application assistance.

Subd. 7. **Renewal notice.** (a) Beginning December 1, 2007, the commissioner shall mail a renewal notice to enrollees notifying the enrollees that the enrollees eligibility must be renewed. A notice shall be sent at least 90 days prior to the renewal date and at least 60 days prior to the renewal date.

(b) For enrollees who are receiving services through managed care plans, the managed care plan must provide a follow-up renewal call at least 60 days prior to the enrollees' renewal dates.

(c) The commissioner shall include the end of coverage dates on the monthly rosters of enrollees provided to managed care organizations.

Subd. 8. **MinnesotaCare small employer buy-in option.** The commissioner shall provide information on the small employer buy-in option for MinnesotaCare to insurance agents and local chambers of commerce.

Sec. 3. **[256.963] PRIMARY CARE ACCESS INITIATIVE.**

Subdivision 1. **Establishment.** (a) The commissioner shall award a grant to implement in Hennepin and Ramsey Counties a Web-based primary care access pilot project designed as a collaboration between private and public sectors to connect, where appropriate, a patient with a primary care medical home, and schedule patients into available community-based appointments as an alternative to nonemergency use of the hospital emergency room. The grantee must establish a program that diverts patients presenting at an emergency room for nonemergency care to more appropriate outpatient settings. The program must refer the patient to an appropriate health care professional based on the patient's health care needs and situation. The program must provide the patient with a scheduled appointment that is timely, with an appropriate provider who is conveniently located. If the patient is uninsured and potentially eligible for a Minnesota health care program, the program must connect the patient to a primary care provider, community clinic, or agency that can assist the patient with the application process. The program must also ensure that discharged patients are connected with a community-based primary care provider and assist in scheduling any necessary follow-up visits before the patient is discharged.

(b) The program must not require a provider to pay a fee for accepting charity care patients or patients enrolled in a Minnesota public health care program.

Subd. 2. **Evaluation.** (a) The grantee must report to the commissioner on a quarterly basis the following information:

- (1) the total number of appointments available for scheduling by specialty;
- (2) the average length of time between scheduling and actual appointment;
- (3) the total number of patients referred and whether the patient was insured or uninsured; and
- (4) the total number of appointments resulting in visits completed and number of patients continuing services with the referring clinic.

(b) The commissioner, in consultation with the Minnesota Hospital Association, shall conduct an evaluation of the emergency room diversion pilot project and submit the results to the legislature by January 15, 2009. The evaluation shall compare the number of nonemergency visits and repeat visits to hospital emergency rooms for the period before the commencement of the project and one year after the commencement, and an estimate of the costs saved from any documented reductions.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256.969, subdivision 3a, is amended to read:

Subd. 3a. **Payments.** (a) Acute care hospital billings under the medical assistance program must not be submitted until the recipient is discharged. However, the commissioner shall establish monthly interim payments for inpatient hospitals that have individual patient lengths of stay over 30 days regardless of diagnostic category. Except as provided in section 256.9693, medical assistance reimbursement for treatment of mental illness shall be reimbursed based on diagnostic classifications. Individual hospital payments established under this section and sections 256.9685, 256.9686, and 256.9695, in addition to third party and recipient liability, for discharges occurring during the rate year shall not exceed, in aggregate, the charges for the medical assistance covered inpatient services paid for the same period of time to the hospital. This payment limitation shall be calculated separately for medical assistance and general assistance medical care services. The limitation on general assistance medical care shall be effective for admissions occurring on or after July 1, 1991. Services that have rates established under subdivision 11 or 12, must be limited separately from other services. After consulting with the affected hospitals, the commissioner may consider related hospitals one entity and may merge the payment rates while maintaining separate provider numbers. The operating and property base rates per admission or per day shall be derived from the best Medicare and claims data available when rates are established. The commissioner shall determine the best Medicare and claims data, taking into consideration variables of recency of the data, audit disposition, settlement status, and the ability to set rates in a timely manner. The commissioner shall notify hospitals of payment rates by December 1 of the year preceding the rate year. The rate setting data must reflect the admissions data used to establish relative values. Base year changes from 1981 to the base year established for the rate year beginning January 1, 1991, and for subsequent rate years, shall not be limited to the limits ending June 30, 1987, on the maximum rate of increase under subdivision 1. The commissioner may adjust base year cost, relative value, and case mix index data to exclude the costs of services that have been discontinued by the October 1 of the year preceding the rate year or that are paid separately from inpatient services. Inpatient stays that encompass portions of two or more rate years shall have payments established based on payment rates in effect at the time of admission unless the date of admission preceded the rate year in effect by six months or more. In this case, operating payment rates for services rendered during the rate year in effect and established based on the date of admission shall be adjusted to the rate year in effect by the hospital cost index.

(b) For fee-for-service admissions occurring on or after July 1, 2002, the total payment, before third-party liability and spenddown, made to hospitals for inpatient services is reduced by .5 percent from the current statutory rates.

(c) In addition to the reduction in paragraph (b), the total payment for fee-for-service admissions occurring on or after July 1, 2003, made to hospitals for inpatient services before third-party liability and spenddown, is reduced five percent from the current statutory rates. Mental health services within diagnosis related groups 424 to 432, and facilities defined under subdivision 16, and, effective for admissions occurring on or after July 1, 2007, a long-term hospital as designated by the Medicare

program that is located in a city of the first class as defined in section 410.01, are excluded from this paragraph.

(d) In addition to the reduction in paragraphs (b) and (c), the total payment for fee-for-service admissions occurring on or after July 1, 2005, made to hospitals for inpatient services before third-party liability and spenddown, is reduced 6.0 percent from the current statutory rates. Mental health services within diagnosis related groups 424 to 432 ~~and~~, facilities defined under subdivision 16, and, effective for admissions occurring on or after July 1, 2007, a long-term hospital as designated by the Medicare program that is located in a city of the first class as defined in section 410.01, are excluded from this paragraph. Notwithstanding section 256.9686, subdivision 7, for purposes of this paragraph, medical assistance does not include general assistance medical care. Payments made to managed care plans shall be reduced for services provided on or after January 1, 2006, to reflect this reduction.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256.969, subdivision 9, is amended to read:

Subd. 9. **Disproportionate numbers of low-income patients served.** (a) For admissions occurring on or after October 1, 1992, through December 31, 1992, the medical assistance disproportionate population adjustment shall comply with federal law and shall be paid to a hospital, excluding regional treatment centers and facilities of the federal Indian Health Service, with a medical assistance inpatient utilization rate in excess of the arithmetic mean. The adjustment must be determined as follows:

(1) for a hospital with a medical assistance inpatient utilization rate above the arithmetic mean for all hospitals excluding regional treatment centers and facilities of the federal Indian Health Service but less than or equal to one standard deviation above the mean, the adjustment must be determined by multiplying the total of the operating and property payment rates by the difference between the hospital's actual medical assistance inpatient utilization rate and the arithmetic mean for all hospitals excluding regional treatment centers and facilities of the federal Indian Health Service; and

(2) for a hospital with a medical assistance inpatient utilization rate above one standard deviation above the mean, the adjustment must be determined by multiplying the adjustment that would be determined under clause (1) for that hospital by 1.1. If federal matching funds are not available for all adjustments under this subdivision, the commissioner shall reduce payments on a pro rata basis so that all adjustments qualify for federal match. The commissioner may establish a separate disproportionate population operating payment rate adjustment under the general assistance medical care program. For purposes of this subdivision medical assistance does not include general assistance medical care. The commissioner shall report annually on the number of hospitals likely to receive the adjustment authorized by this paragraph. The commissioner shall specifically report on the adjustments received by public hospitals and public hospital corporations located in cities of the first class.

(b) For admissions occurring on or after July 1, 1993, the medical assistance disproportionate population adjustment shall comply with federal law and shall be paid to a hospital, excluding regional treatment centers and facilities of the federal Indian Health Service, with a medical assistance inpatient utilization rate in excess of the arithmetic mean. The adjustment must be determined as follows:

(1) for a hospital with a medical assistance inpatient utilization rate above the arithmetic mean for all hospitals excluding regional treatment centers and facilities of the federal Indian Health Service



but less than or equal to one standard deviation above the mean, the adjustment must be determined by multiplying the total of the operating and property payment rates by the difference between the hospital's actual medical assistance inpatient utilization rate and the arithmetic mean for all hospitals excluding regional treatment centers and facilities of the federal Indian Health Service;

(2) for a hospital with a medical assistance inpatient utilization rate above one standard deviation above the mean, the adjustment must be determined by multiplying the adjustment that would be determined under clause (1) for that hospital by 1.1. The commissioner may establish a separate disproportionate population operating payment rate adjustment under the general assistance medical care program. For purposes of this subdivision, medical assistance does not include general assistance medical care. The commissioner shall report annually on the number of hospitals likely to receive the adjustment authorized by this paragraph. The commissioner shall specifically report on the adjustments received by public hospitals and public hospital corporations located in cities of the first class;

(3) for a hospital that had medical assistance fee-for-service payment volume during calendar year 1991 in excess of 13 percent of total medical assistance fee-for-service payment volume, a medical assistance disproportionate population adjustment shall be paid in addition to any other disproportionate payment due under this subdivision as follows: \$1,515,000 due on the 15th of each month after noon, beginning July 15, 1995. For a hospital that had medical assistance fee-for-service payment volume during calendar year 1991 in excess of eight percent of total medical assistance fee-for-service payment volume and was the primary hospital affiliated with the University of Minnesota, a medical assistance disproportionate population adjustment shall be paid in addition to any other disproportionate payment due under this subdivision as follows: \$505,000 due on the 15th of each month after noon, beginning July 15, 1995; and

(4) effective August 1, 2005, the payments in paragraph (b), clause (3), shall be reduced to zero.

(c) The commissioner shall adjust rates paid to a health maintenance organization under contract with the commissioner to reflect rate increases provided in paragraph (b), clauses (1) and (2), on a nondiscounted hospital-specific basis but shall not adjust those rates to reflect payments provided in clause (3).

(d) If federal matching funds are not available for all adjustments under paragraph (b), the commissioner shall reduce payments under paragraph (b), clauses (1) and (2), on a pro rata basis so that all adjustments under paragraph (b) qualify for federal match.

(e) For purposes of this subdivision, medical assistance does not include general assistance medical care.

(f) For hospital services occurring on or after July 1, 2005, to June 30, 2007,:

(1) general assistance medical care expenditures for fee-for-service inpatient and outpatient hospital payments made by the department and by prepaid health plans participating in general assistance medical care shall be considered Medicaid disproportionate share hospital payments, except as limited below:

~~(1)~~ (i) only the portion of Minnesota's disproportionate share hospital allotment under section 1923(f) of the Social Security Act that is not spent on the disproportionate population adjustments in paragraph (b), clauses (1) and (2), may be used for general assistance medical care expenditures;

~~(2)~~ (ii) only those general assistance medical care expenditures made to hospitals that qualify for disproportionate share payments under section 1923 of the Social Security Act and the Medicaid state plan may be considered disproportionate share hospital payments;

~~(3)~~ (iii) only those general assistance medical care expenditures made to an individual hospital that would not cause the hospital to exceed its individual hospital limits under section 1923 of the Social Security Act may be considered; and

~~(4)~~ (iv) general assistance medical care expenditures may be considered only to the extent of Minnesota's aggregate allotment under section 1923 of the Social Security Act.

All hospitals and prepaid health plans participating in general assistance medical care must provide any necessary expenditure, cost, and revenue information required by the commissioner as necessary for purposes of obtaining federal Medicaid matching funds for general assistance medical care expenditures; and

(2) certified public expenditures made by Hennepin County Medical Center shall be considered Medicaid disproportionate share hospital payments. Hennepin County and Hennepin County Medical Center shall report by June 15, 2007, on payments made beginning July 1, 2005, or another date specified by the commissioner, that may qualify for reimbursement under federal law. Based on these reports, the commissioner shall apply for federal matching funds.

(g) Upon federal approval of the related state plan amendment, paragraph (f) is effective retroactively from July 1, 2005, or the earliest effective date approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective retroactively from July 1, 2005.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256.969, subdivision 27, is amended to read:

Subd. 27. **Quarterly payment adjustment.** (a) In addition to any other payment under this section, the commissioner shall make the following payments effective July 1, 2007:

(1) for a hospital located in Minnesota and not eligible for payments under subdivision 20, with a medical assistance inpatient utilization rate greater than 17.8 percent of total patient days as of the base year in effect on July 1, 2005, a payment equal to 13 percent of the total of the operating and property payment rates;

(2) for a hospital located in Minnesota in a specified urban area outside of the seven-county metropolitan area and not eligible for payments under subdivision 20, with a medical assistance inpatient utilization rate less than or equal to 17.8 percent of total patient days as of the base year in effect on July 1, 2005, a payment equal to ten percent of the total of the operating and property payment rates. For purposes of this clause, the following cities are specified urban areas: Detroit Lakes, Rochester, Willmar, Alexandria, Austin, Cambridge, Brainerd, Hibbing, Mankato, Duluth, St. Cloud, Grand Rapids, Wyoming, Fergus Falls, Albert Lea, Winona, Virginia, Thief River Falls, and Wadena; and

(3) for a hospital located in Minnesota but not located in a specified urban area under clause (2), with a medical assistance inpatient utilization rate less than or equal to 17.8 percent of total patient days as of the base year in effect on July 1, 2005, a payment equal to four percent of the total of the operating and property payment rates. A hospital located in Woodbury and not in existence during

the base year shall be reimbursed under this clause.

(b) The state share of payments under paragraph (a) shall be equal to federal reimbursements to the commissioner to reimburse ~~nonstate~~ expenditures reported under section 256B.199. The commissioner shall ratably reduce or increase payments under this subdivision in order to ensure that these payments equal the amount of reimbursement received by the commissioner under section 256B.199, except that payments shall be ratably reduced by an amount equivalent to the state share of a four percent reduction in MinnesotaCare and medical assistance payments for inpatient hospital services. Effective July 1, 2009, the ratable reduction shall be equivalent to the state share of a three percent reduction in these payments.

(c) The payments under paragraph (a) shall be paid quarterly based on each hospital's operating and property payments from the second previous quarter, beginning on July 15, 2007, or upon federal approval of federal reimbursements under section 256B.199, whichever occurs later.

(d) The commissioner shall not adjust rates paid to a prepaid health plan under contract with the commissioner to reflect payments provided in paragraph (a).

(e) The commissioner shall maximize the use of available federal money for disproportionate share hospital payments and shall maximize payments to qualifying hospitals. In order to accomplish these purposes, the commissioner may, in consultation with the nonstate entities identified in section 256B.199, adjust, on a pro rata basis if feasible, the amounts reported by nonstate entities under section 256B.199 when application for reimbursement is made to the federal government, and otherwise adjust the provisions of this subdivision. The commissioner shall utilize a settlement process based on finalized data to maximize revenue under section 256B.199 and payments under this section.

~~(f) By January 15 of each year, beginning January 15, 2006, the commissioner shall report to the chairs of the house and senate finance committees and divisions with jurisdiction over funding for the Department of Human Services the following estimates for the current and upcoming federal and state fiscal years:~~

~~(1) the difference between the Medicare upper payment limit and actual or anticipated medical assistance payments for hospital services;~~

~~(2) the amount of federal disproportionate share hospital funding available to Minnesota and the amount expected to be claimed by the state; and~~

~~(3) the methodology used to calculate the results reported for clauses (1) and (2).~~

~~(g) For purposes of this subdivision, medical assistance does not include general assistance medical care.~~

~~(h) This section sunsets on June 30, 2009. The commissioner shall report to the legislature by December 15, 2008, with recommendations for maximizing federal disproportionate share hospital payments after June 30, 2009.~~

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256.969, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 28. **Long-term hospital payment adjustment.** For admissions occurring on or after July 1, 2007, the commissioner shall increase the medical assistance payments to a long-term hospital

with a medical assistance inpatient utilization rate of 17.95 percent of total patient days as of the base year in effect on July 1, 2005, by an amount equal to 13 percent of the total of the operating and property payment rates. Payments made to managed care plans shall not reflect this payment increase. For purposes of this subdivision, medical assistance does not include general assistance medical care. Payments to a hospital under this subdivision shall be reduced by the amount of any payments made under subdivision 27.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.04, subdivision 14, is amended to read:

Subd. 14. **Competitive bidding.** (a) When determined to be effective, economical, and feasible, the commissioner may utilize volume purchase through competitive bidding and negotiation under the provisions of chapter 16C, to provide items under the medical assistance program including but not limited to the following:

(1) eyeglasses;

(2) oxygen. The commissioner shall provide for oxygen needed in an emergency situation on a short-term basis, until the vendor can obtain the necessary supply from the contract dealer;

(3) hearing aids and supplies; and

(4) durable medical equipment, including but not limited to:

(i) hospital beds;

(ii) commodes;

(iii) glide-about chairs;

(iv) patient lift apparatus;

(v) wheelchairs and accessories;

(vi) oxygen administration equipment;

(vii) respiratory therapy equipment;

(viii) electronic diagnostic, therapeutic and life support systems;

(5) special nonemergency medical transportation services level of need determinations, disbursement of public transportation passes and tokens, and volunteer and recipient mileage and parking reimbursements; and

(6) drugs.

(b) Rate changes under this chapter and chapters 256D and 256L do not affect contract payments under this subdivision unless specifically identified.

(c) The commissioner may not utilize volume purchase through competitive bidding and negotiation for special transportation services under the provisions of chapter 16C.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.04, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 14a. **Level of need determination.** Nonemergency medical transportation level of

need determinations must be performed by a physician, a registered nurse working under direct supervision of a physician, a physician's assistant, a nurse practitioner, a licensed practical nurse, or a discharge planner. Nonemergency medical transportation level of need determinations must not be performed more than semiannually on any individual, unless the individual's circumstances have sufficiently changed so as to require a new level of need determination. Individuals residing in licensed nursing facilities are exempt from a level of need determination and are eligible for special transportation services until the individual no longer resides in a licensed nursing facility. If a person authorized by this subdivision to perform a level of need determination determines that an individual requires stretcher transportation, the individual is presumed to maintain that level of need until otherwise determined by a person authorized to perform a level of need determination, or for six months, whichever is sooner.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.056, subdivision 10, is amended to read:

Subd. 10. **Eligibility verification.** (a) The commissioner shall require women who are applying for the continuation of medical assistance coverage following the end of the 60-day postpartum period to update their income and asset information and to submit any required income or asset verification.

(b) The commissioner shall determine the eligibility of private-sector health care coverage for infants less than one year of age eligible under section 256B.055, subdivision 10, or 256B.057, subdivision 1, paragraph (d), and shall pay for private-sector coverage if this is determined to be cost-effective.

(c) ~~The commissioner shall modify the application for Minnesota health care programs to require more detailed information related to verification of assets and income, and shall verify assets and income for all applicants, and for all recipients upon renewal.~~

~~(d) The commissioner shall require Minnesota health care program recipients to report new or an increase in earned income within ten days of the change, and to verify new or an increase in earned income that affects eligibility within ten days of notification by the agency that the new or increased earned income affects eligibility. Recipients who fail to verify new or an increase in earned income that affects eligibility shall be disenrolled.~~

Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0625, subdivision 3f, is amended to read:

Subd. 3f. **Circumcision for newborns.** ~~Newborn~~ Circumcision is not covered, unless the procedure is medically necessary ~~or required because of a well-established religious practice.~~

Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0625, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 13i. **Medicare Part D.** Notwithstanding subdivision 13, paragraph (d), for recipients who are enrolled in a Medicare Part D prescription drug plan or Medicare Advantage special needs plan, medical assistance covers co-payments which the recipient is responsible for under a Medicare Part D prescription drug plan or Medicare Advantage special needs plan, once the recipient has paid \$12 per month in prescription drug co-payments, and according to the requirements of the plan.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2008, or upon federal approval, whichever is later.

Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0631, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Co-payments.** (a) Except as provided in subdivision 2, the medical assistance benefit plan shall include the following co-payments for all recipients, effective for services provided on or after October 1, 2003, and before January 1, 2008:

(1) \$3 per nonpreventive visit. For purposes of this subdivision, a visit means an episode of service which is required because of a recipient's symptoms, diagnosis, or established illness, and which is delivered in an ambulatory setting by a physician or physician ancillary, chiropractor, podiatrist, nurse midwife, advanced practice nurse, audiologist, optician, or optometrist;

(2) \$3 for eyeglasses;

(3) \$6 for nonemergency visits to a hospital-based emergency room; and

(4) \$3 per brand-name drug prescription and \$1 per generic drug prescription, subject to a \$12 per month maximum for prescription drug co-payments. No co-payments shall apply to antipsychotic drugs when used for the treatment of mental illness.

(b) Except as provided in subdivision 2, the medical assistance benefit plan shall include the following co-payments for all recipients, effective for services provided on or after January 1, 2008:

(1) \$6 for nonemergency visits to a hospital-based emergency room; and

(2) \$3 per brand-name drug prescription and \$1 per generic drug prescription, subject to a \$7 per month maximum for prescription drug co-payments. No co-payments shall apply to antipsychotic drugs when used for the treatment of mental illness.

(c) Recipients of medical assistance are responsible for all co-payments in this subdivision.

Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0631, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Collection.** (a) The medical assistance reimbursement to the provider shall be reduced by the amount of the co-payment, except that reimbursement for prescription drugs shall not be reduced once a recipient has reached the \$12 per month maximum or the \$7 per month maximum effective January 1, 2008, for prescription drug co-payments.

(b) The provider collects the co-payment from the recipient. Providers may not deny services to recipients who are unable to pay the co-payment, ~~except as provided in subdivision 4.~~

(c) Medical assistance reimbursement to fee-for-service providers and payments to managed care plans shall not be increased as a result of the removal of the co-payments effective January 1, 2008.

Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0644, is amended to read:

**256B.0644 REIMBURSEMENT UNDER OTHER STATE HEALTH CARE PROGRAMS.**

(a) A vendor of medical care, as defined in section 256B.02, subdivision 7, and a health maintenance organization, as defined in chapter 62D, must participate as a provider or contractor in the medical assistance program, general assistance medical care program, and MinnesotaCare as a condition of participating as a provider in health insurance plans and programs or contractor

for state employees established under section 43A.18, the public employees insurance program under section 43A.316, for health insurance plans offered to local statutory or home rule charter city, county, and school district employees, the workers' compensation system under section 176.135, and insurance plans provided through the Minnesota Comprehensive Health Association under sections 62E.01 to 62E.19. The limitations on insurance plans offered to local government employees shall not be applicable in geographic areas where provider participation is limited by managed care contracts with the Department of Human Services.

(b) For providers other than health maintenance organizations, participation in the medical assistance program means that:

(1) the provider accepts new medical assistance, general assistance medical care, and MinnesotaCare patients ~~or~~;

(2) for providers other than dental service providers, at least 20 percent of the provider's patients are covered by medical assistance, general assistance medical care, and MinnesotaCare as their primary source of coverage, ~~or~~; or

(3) for dental service providers, at least ten percent of the provider's patients are covered by medical assistance, general assistance medical care, and MinnesotaCare as their primary source of coverage, or the provider accepts new medical assistance and MinnesotaCare patients who are children with special health care needs. For purposes of this section, "children with special health care needs" means children up to age 18 who: (i) require health and related services beyond that required by children generally; and (ii) have or are at risk for a chronic physical, developmental, behavioral, or emotional condition, including: bleeding and coagulation disorders; immunodeficiency disorders; cancer; endocrinopathy; developmental disabilities; epilepsy, cerebral palsy, and other neurological diseases; visual impairment or deafness; Down syndrome and other genetic disorders; autism; fetal alcohol syndrome; and other conditions designated by the commissioner after consultation with representatives of pediatric dental providers and consumers.

(c) Patients seen on a volunteer basis by the provider at a location other than the provider's usual place of practice may be considered in meeting ~~this~~ the participation requirement in this section. The commissioner shall establish participation requirements for health maintenance organizations. The commissioner shall provide lists of participating medical assistance providers on a quarterly basis to the commissioner of employee relations, the commissioner of labor and industry, and the commissioner of commerce. Each of the commissioners shall develop and implement procedures to exclude as participating providers in the program or programs under their jurisdiction those providers who do not participate in the medical assistance program. The commissioner of employee relations shall implement this section through contracts with participating health and dental carriers.

Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.199, is amended to read:

**256B.199 PAYMENTS REPORTED BY GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES.**

(a) Effective July 1, 2007, the commissioner shall apply for federal matching funds for the expenditures in paragraphs (b) and (c).

(b) The commissioner shall apply for federal matching funds for certified public expenditures as follows:

(1) Hennepin County, Hennepin County Medical Center, Ramsey County, Regions Hospital,

the University of Minnesota, and Fairview-University Medical Center shall report quarterly to the commissioner beginning June 1, 2007, payments made during the second previous quarter that may qualify for reimbursement under federal law;

~~(b)~~ (2) based on these reports, the commissioner shall apply for federal matching funds. These funds are appropriated to the commissioner for the payments under section 256.969, subdivision 27; and

~~(e)~~ (3) by May 1 of each year, beginning May 1, 2007, the commissioner shall inform the nonstate entities listed in paragraph (a) of the amount of federal disproportionate share hospital payment money expected to be available in the current federal fiscal year.

(c) The commissioner shall apply for federal matching funds for general assistance medical care expenditures as follows:

(1) for hospital services occurring on or after July 1, 2007, general assistance medical care expenditures for fee-for-service inpatient and outpatient hospital payments made by the department shall be used to apply for federal matching funds, except as limited below:

(i) only those general assistance medical care expenditures made to an individual hospital that would not cause the hospital to exceed its individual hospital limits under section 1923 of the Social Security Act may be considered; and

(ii) general assistance medical care expenditures may be considered only to the extent of Minnesota's aggregate allotment under section 1923 of the Social Security Act; and

(2) all hospitals must provide any necessary expenditure, cost, and revenue information required by the commissioner as necessary for purposes of obtaining federal Medicaid matching funds for general assistance medical care expenditures.

~~(d) This section sunsets on June 30, 2009. The commissioner shall report to the legislature by December 15, 2008, with recommendations for maximizing federal disproportionate share hospital payments after June 30, 2009.~~

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.75, is amended to read:

**256B.75 HOSPITAL OUTPATIENT REIMBURSEMENT.**

(a) For outpatient hospital facility fee payments for services rendered on or after October 1, 1992, the commissioner of human services shall pay the lower of (1) submitted charge, or (2) 32 percent above the rate in effect on June 30, 1992, except for those services for which there is a federal maximum allowable payment. Effective for services rendered on or after January 1, 2000, payment rates for nonsurgical outpatient hospital facility fees and emergency room facility fees shall be increased by eight percent over the rates in effect on December 31, 1999, except for those services for which there is a federal maximum allowable payment. Services for which there is a federal maximum allowable payment shall be paid at the lower of (1) submitted charge, or (2) the federal maximum allowable payment. Total aggregate payment for outpatient hospital facility fee services shall not exceed the Medicare upper limit. If it is determined that a provision of this section conflicts with existing or future requirements of the United States government with respect to federal financial



participation in medical assistance, the federal requirements prevail. The commissioner may, in the aggregate, prospectively reduce payment rates to avoid reduced federal financial participation resulting from rates that are in excess of the Medicare upper limitations.

(b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), payment for outpatient, emergency, and ambulatory surgery hospital ~~facility fee~~ services for critical access hospitals designated under section 144.1483, clause (10), shall be paid on a cost-based payment system that is based on the cost-finding methods and allowable costs of the Medicare program. Effective for services provided on or after July 1, 2007, a children's hospital that was formerly a state hospital must be paid for the services in this paragraph using the methodology established for critical access hospitals at a rate equal to 71 percent of allowable costs.

(c) Effective for services provided on or after July 1, 2003, rates that are based on the Medicare outpatient prospective payment system shall be replaced by a budget neutral prospective payment system that is derived using medical assistance data. The commissioner shall provide a proposal to the 2003 legislature to define and implement this provision.

(d) For fee-for-service services provided on or after July 1, 2002, the total payment, before third-party liability and spenddown, made to hospitals for outpatient hospital facility services is reduced by .5 percent from the current statutory rate.

(e) In addition to the reduction in paragraph (d), the total payment for fee-for-service services provided on or after July 1, 2003, made to hospitals for outpatient hospital facility services before third-party liability and spenddown, is reduced five percent from the current statutory rates. Facilities defined under section 256.969, subdivision 16, are excluded from this paragraph.

Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.76, is amended to read:

**256B.76 PHYSICIAN AND DENTAL REIMBURSEMENT.**

(a) Effective for services rendered on or after October 1, 1992, the commissioner shall make payments for physician services as follows:

(1) payment for level one Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' common procedural coding system codes titled "office and other outpatient services," "preventive medicine new and established patient," "delivery, antepartum, and postpartum care," "critical care," cesarean delivery and pharmacologic management provided to psychiatric patients, and level three codes for enhanced services for prenatal high risk, shall be paid at the lower of (i) submitted charges, or (ii) 25 percent above the rate in effect on June 30, 1992. If the rate on any procedure code within these categories is different than the rate that would have been paid under the methodology in section 256B.74, subdivision 2, then the larger rate shall be paid;

(2) payments for all other services shall be paid at the lower of (i) submitted charges, or (ii) 15.4 percent above the rate in effect on June 30, 1992;

(3) all physician rates shall be converted from the 50th percentile of 1982 to the 50th percentile of 1989, less the percent in aggregate necessary to equal the above increases except that payment rates for home health agency services shall be the rates in effect on September 30, 1992;

(4) effective for services rendered on or after January 1, 2000, payment rates for physician and professional services shall be increased by three percent over the rates in effect on December 31,

1999, except for home health agency and family planning agency services; and

(5) the increases in clause (4) shall be implemented January 1, 2000, for managed care.

(b) Effective for services rendered on or after October 1, 1992, the commissioner shall make payments for dental services as follows:

(1) dental services shall be paid at the lower of (i) submitted charges, or (ii) 25 percent above the rate in effect on June 30, 1992;

(2) dental rates shall be converted from the 50th percentile of 1982 to the 50th percentile of 1989, less the percent in aggregate necessary to equal the above increases;

(3) effective for services rendered on or after January 1, 2000, payment rates for dental services shall be increased by three percent over the rates in effect on December 31, 1999;

(4) the commissioner shall award grants to community clinics or other nonprofit community organizations, political subdivisions, professional associations, or other organizations that demonstrate the ability to provide dental services effectively to public program recipients. Grants may be used to fund the costs related to coordinating access for recipients, developing and implementing patient care criteria, upgrading or establishing new facilities, acquiring furnishings or equipment, recruiting new providers, or other development costs that will improve access to dental care in a region. In awarding grants, the commissioner shall give priority to applicants that plan to serve areas of the state in which the number of dental providers is not currently sufficient to meet the needs of recipients of public programs or uninsured individuals. The commissioner shall consider the following in awarding the grants:

(i) potential to successfully increase access to an underserved population;

(ii) the ability to raise matching funds;

(iii) the long-term viability of the project to improve access beyond the period of initial funding;

(iv) the efficiency in the use of the funding; and

(v) the experience of the proposers in providing services to the target population.

The commissioner shall monitor the grants and may terminate a grant if the grantee does not increase dental access for public program recipients. The commissioner shall consider grants for the following:

(i) implementation of new programs or continued expansion of current access programs that have demonstrated success in providing dental services in underserved areas;

(ii) a pilot program for utilizing hygienists outside of a traditional dental office to provide dental hygiene services; and

(iii) a program that organizes a network of volunteer dentists, establishes a system to refer eligible individuals to volunteer dentists, and through that network provides donated dental care services to public program recipients or uninsured individuals;

(5) beginning October 1, 1999, the payment for tooth sealants and fluoride treatments shall be the lower of (i) submitted charge, or (ii) 80 percent of median 1997 charges;

(6) the increases listed in clauses (3) and (5) shall be implemented January 1, 2000, for managed care; and

(7) effective for services provided on or after January 1, 2002, payment for diagnostic examinations and dental x-rays provided to children under age 21 shall be the lower of (i) the submitted charge, or (ii) 85 percent of median 1999 charges.

(c) Effective for dental services rendered on or after January 1, 2002, the commissioner ~~may, within the limits of available appropriation, shall~~ increase reimbursements to dentists and dental clinics deemed by the commissioner to be critical access dental providers. ~~Reimbursement to a critical access dental provider may be increased by not more than 50 percent above the reimbursement rate that would otherwise be paid to the provider. Payments to health plan companies shall be adjusted to~~ For dental services rendered on or after July 1, 2007, the commissioner shall increase reimbursement by 30 percent above the reimbursement rate that would otherwise be paid to the critical access dental provider. The commissioner shall pay the health plan companies in amounts sufficient to reflect increased reimbursements to critical access dental providers as approved by the commissioner. In determining which dentists and dental clinics shall be deemed critical access dental providers, the commissioner shall review:

(1) the utilization rate in the service area in which the dentist or dental clinic operates for dental services to patients covered by medical assistance, general assistance medical care, or MinnesotaCare as their primary source of coverage;

(2) the level of services provided by the dentist or dental clinic to patients covered by medical assistance, general assistance medical care, or MinnesotaCare as their primary source of coverage; and

(3) whether the level of services provided by the dentist or dental clinic is critical to maintaining adequate levels of patient access within the service area.

In the absence of a critical access dental provider in a service area, the commissioner may designate a dentist or dental clinic as a critical access dental provider if the dentist or dental clinic is willing to provide care to patients covered by medical assistance, general assistance medical care, or MinnesotaCare at a level which significantly increases access to dental care in the service area.

~~The commissioner shall annually establish a reimbursement schedule for critical access dental providers and provider specific limits on total reimbursement received under the reimbursement schedule, and shall notify each critical access dental provider of the schedule and limit.~~

(d) An entity that operates both a Medicare certified comprehensive outpatient rehabilitation facility and a facility which was certified prior to January 1, 1993, that is licensed under Minnesota Rules, parts 9570.2000 to 9570.3600, and for whom at least 33 percent of the clients receiving rehabilitation services in the most recent calendar year are medical assistance recipients, shall be reimbursed by the commissioner for rehabilitation services at rates that are 38 percent greater than the maximum reimbursement rate allowed under paragraph (a), clause (2), when those services are (1) provided within the comprehensive outpatient rehabilitation facility and (2) provided to residents of nursing facilities owned by the entity.

(e) Effective for services rendered on or after January 1, 2007, the commissioner shall make payments for physician and professional services based on the Medicare relative value

units (RVU's). This change shall be budget neutral and the cost of implementing RVU's will be incorporated in the established conversion factor.

Sec. 19. **[256B.764] REIMBURSEMENT FOR FAMILY PLANNING SERVICES.**

Effective for services rendered on or after July 1, 2007, payment rates for family planning services shall be increased by 25 percent over the rates in effect June 30, 2007, when these services are provided by a community clinic as defined in section 145.9268, subdivision 1.

Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256D.03, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

**Subd. 3. General assistance medical care; eligibility.** (a) General assistance medical care may be paid for any person who is not eligible for medical assistance under chapter 256B, including eligibility for medical assistance based on a spenddown of excess income according to section 256B.056, subdivision 5, or MinnesotaCare as defined in paragraph (b), except as provided in paragraph (c), and:

(1) who is receiving assistance under section 256D.05, except for families with children who are eligible under Minnesota family investment program (MFIP), or who is having a payment made on the person's behalf under sections 256I.01 to 256I.06; or

(2) who is a resident of Minnesota; and

(i) who has gross countable income not in excess of 75 percent of the federal poverty guidelines for the family size, using a six-month budget period and whose equity in assets is not in excess of \$1,000 per assistance unit. General assistance medical care is not available for applicants or enrollees who are otherwise eligible for medical assistance but fail to verify their assets. Enrollees who become eligible for medical assistance shall be terminated and transferred to medical assistance. Exempt assets, the reduction of excess assets, and the waiver of excess assets must conform to the medical assistance program in section 256B.056, subdivision 3, with the following exception: the maximum amount of undistributed funds in a trust that could be distributed to or on behalf of the beneficiary by the trustee, assuming the full exercise of the trustee's discretion under the terms of the trust, must be applied toward the asset maximum;

(ii) who has gross countable income above 75 percent of the federal poverty guidelines but not in excess of 175 percent of the federal poverty guidelines for the family size, using a six-month budget period, whose equity in assets is not in excess of the limits in section 256B.056, subdivision 3c, and who applies during an inpatient hospitalization; or

(iii) the commissioner shall adjust the income standards under this section each July 1 by the annual update of the federal poverty guidelines following publication by the United States Department of Health and Human Services.

(b) Effective for applications and renewals processed on or after September 1, 2006, general assistance medical care may not be paid for applicants or recipients who are adults with dependent children under 21 whose gross family income is equal to or less than 275 percent of the federal poverty guidelines who are not described in paragraph (e).

(c) Effective for applications and renewals processed on or after September 1, 2006, general assistance medical care may be paid for applicants and recipients who meet all eligibility requirements of paragraph (a), clause (2), item (i), for a temporary period beginning the date of

application. Immediately following approval of general assistance medical care, enrollees shall be enrolled in MinnesotaCare under section 256L.04, subdivision 7, with covered services as provided in section 256L.03 for the rest of the six-month general assistance medical care eligibility period, until their six-month renewal.

(d) To be eligible for general assistance medical care following enrollment in MinnesotaCare as required by paragraph (c), an individual must complete a new application.

(e) Applicants and recipients eligible under paragraph (a), clause (1); who have applied for and are awaiting a determination of blindness or disability by the state medical review team or a determination of eligibility for Supplemental Security Income or Social Security Disability Insurance by the Social Security Administration; who fail to meet the requirements of section 256L.09, subdivision 2; who are homeless as defined by United States Code, title 42, section 11301, et seq.; who are classified as end-stage renal disease beneficiaries in the Medicare program; who are enrolled in private health care coverage as defined in section 256B.02, subdivision 9; who are eligible under paragraph (j); or who receive treatment funded pursuant to section 254B.02 are exempt from the MinnesotaCare enrollment requirements of this subdivision.

(f) For applications received on or after October 1, 2003, eligibility may begin no earlier than the date of application. For individuals eligible under paragraph (a), clause (2), item (i), a redetermination of eligibility must occur every 12 months. Individuals are eligible under paragraph (a), clause (2), item (ii), only during inpatient hospitalization but may reapply if there is a subsequent period of inpatient hospitalization.

(g) Beginning September 1, 2006, Minnesota health care program applications and renewals completed by recipients and applicants who are persons described in paragraph (c) and submitted to the county agency shall be determined for MinnesotaCare eligibility by the county agency. If all other eligibility requirements of this subdivision are met, eligibility for general assistance medical care shall be available in any month during which MinnesotaCare enrollment is pending. Upon notification of eligibility for MinnesotaCare, notice of termination for eligibility for general assistance medical care shall be sent to an applicant or recipient. If all other eligibility requirements of this subdivision are met, eligibility for general assistance medical care shall be available until enrollment in MinnesotaCare subject to the provisions of paragraphs (c), (e), and (f).

(h) The date of an initial Minnesota health care program application necessary to begin a determination of eligibility shall be the date the applicant has provided a name, address, and Social Security number, signed and dated, to the county agency or the Department of Human Services. If the applicant is unable to provide a name, address, Social Security number, and signature when health care is delivered due to a medical condition or disability, a health care provider may act on an applicant's behalf to establish the date of an initial Minnesota health care program application by providing the county agency or Department of Human Services with provider identification and a temporary unique identifier for the applicant. The applicant must complete the remainder of the application and provide necessary verification before eligibility can be determined. The county agency must assist the applicant in obtaining verification if necessary.

(i) County agencies are authorized to use all automated databases containing information regarding recipients' or applicants' income in order to determine eligibility for general assistance medical care or MinnesotaCare. Such use shall be considered sufficient in order to determine eligibility and premium payments by the county agency.

(j) General assistance medical care is not available for a person in a correctional facility unless the person is detained by law for less than one year in a county correctional or detention facility as a person accused or convicted of a crime, or admitted as an inpatient to a hospital on a criminal hold order, and the person is a recipient of general assistance medical care at the time the person is detained by law or admitted on a criminal hold order and as long as the person continues to meet other eligibility requirements of this subdivision.

(k) General assistance medical care is not available for applicants or recipients who do not cooperate with the county agency to meet the requirements of medical assistance.

(l) In determining the amount of assets of an individual eligible under paragraph (a), clause (2), item (i), there shall be included any asset or interest in an asset, including an asset excluded under paragraph (a), that was given away, sold, or disposed of for less than fair market value within the 60 months preceding application for general assistance medical care or during the period of eligibility. Any transfer described in this paragraph shall be presumed to have been for the purpose of establishing eligibility for general assistance medical care, unless the individual furnishes convincing evidence to establish that the transaction was exclusively for another purpose. For purposes of this paragraph, the value of the asset or interest shall be the fair market value at the time it was given away, sold, or disposed of, less the amount of compensation received. For any uncompensated transfer, the number of months of ineligibility, including partial months, shall be calculated by dividing the uncompensated transfer amount by the average monthly per person payment made by the medical assistance program to skilled nursing facilities for the previous calendar year. The individual shall remain ineligible until this fixed period has expired. The period of ineligibility may exceed 30 months, and a reapplication for benefits after 30 months from the date of the transfer shall not result in eligibility unless and until the period of ineligibility has expired. The period of ineligibility begins in the month the transfer was reported to the county agency, or if the transfer was not reported, the month in which the county agency discovered the transfer, whichever comes first. For applicants, the period of ineligibility begins on the date of the first approved application.

(m) When determining eligibility for any state benefits under this subdivision, the income and resources of all noncitizens shall be deemed to include their sponsor's income and resources as defined in the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, title IV, Public Law 104-193, sections 421 and 422, and subsequently set out in federal rules.

(n) Undocumented noncitizens and nonimmigrants are ineligible for general assistance medical care. For purposes of this subdivision, a nonimmigrant is an individual in one or more of the classes listed in United States Code, title 8, section 1101(a)(15), and an undocumented noncitizen is an individual who resides in the United States without the approval or acquiescence of the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

(o) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a noncitizen who is ineligible for medical assistance due to the deeming of a sponsor's income and resources, is ineligible for general assistance medical care.

(p) Effective July 1, 2003, general assistance medical care emergency services end.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007.

Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256D.03, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **General assistance medical care; services.** (a)(i) For a person who is eligible under subdivision 3, paragraph (a), clause (2), item (i), general assistance medical care covers, except as provided in paragraph (c):

- (1) inpatient hospital services;
- (2) outpatient hospital services;
- (3) services provided by Medicare certified rehabilitation agencies;
- (4) prescription drugs and other products recommended through the process established in section 256B.0625, subdivision 13;
- (5) equipment necessary to administer insulin and diagnostic supplies and equipment for diabetics to monitor blood sugar level;
- (6) eyeglasses and eye examinations provided by a physician or optometrist;
- (7) hearing aids;
- (8) prosthetic devices;
- (9) laboratory and X-ray services;
- (10) physician's services;
- (11) medical transportation except special transportation;
- (12) chiropractic services as covered under the medical assistance program;
- (13) podiatric services;
- (14) dental services as covered under the medical assistance program;
- (15) outpatient services provided by a mental health center or clinic that is under contract with the county board and is established under section 245.62;
- (16) day treatment services for mental illness provided under contract with the county board;
- (17) prescribed medications for persons who have been diagnosed as mentally ill as necessary to prevent more restrictive institutionalization;
- (18) psychological services, medical supplies and equipment, and Medicare premiums, coinsurance and deductible payments;
- (19) medical equipment not specifically listed in this paragraph when the use of the equipment will prevent the need for costlier services that are reimbursable under this subdivision;
- (20) services performed by a certified pediatric nurse practitioner, a certified family nurse practitioner, a certified adult nurse practitioner, a certified obstetric/gynecological nurse practitioner, a certified neonatal nurse practitioner, or a certified geriatric nurse practitioner in independent practice, if (1) the service is otherwise covered under this chapter as a physician service, (2) the service provided on an inpatient basis is not included as part of the cost for inpatient services included in the operating payment rate, and (3) the service is within the scope of practice of the

nurse practitioner's license as a registered nurse, as defined in section 148.171;

(21) services of a certified public health nurse or a registered nurse practicing in a public health nursing clinic that is a department of, or that operates under the direct authority of, a unit of government, if the service is within the scope of practice of the public health nurse's license as a registered nurse, as defined in section 148.171;

(22) telemedicine consultations, to the extent they are covered under section 256B.0625, subdivision 3b; and

(23) mental health telemedicine and psychiatric consultation as covered under section 256B.0625, subdivisions 46 and 48;

(24) care coordination and patient education services provided by a community health worker according to section 256B.0625, subdivision 49; and

(25) regardless of the number of employees that an enrolled health care provider may have, sign language interpreter services when provided by an enrolled health care provider during the course of providing a direct, person-to-person covered health care service to an enrolled recipient who has a hearing loss and uses interpreting services.

(ii) Effective October 1, 2003, for a person who is eligible under subdivision 3, paragraph (a), clause (2), item (ii), general assistance medical care coverage is limited to inpatient hospital services, including physician services provided during the inpatient hospital stay. A \$1,000 deductible is required for each inpatient hospitalization.

(b) Effective August 1, 2005, sex reassignment surgery is not covered under this subdivision.

(c) In order to contain costs, the commissioner of human services shall select vendors of medical care who can provide the most economical care consistent with high medical standards and shall where possible contract with organizations on a prepaid capitation basis to provide these services. The commissioner shall consider proposals by counties and vendors for prepaid health plans, competitive bidding programs, block grants, or other vendor payment mechanisms designed to provide services in an economical manner or to control utilization, with safeguards to ensure that necessary services are provided. Before implementing prepaid programs in counties with a county operated or affiliated public teaching hospital or a hospital or clinic operated by the University of Minnesota, the commissioner shall consider the risks the prepaid program creates for the hospital and allow the county or hospital the opportunity to participate in the program in a manner that reflects the risk of adverse selection and the nature of the patients served by the hospital, provided the terms of participation in the program are competitive with the terms of other participants considering the nature of the population served. Payment for services provided pursuant to this subdivision shall be as provided to medical assistance vendors of these services under sections 256B.02, subdivision 8, and 256B.0625. For payments made during fiscal year 1990 and later years, the commissioner shall consult with an independent actuary in establishing prepayment rates, but shall retain final control over the rate methodology.

(d) Effective January 1, 2008, drug coverage under general assistance medical care is limited to prescription drugs that:

(i) are covered under the medical assistance program as described in section 256B.0625, subdivisions 13 and 13d; and



(ii) are provided by manufacturers that have fully executed general assistance medical care rebate agreements with the commissioner and comply with the agreements. Prescription drug coverage under general assistance medical care must conform to coverage under the medical assistance program according to section 256B.0625, subdivisions 13 to 13g.

~~(d)~~ (e) Recipients eligible under subdivision 3, paragraph (a), shall pay the following co-payments for services provided on or after October 1, 2003, and before January 1, 2008:

(1) \$25 for eyeglasses;

(2) \$25 for nonemergency visits to a hospital-based emergency room;

(3) \$3 per brand-name drug prescription and \$1 per generic drug prescription, subject to a \$12 per month maximum for prescription drug co-payments. No co-payments shall apply to antipsychotic drugs when used for the treatment of mental illness; and

(4) 50 percent coinsurance on restorative dental services.

~~(e)~~ (f) Recipients eligible under subdivision 3, paragraph (a), shall include the following co-payments for services provided on or after January 1, 2008:

(1) \$25 for nonemergency visits to a hospital-based emergency room; and

(2) \$3 per brand-name drug prescription and \$1 per generic drug prescription, subject to a \$7 per month maximum for prescription drug co-payments. No co-payments shall apply to antipsychotic drugs when used for the treatment of mental illness.

(g) Co-payments shall be limited to one per day per provider for nonpreventive visits, eyeglasses, and nonemergency visits to a hospital-based emergency room. Recipients of general assistance medical care are responsible for all co-payments in this subdivision. The general assistance medical care reimbursement to the provider shall be reduced by the amount of the co-payment, except that reimbursement for prescription drugs shall not be reduced once a recipient has reached the \$12 per month maximum for prescription drug co-payments. The provider collects the co-payment from the recipient. Providers may not deny services to recipients who are unable to pay the co-payment, except as provided in paragraph (f). This paragraph expires January 1, 2008.

~~(f) If it is the routine business practice of a provider to refuse service to an individual with uncollected debt, the provider may include uncollected co-payments under this section. A provider must give advance notice to a recipient with uncollected debt before services can be denied.~~

(h) Effective January 1, 2008, co-payments shall be limited to one per day per provider for nonemergency visits to a hospital-based emergency room. Recipients of general assistance medical care are responsible for all co-payments in this subdivision. The general assistance medical care reimbursement to the provider shall be reduced by the amount of the co-payment, except that reimbursement for prescription drugs shall not be reduced once a recipient has reached the \$7 per month maximum for prescription drug co-payments. The provider collects the co-payment from the recipient. Providers may not deny services to recipients who are unable to pay the co-payment.

(i) General assistance medical care reimbursement to fee-for-service providers and payments to managed care plans shall not be increased as a result of the removal of the co-payments effective January 1, 2008.

~~(g)~~ (j) Any county may, from its own resources, provide medical payments for which state payments are not made.

~~(h)~~ (k) Chemical dependency services that are reimbursed under chapter 254B must not be reimbursed under general assistance medical care.

~~(i)~~ (l) The maximum payment for new vendors enrolled in the general assistance medical care program after the base year shall be determined from the average usual and customary charge of the same vendor type enrolled in the base year.

~~(j)~~ (m) The conditions of payment for services under this subdivision are the same as the conditions specified in rules adopted under chapter 256B governing the medical assistance program, unless otherwise provided by statute or rule.

~~(k)~~ (n) Inpatient and outpatient payments shall be reduced by five percent, effective July 1, 2003. This reduction is in addition to the five percent reduction effective July 1, 2003, and incorporated by reference in paragraph ~~(i)~~ (l).

~~(l)~~ (o) Payments for all other health services except inpatient, outpatient, and pharmacy services shall be reduced by five percent, effective July 1, 2003.

~~(m)~~ (p) Payments to managed care plans shall be reduced by five percent for services provided on or after October 1, 2003, or upon federal approval, whichever is later.

~~(n)~~ (q) A hospital receiving a reduced payment as a result of this section may apply the unpaid balance toward satisfaction of the hospital's bad debts.

~~(o)~~ (r) Fee-for-service payments for nonpreventive visits shall be reduced by \$3 for services provided on or after January 1, 2006. For purposes of this subdivision, a visit means an episode of service which is required because of a recipient's symptoms, diagnosis, or established illness, and which is delivered in an ambulatory setting by a physician or physician ancillary, chiropractor, podiatrist, advance practice nurse, audiologist, optician, or optometrist.

~~(p)~~ (s) Payments to managed care plans shall not be increased as a result of the removal of the \$3 nonpreventive visit co-payment effective January 1, 2006.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007, unless another effective date is explicit.

Sec. 22. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256L.01, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Scope.** For purposes of ~~sections 256L.01 to 256L.18~~ this chapter, the following terms shall have the meanings given them.

Sec. 23. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256L.01, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Gross individual or gross family income.** (a) "Gross individual or gross family income" for nonfarm self-employed means income calculated for the ~~six-month~~ 12-month period of eligibility using the net profit or loss reported on the applicant's federal income tax form for the previous year and using the medical assistance families with children methodology for determining allowable and nonallowable self-employment expenses and countable income.

(b) "Gross individual or gross family income" for farm self-employed means income calculated for the ~~six-month~~ 12-month period of eligibility using as the baseline the adjusted gross income reported on the applicant's federal income tax form for the previous year ~~and adding back in reported depreciation amounts that apply to the business in which the family is currently engaged.~~

(c) "Gross individual or gross family income" means the total income for all family members, calculated for the ~~six-month~~ 12-month period of eligibility.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007, or upon federal approval, whichever is later.

Sec. 24. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256L.03, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Covered health services.** ~~For individuals under section 256L.04, subdivision 7, with income no greater than 75 percent of the federal poverty guidelines or for families with children under section 256L.04, subdivision 1, all subdivisions of this section apply.~~ "Covered health services" means the health services reimbursed under chapter 256B, with the exception of inpatient hospital services, special education services, private duty nursing services, adult dental care services other than services covered under section 256B.0625, subdivision 9, orthodontic services, nonemergency medical transportation services, personal care assistant and case management services, nursing home or intermediate care facilities services, inpatient mental health services, and chemical dependency services. Outpatient mental health services covered under the MinnesotaCare program are limited to diagnostic assessments, psychological testing, explanation of findings, mental health telemedicine, psychiatric consultation, medication management by a physician, day treatment, partial hospitalization, and individual, family, and group psychotherapy.

No public funds shall be used for coverage of abortion under MinnesotaCare except where the life of the female would be endangered or substantial and irreversible impairment of a major bodily function would result if the fetus were carried to term; or where the pregnancy is the result of rape or incest.

Covered health services shall be expanded as provided in this section.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2008.

Sec. 25. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256L.03, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Inpatient hospital services.** (a) Covered health services shall include inpatient hospital services, including inpatient hospital mental health services and inpatient hospital and residential chemical dependency treatment, subject to those limitations necessary to coordinate the provision of these services with eligibility under the medical assistance spenddown. ~~Prior to July 1, 1997, the inpatient hospital benefit for adult enrollees is subject to an annual benefit limit of \$10,000. The inpatient hospital benefit for adult enrollees who qualify under section 256L.04, subdivision 7, or who qualify under section 256L.04, subdivisions 1 and 2, with family gross income that exceeds 175~~ 200 percent of the federal poverty guidelines or 215 percent of the federal poverty guidelines on or after July 1, 2009, and who are not pregnant, is subject to an annual limit of \$10,000 \$20,000.

(b) Admissions for inpatient hospital services paid for under section 256L.11, subdivision 3, must be certified as medically necessary in accordance with Minnesota Rules, parts 9505.0500 to 9505.0540, except as provided in clauses (1) and (2):

(1) all admissions must be certified, except those authorized under rules established under section 254A.03, subdivision 3, or approved under Medicare; and

(2) payment under section 256L.11, subdivision 3, shall be reduced by five percent for admissions for which certification is requested more than 30 days after the day of admission. The hospital may not seek payment from the enrollee for the amount of the payment reduction under this clause.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** For parents and relative caretakers, this section is effective July 1, 2008, or upon federal approval, whichever is later. For single adults and households with no children, this section is effective January 1, 2008.

Sec. 26. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256L.03, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **Co-payments and coinsurance.** (a) Except as provided in paragraphs (b) and (c), the MinnesotaCare benefit plan shall include the following co-payments and coinsurance requirements for all enrollees:

(1) ten percent of the paid charges for inpatient hospital services for adult enrollees, subject to an annual inpatient out-of-pocket maximum of \$1,000 per individual and \$3,000 per family;

(2) \$3 per prescription for adult enrollees;

(3) \$25 for eyeglasses for adult enrollees;

(4) \$3 per nonpreventive visit. For purposes of this subdivision, a "visit" means an episode of service which is required because of a recipient's symptoms, diagnosis, or established illness, and which is delivered in an ambulatory setting by a physician or physician ancillary, chiropractor, podiatrist, nurse midwife, advanced practice nurse, audiologist, optician, or optometrist; and

(5) \$6 for nonemergency visits to a hospital-based emergency room.

(b) Paragraph (a), clause (1), does not apply to parents and relative caretakers of children under the age of 21 ~~in households with family income equal to or less than 175 percent of the federal poverty guidelines. Paragraph (a), clause (1), does not apply to parents and relative caretakers of children under the age of 21 in households with family income greater than 175 percent of the federal poverty guidelines for inpatient hospital admissions occurring on or after January 1, 2001.~~

(c) Paragraph (a), ~~clauses (1) to (4), do~~ does not apply to pregnant women and children under the age of 21.

(d) Adult enrollees with family gross income that exceeds ~~175~~ 200 percent of the federal poverty guidelines ~~or 215 percent of the federal poverty guidelines on or after July 1, 2009,~~ and who are not pregnant shall be financially responsible for the coinsurance amount, if applicable, and amounts which exceed the ~~\$10,000~~ \$20,000 inpatient hospital benefit limit.

(e) When a MinnesotaCare enrollee becomes a member of a prepaid health plan, or changes from one prepaid health plan to another during a calendar year, any charges submitted towards the ~~\$10,000~~ \$20,000 annual inpatient benefit limit, and any out-of-pocket expenses incurred by the enrollee for inpatient services, that were submitted or incurred prior to enrollment, or prior to the change in health plans, shall be disregarded.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** For parents and relative caretakers, this section is effective July 1, 2008, or upon federal approval, whichever is later. For single adults and households with no children, this section is effective January 1, 2008.

Sec. 27. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256L.04, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Single adults and households with no children.** The definition of eligible persons includes all individuals and households with no children who have gross family incomes that are equal to or less than ~~175~~ 200 percent of the federal poverty guidelines. Effective July 1, 2009, the definition of eligible persons includes all individuals and households with no children who have gross family incomes that are equal to or less than 215 percent of the federal poverty guidelines.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2008.

Sec. 28. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256L.05, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Application and information availability.** ~~Applications and other information application assistance must be made available to~~ at provider offices, local human services agencies, school districts, public and private elementary schools in which 25 percent or more of the students receive free or reduced price lunches, community health offices, and Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program sites, Head Start program sites, public housing councils, crisis nurseries, child care centers, early childhood education and preschool program sites, legal aid offices, and libraries. ~~These sites may accept applications and forward the forms to the commissioner or local county human services agencies that choose to participate as an enrollment site. Otherwise, applicants may apply directly to the commissioner or to participating local county human services agencies. Beginning January 1, 2000, MinnesotaCare enrollment sites will be expanded to include local county human services agencies which choose to participate.~~

Sec. 29. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256L.05, subdivision 1b, is amended to read:

Subd. 1b. **MinnesotaCare enrollment by county agencies.** Beginning September 1, 2006, county agencies shall enroll single adults and households with no children formerly enrolled in general assistance medical care in MinnesotaCare according to section 256D.03, subdivision 3. County agencies shall perform all duties necessary to administer the MinnesotaCare program ongoing for these enrollees, including the redetermination of MinnesotaCare eligibility at ~~six-month~~ renewal.

Sec. 30. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256L.05, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Commissioner's duties.** ~~(a)~~ The commissioner or county agency shall use electronic verification as the primary method of income verification. If there is a discrepancy between reported income and electronically verified income, an individual may be required to submit additional verification. In addition, the commissioner shall perform random audits to verify reported income and eligibility. The commissioner may execute data sharing arrangements with the Department of Revenue and any other governmental agency in order to perform income verification related to eligibility and premium payment under the MinnesotaCare program.

~~(b) In determining eligibility for MinnesotaCare, the commissioner shall require applicants and enrollees seeking renewal of eligibility to verify both earned and unearned income. The commissioner shall also require applicants and enrollees to submit the names of their employers and a contact name with a telephone number for each employer for purposes of verifying whether~~

~~the applicant or enrollee, and any dependents, are eligible for employer-subsidized coverage. Data collected is nonpublic data as defined in section 13.02, subdivision 9.~~

Sec. 31. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256L.05, subdivision 3a, is amended to read:

Subd. 3a. **Renewal of eligibility.** (a) Beginning ~~January 1, 1999~~ July 1, 2007, an enrollee's eligibility must be renewed every 12 months. The 12-month period begins in the month after the month the application is approved.

~~(b) Beginning October 1, 2004, an enrollee's eligibility must be renewed every six months. The first six-month period of eligibility begins the month the application is received by the commissioner. The effective date of coverage within the first six-month period of eligibility is as provided in subdivision 3. Each new period of eligibility must take into account any changes in circumstances that impact eligibility and premium amount. An enrollee must provide all the information needed to redetermine eligibility by the first day of the month that ends the eligibility period. The premium for the new period of eligibility must be received as provided in section 256L.06 in order for eligibility to continue.~~

(c) For single adults and households with no children formerly enrolled in general assistance medical care and enrolled in MinnesotaCare according to section 256D.03, subdivision 3, the first ~~six-month~~ period of eligibility begins the month the enrollee submitted the application or renewal for general assistance medical care.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007, or upon federal approval, whichever is later.

Sec. 32. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256L.07, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **General requirements.** (a) Children enrolled in the original children's health plan as of September 30, 1992, children who enrolled in the MinnesotaCare program after September 30, 1992, pursuant to Laws 1992, chapter 549, article 4, section 17, and children who have family gross incomes that are equal to or less than 150 percent of the federal poverty guidelines are eligible without meeting ~~the requirements of subdivision 2 and the four-month requirement in subdivision 3, as long as they maintain continuous coverage in the MinnesotaCare program or medical assistance. Children who apply for MinnesotaCare on or after the implementation date of the employer-subsidized health coverage program as described in Laws 1998, chapter 407, article 5, section 45, who have family gross incomes that are equal to or less than 150 percent of the federal poverty guidelines, must meet the requirements of subdivision 2 to be eligible for MinnesotaCare.~~

~~(b)~~ Families enrolled in MinnesotaCare under section 256L.04, subdivision 1, whose income increases above 275 percent of the federal poverty guidelines, are no longer eligible for the program and shall be disenrolled by the commissioner. Beginning January 1, 2008, individuals enrolled in MinnesotaCare under section 256L.04, subdivision 7, whose income increases above 175 200 percent of the federal poverty guidelines or 215 percent of the federal poverty guidelines on or after July 1, 2009, are no longer eligible for the program and shall be disenrolled by the commissioner. For persons disenrolled under this subdivision, MinnesotaCare coverage terminates the last day of the calendar month following the month in which the commissioner determines that the income of a family or individual exceeds program income limits.

~~(c)~~ (b) Notwithstanding paragraph ~~(b)~~ (a), children may remain enrolled in MinnesotaCare

if ten percent of their gross individual or gross family income as defined in section 256L.01, subdivision 4, is less than the annual premium for a ~~six-month~~ policy with a \$500 deductible available through the Minnesota Comprehensive Health Association. Children who are no longer eligible for MinnesotaCare under this clause shall be given a 12-month notice period from the date that ineligibility is determined before disenrollment. The premium for children remaining eligible under this clause shall be the maximum premium determined under section 256L.15, subdivision 2, paragraph (b).

~~(d)~~ (c) Notwithstanding paragraphs ~~(b)~~ (a) and ~~(e)~~ (b), parents are not eligible for MinnesotaCare if gross household income exceeds \$25,000 for the six-month period of eligibility.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007, or upon federal approval, whichever is later.

Sec. 33. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256L.07, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Must not have access to employer-subsidized coverage.** (a) To be eligible, ~~a family or individual~~ an adult must not have access to subsidized health coverage through an employer and must not have had access to employer-subsidized coverage through a current employer for 18 months prior to application or reapplication. ~~A family or individual~~ An adult whose employer-subsidized coverage is lost due to an employer terminating health care coverage as an employee benefit during the previous 18 months is not eligible.

(b) This subdivision does not apply to ~~a family or individual~~ an adult who was enrolled in MinnesotaCare within six months or less of reapplication and who no longer has employer-subsidized coverage due to the employer terminating health care coverage as an employee benefit.

(c) For purposes of this requirement, subsidized health coverage means health coverage for which the employer pays at least 50 percent of the cost of coverage for the employee or dependent, or a higher percentage as specified by the commissioner. ~~Children are eligible for employer-subsidized coverage through either parent, including the nonecustodial parent.~~ The commissioner must treat employer contributions to Internal Revenue Code Section 125 plans and any other employer benefits intended to pay health care costs as qualified employer subsidies toward the cost of health coverage for employees for purposes of this subdivision.

(d) This subdivision does not apply to children.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007, or upon federal approval, whichever is later.

Sec. 34. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256L.07, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

Subd. 6. **Exception for certain adults.** Single adults and households with no children formerly enrolled in general assistance medical care and enrolled in MinnesotaCare according to section 256D.03, subdivision 3, are eligible without meeting the requirements of this section until ~~six-month~~ renewal.

Sec. 35. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256L.09, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Eligibility as Minnesota resident.** (a) For purposes of this section, a permanent

Minnesota resident is a person who has demonstrated, through persuasive and objective evidence, that the person is domiciled in the state and intends to live in the state permanently.

(b) To be eligible as a permanent resident, an applicant must demonstrate the requisite intent to live in the state permanently by:

(1) showing that the applicant maintains a residence at a verified address ~~other than a place of public accommodation~~, through the use of evidence of residence described in section 256D.02, subdivision 12a, paragraph (b), clause (1) (2);

(2) demonstrating that the applicant has been continuously domiciled in the state for no less than 180 days immediately before the application; and

(3) signing an affidavit declaring that (A) the applicant currently resides in the state and intends to reside in the state permanently; and (B) the applicant did not come to the state for the primary purpose of obtaining medical coverage or treatment.

(c) A person who is temporarily absent from the state does not lose eligibility for MinnesotaCare. "Temporarily absent from the state" means the person is out of the state for a temporary purpose and intends to return when the purpose of the absence has been accomplished. A person is not temporarily absent from the state if another state has determined that the person is a resident for any purpose. If temporarily absent from the state, the person must follow the requirements of the health plan in which the person is enrolled to receive services.

Sec. 36. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256L.11, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Critical access dental providers.** Effective for dental services provided to MinnesotaCare enrollees on or after January 1, 2007, the commissioner shall increase payment rates to dentists and dental clinics deemed by the commissioner to be critical access providers under section 256B.76, paragraph (c), by 50 percent above the payment rate that would otherwise be paid to the provider. The commissioner shall ~~adjust the rates paid on or after January 1, 2007, to pay the~~ prepaid health plans under contract with the commissioner amounts sufficient to reflect this rate increase. The prepaid health plan must pass this rate increase to providers who have been identified by the commissioner as critical access dental providers under section 256B.76, paragraph (c).

Sec. 37. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256L.15, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Premium determination.** (a) Families with children and individuals shall pay a premium determined according to subdivision 2.

(b) Pregnant women and children under age two are exempt from the provisions of section 256L.06, subdivision 3, paragraph (b), clause (3), requiring disenrollment for failure to pay premiums. For pregnant women, this exemption continues until the first day of the month following the 60th day postpartum. Women who remain enrolled during pregnancy or the postpartum period, despite nonpayment of premiums, shall be disenrolled on the first of the month following the 60th day postpartum for the penalty period that otherwise applies under section 256L.06, unless they begin paying premiums.

(c) Members of the military and their families who meet the eligibility criteria for MinnesotaCare upon eligibility approval made within 24 months following the end of the member's tour of active duty shall have their premiums paid by the commissioner. The effective date of coverage for an



individual or family who meets the criteria of this paragraph shall be the first day of the month following the month in which eligibility is approved. This exemption applies for 12 months.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007, or upon federal approval, whichever is later. The commissioner of human services shall notify the Office of the Revisor of Statutes when federal approval is obtained.

Sec. 38. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256L.15, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Sliding fee scale; monthly gross individual or family income.** (a) The commissioner shall establish a sliding fee scale to determine the percentage of monthly gross individual or family income that households at different income levels must pay to obtain coverage through the MinnesotaCare program. The sliding fee scale must be based on the enrollee's monthly gross individual or family income. The sliding fee scale must contain separate tables based on enrollment of one, two, or three or more persons. The sliding fee scale begins with a premium of 1.5 percent of monthly gross individual or family income for individuals or families with incomes below the limits for the medical assistance program for families and children in effect on January 1, 1999, and proceeds through the following evenly spaced steps: 1.8, 2.3, 3.1, 3.8, 4.8, 5.9, 7.4, and 8.8 percent. These percentages are matched to evenly spaced income steps ranging from the medical assistance income limit for families and children in effect on January 1, 1999, to 275 percent of the federal poverty guidelines for the applicable family size, up to a family size of five. The sliding fee scale for a family of five must be used for families of more than five. ~~Effective October 1, 2003, the commissioner shall increase each percentage by 0.5 percentage points for enrollees with income greater than 100 percent but not exceeding 200 percent of the federal poverty guidelines and shall increase each percentage by 1.0 percentage points for families and children with incomes greater than 200 percent of the federal poverty guidelines.~~ The sliding fee scale and percentages are not subject to the provisions of chapter 14. If a family or individual reports increased income after enrollment, premiums shall be adjusted at the time the change in income is reported.

(b) ~~Children in~~ Families whose gross income is above 275 percent of the federal poverty guidelines shall pay the maximum premium. The maximum premium is defined as a base charge for one, two, or three or more enrollees so that if all MinnesotaCare cases paid the maximum premium, the total revenue would equal the total cost of MinnesotaCare medical coverage and administration. In this calculation, administrative costs shall be assumed to equal ten percent of the total. The costs of medical coverage for pregnant women and children under age two and the enrollees in these groups shall be excluded from the total. The maximum premium for two enrollees shall be twice the maximum premium for one, and the maximum premium for three or more enrollees shall be three times the maximum premium for one.

~~(c) After calculating the percentage of premium each enrollee shall pay under paragraph (a), eight percent shall be added to the premium.~~

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007, or upon federal approval, whichever is later.

Sec. 39. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256L.15, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Exceptions to sliding scale.** Children in families with income at or below ~~150~~ 200 percent of the federal poverty guidelines pay a monthly premium of \$4.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective October 1, 2008, or upon federal approval, whichever is later.

Sec. 40. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256L.15, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Exception for transitioned adults.** County agencies shall pay premiums for single adults and households with no children formerly enrolled in general assistance medical care and enrolled in MinnesotaCare according to section 256D.03, subdivision 3, until six-month renewal. The county agency has the option of continuing to pay premiums for these enrollees ~~past the first six-month renewal period.~~

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007.

Sec. 41. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256L.17, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Limit on total assets.** (a) Effective July 1, 2002, or upon federal approval, whichever is later, in order to be eligible for the MinnesotaCare program, a household of two or more persons must not own more than \$20,000 in total net assets, and a household of one person must not own more than \$10,000 in total net assets.

(b) For purposes of this subdivision, assets are determined according to section 256B.056, subdivision 3c, except that workers' compensation settlements received due to a work-related injury shall not be considered.

(c) State-funded MinnesotaCare is not available for applicants or enrollees who are otherwise eligible for medical assistance but fail to verify assets. Enrollees who become eligible for federally funded medical assistance shall be terminated from state-funded MinnesotaCare and transferred to medical assistance.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007, or upon federal approval, whichever is later.

Sec. 42. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256L.17, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Exception for certain adults.** Single adults and households with no children formerly enrolled in general assistance medical care and enrolled in MinnesotaCare according to section 256D.03, subdivision 3, are exempt from the requirements of this section until ~~six-month~~ renewal.

Sec. 43. **[256L.20] MINNESOTACARE OPTION FOR SMALL EMPLOYERS.**

Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) For the purposes of this section, the following terms have the meanings given them.

(b) "Dependent" means an unmarried child who is under the age of 21 and who is not eligible for employer-subsidized health coverage.

(c) "Eligible employee" means an employee who works at least 20 hours per week for an eligible employer. Eligible employee does not include an employee who works on a temporary or substitute basis or who does not work more than 26 weeks annually. Coverage of an eligible employee includes the employee's spouse if the spouse does not have access to employer-subsidized health coverage.

(d) "Eligible employer" means a business that employs at least two, but not more than 50, eligible

employees, the majority of whom are employed in the state, and includes a municipality that has 50 or fewer employees.

(e) "Employer-subsidized health coverage" has the meaning given under section 256L.07, subdivision 2, paragraph (c).

(f) "Maximum premium" has the meaning given under section 256L.15, subdivision 2, paragraph (b), except that the cost of medical coverage for single adults and households without children formerly enrolled in general assistance medical care and enrolled in MinnesotaCare in accordance with section 256D.03, subdivision 3, paragraph (c), are excluded from the total cost when determining the maximum premium.

(g) "Participating employer" means an eligible employer who meets the requirements in subdivision 3 and applies to the commissioner to enroll its eligible employees and their dependents in the MinnesotaCare program.

(h) "Program" means the MinnesotaCare program.

Subd. 2. **Application and renewal procedures.** (a) Eligible employees and their dependents may enroll in MinnesotaCare through their employer if their employer meets the requirements of subdivision 3. The commissioner shall establish procedures for an eligible employer to participate in the program. The commissioner shall provide an employer with applications for each eligible employee. The employee must fill out the application and submit it to the employer. The employer must submit the completed applications to the commissioner. The commissioner shall determine eligibility for the program and determine the premiums owed by the employer for each eligible employee. The commissioner may require eligible employees to provide income verification to determine premiums.

(b) The effective date of coverage is according to section 256L.05, subdivision 3.

(c) An employer's eligibility must be renewed every 12 months. At that time, all eligible employees enrolled in the program regardless of their enrollment date must reapply.

(d) A participating employer must inform the commissioner of any changes in its employees and premiums must be adjusted accordingly beginning the first day of the month following the month in which the change is reported. An employer's premiums shall not be adjusted due to a change in an employee's income until the next renewal period. Eligible employees hired after enrollment must fill out an application and submit the application to the commissioner. Employees who terminate their employment with the participating employer shall remain enrolled in the program until the last day of the month in which employment is terminated. A terminating employee may remain in the MinnesotaCare program if the employee meets the eligibility requirements of enrollment described in sections 256L.01 to 256L.18.

Subd. 3. **Employer requirements.** In order to participate, an eligible employer must meet the following requirements:

(1) agree to contribute toward the cost of the premium for the employee, the employee's spouse, and the employee's dependents according to subdivision 4;

(2) certify that each eligible employee was informed of the availability of coverage through the program and that at least 75 percent of its eligible employees are planning to or are enrolled in the

program; and

(3) have not provided employer-subsidized health coverage as an employee benefit during the previous 12 months, as defined in section 256L.07, subdivision 2, paragraph (c).

Subd. 4. **Premiums.** (a) The premium for coverage provided under this section is equal to the maximum premium as defined in subdivision 1 regardless of the income of the eligible employee.

(b) For eligible employees without dependents with a gross family income equal to or less than 200 percent of the federal poverty guidelines or 215 percent of the federal poverty guidelines on or after July 1, 2009, and for eligible employees with dependents whose gross family income is equal to or less than 275 percent of the federal poverty guidelines, the participating employer shall pay 50 percent of the premium established under paragraph (a) for the eligible employee, the employee's spouse, and any dependents, if applicable.

(c) For eligible employees without dependents with a gross family income over 200 percent of the federal poverty guidelines or 215 percent of the federal poverty guidelines on or after July 1, 2009, and for eligible employees with dependents with a gross family income over 275 percent of the federal poverty guidelines, the participating employer shall pay the full cost of the premium established under paragraph (a) for the eligible employee, the employee's spouse, and any dependents, if applicable. The participating employer may require the employee to pay a portion of the cost of the premium so long as the employer pays at least 50 percent. If the employer requires the employee to pay a portion of the premium, the employee shall pay the portion of the cost to the employer.

(d) The commissioner shall collect premium payments from participating employers for eligible employees, spouses, and dependents who are covered by the program as provided under this section. All premiums collected shall be deposited in the health care access fund.

(e) Nonpayment of premiums by a participating employer will result in the disenrollment of all eligible employees, spouses, and dependents from the program effective the end of the month in which the premium was due.

Subd. 5. **Coverage.** (a) The coverage offered to those enrolled in the program under this section shall include all health services described under section 256L.03 and all co-payments and coinsurance requirements under section 256L.03 shall apply except for as provided under paragraph (b).

(b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), the inpatient hospital benefit annual limit in section 256L.03, subdivision 3, does not apply to adult enrollees enrolled in the program under this section.

Subd. 6. **Enrollment.** For purposes of enrollment under this section, income eligibility limits established under sections 256L.04 and 256L.07, asset limits established under section 256L.17, and the barriers established under section 256L.07, subdivision 2 or 3, do not apply to applicants eligible for this program unless specified in this section. The residency requirement under section 256L.09 applies to this section.

Subd. 7. **Outreach.** The commissioner shall provide information on the availability of this buy-in option for small employers and application forms to entities that provide insurance information to small employers, including, but not limited to, insurance agents and chambers of commerce. The commissioner shall establish an assistance fee of \$25 per enrolled employee for such entities that

assist eligible employers and their employees in applying to the program.

Subd. 8. **Provider payment.** (a) Payment to providers under this section shall be the same rates and conditions under section 256L.12 except that payments for inpatient hospital services for employees without dependents and for the adult employees with dependents with gross family incomes greater than 200 percent of the federal poverty guidelines shall be paid according to paragraph (b).

(b) The commissioner shall pay hospitals the medical assistance rate for inpatient hospital services established under section 256.969 minus the \$20,000 annual inpatient benefit limit and any applicable co-payments or coinsurance requirements.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2009.

Sec. 44. **HENNEPIN COUNTY PILOT PROJECT.**

The commissioner of human services shall support a pilot project in Hennepin County to demonstrate the effectiveness of alternative strategies to redetermine eligibility for certain recipient populations in the medical assistance program. The target populations for the demonstration are persons who are eligible based upon disability or age, who have chronic medical conditions, and who are expected to experience minimal change in income or assets from month to month. The commissioner and the county shall analyze the issues and strategies employed and the outcomes to determine reasonable efforts to streamline eligibility statewide. The duration of the pilot project shall be no more than two years. The commissioner shall apply for any federal waivers needed to implement this section.

Sec. 45. **PHARMACY REPORT ON DRA IMPACT.**

Subdivision 1. **Fiscal impact of deficit reduction act.** The commissioner of human services shall report to the legislature by January 15, 2008, on the fiscal impact of Deficit Reduction Act reforms on the Minnesota Medicaid pharmacy program, including but not limited to:

(1) overall cost reductions to the Minnesota Medicaid pharmacy program as a result of the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005;

(2) the impact of reforms on the federal upper limit on pharmacy reimbursement, and the amount that the dispensing fee for multiple-source generic drugs would have to be adjusted to offset any reductions resulting from federal upper limits implemented as a result of the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005;

(3) the change in federal rebates received from pharmaceutical manufacturers as a result of Deficit Reduction Act reforms, and strategies that could be employed in administering the Medicaid drug formulary to compensate for lost manufacturer rebates;

(4) a comparison of published federal upper limits and state maximum allowable cost (MAC) prices prior to and following implementation of the Deficit Reduction Act federal upper limit reforms;

(5) the number of participating pharmacies in the program as of January 1, 2007, July 1, 2007, and November 1, 2007; and

(6) the Minnesota Medicaid fee-for-service pharmacy program rate of generic dispensing before

and after state implementation of Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 generic reimbursement reform.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

**Sec. 46. CHIROPRACTIC COVERAGE.**

The commissioner of human services, through the Health Services Policy Committee established under Minnesota Statutes, section 256B.0625, subdivision 3c, and using existing funding, shall study whether medical assistance coverage for chiropractic services should be expanded to include initial and progress exams, and shall report recommendations to the legislature by January 15, 2008.

**Sec. 47. MINNESOTACARE APPLICATION PROCESSING CENTERS.**

If the commissioner of human services establishes regional out-state processing centers for MinnesotaCare application processing, one of the centers must be located in Granite Falls to provide processing services to the southern portion of the state.

**Sec. 48. IMPLEMENTATION.**

The commissioner of human services shall implement the amendments to Minnesota Statutes, sections 256.969, subdivision 9; 256.969, subdivision 27; and 256B.199, on the earliest date for which the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services grants approval. The commissioner may alter the reporting date for Hennepin County and Hennepin County Medical Center in Minnesota Statutes, section 256.969, subdivision 9, paragraph (f), clause (2), to reflect the approved effective date.

**Sec. 49. REPEALER.**

(a) Minnesota Statutes 2006, sections 256B.0631, subdivision 4; and 256L.035, are repealed effective January 1, 2008.

(b) Minnesota Statutes 2006, sections 256B.0625, subdivision 5a, 5b, 5c, 5d, 5e, 5f, 5g, 5h, 5i, 5j, and 5k; and 256L.07, subdivision 2a, are repealed effective July 1, 2007.

## **ARTICLE 6**

### **CONTINUING CARE POLICY**

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 144A.351, is amended to read:

**144A.351 BALANCING LONG-TERM CARE: REPORT REQUIRED.**

The commissioners of health and human services, with the cooperation of counties and regional entities, shall prepare a report to the legislature by ~~January~~ August 15, 2004, and biennially thereafter, regarding the status of the full range of long-term care services for the elderly in Minnesota. The report shall address:

- (1) demographics and need for long-term care in Minnesota;
- (2) summary of county and regional reports on long-term care gaps, surpluses, imbalances, and corrective action plans;
- (3) status of long-term care services by county and region including:

- (i) changes in availability of the range of long-term care services and housing options;
  - (ii) access problems regarding long-term care; and
  - (iii) comparative measures of long-term care availability and progress over time; and
- (4) recommendations regarding goals for the future of long-term care services, policy changes, and resource needs.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 252.32, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Amount of support grant; use.** Support grant amounts shall be determined by the county social service agency. Services and items purchased with a support grant must:

- (1) be over and above the normal costs of caring for the dependent if the dependent did not have a disability;
- (2) be directly attributable to the dependent's disabling condition; and
- (3) enable the family to delay or prevent the out-of-home placement of the dependent.

The design and delivery of services and items purchased under this section must ~~suit the dependent's chronological age and~~ be provided in the least restrictive environment possible, consistent with the needs identified in the individual service plan.

Items and services purchased with support grants must be those for which there are no other public or private funds available to the family. Fees assessed to parents for health or human services that are funded by federal, state, or county dollars are not reimbursable through this program.

In approving or denying applications, the county shall consider the following factors:

- (1) the extent and areas of the functional limitations of the disabled child;
- (2) the degree of need in the home environment for additional support; and
- (3) the potential effectiveness of the grant to maintain and support the person in the family environment.

The maximum monthly grant amount shall be \$250 per eligible dependent, or \$3,000 per eligible dependent per state fiscal year, within the limits of available funds and as adjusted by any legislatively authorized cost of living adjustment. The county social service agency may consider the dependent's supplemental security income in determining the amount of the support grant.

Any adjustments to their monthly grant amount must be based on the needs of the family and funding availability.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256.476, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Purpose and goals.** The commissioner of human services shall establish a consumer support grant program for individuals with functional limitations and their families who wish to purchase and secure their own supports. ~~The commissioner and local agencies shall jointly develop an implementation plan which must include a way to resolve the issues related to county liability.~~ The program shall:

(1) make support grants available to individuals or families as an effective alternative to the ~~developmental disability~~ family support program, personal care attendant services, home health aide services, and private duty nursing services;

(2) provide consumers more control, flexibility, and responsibility over their services and supports;

(3) promote local program management and decision making; and

(4) encourage the use of informal and typical community supports.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256.476, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Definitions.** For purposes of this section, the following terms have the meanings given them:

(a) "County board" means the county board of commissioners for the county of financial responsibility as defined in section 256G.02, subdivision 4, or its designated representative. When a human services board has been established under sections 402.01 to 402.10, it shall be considered the county board for the purposes of this section.

(b) "Family" means the person's birth parents, adoptive parents or stepparents, siblings or stepsiblings, children or stepchildren, grandparents, grandchildren, niece, nephew, aunt, uncle, or spouse. For the purposes of this section, a family member is at least 18 years of age.

(c) "Functional limitations" means the long-term inability to perform an activity or task in one or more areas of major life activity, including self-care, understanding and use of language, learning, mobility, self-direction, and capacity for independent living. For the purpose of this section, the inability to perform an activity or task results from a mental, emotional, psychological, sensory, or physical disability, condition, or illness.

(d) "Informed choice" means a voluntary decision made by the person ~~or~~, the person's legal representative, or other authorized representative after becoming familiarized with the alternatives to:

(1) select a preferred alternative from a number of feasible alternatives;

(2) select an alternative which may be developed in the future; and

(3) refuse any or all alternatives.

(e) "Local agency" means the local agency authorized by the county board or, for counties not participating in the consumer grant program by July 1, 2002, the commissioner, to carry out the provisions of this section.

(f) "Person" or "persons" means a person or persons meeting the eligibility criteria in subdivision 3.

(g) "Authorized representative" means an individual designated by the person or their legal representative to act on their behalf. This individual may be a family member, guardian, representative payee, or other individual designated by the person or their legal representative, if any, to assist in purchasing and arranging for supports. For the purposes of this section, an



authorized representative is at least 18 years of age.

(h) "Screening" means the screening of a person's service needs under sections 256B.0911 and 256B.092.

(i) "Supports" means services, care, aids, environmental modifications, or assistance purchased by the person ~~or the person's family~~, the person's legal representative, or other authorized representative. Examples of supports include respite care, assistance with daily living, and assistive technology. For the purpose of this section, notwithstanding the provisions of section 144A.43, supports purchased under the consumer support program are not considered home care services.

(j) "Program of origination" means the program the individual transferred from when approved for the consumer support grant program.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256.476, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Eligibility to apply for grants.** (a) A person is eligible to apply for a consumer support grant if the person meets all of the following criteria:

(1) the person is eligible for and has been approved to receive services under medical assistance as determined under sections 256B.055 and 256B.056 or the person has been approved to receive a grant under the ~~developmental disability~~ family support program under section 252.32;

(2) the person is able to direct and purchase the person's own care and supports, or the person has a family member, legal representative, or other authorized representative who can purchase and arrange supports on the person's behalf;

(3) the person has functional limitations, requires ongoing supports to live in the community, and is at risk of or would continue institutionalization without such supports; and

(4) the person will live in a home. For the purpose of this section, "home" means the person's own home or home of a person's family member. These homes are natural home settings and are not licensed by the Department of Health or Human Services.

(b) Persons may not concurrently receive a consumer support grant if they are:

(1) receiving personal care attendant and home health aide services, or private duty nursing under section 256B.0625; a ~~developmental disability~~ family support grant; or alternative care services under section 256B.0913; or

(2) residing in an institutional or congregate care setting.

(c) A person or person's family receiving a consumer support grant shall not be charged a fee or premium by a local agency for participating in the program.

(d) Individuals receiving home and community-based waivers under United States Code, title 42, section 1396h(c), are not eligible for the consumer support grant, except for individuals receiving consumer support grants before July 1, 2003, as long as other eligibility criteria are met.

(e) The commissioner shall establish a budgeted appropriation each fiscal year for the consumer support grant program. The number of individuals participating in the program will be adjusted so the total amount allocated to counties does not exceed the amount of the budgeted appropriation.

The budgeted appropriation will be adjusted annually to accommodate changes in demand for the consumer support grants.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256.476, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

**Subd. 4. Support grants; criteria and limitations.** (a) A county board may choose to participate in the consumer support grant program. If a county has not chosen to participate by July 1, 2002, the commissioner shall contract with another county or other entity to provide access to residents of the nonparticipating county who choose the consumer support grant option. The commissioner shall notify the county board in a county that has declined to participate of the commissioner's intent to enter into a contract with another county or other entity at least 30 days in advance of entering into the contract. The local agency shall establish written procedures and criteria to determine the amount and use of support grants. These procedures must include, at least, the availability of respite care, assistance with daily living, and adaptive aids. The local agency may establish monthly or annual maximum amounts for grants and procedures where exceptional resources may be required to meet the health and safety needs of the person on a time-limited basis, however, the total amount awarded to each individual may not exceed the limits established in subdivision 11.

(b) Support grants to a person ~~or a person's family~~, a person's legal representative, or other authorized representative will be provided through a monthly subsidy payment and be in the form of cash, voucher, or direct county payment to vendor. Support grant amounts must be determined by the local agency. Each service and item purchased with a support grant must meet all of the following criteria:

(1) it must be over and above the normal cost of caring for the person if the person did not have functional limitations;

(2) it must be directly attributable to the person's functional limitations;

(3) it must enable the person ~~or the person's family~~, a person's legal representative, or other authorized representative to delay or prevent out-of-home placement of the person; and

(4) it must be consistent with the needs identified in the service agreement, when applicable.

(c) Items and services purchased with support grants must be those for which there are no other public or private funds available to the person ~~or the person's family~~, a person's legal representative, or other authorized representative. Fees assessed to the person or the person's family for health and human services are not reimbursable through the grant.

(d) In approving or denying applications, the local agency shall consider the following factors:

(1) the extent and areas of the person's functional limitations;

(2) the degree of need in the home environment for additional support; and

(3) the potential effectiveness of the grant to maintain and support the person in the family environment or the person's own home.

(e) At the time of application to the program or screening for other services, the person ~~or the person's family~~, a person's legal representative, or other authorized representative shall be provided sufficient information to ensure an informed choice of alternatives by the person, the person's legal representative, or other authorized representative, if any, ~~or the person's family~~. The application

shall be made to the local agency and shall specify the needs of the person and family, the form and amount of grant requested, the items and services to be reimbursed, and evidence of eligibility for medical assistance.

(f) Upon approval of an application by the local agency and agreement on a support plan for the person or person's family, the local agency shall make grants to the person or the person's family. The grant shall be in an amount for the direct costs of the services or supports outlined in the service agreement.

(g) Reimbursable costs shall not include costs for resources already available, such as special education classes, day training and habilitation, case management, other services to which the person is entitled, medical costs covered by insurance or other health programs, or other resources usually available at no cost to the person or the person's family.

(h) The state of Minnesota, the county boards participating in the consumer support grant program, or the agencies acting on behalf of the county boards in the implementation and administration of the consumer support grant program shall not be liable for damages, injuries, or liabilities sustained through the purchase of support by the individual, the individual's family, or the authorized representative under this section with funds received through the consumer support grant program. Liabilities include but are not limited to: workers' compensation liability, the Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA), or the Federal Unemployment Tax Act (FUTA). For purposes of this section, participating county boards and agencies acting on behalf of county boards are exempt from the provisions of section 268.04.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256.476, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **Reimbursement, allocations, and reporting.** (a) For the purpose of transferring persons to the consumer support grant program from the ~~developmental disability~~ family support program and personal care assistant services, home health aide services, or private duty nursing services, the amount of funds transferred by the commissioner between the ~~developmental disability~~ family support program account, the medical assistance account, or the consumer support grant account shall be based on each county's participation in transferring persons to the consumer support grant program from those programs and services.

(b) At the beginning of each fiscal year, county allocations for consumer support grants shall be based on:

(1) the number of persons to whom the county board expects to provide consumer supports grants;

(2) their eligibility for current program and services;

(3) the amount of nonfederal dollars allowed under subdivision 11; and

(4) projected dates when persons will start receiving grants. County allocations shall be adjusted periodically by the commissioner based on the actual transfer of persons or service openings, and the nonfederal dollars associated with those persons or service openings, to the consumer support grant program.

(c) The amount of funds transferred by the commissioner from the medical assistance account for an individual may be changed if it is determined by the county or its agent that the individual's

need for support has changed.

(d) The authority to utilize funds transferred to the consumer support grant account for the purposes of implementing and administering the consumer support grant program will not be limited or constrained by the spending authority provided to the program of origination.

(e) The commissioner may use up to five percent of each county's allocation, as adjusted, for payments for administrative expenses, to be paid as a proportionate addition to reported direct service expenditures.

(f) The county allocation for each individual or individual's family cannot exceed the amount allowed under subdivision 11.

(g) The commissioner may recover, suspend, or withhold payments if the county board, local agency, or grantee does not comply with the requirements of this section.

(h) Grant funds unexpended by consumers shall return to the state once a year. The annual return of unexpended grant funds shall occur in the quarter following the end of the state fiscal year.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256.476, subdivision 10, is amended to read:

Subd. 10. **Consumer responsibilities.** Persons receiving grants under this section shall:

- (1) spend the grant money in a manner consistent with their agreement with the local agency;
- (2) notify the local agency of any necessary changes in the grant or the items on which it is spent;
- (3) notify the local agency of any decision made by the person, ~~the~~ a person's legal representative, ~~or the person's family~~ or other authorized representative that would change their eligibility for consumer support grants;
- (4) arrange and pay for supports; and
- (5) inform the local agency of areas where they have experienced difficulty securing or maintaining supports.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256.974, is amended to read:

**256.974 OFFICE OF OMBUDSMAN FOR ~~OLDER MINNESOTANS~~ LONG-TERM CARE; LOCAL PROGRAMS.**

The ombudsman for ~~older Minnesotans~~ long-term care serves in the classified service under section 256.01, subdivision 7, in an office within the Minnesota Board on Aging that incorporates the long-term care ombudsman program required by the Older Americans Act, Public Law 100-75 as amended, United States Code, title 42, section 3027(a)(12) (9) and 3058g (a), and established within the Minnesota Board on Aging. The Minnesota Board on Aging may make grants to and designate local programs for the provision of ombudsman services to clients in county or multicounty areas. The local program may not be an agency engaged in the provision of nursing home care, hospital care, or home care services either directly or by contract, or have the responsibility for planning, coordinating, funding, or administering nursing home care, hospital care, or home care services.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256.9741, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Long-term care facility.** "Long-term care facility" means a nursing home licensed under sections 144A.02 to 144A.10 ~~or~~; a boarding care home licensed under sections 144.50 to 144.56; or a licensed or registered residential setting that provides or arranges for the provision of home care services.

Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256.9741, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Client.** "Client" means an individual who requests, or on whose behalf a request is made for, ombudsman services and is (a) a resident of a long-term care facility or (b) a Medicare beneficiary who requests assistance relating to access, discharge, or denial of inpatient or outpatient services, or (c) an individual reserving, receiving, or requesting a home care service.

Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256.9742, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Posting.** Every long-term care facility and acute care facility shall post in a conspicuous place the address and telephone number of the office. A home care service provider shall provide all recipients, including those in ~~elderly~~ housing with services under chapter 144D, with the address and telephone number of the office. Counties shall provide clients receiving ~~a consumer support grant or a service allowance~~ long-term care consultation services under section 256B.0911 or home and community-based services through a state or federally funded program with the name, address, and telephone number of the office. The posting or notice is subject to approval by the ombudsman.

Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256.9742, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Access to long-term care and acute care facilities and clients.** The ombudsman or designee may:

- (1) enter any long-term care facility without notice at any time;
- (2) enter any acute care facility without notice during normal business hours;
- (3) enter any acute care facility without notice at any time to interview a patient or observe services being provided to the patient as part of an investigation of a matter that is within the scope of the ombudsman's authority, but only if the ombudsman's or designee's presence does not intrude upon the privacy of another patient or interfere with routine hospital services provided to any patient in the facility;
- (4) communicate privately and without restriction with any client ~~in accordance with section 144.651~~, as long as the ombudsman has the client's consent for such communication;
- (5) inspect records of a long-term care facility, home care service provider, or acute care facility that pertain to the care of the client according to ~~sections~~ section 144.335 and 144.651; and
- (6) with the consent of a client or client's legal guardian, the ombudsman or designated staff shall have access to review records pertaining to the care of the client according to ~~sections~~ section 144.335 and 144.651. If a client cannot consent and has no legal guardian, access to the records is authorized by this section.

A person who denies access to the ombudsman or designee in violation of this subdivision or aids, abets, invites, compels, or coerces another to do so is guilty of a misdemeanor.

Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256.9742, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

Subd. 6. **Prohibition against discrimination or retaliation.** (a) No entity shall take discriminatory, disciplinary, or retaliatory action against an employee or volunteer, or a patient, resident, or guardian or family member of a patient, resident, or guardian for filing in good faith a complaint with or providing information to the ombudsman or designee including volunteers. A person who violates this subdivision or who aids, abets, invites, compels, or coerces another to do so is guilty of a misdemeanor.

(b) There shall be a rebuttable presumption that any adverse action, as defined below, within 90 days of report, is discriminatory, disciplinary, or retaliatory. For the purpose of this clause, the term "adverse action" refers to action taken by the entity involved in a report against the person making the report or the person with respect to whom the report was made because of the report, and includes, but is not limited to:

- (1) discharge or transfer from a facility;
- (2) termination of service;
- (3) restriction or prohibition of access to the facility or its residents;
- (4) discharge from or termination of employment;
- (5) demotion or reduction in remuneration for services; and
- (6) any restriction of rights set forth in section 144.651 ~~or~~, 144A.44, or 144A.751.

Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256.9744, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Classification.** Except as provided in this section, data maintained by the office under sections 256.974 to 256.9744 are private data on individuals or nonpublic data as defined in section 13.02, subdivision 9 or 12, and must be maintained in accordance with the requirements of Public Law 100-75 the Older Americans Act, as amended, United States Code, title 42, section 3027(a)(12)(D) 3058g(d).

Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256.975, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 2a. **Electronic meetings.** (a) Notwithstanding section 13D.01, the Minnesota Board on Aging may conduct a meeting of its members by telephone or other electronic means so long as the following conditions are met:

(1) all members of the board participating in the meeting, wherever their physical location, can hear one another and can hear all discussion and testimony;

(2) members of the public present at the regular meeting location of the board can hear all discussion and testimony and all votes of members of the board;

(3) at least one member of the board is physically present at the regular meeting location; and

(4) all votes are conducted by roll call, so that each member's vote on each issue can be identified and recorded.

(b) Each member of the board participating in a meeting by telephone or other electronic means is considered present at the meeting for purposes of determining a quorum and participating in all proceedings.

(c) If telephone or other electronic means is used to conduct a meeting, the board, to the extent practical, shall allow a person to monitor the meeting electronically from a remote location. The board may require the person making a connection to pay for documented marginal costs that the board incurs as a result of the additional connection.

(d) If telephone or other electronic means is used to conduct a regular, special, or emergency meeting, the board shall provide notice of the regular meeting location, of the fact that some members may participate by telephone or other electronic means, and of the provisions of paragraph (c). The timing and method of providing notice is governed by section 13D.04.

Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0621, subdivision 11, is amended to read:

Subd. 11. **Data-use agreement; Notice of relocation assistance.** ~~The commissioner shall execute a data use agreement with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to obtain the long-term care minimum data set data to assist residents of nursing facilities who have~~ establish a process with the Centers for Independent Living that allows a person residing in a Minnesota nursing facility to receive needed information, consultation, and assistance from one of the centers about the available community support options that may enable the person to relocate to the community, if the person: (1) is under the age of 65, (2) has indicated a desire to live in the community. The commissioner shall in turn enter into agreements with the Centers for Independent Living to provide information about assistance for persons who want to move to the community. The commissioner shall work with the Centers for Independent Living on both the content of the information to be provided and privacy protections for the individual residents, and (3) has signed a release of information authorized by the person or the person's appointed legal representative. The process established under this subdivision shall be coordinated with the long-term care consultation service activities established in section 256B.0911.

Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0625, subdivision 23, is amended to read:

Subd. 23. **Day treatment services.** Medical assistance covers day treatment services as specified in sections 245.462, subdivision 8, and 245.4871, subdivision 10, that are provided under contract with the county board. Notwithstanding Minnesota Rules, part 9505.0323, subpart 15, the commissioner may set authorization thresholds for day treatment for adults according to section 256B.0625, subdivision 25. Notwithstanding Minnesota Rules, part 9505.0323, subpart 15, effective July 1, 2004, medical assistance covers day treatment services for children as specified under section 256B.0943.

Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0655, subdivision 1f, is amended to read:

Subd. 1f. **Personal care assistant.** (a) "Personal care assistant" means a person who:

(1) is at least 18 years old, except for persons 16 to 18 years of age who participated in a related school-based job training program or have completed a certified home health aide competency evaluation;

(2) is able to effectively communicate with the recipient and personal care provider organization;

(3) effective July 1, 1996, has completed one of the training requirements as specified in Minnesota Rules, part 9505.0335, subpart 3, items A to E paragraph (b);

(4) has the ability to, and provides covered personal care assistant services according to the

recipient's care plan, responds appropriately to recipient needs, and reports changes in the recipient's condition to the supervising qualified professional or physician;

(5) is not a consumer of personal care assistant services;

(6) maintains daily written records detailing:

(i) the actual services provided to the recipient; and

(ii) the amount of time spent providing the services; and

(7) is subject to criminal background checks and procedures specified in chapter 245C.

(b) Personal care assistant training must include successful completion of one or more training requirements in:

(1) a nursing assistant training program or its equivalent for which competency as a nursing assistant is determined according to a test administered by the Minnesota State Board of Technical Colleges;

(2) a homemaker home health aide preservice training program using a curriculum recommended by the Department of Health;

(3) an accredited educational program for registered nurses or licensed practical nurses;

(4) a training program that provides the assistant with skills required to perform personal care assistant services specified in subdivision 2; or

(5) a determination by the personal care provider that the assistant has, through training or experience, the skills required to perform the personal care services specified in subdivision 2.

Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0655, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 12. **Personal care provider responsibilities.** The personal care provider shall:

(1) employ or contract with services staff to provide personal care services and to train services staff as necessary;

(2) supervise the personal care services as provided in subdivision 2, paragraph (f);

(3) employ a personal care assistant that a qualified recipient brings to the personal care provider as the recipient's choice of assistant and who meets the employment qualifications of the provider, except that a personal care provider who must comply with the requirements of a governmental personnel administration system is exempt from this clause;

(4) bill the medical assistance program for a personal care service by the personal care assistant and a visit by the qualified professional supervising the personal care assistant;

(5) establish a grievance mechanism to resolve consumer complaints about personal care services, including the personal care provider's decision whether to employ the qualified recipient's choice of a personal care assistant;

(6) keep records as required in Minnesota Rules, parts 9505.2160 to 9505.2195;



(7) perform functions and provide services specified in the personal care provider's contract;

(8) comply with applicable rules and statutes; and

(9) perform other functions as necessary to carry out the responsibilities in clauses (1) to (8).

Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0655, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 13. **Personal care provider; employment prohibition.** A personal care provider shall not employ a person to provide personal care service for a qualified recipient if the person:

(1) refuses to provide full disclosure of criminal history records as specified in subdivision 1g, clause (1);

(2) has been convicted of a crime that directly relates to the occupation of providing personal care services to a qualified recipient;

(3) has jeopardized the health or welfare of a vulnerable adult through physical abuse, sexual abuse, or neglect as defined in section 626.557; or

(4) is misusing or is dependent on mood-altering chemicals, including alcohol, to the extent that the personal care provider knows or has reason to believe that the use of chemicals has a negative effect on the person's ability to provide personal care services or the use of chemicals is apparent during the hours the person is providing personal care services.

Sec. 22. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0655, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 14. **Supervision of personal care services.** A personal care service to a qualified recipient as described in subdivision 4 shall be under the supervision of a qualified professional who shall have the following duties:

(1) ensure that the personal care assistant is capable of providing the required personal care services through direct observation of the assistant's work or through consultation with the qualified recipient;

(2) ensure that the personal care assistant is knowledgeable about the plan of personal care services before the personal care assistant performs personal care services;

(3) ensure that the personal care assistant is knowledgeable about essential observations of the recipient's health, and about any conditions that should be immediately brought to the attention of either the qualified professional or the attending physician;

(4) evaluate the personal care services of a recipient through direct observation of the personal care assistant's work or through consultation with the qualified recipient. Evaluation shall be made:

(i) within 14 days after the placement of a personal care assistant with the qualified recipient;

(ii) at least once every 30 days during the first 90 days after the qualified recipient first receives personal care services according to the plan of personal care service; and

(iii) at least once every 120 days following the period of evaluations in item (ii). The qualified

professional shall record in writing the results of the evaluation and actions taken to correct any deficiencies in the work of the personal care assistant;

(5) review, together with the recipient, and revise, as necessary, the plan of personal care services at least once every 120 days after a plan of personal care services is developed;

(6) ensure that the personal care assistant and recipient are knowledgeable about a change in the plan of personal care services;

(7) ensure that records are kept, showing the services provided to the recipient by the personal care assistant as described in subdivision 2, paragraph (f), and the time spent providing the services;

(8) determine that a qualified recipient is still capable of directing the recipient's own care or has a responsible party; and

(9) determine with a physician that a recipient is a qualified recipient.

Sec. 23. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0911, subdivision 3b, is amended to read:

Subd. 3b. **Transition assistance.** (a) A long-term care consultation team shall provide assistance to persons residing in a nursing facility, hospital, regional treatment center, or intermediate care facility for persons with developmental disabilities who request or are referred for assistance. Transition assistance must include assessment, community support plan development, referrals to Minnesota health care programs, and referrals to programs that provide assistance with housing. Transition assistance must also include information about the Centers for Independent Living and about other organizations that can provide assistance with relocation efforts, and information about contacting these organizations to obtain their assistance and support.

(b) The county shall develop transition processes with institutional social workers and discharge planners to ensure that:

(1) persons admitted to facilities receive information about transition assistance that is available;

(2) the assessment is completed for persons within ten working days of the date of request or recommendation for assessment; and

(3) there is a plan for transition and follow-up for the individual's return to the community. The plan must require notification of other local agencies when a person who may require assistance is screened by one county for admission to a facility located in another county.

(c) If a person who is eligible for a Minnesota health care program is admitted to a nursing facility, the nursing facility must include a consultation team member or the case manager in the discharge planning process.

Sec. 24. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0911, subdivision 4b, is amended to read:

Subd. 4b. **Exemptions and emergency admissions.** (a) Exemptions from the federal screening requirements outlined in subdivision 4a, paragraphs (b) and (c), are limited to:

(1) a person who, having entered an acute care facility from a certified nursing facility, is returning to a certified nursing facility;

(2) a person transferring from one certified nursing facility in Minnesota to another certified

nursing facility in Minnesota; and

(3) a person, 21 years of age or older, who satisfies the following criteria, as specified in Code of Federal Regulations, title 42, section 483.106(b)(2):

(i) the person is admitted to a nursing facility directly from a hospital after receiving acute inpatient care at the hospital;

(ii) the person requires nursing facility services for the same condition for which care was provided in the hospital; and

(iii) the attending physician has certified before the nursing facility admission that the person is likely to receive less than 30 days of nursing facility services.

(b) Persons who are exempt from preadmission screening for purposes of level of care determination include:

(1) persons described in paragraph (a);

(2) an individual who has a contractual right to have nursing facility care paid for indefinitely by the veterans' administration;

(3) an individual enrolled in a demonstration project under section 256B.69, subdivision 8, at the time of application to a nursing facility; and

(4) an individual currently being served under the alternative care program or under a home and community-based services waiver authorized under section 1915(c) of the federal Social Security Act; and

~~(5) individuals admitted to a certified nursing facility for a short-term stay, which is expected to be 14 days or less in duration based upon a physician's certification, and who have been assessed and approved for nursing facility admission within the previous six months. This exemption applies only if the consultation team member determines at the time of the initial assessment of the six-month period that it is appropriate to use the nursing facility for short-term stays and that there is an adequate plan of care for return to the home or community-based setting. If a stay exceeds 14 days, the individual must be referred no later than the first county working day following the 14th resident day for a screening, which must be completed within five working days of the referral. The payment limitations in subdivision 7 apply to an individual found at screening to not meet the level of care criteria for admission to a certified nursing facility.~~

(c) Persons admitted to a Medicaid-certified nursing facility from the community on an emergency basis as described in paragraph (d) or from an acute care facility on a nonworking day must be screened the first working day after admission.

(d) Emergency admission to a nursing facility prior to screening is permitted when all of the following conditions are met:

(1) a person is admitted from the community to a certified nursing or certified boarding care facility during county nonworking hours;

(2) a physician has determined that delaying admission until preadmission screening is completed would adversely affect the person's health and safety;

(3) there is a recent precipitating event that precludes the client from living safely in the community, such as sustaining an injury, sudden onset of acute illness, or a caregiver's inability to continue to provide care;

(4) the attending physician has authorized the emergency placement and has documented the reason that the emergency placement is recommended; and

(5) the county is contacted on the first working day following the emergency admission.

Transfer of a patient from an acute care hospital to a nursing facility is not considered an emergency except for a person who has received hospital services in the following situations: hospital admission for observation, care in an emergency room without hospital admission, or following hospital 24-hour bed care.

~~(e) A nursing facility must provide a written notice to persons who satisfy the criteria in paragraph (a), clause (3), information to all persons admitted regarding the person's right to request and receive long-term care consultation services as defined in subdivision 1a. The notice information must be provided prior to the person's discharge from the facility and in a format specified by the commissioner.~~

Sec. 25. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0911, subdivision 4c, is amended to read:

Subd. 4c. **Screening requirements.** (a) A person may be screened for nursing facility admission by telephone or in a face-to-face screening interview. Consultation team members shall identify each individual's needs using the following categories:

(1) the person needs no face-to-face screening interview to determine the need for nursing facility level of care based on information obtained from other health care professionals;

(2) the person needs an immediate face-to-face screening interview to determine the need for nursing facility level of care and complete activities required under subdivision 4a; or

(3) the person may be exempt from screening requirements as outlined in subdivision 4b, but will need transitional assistance after admission or in-person follow-along after a return home.

(b) Persons admitted on a nonemergency basis to a Medicaid-certified nursing facility must be screened prior to admission.

~~(c) The long-term care consultation team shall recommend a case mix classification for persons admitted to a certified nursing facility when sufficient information is received to make that classification. The nursing facility is authorized to conduct all case mix assessments for persons who have been screened prior to admission for whom the county did not recommend a case mix classification. The nursing facility is authorized to conduct all case mix assessments for persons admitted to the facility prior to a preadmission screening. The county retains the responsibility of distributing appropriate case mix forms to the nursing facility.~~

~~(d)~~ (c) The county screening or intake activity must include processes to identify persons who may require transition assistance as described in subdivision 3b.

Sec. 26. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0911, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

Subd. 6. **Payment for long-term care consultation services.** (a) The total payment for each

county must be paid monthly by certified nursing facilities in the county. The monthly amount to be paid by each nursing facility for each fiscal year must be determined by dividing the county's annual allocation for long-term care consultation services by 12 to determine the monthly payment and allocating the monthly payment to each nursing facility based on the number of licensed beds in the nursing facility. Payments to counties in which there is no certified nursing facility must be made by increasing the payment rate of the two facilities located nearest to the county seat.

(b) The commissioner shall include the total annual payment determined under paragraph (a) for each nursing facility reimbursed under section 256B.431 or 256B.434 according to section 256B.431, subdivision 2b, paragraph (g), ~~or 256B.435.~~

(c) In the event of the layaway, delicensure and decertification, or removal from layaway of 25 percent or more of the beds in a facility, the commissioner may adjust the per diem payment amount in paragraph (b) and may adjust the monthly payment amount in paragraph (a). The effective date of an adjustment made under this paragraph shall be on or after the first day of the month following the effective date of the layaway, delicensure and decertification, or removal from layaway.

(d) Payments for long-term care consultation services are available to the county or counties to cover staff salaries and expenses to provide the services described in subdivision 1a. The county shall employ, or contract with other agencies to employ, within the limits of available funding, sufficient personnel to provide long-term care consultation services while meeting the state's long-term care outcomes and objectives as defined in section 256B.0917, subdivision 1. The county shall be accountable for meeting local objectives as approved by the commissioner in the biennial home and community-based services quality assurance plan on a form provided by the commissioner.

(e) Notwithstanding section 256B.0641, overpayments attributable to payment of the screening costs under the medical assistance program may not be recovered from a facility.

(f) The commissioner of human services shall amend the Minnesota medical assistance plan to include reimbursement for the local consultation teams.

(g) The county may bill, as case management services, assessments, support planning, and follow-along provided to persons determined to be eligible for case management under Minnesota health care programs. No individual or family member shall be charged for an initial assessment or initial support plan development provided under subdivision 3a or 3b.

Sec. 27. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0911, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 6a. **Withholding.** If any provider obligated to pay the long-term care consultation amount as described in subdivision 6 is more than two months delinquent in the timely payment of the monthly installment, the commissioner may withhold payments, penalties, and interest in accordance with the methods outlined in section 256.9657, subdivision 7a. Any amount withheld under this provision must be returned to the county to whom the delinquent payments were due.

Sec. 28. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0911, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

**Subd. 7. Reimbursement for certified nursing facilities.** (a) Medical assistance reimbursement for nursing facilities shall be authorized for a medical assistance recipient only if a preadmission screening has been conducted prior to admission or the county has authorized an exemption. Medical

assistance reimbursement for nursing facilities shall not be provided for any recipient who the local screener has determined does not meet the level of care criteria for nursing facility placement or, if indicated, has not had a level II OBRA evaluation as required under the federal Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1987 completed unless an admission for a recipient with mental illness is approved by the local mental health authority or an admission for a recipient with developmental disability is approved by the state developmental disability authority.

(b) The nursing facility must not bill a person who is not a medical assistance recipient for resident days that preceded the date of completion of screening activities as required under subdivisions 4a, 4b, and 4c. The nursing facility must include unreimbursed resident days in the nursing facility resident day totals reported to the commissioner.

~~(c) The commissioner shall make a request to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for a waiver allowing team approval of Medicaid payments for certified nursing facility care. An individual has a choice and makes the final decision between nursing facility placement and community placement after the screening team's recommendation, except as provided in subdivision 4a, paragraph (c).~~

Sec. 29. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0913, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Eligibility for funding for services for nonmedical assistance recipients.** (a) Funding for services under the alternative care program is available to persons who meet the following criteria:

(1) the person has been determined by a community assessment under section 256B.0911 to be a person who would require the level of care provided in a nursing facility, but for the provision of services under the alternative care program;

(2) the person is age 65 or older;

(3) the person would be eligible for medical assistance within 135 days of admission to a nursing facility;

(4) the person is not ineligible for the payment of long-term care services by the medical assistance program due to an asset transfer penalty under section 256B.0595 or equity interest in the home exceeding \$500,000 as stated in section 256B.056;

(5) the person needs long-term care services that are not funded through other state or federal funding;

(6) the monthly cost of the alternative care services funded by the program for this person does not exceed 75 percent of the monthly limit described under section 256B.0915, subdivision 3a. This monthly limit does not prohibit the alternative care client from payment for additional services, but in no case may the cost of additional services purchased under this section exceed the difference between the client's monthly service limit defined under section 256B.0915, subdivision 3, and the alternative care program monthly service limit defined in this paragraph. If ~~medical care-related~~ supplies and equipment or environmental modifications and adaptations are or will be purchased for an alternative care services recipient, the costs may be prorated on a monthly basis for up to 12 consecutive months beginning with the month of purchase. If the monthly cost of a recipient's other alternative care services exceeds the monthly limit established in this paragraph, the annual cost of the alternative care services shall be determined. In this event, the annual cost of alternative care

services shall not exceed 12 times the monthly limit described in this paragraph; and

(7) the person is making timely payments of the assessed monthly fee.

A person is ineligible if payment of the fee is over 60 days past due, unless the person agrees to:

(i) the appointment of a representative payee;

(ii) automatic payment from a financial account;

(iii) the establishment of greater family involvement in the financial management of payments;  
or

(iv) another method acceptable to the ~~county~~ county lead agency to ensure prompt fee payments.

The ~~county shall lead agency may~~ county lead agency may extend the client's eligibility as necessary while making arrangements to facilitate payment of past-due amounts and future premium payments. Following disenrollment due to nonpayment of a monthly fee, eligibility shall not be reinstated for a period of 30 days.

(b) Alternative care funding under this subdivision is not available for a person who is a medical assistance recipient or who would be eligible for medical assistance without a spenddown or waiver obligation. A person whose initial application for medical assistance and the elderly waiver program is being processed may be served under the alternative care program for a period up to 60 days. If the individual is found to be eligible for medical assistance, medical assistance must be billed for services payable under the federally approved elderly waiver plan and delivered from the date the individual was found eligible for the federally approved elderly waiver plan. Notwithstanding this provision, alternative care funds may not be used to pay for any service the cost of which: (i) is payable by medical assistance; (ii) is used by a recipient to meet a waiver obligation; or (iii) is used to pay a medical assistance income spenddown for a person who is eligible to participate in the federally approved elderly waiver program under the special income standard provision.

(c) Alternative care funding is not available for a person who resides in a licensed nursing home, certified boarding care home, hospital, or intermediate care facility, except for case management services which are provided in support of the discharge planning process for a nursing home resident or certified boarding care home resident to assist with a relocation process to a community-based setting.

(d) Alternative care funding is not available for a person whose income is greater than the maintenance needs allowance under section 256B.0915, subdivision 1d, but equal to or less than 120 percent of the federal poverty guideline effective July 1 in the fiscal year for which alternative care eligibility is determined, who would be eligible for the elderly waiver with a waiver obligation.

Sec. 30. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0913, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **Services covered under alternative care.** Alternative care funding may be used for payment of costs of:

(1) adult day care;

(2) home health aide;

- (3) homemaker services;
- (4) personal care;
- (5) case management;
- (6) respite care;
- (7) care-related supplies and equipment;
- (8) meals delivered to the home;
- (9) nonmedical transportation;
- (10) nursing services;
- (11) chore services;
- (12) companion services;
- (13) nutrition services;
- (14) training for direct informal caregivers;
- (15) telehome care to provide services in their own homes in conjunction with in-home visits;
- (16) ~~discretionary services, for which counties may make payment from their alternative care program allocation or services not otherwise defined in this section or section 256B.0625, following approval by the commissioner~~ consumer-directed community services under the alternative care programs which are available statewide and limited to the average monthly expenditures representative of all alternative care program participants for the same case mix resident class assigned in the most recent fiscal year for which complete expenditure data is available;
- (17) environmental modifications and adaptations; and
- (18) ~~direct cash payments for which counties may make payment from their alternative care program allocation to clients for the purpose of purchasing services, following approval by the commissioner, and subject to the provisions of subdivision 5h, until approval and implementation of consumer-directed services through the federally approved elderly waiver plan. Upon implementation, consumer-directed services under the alternative care program are available statewide and limited to the average monthly expenditures representative of all alternative care program participants for the same case mix resident class assigned in the most recent fiscal year for which complete expenditure data is available~~ discretionary services, for which lead agencies may make payment from their alternative care program allocation for services not otherwise defined in this section or section 256B.0625, following approval by the commissioner.

~~Total annual payments for discretionary services and direct cash payments, until the federally approved consumer-directed service option is implemented statewide, for all clients within a county may served by a lead agency must not exceed 25 percent of that county's lead agency's annual alternative care program base allocation. Thereafter, discretionary services are limited to 25 percent of the county's annual alternative care program base allocation.~~

Sec. 31. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0913, subdivision 5a, is amended to read:



Subd. 5a. **Services; service definitions; service standards.** (a) Unless specified in statute, the services, service definitions, and standards for alternative care services shall be the same as the services, service definitions, and standards specified in the federally approved elderly waiver plan, except for alternative care does not cover transitional support services, assisted living services, adult foster care services, and residential care services and benefits defined under section 256B.0625 that meet primary and acute health care needs.

(b) The county lead agency must ensure that the funds are not used to supplant or supplement services available through other public assistance or services programs-, including supplementation of client co-pays, deductibles, premiums, or other cost-sharing arrangements for health-related benefits and services or entitlement programs and services that are available to the person, but in which they have elected not to enroll. For a provider of supplies and equipment when the monthly cost of the supplies and equipment is less than \$250, persons or agencies must be employed by or under a contract with the county lead agency or the public health nursing agency of the local board of health in order to receive funding under the alternative care program. Supplies and equipment may be purchased from a vendor not certified to participate in the Medicaid program if the cost for the item is less than that of a Medicaid vendor.

(c) Personal care services must meet the service standards defined in the federally approved elderly waiver plan, except that a county lead agency may contract with a client's relative who meets the relative hardship waiver requirements or a relative who meets the criteria and is also the responsible party under an individual service plan that ensures the client's health and safety and supervision of the personal care services by a qualified professional as defined in section 256B.0625, subdivision 19c. Relative hardship is established by the county lead agency when the client's care causes a relative caregiver to do any of the following: resign from a paying job, reduce work hours resulting in lost wages, obtain a leave of absence resulting in lost wages, incur substantial client-related expenses, provide services to address authorized, unstaffed direct care time, or meet special needs of the client unmet in the formal service plan.

Sec. 32. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0913, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

Subd. 8. **Requirements for individual care plan.** (a) The case manager shall implement the plan of care for each alternative care client and ensure that a client's service needs and eligibility are reassessed at least every 12 months. The plan shall include any services prescribed by the individual's attending physician as necessary to allow the individual to remain in a community setting. In developing the individual's care plan, the case manager should include the use of volunteers from families and neighbors, religious organizations, social clubs, and civic and service organizations to support the formal home care services. The county lead agency shall be held harmless for damages or injuries sustained through the use of volunteers under this subdivision including workers' compensation liability. ~~The county of service case manager~~ shall provide documentation in each individual's plan of care and, if requested, to the commissioner that the most cost-effective alternatives available have been offered to the individual and that the individual was free to choose among available qualified providers, both public and private, including qualified case management or service coordination providers other than those employed by any county; however, the county or tribe maintains responsibility for prior authorizing services in accordance with statutory and administrative requirements. The case manager must give the individual a ten-day written notice of any denial, termination, or reduction of alternative care services.

(b) The county of service or tribe must provide access to and arrange for case management

services, including assuring implementation of the plan. "County of service" has the meaning given it in Minnesota Rules, part 9505.0015, subpart 11. The county of service must notify the county of financial responsibility of the approved care plan and the amount of encumbered funds.

Sec. 33. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0913, subdivision 9, is amended to read:

Subd. 9. **Contracting provisions for providers.** Alternative care funds paid to service providers are subject to audit by the commissioner for fiscal and utilization control.

The lead agency must select providers for contracts or agreements using the following criteria and other criteria established by the county lead agency:

- (1) the need for the particular services offered by the provider;
- (2) the population to be served, including the number of clients, the length of time services will be provided, and the medical condition of clients;
- (3) the geographic area to be served;
- (4) quality assurance methods, including appropriate licensure, certification, or standards, and supervision of employees when needed;
- (5) rates for each service and unit of service exclusive of county lead agency administrative costs;
- (6) evaluation of services previously delivered by the provider; and
- (7) contract or agreement conditions, including billing requirements, cancellation, and indemnification.

The county lead agency must evaluate its own agency services under the criteria established for other providers.

Sec. 34. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0913, subdivision 10, is amended to read:

Subd. 10. **Allocation formula.** (a) ~~The alternative care appropriation for fiscal years 1992 and beyond shall cover only alternative care eligible clients. By July 15 of each year, the commissioner shall allocate to county agencies the state funds available for alternative care for persons eligible under subdivision 2.~~

(b) The adjusted base for each county lead agency is the county's lead agency's current fiscal year base allocation plus any targeted funds approved during the current fiscal year. Calculations for paragraphs (c) and (d) are to be made as follows: for each county lead agency, the determination of alternative care program expenditures shall be based on payments for services rendered from April 1 through March 31 in the base year, to the extent that claims have been submitted and paid by June 1 of that year.

(c) If the alternative care program expenditures as defined in paragraph (b) are 95 percent or more of the county's lead agency's adjusted base allocation, the allocation for the next fiscal year is 100 percent of the adjusted base, plus inflation to the extent that inflation is included in the state budget.

(d) If the alternative care program expenditures as defined in paragraph (b) are less than 95

percent of the county's lead agency's adjusted base allocation, the allocation for the next fiscal year is the adjusted base allocation less the amount of unspent funds below the 95 percent level.

(e) If the annual legislative appropriation for the alternative care program is inadequate to fund the combined county lead agency allocations for a biennium, the commissioner shall distribute to each county lead agency the entire annual appropriation as that county's lead agency's percentage of the computed base as calculated in paragraphs (c) and (d).

(f) On agreement between the commissioner and the lead agency, the commissioner may have discretion to reallocate alternative care base allocations distributed to lead agencies in which the base amount exceeds program expenditures.

Sec. 35. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0913, subdivision 11, is amended to read:

Subd. 11. **Targeted funding.** (a) The purpose of targeted funding is to make additional money available to counties lead agencies with the greatest need. Targeted funds are not intended to be distributed equitably among all counties lead agencies, but rather, allocated to those with long-term care strategies that meet state goals.

(b) The funds available for targeted funding shall be the total appropriation for each fiscal year minus county lead agency allocations determined under subdivision 10 as adjusted for any inflation increases provided in appropriations for the biennium.

(c) The commissioner shall allocate targeted funds to counties lead agencies that demonstrate to the satisfaction of the commissioner that they have developed feasible plans to increase alternative care spending. In making targeted funding allocations, the commissioner shall use the following priorities:

(1) counties lead agencies that received a lower allocation in fiscal year 1991 than in fiscal year 1990. Counties remain in this priority until they have been restored to their fiscal year 1990 level plus inflation;

(2) counties lead agencies that sustain a base allocation reduction for failure to spend 95 percent of the allocation if they demonstrate that the base reduction should be restored;

(3) counties lead agencies that propose projects to divert community residents from nursing home placement or convert nursing home residents to community living; and

(4) counties lead agencies that can otherwise justify program growth by demonstrating the existence of waiting lists, demographically justified needs, or other unmet needs.

(d) Counties Lead agencies that would receive targeted funds according to paragraph (c) must demonstrate to the commissioner's satisfaction that the funds would be appropriately spent by showing how the funds would be used to further the state's alternative care goals as described in subdivision 1, and that the county has the administrative and service delivery capability to use them.

(e) The commissioner shall ~~request applications~~ make applications available for targeted funds by November 1 of each year. The counties lead agencies selected for targeted funds shall be notified of the amount of their additional funding. Targeted funds allocated to a county lead agency in one year shall be treated as part of the county's lead agency's base allocation for that year in determining

allocations for subsequent years. No reallocations between ~~counties~~ lead agencies shall be made.

Sec. 36. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0913, subdivision 12, is amended to read:

Subd. 12. **Client fees.** (a) A fee is required for all alternative care eligible clients to help pay for the cost of participating in the program. The amount of the fee for the alternative care client shall be determined as follows:

(1) when the alternative care client's income less recurring and predictable medical expenses is less than 100 percent of the federal poverty guideline effective on July 1 of the state fiscal year in which the fee is being computed, and total assets are less than \$10,000, the fee is zero;

(2) when the alternative care client's income less recurring and predictable medical expenses is equal to or greater than 100 percent but less than 150 percent of the federal poverty guideline effective on July 1 of the state fiscal year in which the fee is being computed, and total assets are less than \$10,000, the fee is five percent of the cost of alternative care services;

(3) when the alternative care client's income less recurring and predictable medical expenses is equal to or greater than 150 percent but less than 200 percent of the federal poverty guidelines effective on July 1 of the state fiscal year in which the fee is being computed and assets are less than \$10,000, the fee is 15 percent of the cost of alternative care services;

(4) when the alternative care client's income less recurring and predictable medical expenses is equal to or greater than 200 percent of the federal poverty guidelines effective on July 1 of the state fiscal year in which the fee is being computed and assets are less than \$10,000, the fee is 30 percent of the cost of alternative care services; and

(5) when the alternative care client's assets are equal to or greater than \$10,000, the fee is 30 percent of the cost of alternative care services.

For married persons, total assets are defined as the total marital assets less the estimated community spouse asset allowance, under section 256B.059, if applicable. For married persons, total income is defined as the client's income less the monthly spousal allotment, under section 256B.058.

All alternative care services shall be included in the estimated costs for the purpose of determining the fee.

Fees are due and payable each month alternative care services are received unless the actual cost of the services is less than the fee, in which case the fee is the lesser amount.

(b) The fee shall be waived by the commissioner when:

(1) a person ~~who~~ is residing in a nursing facility ~~is receiving case management only~~;

(2) a married couple is requesting an asset assessment under the spousal impoverishment provisions;

(3) a person is found eligible for alternative care, but is not yet receiving alternative care services including case management services; or

(4) a person has chosen to participate in a consumer-directed service plan for which the cost is

no greater than the total cost of the person's alternative care service plan less the monthly fee amount that would otherwise be assessed.

(c) ~~The county agency must record in the state's receivable system the client's assessed fee amount or the reason the fee has been waived.~~ The commissioner will bill and collect the fee from the client. Money collected must be deposited in the general fund and is appropriated to the commissioner for the alternative care program. The client must supply the county lead agency with the client's Social Security number at the time of application. ~~The county lead agency shall supply the commissioner with the client's Social Security number and other information the commissioner requires to collect the fee from the client.~~ The commissioner shall collect unpaid fees using the Revenue Recapture Act in chapter 270A and other methods available to the commissioner. The commissioner may require counties lead agencies to inform clients of the collection procedures that may be used by the state if a fee is not paid. This paragraph does not apply to alternative care pilot projects authorized in Laws 1993, First Special Session chapter 1, article 5, section 133, if a county operating under the pilot project reports the following dollar amounts to the commissioner quarterly:

- (1) total fees billed to clients;
- (2) total collections of fees billed; and
- (3) balance of fees owed by clients.

If a county lead agency does not adhere to these reporting requirements, the commissioner may terminate the billing, collecting, and remitting portions of the pilot project and require the county lead agency involved to operate under the procedures set forth in this paragraph.

Sec. 37. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0913, subdivision 13, is amended to read:

Subd. 13. **County Lead agency biennial plan.** The ~~county~~ county lead agency biennial plan for long-term care consultation services under section 256B.0911, the alternative care program under this section, and waivers for the elderly under section 256B.0915, shall be submitted by the lead agency as the home and community-based services quality assurance plan on a form provided by the commissioner.

Sec. 38. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0913, subdivision 14, is amended to read:

Subd. 14. **Provider requirements, payment, and rate adjustments.** (a) Unless otherwise specified in statute, providers must be enrolled as Minnesota health care program providers and abide by the requirements for provider participation according to Minnesota Rules, part 9505.0195.

(b) Payment for provided alternative care services as approved by the client's case manager shall occur through the invoice processing procedures of the department's Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS). To receive payment, the county lead agency or vendor must submit invoices within 12 months following the date of service. ~~The county lead agency~~ and its vendors under contract shall not be reimbursed for services which exceed the county allocation.

(c) The county lead agency shall negotiate individual rates with vendors and may authorize service payment for actual costs up to the county's current approved rate. Notwithstanding any other rule or statutory provision to the contrary, the commissioner shall not be authorized to increase rates by an annual inflation factor, unless so authorized by the legislature. To improve access to

community services and eliminate payment disparities between the alternative care program and the elderly waiver program, the commissioner shall establish statewide maximum service rate limits and eliminate county-specific service rate limits.

(1) Effective July 1, 2001, for service rate limits, except those in subdivision 5, paragraphs (d) and (i), the rate limit for each service shall be the greater of the alternative care statewide maximum rate or the elderly waiver statewide maximum rate.

(2) ~~Counties~~ Lead agencies may negotiate individual service rates with vendors for actual costs up to the statewide maximum service rate limit.

Sec. 39. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0919, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **County certification of persons providing adult foster care to related persons.** A person exempt from licensure under section 245A.03, subdivision 2, who provides adult foster care to a related individual age 65 and older, and who meets the requirements in Minnesota Rules, parts 9555.5105 to 9555.6265, may be certified by the county to provide adult foster care. A person certified by the county to provide adult foster care may be reimbursed for services provided and eligible for funding under ~~sections 256B.0913 and section 256B.0915~~, if the relative would suffer a financial hardship as a result of providing care. For purposes of this subdivision, financial hardship refers to a situation in which a relative incurs a substantial reduction in income as a result of resigning from a full-time job or taking a leave of absence without pay from a full-time job to care for the client.

Sec. 40. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.27, subdivision 2a, is amended to read:

Subd. 2a. ~~On-site~~ **Cost and statistical data audits.** ~~Each year~~ The commissioner shall provide for ~~the on-site~~ an audit of the cost reports and statistical data of nursing homes facilities participating as vendors of medical assistance. The commissioner shall select for audit at least 15 percent of ~~these~~ the nursing homes facilities' data reported at random or using factors including, but not limited to: data reported to the public as criteria for rating nursing facilities; data used to set limits for other medical assistance programs or vendors of services to nursing facilities; change in ownership; frequent changes in administration in excess of normal turnover rates; complaints to the commissioner of health about care, safety, or rights; where previous inspections or reinspections under section 144A.10 have resulted in correction orders related to care, safety, or rights; or where persons involved in ownership or administration of the facility have been indicted for alleged criminal activity.

The commissioner shall meet the 15 percent requirement by either conducting an audit focused on an individual nursing facility, a group of facilities, or targeting specific data categories in multiple nursing facilities. These audits may be conducted on site at the nursing facility, at office space used by a nursing facility or a nursing facility's parent organization, or at the commissioner's office. Data being audited may be collected electronically, in person, or by any other means the commissioner finds acceptable.

Sec. 41. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.431, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **In general.** The commissioner shall determine prospective payment rates for resident care costs. For rates established on or after July 1, 1985, the commissioner shall develop procedures for determining operating cost payment rates that take into account the mix of resident

needs, geographic location, and other factors as determined by the commissioner. The commissioner shall consider whether the fact that a facility is attached to a hospital or has an average length of stay of 180 days or less should be taken into account in determining rates. The commissioner shall consider the use of the standard metropolitan statistical areas when developing groups by geographic location. The commissioner shall provide notice to each nursing facility on or before ~~May 1~~ August 15 of the rates effective for the following rate year except that if legislation is pending on ~~May 1~~ August 15 that may affect rates for nursing facilities, the commissioner shall set the rates after the legislation is enacted and provide notice to each facility as soon as possible.

Compensation for top management personnel shall continue to be categorized as a general and administrative cost and is subject to any limits imposed on that cost category.

Sec. 42. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.431, subdivision 3f, is amended to read:

**Subd. 3f. Property costs after July 1, 1988.** (a) **Investment per bed limit.** For the rate year beginning July 1, 1988, the replacement-cost-new per bed limit must be \$32,571 per licensed bed in multiple bedrooms and \$48,857 per licensed bed in a single bedroom. For the rate year beginning July 1, 1989, the replacement-cost-new per bed limit for a single bedroom must be \$49,907 adjusted according to Minnesota Rules, part 9549.0060, subpart 4, item A, subitem (1). Beginning January 1, 1990, the replacement-cost-new per bed limits must be adjusted annually as specified in Minnesota Rules, part 9549.0060, subpart 4, item A, subitem (1). Beginning January 1, 1991, the replacement-cost-new per bed limits will be adjusted annually as specified in Minnesota Rules, part 9549.0060, subpart 4, item A, subitem (1), except that the index utilized will be the Bureau of the Census: Composite fixed-weighted price index as published in the C30 Report, Value of New Construction Put in Place Economic Analysis: Price Indexes for Private Fixed Investments in Structures; Special Care.

(b) **Rental factor.** For the rate year beginning July 1, 1988, the commissioner shall increase the rental factor as established in Minnesota Rules, part 9549.0060, subpart 8, item A, by 6.2 percent rounded to the nearest 100th percent for the purpose of reimbursing nursing facilities for soft costs and entrepreneurial profits not included in the cost valuation services used by the state's contracted appraisers. For rate years beginning on or after July 1, 1989, the rental factor is the amount determined under this paragraph for the rate year beginning July 1, 1988.

(c) **Occupancy factor.** For rate years beginning on or after July 1, 1988, in order to determine property-related payment rates under Minnesota Rules, part 9549.0060, for all nursing facilities except those whose average length of stay in a skilled level of care within a nursing facility is 180 days or less, the commissioner shall use 95 percent of capacity days. For a nursing facility whose average length of stay in a skilled level of care within a nursing facility is 180 days or less, the commissioner shall use the greater of resident days or 80 percent of capacity days but in no event shall the divisor exceed 95 percent of capacity days.

(d) **Equipment allowance.** For rate years beginning on July 1, 1988, and July 1, 1989, the commissioner shall add ten cents per resident per day to each nursing facility's property-related payment rate. The ten-cent property-related payment rate increase is not cumulative from rate year to rate year. For the rate year beginning July 1, 1990, the commissioner shall increase each nursing facility's equipment allowance as established in Minnesota Rules, part 9549.0060, subpart 10, by ten cents per resident per day. For rate years beginning on or after July 1, 1991, the adjusted equipment allowance must be adjusted annually for inflation as in Minnesota Rules, part 9549.0060, subpart

10, item E. For the rate period beginning October 1, 1992, the equipment allowance for each nursing facility shall be increased by 28 percent. For rate years beginning after June 30, 1993, the allowance must be adjusted annually for inflation.

(e) **Post chapter 199 related-organization debts and interest expense.** For rate years beginning on or after July 1, 1990, Minnesota Rules, part 9549.0060, subpart 5, item E, shall not apply to outstanding related organization debt incurred prior to May 23, 1983, provided that the debt was an allowable debt under Minnesota Rules, parts 9510.0010 to 9510.0480, the debt is subject to repayment through annual principal payments, and the nursing facility demonstrates to the commissioner's satisfaction that the interest rate on the debt was less than market interest rates for similar arm's-length transactions at the time the debt was incurred. If the debt was incurred due to a sale between family members, the nursing facility must also demonstrate that the seller no longer participates in the management or operation of the nursing facility. Debts meeting the conditions of this paragraph are subject to all other provisions of Minnesota Rules, parts 9549.0010 to 9549.0080.

(f) **Building capital allowance for nursing facilities with operating leases.** For rate years beginning on or after July 1, 1990, a nursing facility with operating lease costs incurred for the nursing facility's buildings shall receive its building capital allowance computed in accordance with Minnesota Rules, part 9549.0060, subpart 8. If an operating lease provides that the lessee's rent is adjusted to recognize improvements made by the lessor and related debt, the costs for capital improvements and related debt shall be allowed in the computation of the lessee's building capital allowance, provided that reimbursement for these costs under an operating lease shall not exceed the rate otherwise paid.

Sec. 43. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.431, subdivision 17e, is amended to read:

Subd. 17e. **Replacement-costs-new per bed limit effective July October 1, 2001 2007.** Notwithstanding Minnesota Rules, part 9549.0060, subpart 11, item C, subitem (2), for a total replacement, as defined in ~~paragraph (f) subdivision 17d,~~ authorized under section 144A.071 or 144A.073 after July 1, 1999, ~~or any building project that is a relocation, renovation, upgrading, or conversion completed on or after July 1, 2001, or any building project eligible for reimbursement under section 256B.434, subdivision 4f,~~ the replacement-costs-new per bed limit shall be \$74,280 per licensed bed in multiple-bed rooms, \$92,850 per licensed bed in semiprivate rooms with a fixed partition separating the resident beds, and \$111,420 per licensed bed in single rooms. Minnesota Rules, part 9549.0060, subpart 11, item C, subitem (2), does not apply. These amounts must be adjusted annually as specified in subdivision 3f, paragraph (a), beginning January 1, 2000.

Sec. 44. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.431, subdivision 41, is amended to read:

Subd. 41. **Rate increases for October 1, 2005, and October 1, 2006.** (a) For the rate period beginning October 1, 2005, the commissioner shall make available to each nursing facility reimbursed under this section or section 256B.434 an adjustment equal to 2.2553 percent of the total operating payment rate, and for the rate year beginning October 1, 2006, the commissioner shall make available to each nursing facility reimbursed under this section or section 256B.434 an adjustment equal to 1.2553 percent of the total operating payment rate.

(b) 75 percent of the money resulting from the rate adjustment under paragraph (a) must be used to increase wages and benefits and pay associated costs for all employees, except management fees, the administrator, and central office staff. Except as provided in paragraph (c), 75 percent of the



money received by a facility as a result of the rate adjustment provided in paragraph (a) must be used only for wage, benefit, and staff increases implemented on or after the effective date of the rate increase each year, and must not be used for increases implemented prior to that date.

(c) With respect only to the October 1, 2005, rate increase, a nursing facility that incurred costs for salary and employee benefit increases first provided after July 1, 2003, may count those costs towards the amount required to be spent on salaries and benefits under paragraph (b). These costs must be reported to the commissioner in the form and manner specified by the commissioner.

(d) Nursing facilities may apply for the portion of the rate adjustment under paragraph (a) for employee wages and benefits and associated costs. The application must be made to the commissioner and contain a plan by which the nursing facility will distribute the funds according to paragraph (b). For nursing facilities in which the employees are represented by an exclusive bargaining representative, an agreement negotiated and agreed to by the employer and the exclusive bargaining representative constitutes the plan. A negotiated agreement may constitute the plan only if the agreement is finalized after the date of enactment of all increases for the rate year and signed by both parties prior to submission to the commissioner. The commissioner shall review the plan to ensure that the rate adjustments are used as provided in paragraph (b). To be eligible, a facility must submit its distribution plan by March 31, 2006, and March 31, 2007, respectively. The commissioner may approve distribution plans on or before June 30, 2006, and June 30, 2007, respectively. The commissioner may waive the deadlines in this paragraph under extraordinary circumstances, either retroactively or prospectively, to be determined at the sole discretion of the commissioner. If a facility's distribution plan is effective after the first day of the applicable rate period that the funds are available, the rate adjustments are effective the same date as the facility's plan.

(e) A copy of the approved distribution plan must be made available to all employees by giving each employee a copy or by posting a copy in an area of the nursing facility to which all employees have access. If an employee does not receive the wage and benefit adjustment described in the facility's approved plan and is unable to resolve the problem with the facility's management or through the employee's union representative, the employee may contact the commissioner at an address or telephone number provided by the commissioner and included in the approved plan.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective upon enactment and is retroactive from October 1, 2005.

Sec. 45. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.49, subdivision 11, is amended to read:

Subd. 11. **Authority.** (a) The commissioner is authorized to apply for home and community-based service waivers, as authorized under section 1915(c) of the Social Security Act to serve persons under the age of 65 who are determined to require the level of care provided in a nursing home and persons who require the level of care provided in a hospital. The commissioner shall apply for the home and community-based waivers in order to:

- (i) promote the support of persons with disabilities in the most integrated settings;
- (ii) expand the availability of services for persons who are eligible for medical assistance;
- (iii) promote cost-effective options to institutional care; and
- (iv) obtain federal financial participation.

(b) The provision of waived services to medical assistance recipients with disabilities shall comply with the requirements outlined in the federally approved applications for home and community-based services and subsequent amendments, including provision of services according to a service plan designed to meet the needs of the individual. For purposes of this section, the approved home and community-based application is considered the necessary federal requirement.

(c) The commissioner shall provide interested persons serving on agency advisory committees ~~and~~ task forces, the Centers for Independent Living, and others upon who request, with to be on a list to receive, notice of, and an opportunity to comment on, at least 30 days before any effective dates, (1) any substantive changes to the state's disability services program manual, or (2) changes or amendments to the federally approved applications for home and community-based waivers, prior to their submission to the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

(d) The commissioner shall seek approval, as authorized under section 1915(c) of the Social Security Act, to allow medical assistance eligibility under this section for children under age 21 without deeming of parental income or assets.

(e) The commissioner shall seek approval, as authorized under section 1915(c) of the Social Act, to allow medical assistance eligibility under this section for individuals under age 65 without deeming the spouse's income or assets.

Sec. 46. Laws 2000, chapter 340, section 19, is amended to read:

**Sec. 19. ALTERNATIVE CARE PILOT PROJECTS.**

(a) Expenditures for housing with services and adult foster care shall be excluded when determining average monthly expenditures per client for alternative care pilot projects authorized in Laws 1993, First Special Session chapter 1, article 5, section 133.

(b) Alternative care pilot projects shall not expire on June 30, 2001, but shall continue until June 30, ~~2005~~ 2007.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective retroactively from June 29, 2005, for activities related to discontinuing pilot projects under this section.

**Sec. 47. LICENSURE; SERVICES FOR YOUTH WITH DISABILITIES.**

(a) Notwithstanding the requirements of Minnesota Statutes, chapter 245A, upon the recommendation of a county agency, the commissioner of human services shall grant a license with any necessary variances to a nonresidential program for youth that provides services to youth with disabilities under age 21 during nonschool hours established to ensure health and safety, prevent out-of-home placement, and increase community inclusion of youth with disabilities. The nonresidential youth program is subject to the conditions of any variances granted and to consumer rights standards under Minnesota Statutes, section 245B.04; consumer protection standards under Minnesota Statutes, section 245B.05; service standards under Minnesota Statutes, section 245B.06; management standards under Minnesota Statutes, section 245B.07; and fire marshal inspections under Minnesota Statutes, section 245A.151, until the commissioner develops other licensure requirements for this type of program.

(b) By February 1, 2008, the commissioner shall recommend amendments to licensure requirements in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 245A, to allow licensure of appropriate services for

school-age youth with disabilities under age 21 who need supervision and services to develop skills necessary to maintain personal safety and increase their independence, productivity, and participation in their communities during nonschool hours. As part of developing the recommendations, the commissioner shall survey county agencies to determine how the needs of youth with disabilities under age 21 who require supervision and support services are being met and the funding sources used. The recommendations must be provided to the house and senate chairs of the committees with jurisdiction over licensing of programs for youth with disabilities.

## ARTICLE 7

### CONTINUING CARE

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 47.58, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

Subd. 8. **Counseling; requirement; penalty.** A lender, mortgage banking company, or other mortgage lender not related to the mortgagor must keep a certificate on file documenting that the borrower, prior to entering into the reverse mortgage loan, received counseling as defined in this subdivision from an organization that meets the requirements of section 462A.209 and is a housing counseling agency approved by the Department of Housing and Urban Development. The certificate must be signed by the mortgagor and the counselor and include the date of the counseling, the name, address, and telephone number of both the mortgagor and the organization providing counseling. A failure by the lender to comply with this subdivision results in a \$1,000 civil penalty payable to the mortgagor. For the purposes of this subdivision, "counseling" means the following services are provided to the borrower:

- (1) a review of the advantages and disadvantages of reverse mortgage programs;
- (2) an explanation of how the reverse mortgage affects the borrower's estate and public benefits;
- (3) an explanation of the lending process;
- (4) a discussion of the borrower's supplemental income needs; ~~and~~
- (5) an explanation of the provisions of sections 256B.0913, subdivision 17, and 462A.05, subdivision 42; and
- (6) an opportunity to ask questions of the counselor.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 144A.073, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Criteria for review.** The following criteria shall be used in a consistent manner to compare, evaluate, and rank all proposals submitted. Except for the criteria specified in clause (3), the application of criteria listed under this subdivision shall not reflect any distinction based on the geographic location of the proposed project:

- (1) the extent to which the proposal furthers state long-term care goals, including the goal of enhancing the availability and use of alternative care services and the goal of reducing the number of long-term care resident rooms with more than two beds;
- (2) the proposal's long-term effects on state costs including the cost estimate of the project according to section 144A.071, subdivision 5a;

(3) the extent to which the proposal promotes equitable access to long-term care services in nursing homes through redistribution of the nursing home bed supply, as measured by the number of beds relative to the population 85 or older, projected to the year 2000 by the state demographer, and according to items (i) to (iv):

(i) reduce beds in counties where the supply is high, relative to the statewide mean, and increase beds in counties where the supply is low, relative to the statewide mean;

(ii) adjust the bed supply so as to create the greatest benefits in improving the distribution of beds;

(iii) adjust the existing bed supply in counties so that the bed supply in a county moves toward the statewide mean; and

(iv) adjust the existing bed supply so that the distribution of beds as projected for the year 2020 would be consistent with projected need, based on the methodology outlined in the Interagency Long-Term Care Committee's nursing home bed distribution study;

(4) the extent to which the project improves conditions that affect the health or safety of residents, such as narrow corridors, narrow door frames, unenclosed fire exits, and wood frame construction, and similar provisions contained in fire and life safety codes and licensure and certification rules;

(5) the extent to which the project improves conditions that affect the comfort or quality of life of residents in a facility or the ability of the facility to provide efficient care, such as a relatively high number of residents in a room; inadequate lighting or ventilation; poor access to bathing or toilet facilities; a lack of available ancillary space for dining rooms, day rooms, or rooms used for other activities; problems relating to heating, cooling, or energy efficiency; inefficient location of nursing stations; narrow corridors; or other provisions contained in the licensure and certification rules;

(6) the extent to which the applicant demonstrates the delivery of quality care, as defined in state and federal statutes and rules, to residents as evidenced by the two most recent state agency certification surveys and the applicants' response to those surveys;

(7) the extent to which the project removes the need for waivers or variances previously granted by either the licensing agency, certifying agency, fire marshal, or local government entity;

(8) the extent to which the project increases the number of private or single bed rooms; and

(9) the extent to which the applicant demonstrates the continuing need for nursing facility care in the community and adjacent communities; and

(10) other factors that may be developed in permanent rule by the commissioner of health that evaluate and assess how the proposed project will further promote or protect the health, safety, comfort, treatment, or well-being of the facility's residents.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 252.27, subdivision 2a, is amended to read:

Subd. 2a. **Contribution amount.** (a) The natural or adoptive parents of a minor child, including a child determined eligible for medical assistance without consideration of parental income, must contribute to the cost of services used by making monthly payments on a sliding scale based on

income, unless the child is married or has been married, parental rights have been terminated, or the child's adoption is subsidized according to section 259.67 or through title IV-E of the Social Security Act. The parental contribution is a partial or full payment for medical services provided for diagnostic, therapeutic, curing, treating, mitigating, rehabilitation, maintenance, and personal care services as defined in United States Code, title 26, section 213, needed by the child with a chronic illness or disability.

(b) For households with adjusted gross income equal to or greater than 100 percent of federal poverty guidelines, the parental contribution shall be computed by applying the following schedule of rates to the adjusted gross income of the natural or adoptive parents:

(1) if the adjusted gross income is equal to or greater than 100 percent of federal poverty guidelines and less than 175 percent of federal poverty guidelines, the parental contribution is \$4 per month;

(2) if the adjusted gross income is equal to or greater than 175 percent of federal poverty guidelines and less than or equal to 545 percent of federal poverty guidelines, the parental contribution shall be determined using a sliding fee scale established by the commissioner of human services which begins at one percent of adjusted gross income at 175 percent of federal poverty guidelines and increases to 7.5 percent of adjusted gross income for those with adjusted gross income up to 545 percent of federal poverty guidelines;

(3) if the adjusted gross income is greater than 545 percent of federal poverty guidelines and less than 675 percent of federal poverty guidelines, the parental contribution shall be 7.5 percent of adjusted gross income;

(4) if the adjusted gross income is equal to or greater than 675 percent of federal poverty guidelines and less than 975 percent of federal poverty guidelines, the parental contribution shall be determined using a sliding fee scale established by the commissioner of human services which begins at 7.5 percent of adjusted gross income at 675 percent of federal poverty guidelines and increases to ten percent of adjusted gross income for those with adjusted gross income up to 975 percent of federal poverty guidelines; and

(5) if the adjusted gross income is equal to or greater than 975 percent of federal poverty guidelines, the parental contribution shall be 12.5 percent of adjusted gross income.

If the child lives with the parent, the annual adjusted gross income is reduced by \$2,400 prior to calculating the parental contribution. If the child resides in an institution specified in section 256B.35, the parent is responsible for the personal needs allowance specified under that section in addition to the parental contribution determined under this section. The parental contribution is reduced by any amount required to be paid directly to the child pursuant to a court order, but only if actually paid.

(c) The household size to be used in determining the amount of contribution under paragraph (b) includes natural and adoptive parents and their dependents, including the child receiving services. Adjustments in the contribution amount due to annual changes in the federal poverty guidelines shall be implemented on the first day of July following publication of the changes.

(d) For purposes of paragraph (b), "income" means the adjusted gross income of the natural or adoptive parents determined according to the previous year's federal tax form, except, effective

retroactive to July 1, 2003, taxable capital gains to the extent the funds have been used to purchase a home shall not be counted as income.

(e) The contribution shall be explained in writing to the parents at the time eligibility for services is being determined. The contribution shall be made on a monthly basis effective with the first month in which the child receives services. Annually upon redetermination or at termination of eligibility, if the contribution exceeded the cost of services provided, the local agency or the state shall reimburse that excess amount to the parents, either by direct reimbursement if the parent is no longer required to pay a contribution, or by a reduction in or waiver of parental fees until the excess amount is exhausted.

(f) The monthly contribution amount must be reviewed at least every 12 months; when there is a change in household size; and when there is a loss of or gain in income from one month to another in excess of ten percent. The local agency shall mail a written notice 30 days in advance of the effective date of a change in the contribution amount. A decrease in the contribution amount is effective in the month that the parent verifies a reduction in income or change in household size.

(g) Parents of a minor child who do not live with each other shall each pay the contribution required under paragraph (a). An amount equal to the annual court-ordered child support payment actually paid on behalf of the child receiving services shall be deducted from the adjusted gross income of the parent making the payment prior to calculating the parental contribution under paragraph (b).

(h) The contribution under paragraph (b) shall be increased by an additional five percent if the local agency determines that insurance coverage is available but not obtained for the child. For purposes of this section, "available" means the insurance is a benefit of employment for a family member at an annual cost of no more than five percent of the family's annual income. For purposes of this section, "insurance" means health and accident insurance coverage, enrollment in a nonprofit health service plan, health maintenance organization, self-insured plan, or preferred provider organization.

Parents who have more than one child receiving services shall not be required to pay more than the amount for the child with the highest expenditures. There shall be no resource contribution from the parents. The parent shall not be required to pay a contribution in excess of the cost of the services provided to the child, not counting payments made to school districts for education-related services. Notice of an increase in fee payment must be given at least 30 days before the increased fee is due.

(i) The contribution under paragraph (b) shall be reduced by \$300 per fiscal year if, in the 12 months prior to July 1:

- (1) the parent applied for insurance for the child;
- (2) the insurer denied insurance;
- (3) the parents submitted a complaint or appeal, in writing to the insurer, submitted a complaint or appeal, in writing, to the commissioner of health or the commissioner of commerce, or litigated the complaint or appeal; and
- (4) as a result of the dispute, the insurer reversed its decision and granted insurance.

For purposes of this section, "insurance" has the meaning given in paragraph (h).

A parent who has requested a reduction in the contribution amount under this paragraph shall submit proof in the form and manner prescribed by the commissioner or county agency, including, but not limited to, the insurer's denial of insurance, the written letter or complaint of the parents, court documents, and the written response of the insurer approving insurance. The determinations of the commissioner or county agency under this paragraph are not rules subject to chapter 14.

Sec. 4. [252.295] LICENSING EXCEPTION.

(a) Notwithstanding section 252.294, the commissioner may license two six-bed, level B intermediate care facilities for persons with developmental disabilities (ICF's/MR) to replace a 15-bed level A facility in Minneapolis that is not accessible to persons with disabilities. The new facilities must be accessible to persons with disabilities and must be located on a different site or sites in Hennepin County. Notwithstanding section 256B.5012, the payment rate at the new facilities is \$200.47 plus any rate adjustments for ICF's/MR effective on or after July 1, 2007.

(b) Notwithstanding section 252.294, the commissioner may license one six-bed level B intermediate care facility for persons with developmental disabilities to replace a downsized 21-bed facility attached to a day training and habilitation program in Chisholm. Notwithstanding section 256B.5012, the facility must serve persons who require substantial nursing care and are able to leave the facility to receive day training and habilitation services. The payment rate at this facility is \$274.50.

(c) Notwithstanding section 256B.5012, the payment rate of a six-bed level B intermediate care facility for persons with developmental disabilities in Hibbing, with a per diem rate of \$164.13 as of March 1, 2007, for persons who require substantial nursing care and are able to leave the facility to receive day training and habilitation services shall be increased to \$250.84.

(d) The payment rates in paragraphs (b) and (c) are effective October 1, 2009.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256.01, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 23. **Reverse mortgage information and referral.** The commissioner, in cooperation with the commissioner of the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency, shall:

(1) establish an information and referral system to inform eligible persons regarding the availability of reverse mortgages and state incentives available to persons who take out certain reverse mortgages. The information and referral system shall be established involving the Senior LinkAge Line, county and tribal agencies, community housing agencies and organizations, Minnesota-certified reverse mortgage counselors, reverse mortgage lenders, senior and elder community organizations, and other relevant entities; and

(2) coordinate necessary training for Senior LinkAge Line employees, mortgage counselors, and lenders regarding the provisions of sections 256B.0913, subdivision 17, and 462A.05, subdivision 42.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256.01, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 24. **Disability linkage line.** The commissioner shall establish the disability linkage line, a statewide consumer information, referral, and assistance system for people with disabilities and chronic illnesses that:

(1) provides information about state and federal eligibility requirements, benefits, and service options;

(2) makes referrals to appropriate support entities;

(3) delivers information and assistance based on national and state standards;

(4) assists people to make well-informed decisions; and

(5) supports the timely resolution of service access and benefit issues.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256.975, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Consumer information and assistance; senior linkage.** (a) The Minnesota Board on Aging shall operate a statewide information and assistance service to aid older Minnesotans and their families in making informed choices about long-term care options and health care benefits. Language services to persons with limited English language skills may be made available. The service, known as Senior LinkAge Line, must be available during business hours through a statewide toll-free number and must also be available through the Internet.

(b) The service must assist older adults, caregivers, and providers in accessing information about choices in long-term care services that are purchased through private providers or available through public options. The service must:

(1) develop a comprehensive database that includes detailed listings in both consumer- and provider-oriented formats;

(2) make the database accessible on the Internet and through other telecommunication and media-related tools;

(3) link callers to interactive long-term care screening tools and make these tools available through the Internet by integrating the tools with the database;

(4) develop community education materials with a focus on planning for long-term care and evaluating independent living, housing, and service options;

(5) conduct an outreach campaign to assist older adults and their caregivers in finding information on the Internet and through other means of communication;

(6) implement a messaging system for overflow callers and respond to these callers by the next business day;

(7) link callers with county human services and other providers to receive more in-depth assistance and consultation related to long-term care options; ~~and~~

(8) link callers with quality profiles for nursing facilities and other providers developed by the commissioner of health;

(9) provide information and assistance to inform older adults about reverse mortgages, including the provisions of sections 47.58, 256B.0913, subdivision 17, and 462A.05, subdivision 42; and

(10) incorporate information about housing with services and consumer rights within the MinnesotaHelp.info network long-term care database to facilitate consumer comparison of services



and costs among housing with services establishments and with other in-home services and to support financial self-sufficiency as long as possible. Housing with services establishments and their arranged home care providers shall provide information to the commissioner of human services that is consistent with information required by the commissioner of health under section 144G.06, the Uniform Consumer Information Guide. The commissioner of human services shall provide the data to the Minnesota Board on Aging for inclusion in the MinnesotaHelp.info network long-term care database.

(c) The Minnesota Board on Aging shall conduct an evaluation of the effectiveness of the statewide information and assistance, and submit this evaluation to the legislature by December 1, 2002. The evaluation must include an analysis of funding adequacy, gaps in service delivery, continuity in information between the service and identified linkages, and potential use of private funding to enhance the service.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.056, subdivision 1a, is amended to read:

Subd. 1a. **Income and assets generally.** Unless specifically required by state law or rule or federal law or regulation, the methodologies used in counting income and assets to determine eligibility for medical assistance for persons whose eligibility category is based on blindness, disability, or age of 65 or more years, the methodologies for the supplemental security income program shall be used, except as provided under subdivision 3, paragraph (f). Increases in benefits under title II of the Social Security Act shall not be counted as income for purposes of this subdivision until July 1 of each year. Effective upon federal approval, for children eligible under section 256B.055, subdivision 12, or for home and community-based waiver services whose eligibility for medical assistance is determined without regard to parental income, child support payments, including any payments made by an obligor in satisfaction of or in addition to a temporary or permanent order for child support, and Social Security payments are not counted as income. For families and children, which includes all other eligibility categories, the methodologies under the state's AFDC plan in effect as of July 16, 1996, as required by the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (PRWORA), Public Law 104-193, shall be used, except that effective October 1, 2003, the earned income disregards and deductions are limited to those in subdivision 1c. For these purposes, a "methodology" does not include an asset or income standard, or accounting method, or method of determining effective dates.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.056, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Asset limitations for aged, blind, or disabled individuals and families.** To be eligible for medical assistance, a person must not individually own more than \$3,000 in assets, or if a member of a household with two family members, husband and wife, or parent and child, the household must not own more than \$6,000 in assets, plus \$200 for each additional legal dependent. In addition to these maximum amounts, an eligible individual or family may accrue interest on these amounts, but they must be reduced to the maximum at the time of an eligibility redetermination. The accumulation of the clothing and personal needs allowance according to section 256B.35 must also be reduced to the maximum at the time of the eligibility redetermination. The value of assets that are not considered in determining eligibility for medical assistance is the value of those assets excluded under the supplemental security income program for aged, blind, and disabled persons, with the following exceptions:

(a) Household goods and personal effects are not considered.

(b) Capital and operating assets of a trade or business that the local agency determines are necessary to the person's ability to earn an income are not considered.

(c) Motor vehicles are excluded to the same extent excluded by the supplemental security income program.

(d) Assets designated as burial expenses are excluded to the same extent excluded by the supplemental security income program. Burial expenses funded by annuity contracts or life insurance policies must irrevocably designate the individual's estate as contingent beneficiary to the extent proceeds are not used for payment of selected burial expenses.

(e) Effective upon federal approval, for a person who no longer qualifies as an employed person with a disability due to loss of earnings, assets allowed while eligible for medical assistance under section 256B.057, subdivision 9, are not considered for 12 months, beginning with the first month of ineligibility as an employed person with a disability, to the extent that the person's total assets remain within the allowed limits of section 256B.057, subdivision 9, paragraph (b).

(f) When a person enrolled in medical assistance under section 256B.057, subdivision 9, reaches age 65 and has been enrolled during each of the 24 consecutive months before the person's 65th birthday, the assets owned by the person and the person's spouse must be disregarded, up to the limits of section 256B.057, subdivision 9, paragraph (b), when determining eligibility for medical assistance under section 256B.055, subdivision 7. The income of a spouse of a person enrolled in medical assistance under section 256B.057, subdivision 9, during each of the 24 consecutive months before the person's 65th birthday must be disregarded when determining eligibility for medical assistance under section 256B.055, subdivision 7, when the person reaches age 65. This paragraph does not apply at the time the person or the person's spouse requests medical assistance payment for long-term care services.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007, or upon federal approval, whichever is later.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0625, subdivision 18a, is amended to read:

Subd. 18a. **Access to medical services.** (a) Medical assistance reimbursement for meals for persons traveling to receive medical care may not exceed \$5.50 for breakfast, \$6.50 for lunch, or \$8 for dinner.

(b) Medical assistance reimbursement for lodging for persons traveling to receive medical care may not exceed \$50 per day unless prior authorized by the local agency.

(c) Medical assistance direct mileage reimbursement to the eligible person or the eligible person's driver may not exceed 20 cents per mile.

(d) Regardless of the number of employees that an enrolled health care provider may have, medical assistance covers sign and oral language interpreter services when provided by an enrolled health care provider during the course of providing a direct, person-to-person covered health care service to an enrolled recipient with limited English proficiency or who has a hearing loss and uses interpreting services.

Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0625, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 49. **Self-directed supports option.** Upon federal approval, medical assistance covers the self-directed supports option as defined under section 256B.0657 and section 6087 of the Federal Deficit Reduction Act of 2005, Public Law 109-171.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective upon federal approval of the state Medicaid plan amendment. The commissioner of human services shall inform the Office of the Revisor of Statutes when approval is obtained.

Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0651, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Prior authorization; time limits.** The commissioner or the commissioner's designee shall determine the time period for which a prior authorization shall be effective and, if flexible use has been requested, whether to allow the flexible use option. If the recipient continues to require home care services beyond the duration of the prior authorization, the home care provider must request a new prior authorization. A personal care provider agency must request a new personal care assistant services assessment, or service update if allowed, at least 60 days prior to the end of the current prior authorization time period. The request for the assessment must be made on a form approved by the commissioner. Under no circumstances, other than the exceptions in subdivision 4, shall a prior authorization be valid prior to the date the commissioner receives the request or for more than 12 months. A recipient who appeals a reduction in previously authorized home care services may continue previously authorized services, other than temporary services under subdivision 8, pending an appeal under section 256.045. The commissioner must provide a detailed explanation of why the authorized services are reduced in amount from those requested by the home care provider.

Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0655, subdivision 1b, is amended to read:

Subd. 1b. **Assessment.** "Assessment" means a review and evaluation of a recipient's need for home care services conducted in person. Assessments for personal care assistant services shall be conducted by the county public health nurse or a certified public health nurse under contract with the county. A face-to-face assessment must include: documentation of health status, determination of need, evaluation of service effectiveness, identification of appropriate services, service plan development or modification, coordination of services, referrals and follow-up to appropriate payers and community resources, completion of required reports, recommendation of service authorization, and consumer education. Once the need for personal care assistant services is determined under this section or sections 256B.0651, 256B.0653, 256B.0654, and 256B.0656, the county public health nurse or certified public health nurse under contract with the county is responsible for communicating this recommendation to the commissioner and the recipient. A face-to-face assessment for personal care assistant services is conducted on those recipients who have never had a county public health nurse assessment. A face-to-face assessment must occur at least annually or when there is a significant change in the recipient's condition or when there is a change in the need for personal care assistant services. A service update may substitute for the annual face-to-face assessment when there is not a significant change in recipient condition or a change in the need for personal care assistant service. A service update may be completed by telephone, used when there is no need for an increase in personal care assistant services, and used for two consecutive assessments if followed by a face-to-face assessment. A service update must be completed on a form approved by the commissioner. A service update or review for

temporary increase includes a review of initial baseline data, evaluation of service effectiveness, redetermination of service need, modification of service plan and appropriate referrals, update of initial forms, obtaining service authorization, and on going consumer education. Assessments must be completed on forms provided by the commissioner within 30 days of a request for home care services by a recipient or responsible party or personal care provider agency.

Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0655, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

**Subd. 3. Assessment and service plan.** Assessments under subdivision 1b and sections 256B.0651, subdivision 1, paragraph (b), and 256B.0654, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), shall be conducted initially, and at least annually thereafter, in person with the recipient and result in a completed service plan using forms specified by the commissioner. A personal care provider agency must use a form approved by the commissioner to request a county public health nurse to conduct a personal care assistant services assessment. When requesting a reassessment, the personal care provider agency must notify the county and the recipient at least 60 days prior to the end of the current prior authorization for personal care assistant services. The recipient notice shall include information on the recipient's appeal rights. Within 30 days of recipient or responsible party or personal care assistant provider agency request for home care services, the assessment, the service plan, and other information necessary to determine medical necessity such as diagnostic or testing information, social or medical histories, and hospital or facility discharge summaries shall be submitted to the commissioner. Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision 8, the commissioner shall maximize federal financial participation to pay for public health nurse assessments for personal care services. For personal care assistant services:

(1) The amount and type of service authorized based upon the assessment and service plan will follow the recipient if the recipient chooses to change providers.

(2) If the recipient's need changes, the recipient's provider may assess the need for a change in service authorization and request the change from the county public health nurse. The request must be made on a form approved by the commissioner. Within 30 days of the request, the public health nurse will determine whether to request the change in services based upon the provider assessment, or conduct a home visit to assess the need and determine whether the change is appropriate. If the change in service need is due to a change in medical condition, a new physician's statement of need required by section 256B.0625, subdivision 19c, must be obtained.

(3) To continue to receive personal care assistant services after the first year, the recipient or the responsible party, in conjunction with the public health nurse, may complete a service update on forms developed by the commissioner according to criteria and procedures in subdivisions 1a to 1i and sections 256B.0651, subdivision 1; 256B.0653, subdivision 1; and 256B.0654, subdivision 1.

Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0655, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

**Subd. 8. Public health nurse assessment rate.** (a) The reimbursement rates for public health nurse visits that relate to the provision of personal care services under this section and section 256B.0625, subdivision 19a, are:

- (i) \$210.50 for a face-to-face assessment visit;
- (ii) \$105.25 for each service update; and
- (iii) \$105.25 for each request for a temporary service increase.

(b) The rates specified in paragraph (a) must be adjusted to reflect provider rate increases for personal care assistant services that are approved by the legislature for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2000, and subsequent fiscal years. Any requirements applied by the legislature to provider rate increases for personal care assistant services also apply to adjustments under this paragraph.

(c) Effective July 1, 2008, the payment rate for an assessment under this section and section 256B.0651 shall be reduced by 25 percent when the assessment is not completed on time or the service agreement documentation is not submitted in time to continue services. The commissioner shall recoup these amounts on a retroactive basis.

**Sec. 16. [256B.0657] SELF-DIRECTED SUPPORTS OPTION.**

**Subdivision 1. Definition.** "Self-directed supports option" means personal assistance, supports, items, and related services purchased under an approved budget plan and budget by a recipient.

**Subd. 2. Eligibility.** (a) The self-directed supports option is available to a person who:

(1) is a recipient of medical assistance as determined under sections 256B.055, 256B.056, and 256B.057, subdivision 9;

(2) is eligible for personal care assistant services under section 256B.0655;

(3) lives in the person's own apartment or home, which is not owned, operated, or controlled by a provider of services not related by blood or marriage;

(4) has the ability to hire, fire, supervise, establish staff compensation for, and manage the individuals providing services, and to choose and obtain items, related services, and supports as described in the participant's plan. If the recipient is not able to carry out these functions but has a legal guardian or parent to carry them out, the guardian or parent may fulfill these functions on behalf of the recipient; and

(5) has not been excluded or disenrolled by the commissioner.

(b) The commissioner may disenroll or exclude recipients, including guardians and parents, under the following circumstances:

(1) recipients who have been restricted by the Primary Care Utilization Review Committee may be excluded for a specified time period;

(2) recipients who exit the self-directed supports option during the recipient's service plan year shall not access the self-directed supports option for the remainder of that service plan year; and

(3) when the department determines that the recipient cannot manage recipient responsibilities under the program.

**Subd. 3. Eligibility for other services.** Selection of the self-directed supports option by a recipient shall not restrict access to other medically necessary care and services furnished under the state plan medical assistance benefit, including home care targeted case management, except that a person receiving home and community-based waiver services, a family support grant or a consumer support grant is not eligible for funding under the self-directed supports option.

**Subd. 4. Assessment requirements.** (a) The self-directed supports option assessment must meet

the following requirements:

(1) it shall be conducted by the county public health nurse or a certified public health nurse under contract with the county;

(2) it shall be conducted face-to-face in the recipient's home initially, and at least annually thereafter; when there is a significant change in the recipient's condition; and when there is a change in the need for personal care assistant services. A recipient who is residing in a facility may be assessed for the self-directed support option for the purpose of returning to the community using this option; and

(3) it shall be completed using the format established by the commissioner.

(b) The results of the assessment and recommendations shall be communicated to the commissioner and the recipient by the county public health nurse or certified public health nurse under contract with the county.

Subd. 5. **Self-directed supports option plan requirements.** (a) The plan for the self-directed supports option must meet the following requirements:

(1) the plan must be completed using a person-centered process that:

(i) builds upon the recipient's capacity to engage in activities that promote community life;

(ii) respects the recipient's preferences, choices, and abilities;

(iii) involves families, friends, and professionals in the planning or delivery of services or supports as desired or required by the recipient; and

(iv) addresses the need for personal care assistant services identified in the recipient's self-directed supports option assessment;

(2) the plan shall be developed by the recipient or by the guardian of an adult recipient or by a parent or guardian of a minor child, with the assistance of an enrolled medical assistance home care targeted case manager provider who meets the requirements established for using a person-centered planning process and shall be reviewed at least annually upon reassessment or when there is a significant change in the recipient's condition; and

(3) the plan must include the total budget amount available divided into monthly amounts that cover the number of months of personal care assistant services authorization included in the budget. The amount used each month may vary, but additional funds shall not be provided above the annual personal care assistant services authorized amount unless a change in condition is documented.

(b) The commissioner shall:

(1) establish the format and criteria for the plan as well as the requirements for providers who assist with plan development;

(2) review the assessment and plan and, within 30 days after receiving the assessment and plan, make a decision on approval of the plan;

(3) notify the recipient, parent, or guardian of approval or denial of the plan and provide notice of the right to appeal under section 256.045; and

(4) provide a copy of the plan to the fiscal support entity selected by the recipient.

Subd. 6. **Services covered.** (a) Services covered under the self-directed supports option include:

(1) personal care assistant services under section 256B.0655; and

(2) items, related services, and supports, including assistive technology, that increase independence or substitute for human assistance to the extent expenditures would otherwise be used for human assistance.

(b) Items, supports, and related services purchased under this option shall not be considered home care services for the purposes of section 144A.43.

Subd. 7. **Noncovered services.** Services or supports that are not eligible for payment under the self-directed supports option include:

(1) services, goods, or supports that do not benefit the recipient;

(2) any fees incurred by the recipient, such as Minnesota health care program fees and co-pays, legal fees, or costs related to advocate agencies;

(3) insurance, except for insurance costs related to employee coverage or fiscal support entity payments;

(4) room and board and personal items that are not related to the disability, except that medically prescribed specialized diet items may be covered if they reduce the need for human assistance;

(5) home modifications that add square footage;

(6) home modifications for a residence other than the primary residence of the recipient, or in the event of a minor with parents not living together, the primary residences of the parents;

(7) expenses for travel, lodging, or meals related to training the recipient, the parent or guardian of an adult recipient, or the parent or guardian of a minor child, or paid or unpaid caregivers that exceed \$500 in a 12-month period;

(8) experimental treatment;

(9) any service or item covered by other medical assistance state plan services, including prescription and over-the-counter medications, compounds, and solutions and related fees, including premiums and co-payments;

(10) membership dues or costs, except when the service is necessary and appropriate to treat a physical condition or to improve or maintain the recipient's physical condition. The condition must be identified in the recipient's plan of care and monitored by a Minnesota health care program enrolled physician;

(11) vacation expenses other than the cost of direct services;

(12) vehicle maintenance or modifications not related to the disability;

(13) tickets and related costs to attend sporting or other recreational events; and

(14) costs related to Internet access, except when necessary for operation of assistive technology,

to increase independence, or to substitute for human assistance.

Subd. 8. **Self-directed budget requirements.** The budget for the provision of the self-directed service option shall be equal to the greater of either:

(1) the annual amount of personal care assistant services under section 256B.0655 that the recipient has used in the most recent 12-month period; or

(2) the amount determined using the consumer support grant methodology under section 256.476, subdivision 11, except that the budget amount shall include the federal and nonfederal share of the average service costs.

Subd. 9. **Quality assurance and risk management.** (a) The commissioner shall establish quality assurance and risk management measures for use in developing and implementing self-directed plans and budgets that (1) recognize the roles and responsibilities involved in obtaining services in a self-directed manner, and (2) assure the appropriateness of such plans and budgets based upon a recipient's resources and capabilities. These measures must include (i) background studies, and (ii) backup and emergency plans, including disaster planning.

(b) The commissioner shall provide ongoing technical assistance and resource and educational materials for families and recipients selecting the self-directed option.

(c) Performance assessments measures, such as of a recipient's satisfaction with the services and supports, and ongoing monitoring of health and well-being shall be identified in consultation with the stakeholder group.

Subd. 10. **Fiscal support entity.** (a) Each recipient shall choose a fiscal support entity provider certified by the commissioner to make payments for services, items, supports, and administrative costs related to managing a self-directed service plan authorized for payment in the approved plan and budget. Recipients shall also choose the payroll, agency with choice, or the fiscal conduit model of financial and service management.

(b) The fiscal support entity:

(1) may not limit or restrict the recipient's choice of service or support providers, including use of the payroll, agency with choice, or fiscal conduit model of financial and service management;

(2) must have a written agreement with the recipient or the recipient's representative that identifies the duties and responsibilities to be performed and the specific related charges;

(3) must provide the recipient and the home care targeted case manager with a monthly written summary of the self-directed supports option services that were billed, including charges from the fiscal support entity;

(4) must be knowledgeable of and comply with Internal Revenue Service requirements necessary to process employer and employee deductions, provide appropriate and timely submission of employer tax liabilities, and maintain documentation to support medical assistance claims;

(5) must have current and adequate liability insurance and bonding and sufficient cash flow and have on staff or under contract a certified public accountant or an individual with a baccalaureate degree in accounting; and



(6) must maintain records to track all self-directed supports option services expenditures, including time records of persons paid to provide supports and receipts for any goods purchased. The records must be maintained for a minimum of five years from the claim date and be available for audit or review upon request. Claims submitted by the fiscal support entity must correspond with services, amounts, and time periods as authorized in the recipient's self-directed supports option plan.

(c) The commissioner shall have authority to:

(1) set or negotiate rates with fiscal support entities;

(2) limit the number of fiscal support entities;

(3) identify a process to certify and recertify fiscal support entities and assure fiscal support entities are available to recipients throughout the state; and

(4) establish a uniform format and protocol to be used by eligible fiscal support entities.

Subd. 11. **Stakeholder consultation.** The commissioner shall consult with a statewide consumer-directed services stakeholder group, including representatives of all types of consumer-directed service users, advocacy organizations, counties, and consumer-directed service providers. The commissioner shall seek recommendations from this stakeholder group in developing:

(1) the self-directed plan format;

(2) requirements and guidelines for the person-centered plan assessment and planning process;

(3) implementation of the option and the quality assurance and risk management techniques; and

(4) standards and requirements, including rates for the personal support plan development provider and the fiscal support entity; policies; training; and implementation. The stakeholder group shall provide recommendations on the repeal of the personal care assistant choice option, transition issues, and whether the consumer support grant program under section 256.476 should be modified. The stakeholder group shall meet at least three times each year to provide advice on policy, implementation, and other aspects of consumer and self-directed services.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** Subdivisions 1 to 10 are effective upon federal approval of the state Medicaid plan amendment. The commissioner of human services shall inform the Office of the Revisor of Statutes when federal approval is obtained. Subdivision 11 is effective July 1, 2007.

Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0911, subdivision 1a, is amended to read:

Subd. 1a. **Definitions.** For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

(a) "Long-term care consultation services" means:

(1) providing information and education to the general public regarding availability of the services authorized under this section;

(2) an intake process that provides access to the services described in this section;

(3) assessment of the health, psychological, and social needs of referred individuals;

- (4) assistance in identifying services needed to maintain an individual in the least restrictive environment;
- (5) providing recommendations on cost-effective community services that are available to the individual;
- (6) development of an individual's community support plan, which may include the use of reverse mortgage payments to pay for services needed to maintain the individual in the person's home;
- (7) providing information regarding eligibility for Minnesota health care programs;
- (8) preadmission screening to determine the need for a nursing facility level of care;
- (9) preliminary determination of Minnesota health care programs eligibility for individuals who need a nursing facility level of care, with appropriate referrals for final determination;
- (10) providing recommendations for nursing facility placement when there are no cost-effective community services available; and
- (11) assistance to transition people back to community settings after facility admission.

(b) "Minnesota health care programs" means the medical assistance program under chapter 256B and the alternative care program under section 256B.0913.

Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0911, subdivision 3a, is amended to read:

**Subd. 3a. Assessment and support planning.** (a) Persons requesting assessment, services planning, or other assistance intended to support community-based living, including persons who need assessment in order to determine waiver or alternative care program eligibility, must be visited by a long-term care consultation team within ten working days after the date on which an assessment was requested or recommended. Assessments must be conducted according to paragraphs (b) to ~~(g)~~ (i).

(b) The county may utilize a team of either the social worker or public health nurse, or both, to conduct the assessment in a face-to-face interview. The consultation team members must confer regarding the most appropriate care for each individual screened or assessed.

(c) The long-term care consultation team must assess the health and social needs of the person, using an assessment form provided by the commissioner.

(d) The team must conduct the assessment in a face-to-face interview with the person being assessed and the person's legal representative, if applicable.

(e) The team must provide the person, or the person's legal representative, with written recommendations for facility- or community-based services. The team must document that the most cost-effective alternatives available were offered to the individual. For purposes of this requirement, "cost-effective alternatives" means community services and living arrangements that cost the same as or less than nursing facility care.

(f) If the person chooses to use community-based services, the team must provide the person or the person's legal representative with a written community support plan, regardless of whether

the individual is eligible for Minnesota health care programs. The person may request assistance in developing a community support plan without participating in a complete assessment. If the person chooses to obtain a reverse mortgage under section 47.58 as part of the community support plan, the plan must include a spending plan for the reverse mortgage payments.

(g) The person has the right to make the final decision between nursing facility placement and community placement after the screening team's recommendation, except as provided in subdivision 4a, paragraph (c).

(h) The team must give the person receiving assessment or support planning, or the person's legal representative, materials, and forms supplied by the commissioner containing the following information:

(1) the need for and purpose of preadmission screening and assessment if the person selects nursing facility placement;

(2) the role of the long-term care consultation assessment and support planning in waiver and alternative care program eligibility determination;

~~(2)~~ (3) information about Minnesota health care programs and about reverse mortgages, including the provisions of sections 47.58; 256B.0913, subdivision 17; and 462A.05, subdivision 42;

~~(3)~~ (4) the person's freedom to accept or reject the recommendations of the team;

~~(4)~~ (5) the person's right to confidentiality under the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, chapter 13; and

(6) the long-term care consultant's decision regarding the person's need for nursing facility level of care;

~~(5)~~ (7) the person's right to appeal the decision regarding the need for nursing facility level of care or the county's final decisions regarding public programs eligibility according to section 256.045, subdivision 3.

(i) Face-to-face assessment completed as part of eligibility determination for the alternative care, elderly waiver, community alternatives for disabled individuals, community alternative care, and traumatic brain injury waiver programs under sections 256B.0915, 256B.0917, and 256B.49 is valid to establish service eligibility for no more than 60 calendar days after the date of assessment. The effective eligibility start date for these programs can never be prior to the date of assessment. If an assessment was completed more than 60 days before the effective waiver or alternative care program eligibility start date, assessment and support plan information must be updated in a face-to-face visit and documented in the department's Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS). The effective date of program eligibility in this case cannot be prior to the date the updated assessment is completed.

Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0911, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 3c. **Transition to housing with services.** (a) Housing with services establishments offering or providing assisted living under chapter 144G shall inform all prospective residents

of the availability of and contact information for transitional consultation services under this subdivision prior to executing a lease or contract with the prospective resident. The purpose of transitional long-term care consultation is to support persons with current or anticipated long-term care needs in making informed choices among options that include the most cost-effective and least restrictive settings, and to delay spenddown to eligibility for publicly funded programs by connecting people to alternative services in their homes before transition to housing with services. Regardless of the consultation, prospective residents maintain the right to choose housing with services or assisted living if that option is their preference.

(b) Transitional consultation services are provided as determined by the commissioner of human services in partnership with county long-term care consultation units, and the Area Agencies on Aging, and are a combination of telephone-based and in-person assistance provided under models developed by the commissioner. The consultation shall be performed in a manner that provides objective and complete information. Transitional consultation must be provided within five working days of the request of the prospective resident as follows:

(1) the consultation must be provided by a qualified professional as determined by the commissioner;

(2) the consultation must include a review of the prospective resident's reasons for considering assisted living, the prospective resident's personal goals, a discussion of the prospective resident's immediate and projected long-term care needs, and alternative community services or assisted living settings that may meet the prospective resident's needs; and

(3) the prospective resident shall be informed of the availability of long-term care consultation services described in subdivision 3a that are available at no charge to the prospective resident to assist the prospective resident in assessment and planning to meet the prospective resident's long-term care needs.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective October 1, 2008.

Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0913, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 17. **Services for persons using reverse mortgages.** (a) Alternative care services are available to a person if:

(1) the person qualifies for the reverse mortgage incentive program under section 462A.05, subdivision 42, and has received the final payment on a qualifying reverse mortgage, or the person satisfies the criteria in section 462A.05, subdivision 42, paragraph (b), clauses (1) to (5), and has otherwise obtained a reverse mortgage and payments from the reverse mortgage for a period of at least 24 months or in an amount of at least \$15,000 are used for services and supports, including basic shelter needs, home maintenance, and modifications or adaptations, necessary to allow the person to remain in the home as an alternative to a nursing facility placement; and

(2) the person satisfies the eligibility criteria under this section, other than age, income, and assets, and verifies that reverse mortgage expenditures were made according to the spending plan established under section 256B.0911, if one has been established.

(b) In addition to the other services provided under this section, a person who qualifies under this subdivision shall not be assessed a monthly participation fee under subdivision 12 nor be subject to

an estate claim under section 256B.15 for services received under this section.

(c) The commissioner shall require a certification of loan satisfaction or other documentation that the person qualifies under this subdivision.

Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0915, is amended to read:

**256B.0915 MEDICAID WAIVER FOR ELDERLY SERVICES.**

Subdivision 1. **Authority.** The commissioner is authorized to apply for a home and community-based services waiver for the elderly, authorized under section 1915(c) of the Social Security Act, in order to obtain federal financial participation to expand the availability of services for persons who are eligible for medical assistance. The commissioner may apply for additional waivers or pursue other federal financial participation which is advantageous to the state for funding home care services for the frail elderly who are eligible for medical assistance. The provision of waived services to elderly and disabled medical assistance recipients must comply with the criteria for service definitions and provider standards approved in the waiver.

Subd. 1a. **Elderly waiver case management services.** (a) Elderly case management services under the home and community-based services waiver for elderly individuals are available from providers meeting qualification requirements and the standards specified in subdivision 1b. Eligible recipients may choose any qualified provider of elderly case management services.

Case management services assist individuals who receive waiver services in gaining access to needed waiver and other state plan services, as well as needed medical, social, educational, and other services regardless of the funding source for the services to which access is gained.

A case aide shall provide assistance to the case manager in carrying out administrative activities of the case management function. The case aide may not assume responsibilities that require professional judgment including assessments, reassessments, and care plan development. The case manager is responsible for providing oversight of the case aide.

Case managers shall be responsible for ongoing monitoring of the provision of services included in the individual's plan of care. Case managers shall initiate and oversee the process of assessment and reassessment of the individual's care and review plan of care at intervals specified in the federally approved waiver plan.

(b) The county of service or tribe must provide access to and arrange for case management services. County of service has the meaning given it in Minnesota Rules, part 9505.0015, subpart 11.

Subd. 1b. **Provider qualifications and standards.** The commissioner must enroll qualified providers of elderly case management services under the home and community-based waiver for the elderly under section 1915(c) of the Social Security Act. The enrollment process shall ensure the provider's ability to meet the qualification requirements and standards in this subdivision and other federal and state requirements of this service. An elderly case management provider is an enrolled medical assistance provider who is determined by the commissioner to have all of the following characteristics:

(1) the demonstrated capacity and experience to provide the components of case management to coordinate and link community resources needed by the eligible population;

(2) administrative capacity and experience in serving the target population for whom it will provide services and in ensuring quality of services under state and federal requirements;

(3) a financial management system that provides accurate documentation of services and costs under state and federal requirements;

(4) the capacity to document and maintain individual case records under state and federal requirements; and

(5) the county lead agency may allow a case manager employed by the county lead agency to delegate certain aspects of the case management activity to another individual employed by the county lead agency provided there is oversight of the individual by the case manager. The case manager may not delegate those aspects which require professional judgment including assessments, reassessments, and care plan development. Lead agencies include counties, health plans, and federally recognized tribes who authorize services under this section.

~~Subd. 1c. **Case management activities under the state plan.** The commissioner shall seek an amendment to the home and community-based services waiver for the elderly to implement the provisions of subdivisions 1a and 1b. If the commissioner is unable to secure the approval of the secretary of health and human services for the requested waiver amendment by December 31, 1993, the commissioner shall amend the medical assistance state plan to provide that case management provided under the home and community-based services waiver for the elderly is performed by counties as an administrative function for the proper and effective administration of the state medical assistance plan. The state shall reimburse counties for the nonfederal share of costs for case management performed as an administrative function under the home and community-based services waiver for the elderly.~~

Subd. 1d. **Posteligibility treatment of income and resources for elderly waiver.** Notwithstanding the provisions of section 256B.056, the commissioner shall make the following amendment to the medical assistance elderly waiver program effective July 1, 1999, or upon federal approval, whichever is later.

A recipient's maintenance needs will be an amount equal to the Minnesota supplemental aid equivalent rate as defined in section 256I.03, subdivision 5, plus the medical assistance personal needs allowance as defined in section 256B.35, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), when applying posteligibility treatment of income rules to the gross income of elderly waiver recipients, except for individuals whose income is in excess of the special income standard according to Code of Federal Regulations, title 42, section 435.236. Recipient maintenance needs shall be adjusted under this provision each July 1.

Subd. 2. **Spousal impoverishment policies.** The commissioner shall ~~seek to amend the federal waiver and the medical assistance state plan to allow~~ apply:

(1) the spousal impoverishment criteria as authorized under United States Code, title 42, section 1396r-5, and as implemented in sections 256B.0575, 256B.058, and 256B.059, except that the amendment shall seek to add to:

(2) the personal needs allowance permitted in section 256B.0575; and

(3) an amount equivalent to the group residential housing rate as set by section 256I.03, subdivision 5, and according to the approved federal waiver and medical assistance state plan.

Subd. 3. **Limits of cases.** The number of medical assistance waiver recipients that a ~~county~~ lead agency may serve must be allocated according to the number of medical assistance waiver cases open on July 1 of each fiscal year. Additional recipients may be served with the approval of the commissioner.

Subd. 3a. **Elderly waiver cost limits.** (a) The monthly limit for the cost of waived services to an individual elderly waiver client shall be the weighted average monthly nursing facility rate of the case mix resident class to which the elderly waiver client would be assigned under Minnesota Rules, parts 9549.0050 to 9549.0059, less the recipient's maintenance needs allowance as described in subdivision 1d, paragraph (a), until the first day of the state fiscal year in which the resident assessment system as described in section 256B.437 for nursing home rate determination is implemented. Effective on the first day of the state fiscal year in which the resident assessment system as described in section 256B.437 for nursing home rate determination is implemented and the first day of each subsequent state fiscal year, the monthly limit for the cost of waived services to an individual elderly waiver client shall be the rate of the case mix resident class to which the waiver client would be assigned under Minnesota Rules, parts 9549.0050 to 9549.0059, in effect on the last day of the previous state fiscal year, adjusted by the greater of any legislatively adopted home and community-based services percentage rate increase or the average statewide percentage increase in nursing facility payment rates.

(b) If extended medical supplies and equipment or environmental modifications are or will be purchased for an elderly waiver client, the costs may be prorated for up to 12 consecutive months beginning with the month of purchase. If the monthly cost of a recipient's waived services exceeds the monthly limit established in paragraph (a), the annual cost of all waived services shall be determined. In this event, the annual cost of all waived services shall not exceed 12 times the monthly limit of waived services as described in paragraph (a).

Subd. 3b. **Cost limits for elderly waiver applicants who reside in a nursing facility.** (a) For a person who is a nursing facility resident at the time of requesting a determination of eligibility for elderly waived services, a monthly conversion limit for the cost of elderly waived services may be requested. The monthly conversion limit for the cost of elderly waiver services shall be the resident class assigned under Minnesota Rules, parts 9549.0050 to 9549.0059, for that resident in the nursing facility where the resident currently resides until July 1 of the state fiscal year in which the resident assessment system as described in section ~~256B.437~~ 256B.438 for nursing home rate determination is implemented. Effective on July 1 of the state fiscal year in which the resident assessment system as described in section ~~256B.437~~ 256B.438 for nursing home rate determination is implemented, the monthly conversion limit for the cost of elderly waiver services shall be the per diem nursing facility rate as determined by the resident assessment system as described in section ~~256B.437~~ 256B.438 for that resident in the nursing facility where the resident currently resides multiplied by 365 and divided by 12, less the recipient's maintenance needs allowance as described in subdivision 1d. The initially approved conversion rate may be adjusted by the greater of any subsequent legislatively adopted home and community-based services percentage rate increase or the average statewide percentage increase in nursing facility payment rates. The limit under this subdivision only applies to persons discharged from a nursing facility after a minimum 30-day stay and found eligible for waived services on or after July 1, 1997. For conversions from the nursing home to the elderly waiver with consumer directed community support services, the conversion rate limit is equal to the nursing facility rate reduced by a percentage equal to the percentage difference between the consumer directed services budget limit that would be assigned

according to the federally approved waiver plan and the corresponding community case mix cap, but not to exceed 50 percent.

(b) The following costs must be included in determining the total monthly costs for the waiver client:

(1) cost of all waived services, including extended medical supplies and equipment and environmental modifications and adaptations; and

(2) cost of skilled nursing, home health aide, and personal care services reimbursable by medical assistance.

Subd. 3c. **Service approval and contracting provisions.** (a) Medical assistance funding for skilled nursing services, private duty nursing, home health aide, and personal care services for waiver recipients must be approved by the case manager and included in the individual care plan.

(b) A ~~county~~ county lead agency is not required to contract with a provider of supplies and equipment if the monthly cost of the supplies and equipment is less than \$250.

Subd. 3d. **Adult foster care rate.** The adult foster care rate shall be considered a difficulty of care payment and shall not include room and board. The adult foster care service rate shall be negotiated between the ~~county~~ county lead agency and the foster care provider. The elderly waiver payment for the foster care service in combination with the payment for all other elderly waiver services, including case management, must not exceed the limit specified in subdivision 3a, paragraph (a).

Subd. 3e. ~~Assisted living~~ **Customized living service rate.** (a) ~~Payment for assisted living service~~ customized living services shall be a monthly rate negotiated and authorized by the county agency based on an individualized service plan for each resident and may not cover direct rent or food costs. ~~lead agency within the parameters established by the commissioner. The payment agreement must delineate the services that have been customized for each recipient and specify the amount of each service to be provided. The lead agency shall ensure that there is a documented need for all services authorized. Customized living services must not include rent or raw food costs. The negotiated payment rate must be based on services to be provided. Negotiated rates must not exceed payment rates for comparable elderly waiver or medical assistance services and must reflect economies of scale.~~

(b) ~~The individualized monthly negotiated payment for assisted living customized living services as described in section 256B.0913, subdivisions 5d to 5f, and residential care services as described in section 256B.0913, subdivision 5e,~~ shall not exceed the nonfederal share, in effect on July 1 of the state fiscal year for which the rate limit is being calculated, of the greater of either the statewide or any of the geographic groups' weighted average monthly nursing facility rate of the case mix resident class to which the elderly waiver eligible client would be assigned under Minnesota Rules, parts 9549.0050 to 9549.0059, less the maintenance needs allowance as described in subdivision 1d, paragraph (a), until the July 1 of the state fiscal year in which the resident assessment system as described in section 256B.437 for nursing home rate determination is implemented. Effective on July 1 of the state fiscal year in which the resident assessment system as described in section 256B.437 for nursing home rate determination is implemented and July 1 of each subsequent state fiscal year, the individualized monthly negotiated payment for the services described in this clause shall not exceed the limit described in this clause which was in effect on June 30 of the previous state fiscal year and which has been adjusted by the greater of any legislatively adopted home and



community-based services cost-of-living percentage increase or any legislatively adopted statewide percent rate increase for nursing facilities.

(c) ~~The individualized monthly negotiated payment for assisted~~ Customized living services described in section 144A.4605 and are delivered by a provider licensed by the Department of Health as a class A or class F home care provider or an assisted living home care provider and provided in a building that is registered as a housing with services establishment under chapter 144D and that provides 24-hour supervision in combination with the payment for other elderly waiver services, including case management, must not exceed the limit specified in subdivision 3a.

Subd. 3f. **Individual service rates; expenditure forecasts.** (a) ~~The county lead agency shall negotiate individual service rates with vendors and may authorize payment for actual costs up to the county's lead agency's current approved rate. Persons or agencies must be employed by or under a contract with the county lead agency or the public health nursing agency of the local board of health in order to receive funding under the elderly waiver program, except as a provider of supplies and equipment when the monthly cost of the supplies and equipment is less than \$250.~~

(b) Reimbursement for the medical assistance recipients under the approved waiver shall be made from the medical assistance account through the invoice processing procedures of the department's Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS), only with the approval of the client's case manager. The budget for the state share of the Medicaid expenditures shall be forecasted with the medical assistance budget, and shall be consistent with the approved waiver.

Subd. 3g. **Service rate limits; state assumption of costs.** (a) To improve access to community services and eliminate payment disparities between the alternative care program and the elderly waiver, the commissioner shall establish statewide maximum service rate limits and eliminate ~~county-specific~~ lead agency-specific service rate limits.

(b) Effective July 1, 2001, for service rate limits, except those described or defined in subdivisions 3d and 3e, the rate limit for each service shall be the greater of the alternative care statewide maximum rate or the elderly waiver statewide maximum rate.

(c) ~~Counties~~ Lead agencies may negotiate individual service rates with vendors for actual costs up to the statewide maximum service rate limit.

Subd. 3h. **Service rate limits; 24-hour customized living services.** The payment rates for 24-hour customized living services is a monthly rate negotiated and authorized by the lead agency within the parameters established by the commissioner of human services. The payment agreement must delineate the services that have been customized for each recipient and specify the amount of each service to be provided. The lead agency shall ensure that there is a documented need for all services authorized. The lead agency shall not authorize 24-hour customized living services unless there is a documented need for 24-hour supervision. For purposes of this section, "24-hour supervision" means that the recipient requires assistance due to needs related to one or more of the following:

- (1) intermittent assistance with toileting or transferring;
- (2) cognitive or behavioral issues;
- (3) a medical condition that requires clinical monitoring; or

(4) other conditions or needs as defined by the commissioner of human services. The lead agency shall ensure that the frequency and mode of supervision of the recipient and the qualifications of staff providing supervision are described and meet the needs of the recipient. Customized living services must not include rent or raw food costs. The negotiated payment rate for 24-hour customized living services must be based on services to be provided. Negotiated rates must not exceed payment rates for comparable elderly waiver or medical assistance services and must reflect economies of scale. The individually negotiated 24-hour customized living payments, in combination with the payment for other elderly waiver services, including case management, must not exceed the recipient's community budget cap specified in subdivision 3a.

Subd. 4. **Termination notice.** The case manager must give the individual a ten-day written notice of any denial, reduction, or termination of waived services.

Subd. 5. **Assessments and reassessments for waiver clients.** Each client shall receive an initial assessment of strengths, informal supports, and need for services in accordance with section 256B.0911, subdivisions 3, 3a, and 3b. A reassessment of a client served under the elderly waiver must be conducted at least every 12 months and at other times when the case manager determines that there has been significant change in the client's functioning. This may include instances where the client is discharged from the hospital.

Subd. 6. **Implementation of care plan.** Each elderly waiver client shall be provided a copy of a written care plan that meets the requirements outlined in section 256B.0913, subdivision 8. The care plan must be implemented by the county ~~administering waived services~~ of service when it is different than the county of financial responsibility. The county of service ~~administering~~ waived services must notify the county of financial responsibility of the approved care plan.

Subd. 7. **Prepaid elderly waiver services.** An individual for whom a prepaid health plan is liable for nursing home services or elderly waiver services according to section 256B.69, subdivision 6a, is not eligible to also receive county-administered elderly waiver services ~~under this section~~.

Subd. 8. **Services and supports.** (a) Services and supports shall meet the requirements set out in United States Code, title 42, section 1396n.

(b) Services and supports shall promote consumer choice and be arranged and provided consistent with individualized, written care plans.

(c) The state of Minnesota, county, managed care organization, or tribal government under contract to administer the elderly waiver shall not be liable for damages, injuries, or liabilities sustained through the purchase of direct supports or goods by the person, the person's family, or the authorized representatives with funds received through consumer-directed community support services under the federally approved waiver plan. Liabilities include, but are not limited to, workers' compensation liability, the Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA), or the Federal Unemployment Tax Act (FUTA).

Subd. 9. **Tribal management of elderly waiver.** Notwithstanding contrary provisions of this section, or those in other state laws or rules, the commissioner may develop a model for tribal management of the elderly waiver program and implement this model through a contract between the state and any of the state's federally recognized tribal governments. The model shall include the provision of tribal waiver case management, assessment for personal care assistance, and administrative requirements otherwise carried out by ~~counties~~ lead agencies but shall not include

tribal financial eligibility determination for medical assistance.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** Subdivision 3h is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 22. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.095, is amended to read:

**256B.095 QUALITY ASSURANCE SYSTEM ESTABLISHED.**

(a) Effective July 1, 1998, a quality assurance system for persons with developmental disabilities, which includes an alternative quality assurance licensing system for programs, is established in Dodge, Fillmore, Freeborn, Goodhue, Houston, Mower, Olmsted, Rice, Steele, Wabasha, and Winona Counties for the purpose of improving the quality of services provided to persons with developmental disabilities. A county, at its option, may choose to have all programs for persons with developmental disabilities located within the county licensed under chapter 245A using standards determined under the alternative quality assurance licensing system or may continue regulation of these programs under the licensing system operated by the commissioner. The project expires on June 30, ~~2009~~ 2014.

(b) Effective July 1, 2003, a county not listed in paragraph (a) may apply to participate in the quality assurance system established under paragraph (a). The commission established under section 256B.0951 may, at its option, allow additional counties to participate in the system.

(c) Effective July 1, 2003, any county or group of counties not listed in paragraph (a) may establish a quality assurance system under this section. A new system established under this section shall have the same rights and duties as the system established under paragraph (a). A new system shall be governed by a commission under section 256B.0951. The commissioner shall appoint the initial commission members based on recommendations from advocates, families, service providers, and counties in the geographic area included in the new system. Counties that choose to participate in a new system shall have the duties assigned under section 256B.0952. The new system shall establish a quality assurance process under section 256B.0953. The provisions of section 256B.0954 shall apply to a new system established under this paragraph. The commissioner shall delegate authority to a new system established under this paragraph according to section 256B.0955.

(d) Effective July 1, 2007, the quality assurance system may be expanded to include programs for persons with disabilities and older adults.

Sec. 23. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0951, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Membership.** The Quality Assurance Commission is established. The commission consists of at least 14 but not more than 21 members as follows: at least three but not more than five members representing advocacy organizations; at least three but not more than five members representing consumers, families, and their legal representatives; at least three but not more than five members representing service providers; at least three but not more than five members representing counties; and the commissioner of human services or the commissioner's designee. The first commission shall establish membership guidelines for the transition and recruitment of membership for the commission's ongoing existence. Members of the commission who do not receive a salary or wages from an employer for time spent on commission duties may receive a per diem payment when performing commission duties and functions. All members may be reimbursed for expenses related to commission activities. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 15.059, subdivision 5, the commission expires on June 30, ~~2009~~ 2014.

**Sec. 24. [256B.096] QUALITY MANAGEMENT, ASSURANCE, AND IMPROVEMENT SYSTEM FOR MINNESOTANS RECEIVING DISABILITY SERVICES.**

**Subdivision 1. Scope.** In order to improve the quality of services provided to Minnesotans with disabilities and to meet the requirements of the federally approved home and community-based waivers under section 1915c of the Social Security Act, a statewide quality assurance and improvement system for Minnesotans receiving disability services shall be developed. The disability services included are the home and community-based services waiver programs for persons with developmental disabilities under section 256B.092, subdivision 4, and for persons with disabilities under section 256B.49.

**Subd. 2. Stakeholder advisory group.** The commissioner shall consult with a stakeholder advisory group on the development and implementation of the state quality management, assurance, and improvement system, including representatives of disability service recipients, disability service providers, disability advocacy groups, county human service agencies, and state agency staff from the Departments of Human Services and Health, and the ombudsman for mental health and developmental disabilities on the development of a statewide quality assurance and improvement system.

**Subd. 3. Annual survey of service recipients.** The commissioner, in consultation with the stakeholder advisory group, shall develop an annual independent random statewide survey of between five and ten percent of service recipients to determine the effectiveness and quality of disability services. The survey shall be consistent with the system performance expectations of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services quality management requirements and framework. The survey shall analyze whether desired outcomes have been achieved for persons with different demographic, diagnostic, health, and functional needs receiving different types of services, in different settings, with different costs. The survey shall be field tested during 2008. The biennial report established in subdivision 5 shall include recommendations on statewide and regional reports of the survey results that, if published, would be useful to regions, counties, and providers to plan and measure the impact of quality improvement activities.

**Subd. 4. Improvements for incident reporting, investigation, analysis, and follow-up.** In consultation with the stakeholder advisory group, the commissioner shall identify the information, data sources, and technology needed to improve the system of incident reporting, including:

- (1) reports made under the Maltreatment of Minors and Vulnerable Adults Acts; and
- (2) investigation, analysis, and follow-up for disability services.

The commissioner must ensure that the federal home and community-based waiver requirements are met and that incidents that may have jeopardized safety and health or violated service-related assurances, civil and human rights, and other protections designed to prevent abuse, neglect, and exploitation, are reviewed, investigated, and acted upon in a timely manner.

**Subd. 5. Biennial report.** The commissioner shall provide a biennial report to the chairs of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over health and human services policy and funding beginning January 15, 2009, on the development and activities of the quality management, assurance, and improvement system designed to meet the federal requirements under the home and community-based services waiver programs for persons with disabilities. By January 15, 2008, the commissioner shall provide a preliminary report on priorities for meeting the federal requirements,

progress on development and field testing of the annual survey, appropriations necessary to implement an annual survey of service recipients once field testing is completed, recommendations for improvements in the incident reporting system, and a plan for incorporating quality assurance efforts under section 256B.095 and other regional efforts into the statewide system.

Sec. 25. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.15, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 9. **Recovery of alternative care and certain reverse mortgages.** The state and a county agency shall not recover alternative care paid for a person under section 256B.0913, subdivision 17, under this section.

Sec. 26. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.431, subdivision 2e, is amended to read:

Subd. 2e. **Contracts for services for ventilator-dependent persons.** (a) The commissioner may negotiate with a nursing facility eligible to receive medical assistance payments to provide services to a ventilator-dependent person identified by the commissioner according to criteria developed by the commissioner, including:

- (1) nursing facility care has been recommended for the person by a preadmission screening team;
- (2) the person has been hospitalized and no longer requires inpatient acute care hospital services; and
- (3) the commissioner has determined that necessary services for the person cannot be provided under existing nursing facility rates.

The commissioner may negotiate an adjustment to the operating cost payment rate for a nursing facility with a resident who is ventilator-dependent, for that resident. The negotiated adjustment must reflect only the actual additional cost of meeting the specialized care needs of a ventilator-dependent person identified by the commissioner for whom necessary services cannot be provided under existing nursing facility rates and which are not otherwise covered under Minnesota Rules, parts 9549.0010 to 9549.0080 or 9505.0170 to 9505.0475. For persons who are initially admitted to a nursing facility before July 1, 2001, and have their payment rate under this subdivision negotiated after July 1, 2001, the negotiated payment rate must not exceed 200 percent of the highest multiple bedroom payment rate for the facility, as initially established by the commissioner for the rate year for case mix classification K; or, upon implementation of the RUG's-based case mix system, 200 percent of the highest RUG's rate. For persons initially admitted to a nursing facility on or after July 1, 2001, the negotiated payment rate must not exceed 300 percent of the facility's multiple bedroom payment rate for case mix classification K; or, upon implementation of the RUG's-based case mix system, 300 percent of the highest RUG's rate. The negotiated adjustment shall not affect the payment rate charged to private paying residents under the provisions of section 256B.48, subdivision 1.

(b) Effective July 1, 2007, or upon opening a unit of at least ten beds dedicated to care of ventilator-dependent persons in partnership with Mayo Health Systems, whichever is later, the operating payment rates for residents determined eligible under paragraph (a) of a nursing facility in Waseca County that on February 1, 2007, was licensed for 70 beds and reimbursed under this section, section 256B.434, or section 256B.441, shall be 300 percent of the facility's highest RUG rate.

Sec. 27. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.431, subdivision 17a, is amended to read:

Subd. 17a. **Allowable interest expense.** (a) Notwithstanding Minnesota Rules, part 9549.0060, subparts 5, item A, subitems (1) and (3), and 7, item D, allowable interest expense on debt shall include:

(1) interest expense on debt related to the cost of purchasing or replacing depreciable equipment, excluding vehicles, not to exceed ~~six~~ ten percent of the total historical cost of the project; and

(2) interest expense on debt related to financing or refinancing costs, including costs related to points, loan origination fees, financing charges, legal fees, and title searches; and issuance costs including bond discounts, bond counsel, underwriter's counsel, corporate counsel, printing, and financial forecasts. Allowable debt related to items in this clause shall not exceed seven percent of the total historical cost of the project. To the extent these costs are financed, the straight-line amortization of the costs in this clause is not an allowable cost; and

(3) interest on debt incurred for the establishment of a debt reserve fund, net of the interest earned on the debt reserve fund.

(b) Debt incurred for costs under paragraph (a) is not subject to Minnesota Rules, part 9549.0060, subpart 5, item A, subitem (5) or (6).

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective October 1, 2007.

Sec. 28. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.434, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Alternate rates for nursing facilities.** (a) For nursing facilities which have their payment rates determined under this section rather than section 256B.431, the commissioner shall establish a rate under this subdivision. The nursing facility must enter into a written contract with the commissioner.

(b) A nursing facility's case mix payment rate for the first rate year of a facility's contract under this section is the payment rate the facility would have received under section 256B.431.

(c) A nursing facility's case mix payment rates for the second and subsequent years of a facility's contract under this section are the previous rate year's contract payment rates plus an inflation adjustment and, for facilities reimbursed under this section or section 256B.431, an adjustment to include the cost of any increase in Health Department licensing fees for the facility taking effect on or after July 1, 2001. The index for the inflation adjustment must be based on the change in the Consumer Price Index-All Items (United States City average) (CPI-U) forecasted by the commissioner of finance's national economic consultant, as forecasted in the fourth quarter of the calendar year preceding the rate year. The inflation adjustment must be based on the 12-month period from the midpoint of the previous rate year to the midpoint of the rate year for which the rate is being determined. For the rate years beginning on July 1, 1999, July 1, 2000, July 1, 2001, July 1, 1999, July 1, 2000, July 1, 2001, July 1, 2002, July 1, 2003, July 1, 2004, July 1, 2005, July 1, 2006, July 1, 2007, ~~and~~ July 1, 2008, October 1, 2009, and October 1, 2010, this paragraph shall apply only to the property-related payment rate, except that adjustments to include the cost of any increase in Health Department licensing fees taking effect on or after July 1, 2001, shall be provided. Beginning in 2005, adjustment to the property payment rate under this section and section 256B.431 shall be effective on October 1. In determining the amount of the property-related payment rate adjustment under this paragraph, the commissioner shall determine the proportion of the facility's rates that are property-related based on the facility's most recent cost report.

(d) The commissioner shall develop additional incentive-based payments of up to five percent above a facility's operating payment rate for achieving outcomes specified in a contract. The commissioner may solicit contract amendments and implement those which, on a competitive basis, best meet the state's policy objectives. The commissioner shall limit the amount of any incentive payment and the number of contract amendments under this paragraph to operate the incentive payments within funds appropriated for this purpose. The contract amendments may specify various levels of payment for various levels of performance. Incentive payments to facilities under this paragraph may be in the form of time-limited rate adjustments or onetime supplemental payments. In establishing the specified outcomes and related criteria, the commissioner shall consider the following state policy objectives:

(1) successful diversion or discharge of residents to the residents' prior home or other community-based alternatives;

(2) adoption of new technology to improve quality or efficiency;

(3) improved quality as measured in the Nursing Home Report Card;

(4) reduced acute care costs; and

(5) any additional outcomes proposed by a nursing facility that the commissioner finds desirable.

(e) Notwithstanding the threshold in section 256B.431, subdivision 16, facilities that take action to come into compliance with existing or pending requirements of the life safety code provisions or federal regulations governing sprinkler systems must receive reimbursement for the costs associated with compliance if all of the following conditions are met:

(1) the expenses associated with compliance occurred on or after January 1, 2005, and before December 31, 2008;

(2) the costs were not otherwise reimbursed under subdivision 4f or section 144A.071 or 144A.073; and

(3) the total allowable costs reported under this paragraph are less than the minimum threshold established under section 256B.431, subdivision 15, paragraph (e), and subdivision 16.

The commissioner shall use money appropriated for this purpose to provide to qualifying nursing facilities a rate adjustment beginning October 1, 2007, and ending September 30, 2008. Nursing facilities that have spent money or anticipate the need to spend money to satisfy the most recent life safety code requirements by (1) installing a sprinkler system or (2) replacing all or portions of an existing sprinkler system may submit to the commissioner by June 30, 2007, on a form provided by the commissioner the actual costs of a completed project or the estimated costs, based on a project bid, of a planned project. The commissioner shall calculate a rate adjustment equal to the allowable costs of the project divided by the resident days reported for the report year ending September 30, 2006. If the costs from all projects exceed the appropriation for this purpose, the commissioner shall allocate the money appropriated on a pro rata basis to the qualifying facilities by reducing the rate adjustment determined for each facility by an equal percentage. Facilities that used estimated costs when requesting the rate adjustment shall report to the commissioner by January 31, 2009, on the use of this money on a form provided by the commissioner. If the nursing facility fails to provide the report, the commissioner shall recoup the money paid to the facility for this purpose. If the facility reports expenditures allowable under this subdivision that are less than the amount received in the

facility's annualized rate adjustment, the commissioner shall recoup the difference.

Sec. 29. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.434, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 4j. **Rate increase for facilities in Chisago County.** Effective October 1, 2007, to September 30, 2008, operating payment rates of all nursing facilities in Chisago County that are reimbursed under this section or section 256B.441 shall be increased to be equal, for a RUG's rate with a weight of 1.00, to the geographic group III median rate for the same RUG's weight. The percentage of the operating payment rate for each facility to be case-mix adjusted shall be equal to the percentage that is case-mix adjusted in that facility's September 30, 2007, operating payment rate. This subdivision applies only if it results in a rate increase. Increases provided by this subdivision shall be added to the rate determined under any new reimbursement system established under section 256B.441.

Sec. 30. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.434, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 19. **Nursing facility rate increases beginning October 1, 2007.** (a) For the rate year beginning October 1, 2007, the commissioner shall make available to each nursing facility reimbursed under this section operating payment rate adjustments equal to 2.62 percent of the operating payment rates in effect on September 30, 2007.

(b) Seventy-five percent of the money resulting from the rate adjustment under paragraph (a) must be used for increases in compensation-related costs for employees directly employed by the nursing facility on or after the effective date of the rate adjustment, except:

(1) the administrator;

(2) persons employed in the central office of a corporation that has an ownership interest in the nursing facility or exercises control over the nursing facility; and

(3) persons paid by the nursing facility under a management contract.

(c) Two-thirds of the money available under paragraph (b) must be used for wage increases for all employees directly employed by the nursing facility on or after the effective date of the rate adjustment, except those listed in paragraph (b), clauses (1) to (3). The wage adjustment that employees receive under this paragraph must be paid as an equal hourly percentage wage increase for all eligible employees. All wage increases under this paragraph must be effective on the same date. Only costs associated with the portion of the equal hourly percentage wage increase that goes to all employees shall qualify under this paragraph. Costs associated with wage increases in excess of the amount of the equal hourly percentage wage increase provided to all employees shall be allowed only for meeting the requirements in paragraph (b). This paragraph shall not apply to employees covered by a collective bargaining agreement.

(d) The commissioner shall allow as compensation-related costs all costs for:

(1) wages and salaries;

(2) FICA taxes, Medicare taxes, state and federal unemployment taxes, and workers' compensation;

(3) the employer's share of health and dental insurance, life insurance, disability insurance, long-term care insurance, uniform allowance, and pensions; and



(4) other benefits provided, subject to the approval of the commissioner.

(e) The portion of the rate adjustment under paragraph (a) that is not subject to the requirements in paragraphs (b) and (c) shall be provided to nursing facilities effective October 1, 2007.

(f) Nursing facilities may apply for the portion of the rate adjustment under paragraph (a) that is subject to the requirements in paragraphs (b) and (c). The application must be submitted to the commissioner within six months of the effective date of the rate adjustment, and the nursing facility must provide additional information required by the commissioner within nine months of the effective date of the rate adjustment. The commissioner must respond to all applications within three weeks of receipt. The commissioner may waive the deadlines in this paragraph under extraordinary circumstances, to be determined at the sole discretion of the commissioner. The application must contain:

(1) an estimate of the amounts of money that must be used as specified in paragraphs (b) and (c);

(2) a detailed distribution plan specifying the allowable compensation-related and wage increases the nursing facility will implement to use the funds available in clause (1);

(3) a description of how the nursing facility will notify eligible employees of the contents of the approved application, which must provide for giving each eligible employee a copy of the approved application, excluding the information required in clause (1), or posting a copy of the approved application, excluding the information required in clause (1), for a period of at least six weeks in an area of the nursing facility to which all eligible employees have access; and

(4) instructions for employees who believe they have not received the compensation-related or wage increases specified in clause (2), as approved by the commissioner, and which must include a mailing address, e-mail address, and the telephone number that may be used by the employee to contact the commissioner or the commissioner's representative.

(g) The commissioner shall ensure that cost increases in distribution plans under paragraph (f), clause (2), that may be included in approved applications, comply with the following requirements:

(1) costs to be incurred during the applicable rate year resulting from wage and salary increases effective after October 1, 2006, and prior to the first day of the nursing facility's payroll period that includes October 1, 2007, shall be allowed if they were not used in the prior year's application;

(2) a portion of the costs resulting from tenure-related wage or salary increases may be considered to be allowable wage increases, according to formulas that the commissioner shall provide, where employee retention is above the average statewide rate of retention of direct care employees;

(3) the annualized amount of increases in costs for the employer's share of health and dental insurance, life insurance, disability insurance, and workers' compensation shall be allowable compensation-related increases if they are effective on or after April 1, 2007, and prior to April 1, 2008; and

(4) for nursing facilities in which employees are represented by an exclusive bargaining representative, the commissioner shall approve the application only upon receipt of a letter of acceptance of the distribution plan, in regard to members of the bargaining unit, signed by the exclusive bargaining agent and dated after enactment of this subdivision. Upon receipt of the letter

of acceptance, the commissioner shall deem all requirements of this section as having been met in regard to the members of the bargaining unit.

(h) The commissioner shall review applications received under paragraph (f) and shall provide the portion of the rate adjustment under paragraphs (b) and (c) if the requirements of this subdivision have been met. The rate adjustment shall be effective October 1. Notwithstanding paragraph (a), if the approved application distributes less money than is available, the amount of the rate adjustment shall be reduced so that the amount of money made available is equal to the amount to be distributed.

Sec. 31. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.434, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 20. **Payment of Public Employees Retirement Association costs.** Nursing facilities that participate in the Public Employees Retirement Association (PERA) shall have the component of their payment rate associated with the costs of PERA determined for each rate year. Effective for rate years beginning on and after October 1, 2007, the commissioner shall determine the portion of the payment rate in effect on September 30 each year and shall subtract that amount from the payment rate to be effective on the following October 1. The portion that shall be deemed to be included in the September 30, 2007, rate that is associated with PERA costs shall be the allowed costs in the facility's base for determining rates under this section, divided by the resident days reported for that year. The commissioner shall add to the payment rate to be effective on October 1 each year an amount equal to the reported costs associated with PERA, for the year ended on the most recent September 30 for which data is available, divided by total resident days for that year, as reported by the facility and audited under section 256B.441.

Sec. 32. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.437, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 10. **Big Stone County rate adjustment.** Notwithstanding the requirements of this section, the commissioner shall approve a planned closure rate adjustment in Big Stone County for an eight-bed facility in Clinton for reassignment to a 50-bed facility in Graceville. The adjustment shall be calculated according to subdivisions 3 and 6.

Sec. 33. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.441, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. ~~Rate determination~~ **Rebasing of nursing facility operating cost payment rates.** (a) ~~The commissioner shall establish a value-based nursing facility reimbursement system which will provide facility-specific, prospective rates for nursing facilities participating in the medical assistance program. The rates shall be determined using an annual statistical and cost report filed by each nursing facility. The total payment rate shall be composed of four rate components: direct care services, support services, external fixed, and property-related rate components. The payment rate shall be derived from statistical measures of actual costs incurred in facility operation of nursing facilities. From this cost basis, the components of the total payment rate shall be adjusted for quality of services provided, recognition of staffing levels, geographic variation in labor costs, and resident acuity. The commissioner shall rebase nursing facility operating cost payment rates to align payments to facilities with the cost of providing care. The rebased operating cost payment rates shall be calculated using the statistical and cost report filed by each nursing facility for the report period ending one year prior to the rate year.~~

(b) ~~Rates shall be rebased annually.~~ The new operating cost payment rates based on this section shall take effect beginning with the rate year beginning October 1, 2008, and shall be phased in over five rate years through October 1, 2012.

(c) Operating cost payment rates shall be rebased on October 1, 2013, and every two years after that date.

(d) Each cost reporting year shall begin on October 1 and end on the following September 30. Beginning in 2006, a statistical and cost report shall be filed by each nursing facility by January 15. Notice of rates shall be distributed by August 15 and the rates shall go into effect on October 1 for one year.

~~(e) The commissioner shall begin to phase in the new reimbursement system beginning October 1, 2007. Full phase in shall be completed by October 1, 2011.~~

(e) Effective October 1, 2011, property rates shall be rebased in accordance with section 256B.431 and Minnesota Rules, chapter 9549. The commissioner shall determine what the property payment rate for a nursing facility would be had the facility not had its property rate determined under section 256B.434. The commissioner shall allow nursing facilities to provide information affecting this rate determination that would have been filed annually under Minnesota Rules, chapter 9549, and nursing facilities shall report information necessary to determine allowable debt. The commissioner shall use this information to determine the property payment rate.

Sec. 34. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.441, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Definitions.** For purposes of this section, the terms in subdivisions 3 to ~~42~~ 42a have the meanings given unless otherwise provided for in this section.

Sec. 35. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.441, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **Administrative costs.** "Administrative costs" means the direct costs for administering the overall activities of the nursing home. These costs include salaries and wages of the administrator, assistant administrator, business office employees, security guards, and associated fringe benefits and payroll taxes, fees, contracts, or purchases related to business office functions, licenses, and permits except as provided in the external fixed costs category, employee recognition, travel including meals and lodging, training, voice and data communication or transmission, office supplies, liability insurance and other forms of insurance not designated to other areas, personnel recruitment, legal services, accounting services, management or business consultants, data processing, information technology, Web site, central or home office costs, business meetings and seminars, postage, fees for professional organizations, subscriptions, security services, advertising, board of director's fees, working capital interest expense, and bad debts and bad debt collection fees.

Sec. 36. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.441, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

Subd. 6. **Allowed costs.** "Allowed costs" means the amounts reported by the facility which are necessary for the operation of the facility and the care of residents and which are reviewed by the department for accuracy, ~~;~~ reasonableness, in accordance with the requirements set forth in Title XVIII of the federal Social Security Act and the interpretations in the provider reimbursement manual; and compliance with this section and generally accepted accounting principles. All references to costs in this section shall be assumed to refer to allowed costs.

Sec. 37. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.441, subdivision 10, is amended to read:

Subd. 10. **Dietary costs.** "Dietary costs" means the costs for the salaries and wages of the dietary

supervisor, dietitians, chefs, cooks, dishwashers, and other employees assigned to the kitchen and dining room, and associated fringe benefits and payroll taxes. Dietary costs also includes the salaries or fees of dietary consultants, ~~direct costs of raw food (both normal and special diet food),~~ dietary supplies, and food preparation and serving. ~~Also included are special dietary supplements used for tube feeding or oral feeding, such as elemental high nitrogen diet, even if written as a prescription item by a physician.~~

Sec. 38. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.441, subdivision 11, is amended to read:

Subd. 11. **Direct care costs category.** ~~"Direct care costs category"~~ "Direct care costs" means costs for ~~nursing services, activities, and social services~~ the wages of nursing administration, staff education, direct care registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, certified nursing assistants, trained medication aides, and associated fringe benefits and payroll taxes; services from a supplemental nursing services agency; supplies that are stocked at nursing stations or on the floor and distributed or used individually, including, but not limited to: alcohol, applicators, cotton balls, incontinence pads, disposable ice bags, dressings, bandages, water pitchers, tongue depressors, disposable gloves, enemas, enema equipment, soap, medication cups, diapers, plastic waste bags, sanitary products, thermometers, hypodermic needles and syringes, clinical reagents or similar diagnostic agents, drugs that are not paid on a separate fee schedule by the medical assistance program or any other payer, and technology related to the provision of nursing care to residents, such as electronic charting systems.

Sec. 39. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.441, subdivision 13, is amended to read:

Subd. 13. **External fixed costs category.** ~~"External fixed costs category"~~ "External fixed costs" means costs related to the nursing home surcharge under section 256.9657, subdivision 1; licensure fees under section 144.122; long-term care consultation fees under section 256B.0911, subdivision 6; family advisory council fee under section 144A.33; scholarships under section 256B.431, subdivision 36; planned closure rate adjustments under section 256B.436 or 256B.437; or single bed room incentives under section 256B.431, subdivision 42; property taxes and property insurance; and PERA.

Sec. 40. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.441, subdivision 14, is amended to read:

Subd. 14. **Facility average case mix index.** "Facility average case mix index" or "CMI" means a numerical value score that describes the relative resource use for all residents within the groups under the resource utilization group (RUG-III) classification system prescribed by the commissioner based on an assessment of each resident. The facility average CMI shall be computed as the standardized days divided by total days for all residents in the facility. The RUG's weights used in this section shall be as follows for each RUG's class: SE3 1.605; SE2 1.247; SE1 1.081; RAD 1.509; RAC 1.259; RAB 1.109; RAA 0.957; SSC 1.453; SSB 1.224; SSA 1.047; CC2 1.292; CC1 1.200; CB2 1.086; CB1 1.017; CA2 0.908; CA1 0.834; IB2 0.877; IB1 0.817; IA2 0.720; IA1 0.676; BB2 0.956; BB1 0.885; BA2 0.716; BA1 0.673; PE2 1.199; PE1 1.104; PD2 1.023; PD1 0.948; PC2 0.926; PC1 0.860; PB2 0.786; PB1 0.734; PA2 0.691; PA1 0.651; BC1 0.651; and DDF 1.000.

Sec. 41. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.441, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 14a. **Facility type groups.** Facilities shall be classified into two groups, called "facility type groups," which shall consist of:

(1) C&NC/R80: facilities that are hospital-attached, or are licensed under Minnesota Rules, parts 9570.2000 to 9570.3400; and

(2) freestanding: all other facilities.

Sec. 42. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.441, subdivision 17, is amended to read:

Subd. 17. **Fringe benefit costs.** "Fringe benefit costs" means the costs for group life, health, dental, workers' compensation, and other employee insurances and pension, profit-sharing, and retirement plans for which the employer pays all or a portion of the costs ~~and that are available to at least all employees who work at least 20 hours per week.~~

Sec. 43. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.441, subdivision 20, is amended to read:

Subd. 20. **Housekeeping costs.** "Housekeeping costs" means the costs for the salaries and wages of the housekeeping supervisor, housekeepers, and other cleaning employees and associated fringe benefits and payroll taxes. It also includes the cost of housekeeping supplies, including, but not limited to, cleaning and lavatory supplies and contract services.

Sec. 44. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.441, subdivision 24, is amended to read:

Subd. 24. **Maintenance and plant operations costs.** "Maintenance and plant operations costs" means the costs for the salaries and wages of the maintenance supervisor, engineers, heating-plant employees, and other maintenance employees and associated fringe benefits and payroll taxes. It also includes direct costs for maintenance and operation of the building and grounds, including, but not limited to, fuel, electricity, medical waste and garbage removal, water, sewer, supplies, tools, and repairs.

Sec. 45. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.441, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 28a. **Other direct care costs.** "Other direct care costs" means the costs for the salaries and wages and associated fringe benefits and payroll taxes of mental health workers, religious personnel, and other direct care employees not specified in the definition of direct care costs.

Sec. 46. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.441, subdivision 30, is amended to read:

Subd. 30. **Peer groups.** Facilities shall be classified into three groups, ~~called "peer groups," which by county.~~ The groups shall consist of:

~~(1) C&NC/Short Stay/R80—facilities that have three or more admissions per bed per year, are hospital-attached, or are licensed under Minnesota Rules, parts 9570.2000 to 9570.3600~~ group one: facilities in Anoka, Benton, Carlton, Carver, Chisago, Dakota, Dodge, Goodhue, Hennepin, Isanti, Mille Lacs, Morrison, Olmsted, Ramsey, Rice, Scott, Sherburne, St. Louis, Stearns, Steele, Wabasha, Washington, Winona, or Wright County;

~~(2) boarding care homes—facilities that have more than 50 percent of their beds licensed as boarding care homes~~ group two: facilities in Aitkin, Beltrami, Blue Earth, Brown, Cass, Clay, Cook, Crow Wing, Faribault, Fillmore, Freeborn, Houston, Hubbard, Itasca, Kanabec, Koochiching, Lake, Lake of the Woods, Le Sueur, Martin, McLeod, Meeker, Mower, Nicollet, Norman, Pine, Roseau, Sibley, Todd, Wadena, Waseca, Watonwan, or Wilkin County; and

~~(3) standard—all other facilities~~ group three: facilities in all other counties.

Sec. 47. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.441, subdivision 31, is amended to read:

Subd. 31. ~~Prior rate-setting method system operating cost payment rate.~~ "Prior rate-setting method" "Prior system operating cost payment rate" means the operating cost payment rate determination process in effect prior to October 1, 2006 on September 30, 2008, under Minnesota Rules and Minnesota Statutes, not including planned closure rate adjustments under section 256B.436 or 256B.437, or single bed room incentives under section 256B.431, subdivision 42.

Sec. 48. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.441, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 33a. **Raw food costs.** "Raw food costs" means the cost of food provided to nursing facility residents. Also included are special dietary supplements used for tube feeding or oral feeding, such as elemental high nitrogen diet.

Sec. 49. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.441, subdivision 34, is amended to read:

Subd. 34. **Related organization.** "Related organization" means a person that furnishes goods or services to a nursing facility and that is a close relative of a nursing facility, an affiliate of a nursing facility, a close relative of an affiliate of a nursing facility, or an affiliate of a close relative of an affiliate of a nursing facility. As used in this subdivision, paragraphs (a) to (d) apply:

(a) "Affiliate" means a person that directly, or indirectly through one or more intermediaries, controls or is controlled by, or is under common control with another person.

(b) "Person" means an individual, a corporation, a partnership, an association, a trust, an unincorporated organization, or a government or political subdivision.

(c) "Close relative of an affiliate of a nursing facility" means an individual whose relationship by blood, marriage, or adoption to an individual who is an affiliate of a nursing facility is no more remote than first cousin.

(d) "Control" including the terms "controlling," "controlled by," and "under common control with" means the possession, direct or indirect, of the power to direct or cause the direction of the management, operations, or policies of a person, whether through the ownership of voting securities, by contract, or otherwise, ~~or to influence in any manner other than through an arms length, legal transaction.~~

Sec. 50. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.441, subdivision 38, is amended to read:

Subd. 38. **Social services costs.** "Social services costs" means the costs for the salaries and wages of the supervisor and other social work employees, associated fringe benefits and payroll taxes, supplies, services, and consultants. This category includes the cost of those employees who manage and process admission to the nursing facility.

Sec. 51. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.441, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 42a. **Therapy costs.** "Therapy costs" means any costs related to medical assistance therapy services provided to residents that are not billed separately from the daily operating rate.

Sec. 52. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.441, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 46a. **Calculation of quality add-on for the rate year beginning October 1, 2007.** (a)

The payment rate for the rate year beginning October 1, 2007, for the quality add-on, is a variable amount based on each facility's quality score. For the rate year, the maximum quality add-on is .3 percent of the operating payment rate in effect on September 30, 2007. The commissioner shall determine the quality add-on for each facility according to paragraphs (b) to (d).

(b) For each facility, the commissioner shall determine the operating payment rate in effect on September 30, 2007.

(c) For each facility, the commissioner shall determine a ratio of the quality score of the facility determined in subdivision 44, subtract 40, and then divide by 60. If this value is less than zero, the commissioner shall use the value zero.

(d) For each facility, the quality add-on is the value determined in paragraph (b), multiplied by the value determined in paragraph (c), multiplied by .3 percent.

Sec. 53. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.441, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 48. **Calculation of operating per diems.** The direct care per diem for each facility shall be the facility's direct care costs divided by its standardized days. The other care-related per diem shall be the sum of the facility's activities costs, other direct care costs, raw food costs, therapy costs, and social services costs, divided by the facility's resident days. The other operating per diem shall be the sum of the facility's administrative costs, dietary costs, housekeeping costs, laundry costs, and maintenance and plant operations costs divided by the facility's resident days.

Sec. 54. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.441, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 49. **Determination of total care-related per diem.** The total care-related per diem for each facility shall be the sum of the direct care per diem and the other care-related per diem.

Sec. 55. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.441, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 50. **Determination of total care-related limit.** (a) The limit on the total care-related per diem shall be determined for each peer group and facility type group combination. A facility's total care-related per diems shall be limited to 120 percent of the median for the facility's peer and facility type group. The facility-specific direct care costs used in making this comparison and in the calculation of the median shall be based on a RUG's weight of 1.00. A facility that is above that limit shall have its total care-related per diem reduced to the limit. If a reduction of the total care-related per diem is necessary because of this limit, the reduction shall be made proportionally to both the direct care per diem and the other care-related per diem.

(b) Beginning with rates determined for October 1, 2013, the total care-related limit shall be a variable amount based on each facility's quality score, as determined under section 256B.441, subdivision 44, in accordance with clauses (1) to (4):

(1) for each facility, the commissioner shall determine the quality score, subtract 40, divide by 40, and convert to a percentage;

(2) if the value determined in clause (1) is less than zero, the total care-related limit shall be 105 percent of the median for the facility's peer and facility type group;

(3) if the value determined in clause (1) is greater than 100 percent, the total care-related limit shall be 125 percent of the median for the facility's peer and facility type group; and

(4) if the value determined in clause (1) is greater than zero and less than 100 percent, the total care-related limit shall be 105 percent of the median for the facility's peer and facility type group plus one-fifth of the percentage determined in clause (1).

Sec. 56. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.441, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 50a. **Determination of proximity adjustments.** For a nursing facility located in close proximity to another nursing facility of the same facility group type but in a different peer group and that has higher limits for care-related or other operating costs, the commissioner shall adjust the limits in accordance with clauses (1) to (4):

(1) determine the difference between the limits;

(2) determine the distance between the two facilities, by the shortest driving route. If the distance exceeds 20 miles, no adjustment shall be made;

(3) subtract the value in clause (2) from 20 miles, divide by 20, and convert to a percentage; and

(4) increase the limits for the nursing facility with the lower limits by the value determined in clause (1) multiplied by the value determined in clause (3).

Sec. 57. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.441, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 51. **Determination of other operating limit.** The limit on the other operating per diem shall be determined for each peer group. A facility's other operating per diem shall be limited to 105 percent of the median for its peer group. A facility that is above that limit shall have its other operating per diem reduced to the limit.

Sec. 58. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.441, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 51a. **Exception allowing contracting for specialized care.** (a) For rate years beginning on or after October 1, 2013, the commissioner may negotiate increases to the care-related limit for nursing facilities that provide specialized care, at a cost to the general fund not to exceed \$600,000 per year. The commissioner shall publish a request for proposals annually, and may negotiate increases to the limits that shall apply for either one or two years before the increase shall be subject to a new proposal and negotiation. The care-related limit may be increased by up to 50 percent.

(b) In selecting facilities with which to negotiate, the commissioner shall consider:

(1) the diagnoses or other circumstances of residents in the specialized program that require care that costs substantially more than the RUG's rates associated with those residents;

(2) the nature of the specialized program or programs offered to meet the needs of these individuals; and

(3) outcomes achieved by the specialized program.

Sec. 59. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.441, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 52. **Determination of efficiency incentive.** Each facility shall be eligible for an efficiency incentive based on its other operating per diem. A facility with an other operating per diem that exceeds the limit in subdivision 51 shall receive no efficiency incentive. All other facilities shall receive an incentive calculated as 50 percent times the difference between the facility's other



operating per diem and its other operating per diem limit, up to a maximum incentive of \$3.

Sec. 60. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.441, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 53. **Calculation of payment rate for external fixed costs.** The commissioner shall calculate a payment rate for external fixed costs.

(a) For a facility licensed as a nursing home, the portion related to section 256.9657 shall be equal to \$8.86. For a facility licensed as both a nursing home and a boarding care home, the portion related to section 256.9657 shall be equal to \$8.86 multiplied by the result of its number of nursing home beds divided by its total number of licensed beds.

(b) The portion related to the licensure fee under section 144.122, paragraph (d), shall be the amount of the fee divided by actual resident days.

(c) The portion related to scholarships shall be determined under section 256B.431, subdivision 36.

(d) The portion related to long-term care consultation shall be determined according to section 256B.0911, subdivision 6.

(e) The portion related to development and education of resident and family advisory councils under section 144A.33 shall be \$5 divided by 365.

(f) The portion related to planned closure rate adjustments shall be as determined under sections 256B.436 and 256B.437, subdivision 6. Planned closure rate adjustments that take effect before October 1, 2011, shall no longer be included in the payment rate for external fixed costs beginning October 1, 2013. Planned closure rate adjustments that take effect on or after October 1, 2011, shall no longer be included in the payment rate for external fixed costs beginning on October 1 of the first year not less than two years after their effective date.

(g) The portions related to property insurance, real estate taxes, special assessments, and payments made in lieu of real estate taxes directly identified or allocated to the nursing facility shall be the actual amounts divided by actual resident days.

(h) The portion related to the Public Employees Retirement Association shall be actual costs divided by resident days.

(i) The single bed room incentives shall be as determined under section 256B.431, subdivision 42. Single bed room incentives that take effect before October 1, 2011, shall no longer be included in the payment rate for external fixed costs beginning October 1, 2013. Single bed room incentives that take effect on or after October 1, 2011, shall no longer be included in the payment rate for external fixed costs beginning on October 1 of the first year not less than two years after their effective date.

(j) The payment rate for external fixed costs shall be the sum of the amounts in paragraphs (a) to (i).

Sec. 61. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.441, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 54. **Determination of total payment rates.** In rate years when rates are rebased, the total payment rate for a RUG's weight of 1.00 shall be the sum of the total care-related payment rate, other operating payment rate, efficiency incentive, external fixed cost rate, and the property

rate determined under section 256B.434. To determine a total payment rate for each RUG's level, the total care-related payment rate shall be divided into the direct care payment rate and the other care-related payment rate, and the direct care payment rate multiplied by the RUG's weight for each RUG's level using the weights in subdivision 14.

Sec. 62. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.441, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

**Subd. 55. Phase-in of rebased operating cost payment rates.** (a) For the rate years beginning October 1, 2008, to October 1, 2012, the operating cost payment rate calculated under this section shall be phased in by blending the operating cost rate with the operating cost payment rate determined under section 256B.434. For the rate year beginning October 1, 2008, the operating cost payment rate for each facility shall be 24.9 percent of the operating cost payment rate from this section, and 75.1 percent of the operating cost payment rate from section 256B.434. For the rate year beginning October 1, 2009, the operating cost payment rate for each facility shall be 57.6 percent of the operating cost payment rate from this section, and 42.4 percent of the operating cost payment rate from section 256B.434. For the rate year beginning October 1, 2010, the operating cost payment rate for each facility shall be 92.1 percent of the operating cost payment rate from this section, and 7.9 percent of the operating cost payment rate from section 256B.434. For the rate year beginning October 1, 2011, the operating cost payment rate for each facility shall be 96 percent of the operating cost payment rate from this section, and 4 percent of the operating cost payment rate from section 256B.434. For the rate year beginning October 1, 2012, the operating cost payment rate for each facility shall be the operating cost payment rate determined under this section. The blending of operating cost payment rates under this section shall be performed separately for each RUG's class.

(b) A portion of the funds received under this subdivision that are in excess of operating cost payment rates that a facility would have received under section 256B.434, as determined in accordance with clauses (1) to (3), shall be subject to the requirements in section 256B.434, subdivision 19, paragraphs (b) to (h).

(1) Determine the amount of additional funding available to a facility, which shall be equal to total medical assistance resident days from the most recent reporting year times the difference between the blended rate determined in paragraph (a) for the rate year being computed and the blended rate for the prior year.

(2) Determine the portion of all operating costs, for the most recent reporting year, that are compensation related. If this value exceeds 75 percent, use 75 percent.

(3) Subtract the amount determined in clause (2) from 75 percent.

(4) The portion of the fund received under this subdivision that shall be subject to the requirements in section 256B.434, subdivision 19, paragraphs (b) to (h), shall equal the amount determined in clause (1) times the amount determined in clause (3).

Sec. 63. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.441, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

**Subd. 56. Hold harmless.** For the rate years beginning October 1, 2008, to October 1, 2012, no nursing facility shall receive an operating cost payment rate less than its operating cost payment rate under section 256B.434. The comparison of operating cost payment rates under this section shall be made for a RUG's rate with a weight of 1.00.

Sec. 64. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.441, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 57. **Appeals.** Nursing facilities may appeal, as described under section 256B.50, the determination of a payment rate established under this chapter.

Sec. 65. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.441, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 58. **Implementation delay.** Within six months prior to the effective date of (1) rebasing of property payment rates under subdivision 1; (2) quality-based rate limits under subdivision 50; and (3) the removal of planned closure rate adjustments and single bed room incentives from external fixed costs under subdivision 53, the commissioner shall compare the average operating cost for all facilities combined from the most recent cost reports to the average medical assistance operating payment rates for all facilities combined from the same time period. Each provision shall not go into effect until the average medical assistance operating payment rate is at least 92 percent of the average operating cost.

Sec. 66. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.49, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 16a. **Medical assistance reimbursement.** (a) The commissioner shall seek federal approval for medical assistance reimbursement of independent living skills services, foster care waiver service, supported employment, prevocational service, structured day service, and adult day care under the home and community-based waiver for persons with a traumatic brain injury, the community alternatives for disabled individuals waivers, and the community alternative care waivers.

(b) Medical reimbursement shall be made only when the provider demonstrates evidence of its capacity to meet basic health, safety, and protection standards through one of the methods in paragraphs (c) to (e).

(c) The provider is licensed to provide services under chapter 245B and agrees to apply these standards to services funded through the traumatic brain injury, community alternatives for disabled, or community alternative care home and community-based waivers.

(d) The local agency contracting for the services certifies on a form provided by the commissioner that the provider has the capacity to meet the individual needs as identified in each person's individual service plan. When certifying that the service provider meets the necessary provider qualifications, the local agency shall verify that the provider has policies and procedures governing the following:

- (1) protection of the consumer's rights and privacy;
- (2) risk assessment and planning;
- (3) record keeping and reporting of incidents and emergencies with documentation of corrective action if needed;
- (4) service outcomes, regular reviews of progress, and periodic reports;
- (5) complaint and grievance procedures;
- (6) service termination or suspension;

(7) necessary training and supervision of direct care staff that includes:

(i) documentation in personnel files of 20 hours of orientation training in providing training related to service provision;

(ii) training in recognizing the symptoms and effects of certain disabilities, health conditions, and positive behavioral supports and interventions; and

(iii) a minimum of five hours of related training annually; and

(iv) when applicable:

(A) safe medication administration;

(B) proper handling of consumer funds; and

(C) compliance with prohibitions and standards developed by the commissioner to satisfy federal requirements regarding the use of restraints and restrictive interventions. The local agency shall review at least annually each service provider's continued compliance with the standards governing basic health, safety, and protection of rights.

(h) The commissioner shall seek federal approval for Medicaid reimbursement of foster care services under the home and community-based waiver for persons with a traumatic brain injury, the community alternatives for disabled individuals waiver, and community alternative care waiver when the provider demonstrates evidence of its capacity to meet basic health, safety, and protection standards. The local agency shall verify that the provider is licensed under Minnesota Rules, parts 9555.5105 to 9555.6265, and certify that the provider has policies and procedures that govern:

(1) compliance with prohibitions and standards developed by the commissioner to meet federal requirements regarding the use of restraints and restrictive interventions; and

(2) documentation of service needs and outcomes, regular reviews of progress, and periodic reports.

The local agency shall review at least annually each service provider's continued compliance with the standards governing basic health, safety, and protection of rights standards.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 67. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.5012, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

**Subd. 7. ICF/MR rate increases effective October 1, 2007, and October 1, 2008.** (a) For the rate year beginning October 1, 2007, the commissioner shall make available to each facility reimbursed under this section operating payment rate adjustments equal to 2.75 percent of the operating payment rates in effect on September 30, 2007. For the rate year beginning October 1, 2008, the commissioner shall make available to each facility reimbursed under this section operating payment rate adjustments equal to 3.0 percent of the operating payment rates in effect on September 30, 2008. For each facility, the commissioner shall make available an adjustment, based on occupied beds, using the percentage specified in this paragraph multiplied by the total payment rate, including the variable rate but excluding the property-related payment rate, in effect on the preceding day. The total payment rate shall include the adjustment provided in section

256B.501, subdivision 12. A facility whose payment rates are governed by closure agreements, receivership agreements, or Minnesota Rules, part 9553.0075, is not eligible for an adjustment otherwise granted under this subdivision.

(b) Seventy-five percent of the money resulting from the rate adjustments under paragraph (a) must be used for increases in compensation-related costs for employees directly employed by the facility on or after the effective date of the rate adjustments, except:

(1) the administrator;

(2) persons employed in the central office of a corporation that has an ownership interest in the facility or exercises control over the facility; and

(3) persons paid by the facility under a management contract.

(c) Two-thirds of the money available under paragraph (b) must be used for wage increases for all employees directly employed by the facility on or after the effective date of the rate adjustments, except those listed in paragraph (b), clauses (1) to (3). The wage adjustment that employees receive under this paragraph must be paid as an equal hourly percentage wage increase for all eligible employees. All wage increases under this paragraph must be effective on the same date. Only costs associated with the portion of the equal hourly percentage wage increase that goes to all employees shall qualify under this paragraph. Costs associated with wage increases in excess of the amount of the equal hourly percentage wage increase provided to all employees shall be allowed only for meeting the requirements in paragraph (b). This paragraph shall not apply to employees covered by a collective bargaining agreement.

(d) The commissioner shall allow as compensation-related costs all costs for:

(1) wages and salaries;

(2) FICA taxes, Medicare taxes, state and federal unemployment taxes, and workers' compensation;

(3) the employer's share of health and dental insurance, life insurance, disability insurance, long-term care insurance, uniform allowance, and pensions; and

(4) other benefits provided, subject to the approval of the commissioner.

(e) The portion of the rate adjustments under paragraph (a) that is not subject to the requirements in paragraphs (b) and (c) shall be provided to facilities effective October 1 of each year.

(f) Facilities may apply for the portion of the rate adjustments under paragraph (a) that is subject to the requirements in paragraphs (b) and (c). The application must be submitted to the commissioner within six months of the effective date of the rate adjustments, and the facility must provide additional information required by the commissioner within nine months of the effective date of the rate adjustments. The commissioner must respond to all applications within three weeks of receipt. The commissioner may waive the deadlines in this paragraph under extraordinary circumstances, to be determined at the sole discretion of the commissioner. The application must contain:

(1) an estimate of the amounts of money that must be used as specified in paragraphs (b) and (c);

(2) a detailed distribution plan specifying the allowable compensation-related and wage increases the facility will implement to use the funds available in clause (1);

(3) a description of how the facility will notify eligible employees of the contents of the approved application, which must provide for giving each eligible employee a copy of the approved application, excluding the information required in clause (1), or posting a copy of the approved application, excluding the information required in clause (1), for a period of at least six weeks in an area of the facility to which all eligible employees have access; and

(4) instructions for employees who believe they have not received the compensation-related or wage increases specified in clause (2), as approved by the commissioner, and which must include a mailing address, e-mail address, and the telephone number that may be used by the employee to contact the commissioner or the commissioner's representative.

(g) The commissioner shall ensure that cost increases in distribution plans under paragraph (f), clause (2), that may be included in approved applications, comply with requirements in clauses (1) to (4):

(1) costs to be incurred during the applicable rate year resulting from wage and salary increases effective after October 1, 2006, and prior to the first day of the facility's payroll period that includes October 1 of each year shall be allowed if they were not used in the prior year's application and they meet the requirements of paragraphs (b) and (c);

(2) a portion of the costs resulting from tenure-related wage or salary increases may be considered to be allowable wage increases, according to formulas that the commissioner shall provide, where employee retention is above the average statewide rate of retention of direct care employees;

(3) the annualized amount of increases in costs for the employer's share of health and dental insurance, life insurance, disability insurance, and workers' compensation shall be allowable compensation-related increases if they are effective on or after April 1 of the year in which the rate adjustments are effective and prior to April 1 of the following year; and

(4) for facilities in which employees are represented by an exclusive bargaining representative, the commissioner shall approve the application only upon receipt of a letter of acceptance of the distribution plan, as regards members of the bargaining unit, signed by the exclusive bargaining agent and dated after enactment of this subdivision. Upon receipt of the letter of acceptance, the commissioner shall deem all requirements of this section as having been met in regard to the members of the bargaining unit.

(h) The commissioner shall review applications received under paragraph (f) and shall provide the portion of the rate adjustments under paragraphs (b) and (c) if the requirements of this subdivision have been met. The rate adjustments shall be effective October 1 of each year. Notwithstanding paragraph (a), if the approved application distributes less money than is available, the amount of the rate adjustment shall be reduced so that the amount of money made available is equal to the amount to be distributed.

Sec. 68. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.69, subdivision 23, is amended to read:

Subd. 23. **Alternative services; elderly and disabled persons.** (a) The commissioner may implement demonstration projects to create alternative integrated delivery systems for acute and

long-term care services to elderly persons and persons with disabilities as defined in section 256B.77, subdivision 7a, that provide increased coordination, improve access to quality services, and mitigate future cost increases. The commissioner may seek federal authority to combine Medicare and Medicaid capitation payments for the purpose of such demonstrations and may contract with Medicare-approved special needs plans to provide Medicaid services. Medicare funds and services shall be administered according to the terms and conditions of the federal contract and demonstration provisions. For the purpose of administering medical assistance funds, demonstrations under this subdivision are subject to subdivisions 1 to 22. The provisions of Minnesota Rules, parts 9500.1450 to 9500.1464, apply to these demonstrations, with the exceptions of parts 9500.1452, subpart 2, item B; and 9500.1457, subpart 1, items B and C, which do not apply to persons enrolling in demonstrations under this section. An initial open enrollment period may be provided. Persons who disenroll from demonstrations under this subdivision remain subject to Minnesota Rules, parts 9500.1450 to 9500.1464. When a person is enrolled in a health plan under these demonstrations and the health plan's participation is subsequently terminated for any reason, the person shall be provided an opportunity to select a new health plan and shall have the right to change health plans within the first 60 days of enrollment in the second health plan. Persons required to participate in health plans under this section who fail to make a choice of health plan shall not be randomly assigned to health plans under these demonstrations. Notwithstanding section 256L.12, subdivision 5, and Minnesota Rules, part 9505.5220, subpart 1, item A, if adopted, for the purpose of demonstrations under this subdivision, the commissioner may contract with managed care organizations, including counties, to serve only elderly persons eligible for medical assistance, elderly and disabled persons, or disabled persons only. For persons with a primary diagnosis of developmental disability, serious and persistent mental illness, or serious emotional disturbance, the commissioner must ensure that the county authority has approved the demonstration and contracting design. Enrollment in these projects for persons with disabilities shall be voluntary. The commissioner shall not implement any demonstration project under this subdivision for persons with a primary diagnosis of developmental disabilities, serious and persistent mental illness, or serious emotional disturbance, without approval of the county board of the county in which the demonstration is being implemented.

(b) Notwithstanding chapter 245B, sections 252.40 to 252.46, 256B.092, 256B.501 to 256B.5015, and Minnesota Rules, parts 9525.0004 to 9525.0036, 9525.1200 to 9525.1330, 9525.1580, and 9525.1800 to 9525.1930, the commissioner may implement under this section projects for persons with developmental disabilities. The commissioner may capitate payments for ICF/MR services, waived services for developmental disabilities, including case management services, day training and habilitation and alternative active treatment services, and other services as approved by the state and by the federal government. Case management and active treatment must be individualized and developed in accordance with a person-centered plan. Costs under these projects may not exceed costs that would have been incurred under fee-for-service. Beginning July 1, 2003, and until ~~two~~ four years after the pilot project implementation date, subcontractor participation in the long-term care developmental disability pilot is limited to a nonprofit long-term care system providing ICF/MR services, home and community-based waiver services, and in-home services to no more than 120 consumers with developmental disabilities in Carver, Hennepin, and Scott Counties. The commissioner shall report to the legislature prior to expansion of the developmental disability pilot project. This paragraph expires ~~two~~ four years after the implementation date of the pilot project.

(c) Before implementation of a demonstration project for disabled persons, the commissioner

must provide information to appropriate committees of the house of representatives and senate and must involve representatives of affected disability groups in the design of the demonstration projects.

(d) A nursing facility reimbursed under the alternative reimbursement methodology in section 256B.434 may, in collaboration with a hospital, clinic, or other health care entity provide services under paragraph (a). The commissioner shall amend the state plan and seek any federal waivers necessary to implement this paragraph.

(e) The commissioner, in consultation with the commissioners of commerce and health, may approve and implement programs for all-inclusive care for the elderly (PACE) according to federal laws and regulations governing that program and state laws or rules applicable to participating providers. The process for approval of these programs shall begin only after the commissioner receives grant money in an amount sufficient to cover the state share of the administrative and actuarial costs to implement the programs during state fiscal years 2006 and 2007. Grant amounts for this purpose shall be deposited in an account in the special revenue fund and are appropriated to the commissioner to be used solely for the purpose of PACE administrative and actuarial costs. A PACE provider is not required to be licensed or certified as a health plan company as defined in section 62Q.01, subdivision 4. Persons age 55 and older who have been screened by the county and found to be eligible for services under the elderly waiver or community alternatives for disabled individuals or who are already eligible for Medicaid but meet level of care criteria for receipt of waiver services may choose to enroll in the PACE program. Medicare and Medicaid services will be provided according to this subdivision and federal Medicare and Medicaid requirements governing PACE providers and programs. PACE enrollees will receive Medicaid home and community-based services through the PACE provider as an alternative to services for which they would otherwise be eligible through home and community-based waiver programs and Medicaid State Plan Services. The commissioner shall establish Medicaid rates for PACE providers that do not exceed costs that would have been incurred under fee-for-service or other relevant managed care programs operated by the state.

(f) The commissioner shall seek federal approval to expand the Minnesota disability health options (MnDHO) program established under this subdivision in stages, first to regional population centers outside the seven-county metro area and then to all areas of the state. ~~Until January 1, 2008~~ July 1, 2009, expansion for MnDHO projects that include home and community-based services is limited to the two projects and service areas in effect on March 1, 2006. Enrollment in integrated MnDHO programs that include home and community-based services shall remain voluntary. Costs for home and community-based services included under MnDHO must not exceed costs that would have been incurred under the fee-for-service program. In developing program specifications for expansion of integrated programs, the commissioner shall involve and consult the state-level stakeholder group established in subdivision 28, paragraph (d), including consultation on whether and how to include home and community-based waiver programs. Plans for further expansion of MnDHO projects shall be presented to the chairs of the house and senate committees with jurisdiction over health and human services policy and finance by February 1, 2007.

(g) Notwithstanding section 256B.0261, health plans providing services under this section are responsible for home care targeted case management and relocation targeted case management. Services must be provided according to the terms of the waivers and contracts approved by the federal government.

**Sec. 69. [256C.261] SERVICES FOR DEAF-BLIND PERSONS.**



(a) The commissioner of human services shall combine the existing biennial base level funding for deaf-blind services into a single grant program. At least 35 percent of the total funding is awarded for services and other supports to deaf-blind children and their families and at least 25 percent is awarded for services and other supports to deaf-blind adults.

The commissioner shall award grants for the purposes of:

(1) providing services and supports to individuals who are deaf-blind; and

(2) developing and providing training to counties and the network of senior citizen service providers. The purpose of the training grants is to teach counties how to use existing programs that capture federal financial participation to meet the needs of eligible deaf-blind persons and to build capacity of senior service programs to meet the needs of seniors with a dual sensory hearing and vision loss.

(b) The commissioner may make grants:

(1) for services and training provided by organizations; and

(2) to develop and administer consumer-directed services.

(c) Any entity that is able to satisfy the grant criteria is eligible to receive a grant under paragraph (a).

(d) Deaf-blind service providers may, but are not required to, provide intervenor services as part of the service package provided with grant funds under this section.

Sec. 70. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256I.04, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

**Subd. 3. Moratorium on the development of group residential housing beds.** (a) County agencies shall not enter into agreements for new group residential housing beds with total rates in excess of the MSA equivalent rate except: (1) for group residential housing establishments licensed under Minnesota Rules, parts 9525.0215 to 9525.0355, provided the facility is needed to meet the census reduction targets for persons with developmental disabilities at regional treatment centers; (2) to ensure compliance with the federal Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act alternative disposition plan requirements for inappropriately placed persons with developmental disabilities or mental illness; (3) up to 80 beds in a single, specialized facility located in Hennepin County that will provide housing for chronic inebriates who are repetitive users of detoxification centers and are refused placement in emergency shelters because of their state of intoxication, and planning for the specialized facility must have been initiated before July 1, 1991, in anticipation of receiving a grant from the Housing Finance Agency under section 462A.05, subdivision 20a, paragraph (b); (4) notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision 2a, for up to 190 supportive housing units in Anoka, Dakota, Hennepin, or Ramsey County for homeless adults with a mental illness, a history of substance abuse, or human immunodeficiency virus or acquired immunodeficiency syndrome. For purposes of this section, "homeless adult" means a person who is living on the street or in a shelter or discharged from a regional treatment center, community hospital, or residential treatment program and has no appropriate housing available and lacks the resources and support necessary to access appropriate housing. At least 70 percent of the supportive housing units must serve homeless adults with mental illness, substance abuse problems, or human immunodeficiency virus or acquired immunodeficiency syndrome who are about to be or, within the previous six months, has been discharged from a regional treatment center, or a state-contracted psychiatric bed in a

community hospital, or a residential mental health or chemical dependency treatment program. If a person meets the requirements of subdivision 1, paragraph (a), and receives a federal or state housing subsidy, the group residential housing rate for that person is limited to the supplementary rate under section 256I.05, subdivision 1a, and is determined by subtracting the amount of the person's countable income that exceeds the MSA equivalent rate from the group residential housing supplementary rate. A resident in a demonstration project site who no longer participates in the demonstration program shall retain eligibility for a group residential housing payment in an amount determined under section 256I.06, subdivision 8, using the MSA equivalent rate. Service funding under section 256I.05, subdivision 1a, will end June 30, 1997, if federal matching funds are available and the services can be provided through a managed care entity. If federal matching funds are not available, then service funding will continue under section 256I.05, subdivision 1a; ~~or (6)~~ (5) for group residential housing beds in settings meeting the requirements of subdivision 2a, clauses (1) and (3), which are used exclusively for recipients receiving home and community-based waiver services under sections 256B.0915, 256B.092, subdivision 5, 256B.093, and 256B.49, and who resided in a nursing facility for the six months immediately prior to the month of entry into the group residential housing setting. The group residential housing rate for these beds must be set so that the monthly group residential housing payment for an individual occupying the bed when combined with the nonfederal share of services delivered under the waiver for that person does not exceed the nonfederal share of the monthly medical assistance payment made for the person to the nursing facility in which the person resided prior to entry into the group residential housing establishment. The rate may not exceed the MSA equivalent rate plus \$426.37 for any case; (6) for an additional two beds, resulting in a total of 32 beds, for a facility located in Hennepin County providing services for recovering and chemically dependent men that has had a group residential housing contract with the county and has been licensed as a board and lodge facility with special services since 1980; (7) for a group residential housing provider located in Stearns County that operates a 40-bed facility, that received financing through the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency Ending Long-Term Homelessness Initiative and serves chemically dependent clientele, providing 24-hour-a-day supervision; (8) for a new 65-bed facility in Crow Wing County that will serve chemically dependent persons, operated by a group residential housing provider that currently operates a 304-bed facility in Minneapolis, and a 44-bed facility in Duluth; and (9) for a group residential housing provider that operates two ten-bed facilities, one located in Hennepin County and one located in Ramsey County, that provide community support and 24-hour-a-day supervision to serve the mental health needs of individuals who have chronically lived unsheltered.

(b) A county agency may enter into a group residential housing agreement for beds with rates in excess of the MSA equivalent rate in addition to those currently covered under a group residential housing agreement if the additional beds are only a replacement of beds with rates in excess of the MSA equivalent rate which have been made available due to closure of a setting, a change of licensure or certification which removes the beds from group residential housing payment, or as a result of the downsizing of a group residential housing setting. The transfer of available beds from one county to another can only occur by the agreement of both counties.

Sec. 71. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256I.05, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

**Subd. 1h. Supplementary rate for certain facilities serving chemically dependent males.** Notwithstanding subdivisions 1a and 1c, beginning July 1, 2007, a county agency shall negotiate a supplementary rate in addition to the rate specified in subdivision 1, not to exceed \$737.87 per month, including any legislatively authorized inflationary adjustments, for a group residential

housing provider that:

(1) is located in Ramsey County and has had a group residential housing contract with the county since 1982 and has been licensed as a board and lodge facility with special services since 1979; and

(2) serves recovering and chemically dependent males, providing 24-hour-a-day supervision.

Sec. 72. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256I.05, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 1i. **Supplementary rate for certain facilities; Hennepin County.** Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivisions 1a and 1c, a county agency shall negotiate a supplementary rate in addition to the rate specified in subdivision 1, not to exceed \$700 per month, including any legislatively authorized inflationary adjustments, up to the available appropriation, for a facility located in Hennepin County with a capacity of up to 48 beds that has been licensed since 1978 as a board and lodging facility and that until August 1, 2007, operated as a licensed chemical dependency treatment program.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 73. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256I.05, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 1j. **Supplementary rate for certain facilities; Crow Wing County.** Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivisions 1a and 1c, beginning July 1, 2007, a county agency shall negotiate a supplementary rate in addition to the rate specified in subdivision 1, not to exceed \$700 per month, including any legislatively authorized inflationary adjustments, for a new 65-bed facility in Crow Wing County that will serve chemically dependent persons operated by a group residential housing provider that currently operates a 304-bed facility in Minneapolis and a 44-bed facility in Duluth which opened in January of 2006.

Sec. 74. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256I.05, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 1k. **Supplementary rate for certain facilities; Stearns County.** Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, beginning July 1, 2007, a county agency shall negotiate a supplementary service rate in addition to the rate specified in subdivision 1, not to exceed \$700 per month, including any legislatively authorized inflationary adjustments, for a group residential housing provider located in Stearns County that operates a 40-bed facility, that received financing through the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency Ending Long-Term Homelessness Initiative and serves chemically dependent clientele, providing 24-hour-a-day supervision.

Sec. 75. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256I.05, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 1l. **Supplementary rate for certain facilities; St. Louis County.** Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, beginning July 1, 2007, a county agency shall negotiate a supplementary service rate in addition to the rate specified in subdivision 1, not to exceed \$700 per month, including any legislatively authorized inflationary adjustments, for a group residential housing provider located in St. Louis County that operates a 30-bed facility, that received financing through the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency Ending Long-Term Homelessness Initiative and serves chemically dependent clientele, providing 24-hour-a-day supervision.

Sec. 76. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256I.05, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 1m. **Supplemental rate for certain facilities; Hennepin and Ramsey Counties.** (a)

Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, beginning July 1, 2007, a county agency shall negotiate a supplemental service rate in addition to the rate specified in subdivision 1, not to exceed \$700 per month or the existing monthly rate, whichever is higher, including any legislatively authorized inflationary adjustments, for a group residential housing provider that operates two ten-bed facilities, one located in Hennepin County and one located in Ramsey County, which provide community support and serve the mental health needs of individuals who have chronically lived unsheltered, providing 24-hour per day supervision.

(b) An individual who has lived in one of the facilities under paragraph (a), who is being transitioned to independent living as part of the program plan continues to be eligible for group residential housing and the supplemental service rate negotiated with the county under paragraph (a).

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2008.

Sec. 77. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 462A.05, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 42. **Reverse mortgage incentive program.** (a) The agency shall, within the limits of appropriations made available for this purpose, establish, in cooperation with the commissioner of human services, a program to encourage eligible persons to obtain reverse mortgages to pay for eligible costs of maintaining the person in the home as an alternative to a nursing facility placement.

(b) The incentive program shall be made available to a person who has been determined by the commissioner of human services or the commissioner's designated agent to meet all of the following criteria:

(1) is age 62 or older;

(2) would be eligible for medical assistance within 365 days of admission to a nursing home;

(3) is not a medical assistance recipient, is not eligible for medical assistance without a spenddown or waiver obligation, is not ineligible for the medical assistance program due to an asset transfer penalty, and does not have income greater than the maintenance needs allowance under section 256B.0915, subdivision 1d, but equal to or less than 120 percent of the federal poverty guidelines effective July 1 in the year for which program eligibility is established, who would be eligible for the elderly waiver with a waiver obligation;

(4) needs services that are not funded through other state or federal funding for which the person qualifies;

(5) obtains a reverse mortgage loan under section 47.58 on a home with an estimated market value not to exceed \$156,000. This limit shall be adjusted annually on April 1 by the percentage change for the previous calendar year in the housing component of the United States Consumer Price Index - all urban consumers; and

(6) agrees to make expenditures of reverse mortgage payments according to a spending plan established under section 256B.0911, subdivision 3a, in which payments, services, and supports meet the following standards:

(i) payments received under the loan for a period of at least 24 months or in an amount of at least \$15,000 are used for services and supports, including basic shelter needs, home maintenance, and

modifications or adaptations, necessary to allow the person to remain in the home as an alternative to a nursing facility placement;

(ii) reimbursements for services, supplies, and equipment shall not exceed the market rate; and

(iii) if the person's spouse qualifies under section 256B.0913, subdivisions 1 to 14, the reverse mortgage payments may be used to pay client fees under that section.

(c) The incentives available under this program shall include:

(1) payment of the initial mortgage insurance premium for a reverse mortgage. The maximum payment under this clause shall be limited to \$1,560. This limit shall be adjusted annually on April 1 by the percentage change for the previous calendar year in the housing component of the United States Consumer Price Index - all urban consumers;

(2) with federal approval, payments to reduce service fee set-asides, through an advance payment to the lender, an agreement to guarantee fee payments after 60 months if the set-aside is limited to 60 months, or through other mechanisms approved by the commissioner; and

(3) other incentives approved by the commissioner.

(d) After calculating the adjusted maximum payment limits under paragraphs (b) and (c), the commissioner shall annually notify the Office of the Revisor of Statutes in writing, on or before May 1, of the adjusted limits. The revisor shall annually publish in the Minnesota Statutes the adjusted maximum payment limits under paragraph (b).

Sec. 78. Laws 2006, chapter 282, article 20, section 37, is amended to read:

**Sec. 37. REPAYMENT DELAY.**

(a) A county that overspent its allowed amounts in calendar year 2004 or 2005 under the waived services program for persons with developmental disabilities shall not be required to pay back the amount of overspending until May 31, 2007. This section applies to Fillmore, Steele, and St. Louis Counties.

(b) Carver County is not required to pay back the amount of overspending under the waived services program for persons with developmental disabilities for calendar years 2004 and 2005 until June 30, 2009.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

**Sec. 79. ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY RECOMMENDATIONS.**

Subdivision 1. **Review.** During the biennium ending June 30, 2009, the Council on Disability shall facilitate a statewide review of the assistive technology needs of people with disabling conditions, and seniors. The council shall identify community-based service providers, state agencies, and other entities involved in providing assistive technology supports.

Subd. 2. **Recommendations.** The council shall present to the chairs of the house and senate committees having jurisdiction over human services, by January 1, 2009, recommendations, including proposed legislation creating a statewide comprehensive plan to meet the assistive technology needs of people with disabling conditions and seniors. The statewide plan must include

steps to coordinate and streamline assistive technology services.

Sec. 80. **PROVIDER RATE INCREASES.**

(a) The commissioner of human services shall increase allocations, reimbursement rates, or rate limits, as applicable, by 2.75 percent beginning October 1, 2007, and by 3.00 percent beginning October 1, 2008, effective for services rendered on or after those dates. County contracts for services specified in this section must be amended to pass through these rate adjustments within 60 days of the effective date of the increase and must be retroactive from the effective date of the rate adjustment.

(b) The annual rate increases described in this section must be provided to:

(1) home and community-based waived services for persons with developmental disabilities or related conditions, including consumer-directed community supports, under Minnesota Statutes, section 256B.501;

(2) home and community-based waived services for the elderly, including consumer-directed community supports, under Minnesota Statutes, section 256B.0915;

(3) waived services under community alternatives for disabled individuals, including consumer-directed community supports, under Minnesota Statutes, section 256B.49;

(4) community alternative care waived services, including consumer-directed community supports, under Minnesota Statutes, section 256B.49;

(5) traumatic brain injury waived services, including consumer-directed community supports, under Minnesota Statutes, section 256B.49;

(6) nursing services and home health services under Minnesota Statutes, section 256B.0625, subdivision 6a;

(7) personal care services and qualified professional supervision of personal care services under Minnesota Statutes, section 256B.0625, subdivision 19a;

(8) private duty nursing services under Minnesota Statutes, section 256B.0625, subdivision 7;

(9) day training and habilitation services for adults with developmental disabilities or related conditions under Minnesota Statutes, sections 252.40 to 252.46, including the additional cost of rate adjustments on day training and habilitation services, provided as a social service under Minnesota Statutes, section 256M.60;

(10) alternative care services under Minnesota Statutes, section 256B.0913;

(11) adult residential program grants under Minnesota Statutes, section 245.73;

(12) children's community-based mental health services grants and adult community support and case management services grants under Minnesota Rules, parts 9535.1700 to 9535.1760;

(13) the group residential housing supplementary service rate under Minnesota Statutes, section 256I.05, subdivision 1a;

(14) adult mental health integrated fund grants under Minnesota Statutes, section 245.4661;

(15) semi-independent living services (SILS) under Minnesota Statutes, section 252.275,

including SILS funding under county social services grants formerly funded under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 256I;

(16) community support services for deaf and hard-of-hearing adults with mental illness who use or wish to use sign language as their primary means of communication under Minnesota Statutes, section 256.01, subdivision 2; and deaf and hard-of-hearing grants under Minnesota Statutes, sections 256C.233 and 256C.25; Laws 1985, chapter 9, article 1; and Laws 1997, First Special Session chapter 5, section 20;

(17) living skills training programs for persons with intractable epilepsy who need assistance in the transition to independent living under Laws 1988, chapter 689;

(18) physical therapy services under sections 256B.0625, subdivision 8, and 256D.03, subdivision 4;

(19) occupational therapy services under sections 256B.0625, subdivision 8a, and 256D.03, subdivision 4;

(20) speech-language therapy services under section 256D.03, subdivision 4, and Minnesota Rules, part 9505.0390;

(21) respiratory therapy services under section 256D.03, subdivision 4, and Minnesota Rules, part 9505.0295;

(22) adult rehabilitative mental health services under section 256B.0623;

(23) children's therapeutic services and support services under section 256B.0943;

(24) tier I chemical health services under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 254B;

(25) consumer support grants under Minnesota Statutes, section 256.476;

(26) family support grants under Minnesota Statutes, section 252.32;

(27) grants for case management services to persons with HIV or AIDS under Minnesota Statutes, section 256.01, subdivision 19; and

(28) aging grants under Minnesota Statutes, sections 256.975 to 256.977, 256B.0917, and 256B.0928.

(c) For services funded through Minnesota disability health options, the rate increases under this section apply to all medical assistance payments, including former group residential housing supplementary rates under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 256I.

(d) The commissioner may recoup payments made under this section from a provider that does not comply with paragraphs (f) and (g).

(e) A managed care plan receiving state payments for the services in this section must include these increases in their payments to providers on a prospective basis, effective on January 1 following the effective date of the rate increase.

(f) Providers that receive a rate increase under this section shall use 75 percent of the additional revenue to increase compensation-related costs for employees directly employed by the program on

or after the effective date of the rate adjustments, except:

(1) the administrator;

(2) persons employed in the central office of a corporation or entity that has an ownership interest in the provider or exercises control over the provider; and

(3) persons paid by the provider under a management contract.

Compensation-related costs include: wages and salaries; FICA taxes, Medicare taxes, state and federal unemployment taxes, and workers' compensation; and the employer's share of health and dental insurance, life insurance, disability insurance, long-term care insurance, uniform allowance, and pensions.

(g) Two-thirds of the money available under paragraph (f) must be used for wage increases for all employees directly employed by the provider on or after the effective date of the rate adjustments, except those listed in paragraph (f), clauses (1) to (3). The wage adjustment that employees receive under this paragraph must be paid as an equal hourly percentage wage increase for all eligible employees. All wage increases under this paragraph must be effective on the same date. This paragraph shall not apply to employees covered by a collective bargaining agreement.

(h) For public employees, the increase for wages and benefits for certain staff is available and pay rates must be increased only to the extent that they comply with laws governing public employees collective bargaining. Money received by a provider for pay increases under this section may be used only for increases implemented on or after the first day of the rate period in which the increase is available and must not be used for increases implemented prior to that date.

(i) The commissioner shall amend state grant contracts that include direct personnel-related grant expenditures to include the allocation for the portion of the contract that is employee compensation related. Grant contracts for compensation-related services must be amended to pass through these adjustments within 60 days of the effective date of the increase and must be retroactive to the effective date of the rate adjustment.

(j) The Board on Aging and its Area Agencies on Aging shall amend their grants that include direct personnel-related grant expenditures to include the rate adjustment for the portion of the grant that is employee compensation related. Grants for compensation-related services must be amended to pass through these adjustments within 60 days of the effective date of the increase and must be retroactive to the effective date of the rate adjustment.

(k) The calendar year 2008 rate for vendors reimbursed under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 254B, shall be at least 2.75 percent above the rate in effect on January 1, 2007. The calendar year 2009 rate shall be at least 3.0 percent above the rate in effect on January 1, 2008.

(l) Providers that receive a rate adjustment under paragraph (a) that is subject to paragraphs (f) and (g) shall provide to the commissioner, and those counties with whom they have a contract, within six months after the effective date of each rate adjustment, a letter, in a format specified by the commissioner, that provides assurances that the provider has developed and implemented a compensation plan and complied with paragraphs (f) and (g). The provider shall keep on file, and produce for the commissioner or county upon request, its plan, which must specify:

(1) an estimate of the amounts of money that must be used as specified in paragraphs (f) and (g);



and

(2) a detailed distribution plan specifying the allowable compensation-related and wage increases the provider will implement to use the funds available in clause (1).

(m) Within six months after the effective date of each rate adjustment, the provider shall post this plan, excluding the information required in paragraph (l), clause (1), for a period of at least six weeks in an area of the provider's operation to which all eligible employees have access and provide instructions for employees who believe they have not received the wage and other compensation-related increases specified in paragraph (l), clause (2). Instructions must include a mailing address, e-mail address, and the telephone number that may be used by the employee to contact the commissioner or the commissioner's representative. Providers shall also make assurances to the commissioner and counties with whom they have a contract that they have complied with the requirement in this paragraph.

**Sec. 81. MINNESOTA RULES.**

The Department of Administration shall publish adopted rules in the State Register making the terminology changes specified in section 84 in Minnesota Rules. Upon publication in the State Register, the terminology changes for Minnesota Rules are adopted without further administrative action.

**Sec. 82. HOUSING WITH SERVICES AND HOME CARE PROVIDERS STUDY; REPORT.**

The commissioner of human services shall conduct a study of how the state of Minnesota can most effectively assist persons age 65 and older in selecting long-term care services that meet their needs, reflect their preferences, and enable them to maintain financial self-sufficiency as long as possible. The study shall include surveys of both consumers and providers of housing with services, assisted living, and in-home services, as well as an evaluation of what role the long-term care consultation program under Minnesota Statutes, section 256B.0911, does or could play in helping consumers to evaluate their options. Upon request of the commissioner, providers covered by the study shall provide data that the commissioner determines is reasonably necessary to achieve study outcomes. The preliminary results of this study shall be reported to the senate and house of representatives committees with jurisdiction over health and human services policy and finance issues by February 15, 2008, with a final report completed by December 15, 2008.

**Sec. 83. PROVIDER RATE INCREASE.**

Effective July 1, 2007, a day training and habilitation provider in St. Louis County providing services for up to 80 individuals shall have a reimbursement rate that equals 94 percent of 125 percent of the statewide median per diem.

**Sec. 84. REVISOR'S INSTRUCTION.**

The revisor of statutes shall change the terms in column A to the terms in column B wherever they appear in Minnesota Statutes:

Column A

Column B

"Office of Ombudsman for  
Older Minnesotans" and  
"Office of the Ombudsman  
for Older Minnesotans"  
"ombudsman for older  
Minnesotans"

"Office of Ombudsman for  
Long-Term Care"  
"ombudsman for long-term  
care"

Sec. 85. **REPEALER.**

Minnesota Statutes 2006, sections 252.21; 252.22; 252.23; 252.24; 252.25; 252.261; 252.275, subdivision 5; 256.9743; 256B.0913, subdivisions 5b, 5c, 5d, 5e, 5f, 5g, and 5h; and 256B.441, subdivisions 12, 16, 21, 26, 28, 42, and 45, are repealed.

**ARTICLE 8**

**MENTAL HEALTH**

**Section 1. [16C.155] JANITORIAL CONTRACTS FOR REHABILITATION PROGRAMS AND EXTENDED EMPLOYMENT PROVIDERS.**

The commissioner of administration shall ensure that a portion of all janitorial services contracts be awarded by the state to rehabilitation programs and extended employment providers listed under section 16C.15. The total value of the contracts under this section must exceed 19 percent of the total value of janitorial services contracts entered into in the previous fiscal year. The amount of each contract awarded under this section may exceed the estimated fair market price for the same goods and services by up to five percent.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 148C.11, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Other professionals.** (a) Nothing in this chapter prevents members of other professions or occupations from performing functions for which they are qualified or licensed. This exception includes, but is not limited to: licensed physicians; registered nurses; licensed practical nurses; licensed psychological practitioners; members of the clergy; American Indian medicine men and women; licensed attorneys; probation officers; licensed marriage and family therapists; licensed social workers; social workers employed by city, county, or state agencies; licensed professional counselors; licensed school counselors; registered occupational therapists or occupational therapy assistants; city, county, or state employees when providing assessments or case management under Minnesota Rules, chapter 9530; and until July 1, ~~2007~~ 2009, individuals providing integrated dual-diagnosis treatment in adult mental health rehabilitative programs certified by the Department of Human Services under section 256B.0622 or 256B.0623.

(b) Nothing in this chapter prohibits technicians and resident managers in programs licensed by the Department of Human Services from discharging their duties as provided in Minnesota Rules, chapter 9530.

(c) Any person who is exempt under this subdivision but who elects to obtain a license under this chapter is subject to this chapter to the same extent as other licensees. The board shall issue a license without examination to an applicant who is licensed or registered in a profession identified in paragraph (a) if the applicant:

(1) shows evidence of current licensure or registration; and

(2) has submitted to the board a plan for supervision during the first 2,000 hours of professional practice or has submitted proof of supervised professional practice that is acceptable to the board.

(d) Any person who is exempt from licensure under this section must not use a title incorporating the words "alcohol and drug counselor" or "licensed alcohol and drug counselor" or otherwise hold themselves out to the public by any title or description stating or implying that they are engaged in the practice of alcohol and drug counseling, or that they are licensed to engage in the practice of alcohol and drug counseling unless that person is also licensed as an alcohol and drug counselor. Persons engaged in the practice of alcohol and drug counseling are not exempt from the board's jurisdiction solely by the use of one of the above titles.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 245.462, subdivision 20, is amended to read:

Subd. 20. **Mental illness.** (a) "Mental illness" means an organic disorder of the brain or a clinically significant disorder of thought, mood, perception, orientation, memory, or behavior that is listed in the clinical manual of the International Classification of Diseases (ICD-9-CM), current edition, code range 290.0 to 302.99 or 306.0 to 316.0 or the corresponding code in the American Psychiatric Association's Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-MD), current edition, Axes I, II, or III, and that seriously limits a person's capacity to function in primary aspects of daily living such as personal relations, living arrangements, work, and recreation.

(b) An "adult with acute mental illness" means an adult who has a mental illness that is serious enough to require prompt intervention.

(c) For purposes of case management and community support services, a "person with serious and persistent mental illness" means an adult who has a mental illness and meets at least one of the following criteria:

(1) the adult has undergone two or more episodes of inpatient care for a mental illness within the preceding 24 months;

(2) the adult has experienced a continuous psychiatric hospitalization or residential treatment exceeding six months' duration within the preceding 12 months;

(3) the adult has been treated by a crisis team two or more times within the preceding 24 months;

(4) the adult:

(i) has a diagnosis of schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, major depression, or borderline personality disorder;

(ii) indicates a significant impairment in functioning; and

(iii) has a written opinion from a mental health professional, in the last three years, stating that the adult is reasonably likely to have future episodes requiring inpatient or residential treatment, of a frequency described in clause (1) or (2), unless ongoing case management or community support services are provided;

~~(4)(5)~~ the adult has, in the last three years, been committed by a court as a person who is mentally ill under chapter 253B, or the adult's commitment has been stayed or continued; or

~~(5)~~ (6) the adult (i) was eligible under clauses (1) to ~~(4)~~ (5), but the specified time period has expired or the adult was eligible as a child under section 245.4871, subdivision 6; and (ii) has a written opinion from a mental health professional, in the last three years, stating that the adult is reasonably likely to have future episodes requiring inpatient or residential treatment, of a frequency described in clause (1) or (2), unless ongoing case management or community support services are provided.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 245.465, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 3. **Responsibility not duplicated.** For individuals who have health care coverage, the county board is not responsible for providing mental health services which are within the limits of the individual's health care coverage.

Sec. 5. [245.4682] **MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE DELIVERY AND FINANCE REFORM.**

Subdivision 1. **Policy.** The commissioner of human services shall undertake a series of reforms to address the underlying structural, financial, and organizational problems in Minnesota's mental health system with the goal of improving the availability, quality, and accountability of mental health care within the state.

Subd. 2. **General provisions.** (a) In the design and implementation of reforms to the mental health system, the commissioner shall:

(1) consult with consumers, families, counties, tribes, advocates, providers, and other stakeholders;

(2) bring to the legislature, and the State Advisory Council on Mental Health, by January 15, 2008, recommendations for legislation to update the role of counties and to clarify the case management roles, functions, and decision-making authority of health plans and counties, and to clarify county retention of the responsibility for the delivery of social services as required under subdivision 3, paragraph (a);

(3) withhold implementation of any recommended changes in case management roles, functions, and decision-making authority until after the release of the report due January 15, 2008;

(4) ensure continuity of care for persons affected by these reforms including ensuring client choice of provider by requiring broad provider networks and developing mechanisms to facilitate a smooth transition of service responsibilities;

(5) provide accountability for the efficient and effective use of public and private resources in achieving positive outcomes for consumers;

(6) ensure client access to applicable protections and appeals; and

(7) make budget transfers necessary to implement the reallocation of services and client responsibilities between counties and health care programs that do not increase the state and county costs and efficiently allocate state funds.

(b) When making transfers under paragraph (a) necessary to implement movement of responsibility for clients and services between counties and health care programs, the commissioner, in consultation with counties, shall ensure that any transfer of state grants to health care programs, including the value of case management transfer grants under section 256B.0625, subdivision 20,

does not exceed the value of the services being transferred for the latest 12-month period for which data is available. The commissioner may make quarterly adjustments based on the availability of additional data during the first four quarters after the transfers first occur. If case management transfer grants under section 256B.0625, subdivision 20, are repealed and the value, based on the last year prior to repeal, exceeds the value of the services being transferred, the difference becomes an ongoing part of each county's adult and children's mental health grants under sections 245.4661, 245.4889, and 256E.12.

(c) This appropriation is not authorized to be expended after December 31, 2010, unless approved by the legislature.

**Subd. 3. Projects for coordination of care.** (a) Consistent with section 256B.69 and chapters 256D and 256L, the commissioner is authorized to solicit, approve, and implement up to three projects to demonstrate the integration of physical and mental health services within prepaid health plans and their coordination with social services. The commissioner shall require that each project be based on locally defined partnerships that include at least one health maintenance organization, community integrated service network, or accountable provider network authorized and operating under chapter 62D, 62N, or 62T, or county-based purchasing entity under section 256B.692 that is eligible to contract with the commissioner as a prepaid health plan, and the county or counties within the service area. Counties shall retain responsibility and authority for social services in these locally defined partnerships.

(b) The commissioner, in consultation with consumers, families, and their representatives, shall:

(1) determine criteria for approving the projects and use those criteria to solicit proposals for preferred integrated networks. The commissioner must develop criteria to evaluate the partnership proposed by the county and prepaid health plan to coordinate access and delivery of services. The proposal must at a minimum address how the partnership will coordinate the provision of:

(i) client outreach and identification of health and social service needs paired with expedited access to appropriate resources;

(ii) activities to maintain continuity of health care coverage;

(iii) children's residential mental health treatment and treatment foster care;

(iv) court-ordered assessments and treatments;

(v) prepetition screening and commitments under chapter 253B;

(vi) assessment and treatment of children identified through mental health screening of child welfare and juvenile corrections cases;

(vii) home and community-based waiver services;

(viii) assistance with finding and maintaining employment;

(ix) housing; and

(x) transportation;

(2) determine specifications for contracts with prepaid health plans to improve the plan's ability

to serve persons with mental health conditions, including specifications addressing:

- (i) early identification and intervention of physical and behavioral health problems;
  - (ii) communication between the enrollee and the health plan;
  - (iii) facilitation of enrollment for persons who are also eligible for a Medicare special needs plan offered by the health plan;
  - (iv) risk screening procedures;
  - (v) health care coordination;
  - (vi) member services and access to applicable protections and appeal processes;
  - (vii) specialty provider networks;
  - (viii) transportation services;
  - (ix) treatment planning; and
  - (x) administrative simplification for providers;
- (3) begin implementation of the projects no earlier than January 1, 2009, with not more than 40 percent of the statewide population included during calendar year 2009 and additional counties included in subsequent years;
- (4) waive any administrative rule not consistent with the implementation of the projects;
- (5) allow potential bidders at least 90 days to respond to the request for proposals; and
- (6) conduct an independent evaluation to determine if mental health outcomes have improved in that county or counties according to measurable standards designed in consultation with the advisory body established under this subdivision and reviewed by the State Advisory Council on Mental Health.
- (c) Notwithstanding any statute or administrative rule to the contrary, the commissioner may enroll all persons eligible for medical assistance with serious mental illness or emotional disturbance in the prepaid plan of their choice within the project service area unless:
- (1) the individual is eligible for home and community-based services for persons with developmental disabilities and related conditions under section 256B.092; or
  - (2) the individual has a basis for exclusion from the prepaid plan under section 256B.69, subdivision 4, other than disability, mental illness, or emotional disturbance.
- (d) The commissioner shall involve organizations representing persons with mental illness and their families in the development and distribution of information used to educate potential enrollees regarding their options for health care and mental health service delivery under this subdivision.
- (e) If the person described in paragraph (c) does not elect to remain in fee-for-service medical assistance, or declines to choose a plan, the commissioner may preferentially assign that person to the prepaid plan participating in the preferred integrated network. The commissioner shall implement the enrollment changes within a project's service area on the timeline specified in that

project's approved application.

(f) A person enrolled in a prepaid health plan under paragraphs (c) and (d) may disenroll from the plan at any time.

(g) The commissioner, in consultation with consumers, families, and their representatives, shall evaluate the projects begun in 2009, and shall refine the design of the service integration projects before expanding the projects. The commissioner shall report to the chairs of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over mental health services by March 1, 2008, on plans for evaluation of preferred integrated networks established under this subdivision.

(h) The commissioner shall apply for any federal waivers necessary to implement these changes.

(i) Payment for Medicaid service providers under this subdivision for the months of May and June will be made no earlier than July 1 of the same calendar year.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 245.4712, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Availability of community support services.** (a) County boards must provide or contract for sufficient community support services within the county to meet the needs of adults with serious and persistent mental illness who are residents of the county. Adults may be required to pay a fee according to section 245.481. The community support services program must be designed to improve the ability of adults with serious and persistent mental illness to:

- (1) work in a regular or supported work environment;
- (2) handle basic activities of daily living;
- (3) participate in leisure time activities;
- (4) set goals and plans; and
- (5) obtain and maintain appropriate living arrangements.

The community support services program must also be designed to reduce the need for and use of more intensive, costly, or restrictive placements both in number of admissions and length of stay.

(b) Community support services are those services that are supportive in nature and not necessarily treatment oriented, and include:

(1) conducting outreach activities such as home visits, health and wellness checks, and problem solving;

(2) connecting people to resources to meet their basic needs;

(3) finding, securing, and supporting people in their housing;

(4) attaining and maintaining health insurance benefits;

(5) assisting with job applications, finding and maintaining employment, and securing a stable financial situation;

(6) fostering social support, including support groups, mentoring, peer support, and other efforts to prevent isolation and promote recovery; and

(7) educating about mental illness, treatment, and recovery.

(c) Community support services shall use all available funding streams. The county shall maintain the level of expenditures for this program, as required under section 245.4835. County boards must continue to provide funds for those services not covered by other funding streams and to maintain an infrastructure to carry out these services.

(d) The commissioner shall collect data on community support services programs, including, but not limited to, demographic information such as age, sex, race, the number of people served, and information related to housing, employment, hospitalization, symptoms, and satisfaction with services.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 245.4874, is amended to read:

**245.4874 DUTIES OF COUNTY BOARD.**

Subdivision 1. Duties of the county board. (a) The county board must:

(1) develop a system of affordable and locally available children's mental health services according to sections 245.487 to 245.4887;

(2) establish a mechanism providing for interagency coordination as specified in section 245.4875, subdivision 6;

(3) consider the assessment of unmet needs in the county as reported by the local children's mental health advisory council under section 245.4875, subdivision 5, paragraph (b), clause (3). The county shall provide, upon request of the local children's mental health advisory council, readily available data to assist in the determination of unmet needs;

(4) assure that parents and providers in the county receive information about how to gain access to services provided according to sections 245.487 to 245.4887;

(5) coordinate the delivery of children's mental health services with services provided by social services, education, corrections, health, and vocational agencies to improve the availability of mental health services to children and the cost-effectiveness of their delivery;

(6) assure that mental health services delivered according to sections 245.487 to 245.4887 are delivered expeditiously and are appropriate to the child's diagnostic assessment and individual treatment plan;

(7) provide the community with information about predictors and symptoms of emotional disturbances and how to access children's mental health services according to sections 245.4877 and 245.4878;

(8) provide for case management services to each child with severe emotional disturbance according to sections 245.486; 245.4871, subdivisions 3 and 4; and 245.4881, subdivisions 1, 3, and 5;

(9) provide for screening of each child under section 245.4885 upon admission to a residential treatment facility, acute care hospital inpatient treatment, or informal admission to a regional treatment center;



(10) prudently administer grants and purchase-of-service contracts that the county board determines are necessary to fulfill its responsibilities under sections 245.487 to 245.4887;

(11) assure that mental health professionals, mental health practitioners, and case managers employed by or under contract to the county to provide mental health services are qualified under section 245.4871;

(12) assure that children's mental health services are coordinated with adult mental health services specified in sections 245.461 to 245.486 so that a continuum of mental health services is available to serve persons with mental illness, regardless of the person's age;

(13) assure that culturally ~~informed~~ competent mental health consultants are used as necessary to assist the county board in assessing and providing appropriate treatment for children of cultural or racial minority heritage; and

(14) consistent with section 245.486, arrange for or provide a children's mental health screening to a child receiving child protective services or a child in out-of-home placement, a child for whom parental rights have been terminated, a child found to be delinquent, and a child found to have committed a juvenile petty offense for the third or subsequent time, unless a screening has been performed within the previous 180 days, or the child is currently under the care of a mental health professional. The court or county agency must notify a parent or guardian whose parental rights have not been terminated of the potential mental health screening and the option to prevent the screening by notifying the court or county agency in writing. The screening shall be conducted with a screening instrument approved by the commissioner of human services according to criteria that are updated and issued annually to ensure that approved screening instruments are valid and useful for child welfare and juvenile justice populations, and shall be conducted by a mental health practitioner as defined in section 245.4871, subdivision 26, or a probation officer or local social services agency staff person who is trained in the use of the screening instrument. Training in the use of the instrument shall include training in the administration of the instrument, the interpretation of its validity given the child's current circumstances, the state and federal data practices laws and confidentiality standards, the parental consent requirement, and providing respect for families and cultural values. If the screen indicates a need for assessment, the child's family, or if the family lacks mental health insurance, the local social services agency, in consultation with the child's family, shall have conducted a diagnostic assessment, including a functional assessment, as defined in section 245.4871. The administration of the screening shall safeguard the privacy of children receiving the screening and their families and shall comply with the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, chapter 13, and the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, Public Law 104-191. Screening results shall be considered private data and the commissioner shall not collect individual screening results.

(b) When the county board refers clients to providers of children's therapeutic services and supports under section 256B.0943, the county board must clearly identify the desired services components not covered under section 256B.0943 and identify the reimbursement source for those requested services, the method of payment, and the payment rate to the provider.

Subd. 2. **Responsibility not duplicated.** For individuals who have health care coverage, the county board is not responsible for providing mental health services which are within the limits of the individual's health care coverage.

Sec. 8. [245.4889] CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH GRANTS.

Subdivision 1. **Establishment and authority.** (a) The commissioner is authorized to make grants from available appropriations to assist:

- (1) counties;
- (2) Indian tribes;
- (3) children's collaboratives under section 124D.23 or 245.493; or
- (4) mental health service providers

for providing services to children with emotional disturbances as defined in section 245.4871, subdivision 15, and their families. The commissioner may also authorize grants to young adults meeting the criteria for transition services in section 245.4875, subdivision 8, and their families.

(b) Services under paragraph (a) must be designed to help each child to function and remain with the child's family in the community and delivered consistent with the child's treatment plan. Transition services to eligible young adults under paragraph (a) must be designed to foster independent living in the community.

Subd. 2. **Grant application and reporting requirements.** To apply for a grant, an applicant organization shall submit an application and budget for the use of the money in the form specified by the commissioner. The commissioner shall make grants only to entities whose applications and budgets are approved by the commissioner. In awarding grants, the commissioner shall give priority to applications that indicate plans to collaborate in the development, funding, and delivery of services with other agencies in the local system of care. The commissioner shall specify requirements for reports, including quarterly fiscal reports under section 256.01, subdivision 2, paragraph (q). The commissioner shall require collection of data and periodic reports that the commissioner deems necessary to demonstrate the effectiveness of each service.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 245.50, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

**Subd. 5. Special contracts; bordering states.** (a) An individual who is detained, committed, or placed on an involuntary basis under chapter 253B may be confined or treated in a bordering state pursuant to a contract under this section. An individual who is detained, committed, or placed on an involuntary basis under the civil law of a bordering state may be confined or treated in Minnesota pursuant to a contract under this section. A peace or health officer who is acting under the authority of the sending state may transport an individual to a receiving agency that provides services pursuant to a contract under this section and may transport the individual back to the sending state under the laws of the sending state. Court orders valid under the law of the sending state are granted recognition and reciprocity in the receiving state for individuals covered by a contract under this section to the extent that the court orders relate to confinement for treatment or care of mental illness or chemical dependency. Such treatment or care may address other conditions that may be co-occurring with the mental illness or chemical dependency. These court orders are not subject to legal challenge in the courts of the receiving state. Individuals who are detained, committed, or placed under the law of a sending state and who are transferred to a receiving state under this section continue to be in the legal custody of the authority responsible for them under the law of the sending state. Except in emergencies, those individuals may not be transferred, removed, or furloughed from a receiving agency without the specific approval of the authority responsible for them under the law of the sending state.

(b) While in the receiving state pursuant to a contract under this section, an individual shall be subject to the sending state's laws and rules relating to length of confinement, reexaminations, and extensions of confinement. No individual may be sent to another state pursuant to a contract under this section until the receiving state has enacted a law recognizing the validity and applicability of this section.

(c) If an individual receiving services pursuant to a contract under this section leaves the receiving agency without permission and the individual is subject to involuntary confinement under the law of the sending state, the receiving agency shall use all reasonable means to return the individual to the receiving agency. The receiving agency shall immediately report the absence to the sending agency. The receiving state has the primary responsibility for, and the authority to direct, the return of these individuals within its borders and is liable for the cost of the action to the extent that it would be liable for costs of its own resident.

(d) Responsibility for payment for the cost of care remains with the sending agency.

(e) This subdivision also applies to county contracts under subdivision 2 which include emergency care and treatment provided to a county resident in a bordering state.

(f) If a Minnesota resident is admitted to a facility in a bordering state under this chapter, a physician, licensed psychologist who has a doctoral degree in psychology, or an advance practice registered nurse certified in mental health, who is licensed in the bordering state, may act as an examiner under sections 253B.07, 253B.08, 253B.092, 253B.12, and 253B.17 subject to the same requirements and limitations in section 253B.02, subdivision 7.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 245.98, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Program.** The commissioner of human services shall establish a program for the treatment of compulsive gamblers. The commissioner may contract with an entity with expertise regarding the treatment of compulsive gambling to operate the program. The program may include the establishment of a statewide toll-free number, resource library, public education programs; regional in-service training programs and conferences for health care professionals, educators, treatment providers, employee assistance programs, and criminal justice representatives; and the establishment of certification standards for programs and service providers. The commissioner may enter into agreements with other entities and may employ or contract with consultants to facilitate the provision of these services or the training of individuals to qualify them to provide these services. The program may also include inpatient and outpatient treatment and rehabilitation services ~~and~~ for residents in different settings, including a temporary or permanent residential setting for mental health or chemical dependency, and individuals in jails or correctional facilities. The program may also include research studies. The research studies must include baseline and prevalence studies for adolescents and adults to identify those at the highest risk. The program must be approved by the commissioner before it is established.

Sec. 11. [245A.175] MENTAL HEALTH TRAINING REQUIREMENT.

Prior to a nonemergency placement of a child in a foster care home, the child foster care provider, licensed after July 1, 2007, must complete two hours of training that addresses the causes, symptoms, and key warning signs of mental health disorders; cultural considerations; and effective approaches for dealing with a child's behaviors. At least one hour of the annual 12-hour training requirement for foster parents must be on children's mental health issues and treatment. Training curriculum shall

be approved by the commissioner of human services.

Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 246.54, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **County portion for cost of care.** (a) Except for chemical dependency services provided under sections 254B.01 to 254B.09, the client's county shall pay to the state of Minnesota a portion of the cost of care provided in a regional treatment center or a state nursing facility to a client legally settled in that county. A county's payment shall be made from the county's own sources of revenue and payments shall be paid as follows: payments to the state from the county shall equal 20 percent a percentage of the cost of care, as determined by the commissioner, for each day, or the portion thereof, that the client spends at a regional treatment center or a state nursing facility- according to the following schedule:

- (1) zero percent for the first 30 days;
- (2) 20 percent for days 31 to 60; and
- (3) 50 percent for any days over 60.

(b) The increase in the county portion for cost of care under paragraph (a), clause (3), shall be imposed when the treatment facility has determined that it is clinically appropriate for the client to be discharged.

(c) If payments received by the state under sections 246.50 to 246.53 exceed 80 percent of the cost of care for days 31 to 60, or 50 percent for days over 60, the county shall be responsible for paying the state only the remaining amount. The county shall not be entitled to reimbursement from the client, the client's estate, or from the client's relatives, except as provided in section 246.53. No such payments shall be made for any client who was last committed prior to July 1, 1947.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2008.

Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 246.54, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Exceptions.** (a) Subdivision 1 does not apply to services provided at the Minnesota Security Hospital, the Minnesota sex offender program, or the Minnesota extended treatment options program. For services at these facilities, a county's payment shall be made from the county's own sources of revenue and payments shall be paid as follows: payments to the state from the county shall equal ten percent of the cost of care, as determined by the commissioner, for each day, or the portion thereof, that the client spends at the facility. If payments received by the state under sections 246.50 to 246.53 exceed 90 percent of the cost of care, the county shall be responsible for paying the state only the remaining amount. The county shall not be entitled to reimbursement from the client, the client's estate, or from the client's relatives, except as provided in section 246.53.

(b) Regardless of the facility to which the client is committed, subdivision 1 does not apply to the following individuals:

- (1) clients who are committed as mentally ill and dangerous under section 253B.02, subdivision 17;
- (2) clients who are committed as sexual psychopathic personalities under section 253B.02, subdivision 18b; and

(3) clients who are committed as sexually dangerous persons under section 253B.02, subdivision 18c.

For each of the individuals in clauses (1) to (3), the payment by the county to the state shall equal ten percent of the cost of care for each day as determined by the commissioner.

Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 253B.185, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 8. **Petition and report required.** (a) Within 120 days of receipt of a preliminary determination from a court under section 609.1351, or a referral from the commissioner of corrections pursuant to section 244.05, subdivision 7, a county attorney shall determine whether good cause under this section exists to file a petition, and if good cause exists, the county attorney or designee shall file the petition with the court.

(b) Failure to meet the requirements of paragraph (a) does not bar filing a petition under subdivision 1 any time the county attorney determines pursuant to subdivision 1 that good cause for such a petition exists.

(c) By February 1 of each year, the commissioner of human services shall annually report to the respective chairs of the divisions or committees of the senate and house of representatives that oversee human services finance regarding compliance with this subdivision.

Sec. 15. **[254A.25] DUTIES OF COMMISSIONER RELATED TO CHEMICAL HEALTH.**

The commissioner shall:

(1) annually distribute information to chemical health assessors on best practices in assessments, including model instruments for adults and adolescents;

(2) monitor the compliance of local agencies with assessment and referral rules;

(3) develop a directory that identifies key characteristics of each licensed chemical dependency treatment program;

(4) work with the commissioner of health to develop guidelines and training materials for health care organizations on the use of brief interventions for alcohol and chemical substance abuse;

(5) provide local agencies with examples of best practices for addressing needs of persons being considered for repeat placements into publicly funded treatment;

(6) identify best practices to help local agencies monitor the progress of clients placed in treatment;

(7) periodically provide local agencies with statewide information on treatment outcomes; and

(8) post copies of state licensing reviews at an online location where they may be reviewed by agencies that make client placements.

Sec. 16. **[256B.0615] MENTAL HEALTH CERTIFIED PEER SPECIALIST.**

Subdivision 1. **Scope.** Medical assistance covers mental health certified peers specialists services, as established in subdivision 2, subject to federal approval, if provided to recipients who

are eligible for services under sections 256B.0622 and 256B.0623, and are provided by a certified peer specialist who has completed the training under subdivision 5.

Subd. 2. **Establishment.** The commissioner of human services shall establish a certified peer specialists program model, which:

- (1) provides nonclinical peer support counseling by certified peer specialists;
- (2) provides a part of a wraparound continuum of services in conjunction with other community mental health services;
- (3) is individualized to the consumer; and
- (4) promotes socialization, recovery, self-sufficiency, self-advocacy, development of natural supports, and maintenance of skills learned in other support services.

Subd. 3. **Eligibility.** Peer support services may be made available to consumers of the intensive rehabilitative mental health services under section 256B.0622 and adult rehabilitative mental health services under section 256B.0623.

Subd. 4. **Peer support specialist program providers.** The commissioner shall develop a process to certify peer support specialist programs, in accordance with the federal guidelines, in order for the program to bill for reimbursable services. Peer support programs may be freestanding or within existing mental health community provider centers.

Subd. 5. **Certified peer specialist training and certification.** The commissioner of human services shall develop a training and certification process for certified peer specialists, who must be at least 21 years of age and have a high school diploma or its equivalent. The candidates must have had a primary diagnosis of mental illness, be a current or former consumer of mental health services, and must demonstrate leadership and advocacy skills and a strong dedication to recovery. The training curriculum must teach participating consumers specific skills relevant to providing peer support to other consumers. In addition to initial training and certification, the commissioner shall develop ongoing continuing educational workshops on pertinent issues related to peer support counseling.

Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0622, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Definitions.** For purposes of this section, the following terms have the meanings given them.

(a) "Intensive nonresidential rehabilitative mental health services" means adult rehabilitative mental health services as defined in section 256B.0623, subdivision 2, paragraph (a), except that these services are provided by a multidisciplinary staff using a total team approach consistent with assertive community treatment, the Fairweather Lodge treatment model, as defined by the standards established by the National Coalition for Community Living, and other evidence-based practices, and directed to recipients with a serious mental illness who require intensive services.

(b) "Intensive residential rehabilitative mental health services" means short-term, time-limited services provided in a residential setting to recipients who are in need of more restrictive settings and are at risk of significant functional deterioration if they do not receive these services. Services are designed to develop and enhance psychiatric stability, personal and emotional adjustment,

self-sufficiency, and skills to live in a more independent setting. Services must be directed toward a targeted discharge date with specified client outcomes and must be consistent with the Fairweather Lodge treatment model as defined in paragraph (a), and other evidence-based practices.

(c) "Evidence-based practices" are nationally recognized mental health services that are proven by substantial research to be effective in helping individuals with serious mental illness obtain specific treatment goals.

(d) "Overnight staff" means a member of the intensive residential rehabilitative mental health treatment team who is responsible during hours when recipients are typically asleep.

(e) "Treatment team" means all staff who provide services under this section to recipients. At a minimum, this includes the clinical supervisor, mental health professionals, as defined in section 245.462, subdivision 18, clauses (1) to (5); mental health practitioners, ~~and~~ as defined in section 245.462, subdivision 17; mental health rehabilitation workers under section 256B.0623, subdivision 5, clause (3); and certified peer specialists under section 256B.0615.

Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0623, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **Qualifications of provider staff.** Adult rehabilitative mental health services must be provided by qualified individual provider staff of a certified provider entity. Individual provider staff must be qualified under one of the following criteria:

(1) a mental health professional as defined in section 245.462, subdivision 18, clauses (1) to (5). If the recipient has a current diagnostic assessment by a licensed mental health professional as defined in section 245.462, subdivision 18, clauses (1) to (5), recommending receipt of adult mental health rehabilitative services, the definition of mental health professional for purposes of this section includes a person who is qualified under section 245.462, subdivision 18, clause (6), and who holds a current and valid national certification as a certified rehabilitation counselor or certified psychosocial rehabilitation practitioner;

(2) a mental health practitioner as defined in section 245.462, subdivision 17. The mental health practitioner must work under the clinical supervision of a mental health professional; or

(3) a certified peer specialist under section 256B.0615. The certified peer specialist must work under the clinical supervision of a mental health professional; or

~~(3)~~ (4) a mental health rehabilitation worker. A mental health rehabilitation worker means a staff person working under the direction of a mental health practitioner or mental health professional and under the clinical supervision of a mental health professional in the implementation of rehabilitative mental health services as identified in the recipient's individual treatment plan who:

(i) is at least 21 years of age;

(ii) has a high school diploma or equivalent;

(iii) has successfully completed 30 hours of training during the past two years in all of the following areas: recipient rights, recipient-centered individual treatment planning, behavioral terminology, mental illness, co-occurring mental illness and substance abuse, psychotropic medications and side effects, functional assessment, local community resources, adult vulnerability, recipient confidentiality; and

(iv) meets the qualifications in subitem (A) or (B):

(A) has an associate of arts degree in one of the behavioral sciences or human services, or is a registered nurse without a bachelor's degree, or who within the previous ten years has:

(1) three years of personal life experience with serious and persistent mental illness;

(2) three years of life experience as a primary caregiver to an adult with a serious mental illness or traumatic brain injury; or

(3) 4,000 hours of supervised paid work experience in the delivery of mental health services to adults with a serious mental illness or traumatic brain injury; or

(B)(1) is fluent in the non-English language or competent in the culture of the ethnic group to which at least 20 percent of the mental health rehabilitation worker's clients belong;

(2) receives during the first 2,000 hours of work, monthly documented individual clinical supervision by a mental health professional;

(3) has 18 hours of documented field supervision by a mental health professional or practitioner during the first 160 hours of contact work with recipients, and at least six hours of field supervision quarterly during the following year;

(4) has review and cosignature of charting of recipient contacts during field supervision by a mental health professional or practitioner; and

(5) has 40 hours of additional continuing education on mental health topics during the first year of employment.

Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0625, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 51. **Intensive mental health outpatient treatment.** Medical assistance covers intensive mental health outpatient treatment for dialectical behavioral therapy for adults. The commissioner shall establish:

(1) certification procedures to ensure that providers of these services are qualified; and

(2) treatment protocols including required service components and criteria for admission, continued treatment, and discharge.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2008, and subject to federal approval. The commissioner shall notify the revisor of statutes when federal approval is obtained.

Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0625, subdivision 20, is amended to read:

Subd. 20. **Mental health case management.** (a) To the extent authorized by rule of the state agency, medical assistance covers case management services to persons with serious and persistent mental illness and children with severe emotional disturbance. Services provided under this section must meet the relevant standards in sections 245.461 to 245.4887, the Comprehensive Adult and Children's Mental Health Acts, Minnesota Rules, parts 9520.0900 to 9520.0926, and 9505.0322, excluding subpart 10.



(b) Entities meeting program standards set out in rules governing family community support services as defined in section 245.4871, subdivision 17, are eligible for medical assistance reimbursement for case management services for children with severe emotional disturbance when these services meet the program standards in Minnesota Rules, parts 9520.0900 to 9520.0926 and 9505.0322, excluding subparts 6 and 10.

(c) Medical assistance and MinnesotaCare payment for mental health case management shall be made on a monthly basis. In order to receive payment for an eligible child, the provider must document at least a face-to-face contact with the child, the child's parents, or the child's legal representative. To receive payment for an eligible adult, the provider must document:

(1) at least a face-to-face contact with the adult or the adult's legal representative; or

(2) at least a telephone contact with the adult or the adult's legal representative and document a face-to-face contact with the adult or the adult's legal representative within the preceding two months.

(d) Payment for mental health case management provided by county or state staff shall be based on the monthly rate methodology under section 256B.094, subdivision 6, paragraph (b), with separate rates calculated for child welfare and mental health, and within mental health, separate rates for children and adults.

(e) Payment for mental health case management provided by Indian health services or by agencies operated by Indian tribes may be made according to this section or other relevant federally approved rate setting methodology.

(f) Payment for mental health case management provided by vendors who contract with a county or Indian tribe shall be based on a monthly rate negotiated by the host county or tribe. The negotiated rate must not exceed the rate charged by the vendor for the same service to other payers. If the service is provided by a team of contracted vendors, the county or tribe may negotiate a team rate with a vendor who is a member of the team. The team shall determine how to distribute the rate among its members. No reimbursement received by contracted vendors shall be returned to the county or tribe, except to reimburse the county or tribe for advance funding provided by the county or tribe to the vendor.

(g) If the service is provided by a team which includes contracted vendors, tribal staff, and county or state staff, the costs for county or state staff participation in the team shall be included in the rate for county-provided services. In this case, the contracted vendor, the tribal agency, and the county may each receive separate payment for services provided by each entity in the same month. In order to prevent duplication of services, each entity must document, in the recipient's file, the need for team case management and a description of the roles of the team members.

~~(h) The commissioner shall calculate the nonfederal share of actual medical assistance and general assistance medical care payments for each county, based on the higher of calendar year 1995 or 1996, by service date, project that amount forward to 1999, and transfer one half of the result from medical assistance and general assistance medical care to each county's mental health grants under section 256E.12 for calendar year 1999. The annualized minimum amount added to each county's mental health grant shall be \$3,000 per year for children and \$5,000 per year for adults. The commissioner may reduce the statewide growth factor in order to fund these minimums. The annualized total amount transferred shall become part of the base for future mental health~~

~~grants for each county.~~

~~(i)~~ (h) Notwithstanding section 256B.19, subdivision 1, the nonfederal share of costs for mental health case management shall be provided by the recipient's county of responsibility, as defined in sections 256G.01 to 256G.12, from sources other than federal funds or funds used to match other federal funds. If the service is provided by a tribal agency, the nonfederal share, if any, shall be provided by the recipient's tribe. When this service is paid by the state without a federal share through fee-for-service, 50 percent of the cost shall be provided by the recipient's county of responsibility.

(i) Notwithstanding any administrative rule to the contrary, prepaid medical assistance, general assistance medical care, and MinnesotaCare include mental health case management. When the service is provided through prepaid capitation, the nonfederal share is paid by the state and the county pays no share.

(j) The commissioner may suspend, reduce, or terminate the reimbursement to a provider that does not meet the reporting or other requirements of this section. The county of responsibility, as defined in sections 256G.01 to 256G.12, or, if applicable, the tribal agency, is responsible for any federal disallowances. The county or tribe may share this responsibility with its contracted vendors.

(k) The commissioner shall set aside a portion of the federal funds earned for county expenditures under this section to repay the special revenue maximization account under section 256.01, subdivision 2, clause (15). The repayment is limited to:

- (1) the costs of developing and implementing this section; and
- (2) programming the information systems.

(l) Payments to counties and tribal agencies for case management expenditures under this section shall only be made from federal earnings from services provided under this section. When this service is paid by the state without a federal share through fee-for-service, 50 percent of the cost shall be provided by the state. Payments to county-contracted vendors shall include both the federal earnings, the state share, and the county share.

~~(m) Notwithstanding section 256B.041, county payments for the cost of mental health case management services provided by county or state staff shall not be made to the commissioner of finance. For the purposes of mental health case management services provided by county or state staff under this section, the centralized disbursement of payments to counties under section 256B.041 consists only of federal earnings from services provided under this section.~~

~~(n)~~ (m) Case management services under this subdivision do not include therapy, treatment, legal, or outreach services.

~~(o)~~ (n) If the recipient is a resident of a nursing facility, intermediate care facility, or hospital, and the recipient's institutional care is paid by medical assistance, payment for case management services under this subdivision is limited to the last 180 days of the recipient's residency in that facility and may not exceed more than six months in a calendar year.

~~(p)~~ (o) Payment for case management services under this subdivision shall not duplicate payments made under other program authorities for the same purpose.

~~(q) By July 1, 2000, the commissioner shall evaluate the effectiveness of the changes required~~

~~by this section, including changes in number of persons receiving mental health case management, changes in hours of service per person, and changes in caseload size.~~

~~(r) For each calendar year beginning with the calendar year 2001, the annualized amount of state funds for each county determined under paragraph (h) shall be adjusted by the county's percentage change in the average number of clients per month who received case management under this section during the fiscal year that ended six months prior to the calendar year in question, in comparison to the prior fiscal year.~~

~~(s) For counties receiving the minimum allocation of \$3,000 or \$5,000 described in paragraph (h), the adjustment in paragraph (s) shall be determined so that the county receives the higher of the following amounts:~~

~~(1) a continuation of the minimum allocation in paragraph (h); or~~

~~(2) an amount based on that county's average number of clients per month who received case management under this section during the fiscal year that ended six months prior to the calendar year in question, times the average statewide grant per person per month for counties not receiving the minimum allocation.~~

~~(t) The adjustments in paragraphs (s) and (t) shall be calculated separately for children and adults.~~

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2009, except the amendments to paragraphs (h), (r), (s), and (t) are effective January 1, 2008.

Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0625, subdivision 47, is amended to read:

Subd. 47. **Treatment foster care services.** Effective July 1, 2006 2009, and subject to federal approval, medical assistance covers treatment foster care services according to section 256B.0946.

Sec. 22. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0943, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

Subd. 8. **Required preservice and continuing education.** (a) A provider entity shall establish a plan to provide preservice and continuing education for staff. The plan must clearly describe the type of training necessary to maintain current skills and obtain new skills and that relates to the provider entity's goals and objectives for services offered.

(b) A provider that employs a mental health behavioral aide under this section must require the mental health behavioral aide to complete 30 hours of preservice training. The preservice training must include topics specified in Minnesota Rules, part 9535.4068, subparts 1 and 2, and parent team training. The preservice training must include 15 hours of in-person training of a mental health behavioral aide in mental health services delivery and eight hours of parent team training. Curricula for parent team training must be approved in advance by the commissioner. Components of parent team training include:

- (1) partnering with parents;
- (2) fundamentals of family support;
- (3) fundamentals of policy and decision making;
- (4) defining equal partnership;

(5) complexities of the parent and service provider partnership in multiple service delivery systems due to system strengths and weaknesses;

(6) sibling impacts;

(7) support networks; and

(8) community resources.

(c) A provider entity that employs a mental health practitioner and a mental health behavioral aide to provide children's therapeutic services and supports under this section must require the mental health practitioner and mental health behavioral aide to complete 20 hours of continuing education every two calendar years. The continuing education must be related to serving the needs of a child with emotional disturbance in the child's home environment and the child's family. The topics covered in orientation and training must conform to Minnesota Rules, part 9535.4068.

(d) The provider entity must document the mental health practitioner's or mental health behavioral aide's annual completion of the required continuing education. The documentation must include the date, subject, and number of hours of the continuing education, and attendance records, as verified by the staff member's signature, job title, and the instructor's name. The provider entity must keep documentation for each employee, including records of attendance at professional workshops and conferences, at a central location and in the employee's personnel file.

Sec. 23. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0945, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Payment rates.** (a) Notwithstanding sections 256B.19 and 256B.041, payments to counties for residential services provided by a residential facility shall only be made of federal earnings for services provided under this section, and the nonfederal share of costs for services provided under this section shall be paid by the county from sources other than federal funds or funds used to match other federal funds. Payment to counties for services provided according to this section shall be a proportion of the per day contract rate that relates to rehabilitative mental health services and shall not include payment for costs or services that are billed to the IV-E program as room and board.

(b) Per diem rates paid to providers under this section by prepaid plans shall be the proportion of the per-day contract rate that relates to rehabilitative mental health services and shall not include payment for group foster care costs or services that are billed to the county of financial responsibility.

(c) The commissioner shall set aside a portion not to exceed five percent of the federal funds earned for county expenditures under this section to cover the state costs of administering this section. Any unexpended funds from the set-aside shall be distributed to the counties in proportion to their earnings under this section.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2009.

Sec. 24. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.69, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Limitation of choice.** (a) The commissioner shall develop criteria to determine when limitation of choice may be implemented in the experimental counties. The criteria shall ensure that all eligible individuals in the county have continuing access to the full range of medical assistance services as specified in subdivision 6.

(b) The commissioner shall exempt the following persons from participation in the project, in addition to those who do not meet the criteria for limitation of choice:

- (1) persons eligible for medical assistance according to section 256B.055, subdivision 1;
- (2) persons eligible for medical assistance due to blindness or disability as determined by the Social Security Administration or the state medical review team, unless:
  - (i) they are 65 years of age or older; or
  - (ii) they reside in Itasca County or they reside in a county in which the commissioner conducts a pilot project under a waiver granted pursuant to section 1115 of the Social Security Act;
- (3) recipients who currently have private coverage through a health maintenance organization;
- (4) recipients who are eligible for medical assistance by spending down excess income for medical expenses other than the nursing facility per diem expense;
- (5) recipients who receive benefits under the Refugee Assistance Program, established under United States Code, title 8, section 1522(e);
- (6) children who are both determined to be severely emotionally disturbed and receiving case management services according to section 256B.0625, subdivision 20, except children who are eligible for and who decline enrollment in an approved preferred integrated network under section 245.4682;
- (7) adults who are both determined to be seriously and persistently mentally ill and received case management services according to section 256B.0625, subdivision 20;
- (8) persons eligible for medical assistance according to section 256B.057, subdivision 10; and
- (9) persons with access to cost-effective employer-sponsored private health insurance or persons enrolled in a non-Medicare individual health plan determined to be cost-effective according to section 256B.0625, subdivision 15.

Children under age 21 who are in foster placement may enroll in the project on an elective basis. Individuals excluded under clauses (1), (6), and (7) may choose to enroll on an elective basis. The commissioner may enroll recipients in the prepaid medical assistance program for seniors who are (1) age 65 and over, and (2) eligible for medical assistance by spending down excess income.

(c) The commissioner may allow persons with a one-month spenddown who are otherwise eligible to enroll to voluntarily enroll or remain enrolled, if they elect to prepay their monthly spenddown to the state.

(d) The commissioner may require those individuals to enroll in the prepaid medical assistance program who otherwise would have been excluded under paragraph (b), clauses (1), (3), and (8), and under Minnesota Rules, part 9500.1452, subpart 2, items H, K, and L.

(e) Before limitation of choice is implemented, eligible individuals shall be notified and after notification, shall be allowed to choose only among demonstration providers. The commissioner may assign an individual with private coverage through a health maintenance organization, to the same health maintenance organization for medical assistance coverage, if the health maintenance

organization is under contract for medical assistance in the individual's county of residence. After initially choosing a provider, the recipient is allowed to change that choice only at specified times as allowed by the commissioner. If a demonstration provider ends participation in the project for any reason, a recipient enrolled with that provider must select a new provider but may change providers without cause once more within the first 60 days after enrollment with the second provider.

(f) An infant born to a woman who is eligible for and receiving medical assistance and who is enrolled in the prepaid medical assistance program shall be retroactively enrolled to the month of birth in the same managed care plan as the mother once the child is enrolled in medical assistance unless the child is determined to be excluded from enrollment in a prepaid plan under this section.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2009.

Sec. 25. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.69, subdivision 5g, is amended to read:

Subd. 5g. **Payment for covered services.** For services rendered on or after January 1, 2003, the total payment made to managed care plans for providing covered services under the medical assistance and general assistance medical care programs is reduced by .5 percent from their current statutory rates. This provision excludes payments for nursing home services, home and community-based waivers, ~~and~~ payments to demonstration projects for persons with disabilities, and mental health services added as covered benefits after December 31, 2007.

Sec. 26. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.69, subdivision 5h, is amended to read:

Subd. 5h. **Payment reduction.** In addition to the reduction in subdivision 5g, the total payment made to managed care plans under the medical assistance program is reduced 1.0 percent for services provided on or after October 1, 2003, and an additional 1.0 percent for services provided on or after January 1, 2004. This provision excludes payments for nursing home services, home and community-based waivers, ~~and~~ payments to demonstration projects for persons with disabilities, and mental health services added as covered benefits after December 31, 2007.

Sec. 27. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.763, is amended to read:

**256B.763 CRITICAL ACCESS MENTAL HEALTH RATE INCREASE.**

(a) For services defined in paragraph (b) and rendered on or after July 1, 2007, payment rates shall be increased by 23.7 percent over the rates in effect on January 1, 2006, for:

(1) psychiatrists and advanced practice registered nurses with a psychiatric specialty;

(2) community mental health centers under section 256B.0625, subdivision 5; and

(3) mental health clinics and centers certified under Minnesota Rules, parts 9520.0750 to 9520.0870, or hospital outpatient psychiatric departments that are designated as essential community providers under section 62Q.19.

(b) This increase applies to group skills training when provided as a component of children's therapeutic services and support, psychotherapy, medication management, evaluation and management, diagnostic assessment, explanation of findings, psychological testing, neuropsychological services, direction of behavioral aides, and inpatient consultation.

(c) This increase does not apply to rates that are governed by section 256B.0625, subdivision 30,

or 256B.761, paragraph (b), other cost-based rates, rates that are negotiated with the county, rates that are established by the federal government, or rates that increased between January 1, 2004, and January 1, 2005.

(d) The commissioner shall adjust rates paid to prepaid health plans under contract with the commissioner to reflect the rate increases provided in ~~paragraph~~ paragraphs (a), (e), and (f). The prepaid health plan must pass this rate increase to the providers identified in ~~paragraph~~ paragraphs (a), (e), (f), and (g).

(e) Payment rates shall be increased by 23.7 percent over the rates in effect on December 31, 2007, for:

(1) medication education services provided on or after January 1, 2008, by adult rehabilitative mental health services providers certified under section 256B.0623; and

(2) mental health behavioral aide services provided on or after January 1, 2008, by children's therapeutic services and support providers certified under section 256B.0943.

(f) For services defined in paragraph (b) and rendered on or after January 1, 2008, by children's therapeutic services and support providers certified under section 256B.0943 and not already included in paragraph (a), payment rates shall be increased by 23.7 percent over the rates in effect on December 31, 2007.

(g) Payment rates shall be increased by 2.3 percent over the rates in effect on December 31, 2007, for individual and family skills training provided on or after January 1, 2008, by children's therapeutic services and support providers certified under section 256B.0943.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2008.

Sec. 28. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256D.03, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **General assistance medical care; services.** (a)(i) For a person who is eligible under subdivision 3, paragraph (a), clause (2), item (i), general assistance medical care covers, except as provided in paragraph (c):

(1) inpatient hospital services;

(2) outpatient hospital services;

(3) services provided by Medicare certified rehabilitation agencies;

(4) prescription drugs and other products recommended through the process established in section 256B.0625, subdivision 13;

(5) equipment necessary to administer insulin and diagnostic supplies and equipment for diabetics to monitor blood sugar level;

(6) eyeglasses and eye examinations provided by a physician or optometrist;

(7) hearing aids;

(8) prosthetic devices;

(9) laboratory and X-ray services;

- (10) physician's services;
  - (11) medical transportation except special transportation;
  - (12) chiropractic services as covered under the medical assistance program;
  - (13) podiatric services;
  - (14) dental services as covered under the medical assistance program;
  - (15) ~~outpatient services provided by a mental health center or clinic that is under contract with the county board and is established under section 245.62~~ mental health services covered under chapter 256B;
  - ~~(16) day treatment services for mental illness provided under contract with the county board;~~
  - ~~(17)~~ (16) prescribed medications for persons who have been diagnosed as mentally ill as necessary to prevent more restrictive institutionalization;
  - ~~(18) psychological services,~~ (17) medical supplies and equipment, and Medicare premiums, coinsurance and deductible payments;
  - ~~(19)~~ (18) medical equipment not specifically listed in this paragraph when the use of the equipment will prevent the need for costlier services that are reimbursable under this subdivision;
  - ~~(20)~~ (19) services performed by a certified pediatric nurse practitioner, a certified family nurse practitioner, a certified adult nurse practitioner, a certified obstetric/gynecological nurse practitioner, a certified neonatal nurse practitioner, or a certified geriatric nurse practitioner in independent practice, if (1) the service is otherwise covered under this chapter as a physician service, (2) the service provided on an inpatient basis is not included as part of the cost for inpatient services included in the operating payment rate, and (3) the service is within the scope of practice of the nurse practitioner's license as a registered nurse, as defined in section 148.171;
  - ~~(21)~~ (20) services of a certified public health nurse or a registered nurse practicing in a public health nursing clinic that is a department of, or that operates under the direct authority of, a unit of government, if the service is within the scope of practice of the public health nurse's license as a registered nurse, as defined in section 148.171; and
  - ~~(22)~~ (21) telemedicine consultations, to the extent they are covered under section 256B.0625, subdivision 3b; and
  - ~~(23) mental health telemedicine and psychiatric consultation as covered under section 256B.0625, subdivisions 46 and 48.~~
- (ii) Effective October 1, 2003, for a person who is eligible under subdivision 3, paragraph (a), clause (2), item (ii), general assistance medical care coverage is limited to inpatient hospital services, including physician services provided during the inpatient hospital stay. A \$1,000 deductible is required for each inpatient hospitalization.
- (b) Effective August 1, 2005, sex reassignment surgery is not covered under this subdivision.
- (c) In order to contain costs, the commissioner of human services shall select vendors of medical care who can provide the most economical care consistent with high medical standards



and shall where possible contract with organizations on a prepaid capitation basis to provide these services. The commissioner shall consider proposals by counties and vendors for prepaid health plans, competitive bidding programs, block grants, or other vendor payment mechanisms designed to provide services in an economical manner or to control utilization, with safeguards to ensure that necessary services are provided. Before implementing prepaid programs in counties with a county operated or affiliated public teaching hospital or a hospital or clinic operated by the University of Minnesota, the commissioner shall consider the risks the prepaid program creates for the hospital and allow the county or hospital the opportunity to participate in the program in a manner that reflects the risk of adverse selection and the nature of the patients served by the hospital, provided the terms of participation in the program are competitive with the terms of other participants considering the nature of the population served. Payment for services provided pursuant to this subdivision shall be as provided to medical assistance vendors of these services under sections 256B.02, subdivision 8, and 256B.0625. For payments made during fiscal year 1990 and later years, the commissioner shall consult with an independent actuary in establishing prepayment rates, but shall retain final control over the rate methodology.

(d) Recipients eligible under subdivision 3, paragraph (a), shall pay the following co-payments for services provided on or after October 1, 2003:

(1) \$25 for eyeglasses;

(2) \$25 for nonemergency visits to a hospital-based emergency room;

(3) \$3 per brand-name drug prescription and \$1 per generic drug prescription, subject to a \$12 per month maximum for prescription drug co-payments. No co-payments shall apply to antipsychotic drugs when used for the treatment of mental illness; and

(4) 50 percent coinsurance on restorative dental services.

(e) Co-payments shall be limited to one per day per provider for nonpreventive visits, eyeglasses, and nonemergency visits to a hospital-based emergency room. Recipients of general assistance medical care are responsible for all co-payments in this subdivision. The general assistance medical care reimbursement to the provider shall be reduced by the amount of the co-payment, except that reimbursement for prescription drugs shall not be reduced once a recipient has reached the \$12 per month maximum for prescription drug co-payments. The provider collects the co-payment from the recipient. Providers may not deny services to recipients who are unable to pay the co-payment, except as provided in paragraph (f).

(f) If it is the routine business practice of a provider to refuse service to an individual with uncollected debt, the provider may include uncollected co-payments under this section. A provider must give advance notice to a recipient with uncollected debt before services can be denied.

(g) Any county may, from its own resources, provide medical payments for which state payments are not made.

(h) Chemical dependency services that are reimbursed under chapter 254B must not be reimbursed under general assistance medical care.

(i) The maximum payment for new vendors enrolled in the general assistance medical care program after the base year shall be determined from the average usual and customary charge of the same vendor type enrolled in the base year.

(j) The conditions of payment for services under this subdivision are the same as the conditions specified in rules adopted under chapter 256B governing the medical assistance program, unless otherwise provided by statute or rule.

(k) Inpatient and outpatient payments shall be reduced by five percent, effective July 1, 2003. This reduction is in addition to the five percent reduction effective July 1, 2003, and incorporated by reference in paragraph (i).

(l) Payments for all other health services except inpatient, outpatient, and pharmacy services shall be reduced by five percent, effective July 1, 2003.

(m) Payments to managed care plans shall be reduced by five percent for services provided on or after October 1, 2003.

(n) A hospital receiving a reduced payment as a result of this section may apply the unpaid balance toward satisfaction of the hospital's bad debts.

(o) Fee-for-service payments for nonpreventive visits shall be reduced by \$3 for services provided on or after January 1, 2006. For purposes of this subdivision, a visit means an episode of service which is required because of a recipient's symptoms, diagnosis, or established illness, and which is delivered in an ambulatory setting by a physician or physician ancillary, chiropractor, podiatrist, advance practice nurse, audiologist, optician, or optometrist.

(p) Payments to managed care plans shall not be increased as a result of the removal of the \$3 nonpreventive visit co-payment effective January 1, 2006.

(q) Payments for mental health services added as covered benefits after December 31, 2007, are not subject to the reductions in paragraphs (i), (k), (l), and (m).

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2008, except mental health case management under paragraph (a), clause (i), item (15), is effective January 1, 2009.

Sec. 29. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256L.03, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Covered health services.** For individuals under section 256L.04, subdivision 7, with income no greater than 75 percent of the federal poverty guidelines or for families with children under section 256L.04, subdivision 1, all subdivisions of this section apply. "Covered health services" means the health services reimbursed under chapter 256B, with the exception of inpatient hospital services, special education services, private duty nursing services, adult dental care services other than services covered under section 256B.0625, subdivision 9, orthodontic services, nonemergency medical transportation services, personal care assistant and case management services, nursing home or intermediate care facilities services, inpatient mental health services, and chemical dependency services. ~~Outpatient mental health services covered under the MinnesotaCare program are limited to diagnostic assessments, psychological testing, explanation of findings, mental health telemedicine, psychiatric consultation, medication management by a physician, day treatment, partial hospitalization, and individual, family, and group psychotherapy.~~

No public funds shall be used for coverage of abortion under MinnesotaCare except where the life of the female would be endangered or substantial and irreversible impairment of a major bodily function would result if the fetus were carried to term; or where the pregnancy is the result of rape or incest.

Covered health services shall be expanded as provided in this section.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2008, except coverage for mental health case management under subdivision 1 is effective January 1, 2009.

Sec. 30. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256L.03, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **Co-payments and coinsurance.** (a) Except as provided in paragraphs (b) and (c), the MinnesotaCare benefit plan shall include the following co-payments and coinsurance requirements for all enrollees:

(1) ten percent of the paid charges for inpatient hospital services for adult enrollees, subject to an annual inpatient out-of-pocket maximum of \$1,000 per individual and \$3,000 per family;

(2) \$3 per prescription for adult enrollees;

(3) \$25 for eyeglasses for adult enrollees;

(4) \$3 per nonpreventive visit. For purposes of this subdivision, a "visit" means an episode of service which is required because of a recipient's symptoms, diagnosis, or established illness, and which is delivered in an ambulatory setting by a physician or physician ancillary, chiropractor, podiatrist, nurse midwife, advanced practice nurse, audiologist, optician, or optometrist; and

(5) \$6 for nonemergency visits to a hospital-based emergency room.

(b) Paragraph (a), clause (1), does not apply to parents and relative caretakers of children under the age of 21 in households with family income equal to or less than 175 percent of the federal poverty guidelines. Paragraph (a), clause (1), does not apply to parents and relative caretakers of children under the age of 21 in households with family income greater than 175 percent of the federal poverty guidelines for inpatient hospital admissions occurring on or after January 1, 2001.

(c) Paragraph (a), clauses (1) to (4), do not apply to pregnant women and children under the age of 21.

(d) Paragraph (a), clause (4), does not apply to mental health services.

(e) Adult enrollees with family gross income that exceeds 175 percent of the federal poverty guidelines and who are not pregnant shall be financially responsible for the coinsurance amount, if applicable, and amounts which exceed the \$10,000 inpatient hospital benefit limit.

~~(e)~~ (f) When a MinnesotaCare enrollee becomes a member of a prepaid health plan, or changes from one prepaid health plan to another during a calendar year, any charges submitted towards the \$10,000 annual inpatient benefit limit, and any out-of-pocket expenses incurred by the enrollee for inpatient services, that were submitted or incurred prior to enrollment, or prior to the change in health plans, shall be disregarded.

Sec. 31. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256L.12, subdivision 9a, is amended to read:

Subd. 9a. **Rate setting; ratable reduction.** For services rendered on or after October 1, 2003, the total payment made to managed care plans under the MinnesotaCare program is reduced 1.0 percent. This provision excludes payments for mental health services added as covered benefits after December 31, 2007.

Sec. 32. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 609.115, subdivision 9, is amended to read:

Subd. 9. **Compulsive gambling assessment required.** (a) If a person is convicted of theft under section 609.52, embezzlement of public funds under section 609.54, or forgery under section 609.625, 609.63, or 609.631, the probation officer shall determine in the report prepared under subdivision 1 whether or not compulsive gambling contributed to the commission of the offense. If so, the report shall contain the results of a compulsive gambling assessment conducted in accordance with this subdivision. The probation officer shall make an appointment for the offender to undergo the assessment if so indicated.

(b) The compulsive gambling assessment report must include a recommended level of treatment for the offender if the assessor concludes that the offender is in need of compulsive gambling treatment. The assessment must be conducted by an assessor qualified either under ~~section 245.98, subdivision 2a~~ Minnesota Rules, part 9585.0040, subpart 1, item C, or qualifications determined to be equivalent by the commissioner, to perform these assessments or to provide compulsive gambling treatment. An assessor providing a compulsive gambling assessment may not have any direct or shared financial interest or referral relationship resulting in shared financial gain with a treatment provider. If an independent assessor is not available, the probation officer may use the services of an assessor with a financial interest or referral relationship as authorized under rules adopted by the commissioner of human services under section 245.98, subdivision 2a.

(c) The commissioner of human services shall reimburse the assessor for ~~the costs associated with a~~ each compulsive gambling assessment at a rate established by the commissioner ~~up to a maximum of \$100 for each assessment.~~ To the extent practicable, the commissioner shall standardize reimbursement rates for assessments. ~~The commissioner shall reimburse these costs~~ the assessor after receiving written verification from the probation officer that the assessment was performed and found acceptable.

Sec. 33. **REPORT.**

The commissioner shall make a report to the legislature by January 15, 2008, regarding the transfer of funds to counties for state registered nurses employed in community mental health pilot projects as part of the assertive community treatment teams under Minnesota Statutes, section 245.4661. The report shall address the impact of the nursing shortage on replacing these positions, continuity of patient care if these positions cannot be filled, and ways to maintain state registered nurses in these positions until the nurse retires or leaves employment. No funds for state registered nurse positions referenced in this section may be transferred before the report date. This section does not apply to positions vacated by routine attrition.

Sec. 34. **CASE MANAGEMENT; BEST PRACTICES.**

The commissioner of human services, in consultation with consumers, families, counties, and other interested stakeholders, will develop recommendations for changes in the adult mental health act related to case management, consistent with evidence-based and best practices.

Sec. 35. **REGIONAL CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH INITIATIVE.**

Subdivision 1. **Pilot project authorized; purpose.** A two-year Regional Children's Mental Health Initiative pilot project is established to improve children's mental health service coordination, communication, and processes in Blue Earth, Brown, Faribault, Freeborn, Le Sueur, Martin,

Nicollet, Rice, Sibley, Waseca, and Watonwan Counties. The purpose of the Regional Children's Mental Health Initiative will be to plan and develop new programs and services related to children's mental health in south central Minnesota.

Subd. 2. **Goals.** To accomplish its purpose, the Regional Children's Mental Health Initiative shall have the following goals:

- (1) work to streamline delivery and regional access to services;
- (2) share strategies and resources for the management of out-of-home placements;
- (3) establish standard protocols and operating procedures for functions that are performed across all counties;
- (4) share information to improve resource allocation and service delivery across counties;
- (5) evaluate outcomes of various treatment alternatives;
- (6) create a network for and provide support to service delivery groups;
- (7) establish a regional process to match children in need of out-of-home placement with foster homes that can meet their needs; and
- (8) recruit and retain foster homes.

Subd. 3. **Director's Council.** The Director's Council shall govern the operations of the Regional Children's Mental Health Initiative. Members of the Director's Council shall represent each of the 11 counties participating in the pilot project.

Subd. 4. **Regional Children's Mental Health Initiative Team.** The members of the Regional Children's Mental Health Initiative Team shall conduct planning and development of new and modified children's mental health programs and services in the region. Members of the team shall reflect the cultural, demographic, and geographic diversity of the region and shall be composed of representatives from each of the following:

- (1) the medical community;
- (2) human services;
- (3) corrections;
- (4) education;
- (5) mental health providers and vendors;
- (6) advocacy organizations;
- (7) parents; and
- (8) children and youth.

Subd. 5. **Authority.** The regional children's mental health initiative shall have the authority to develop and implement the following programs:

- (1) Flexible funding payments. This program will make funds available to respond to the unique

and unpredictable needs of children with mental health issues such as the need for prescription drugs, transportation, clothing, and assessments not otherwise available.

(2) Transition to self-sufficiency. This program will help youths between the ages of 14 and 21 establish professional relationships, find jobs, build financial foundations, and learn to fulfill their roles as productive citizens.

(3) Crisis response. This program will establish public and private partnerships to offer a range of options to meet the needs of children in crisis. Methods to meet these needs may include accessible local services, holistic assessments, urgent care and stabilization services, and telehealth for specialized diagnosis and therapeutic sessions.

(4) Integrated services for complex conditions. This program will design, develop, and implement packages of integrated services to meet the needs of children with specific, complex conditions.

Subd. 6. **Evaluation and report.** The regional children's mental health initiative shall develop a method for evaluating the effectiveness of this pilot project focusing on identifiable goals and outcomes. An interim report on the pilot project's effectiveness shall be submitted to the house and senate finance committees having jurisdiction over mental health, the commissioner of human services, and the Minnesota Association of County Social Service Administrators no later than December 31, 2008. A final report is due no later than December 31, 2009.

Sec. 36. **MINNESOTA FAMILY INVESTMENT PROGRAM AND CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH PILOT PROJECT.**

Subdivision 1. **Pilot project authorized.** The commissioner of human services shall fund a three-year pilot project to measure the effect of children's identified mental health needs, including social and emotional needs, on Minnesota family investment program (MFIP) participants' ability to obtain and retain employment. The project shall also measure the effect on work activity of MFIP participants' needs to address their children's identified mental health needs.

Subd. 2. **Provider and agency proposals.** (a) Interested MFIP providers and agencies shall:

(1) submit proposals defining how they will identify participants whose children have mental health needs that hinder the employment process;

(2) connect families with appropriate developmental, social, and emotional screenings and services; and

(3) incorporate those services into the participant's employment plan.

Each proposal under this paragraph must include an evaluation component.

(b) Interested MFIP providers and agencies shall develop a protocol to inform MFIP participants of the following:

(1) the availability of developmental, social, and emotional screening tools for children and youth;

(2) the purpose of the screenings;

(3) how the information will be used to assist the participants in identifying and addressing potential barriers to employment; and

(4) that their employment plan may be modified based on the screening results.

Subd. 3. **Program components.** (a) MFIP providers shall obtain the participant's written consent for participation in the pilot project, including consent for developmental, social, and emotional screening.

(b) MFIP providers shall coordinate with county social service agencies and health plans to assist recipients in arranging referrals indicated by the screening results.

(c) Tools used for developmental, social, and emotional screenings shall be approved by the commissioner of human services.

Subd. 4. **Program evaluation.** The commissioner of human services shall conduct an evaluation of the pilot project to determine:

(1) the number of participants who took part in the screening;

(2) the number of children who were screened and what screening tools were used;

(3) the number of children who were identified in the screening who needed referral or follow-up services;

(4) the number of children who received services, what agency provided the services, and what type of services were provided;

(5) the number of employment plans that were adjusted to include the activities recommended in the screenings;

(6) the changes in work participation rates;

(7) the changes in earned income;

(8) the changes in sanction rates; and

(9) the participants' report of program effectiveness.

Subd. 5. **Work activity.** Participant involvement in screenings and subsequent referral and follow-up services shall count as work activity under Minnesota Statutes, section 256J.49, subdivision 13.

Subd. 6. **Evaluation.** Of the amounts appropriated, the commissioner may use up to \$100,000 for evaluation of this pilot.

### Sec. 37. **SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC COSTS OF GAMBLING.**

Subdivision 1. **Report.** The commissioner of human services, in consultation with the state affiliate of the National Council on Problem Gambling, stakeholders, and licensed vendors, shall prepare a report that provides a process and funding mechanism to study the issues in subdivisions 2 and 3. The commissioner, in consultation with the state affiliate of the National Council on Problem Gambling, stakeholders, and licensed vendors, shall include in the report potential financial commitments made by stakeholders and others in order to fund the study. The report is due to the

legislative committees having jurisdiction over compulsive gambling issues by December 1, 2007.

Subd. 2. **Issues to be addressed.** The study must address:

(1) state, local, and tribal government policies and practices in Minnesota to legalize or prohibit gambling;

(2) the relationship between gambling and crime in Minnesota, including: (i) the relationship between gambling and overall crime rates; (ii) the relationship between gambling and crimes rates for specific crimes, such as forgery, domestic abuse, child neglect and abuse, alcohol and drug offenses, and youth crime; and (iii) enforcement and regulation practices that are intended to address the relationship between gambling and levels of crime;

(3) the relationship between expanded gambling and increased rates of problem gambling in Minnesota, including the impact of pathological or problem gambling on individuals, families, businesses, social institutions, and the economy;

(4) the social impact of gambling on individuals, families, businesses, and social institutions in Minnesota, including an analysis of the relationship between gambling and depression, abuse, divorce, homelessness, suicide, and bankruptcy;

(5) the economic impact of gambling on state, local, and tribal economies in Minnesota; and

(6) any other issues deemed necessary in assessing the social and economic impact of gambling in Minnesota.

Subd. 3. **Quantification of social and economic impact.** The study shall quantify the social and economic impact on both (1) state, local, and tribal governments in Minnesota, and (2) Minnesota's communities and social institutions, including individuals, families, and businesses within those communities and institutions.

Sec. 38. **REVISOR'S INSTRUCTION.**

(a) The revisor of statutes shall change the references to sections "245.487 to 245.4887" wherever it appears in statutes or rules to sections "245.487 to 245.4889."

(b) The revisor of statutes shall correct all internal references that are necessary from the relettering in section 20.

Sec. 39. **REPEALER.**

Minnesota Rules, part 9585.0030, is repealed.

## ARTICLE 9

### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH POLICY

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 62J.17, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Definitions.** For purposes of this section, the terms defined in this subdivision have the meanings given.

~~(a) "Access" means the financial, temporal, and geographic availability of health care to individuals who need it.~~



~~(b)~~ (a) "Capital expenditure" means an expenditure which, under generally accepted accounting principles, is not properly chargeable as an expense of operation and maintenance.

~~(c)~~ "Cost" means the amount paid by consumers or third party payers for health care services or products.

~~(d)~~ "Date of the major spending commitment" means the date the provider formally obligated itself to the major spending commitment. The obligation may be incurred by entering into a contract, making a down payment, issuing bonds or entering a loan agreement to provide financing for the major spending commitment, or taking some other formal, tangible action evidencing the provider's intention to make the major spending commitment.

~~(e)~~ (b) "Health care service" means:

(1) a service or item that would be covered by the medical assistance program under chapter 256B if provided in accordance with medical assistance requirements to an eligible medical assistance recipient; and

(2) a service or item that would be covered by medical assistance except that it is characterized as experimental, cosmetic, or voluntary.

"Health care service" does not include retail, over-the-counter sales of nonprescription drugs and other retail sales of health-related products that are not generally paid for by medical assistance and other third-party coverage.

~~(f)~~ (c) "Major spending commitment" means an expenditure in excess of \$1,000,000 for:

(1) acquisition of a unit of medical equipment;

(2) a capital expenditure for a single project for the purposes of providing health care services, other than for the acquisition of medical equipment;

(3) offering a new specialized service not offered before;

(4) planning for an activity that would qualify as a major spending commitment under this paragraph; or

(5) a project involving a combination of two or more of the activities in clauses (1) to (4).

The cost of acquisition of medical equipment, and the amount of a capital expenditure, is the total cost to the provider regardless of whether the cost is distributed over time through a lease arrangement or other financing or payment mechanism.

~~(g)~~ (d) "Medical equipment" means fixed and movable equipment that is used by a provider in the provision of a health care service. "Medical equipment" includes, but is not limited to, the following:

(1) an extracorporeal shock wave lithotripter;

(2) a computerized axial tomography (CAT) scanner;

(3) a magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) unit;

(4) a positron emission tomography (PET) scanner; and

(5) emergency and nonemergency medical transportation equipment and vehicles.

~~(h)~~(e) "New specialized service" means a specialized health care procedure or treatment regimen offered by a provider that was not previously offered by the provider, including, but not limited to:

(1) cardiac catheterization services involving high-risk patients as defined in the Guidelines for Coronary Angiography established by the American Heart Association and the American College of Cardiology;

(2) heart, heart-lung, liver, kidney, bowel, or pancreas transplantation service, or any other service for transplantation of any other organ;

(3) megavoltage radiation therapy;

(4) open heart surgery;

(5) neonatal intensive care services; and

(6) any new medical technology for which premarket approval has been granted by the United States Food and Drug Administration, excluding implantable and wearable devices.

(f) "Specialty care" includes but is not limited to cardiac, neurology, orthopedic, obstetrics, mental health, chemical dependency, and emergency services.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 62J.17, subdivision 4a, is amended to read:

Subd. 4a. **Expenditure reporting.** ~~(a) A provider making a major spending commitment after April 1, 1992, shall submit notification of the expenditure to the commissioner and provide the commissioner with any relevant background information.~~

~~(b) Notification must include a report, submitted within 60 days after the date of the major spending commitment, using terms conforming to the definitions in section 62J.03 and this section. Each report is subject to retrospective review and must contain:~~

~~(1) a detailed description of the major spending commitment, including the specific dollar amount of each expenditure, and its purpose;~~

~~(2) the date of the major spending commitment;~~

~~(3) a statement of the expected impact that the major spending commitment will have on charges by the provider to patients and third-party payers;~~

~~(4) a statement of the expected impact on the clinical effectiveness or quality of care received by the patients that the provider expects to serve;~~

~~(5) a statement of the extent to which equivalent services or technology are already available to the provider's actual and potential patient population;~~

~~(6) a statement of the distance from which the nearest equivalent services or technology are already available to the provider's actual and potential population;~~

~~(7) a statement describing the pursuit of any lawful collaborative arrangements; and~~

~~(8) a statement of assurance that the provider will not use, purchase, or perform health care~~

~~technologies and procedures that are not clinically effective and cost-effective, unless the technology is used for experimental or research purposes to determine whether a technology or procedure is clinically effective and cost-effective.~~

~~The provider may submit any additional information that it deems relevant.~~

~~(e) The commissioner may request additional information from a provider for the purpose of review of a report submitted by that provider, and may consider relevant information from other sources. A provider shall provide any information requested by the commissioner within the time period stated in the request, or within 30 days after the date of the request if the request does not state a time.~~

~~(d) If the provider fails to submit a complete and timely expenditure report, including any additional information requested by the commissioner, the commissioner may make the provider's subsequent major spending commitments subject to the procedures of prospective review and approval under subdivision 6a.~~

Each hospital, outpatient surgical center, diagnostic imaging center, and physician clinic shall report annually to the commissioner on all major spending commitments, in the form and manner specified by the commissioner. The report shall include the following information:

(a) a description of major spending commitments made during the previous year, including the total dollar amount of major spending commitments and purpose of the expenditures;

(b) the cost of land acquisition, construction of new facilities, and renovation of existing facilities;

(c) the cost of purchased or leased medical equipment, by type of equipment;

(d) expenditures by type for specialty care and new specialized services;

(e) information on the amount and types of added capacity for diagnostic imaging services, outpatient surgical services, and new specialized services; and

(f) information on investments in electronic medical records systems.

For hospitals and outpatient surgical centers, this information shall be included in reports to the commissioner that are required under section 144.698. For diagnostic imaging centers, this information shall be included in reports to the commissioner that are required under section 144.565. For physician clinics, this information shall be included in reports to the commissioner that are required under section 62J.41. For all other health care providers that are subject to this reporting requirement, reports must be submitted to the commissioner by March 1 each year for the preceding calendar year.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 62J.17, subdivision 6a, is amended to read:

Subd. 6a. **Prospective review and approval.** (a) No health care provider subject to prospective review under this subdivision shall make a major spending commitment unless:

(1) the provider has filed an application with the commissioner to proceed with the major spending commitment and has provided all supporting documentation and evidence requested by the commissioner; and

(2) the commissioner determines, based upon this documentation and evidence, that the major spending commitment is appropriate under the criteria provided in subdivision 5a in light of the alternatives available to the provider.

(b) A provider subject to prospective review and approval shall submit an application to the commissioner before proceeding with any major spending commitment. ~~The application must address each item listed in subdivision 4a, paragraph (a), and must also include documentation to support the response to each item.~~ The provider may submit information, with supporting documentation, regarding why the major spending commitment should be excepted from prospective review under subdivision 7. ~~The submission may be made either in addition to or instead of the submission of information relating to the items listed in subdivision 4a, paragraph (a).~~

(c) The commissioner shall determine, based upon the information submitted, whether the major spending commitment is appropriate under the criteria provided in subdivision 5a, or whether it should be excepted from prospective review under subdivision 7. In making this determination, the commissioner may also consider relevant information from other sources. At the request of the commissioner, the health technology advisory committee shall convene an expert review panel made up of persons with knowledge and expertise regarding medical equipment, specialized services, health care expenditures, and capital expenditures to review applications and make recommendations to the commissioner. The commissioner shall make a decision on the application within 60 days after an application is received.

(d) The commissioner of health has the authority to issue fines, seek injunctions, and pursue other remedies as provided by law.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 62J.17, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Exceptions.** (a) ~~The retrospective review process as described in subdivision 5a and the prospective review and approval process as described in subdivision 6a reporting requirement in subdivision 4a do~~ does not apply to:

~~(1) a major spending commitment to replace existing equipment with comparable equipment used for direct patient care, upgrades of equipment beyond the current model, or comparable model must be reported;~~

~~(2) (1) a major spending commitment made by a research and teaching institution for purposes of conducting medical education, medical research supported or sponsored by a medical school, or by a federal or foundation grant or clinical trials;~~

~~(3) a major spending commitment to repair, remodel, or replace existing buildings or fixtures if, in the judgment of the commissioner, the project does not involve a substantial expansion of service capacity or a substantial change in the nature of health care services provided;~~

~~(4) (2) a major spending commitment for building maintenance including heating, water, electricity, and other maintenance-related expenditures; and~~

~~(5) (3) a major spending commitment for activities, not directly related to the delivery of patient care services, including food service, laundry, housekeeping, and other service-related activities; and.~~

~~(6) a major spending commitment for computer equipment or data systems not directly related~~

~~to the delivery of patient care services, including computer equipment or data systems related to medical record automation.~~

(b) In addition to the exceptions listed in paragraph (a), the ~~prospective review and approval process described in subdivision 6a~~ reporting requirement in subdivision 4a does not apply to mergers, acquisitions, and other changes in ownership or control that, in the judgment of the commissioner, do not involve a substantial expansion of service capacity or a substantial change in the nature of health care services provided.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 62J.41, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Cost containment data to be collected from providers.** The commissioner shall require health care providers to collect and provide both patient specific information and descriptive and financial aggregate data on:

- (1) the total number of patients served;
- (2) the total number of patients served by state of residence and Minnesota county;
- (3) the site or sites where the health care provider provides services;
- (4) the number of individuals employed, by type of employee, by the health care provider;
- (5) the services and their costs for which no payment was received;
- (6) total revenue by type of payer or by groups of payers, including but not limited to, revenue from Medicare, medical assistance, MinnesotaCare, nonprofit health service plan corporations, commercial insurers, health maintenance organizations, and individual patients;
- (7) revenue from research activities;
- (8) revenue from educational activities;
- (9) revenue from out-of-pocket payments by patients;
- (10) revenue from donations; ~~and~~
- (11) a report on health care capital expenditures during the previous year, as required by section 62J.17; and
- ~~(11)~~(12) any other data required by the commissioner, including data in unaggregated form, for the purposes of developing spending estimates, setting spending limits, monitoring actual spending, and monitoring costs.

The commissioner may, by rule, modify the data submission categories listed above if the commissioner determines that this will reduce the reporting burden on providers without having a significant negative effect on necessary data collection efforts.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 62J.52, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Uniform billing form CMS 1450.** (a) On and after January 1, 1996, all institutional inpatient hospital services, ancillary services, institutionally owned or operated outpatient services rendered by providers in Minnesota, and institutional or noninstitutional home health services that are not being billed using an equivalent electronic billing format, must be billed

using the uniform billing form CMS 1450, except as provided in subdivision 5.

(b) The instructions and definitions for the use of the uniform billing form CMS 1450 shall be in accordance with the uniform billing form manual specified by the commissioner. In promulgating these instructions, the commissioner may utilize the manual developed by the National Uniform Billing Committee, as adopted and finalized by the Minnesota Uniform Billing Committee.

(c) Services to be billed using the uniform billing form CMS 1450 include: institutional inpatient hospital services and distinct units in the hospital such as psychiatric unit services, physical therapy unit services, swing bed (SNF) services, inpatient state psychiatric hospital services, inpatient skilled nursing facility services, home health services (Medicare part A), and hospice services; ancillary services, where benefits are exhausted or patient has no Medicare part A, from hospitals, state psychiatric hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and home health (Medicare part B); institutional owned or operated outpatient services such as waived services, hospital outpatient services, including ambulatory surgical center services, hospital referred laboratory services, hospital-based ambulance services, and other hospital outpatient services, skilled nursing facilities, home health, freestanding renal dialysis centers, comprehensive outpatient rehabilitation facilities (CORF), outpatient rehabilitation facilities (ORF), rural health clinics, and community mental health centers; home health services such as home health intravenous therapy providers, waived services, personal care attendants, and hospice; and any other health care provider certified by the Medicare program to use this form.

(d) On and after January 1, 1996, a mother and newborn child must be billed separately, and must not be combined on one claim form.

(e) Services provided by Medicare Critical Access Hospitals electing Method II billing will be allowed an exception to this provision to allow the inclusion of the professional fees on the CMS 1450.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 62J.52, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Uniform billing form CMS 1500.** (a) On and after January 1, 1996, all noninstitutional health care services rendered by providers in Minnesota except dental or pharmacy providers, that are not currently being billed using an equivalent electronic billing format, must be billed using the health insurance claim form CMS 1500, except as provided in subdivision 5.

(b) The instructions and definitions for the use of the uniform billing form CMS 1500 shall be in accordance with the manual developed by the Administrative Uniformity Committee entitled standards for the use of the CMS 1500 form, dated February 1994, as further defined by the commissioner.

(c) Services to be billed using the uniform billing form CMS 1500 include physician services and supplies, durable medical equipment, noninstitutional ambulance services, independent ancillary services including occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech therapy and audiology, home infusion therapy, podiatry services, optometry services, mental health licensed professional services, substance abuse licensed professional services, nursing practitioner professional services, certified registered nurse anesthetists, chiropractors, physician assistants, laboratories, medical suppliers, and other health care providers such as day activity centers and freestanding ambulatory surgical centers.

(d) Services provided by Medicare Critical Access Hospitals electing Method II billing will be allowed an exception to this provision to allow the inclusion of the professional fees on the CMS 1450.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 62J.60, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

**Subd. 2. General characteristics.** (a) The Minnesota uniform health care identification card must be a preprinted card constructed of plastic, paper, or any other medium that conforms with ANSI and ISO 7810 physical characteristics standards. The card dimensions must also conform to ANSI and ISO 7810 physical characteristics standard. The use of a signature panel is optional. The uniform prescription drug information contained on the card must conform with the format adopted by the NCPDP and, except as provided in subdivision 3, paragraph (a), clause (2), must include all of the fields required to submit a claim in conformance with the most recent pharmacy identification card implementation guide produced by the NCPDP. All information required to submit a prescription drug claim, exclusive of information provided on a prescription that is required by law, must be included on the card in a clear, readable, and understandable manner. If a health benefit plan requires a conditional or situational field, as defined by the NCPDP, the conditional or situational field must conform to the most recent pharmacy information card implementation guide produced by the NCPDP.

(b) The Minnesota uniform health care identification card must have an essential information window on the front side with the following data elements: card issuer name, electronic transaction routing information, card issuer identification number, cardholder (insured) identification number, and cardholder (insured) identification name. No optional data may be interspersed between these data elements.

(c) Standardized labels are required next to human readable data elements and must come before the human data elements.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 62J.60, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

**Subd. 3. Human readable data elements.** (a) The following are the minimum human readable data elements that must be present on the front side of the Minnesota uniform health care identification card:

(1) card issuer name or logo, which is the name or logo that identifies the card issuer. The card issuer name or logo may be located at the top of the card. No standard label is required for this data element;

(2) complete electronic transaction routing information including, at a minimum, the international identification number. The standardized label of this data element is "RxBIN." Processor control numbers and group numbers are required if needed to electronically process a prescription drug claim. The standardized label for the process control numbers data element is "RxPCN" and the standardized label for the group numbers data element is "RxGrp," except that if the group number data element is a universal element to be used by all health care providers, the standardized label may be "Grp." To conserve vertical space on the card, the international identification number and the processor control number may be printed on the same line;

(3) cardholder (insured) identification number, which is the unique identification number of the individual card holder established and defined under this section. The standardized label for the data

element is "ID";

(4) cardholder (insured) identification name, which is the name of the individual card holder. The identification name must be formatted as follows: first name, space, optional middle initial, space, last name, optional space and name suffix. The standardized label for this data element is "Name";

(5) care type, which is the description of the group purchaser's plan product under which the beneficiary is covered. The description shall include the health plan company name and the plan or product name. The standardized label for this data element is "Care Type";

(6) service type, which is the description of coverage provided such as hospital, dental, vision, prescription, or mental health. The standard label for this data element is "Svc Type"; and

(7) provider/clinic name, which is the name of the primary care clinic the card holder is assigned to by the health plan company. The standard label for this field is "PCP." This information is mandatory only if the health plan company assigns a specific primary care provider to the card holder.

(b) The following human readable data elements shall be present on the back side of the Minnesota uniform health care identification card. These elements must be left justified, and no optional data elements may be interspersed between them:

(1) claims submission names and addresses, which are the names and addresses of the entity or entities to which claims should be submitted. If different destinations are required for different types of claims, this must be labeled;

(2) telephone numbers and names that pharmacies and other health care providers may call for assistance. These telephone numbers and names are required on the back side of the card only if one of the contacts listed in clause (3) cannot provide pharmacies or other providers with assistance or with the telephone numbers and names of contacts for assistance; and

(3) telephone numbers and names; which are the telephone numbers and names of the following contacts with a standardized label describing the service function as applicable:

(i) eligibility and benefit information;

(ii) utilization review;

(iii) precertification; or

(iv) customer services.

(c) The following human readable data elements are mandatory on the back side of the Minnesota uniform health care identification card for health maintenance organizations:

(1) emergency care authorization telephone number or instruction on how to receive authorization for emergency care. There is no standard label required for this information; and

(2) one of the following:

(i) telephone number to call to appeal to or file a complaint with the commissioner of health; or

(ii) for persons enrolled under section 256B.69, 256D.03, or 256L.12, the telephone number to



call to file a complaint with the ombudsperson designated by the commissioner of human services under section 256B.69 and the address to appeal to the commissioner of human services. There is no standard label required for this information.

(d) All human readable data elements not required under paragraphs (a) to (c) are optional and may be used at the issuer's discretion.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 62Q.80, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Approval.** (a) Prior to the operation of a community-based health care coverage program, a community-based health initiative shall submit to the commissioner of health for approval the community-based health care coverage program developed by the initiative. ~~The commissioner shall only approve a program that has been awarded a community access program grant from the United States Department of Health and Human Services.~~ The commissioner shall ensure that the program meets the federal grant requirements and any requirements described in this section and is actuarially sound based on a review of appropriate records and methods utilized by the community-based health initiative in establishing premium rates for the community-based health care coverage program.

(b) Prior to approval, the commissioner shall also ensure that:

(1) the benefits offered comply with subdivision 8 and that there are adequate numbers of health care providers participating in the community-based health network to deliver the benefits offered under the program;

(2) the activities of the program are limited to activities that are exempt under this section or otherwise from regulation by the commissioner of commerce;

(3) the complaint resolution process meets the requirements of subdivision 10; and

(4) the data privacy policies and procedures comply with state and federal law.

Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 62Q.80, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Establishment.** ~~(a)~~ The initiative shall establish and operate upon approval by the commissioner of health a community-based health care coverage program. The operational structure established by the initiative shall include, but is not limited to:

(1) establishing a process for enrolling eligible individuals and their dependents;

(2) collecting and coordinating premiums from enrollees and employers of enrollees;

(3) providing payment to participating providers;

(4) establishing a benefit set according to subdivision 8 and establishing premium rates and cost-sharing requirements;

(5) creating incentives to encourage primary care and wellness services; and

(6) initiating disease management services, as appropriate.

~~(b) The payments collected under paragraph (a), clause (2), may be used to capture available federal funds.~~

Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 62Q.80, subdivision 13, is amended to read:

Subd. 13. **Report.** (a) The initiative shall submit quarterly status reports to the commissioner of health on January 15, April 15, July 15, and October 15 of each year, with the first report due January 15, ~~2007~~ 2008. The status report shall include:

(1) the financial status of the program, including the premium rates, cost per member per month, claims paid out, premiums received, and administrative expenses;

(2) a description of the health care benefits offered and the services utilized;

(3) the number of employers participating, the number of employees and dependents covered under the program, and the number of health care providers participating;

(4) a description of the health outcomes to be achieved by the program and a status report on the performance measurements to be used and collected; and

(5) any other information requested by the commissioner of health or commerce or the legislature.

(b) The initiative shall contract with an independent entity to conduct an evaluation of the program to be submitted to the commissioners of health and commerce and the legislature by January 15, ~~2009~~ 2010. The evaluation shall include:

(1) an analysis of the health outcomes established by the initiative and the performance measurements to determine whether the outcomes are being achieved;

(2) an analysis of the financial status of the program, including the claims to premiums loss ratio and utilization and cost experience;

(3) the demographics of the enrollees, including their age, gender, family income, and the number of dependents;

(4) the number of employers and employees who have been denied access to the program and the basis for the denial;

(5) specific analysis on enrollees who have aggregate medical claims totaling over \$5,000 per year, including data on the enrollee's main diagnosis and whether all the medical claims were covered by the program;

(6) number of enrollees referred to state public assistance programs;

(7) a comparison of employer-subsidized health coverage provided in a comparable geographic area to the designated community-based geographic area served by the program, including, to the extent available:

(i) the difference in the number of employers with 50 or fewer employees offering employer-subsidized health coverage;

(ii) the difference in uncompensated care being provided in each area; and

(iii) a comparison of health care outcomes and measurements established by the initiative; and

(8) any other information requested by the commissioner of health or commerce.

Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 62Q.80, subdivision 14, is amended to read:

Subd. 14. **Sunset.** This section expires December 31, ~~2011~~ 2012.

Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 144.552, is amended to read:

**144.552 PUBLIC INTEREST REVIEW.**

(a) The following entities must submit a plan to the commissioner:

(1) a hospital seeking to increase its number of licensed beds; or

(2) an organization seeking to obtain a hospital license and notified by the commissioner under section 144.553, subdivision 1, paragraph (c), that it is subject to this section.

The plan must include information that includes an explanation of how the expansion will meet the public's interest. When submitting a plan to the commissioner, an applicant shall pay the commissioner for the commissioner's cost of reviewing and monitoring the plan, as determined by the commissioner and notwithstanding section 16A.1283. Money received by the commissioner under this section is appropriated to the commissioner for the purpose of administering this section.

(b) Plans submitted under this section shall include detailed information necessary for the commissioner to review the plan and reach a finding. The commissioner may request additional information from the hospital submitting a plan under this section and from others affected by the plan that the commissioner deems necessary to review the plan and make a finding.

(c) The commissioner shall review the plan and, within 90 days, but no more than six months if extenuating circumstances apply, issue a finding on whether the plan is in the public interest. In making the recommendation, the commissioner shall consider issues including but not limited to:

(1) whether the new hospital or hospital beds are needed to provide timely access to care or access to new or improved services;

(2) the financial impact of the new hospital or hospital beds on existing acute-care hospitals that have emergency departments in the region;

(3) how the new hospital or hospital beds will affect the ability of existing hospitals in the region to maintain existing staff;

(4) the extent to which the new hospital or hospital beds will provide services to nonpaying or low-income patients relative to the level of services provided to these groups by existing hospitals in the region; and

(5) the views of affected parties.

(d) If the plan is being submitted by an existing hospital seeking authority to construct a new hospital, the commissioner shall also consider:

(1) the ability of the applicant to maintain the applicant's current level of community benefit as defined in section 144.699, subdivision 5, at the existing facility; and

(2) the impact on the workforce at the existing facility including the applicant's plan for:

(i) transitioning current workers to the new facility;

(ii) retraining and employment security for current workers; and

(iii) addressing the impact of layoffs at the existing facility on affected workers.

(e) Prior to making a recommendation, the commissioner shall conduct a public hearing in the affected hospital service area to take testimony from interested persons.

~~(d)~~ (f) Upon making a recommendation under paragraph (c), the commissioner shall provide a copy of the recommendation to the chairs of the house and senate committees having jurisdiction over health and human services policy and finance.

(g) If an exception to the moratorium is approved under section 144.551 after a review under this section, the commissioner shall monitor the implementation of the exception up to completion of the construction project. Thirty days after completion of the construction project, the hospital shall submit to the commissioner a report on how the construction has met the provisions of the plan originally submitted under the public interest review process or a plan submitted pursuant to section 144.551, subdivision 1, paragraph (b), clause (20).

Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 144.553, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Process when hospital need is determined.** (a) If the commissioner determines that a new hospital is needed in the proposed service area, the commissioner shall notify the applicants of that finding and shall select the applicant determined under the process established in this subdivision to be best able to provide services consistent with the review criteria established in this subdivision.

(b) The commissioner shall:

(1) determine market-specific criteria that shall be used to evaluate all proposals. The criteria must include standards regarding:

(i) access to care;

(ii) quality of care;

(iii) cost of care; and

(iv) overall project feasibility;

(2) establish additional criteria at the commissioner's discretion. In establishing the criteria, the commissioner shall consider the need for:

(i) mental health services in the service area, including both inpatient and outpatient services for adults, adolescents, and children;

(ii) a significant commitment to providing uncompensated care, including discounts for uninsured patients and coordination with other providers of care to low-income uninsured persons; and

(iii) coordination with other hospitals so that specialized services are not unnecessarily duplicated and are provided in sufficient volume to ensure the maintenance of high-quality care; and

(3) define a service area for the proposed hospital. The service area shall consist of:

(i) in the 11-county metropolitan area, in St. Cloud, and in Duluth, the zip codes located within a 20-mile radius of the proposed new hospital location; and

(ii) in the remainder of the state, the zip codes within a 30-mile radius of the proposed new hospital location.

(c) If the plan is being submitted by an existing hospital, the commissioner shall also consider:

(1) the ability of the applicant to maintain the applicant's current level of community benefit as defined in section 144.699, subdivision 5, at the existing facility; and

(2) the impact on the workforce at the existing facility including the applicant's plan for:

(i) transitioning current workers to the new facility;

(ii) retraining and employment security for current workers; and

(iii) addressing the impact of layoffs at the existing facility on affected workers.

(d) The commissioner shall publish the criteria determined under ~~paragraph~~ paragraphs (b) and (c) in the State Register within 60 days of the determination under subdivision 2. Once published, the criteria shall not be modified with respect to the particular project and applicants to which they apply. The commissioner shall publish with the criteria guidelines for a proposal and submission review process.

~~(e)~~ (e) For 60 days after the publication under paragraph ~~(e)~~ (d), the commissioner shall accept proposals to construct a hospital from organizations that have submitted a letter of intent under subdivision 1, paragraph (a), or have notified the commissioner under subdivision 1, paragraph (b). The proposal must include a plan for the new hospital and evidence of compliance with the criteria specified under ~~paragraph~~ paragraphs (b) and (c). Once submitted, the proposal may not be revised except:

(1) to submit corrections of material facts; or

(2) in response to a request from the commissioner to provide clarification or further information.

~~(e)~~ (f) The commissioner shall determine within 90 days of the deadline for applications under paragraph ~~(d)~~ (e), which applicant has demonstrated that it is best able to provide services consistent with the published criteria. The commissioner shall make this determination by order following a hearing according to this paragraph. The hearing shall not constitute or be considered to be a contested case hearing under chapter 14 and shall be conducted solely under the procedures specified in this paragraph. The hearing shall commence upon at least 30 days' notice to the applicants by the commissioner. The hearing may be conducted by the commissioner or by a person designated by the commissioner. The designee may be an administrative law judge. The purpose of the hearing shall be to receive evidence to assist the commissioner in determining which applicant has demonstrated that it best meets the published criteria.

The parties to the hearing shall consist only of those applicants who have submitted a completed application. Each applicant shall have the right to be represented by counsel, to present evidence deemed relevant by the commissioner, and to examine and cross-examine witnesses. Persons who

are not parties to the proceeding but who wish to present comments or submit information may do so in the manner determined by the commissioner or the commissioner's designee. Any person who is not a party shall have no right to examine or cross-examine witnesses. The commissioner may participate as an active finder of fact in the hearing and may ask questions to elicit information or clarify answers or responses.

~~(f)~~ (g) Prior to making a determination selecting an application, the commissioner shall hold a public hearing in the proposed hospital service area to accept comments from members of the public. The commissioner shall take this information into consideration in making the determination. The commissioner ~~may~~ shall appoint an advisory committee, including legislators and local elected officials who represent the service area and outside experts to assist in the recommendation process. The legislative appointees shall include, at a minimum, the chairs of the senate and house of representatives committees with jurisdiction over health care policy. The commissioner shall issue an order selecting an application following the closing of the record of the hearing as determined by the hearing officer. The commissioner's order shall include a statement of the reasons the selected application best meets the published criteria.

~~(g)~~ (h) Within 30 days following the determination under paragraph ~~(e)~~ (f), the commissioner shall recommend the selected proposal to the legislature.

(i) If an exception to the moratorium is approved under section 144.551 after a review under this section, the commissioner shall monitor the implementation of the exception up to completion of the construction project. Thirty days after completion of the construction project, the hospital shall submit to the commissioner a report on how the construction has met the provisions of the plan originally submitted under the public interest review process or a plan submitted pursuant to section 144.551, subdivision 1, paragraph (b), clause (20).

Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 144.565, is amended to read:

#### **144.565 DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING FACILITIES.**

Subdivision 1. **Utilization and services data; economic and financial interests.** The commissioner shall require diagnostic imaging facilities and providers of diagnostic imaging services in Minnesota to ~~annually~~ report by March 1 each year for the preceding fiscal year to the commissioner, in the form and manner specified by the commissioner:

(1) utilization data for each health plan company and each public program, including workers' compensation, as follows: of diagnostic imaging services as defined in subdivision 4, paragraph (b);

~~(i) the number of computerized tomography (CT) procedures performed;~~

~~(ii) the number of magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) procedures performed; and~~

~~(iii) the number of positron emission tomography (PET) procedures performed; and~~

(2) the names of all physicians with any financial or economic interest excluding salaried physicians, unless the physicians' salary is adjusted for volume of service, and all other individuals with a ten percent or greater financial or economic interest in the facility;

(3) the location where procedures were performed;

(4) the number of units of each type of fixed, portable, and mobile scanner used at each location;

- (5) the average number of hours per month each mobile scanner was operated at each location;
- (6) the number of hours per month each scanner was leased, if applicable;
- (7) the total number of diagnostic imaging procedures billed for by the provider at each location, by type of diagnostic imaging service as defined in subdivision 4, paragraph (b); and
- (8) a report on major health care capital expenditures during the previous year, as required by section 62J.17.

Subd. 2. **Commissioner's right to inspect records.** If the report is not filed or the commissioner of health has reason to believe the report is incomplete or false, the commissioner shall have the right to inspect diagnostic imaging facility books, audits, and records.

Subd. 3. **Separate reports.** ~~For a diagnostic imaging facility that is not attached or not contiguous to a hospital or a hospital affiliate, the commissioner shall require the information in subdivision 1 be reported separately for each detached diagnostic imaging facility as part of the report required under section 144.702.~~ If any entity owns more than one diagnostic imaging facility, that entity must report by individual facility. Reports must include only services that were billed by the provider of diagnostic imaging services submitting the report. If a diagnostic imaging facility leases capacity, technical services, or professional services to one or more other providers of diagnostic imaging services, each provider must submit a separate annual report to the commissioner for all diagnostic imaging services that it provided and billed. The owner of the leased capacity must provide a report listing the names and addresses of providers to whom the diagnostic imaging services and equipment were leased.

Subd. 4. **Definitions.** For purposes of this section, the following terms have the meanings given:

(a) "Diagnostic imaging facility" means a health care facility that ~~provides~~ is not a hospital or location licensed as a hospital which offers diagnostic imaging services ~~through the use of ionizing radiation or other imaging technique including, but not limited to magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) or computerized tomography (CT) scan on a freestanding or mobile basis in Minnesota,~~ regardless of whether the equipment used to provide the service is owned or leased. For the purposes of this section, diagnostic imaging facility includes, but is not limited to, facilities such as a physician's office, clinic, mobile transport vehicle, outpatient imaging center, or surgical center.

(b) "Diagnostic imaging service" means the use of ionizing radiation or other imaging technique on a human patient including, but not limited to, magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) or computerized tomography (CT), positron emission tomography (PET), or single photon emission computerized tomography (SPECT) scans using fixed, portable, or mobile equipment.

~~(b)~~ (c) "Financial or economic interest" means a direct or indirect:

(1) equity or debt security issued by an entity, including, but not limited to, shares of stock in a corporation, membership in a limited liability company, beneficial interest in a trust, units or other interests in a partnership, bonds, debentures, notes or other equity interests or debt instruments, or any contractual arrangements;

(2) membership, proprietary interest, or co-ownership with an individual, group, or organization to which patients, clients, or customers are referred to; or

(3) employer-employee or independent contractor relationship, including, but not limited to, those that may occur in a limited partnership, profit-sharing arrangement, or other similar arrangement with any facility to which patients are referred, including any compensation between a facility and a health care provider, the group practice of which the provider is a member or employee or a related party with respect to any of them.

~~(e) (d) "Freestanding Fixed equipment" means a stationary diagnostic imaging facility that is not located within a:~~ machine installed in a permanent location.

~~(1) hospital;~~

~~(2) location licensed as a hospital; or~~

~~(3) physician's office or clinic where the professional practice of medicine by licensed physicians is the primary purpose and not the provision of ancillary services such as diagnostic imaging.~~

~~(d) (e) "Mobile equipment" means a diagnostic imaging facility that is transported to various sites not including movement within a hospital or a physician's office or clinic machine in a self-contained transport vehicle designed to be brought to a temporary offsite location to perform diagnostic imaging services.~~

~~(f) "Portable equipment" means a diagnostic imaging machine designed to be temporarily transported within a permanent location to perform diagnostic imaging services.~~

~~(g) "Provider of diagnostic imaging services" means a diagnostic imaging facility or an entity that offers and bills for diagnostic imaging services at a facility owned or leased by the entity.~~

Subd. 5. **Reports open to public inspection.** All reports filed pursuant to this section shall be open to public inspection.

Sec. 17. **[144.585] METHICILLIN-RESISTANT STAPHYLOCOCCUS AUREUS CONTROL PROGRAMS.**

In order to improve the prevention of hospital-associated infections due to methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus ("MRSA"), every hospital shall establish an MRSA control program that meets Minnesota Department of Health MRSA recommendations as published January 15, 2008. In developing the MRSA recommendations, the Department of Health shall consider the following infection control practices:

(1) identification of MRSA-colonized patients in all intensive care units, or other at-risk patients identified by the hospital;

(2) isolation of identified MRSA-colonized or MRSA-infected patients in an appropriate manner;

(3) adherence to hand hygiene requirements; and

(4) monitor trends in the incidence of MRSA in the hospital over time and modify interventions if MRSA infection rates do not decrease.

The Department of Health shall review the MRSA recommendations on an annual basis and revise the recommendations as necessary, in accordance with available scientific data.



Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 144.651, subdivision 9, is amended to read:

Subd. 9. **Information about treatment.** Patients and residents shall be given by their physicians complete and current information concerning their diagnosis, treatment, alternatives, risks, and prognosis as required by the physician's legal duty to disclose. This information shall be in terms and language the patients or residents can reasonably be expected to understand. Patients and residents may be accompanied by a family member or other chosen representative, or both. This information shall include the likely medical or major psychological results of the treatment and its alternatives. In cases where it is medically inadvisable, as documented by the attending physician in a patient's or resident's medical record, the information shall be given to the patient's or resident's guardian or other person designated by the patient or resident as a representative. Individuals have the right to refuse this information.

Every patient or resident suffering from any form of breast cancer shall be fully informed, prior to or at the time of admission and during her stay, of all alternative effective methods of treatment of which the treating physician is knowledgeable, including surgical, radiological, or chemotherapeutic treatments or combinations of treatments and the risks associated with each of those methods.

Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 144.651, subdivision 10, is amended to read:

Subd. 10. **Participation in planning treatment; notification of family members.** (a) Patients and residents shall have the right to participate in the planning of their health care. This right includes the opportunity to discuss treatment and alternatives with individual caregivers, the opportunity to request and participate in formal care conferences, and the right to include a family member or other chosen representative, or both. In the event that the patient or resident cannot be present, a family member or other representative chosen by the patient or resident may be included in such conferences. A chosen representative may include a doula of the patient's choice.

(b) If a patient or resident who enters a facility is unconscious or comatose or is unable to communicate, the facility shall make reasonable efforts as required under paragraph (c) to notify either a family member or a person designated in writing by the patient as the person to contact in an emergency that the patient or resident has been admitted to the facility. The facility shall allow the family member to participate in treatment planning, unless the facility knows or has reason to believe the patient or resident has an effective advance directive to the contrary or knows the patient or resident has specified in writing that they do not want a family member included in treatment planning. After notifying a family member but prior to allowing a family member to participate in treatment planning, the facility must make reasonable efforts, consistent with reasonable medical practice, to determine if the patient or resident has executed an advance directive relative to the patient or resident's health care decisions. For purposes of this paragraph, "reasonable efforts" include:

- (1) examining the personal effects of the patient or resident;
- (2) examining the medical records of the patient or resident in the possession of the facility;
- (3) inquiring of any emergency contact or family member contacted under this section whether the patient or resident has executed an advance directive and whether the patient or resident has a physician to whom the patient or resident normally goes for care; and
- (4) inquiring of the physician to whom the patient or resident normally goes for care, if known,

whether the patient or resident has executed an advance directive. If a facility notifies a family member or designated emergency contact or allows a family member to participate in treatment planning in accordance with this paragraph, the facility is not liable to the patient or resident for damages on the grounds that the notification of the family member or emergency contact or the participation of the family member was improper or violated the patient's privacy rights.

(c) In making reasonable efforts to notify a family member or designated emergency contact, the facility shall attempt to identify family members or a designated emergency contact by examining the personal effects of the patient or resident and the medical records of the patient or resident in the possession of the facility. If the facility is unable to notify a family member or designated emergency contact within 24 hours after the admission, the facility shall notify the county social service agency or local law enforcement agency that the patient or resident has been admitted and the facility has been unable to notify a family member or designated emergency contact. The county social service agency and local law enforcement agency shall assist the facility in identifying and notifying a family member or designated emergency contact. A county social service agency or local law enforcement agency that assists a facility in implementing this subdivision is not liable to the patient or resident for damages on the grounds that the notification of the family member or emergency contact or the participation of the family member was improper or violated the patient's privacy rights.

Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 144.651, subdivision 26, is amended to read:

Subd. 26. **Right to associate.** (a) Residents may meet with and receive visitors and participate in activities of commercial, religious, political, as defined in section 203B.11 and community groups without interference at their discretion if the activities do not infringe on the right to privacy of other residents or are not programmatically contraindicated. This includes:

(1) the right to join with other individuals within and outside the facility to work for improvements in long-term care;

(2) the right to visitation by an individual the patient has appointed as the patient's health care agent under chapter 145C;

(3) the right to visitation and health care decision making by an individual designated by the patient under paragraph (c).

(b) Upon admission to a facility where federal law prohibits unauthorized disclosure of patient or resident identifying information to callers and visitors, the patient or resident, or the legal guardian or conservator of the patient or resident, shall be given the opportunity to authorize disclosure of the patient's or resident's presence in the facility to callers and visitors who may seek to communicate with the patient or resident. To the extent possible, the legal guardian or conservator of a patient or resident shall consider the opinions of the patient or resident regarding the disclosure of the patient's or resident's presence in the facility.

(c) Upon admission to a facility, the patient or resident, or the legal guardian or conservator of the patient or resident, must be given the opportunity to designate a person who is not related who will have the status of the patient's next of kin with respect to visitation and making a health care decision. A designation must be included in the patient's health record. With respect to making a health care decision, a health care directive or appointment of a health care agent under chapter 145C prevails over a designation made under this paragraph. The unrelated person may also be identified

as such by the patient or by the patient's family.

Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 144.699, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

**Subd. 5. Annual reports on community benefit, community care amounts, and state program underfunding.** (a) For each hospital reporting health care cost information under section 144.698 or 144.702, the commissioner shall report annually on the hospital's community benefit and community care, including detailed information on each component of those costs as defined in this subdivision. The information shall be reported in terms of total dollars and as a percentage of total operating costs for each hospital.

(b) For purposes of this subdivision, "community benefit" means the costs of community care, underpayment for services provided under state health care programs, research costs, community health services costs, financial and in-kind contributions, costs of community building activities, costs of community benefit operations, education costs, and the cost of operating subsidized services. The cost of bad debts and underpayment for Medicare services are not included in the calculation of community benefit.

(c) For purposes of this subdivision, "community care" means the costs for medical care that a hospital has determined is charity care as defined under Minnesota Rules, part 4650.0115, or for which the hospital determines after billing for the services that there is a demonstrated inability to pay. Any costs forgiven under a hospital's community care plan or under section 62J.83 may be counted in the hospital's calculation of community care. Bad debt expenses and discounted charges available to the uninsured shall not be included in the calculation of community care. The amount of community care is the value of costs incurred and not the charges made for services.

(d) For purposes of this subdivision, "underpayment for services provided under state health care programs" means the difference between hospital costs and public program payments.

Sec. 22. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 145C.05, is amended to read:

**145C.05 SUGGESTED FORM; PROVISIONS THAT MAY BE INCLUDED.**

Subdivision 1. **Content.** A health care directive executed pursuant to this chapter may, but need not, be in the form contained in section 145C.16.

Subd. 2. **Provisions that may be included.** (a) A health care directive may include provisions consistent with this chapter, including, but not limited to:

(1) the designation of one or more alternate health care agents to act if the named health care agent is not reasonably available to serve;

(2) directions to joint health care agents regarding the process or standards by which the health care agents are to reach a health care decision for the principal, and a statement whether joint health care agents may act independently of one another;

(3) limitations, if any, on the right of the health care agent or any alternate health care agents to receive, review, obtain copies of, and consent to the disclosure of the principal's medical records or to visit the principal when the principal is a patient in a health care facility;

(4) limitations, if any, on the nomination of the health care agent as guardian for purposes of sections 524.5-202, 524.5-211, 524.5-302, and 524.5-303;

(5) a document of gift for the purpose of making an anatomical gift, as set forth in sections 525.921 to 525.9224, or an amendment to, revocation of, or refusal to make an anatomical gift;

(6) a declaration regarding intrusive mental health treatment under section 253B.03, subdivision 6d, or a statement that the health care agent is authorized to give consent for the principal under section 253B.04, subdivision 1a;

(7) a funeral directive as provided in section 149A.80, subdivision 2;

(8) limitations, if any, to the effect of dissolution or annulment of marriage or termination of domestic partnership on the appointment of a health care agent under section 145C.09, subdivision 2;

(9) specific reasons why a principal wants a health care provider or an employee of a health care provider attending the principal to be eligible to act as the principal's health care agent;

(10) health care instructions by a woman of child bearing age regarding how she would like her pregnancy, if any, to affect health care decisions made on her behalf; and

(11) health care instructions regarding artificially administered nutrition or hydration.

(b) A health care directive may include a statement of the circumstances under which the directive becomes effective other than upon the judgment of the principal's attending physician in the following situations:

(1) a principal who in good faith generally selects and depends upon spiritual means or prayer for the treatment or care of disease or remedial care and does not have an attending physician, may include a statement appointing an individual who may determine the principal's decision-making capacity; and

(2) a principal who in good faith does not generally select a physician or a health care facility for the principal's health care needs may include a statement appointing an individual who may determine the principal's decision-making capacity, provided that if the need to determine the principal's capacity arises when the principal is receiving care under the direction of an attending physician in a health care facility, the determination must be made by an attending physician after consultation with the appointed individual.

If a person appointed under clause (1) or (2) is not reasonably available and the principal is receiving care under the direction of an attending physician in a health care facility, an attending physician shall determine the principal's decision-making capacity.

(c) A health care directive may authorize a health care agent to make health care decisions for a principal even though the principal retains decision-making capacity.

Sec. 23. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 145C.07, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 5. **Visitation.** A health care agent may visit the principal when the principal is a patient in a health care facility regardless of whether the principal retains decision-making capacity, unless:

(1) the principal has otherwise specified in the health care directive;

(2) a principal who retains decision-making capacity indicates otherwise; or

(3) a health care provider reasonably determines that the principal must be isolated from all visitors or that the presence of the health care agent would endanger the health or safety of the principal, other patients, or the facility in which the care is being provided.

Sec. 24. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 148.6445, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Initial licensure fee.** The initial licensure fee for occupational therapists is ~~\$180~~ \$145. The initial licensure fee for occupational therapy assistants is ~~\$100~~ \$80. The commissioner shall prorate fees based on the number of quarters remaining in the biennial licensure period.

Sec. 25. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 148.6445, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Licensure renewal fee.** The biennial licensure renewal fee for occupational therapists is ~~\$180~~ \$145. The biennial licensure renewal fee for occupational therapy assistants is ~~\$100~~ \$80.

Sec. 26. **[148.785] FEES.**

The fees charged by the board are fixed at the following rates:

- (1) application fee for physical therapists and physical therapist assistants, \$100;
- (2) annual licensure for physical therapists and physical therapist assistants, \$60;
- (3) licensure renewal late fee, \$20;
- (4) temporary permit, \$25;
- (5) duplicate license or registration, \$20;
- (6) certification letter, \$25;
- (7) education or training program approval, \$100;
- (8) report creation and generation, \$60 per hour billed in quarter-hour increments with a quarter-hour minimum; and
- (9) examination administration:
  - (i) half day, \$50; and
  - (ii) full day, \$80.

Sec. 27. **[148.995] DEFINITIONS.**

Subdivision 1. **Applicability.** The definitions in this section apply to sections 148.995 to 148.997.

Subd. 2. **Certified doula.** "Certified doula" means an individual who has received a certification to perform doula services from the International Childbirth Education Association, the Doulas of North America (DONA), the Association of Labor Assistants and Childbirth Educators (ALACE), Birthworks, Childbirth and Postpartum Professional Association (CAPP), or Childbirth International.

Subd. 3. **Commissioner.** "Commissioner" means the commissioner of health.

Subd. 4. **Doula services.** "Doula services" means emotional and physical support during pregnancy, labor, birth, and postpartum.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007.

Sec. 28. **[148.996] REGISTRY.**

Subdivision 1. **Establishment.** The commissioner of health shall maintain a registry of certified doulas who have met the requirements listed in subdivision 2.

Subd. 2. **Qualifications.** The commissioner shall include on the registry any individual who:

(1) submits an application on a form provided by the commissioner. The form must include the applicant's name, address, and contact information;

(2) maintains a current certification from one of the organizations listed in section 146B.01, subdivision 2; and

(3) pays the fees required under section 148.997.

Subd. 3. **Criminal background check.** The commissioner shall conduct a criminal background check by reviewing the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension's Web site. If the review indicates that an applicant has been engaged in criminal behavior, the commissioner shall indicate this on the registry and provide a link to the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension's Web site.

Subd. 4. **Renewal.** Inclusion on the registry maintained by the commissioner is valid for three years. At the end of the three-year period, the certified doula may submit a new application to remain on the doula registry by meeting the requirements described in subdivision 2.

Subd. 5. **Public access.** The commissioner shall provide a link to the registry on the Department of Health's Web site.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007.

Sec. 29. **[148.997] FEES.**

Subdivision 1. **Fees.** (a) The application fee is \$130.

(b) The criminal background check fee is \$6.

Subd. 2. **Nonrefundable fees.** The fees in this section are nonrefundable.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007.

Sec. 30. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 148B.53, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Fee.** Nonrefundable fees are as follows:

(1) initial license application fee for licensed professional counseling (LPC) - ~~\$250~~ \$150;

(2) initial license fee for LPC - \$250;

(3) annual active license renewal fee for LPC - ~~\$200~~ \$250 or equivalent;

~~(3)~~ (4) annual inactive license renewal fee for LPC - ~~\$100~~ \$125;

- (5) initial license application fee for licensed professional clinical counseling (LPCC) - \$150;
- (6) initial license fee for LPCC - \$250;
- (7) annual active license renewal fee for LPCC - \$250 or equivalent;
- (8) annual inactive license renewal fee for LPCC - \$125;
- ~~(4)~~ (9) license renewal late fee - \$100 per month or portion thereof;
- ~~(5)~~ (10) copy of board order or stipulation - \$10;
- ~~(6)~~ (11) certificate of good standing or license verification - \$10 \$25;
- ~~(7)~~ (12) duplicate certificate fee - \$10 \$25;
- ~~(8)~~ (13) professional firm renewal fee - \$25;
- ~~(9)~~ (14) sponsor application for approval of a continuing education course - \$60;
- (15) initial registration fee - \$50; and
- ~~(10)~~ (16) annual registration renewal fee - \$25; and
- (17) approved supervisor application processing fee - \$30.

Sec. 31. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 149A.52, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

**Subd. 3. Application procedure; documentation; initial inspection.** An applicant for a license to operate a crematory shall submit to the commissioner a completed application. A completed application includes:

- (1) a completed application form, as provided by the commissioner;
- (2) proof of business form and ownership; and
- (3) proof of liability insurance coverage or other financial documentation, as determined by the commissioner, that demonstrates the applicant's ability to respond in damages for liability arising from the ownership, maintenance, management, or operation of a crematory.

Upon receipt of the application and appropriate fee, the commissioner shall review and verify all information. Upon completion of the verification process and resolution of any deficiencies in the application information, the commissioner shall conduct an initial inspection of the premises to be licensed. After the inspection and resolution of any deficiencies found and any reinspections as may be necessary, the commissioner shall make a determination, based on all the information available, to grant or deny licensure. If the commissioner's determination is to grant the license, the applicant shall be notified and the license shall issue and remain valid for a period prescribed on the license, but not to exceed one calendar year from the date of issuance of the license. If the commissioner's determination is to deny the license, the commissioner must notify the applicant, in writing, of the denial and provide the specific reason for denial.

Sec. 32. [149A.65] FEES.

Subdivision 1. Generally. This section establishes the fees for registrations, examinations, initial

and renewal licenses, and late fees authorized under the provisions of this chapter.

Subd. 2. **Mortuary science fees.** Fees for mortuary science are:

- (1) \$50 for the initial and renewal registration of a mortuary science intern;
- (2) \$100 for the mortuary science examination;
- (3) \$125 for issuance of initial and renewal mortuary science licenses;
- (4) \$25 late fee charge for a license renewal; and
- (5) \$200 for issuing a mortuary science license by endorsement.

Subd. 3. **Funeral directors.** The license renewal fee for funeral directors is \$125. The late fee charge for a license renewal is \$25.

Subd. 4. **Funeral establishments.** The initial and renewal fee for funeral establishments is \$300. The late fee charge for a license renewal is \$25.

Subd. 5. **Crematories.** The initial and renewal fee for a crematory is \$300. The late fee charge for a license renewal is \$25.

Sec. 33. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 149A.97, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

**Subd. 7. Reports to commissioner.** Every funeral provider lawfully doing business in Minnesota that accepts funds under subdivision 2 must make a complete annual report to the commissioner. The reports may be on forms provided by the commissioner or substantially similar forms containing, at least, identification and the state of each trust account, including all transactions involving principal and accrued interest, and must be filed by March 31 of the calendar year following the reporting year along with a filing fee of ~~\$15~~ \$25 for each report. Fees shall be paid to the commissioner of finance, state of Minnesota, for deposit in the state government special revenue fund in the state treasury. Reports must be signed by an authorized representative of the funeral provider and notarized under oath. All reports to the commissioner shall be reviewed for account inaccuracies or possible violations of this section. If the commissioner has a reasonable belief to suspect that there are account irregularities or possible violations of this section, the commissioner shall report that belief, in a timely manner, to the state auditor. The commissioner shall also file an annual letter with the state auditor disclosing whether or not any irregularities or possible violations were detected in review of the annual trust fund reports filed by the funeral providers. This letter shall be filed with the state auditor by May 31 of the calendar year following the reporting year.

Sec. 34. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 157.16, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

**Subdivision 1. License required annually.** A license is required annually for every person, firm, or corporation engaged in the business of conducting a food and beverage service establishment, hotel, motel, lodging establishment, or resort. Any person wishing to operate a place of business licensed in this section shall first make application, pay the required fee specified in this section, and receive approval for operation, including plan review approval. Seasonal and temporary food stands and special event food stands are not required to submit plans. Nonprofit organizations operating a special event food stand with multiple locations at an annual one-day event shall be issued only one license. Application shall be made on forms provided by the commissioner and shall require the applicant to state the full name and address of the owner of the building, structure,



or enclosure, the lessee and manager of the food and beverage service establishment, hotel, motel, lodging establishment, or resort; the name under which the business is to be conducted; and any other information as may be required by the commissioner to complete the application for license.

Sec. 35. **INJUNCTIVE RELIEF REPORT.**

The commissioner of health shall present to the 2008 legislature, by December 15, 2007, recommendations to fund the cost of bringing actions for injunctive relief under Minnesota Statutes, section 144G.02, subdivision 2, paragraph (b).

Sec. 36. **HEARING AID DISPENSER FEES.**

Fees relating to hearing aid dispensers, as provided in Minnesota Statutes, section 153A.17, may not be increased until after the Department of Health provides a report to the legislature regarding the need and reasons for fee increases.

Sec. 37. **REPEALER.**

Minnesota Rules, part 4610.2800, is repealed.

## ARTICLE 10

### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 62Q.80, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 1a. **Demonstration project.** The commissioner of health shall award a demonstration project grant to a community-based health care initiative to develop and operate a community-based health care coverage program to operate within Carlton, Cook, Lake, and St. Louis County. The demonstration project shall extend for five years and must comply with the requirements of this section.

Sec. 2. **[144.291] MINNESOTA HEALTH RECORDS ACT.**

Subdivision 1. **Short title.** Sections 144.291 to 144.298 may be cited as the Minnesota Health Records Act.

Subd. 2. **Definitions.** For the purposes of sections 144.291 to 144.298, the following terms have the meanings given.

(a) **Group purchaser.** "Group purchaser" has the meaning given in section 62J.03, subdivision 6.

(b) **Health information exchange.** "Health information exchange" means a legal arrangement between health care providers and group purchasers to enable and oversee the business and legal issues involved in the electronic exchange of health records between the entities for the delivery of patient care.

(c) **Health record.** "Health record" means any information, whether oral or recorded in any form or medium, that relates to the past, present, or future physical or mental health or condition of a patient; the provision of health care to a patient; or the past, present, or future payment for the provision of health care to a patient.

(d) **Identifying information.** "Identifying information" means the patient's name, address, date of birth, gender, parent's or guardian's name regardless of the age of the patient, and other nonclinical data which can be used to uniquely identify a patient.

(e) **Individually identifiable form.** "Individually identifiable form" means a form in which the patient is or can be identified as the subject of the health records.

(f) **Medical emergency.** "Medical emergency" means medically necessary care which is immediately needed to preserve life, prevent serious impairment to bodily functions, organs, or parts, or prevent placing the physical or mental health of the patient in serious jeopardy.

(g) **Patient.** "Patient" means a natural person who has received health care services from a provider for treatment or examination of a medical, psychiatric, or mental condition, the surviving spouse and parents of a deceased patient, or a person the patient appoints in writing as a representative, including a health care agent acting according to chapter 145C, unless the authority of the agent has been limited by the principal in the principal's health care directive. Except for minors who have received health care services under sections 144.341 to 144.347, in the case of a minor, patient includes a parent or guardian, or a person acting as a parent or guardian in the absence of a parent or guardian.

(h) **Provider.** "Provider" means:

(1) any person who furnishes health care services and is regulated to furnish the services under chapter 147, 147A, 147B, 147C, 147D, 148, 148B, 148C, 148D, 150A, 151, 153, or 153A;

(2) a home care provider licensed under section 144A.46;

(3) a health care facility licensed under this chapter or chapter 144A;

(4) a physician assistant registered under chapter 147A; and

(5) an unlicensed mental health practitioner regulated under sections 148B.60 to 148B.71.

(i) **Record locator service.** "Record locator service" means an electronic index of patient identifying information that directs providers in a health information exchange to the location of patient health records held by providers and group purchasers.

(j) **Related health care entity.** "Related health care entity" means an affiliate, as defined in section 144.6521, subdivision 3, paragraph (b), of the provider releasing the health records.

### Sec. 3. [144.292] PATIENT RIGHTS.

Subdivision 1. **Scope.** Patients have the rights specified in this section regarding the treatment the patient receives and the patient's health record.

Subd. 2. **Patient access.** Upon request, a provider shall supply to a patient complete and current information possessed by that provider concerning any diagnosis, treatment, and prognosis of the patient in terms and language the patient can reasonably be expected to understand.

Subd. 3. **Additional patient rights.** A patient's right specified in this section and sections 144.293 to 144.298 are in addition to the rights specified in sections 144.651 and 144.652 and any other provision of law relating to the access of a patient to the patient's health records.

Subd. 4. **Notice of rights; information on release.** A provider shall provide to patients, in a clear and conspicuous manner, a written notice concerning practices and rights with respect to access to health records. The notice must include an explanation of:

(1) disclosures of health records that may be made without the written consent of the patient, including the type of records and to whom the records may be disclosed; and

(2) the right of the patient to have access to and obtain copies of the patient's health records and other information about the patient that is maintained by the provider.

The notice requirements of this subdivision are satisfied if the notice is included with the notice and copy of the patient and resident bill of rights under section 144.652 or if it is displayed prominently in the provider's place of business. The commissioner of health shall develop the notice required in this subdivision and publish it in the State Register.

Subd. 5. **Copies of health records to patients.** Except as provided in section 144.296, upon a patient's written request, a provider, at a reasonable cost to the patient, shall promptly furnish to the patient:

(1) copies of the patient's health record, including but not limited to laboratory reports, x-rays, prescriptions, and other technical information used in assessing the patient's health conditions; or

(2) the pertinent portion of the record relating to a condition specified by the patient.

With the consent of the patient, the provider may instead furnish only a summary of the record. The provider may exclude from the health record written speculations about the patient's health condition, except that all information necessary for the patient's informed consent must be provided.

Subd. 6. **Cost.** (a) When a patient requests a copy of the patient's record for purposes of reviewing current medical care, the provider must not charge a fee.

(b) When a provider or its representative makes copies of patient records upon a patient's request under this section, the provider or its representative may charge the patient or the patient's representative no more than 75 cents per page, plus \$10 for time spent retrieving and copying the records, unless other law or a rule or contract provide for a lower maximum charge. This limitation does not apply to x-rays. The provider may charge a patient no more than the actual cost of reproducing x-rays, plus no more than \$10 for the time spent retrieving and copying the x-rays.

(c) The respective maximum charges of 75 cents per page and \$10 for time provided in this subdivision are in effect for calendar year 1992 and may be adjusted annually each calendar year as provided in this subdivision. The permissible maximum charges shall change each year by an amount that reflects the change, as compared to the previous year, in the Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers, Minneapolis-St. Paul (CPI-U), published by the Department of Labor.

(d) A provider or its representative must not charge a fee to provide copies of records requested by a patient or the patient's authorized representative if the request for copies of records is for purposes of appealing a denial of Social Security disability income or Social Security disability benefits under title II or title XVI of the Social Security Act. For the purpose of further appeals, a patient may receive no more than two medical record updates without charge, but only for medical record information previously not provided. For purposes of this paragraph, a patient's authorized representative does not include units of state government engaged in the adjudication of Social

Security disability claims.

Subd. 7. **Withholding health records from patient.** (a) If a provider, as defined in section 144.291, subdivision 2, paragraph (h), clause (1), reasonably determines that the information is detrimental to the physical or mental health of the patient, or is likely to cause the patient to inflict self harm, or to harm another, the provider may withhold the information from the patient and may supply the information to an appropriate third party or to another provider, as defined in section 144.291, subdivision 2, paragraph (h), clause (1). The other provider or third party may release the information to the patient.

(b) A provider, as defined in section 144.291, subdivision 2, paragraph (h), clause (3), shall release information upon written request unless, prior to the request, a provider, as defined in section 144.291, subdivision 2, paragraph (h), clause (1), has designated and described a specific basis for withholding the information as authorized by paragraph (a).

Subd. 8. **Form.** By January 1, 2008, the Department of Health must develop a form that may be used by a patient to request access to health records under this section. A form developed by the commissioner must be accepted by a provider as a legally enforceable request under this section.

**Sec. 4. [144.293] RELEASE OR DISCLOSURE OF HEALTH RECORDS.**

Subdivision 1. **Release or disclosure of health records.** Health records can be released or disclosed as specified in subdivisions 2 to 9 and sections 144.294 and 144.295.

Subd. 2. **Patient consent to release of records.** A provider, or a person who receives health records from a provider, may not release a patient's health records to a person without:

(1) a signed and dated consent from the patient or the patient's legally authorized representative authorizing the release;

(2) specific authorization in law; or

(3) a representation from a provider that holds a signed and dated consent from the patient authorizing the release.

Subd. 3. **Release from one provider to another.** A patient's health record, including, but not limited to, laboratory reports, x-rays, prescriptions, and other technical information used in assessing the patient's condition, or the pertinent portion of the record relating to a specific condition, or a summary of the record, shall promptly be furnished to another provider upon the written request of the patient. The written request shall specify the name of the provider to whom the health record is to be furnished. The provider who furnishes the health record or summary may retain a copy of the materials furnished. The patient shall be responsible for the reasonable costs of furnishing the information.

Subd. 4. **Duration of consent.** Except as provided in this section, a consent is valid for one year or for a lesser period specified in the consent or for a different period provided by law.

Subd. 5. **Exceptions to consent requirement.** This section does not prohibit the release of health records:

(1) for a medical emergency when the provider is unable to obtain the patient's consent due to the patient's condition or the nature of the medical emergency;

(2) to other providers within related health care entities when necessary for the current treatment of the patient; or

(3) to a health care facility licensed by this chapter, chapter 144A, or to the same types of health care facilities licensed by this chapter and chapter 144A that are licensed in another state when a patient:

(i) is returning to the health care facility and unable to provide consent; or

(ii) who resides in the health care facility, has services provided by an outside resource under Code of Federal Regulations, title 42, section 483.75(h), and is unable to provide consent.

Subd. 6. **Consent does not expire.** Notwithstanding subdivision 4, if a patient explicitly gives informed consent to the release of health records for the purposes and restrictions in clauses (1) and (2), the consent does not expire after one year for:

(1) the release of health records to a provider who is being advised or consulted with in connection with the releasing provider's current treatment of the patient;

(2) the release of health records to an accident and health insurer, health service plan corporation, health maintenance organization, or third-party administrator for purposes of payment of claims, fraud investigation, or quality of care review and studies, provided that:

(i) the use or release of the records complies with sections 72A.49 to 72A.505;

(ii) further use or release of the records in individually identifiable form to a person other than the patient without the patient's consent is prohibited; and

(iii) the recipient establishes adequate safeguards to protect the records from unauthorized disclosure, including a procedure for removal or destruction of information that identifies the patient.

Subd. 7. **Exception to consent.** Subdivision 2 does not apply to the release of health records to the commissioner of health or the Health Data Institute under chapter 62J, provided that the commissioner encrypts the patient identifier upon receipt of the data.

Subd. 8. **Record locator service.** (a) A provider or group purchaser may release patient identifying information and information about the location of the patient's health records to a record locator service without consent from the patient, unless the patient has elected to be excluded from the service under paragraph (d). The Department of Health may not access the record locator service or receive data from the record locator service. Only a provider may have access to patient identifying information in a record locator service. Except in the case of a medical emergency, a provider participating in a health information exchange using a record locator service does not have access to patient identifying information and information about the location of the patient's health records unless the patient specifically consents to the access. A consent does not expire but may be revoked by the patient at any time by providing written notice of the revocation to the provider.

(b) A health information exchange maintaining a record locator service must maintain an audit log of providers accessing information in a record locator service that at least contains information on:

(1) the identity of the provider accessing the information;

(2) the identity of the patient whose information was accessed by the provider; and

(3) the date the information was accessed.

(c) No group purchaser may in any way require a provider to participate in a record locator service as a condition of payment or participation.

(d) A provider or an entity operating a record locator service must provide a mechanism under which patients may exclude their identifying information and information about the location of their health records from a record locator service. At a minimum, a consent form that permits a provider to access a record locator service must include a conspicuous check-box option that allows a patient to exclude all of the patient's information from the record locator service. A provider participating in a health information exchange with a record locator service who receives a patient's request to exclude all of the patient's information from the record locator service or to have a specific provider contact excluded from the record locator service is responsible for removing that information from the record locator service.

**Subd. 9. Documentation of release.** (a) In cases where a provider releases health records without patient consent as authorized by law, the release must be documented in the patient's health record. In the case of a release under section 144.294, subdivision 2, the documentation must include the date and circumstances under which the release was made, the person or agency to whom the release was made, and the records that were released.

(b) When a health record is released using a representation from a provider that holds a consent from the patient, the releasing provider shall document:

(1) the provider requesting the health records;

(2) the identity of the patient;

(3) the health records requested; and

(4) the date the health records were requested.

**Subd. 10. Warranties regarding consents, requests, and disclosures.** (a) When requesting health records using consent, a person warrants that the consent:

(1) contains no information known to the person to be false; and

(2) accurately states the patient's desire to have health records disclosed or that there is specific authorization in law.

(b) When requesting health records using consent, or a representation of holding a consent, a provider warrants that the request:

(1) contains no information known to the provider to be false;

(2) accurately states the patient's desire to have health records disclosed or that there is specific authorization in law; and

(3) does not exceed any limits imposed by the patient in the consent.

(c) When disclosing health records, a person releasing health records warrants that the person:

- (1) has complied with the requirements of this section regarding disclosure of health records;
- (2) knows of no information related to the request that is false; and
- (3) has complied with the limits set by the patient in the consent.

**Sec. 5. [144.294] RECORDS RELATING TO MENTAL HEALTH.**

Subdivision 1. **Provider inquiry.** Upon the written request of a spouse, parent, child, or sibling of a patient being evaluated for or diagnosed with mental illness, a provider shall inquire of a patient whether the patient wishes to authorize a specific individual to receive information regarding the patient's current and proposed course of treatment. If the patient so authorizes, the provider shall communicate to the designated individual the patient's current and proposed course of treatment. Section 144.293, subdivisions 2 and 4, apply to consents given under this subdivision.

Subd. 2. **Disclosure to law enforcement agency.** Notwithstanding section 144.293, subdivisions 2 and 4, a provider must disclose health records relating to a patient's mental health to a law enforcement agency if the law enforcement agency provides the name of the patient and communicates that the:

- (1) patient is currently involved in an emergency interaction with the law enforcement agency; and
- (2) disclosure of the records is necessary to protect the health or safety of the patient or of another person.

The scope of disclosure under this subdivision is limited to the minimum necessary for law enforcement to respond to the emergency. A law enforcement agency that obtains health records under this subdivision shall maintain a record of the requestor, the provider of the information, and the patient's name. Health records obtained by a law enforcement agency under this subdivision are private data on individuals as defined in section 13.02, subdivision 12, and must not be used by law enforcement for any other purpose.

Subd. 3. **Records release for family and caretaker; mental health care.** (a) Notwithstanding section 144.293, a provider providing mental health care and treatment may disclose health record information described in paragraph (b) about a patient to a family member of the patient or other person who requests the information if:

- (1) the request for information is in writing;
- (2) the family member or other person lives with, provides care for, or is directly involved in monitoring the treatment of the patient;
- (3) the involvement under clause (2) is verified by the patient's mental health care provider, the patient's attending physician, or a person other than the person requesting the information, and is documented in the patient's medical record;
- (4) before the disclosure, the patient is informed in writing of the request, the name of the person requesting the information, the reason for the request, and the specific information being requested;
- (5) the patient agrees to the disclosure, does not object to the disclosure, or is unable to consent or object, and the patient's decision or inability to make a decision is documented in the patient's

medical record; and

(6) the disclosure is necessary to assist in the provision of care or monitoring of the patient's treatment.

(b) The information disclosed under this paragraph is limited to diagnosis, admission to or discharge from treatment, the name and dosage of the medications prescribed, side effects of the medication, consequences of failure of the patient to take the prescribed medication, and a summary of the discharge plan.

(c) If a provider reasonably determines that providing information under this subdivision would be detrimental to the physical or mental health of the patient or is likely to cause the patient to inflict self harm or to harm another, the provider must not disclose the information.

(d) This subdivision does not apply to disclosures for a medical emergency or to family members as authorized or required under subdivision 1 or section 144.293, subdivision 5, clause (1).

#### Sec. 6. [144.295] DISCLOSURE OF HEALTH RECORDS FOR EXTERNAL RESEARCH.

Subdivision 1. **Methods of release.** (a) Notwithstanding section 144.293, subdivisions 2 and 4, health records may be released to an external researcher solely for purposes of medical or scientific research only as follows:

(1) health records generated before January 1, 1997, may be released if the patient has not objected or does not elect to object after that date;

(2) for health records generated on or after January 1, 1997, the provider must:

(i) disclose in writing to patients currently being treated by the provider that health records, regardless of when generated, may be released and that the patient may object, in which case the records will not be released; and

(ii) use reasonable efforts to obtain the patient's written general authorization that describes the release of records in item (i), which does not expire but may be revoked or limited in writing at any time by the patient or the patient's authorized representative;

(3) the provider must advise the patient of the rights specified in clause (4); and

(4) the provider must, at the request of the patient, provide information on how the patient may contact an external researcher to whom the health record was released and the date it was released.

(b) Authorization may be established if an authorization is mailed at least two times to the patient's last known address with a postage prepaid return envelope and a conspicuous notice that the patient's medical records may be released if the patient does not object, and at least 60 days have expired since the second notice was sent.

Subd. 2. **Duties of researcher.** In making a release for research purposes, the provider shall make a reasonable effort to determine that:

(1) the use or disclosure does not violate any limitations under which the record was collected;

(2) the use or disclosure in individually identifiable form is necessary to accomplish the research



or statistical purpose for which the use or disclosure is to be made;

(3) the recipient has established and maintains adequate safeguards to protect the records from unauthorized disclosure, including a procedure for removal or destruction of information that identifies the patient; and

(4) further use or release of the records in individually identifiable form to a person other than the patient without the patient's consent is prohibited.

**Sec. 7. [144.296] COPIES OF VIDEOTAPES.**

A provider may not release a copy of a videotape of a child victim or alleged victim of physical or sexual abuse without a court order under section 13.03, subdivision 6, or as provided in section 611A.90. This section does not limit the right of a patient to view the videotape.

**Sec. 8. [144.297] INDEPENDENT MEDICAL EXAMINATION.**

Sections 144.291 to 144.298 apply to the subject and provider of an independent medical examination requested by or paid for by a third party. Notwithstanding section 144.293, a provider may release health records created as part of an independent medical examination to the third party who requested or paid for the examination.

**Sec. 9. [144.298] PENALTIES.**

Subdivision 1. **Licensing action.** A violation of sections 144.291 to 144.298 may be grounds for disciplinary action against a provider by the appropriate licensing board or agency.

Subd. 2. **Liability of provider or other person.** A person who does any of the following is liable to the patient for compensatory damages caused by an unauthorized release, plus costs and reasonable attorney fees:

(1) negligently or intentionally requests or releases a health record in violation of sections 144.291 to 144.297;

(2) forges a signature on a consent form or materially alters the consent form of another person without the person's consent; or

(3) obtains a consent form or the health records of another person under false pretenses.

Subd. 3. **Liability for record locator service.** A patient is entitled to receive compensatory damages plus costs and reasonable attorney fees if a health information exchange maintaining a record locator service, or an entity maintaining a record locator service for a health information exchange, negligently or intentionally violates the provisions of section 144.293, subdivision 8.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 144.3345, is amended to read:

**144.3345 INTERCONNECTED ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORD GRANTS.**

Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** The following definitions are used for the purposes of this section.

(a) "Eligible community e-health collaborative" means an existing or newly established collaborative to support the adoption and use of interoperable electronic health records. A collaborative must consist of at least ~~three~~ two or more eligible health care entities in at least two

of the categories listed in paragraph (b) and have a focus on interconnecting the members of the collaborative for secure and interoperable exchange of health care information.

(b) "Eligible health care entity" means one of the following:

- (1) community clinics, as defined under section 145.9268;
- (2) hospitals eligible for rural hospital capital improvement grants, as defined in section 144.148;
- (3) physician clinics located in a community with a population of less than 50,000 according to United States Census Bureau statistics and outside the seven-county metropolitan area;
- (4) nursing facilities licensed under sections 144A.01 to 144A.27;
- (5) community health boards or boards of health as established under chapter 145A;
- (6) nonprofit entities with a purpose to provide health information exchange coordination governed by a representative, multi-stakeholder board of directors; and
- (7) other providers of health or health care services approved by the commissioner for which interoperable electronic health record capability would improve quality of care, patient safety, or community health.

Subd. 2. **Grants authorized.** The commissioner of health shall award grants to:

(a) eligible community e-health collaborative projects to improve the implementation and use of interoperable electronic health records including but not limited to the following projects:

- (1) collaborative efforts to host and support fully functional interoperable electronic health records in multiple care settings;
- (2) electronic medication history and electronic patient ~~registration~~ medical history information;
- (3) electronic personal health records for persons with chronic diseases and for prevention services;
- (4) rural and underserved community models for electronic prescribing; ~~and~~
- (5) ~~enabling~~ modernize local public health information systems to rapidly and electronically exchange information needed to participate in community e-health collaboratives or for public health emergency preparedness and response; and
- (6) implement regional or community-based health information exchange organizations;

(b) community clinics, as defined under section 145.9268, to implement and use interoperable electronic health records, including but not limited to the following projects:

- (1) efforts to plan for and implement fully functional, standards-based interoperable electronic health records; and
- (2) purchases and implementation of computer hardware, software, and technology to fully implement interoperable electronic health records;
- (c) regional or community-based health information exchange organizations to connect and

facilitate the exchange of health information between eligible health care entities, including but not limited to the development, testing, and implementation of:

(1) data exchange standards, including data, vocabulary, and messaging standards, for the exchange of health information, provided that such standards are consistent with state and national standards;

(2) security standards necessary to ensure the confidentiality and integrity of health records;

(3) computer interfaces and mechanisms for standardizing health information exchanged between eligible health care entities;

(4) a record locator service for identifying the location of patient health records; or

(5) interfaces and mechanisms for implementing patient consent requirements; and

(d) community health boards and boards of health as established under chapter 145A to modernize local public health information systems to be standards-based and interoperable with other electronic health records and information systems, or for enhanced public health emergency preparedness and response.

Grant funds may not be used for construction of health care or other buildings or facilities.

Subd. 3. **Allocation of grants.** (a) To receive a grant under this section, an eligible community e-health collaborative, community clinic, regional or community-based health information exchange, or community health boards and boards of health must submit an application to the commissioner of health by the deadline established by the commissioner. A grant may be awarded upon the signing of a grant contract. In awarding grants, the commissioner shall give preference to projects benefiting providers located in rural and underserved areas of Minnesota which the commissioner has determined have an unmet need for the development and funding of electronic health records. Applicants may apply for and the commissioner may award grants for one-year, two-year, or three-year periods.

(b) An application must be on a form and contain information as specified by the commissioner but at a minimum must contain:

(1) a description of the purpose or project for which grant funds will be used;

(2) a description of the problem or problems the grant funds will be used to address, including an assessment of the likelihood of the project occurring absent grant funding;

(3) a description of achievable objectives, a workplan, budget, budget narrative, a project communications plan, a timeline for implementation and completion of processes or projects enabled by the grant, and an assessment of privacy and security issues and a proposed approach to address these issues;

(4) a description of the health care entities and other groups participating in the project, including identification of the lead entity responsible for applying for and receiving grant funds;

(5) a plan for how patients and consumers will be involved in development of policies and procedures related to the access to and interchange of information;

(6) evidence of consensus and commitment among the health care entities and others who developed the proposal and are responsible for its implementation; ~~and~~

(7) a plan for documenting and evaluating results of the grant; and

(8) a plan for use of data exchange standards, including data and vocabulary.

(c) The commissioner shall review each application to determine whether the application is complete and whether the applicant and the project are eligible for a grant. In evaluating applications, the commissioner shall take into consideration factors, including but not limited to, the following:

(1) the degree to which the proposal interconnects ~~the various providers of care~~ with other health care entities in the applicant's geographic community;

(2) the degree to which the project provides for the interoperability of electronic health records or related health information technology ~~between the members of the collaborative, and presence and scope of a description of how the project intends to interconnect with other providers not part of the project into the future;~~

(3) the degree to which the project addresses current unmet needs pertaining to interoperable electronic health records in a geographic area of Minnesota and the likelihood that the needs would not be met absent grant funds;

(4) the applicant's thoroughness and clarity in describing the project, how the project will improve patient safety, quality of care, and consumer empowerment, and the role of the various collaborative members;

(5) the recommendations of the Health Information and Technology Infrastructure Advisory Committee; and

(6) other factors that the commissioner deems relevant.

(d) Grant funds shall be awarded on a three-to-one match basis. Applicants shall be required to provide \$1 in the form of cash or in-kind staff or services for each \$3 provided under the grant program.

(e) Grants shall not exceed \$900,000 per grant. The commissioner has discretion over the size and number of grants awarded.

Subd. 4. **Evaluation and report.** The commissioner of health shall evaluate the overall effectiveness of the grant program. The commissioner shall collect progress and expenditure reports to evaluate the grant program from the eligible community collaboratives receiving grants.

Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 144D.03, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Registration procedures.** The commissioner shall establish forms and procedures for annual registration of housing with services establishments. The commissioner shall charge an annual registration fee of ~~\$35~~ \$155. No fee shall be refunded. A registered establishment shall notify the commissioner within 30 days of the date it is no longer required to be registered under this chapter or of any change in the business name or address of the establishment, the name or mailing address of the owner or owners, or the name or mailing address of the managing agent. There shall be no fee for submission of the notice.

**Sec. 12. [145.9269] FEDERALLY QUALIFIED HEALTH CENTERS.**

Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** For purposes of this section, "federally qualified health center" means an entity that is receiving a grant under United States Code, title 42, section 254b, or, based on the recommendation of the Health Resources and Services Administration within the Public Health Service, is determined by the secretary to meet the requirements for receiving such a grant.

Subd. 2. **Allocation of subsidies.** The commissioner of health shall distribute subsidies to federally qualified health centers operating in Minnesota to continue, expand, and improve federally qualified health center services to low-income populations. The commissioner shall distribute the funds appropriated under this section to federally qualified health centers operating in Minnesota as of January 1, 2007. The amount of each subsidy shall be in proportion to each federally qualified health center's amount of discounts granted to patients during calendar year 2006 as reported on the federal Uniform Data System report in conformance with the Bureau of Primary Health Care Program Expectations Policy Information Notice 98-23, except that each eligible federally qualified health center shall receive at least two percent but no more than 30 percent of the total amount of money available under this section.

**Sec. 13. HEALTH PROMOTION PROGRAM.**

The commissioner of health, in consultation with the State Community Health Services Advisory Committee established in Minnesota Statutes, section 145A.10, subdivision 10, shall develop a plan to fund and implement an ongoing comprehensive health promotion program that can effect change more effectively and at lower cost at a community level rather than through individual counseling and change promotion. The program shall use proven public health strategies to promote healthy lifestyles and behaviors in order to establish a sustainable, long-term approach to reducing preventable disability, chronic health conditions, and disease. The focus shall be on community based initiatives that address childhood and adult obesity, tobacco and substance abuse, improved activity levels among senior citizens, and other lifestyle issues that impact health and healthcare costs. Because of its population health focus, funding shall be related to the size of the population to be served. The plan shall be completed by October 1, 2007, and shared with the Legislative Health Care Access Commission.

**Sec. 14. CERVICAL CANCER PREVENTION AND HUMAN PAPILOMA VIRUS VACCINE STUDY.**

The commissioner of health shall reconvene the cervical cancer elimination study required under Laws 2005, First Special Session chapter 4, article 6, section 52, to conduct a study, in collaboration with the Minnesota Immunization Practices Advisory Committee, on the human papilloma virus vaccine, including, but not limited to, the following:

- (1) the risks and benefits of the human papilloma virus vaccine;
- (2) the availability and effectiveness of the vaccine;
- (3) the extent to which health plan companies cover the cost of this vaccination; and
- (4) ways to cover the cost of vaccination for persons without coverage.

The commissioner shall submit a report to the legislature by February 1, 2008, on the findings of the study and recommendations as to whether the human papilloma virus vaccine should be made

mandatory statewide.

Sec. 15. **REVISOR'S INSTRUCTION.**

In Minnesota Statutes and Minnesota Rules, the revisor shall change the references in column A with the references in column B.

<u>Column A</u>	<u>Column B</u>
<u>section 144.335</u>	<u>sections 144.291 to 144.298</u>
<u>section 144.335, subdivision 1</u>	<u>section 144.291, subdivision 2</u>
<u>section 144.335, subdivision 1, paragraph (b)</u>	<u>section 144.291, subdivision 2, paragraph (h)</u>
<u>section 144.335, subdivision 2, paragraphs (a) and (b)</u>	<u>section 144.292, subdivisions 2 and 5</u>
<u>section 144.335, subdivision 2</u>	<u>section 144.292</u>
<u>section 144.335, subdivision 3a</u>	<u>section 144.294, subdivision 2</u>
<u>section 144.335, subdivision 3a, paragraph (d)</u>	<u>section 144.295</u>
<u>section 144.335, subdivision 3a, paragraph (f)</u>	<u>section 144.294</u>
<u>section 144.335, subdivision 3b</u>	<u>section 144.293, subdivision 7</u>

Sec. 16. **REPEALER.**

Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 144.335, and Laws 2006, chapter 249, section 6, are repealed.

## ARTICLE 11

### MISCELLANEOUS POLICY

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 13.381, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 16a. **Prescription electronic reporting system.** Access to data in the prescription electronic reporting system is governed by section 152.126.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 148.235, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 11. **Dispensing by protocol.** A registered nurse in a family planning agency as defined in Minnesota Rules, part 9505.0280, subpart 3, may dispense oral contraceptives prescribed by a licensed practitioner as defined in section 151.01, subdivision 23, pursuant to a dispensing protocol established by the agency's medical director or under the direction of a physician. The dispensing protocol must address the requirements of sections 151.01, subdivision 30, and 151.212, subdivision 1.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 151.19, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Nonresident pharmacies.** The board shall require and provide for an annual nonresident special pharmacy registration for all pharmacies located outside of this state that regularly dispense medications for Minnesota residents and mail, ship, or deliver prescription medications into this state. Nonresident special pharmacy registration shall be granted by the board upon the disclosure and certification by a pharmacy:

(1) that it is licensed in the state in which the dispensing facility is located and from which the drugs are dispensed;

(2) the location, names, and titles of all principal corporate officers and all pharmacists who are dispensing drugs to residents of this state;

(3) that it complies with all lawful directions and requests for information from the Board of Pharmacy of all states in which it is licensed or registered, except that it shall respond directly to all communications from the board concerning emergency circumstances arising from the dispensing of drugs to residents of this state;

(4) that it maintains its records of drugs dispensed to residents of this state so that the records are readily retrievable from the records of other drugs dispensed;

(5) that it cooperates with the board in providing information to the Board of Pharmacy of the state in which it is licensed concerning matters related to the dispensing of drugs to residents of this state; ~~and~~

(6) that during its regular hours of operation, but not less than six days per week, for a minimum of 40 hours per week, a toll-free telephone service is provided to facilitate communication between patients in this state and a pharmacist at the pharmacy who has access to the patients' records; the toll-free number must be disclosed on the label affixed to each container of drugs dispensed to residents of this state; and

(7) that, upon request of a resident of a long-term care facility located within the state of Minnesota, the resident's authorized representative, or a contract pharmacy or licensed health care facility acting on behalf of the resident, the pharmacy will dispense medications prescribed for the resident in unit-dose packaging or, alternatively, comply with the provisions of section 151.415, subdivision 5.

#### Sec. 4. [151.415] LONG-TERM CARE RESIDENT ACCESS TO PHARMACEUTICALS ACT.

Subdivision 1. **Title; citation.** This section may be cited as the "Long-Term Care Resident Access to Pharmaceuticals Act."

Subd. 2. **Definitions.** For the purposes of this section, the following terms have the meanings given them unless otherwise provided by text:

(a) "Board" means the Board of Pharmacy.

(b) "Contract pharmacy" means a pharmacy, licensed under this chapter, which is under contract to a long-term care facility.

(c) "Long-term care facility" means a nursing home licensed under sections 144A.02 to 144A.10, or a boarding care home licensed under sections 144.50 to 144.56. Facilities not certified under title XIX of the federal Social Security Act are not included in this definition.

(d) "Original dispensing pharmacy" shall mean a pharmacy, licensed in any state in the United States, which dispenses drugs in bulk prescription containers to a person who is a resident in a long-term care facility.

Subd. 3. **Authorization to administer and repackage drugs.** (a) A contract pharmacist or pharmacy may repackage a resident's prescription drugs, which have been lawfully dispensed from bulk prescription containers by an original dispensing pharmacy, into a unit-dose system compatible with the system used by the long-term care facility.

(b) A long-term care facility may administer drugs to residents of the facility that have been repackaged according to this subdivision. The contract pharmacy shall notify the long-term care facility whenever medications have been dispensed according to this subdivision and must certify that the repackaging and dispensing has been done in accordance with this subdivision.

(c) Drugs may be dispensed for a resident of a long-term care facility according to this subdivision, provided that:

(1) the drug is dispensed by the original dispensing pharmacy according to a current, valid prescription;

(2) the original bulk prescription container for the resident is delivered by the original dispensing pharmacy directly to the contract pharmacist or pharmacy;

(3) the contract pharmacist or pharmacy verifies the name and strength of the drug, the name of the manufacturer of the drug, the manufacturer's lot or control number, the manufacturer's expiration date for the drug, and the date the drug was dispensed by the original dispensing pharmacy;

(4) the contract pharmacist or pharmacy verifies the validity and accuracy of the current prescription order;

(5) the contract pharmacist or pharmacy repackages the drug in board-approved unit-dose packaging, with labeling that complies with Minnesota Rules, part 6800.6300, and that identifies that the drug has been repackaged according to this section;

(6) the resident for whom the medication is repackaged obtains medications from or receives medications at a discounted rate from the original dispensing pharmacy under the resident's state or federal health assistance program or a private health insurance plan; and

(7) the resident for whom the medication is to be repackaged, or the resident's authorized representative, has signed an informed consent form provided by the facility which includes an explanation of the repackaging process and which notifies the resident of the immunities from liability provided in this section.

Subd. 4. **Maintenance of records.** For each drug repackaged by a contract pharmacy under this section, the contract pharmacy shall maintain a record for at least two years of the following information:

(1) the name, manufacturer, manufacturer's lot number, manufacturer's expiration date, and quantity of the drug prescribed;

(2) the name and address of the resident for whom the drug was repackaged;

(3) the name and address or other identifier of the prescriber;

(4) the date the prescription was issued and the date the drug was repackaged;



- (5) the date the repackaged drug was delivered to the long-term care facility;
- (6) the directions for use;
- (7) a copy of the label that was affixed to the repackaged drug;
- (8) the initials of the packager;
- (9) the initials of the supervising pharmacist; and
- (10) the name and business address of the original dispensing pharmacy.

Subd. 5. **Duties of the original dispensing pharmacy.** Upon request of the resident, the resident's authorized representative, or a contract pharmacy or licensed health care facility acting on behalf of the resident, the original dispensing pharmacy is required to deliver medications dispensed for the resident directly to the contract pharmacist or pharmacy. The original dispensing pharmacy is further required to provide the contract pharmacist or pharmacy with the name and strength of the drug, the name of the manufacturer of the drug, the manufacturer's lot or control number, the manufacturer's expiration date for the drug, and the date the drug was dispensed.

Subd. 6. **Redispensing of returned drugs prohibited.** Unused drugs repackaged according to this section that are returned to any pharmacy shall not be redispensed.

Subd. 7. **Immunity from civil liability.** (a) A contract pharmacist or pharmacy and its employees or agents repackaging a drug acquired from an original dispensing pharmacy shall be immune from civil liability arising from harm caused by the drug due to acts or omissions of other persons outside of the contract pharmacist or pharmacy if the contract pharmacist or pharmacy properly repackages the drug according to this section.

(b) A long-term care facility and the facility's employees or agents who properly administer a drug repackaged by a contract pharmacist or pharmacy under this section shall be immune from civil liability arising from harm caused by the drug due to acts or omissions of other persons outside the long-term care facility.

Subd. 8. **Handling fee.** A contract pharmacist or pharmacy may charge a monthly fee of no more than 250 percent of the medical assistance program dispensing fee for each drug repackaged according to this section, but no more than \$100 per month for each individual resident.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 152.11, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 2d. **Identification requirement for schedule II or III controlled substance.** No person may dispense a controlled substance included in schedule II or III without requiring the person purchasing the controlled substance, who need not be the person for whom the controlled substance prescription is written, to present valid photographic identification, unless the person purchasing the controlled substance, or if applicable the person for whom the controlled substance prescription is written, is known to the dispenser.

Sec. 6. **[152.126] SCHEDULE II AND III CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES PRESCRIPTION ELECTRONIC REPORTING SYSTEM.**

Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** For purposes of this section, the terms defined in this subdivision have the meanings given.

(a) "Board" means the Minnesota State Board of Pharmacy established under chapter 151.

(b) "Controlled substances" means those substances listed in section 152.02, subdivisions 3 and 4, and those substances defined by the board pursuant to section 152.02, subdivisions 7, 8, and 12.

(c) "Dispense" or "dispensing" has the meaning given in section 151.01, subdivision 30. Dispensing does not include the direct administering of a controlled substance to a patient by a licensed health care professional.

(d) "Dispenser" means a person authorized by law to dispense a controlled substance, pursuant to a valid prescription. A dispenser does not include a licensed hospital pharmacy that distributes controlled substances for inpatient hospital care.

(e) "Prescriber" means a licensed health care professional who is authorized to prescribe a controlled substance under section 152.12, subdivision 1.

(f) "Prescription" has the meaning given in section 151.01, subdivision 16.

**Subd. 2. Prescription electronic reporting system.** (a) The board shall establish by January 1, 2009, an electronic system for reporting the information required under subdivision 4 for all controlled substances dispensed within the state. Data for controlled substance prescriptions that are dispensed in a quantity small enough to provide treatment to a patient for a period of 48 hours or less need not be reported.

(b) The board may contract with a vendor for the purpose of obtaining technical assistance in the design, implementation, and maintenance of the electronic reporting system. The vendor's role shall be limited to providing technical support to the board concerning the software, databases, and computer systems required to interface with the existing systems currently used by pharmacies to dispense prescriptions and transmit prescription data to other third parties.

**Subd. 3. Prescription Electronic Reporting Advisory Committee.** (a) The board shall convene an advisory committee. The committee must include at least one representative of:

(1) the Department of Health;

(2) the Department of Human Services;

(3) each health-related licensing board that licenses prescribers;

(4) a professional medical association, which may include an association of pain management and chemical dependency specialists;

(5) a professional pharmacy association;

(6) a consumer privacy or security advocate; and

(7) a consumer or patient rights organization.

(b) The advisory committee shall advise the board on the development and operation of the electronic reporting system, including, but not limited to:

(1) technical standards for electronic prescription drug reporting;

(2) proper analysis and interpretation of prescription monitoring data; and

(3) an evaluation process for the program.

(c) The Board of Pharmacy, after consultation with the advisory committee, shall present recommendations and draft legislation on the issues addressed by the advisory committee under paragraph (b), to the legislature by December 15, 2007.

Subd. 4. **Reporting requirements; notice.** (a) Each dispenser must submit the following data to the board or its designated vendor, subject to the notice required under paragraph (d):

- (1) name of the prescriber;
- (2) national provider identifier of the prescriber;
- (3) name of the dispenser;
- (4) national provider identifier of the dispenser;
- (5) name of the patient for whom the prescription was written;
- (6) date of birth of the patient for whom the prescription was written;
- (7) date the prescription was written;
- (8) date the prescription was filled;
- (9) name and strength of the controlled substance;
- (10) quantity of controlled substance prescribed; and
- (11) quantity of controlled substance dispensed.

(b) The dispenser must submit the required information by a procedure and in a format established by the board.

(c) A dispenser is not required to submit this data for those controlled substance prescriptions dispensed for:

- (1) individuals residing in licensed skilled nursing or intermediate care facilities;
- (2) individuals receiving assisted living services under chapter 144G or through a medical assistance home and community-based waiver;
- (3) individuals receiving medication intravenously;
- (4) individuals receiving hospice and other palliative or end-of-life care; and
- (5) individuals receiving services from a home care provider regulated under chapter 144A.

(d) A dispenser must not submit data under this subdivision unless a conspicuous notice of the reporting requirements of this section is given to the patient for whom the prescription was written.

Subd. 5. **Use of data by board.** (a) The board shall develop and maintain a database of the data reported under subdivision 4. The board shall maintain data that could identify an individual prescriber or dispenser in encrypted form. The database may be used by permissible users identified under subdivision 6 for the identification of:

(1) individuals receiving prescriptions for controlled substances from prescribers who subsequently obtain controlled substances from dispensers in quantities or with a frequency inconsistent with standards accepted by national and international pain management associations of dosage for those controlled substances; and

(2) individuals presenting forged or otherwise false or altered prescriptions for controlled substances to dispensers.

(b) No permissible user identified under subdivision 6 may access the database for the sole purpose of identifying prescribers of controlled substances for unusual or excessive prescribing patterns without a valid search warrant or court order.

(c) No personnel of a state or federal occupational licensing board or agency may access the database for the purpose of obtaining information to be used to initiate or substantiate a disciplinary action against a prescriber.

(d) Data reported under subdivision 4 shall be retained by the board in the database for a 12-month period, and shall be removed from the database 12 months from the date the data was received.

Subd. 6. **Access to reporting system data.** (a) Except as indicated in this subdivision, the data submitted to the board under subdivision 4 is private data on individuals as defined in section 13.02, subdivision 12, and not subject to public disclosure.

(b) Except as specified in subdivision 5, the following persons shall be considered permissible users and may access the data submitted under subdivision 4 in the same or similar manner, and for the same or similar purposes, as those persons who are authorized to access similar private data on individuals under federal and state law:

(1) a prescriber, to the extent the information relates specifically to a current patient of the prescriber, to whom the practitioner is prescribing or considering prescribing any controlled substance;

(2) a dispenser, to the extent the information relates specifically to a current patient to whom that dispenser is dispensing or considering dispensing any controlled substance;

(3) an individual who is the recipient of a controlled substance prescription for which data was submitted under subdivision 4, or a guardian of the individual, parent or guardian of a minor, or health care agent of the individual acting under a health care directive under chapter 145C;

(4) personnel of the board specifically assigned to conduct a bona fide investigation of a specific licensee;

(5) personnel of the board engaged in the collection of controlled substance prescription information as part of the assigned duties and responsibilities under this section;

(6) authorized personnel of a vendor under contract with the board who are engaged in the design, implementation, and maintenance of the electronic reporting system as part of the assigned duties and responsibilities of their employment, provided that access to data is limited to the minimum amount necessary to test and maintain the system databases;

(7) federal, state, and local law enforcement authorities acting pursuant to a valid search warrant;

and

(8) personnel of the medical assistance program assigned to use the data collected under this section to identify recipients whose usage of controlled substances may warrant restriction to a single primary care physician, a single outpatient pharmacy, or a single hospital.

For purposes of clause (3), access by an individual includes persons in the definition of an individual under section 13.02.

(c) Any permissible user identified in paragraph (b), who directly accesses the data electronically, shall implement and maintain a comprehensive information security program that contains administrative, technical, and physical safeguards that are appropriate to the user's size and complexity, and the sensitivity of the personal information obtained. The permissible user shall identify reasonably foreseeable internal and external risks to the security, confidentiality, and integrity of personal information that could result in the unauthorized disclosure, misuse, or other compromise of the information and assess the sufficiency of any safeguards in place to control the risks.

(d) The board shall not release data submitted under this section unless it is provided with evidence, satisfactory to the board, that the person requesting the information is entitled to receive the data.

(e) The board shall not release the name of a prescriber without the written consent of the prescriber or a valid search warrant or court order. The board shall provide a mechanism for a prescriber to submit to the board a signed consent authorizing the release of the prescriber's name when data containing the prescriber's name is requested.

(f) The board shall maintain a log of all persons who access the data and shall ensure that any permissible user complies with paragraph (c) prior to attaining direct access to the data.

Subd. 7. **Disciplinary action.** (a) A dispenser who knowingly fails to submit data to the board as required under this section is subject to disciplinary action by the appropriate health-related licensing board.

(b) A prescriber or dispenser authorized to access the data who knowingly discloses the data in violation of state or federal laws relating to the privacy of health care data shall be subject to disciplinary action by the appropriate health-related licensing board, and appropriate civil penalties.

Subd. 8. **Evaluation and reporting.** (a) The board shall evaluate the prescription electronic reporting system to determine if the system is cost-effective and whether it is negatively impacting appropriate prescribing practices of controlled substances. The board may contract with a vendor to design and conduct the evaluation.

(b) The board shall submit the evaluation of the system to the legislature by January 15, 2010.

Subd. 9. **Immunity from liability; no requirement to obtain information.** (a) A pharmacist, prescriber, or other dispenser making a report to the program in good faith under this section is immune from any civil, criminal, or administrative liability, which might otherwise be incurred or imposed as a result of the report, or on the basis that the pharmacist or prescriber did or did not seek or obtain or use information from the program.

(b) Nothing in this section shall require a pharmacist, prescriber, or other dispenser to obtain information about a patient from the program, and the pharmacist, prescriber, or other dispenser, if acting in good faith, is immune from any civil, criminal, or administrative liability that might otherwise be incurred or imposed for requesting, receiving, or using information from the program.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007, or upon receiving sufficient nonstate funds to implement the prescription electronic reporting program, whichever is later. In the event that nonstate funds are not secured by the Board of Pharmacy to adequately fund the implementation of the prescription electronic reporting program, the board is not required to implement this section without a subsequent appropriation from the legislature.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 245.4874, is amended to read:

**245.4874 DUTIES OF COUNTY BOARD.**

(a) The county board must:

(1) develop a system of affordable and locally available children's mental health services according to sections 245.487 to 245.4887;

(2) establish a mechanism providing for interagency coordination as specified in section 245.4875, subdivision 6;

(3) consider the assessment of unmet needs in the county as reported by the local children's mental health advisory council under section 245.4875, subdivision 5, paragraph (b), clause (3). The county shall provide, upon request of the local children's mental health advisory council, readily available data to assist in the determination of unmet needs;

(4) assure that parents and providers in the county receive information about how to gain access to services provided according to sections 245.487 to 245.4887;

(5) coordinate the delivery of children's mental health services with services provided by social services, education, corrections, health, and vocational agencies to improve the availability of mental health services to children and the cost-effectiveness of their delivery;

(6) assure that mental health services delivered according to sections 245.487 to 245.4887 are delivered expeditiously and are appropriate to the child's diagnostic assessment and individual treatment plan;

(7) provide the community with information about predictors and symptoms of emotional disturbances and how to access children's mental health services according to sections 245.4877 and 245.4878;

(8) provide for case management services to each child with severe emotional disturbance according to sections 245.486; 245.4871, subdivisions 3 and 4; and 245.4881, subdivisions 1, 3, and 5;

(9) provide for screening of each child under section 245.4885 upon admission to a residential treatment facility, acute care hospital inpatient treatment, or informal admission to a regional treatment center;

(10) prudently administer grants and purchase-of-service contracts that the county board

determines are necessary to fulfill its responsibilities under sections 245.487 to 245.4887;

(11) assure that mental health professionals, mental health practitioners, and case managers employed by or under contract to the county to provide mental health services are qualified under section 245.4871;

(12) assure that children's mental health services are coordinated with adult mental health services specified in sections 245.461 to 245.486 so that a continuum of mental health services is available to serve persons with mental illness, regardless of the person's age;

(13) assure that culturally informed mental health consultants are used as necessary to assist the county board in assessing and providing appropriate treatment for children of cultural or racial minority heritage; and

(14) consistent with section 245.486, arrange for or provide a children's mental health screening to a child receiving child protective services or a child in out-of-home placement, a child for whom parental rights have been terminated, a child found to be delinquent, and a child found to have committed a juvenile petty offense for the third or subsequent time, unless a screening or diagnostic assessment has been performed within the previous 180 days, or the child is currently under the care of a mental health professional. The court or county agency must notify a parent or guardian whose parental rights have not been terminated of the potential mental health screening and the option to prevent the screening by notifying the court or county agency in writing. The screening shall be conducted with a screening instrument approved by the commissioner of human services according to criteria that are updated and issued annually to ensure that approved screening instruments are valid and useful for child welfare and juvenile justice populations, and shall be conducted by a mental health practitioner as defined in section 245.4871, subdivision 26, or a probation officer or local social services agency staff person who is trained in the use of the screening instrument. Training in the use of the instrument shall include training in the administration of the instrument, the interpretation of its validity given the child's current circumstances, the state and federal data practices laws and confidentiality standards, the parental consent requirement, and providing respect for families and cultural values. If the screen indicates a need for assessment, the child's family, or if the family lacks mental health insurance, the local social services agency, in consultation with the child's family, shall have conducted a diagnostic assessment, including a functional assessment, as defined in section 245.4871. The administration of the screening shall safeguard the privacy of children receiving the screening and their families and shall comply with the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, chapter 13, and the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, Public Law 104-191. Screening results shall be considered private data and the commissioner shall not collect individual screening results.

(b) When the county board refers clients to providers of children's therapeutic services and supports under section 256B.0943, the county board must clearly identify the desired services components not covered under section 256B.0943 and identify the reimbursement source for those requested services, the method of payment, and the payment rate to the provider.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 253B.185, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Transfer to correctional facility.** (a) If a person has been committed under this section and later is committed to the custody of the commissioner of corrections for any reason, including but not limited to, being sentenced for a crime or revocation of the person's supervised release or conditional release under section 244.05, ~~609.108, subdivision 6,~~ or 609.109, subdivision 7, the

person shall be transferred to a facility designated by the commissioner of corrections without regard to the procedures provided in section 253B.18.

(b) If a person is committed under this section after a commitment to the commissioner of corrections, the person shall first serve the sentence in a facility designated by the commissioner of corrections. After the person has served the sentence, the person shall be transferred to a treatment program designated by the commissioner of human services.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 254A.03, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Rules for chemical dependency care.** The commissioner of human services shall establish by rule criteria to be used in determining the appropriate level of chemical dependency care, ~~whether outpatient, inpatient or short-term treatment programs,~~ for each recipient of public assistance seeking treatment for alcohol or other drug dependency and abuse problems. ~~The criteria shall address, at least, the family relationship, past treatment history, medical or physical problems, arrest record, and employment situation.~~

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 254A.16, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Program and service guidelines.** (a) The commissioner shall provide program and service guidelines and technical assistance to the county boards in carrying out services authorized under sections section 254A.08, 254A.12, 254A.14, and their responsibilities under chapter 256E.

(b) The commissioner shall recommend to the governor means of improving the efficiency and effectiveness of comprehensive program services in the state and maximizing the use of nongovernmental funds for providing comprehensive programs.

Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 254B.02, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Chemical dependency treatment allocation.** The chemical dependency funds appropriated for allocation shall be placed in a special revenue account. The commissioner shall annually transfer funds from the chemical dependency fund to pay for operation of the drug and alcohol abuse normative evaluation system and to pay for all costs incurred by adding two positions for licensing of chemical dependency treatment and rehabilitation programs located in hospitals for which funds are not otherwise appropriated. ~~For each year of the biennium ending June 30, 1999, the commissioner shall allocate funds to the American Indian chemical dependency tribal account for treatment of American Indians by eligible vendors under section 254B.05, equal to the amount allocated in fiscal year 1997. Six percent of the remaining money must be reserved for tribal allocation under section 254B.09, subdivisions 4 and 5.~~ The commissioner shall annually divide the money available in the chemical dependency fund that is not held in reserve by counties from a previous allocation, or allocated to the American Indian chemical dependency tribal account. Six percent of the remaining money must be reserved for the nonreservation American Indian chemical dependency allocation for treatment of American Indians by eligible vendors under section 254B.05, subdivision 1. The remainder of the money must be allocated among the counties according to the following formula, using state demographer data and other data sources determined by the commissioner:

(a) For purposes of this formula, American Indians and children under age 14 are subtracted from the population of each county to determine the restricted population.

(b) The amount of chemical dependency fund expenditures for entitled persons for services not



covered by prepaid plans governed by section 256B.69 in the previous year is divided by the amount of chemical dependency fund expenditures for entitled persons for all services to determine the proportion of exempt service expenditures for each county.

(c) The prepaid plan months of eligibility is multiplied by the proportion of exempt service expenditures to determine the adjusted prepaid plan months of eligibility for each county.

(d) The adjusted prepaid plan months of eligibility is added to the number of restricted population fee for service months of eligibility for the Minnesota family investment program, general assistance, and medical assistance and divided by the county restricted population to determine county per capita months of covered service eligibility.

(e) The number of adjusted prepaid plan months of eligibility for the state is added to the number of fee for service months of eligibility for the Minnesota family investment program, general assistance, and medical assistance for the state restricted population and divided by the state restricted population to determine state per capita months of covered service eligibility.

(f) The county per capita months of covered service eligibility is divided by the state per capita months of covered service eligibility to determine the county welfare caseload factor.

(g) The median married couple income for the most recent three-year period available for the state is divided by the median married couple income for the same period for each county to determine the income factor for each county.

(h) The county restricted population is multiplied by the sum of the county welfare caseload factor and the county income factor to determine the adjusted population.

(i) \$15,000 shall be allocated to each county.

(j) The remaining funds shall be allocated proportional to the county adjusted population.

Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 254B.02, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **Administrative adjustment.** The commissioner may make payments to local agencies from money allocated under this section to support administrative activities under sections 254B.03 and 254B.04. The administrative payment must not exceed five percent of the first \$50,000, four percent of the next \$50,000, and three percent of the remaining payments for services from the allocation. ~~Twenty five percent of the administrative allowance shall be advanced at the beginning of each quarter, based on the payments for services made in the most recent quarter for which data is available. Adjustment of any overestimate or underestimate based on actual expenditures shall be made by the state agency by adjusting the administrative allowance for any succeeding quarter.~~

Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 254B.03, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Local agency duties.** (a) Every local agency shall provide chemical dependency services to persons residing within its jurisdiction who meet criteria established by the commissioner for placement in a chemical dependency residential or nonresidential treatment service. Chemical dependency money must be administered by the local agencies according to law and rules adopted by the commissioner under sections 14.001 to 14.69.

(b) In order to contain costs, the county board shall, with the approval of the commissioner of human services, select eligible vendors of chemical dependency services who can provide

economical and appropriate treatment. Unless the local agency is a social services department directly administered by a county or human services board, the local agency shall not be an eligible vendor under section 254B.05. The commissioner may approve proposals from county boards to provide services in an economical manner or to control utilization, with safeguards to ensure that necessary services are provided. If a county implements a demonstration or experimental medical services funding plan, the commissioner shall transfer the money as appropriate. If a county selects a vendor located in another state, the county shall ensure that the vendor is in compliance with the rules governing licensure of programs located in the state.

~~(e) The calendar year 2002 rate for vendors may not increase more than three percent above the rate approved in effect on January 1, 2001. The calendar year 2003 rate for vendors may not increase more than three percent above the rate in effect on January 1, 2002. The calendar years 2004 and 2005 rates may not exceed the rate in effect on January 1, 2003.~~

~~(d)~~ (c) A culturally specific vendor that provides assessments under a variance under Minnesota Rules, part 9530.6610, shall be allowed to provide assessment services to persons not covered by the variance.

Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 254B.03, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Local agencies to pay state for county share.** ~~Local agencies shall submit invoices to the state on forms supplied by the commissioner and according to procedures established by the commissioner. Local agencies shall pay the state for the county share of the invoiced services authorized by the local agency. Payments shall be made at the beginning of each month for services provided in the previous month. The commissioner shall bill the county monthly for services based on the most recent month for which expenditure information is available. Adjustment of any overestimate or underestimate based on actual expenditures shall be made by the state agency by adjusting the estimate for any succeeding month.~~

Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 254B.06, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Payment; denial.** The commissioner shall pay eligible vendors for placements made by local agencies under section 254B.03, subdivision 1, and placements by tribal designated agencies according to section 254B.09. The commissioner may reduce or deny payment of the state share when services are not provided according to the placement criteria established by the commissioner. The commissioner may pay for all or a portion of improper county chemical dependency placements and bill the county for the entire payment made when the placement did not comply with criteria established by the commissioner. The commissioner may make payments to vendors and charge the county 100 percent of the payments if documentation of a county approved placement is received more than 30 working days, exclusive of weekends and holidays, after the date services began; ~~or if the county approved invoice is received by the commissioner more than 120 days after the last date of service provided.~~ The commissioner shall not pay vendors until private insurance company claims have been settled.

Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0625, subdivision 23, is amended to read:

Subd. 23. **Day treatment services.** Medical assistance covers day treatment services as specified in sections 245.462, subdivision 8, and 245.4871, subdivision 10, that are provided under contract with the county board. Notwithstanding Minnesota Rules, part 9505.0323, subpart 15, the commissioner may set authorization thresholds for day treatment for adults according to

section 256B.0625, subdivision 25. Notwithstanding Minnesota Rules, part 9505.0323, subpart 15, effective July 1, 2004, medical assistance covers day treatment services for children as specified under section 256B.0943.

Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0943, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

**Subd. 6. Provider entity clinical infrastructure requirements.** (a) To be an eligible provider entity under this section, a provider entity must have a clinical infrastructure that utilizes diagnostic assessment, an individualized treatment plan, service delivery, and individual treatment plan review that are culturally competent, child-centered, and family-driven to achieve maximum benefit for the client. The provider entity must review and update the clinical policies and procedures every three years and must distribute the policies and procedures to staff initially and upon each subsequent update.

(b) The clinical infrastructure written policies and procedures must include policies and procedures for:

(1) providing or obtaining a client's diagnostic assessment that identifies acute and chronic clinical disorders, co-occurring medical conditions, sources of psychological and environmental problems, and a functional assessment. The functional assessment must clearly summarize the client's individual strengths and needs;

(2) developing an individual treatment plan that is:

(i) based on the information in the client's diagnostic assessment;

(ii) developed no later than the end of the first psychotherapy session after the completion of the client's diagnostic assessment by the mental health professional who provides the client's psychotherapy;

(iii) developed through a child-centered, family-driven planning process that identifies service needs and individualized, planned, and culturally appropriate interventions that contain specific treatment goals and objectives for the client and the client's family or foster family;

(iv) reviewed at least once every 90 days and revised, if necessary; and

(v) signed by the client or, if appropriate, by the client's parent or other person authorized by statute to consent to mental health services for the client;

(3) developing an individual behavior plan that documents services to be provided by the mental health behavioral aide. The individual behavior plan must include:

(i) detailed instructions on the service to be provided;

(ii) time allocated to each service;

(iii) methods of documenting the child's behavior;

(iv) methods of monitoring the child's progress in reaching objectives; and

(v) goals to increase or decrease targeted behavior as identified in the individual treatment plan;

(4) clinical supervision of the mental health practitioner and mental health behavioral aide.

A mental health professional must document the clinical supervision the professional provides by cosigning individual treatment plans and making entries in the client's record on supervisory activities. Clinical supervision does not include the authority to make or terminate court-ordered placements of the child. A clinical supervisor must be available for urgent consultation as required by the individual client's needs or the situation. Clinical supervision may occur individually or in a small group to discuss treatment and review progress toward goals. The focus of clinical supervision must be the client's treatment needs and progress and the mental health practitioner's or behavioral aide's ability to provide services;

(4a) CTSS certified provider entities providing day treatment programs must meet the conditions in items (i) to (iii):

(i) the ~~provider~~ supervisor must be present and available on the premises more than 50 percent of the time in a five-working-day period during which the supervisee is providing a mental health service;

(ii) the diagnosis and the client's individual treatment plan or a change in the diagnosis or individual treatment plan must be made by or reviewed, approved, and signed by the ~~provider~~ supervisor; and

(iii) every 30 days, the supervisor must review and sign the record of the client's care for all activities in the preceding 30-day period;

(4b) for all other services provided under CTSS, clinical supervision standards provided in items (i) to (iii) must be used:

(i) medical assistance shall reimburse a mental health practitioner who maintains a consulting relationship with a mental health professional who accepts full professional responsibility and is present on site for at least one observation during the first 12 hours in which the mental health practitioner provides the individual, family, or group skills training to the child or the child's family;

(ii) thereafter, the mental health professional is required to be present on site for observation as clinically appropriate when the mental health practitioner is providing individual, family, or group skills training to the child or the child's family; and

(iii) the observation must be a minimum of one clinical unit. The on-site presence of the mental health professional must be documented in the child's record and signed by the mental health professional who accepts full professional responsibility;

(5) providing direction to a mental health behavioral aide. For entities that employ mental health behavioral aides, the clinical supervisor must be employed by the provider entity or other certified children's therapeutic supports and services provider entity to ensure necessary and appropriate oversight for the client's treatment and continuity of care. The mental health professional or mental health practitioner giving direction must begin with the goals on the individualized treatment plan, and instruct the mental health behavioral aide on how to construct therapeutic activities and interventions that will lead to goal attainment. The professional or practitioner giving direction must also instruct the mental health behavioral aide about the client's diagnosis, functional status, and other characteristics that are likely to affect service delivery. Direction must also include determining that the mental health behavioral aide has the skills to interact with the client and the client's family in ways that convey personal and cultural respect and that the aide actively

solicits information relevant to treatment from the family. The aide must be able to clearly explain the activities the aide is doing with the client and the activities' relationship to treatment goals. Direction is more didactic than is supervision and requires the professional or practitioner providing it to continuously evaluate the mental health behavioral aide's ability to carry out the activities of the individualized treatment plan and the individualized behavior plan. When providing direction, the professional or practitioner must:

(i) review progress notes prepared by the mental health behavioral aide for accuracy and consistency with diagnostic assessment, treatment plan, and behavior goals and the professional or practitioner must approve and sign the progress notes;

(ii) identify changes in treatment strategies, revise the individual behavior plan, and communicate treatment instructions and methodologies as appropriate to ensure that treatment is implemented correctly;

(iii) demonstrate family-friendly behaviors that support healthy collaboration among the child, the child's family, and providers as treatment is planned and implemented;

(iv) ensure that the mental health behavioral aide is able to effectively communicate with the child, the child's family, and the provider; and

(v) record the results of any evaluation and corrective actions taken to modify the work of the mental health behavioral aide;

(6) providing service delivery that implements the individual treatment plan and meets the requirements under subdivision 9; and

(7) individual treatment plan review. The review must determine the extent to which the services have met the goals and objectives in the previous treatment plan. The review must assess the client's progress and ensure that services and treatment goals continue to be necessary and appropriate to the client and the client's family or foster family. Revision of the individual treatment plan does not require a new diagnostic assessment unless the client's mental health status has changed markedly. The updated treatment plan must be signed by the client, if appropriate, and by the client's parent or other person authorized by statute to give consent to the mental health services for the child.

Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0943, subdivision 9, is amended to read:

Subd. 9. **Service delivery criteria.** (a) In delivering services under this section, a certified provider entity must ensure that:

(1) each individual provider's caseload size permits the provider to deliver services to both clients with severe, complex needs and clients with less intensive needs. The provider's caseload size should reasonably enable the provider to play an active role in service planning, monitoring, and delivering services to meet the client's and client's family's needs, as specified in each client's individual treatment plan;

(2) site-based programs, including day treatment and preschool programs, provide staffing and facilities to ensure the client's health, safety, and protection of rights, and that the programs are able to implement each client's individual treatment plan;

(3) a day treatment program is provided to a group of clients by a multidisciplinary team under

the clinical supervision of a mental health professional. The day treatment program must be provided in and by: (i) an outpatient hospital accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Health Organizations and licensed under sections 144.50 to 144.55; (ii) a community mental health center under section 245.62; and (iii) an entity that is under contract with the county board to operate a program that meets the requirements of sections 245.4712, subdivision 2, and 245.4884, subdivision 2, and Minnesota Rules, parts 9505.0170 to 9505.0475. The day treatment program must stabilize the client's mental health status while developing and improving the client's independent living and socialization skills. The goal of the day treatment program must be to reduce or relieve the effects of mental illness and provide training to enable the client to live in the community. The program must be available at least one day a week for a ~~minimum~~ three-hour time block. The three-hour time block must include at least one hour, but no more than two hours, of individual or group psychotherapy. The remainder of the three-hour time block may include recreation therapy, socialization therapy, or independent living skills therapy, but only if the therapies are included in the client's individual treatment plan. Day treatment programs are not part of inpatient or residential treatment services; and

(4) a preschool program is a structured treatment program offered to a child who is at least 33 months old, but who has not yet reached the first day of kindergarten, by a preschool multidisciplinary team in a day program licensed under Minnesota Rules, parts 9503.0005 to 9503.0175. The program must be available at least one day a week for a minimum two-hour time block. The structured treatment program may include individual or group psychotherapy and recreation therapy, socialization therapy, or independent living skills therapy, if included in the client's individual treatment plan.

(b) A provider entity must deliver the service components of children's therapeutic services and supports in compliance with the following requirements:

(1) individual, family, and group psychotherapy must be delivered as specified in Minnesota Rules, part 9505.0323;

(2) individual, family, or group skills training must be provided by a mental health professional or a mental health practitioner who has a consulting relationship with a mental health professional who accepts full professional responsibility for the training;

(3) crisis assistance must be time-limited and designed to resolve or stabilize crisis through arrangements for direct intervention and support services to the child and the child's family. Crisis assistance must utilize resources designed to address abrupt or substantial changes in the functioning of the child or the child's family as evidenced by a sudden change in behavior with negative consequences for well being, a loss of usual coping mechanisms, or the presentation of danger to self or others;

(4) medically necessary services that are provided by a mental health behavioral aide must be designed to improve the functioning of the child and support the family in activities of daily and community living. A mental health behavioral aide must document the delivery of services in written progress notes. The mental health behavioral aide must implement goals in the treatment plan for the child's emotional disturbance that allow the child to acquire developmentally and therapeutically appropriate daily living skills, social skills, and leisure and recreational skills through targeted activities. These activities may include:

(i) assisting a child as needed with skills development in dressing, eating, and toileting;

(ii) assisting, monitoring, and guiding the child to complete tasks, including facilitating the child's participation in medical appointments;

(iii) observing the child and intervening to redirect the child's inappropriate behavior;

(iv) assisting the child in using age-appropriate self-management skills as related to the child's emotional disorder or mental illness, including problem solving, decision making, communication, conflict resolution, anger management, social skills, and recreational skills;

(v) implementing deescalation techniques as recommended by the mental health professional;

(vi) implementing any other mental health service that the mental health professional has approved as being within the scope of the behavioral aide's duties; or

(vii) assisting the parents to develop and use parenting skills that help the child achieve the goals outlined in the child's individual treatment plan or individual behavioral plan. Parenting skills must be directed exclusively to the child's treatment; and

(5) direction of a mental health behavioral aide must include the following:

(i) a total of one hour of on-site observation by a mental health professional during the first 12 hours of service provided to a child;

(ii) ongoing on-site observation by a mental health professional or mental health practitioner for at least a total of one hour during every 40 hours of service provided to a child; and

(iii) immediate accessibility of the mental health professional or mental health practitioner to the mental health behavioral aide during service provision.

Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0943, subdivision 11, is amended to read:

Subd. 11. **Documentation and billing.** (a) A provider entity must document the services it provides under this section. The provider entity must ensure that the entity's documentation standards meet the requirements of federal and state laws. Services billed under this section that are not documented according to this subdivision shall be subject to monetary recovery by the commissioner. The provider entity may not bill for anything other than direct service time.

(b) An individual mental health provider must promptly document the following in a client's record after providing services to the client:

(1) each occurrence of the client's mental health service, including the date, type, length, and scope of the service;

(2) the name of the person who gave the service;

(3) contact made with other persons interested in the client, including representatives of the courts, corrections systems, or schools. The provider must document the name and date of each contact;

(4) any contact made with the client's other mental health providers, case manager, family members, primary caregiver, legal representative, or the reason the provider did not contact the client's family members, primary caregiver, or legal representative, if applicable; and

(5) required clinical supervision, as appropriate.

Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0943, subdivision 12, is amended to read:

Subd. 12. **Excluded services.** The following services are not eligible for medical assistance payment as children's therapeutic services and supports:

(1) service components of children's therapeutic services and supports simultaneously provided by more than one provider entity unless prior authorization is obtained;

(2) children's therapeutic services and supports provided in violation of medical assistance policy in Minnesota Rules, part 9505.0220;

(3) mental health behavioral aide services provided by a personal care assistant who is not qualified as a mental health behavioral aide and employed by a certified children's therapeutic services and supports provider entity;

(4) service components of CTSS that are the responsibility of a residential or program license holder, including foster care providers under the terms of a service agreement or administrative rules governing licensure; ~~and~~

(5) adjunctive activities that may be offered by a provider entity but are not otherwise covered by medical assistance, including:

(i) a service that is primarily recreation oriented or that is provided in a setting that is not medically supervised. This includes sports activities, exercise groups, activities such as craft hours, leisure time, social hours, meal or snack time, trips to community activities, and tours;

(ii) a social or educational service that does not have or cannot reasonably be expected to have a therapeutic outcome related to the client's emotional disturbance;

(iii) consultation with other providers or service agency staff about the care or progress of a client;

(iv) prevention or education programs provided to the community; and

(v) treatment for clients with primary diagnoses of alcohol or other drug abuse; and

(6) activities that are not direct service time.

Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256E.35, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Definitions.** (a) The definitions in this subdivision apply to this section.

(b) "Family asset account" means a savings account opened by a household participating in the Minnesota family assets for independence initiative.

(c) "Fiduciary organization" means:

(1) a community action agency that has obtained recognition under section ~~268.53~~ 256E.31;

(2) a federal community development credit union serving the seven-county metropolitan area;

or



(3) a women-oriented economic development agency serving the seven-county metropolitan area.

(d) "Financial institution" means a bank, bank and trust, savings bank, savings association, or credit union, the deposits of which are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or the National Credit Union Administration.

(e) "Permissible use" means:

(1) postsecondary educational expenses at an accredited public postsecondary institution including books, supplies, and equipment required for courses of instruction;

(2) acquisition costs of acquiring, constructing, or reconstructing a residence, including any usual or reasonable settlement, financing, or other closing costs;

(3) business capitalization expenses for expenditures on capital, plant, equipment, working capital, and inventory expenses of a legitimate business pursuant to a business plan approved by the fiduciary organization; and

(4) acquisition costs of a principal residence within the meaning of section 1034 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 which do not exceed 100 percent of the average area purchase price applicable to the residence determined according to section 143(e)(2) and (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

(f) "Household" means all individuals who share use of a dwelling unit as primary quarters for living and eating separate from other individuals.

Sec. 22. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 518A.32, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Parent not considered voluntarily unemployed or underemployed.** A parent is not considered voluntarily unemployed or underemployed upon a showing by the parent that:

(1) unemployment or underemployment is temporary and will ultimately lead to an increase in income; ~~or~~

(2) the unemployment or underemployment represents a bona fide career change that outweighs the adverse effect of that parent's diminished income on the child; or

(3) the unemployment or underemployment is because a parent is physically or mentally incapacitated.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective retroactively from January 1, 2007.

Sec. 23. Laws 2005, chapter 98, article 3, section 25, is amended to read:

Sec. 25. **REPEALER.**

Minnesota Statutes 2004, sections 245.713, ~~subdivisions 2 and~~ subdivision 4; 245.716; and 626.5551, subdivision 4, are repealed.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective retroactively from August 1, 2005.

Sec. 24. **FEDERAL GRANTS.**

The Board of Pharmacy shall apply for any applicable federal grants or other nonstate funds to establish and fully implement the prescription electronic reporting system.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 25. **BOARD OF PHARMACY.**

The Board of Pharmacy shall not increase the license fees of pharmacists or pharmacies in order to adequately fund the prescription electronic reporting system under Minnesota Statutes, section 152.126, without specific authority from the legislature.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 26. **BOARD OF MEDICAL PRACTICE.**

The Board of Medical Practice shall convene a work group to discuss the appropriate prescribing of controlled substances listed in Minnesota Statutes, section 152.02, subdivisions 3 and 4, and those substances defined by the Board of Pharmacy under Minnesota Statutes, section 152.02, subdivisions 7, 8, and 12, for pain management, and shall report to the legislature by December 15, 2007.

Sec. 27. **REPEALER.**

(a) Minnesota Statutes 2006, sections 254A.02, subdivisions 7, 9, 12, 14, 15, and 16; 254A.085; 254A.086; 254A.12; 254A.14; 254A.15; 254A.16, subdivision 5; 254A.175; 254A.18; 256J.561, subdivision 1; 256J.62, subdivision 9; and 256J.65, are repealed.

(b) Minnesota Rules, part 9503.0035, subpart 2, is repealed.

## ARTICLE 12

### MISCELLANEOUS

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16A.10, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 2a. **Base budget detail.** Within one week of the release of the budget forecasts required in section 16A.102 in November of an even-numbered year and February of an odd-numbered year, the commissioner, after consulting with the commissioners of human services and health, must provide to the legislature information at the program, budget activity and management activity level for the base level budget of the Department of Human Services and the Department of Health for the next biennium. The information must be organized in a manner that explains how base level budget appropriations are projected to be spent. Within one week of the release of the budget forecasts required in section 16A.102 in November of an even-numbered year, the commissioner must also provide the legislature with the information submitted by the commissioners of human services and health under subdivision 2, clauses (3) and (4).

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 62E.02, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Dependent.** "Dependent" means a spouse or unmarried child ~~under the age of 19 years, a dependent child who is a student~~ under the age of 25, or a dependent child of any age who is disabled.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2008, and applies to coverage offered,

sold, issued, or renewed on or after that date.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 62H.02, is amended to read:

**62H.02 REQUIRED PROVISIONS.**

(a) A joint self-insurance plan must include aggregate excess stop-loss coverage and individual excess stop-loss coverage provided by an insurance company licensed by the state of Minnesota.

(b) Aggregate excess stop-loss coverage must include provisions to cover incurred, unpaid claim liability in the event of plan termination. ~~In addition,~~

(c) The plan of self-insurance must have participating employers fund an amount at least equal to the point at which the excess or stop-loss insurer has contracted to assume 100 percent of additional liability.

(d) A joint self-insurance plan must submit its proposed excess or stop-loss insurance contract to the commissioner of commerce at least 30 days prior to the proposed plan's effective date and at least 30 days subsequent to any renewal date. The commissioner shall review the contract to determine if they meet the standards established by sections 62H.01 to 62H.08 and respond within a 30-day period.

(e) Any excess or stop-loss insurance plan must contain a provision that the excess or stop-loss insurer will give the plan and the commissioner of commerce a minimum of 180 days' notice of termination or nonrenewal. If the plan fails to secure replacement coverage within 60 days after receipt of the notice of cancellation or nonrenewal, the commissioner shall issue an order providing for the orderly termination of the plan.

(f) The commissioner may waive the requirements of this section and of any rule relating to the requirements of this section, if the commissioner determines that a joint self-insurance plan has established alternative arrangements that fully fund the plan's liability or incurred but unpaid claims. The commissioner may not waive the requirement that a joint self-insurance plan have excess stop-loss coverage.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 62J.07, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Legislative oversight.** ~~The Legislative Commission on Health Care Access reviews the activities of the commissioner of health, the Health Technology Advisory Committee, and all other state agencies involved in the implementation and administration of this chapter, including efforts to obtain federal approval through waivers and other means shall make recommendations to the legislature on how to achieve the goal of universal health coverage as described in section 62Q.165. The recommendations shall include a timetable in which measurable progress must be achieved toward this goal. The commission shall submit to the legislature by January 15, 2008, the recommendations and corresponding timetable.~~

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 62J.07, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Reports to the commission.** ~~The commissioner~~ commissioners of health, human services, commerce, and the Health Technology Advisory Committee ~~shall report on their activities annually and at other times at the request of the Legislative Commission on Health Care Access.~~

~~The commissioners of health, commerce, and human services shall provide periodic reports to the legislative commission on the progress of rulemaking that is authorized or required under this chapter and shall notify members of the commission when a draft of a proposed rule has been completed and scheduled for publication in the State Register. At the request of a member of the commission, a commissioner shall provide a description and a copy of a proposed rule other state agencies shall provide assistance and technical support to the commission at the request of the commission. The commission may convene subcommittees to provide additional assistance and advice to the commission.~~

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 62L.02, subdivision 11, is amended to read:

Subd. 11. **Dependent.** "Dependent" means an eligible employee's spouse, unmarried child who is ~~under the age of 19 years, unmarried child~~ under the age of 25 years ~~who is a full-time student as defined in section 62A.301,~~ dependent child of any age who is disabled and who meets the eligibility criteria in section 62A.14, subdivision 2, or any other person whom state or federal law requires to be treated as a dependent for purposes of health plans. For the purpose of this definition, a child includes a child for whom the employee or the employee's spouse has been appointed legal guardian and an adoptive child as provided in section 62A.27.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2008, and applies to coverage offered, sold, issued, and renewed on or after that date.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 144.05, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 5. **Base budget detail.** The commissioner shall provide the commissioner of finance with the information necessary to provide base budget detail to the legislature under section 16A.10, subdivision 2a.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 151.37, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Prescribing and filing.** (a) A licensed practitioner in the course of professional practice only, may prescribe, administer, and dispense a legend drug, and may cause the same to be administered by a nurse, a physician assistant, or medical student or resident under the practitioner's direction and supervision, and may cause a person who is an appropriately certified, registered, or licensed health care professional to prescribe, dispense, and administer the same within the expressed legal scope of the person's practice as defined in Minnesota Statutes. A licensed practitioner may prescribe a legend drug, without reference to a specific patient, by directing a nurse, pursuant to section 148.235, subdivisions 8 and 9, physician assistant, or medical student or resident to adhere to a particular practice guideline or protocol when treating patients whose condition falls within such guideline or protocol, and when such guideline or protocol specifies the circumstances under which the legend drug is to be prescribed and administered. An individual who verbally, electronically, or otherwise transmits a written, oral, or electronic order, as an agent of a prescriber, shall not be deemed to have prescribed the legend drug. This paragraph applies to a physician assistant only if the physician assistant meets the requirements of section 147A.18.

(b) A licensed practitioner that dispenses for profit a legend drug that is to be administered orally, is ordinarily dispensed by a pharmacist, and is not a vaccine, must file with the practitioner's licensing board a statement indicating that the practitioner dispenses legend drugs for profit, the general circumstances under which the practitioner dispenses for profit, and the types of legend drugs generally dispensed. It is unlawful to dispense legend drugs for profit after July 31, 1990, unless

the statement has been filed with the appropriate licensing board. For purposes of this paragraph, "profit" means (1) any amount received by the practitioner in excess of the acquisition cost of a legend drug for legend drugs that are purchased in prepackaged form, or (2) any amount received by the practitioner in excess of the acquisition cost of a legend drug plus the cost of making the drug available if the legend drug requires compounding, packaging, or other treatment. The statement filed under this paragraph is public data under section 13.03. This paragraph does not apply to a licensed doctor of veterinary medicine or a registered pharmacist. Any person other than a licensed practitioner with the authority to prescribe, dispense, and administer a legend drug under paragraph (a) shall not dispense for profit. To dispense for profit does not include dispensing by a community health clinic when the profit from dispensing is used to meet operating expenses.

(c) A prescription or drug order for a legend drug is not valid if it is based solely on an online questionnaire, unless it can be established that the prescription or order was based on a documented patient evaluation adequate to establish a diagnosis and identify underlying conditions and contraindications to treatment.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 152.11, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

**Subd. 2d. Identification requirement for schedule II or III controlled substance.** (a) No person may dispense a controlled substance included in schedule II or III without requiring the person purchasing the controlled substance, who need not be the person for whom the controlled substance prescription is written, to present valid photographic identification, unless the person purchasing the controlled substance, or if applicable the person for whom the controlled substance prescription is written, is known to the dispenser.

(b) This subdivision applies only to purchases of controlled substances that are not covered, in whole or in part, by a health plan company or other third-party payor. The Board of Pharmacy shall report to the legislature by July 1, 2009, on the effect of this subdivision. The board shall include in the report the incidence of complaints, if any, generated by the requirements of this subdivision and whether this subdivision is creating barriers to pharmaceutical access.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 169A.70, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

**Subd. 4. Assessor standards; rules; assessment time limits.** A chemical use assessment required by this section must be conducted by an assessor appointed by the court. The assessor must meet the training and qualification requirements of rules adopted by the commissioner of human services under section 254A.03, subdivision 3 (chemical dependency treatment rules). Notwithstanding section 13.82 (law enforcement data), the assessor shall have access to any police reports, laboratory test results, and other law enforcement data relating to the current offense or previous offenses that are necessary to complete the evaluation. An assessor providing an assessment under this section may not have any direct or shared financial interest or referral relationship resulting in shared financial gain with a treatment provider, except as authorized under section 254A.20, subdivision 3. If an independent assessor is not available, the court may use the services of an assessor authorized to perform assessments for the county social services agency under a variance granted under rules adopted by the commissioner of human services under section 254A.03, subdivision 3. An appointment for the defendant to undergo the assessment must be made by the court, a court services probation officer, or the court administrator as soon as possible but in no case more than one week after the defendant's court appearance. The assessment must be completed no later than three weeks after the defendant's court appearance. If the assessment is not

performed within this time limit, the county where the defendant is to be sentenced shall perform the assessment. The county of financial responsibility must be determined under chapter 256G.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 179A.03, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Essential employee.** "Essential employee" means firefighters, peace officers subject to licensure under sections 626.84 to 626.863, 911 system and police and fire department public safety dispatchers, guards at correctional facilities, confidential employees, supervisory employees, assistant county attorneys, assistant city attorneys, principals, and assistant principals. However, for state employees, "essential employee" means all employees, except for nonprofessional employees employed by the Department of Human Services in mental health facilities for the treatment of psychopathic personalities, sexual predators, and the criminally insane, in law enforcement, public safety radio communications operators, health care professionals, correctional guards, professional engineering, and supervisory collective bargaining units, irrespective of severance, and no other employees. For University of Minnesota employees, "essential employee" means all employees in law enforcement, nursing professional and supervisory units, irrespective of severance, and no other employees. "Firefighters" means salaried employees of a fire department whose duties include, directly or indirectly, controlling, extinguishing, preventing, detecting, or investigating fires. Employees for whom the state court administrator is the negotiating employer are not essential employees. For Hennepin Healthcare System, Inc. employees, "essential employees" means all employees.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 12. **[254A.20] CHEMICAL USE ASSESSMENTS.**

Subdivision 1. **Persons arrested outside of home county.** When a chemical use assessment is required under Minnesota Rules, parts 9530.6600 to 9530.6655, for a person who is arrested and taken into custody by a peace officer outside of the person's county of residence, the assessment must be completed by the person's county of residence no later than three weeks after the assessment is initially requested. If the assessment is not performed within this time limit, the county where the person is to be sentenced shall perform the assessment. The county of financial responsibility is determined under chapter 256G.

Subd. 2. **Probation officer as contact.** When a chemical use assessment is required under Minnesota Rules, parts 9530.6600 to 9530.6655, for a person who is on probation or under other correctional supervision, the assessor, either orally or in writing, shall contact the person's probation officer to verify or supplement the information provided by the person.

Subd. 3. **Financial conflicts of interest.** (a) Except as provided in paragraph (b), an assessor conducting a chemical use assessment under Minnesota Rules, parts 9530.6600 to 9530.6655, may not have any direct or shared financial interest or referral relationship resulting in shared financial gain with a treatment provider.

(b) A county may contract with an assessor having a conflict described in paragraph (a) if the county documents that:

(1) the assessor is employed by a culturally specific service provider or a service provider with a program designed to treat individuals of a specific age, sex, or sexual preference;

(2) the county does not employ a sufficient number of qualified assessors and the only qualified assessors available in the county have a direct or shared financial interest or a referral relationship resulting in shared financial gain with a treatment provider; or

(3) the county social service agency has an existing relationship with an assessor or service provider and elects to enter into a contract with that assessor to provide both assessment and treatment under circumstances specified in the county's contract, provided the county retains responsibility for making placement decisions.

An assessor under this paragraph may not place clients in treatment. The assessor shall gather required information and provide it to the county along with any required documentation. The county shall make all placement decisions for clients assessed by assessors under this paragraph.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007, except for subdivision 3, which is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256.01, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 25. **Base budget detail.** The commissioner shall provide the commissioner of finance with the information necessary to provide base budget detail to the legislature under section 16A.10, subdivision 2a.

Sec. 14. **[256B.0636] CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE PRESCRIPTIONS; ABUSE PREVENTION.**

The commissioner of human services shall develop and implement a plan to:

(1) review utilization patterns of Minnesota health care program enrollees for controlled substances listed in section 152.02, subdivisions 3 and 4, and those substances defined by the Board of Pharmacy under section 152.02, subdivisions 8 and 12;

(2) develop a mechanism to address abuses both for fee-for-service Minnesota health care program enrollees and those enrolled in managed care plans; and

(3) provide education to Minnesota health care program enrollees on the proper use of controlled substances.

For purposes of this section, "Minnesota health care program" means medical assistance, MinnesotaCare, or general assistance medical care.

Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 609.115, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

Subd. 8. **Chemical use assessment required.** (a) If a person is convicted of a felony, the probation officer shall determine in the report prepared under subdivision 1 whether or not alcohol or drug use was a contributing factor to the commission of the offense. If so, the report shall contain the results of a chemical use assessment conducted in accordance with this subdivision. The probation officer shall make an appointment for the defendant to undergo the chemical use assessment if so indicated.

(b) The chemical use assessment report must include a recommended level of care for the defendant in accordance with the criteria contained in rules adopted by the commissioner of human services under section 254A.03, subdivision 3. The assessment must be conducted by an assessor

qualified under rules adopted by the commissioner of human services under section 254A.03, subdivision 3. An assessor providing a chemical use assessment may not have any direct or shared financial interest or referral relationship resulting in shared financial gain with a treatment provider, except as authorized under section 254A.20, subdivision 3. If an independent assessor is not available, the probation officer may use the services of an assessor authorized to perform assessments for the county social services agency under a variance granted under rules adopted by the commissioner of human services under section 254A.03, subdivision 3.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

**Sec. 16. INTERPRETER SERVICES WORK GROUP.**

(a) The commissioner of health shall convene a work group of interested parties to discuss the provision of interpreter services to patients in medical and dental care settings.

(b) The work group shall develop findings and recommendations on the following:

(1) ensuring access to interpreter services;

(2) compliance with requirements of federal law and guidance;

(3) developing a quality assurance program to ensure the quality of health care interpreting services, including requirements for training and establishing a certification process; and

(4) identifying broad-based funding mechanisms for interpreter services.

(c) The work group shall report findings and recommendations to the commissioner of health and to the chairs of the health policy and finance committees in the house and senate by January 15, 2008.

(d) The work group expires the day following the submission of the report required by paragraph (c).

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

**Sec. 17. AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVE HEALTH PLAN FOR FARMERS.**

Subdivision 1. **Pilot project requirements.** Notwithstanding contrary provisions of Minnesota Statutes, chapter 62H, the following apply to a joint self-insurance pilot project administered by a trust sponsored by one or more agricultural cooperatives organized under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 308A, or under a federal charter for the purpose of offering health coverage to members of the cooperatives and their families, provided the project satisfies the other requirements of Minnesota Statutes, chapter 62H:

(1) Minnesota Statutes, section 62H.02, paragraph (b), does not apply;

(2) the notice period required under Minnesota Statutes, section 62H.02, paragraph (e), is 90 days;

(3) a joint self-insurance plan may elect to treat the sale of a health plan to or for an employer that has only one eligible employee who has not waived coverage as the sale of an individual health plan as allowed under Minnesota Statutes, section 62L.02, subdivision 26;



(4) Minnesota Statutes, section 297I.05, subdivision 12, paragraph (c), applies; and

(5) the trust must pay the assessment for the Minnesota Comprehensive Health Association as provided under Minnesota Statutes, section 62E.11.

Subd. 2. **Evaluation and renewal.** The pilot project authorized under this section is for a period of four years from the date of initial enrollment. The commissioner of commerce shall grant an extension of four additional years if the trust provides evidence that it remains in compliance with the requirements of this section and other applicable laws and rules. If the commissioner determines that the operation of the trust has not improved access, expanded health plan choices, or improved the affordability of health coverage for farm families, or that it has significantly damaged access, choice, or affordability for other consumers not enrolled in the trust, the commissioner shall provide at least 180 days' advance written notice to the trust and to the chairs of the senate and house finance and policy committees with jurisdiction over health and insurance of the commissioner's intention not to renew the pilot project at the expiration of a four-year period.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 18. **HEALTH PLAN PURCHASING POOL STUDY GROUP.**

Subdivision 1. **Creation; membership.** (a) A health plan purchasing pool study group is created to study and make recommendations regarding the creation of a voluntary, statewide health plan purchasing pool that would contract directly with providers to provide affordable health coverage to eligible Minnesota residents. The study group is composed of:

(1) three members of the senate appointed by the Subcommittee on Committees of the Committee on Rules and Administration, including one member of the minority;

(2) three members of the house of representatives, two from the majority party appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives, and one from the minority party appointed by the minority leader of the house of representatives;

(3) the attorney general or the attorney general's designated representative;

(4) three representatives of health care providers appointed as follows:

(i) one member appointed by the governor;

(ii) one member appointed by the speaker of the house; and

(iii) one member appointed by the Subcommittee on Committees of the senate Committee on Rules and Administration;

(5) one member selected by the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal employees;

(6) one member selected by the Minnesota Association of Professional Employees;

(7) one member selected by Education Minnesota;

(8) one member selected by the Minnesota Business Partnership; and

(9) one member selected by the Metropolitan Interdependent Business Organization.

All appointments made under this subdivision must be made within 30 days of the effective date of this act.

(b) The attorney general or the attorney general's designee shall convene the first meeting of the study group. The study group shall select its chair at the first meeting.

Subd. 2. **Study; report.** The study group shall study and make recommendations on the following issues related to the creation, maintenance, and funding of a voluntary, statewide health plan purchasing pool to provide comprehensive, cost-effective, and medically appropriate health coverage to all public and private employees in Minnesota and all Minnesota residents:

(1) the creation of an independent public entity to administer the pool;

(2) eligibility and participation requirements for existing public and private health care purchasing pools, public and private employers, and residents of this state;

(3) how to contract directly with providers to provide comprehensive coverage for preventive, mental health, dental and other medical services, and comprehensive drug benefits to enrollees and maximize the cost savings and other efficiencies that a large purchasing pool would be expected to generate without the need for a public subsidy;

(4) provisions that allow the pool to contract directly with health care providers to provide coverage to enrollees;

(5) incentives designed to attract and retain the maximum number of enrollees;

(6) recommendations for the administration of the pool and the plans that will be available to enrollees including, but not limited to, recommendations to keep the pool solvent and profitable so that public subsidies are not necessary; and

(7) other elements the study group concludes are necessary or desirable for the pool to possess.

The study group shall submit its report and the draft legislation necessary to implement its recommendations to the chairs of the legislative committees and divisions with jurisdiction over health care policy and finance, the Health Care Access Commission, and the governor by February 1, 2008.

Subd. 3. **Staffing.** State agencies shall assist the study group with any requests for information the study group considers necessary to complete the study and report under subdivision 2.

Subd. 4. **Removal; vacancies; expenses.** Removal of members, vacancies, and expenses for members shall be as provided in Minnesota Statutes, section 15.059.

Subd. 5. **Expiration.** This section expires after the submission of the report as required in subdivision 2.

#### Sec. 19. **PREMIUM INCREASE REQUEST.**

If the cost of providing dependent coverage under the state employee group insurance program increases as a direct result of the change to dependent coverage made in Minnesota Statutes, section 62L.02, the commissioner of employee relations may request an appropriation from the health care access fund for the next fiscal year to cover the cost of the increase. The request must include

documentation substantiating the cost increase and the amount incurred by each state agency.

Sec. 20. **REPEALER.**

Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 62A.301, is repealed, effective January 1, 2008.

**ARTICLE 13**

**CHILDREN'S HEALTH PROGRAMS; MINNESOTACARE**

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.057, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 2c. **Extended coverage for children.** A child receiving medical assistance under subdivision 2, who becomes ineligible due to excess income, is eligible for two additional months of medical assistance. Eligibility under this section is effective following any coverage available under section 256B.0625.

A child eligible for extended coverage under this section is deemed automatically eligible for MinnesotaCare until renewal. MinnesotaCare coverage begins in accordance with section 256L.05, subdivision 3.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective October 1, 2008, or upon federal approval, whichever is later.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256L.04, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Families with children.** (a) Families with children with family income equal to or less than 275 percent of the federal poverty guidelines for the applicable family size shall be eligible for MinnesotaCare according to this section. All other provisions of sections 256L.01 to 256L.18, including the insurance-related barriers to enrollment under section 256L.07, shall apply unless otherwise specified.

(b) Parents who enroll in the MinnesotaCare program must also enroll their children, if the children are eligible. Children may be enrolled separately without enrollment by parents. However, if one parent in the household enrolls, both parents must enroll, unless other insurance is available. If one child from a family is enrolled, all children must be enrolled, unless other insurance is available. If one spouse in a household enrolls, the other spouse in the household must also enroll, unless other insurance is available. Families cannot choose to enroll only certain uninsured members.

(c) Beginning October 1, 2003, the dependent sibling definition no longer applies to the MinnesotaCare program. These persons are no longer counted in the parental household and may apply as a separate household.

(d) Beginning July 1, 2003, or upon federal approval, whichever is later, parents are not eligible for MinnesotaCare if their gross income exceeds \$50,000.

(e) Children formerly enrolled in medical assistance and automatically deemed eligible for MinnesotaCare according to section 256B.057, subdivision 2c, are exempt from the requirements of this section until renewal.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective October 1, 2008, or upon federal approval,

whichever is later.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256L.07, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 7. **Exception for certain children.** Children formerly enrolled in medical assistance and automatically deemed eligible for MinnesotaCare according to section 256B.057, subdivision 2c, are exempt from the requirements of this section until renewal.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective October 1, 2008, or upon federal approval, whichever is later.

Sec. 4. **[256L.22] DEFINITION; CHILDREN'S HEALTH PROGRAM.**

For purposes of sections 256L.22 to 256L.28, "children's health program" means the medical assistance and MinnesotaCare programs to the extent medical assistance and MinnesotaCare provide health coverage to children.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective October 1, 2008, or upon federal approval, whichever is later.

Sec. 5. **[256L.24] HEALTH CARE ELIGIBILITY FOR CHILDREN.**

Subdivision 1. **Applicability.** This section applies to children who are enrolled in a children's health program.

Subd. 2. **Application procedure.** The commissioner shall develop an application form for children's health programs for children that is easily understandable and does not exceed four pages in length. The provisions of section 256L.05, subdivision 1, apply.

Subd. 3. **Premiums.** Children enrolled in MinnesotaCare shall pay premiums as provided in section 256L.15, except that notwithstanding section 256L.15, subdivision 3, children in families with incomes at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty guidelines shall pay a monthly premium of \$4.

Subd. 4. **Eligibility renewal.** The commissioner shall require children enrolled in MinnesotaCare to renew eligibility every 12 months.

Subd. 5. **Employer-subsidized coverage.** Section 256L.07, subdivision 2, does not apply to children.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective October 1, 2008, or upon federal approval, whichever is later.

Sec. 6. **[256L.26] ASSISTANCE TO APPLICANTS.**

The commissioner shall assist children in choosing a managed care organization to receive services under a children's health program, by:

(1) establishing a Web site to provide information about managed care organizations and to allow online enrollment;

(2) making applications and information on managed care organizations available to applicants and enrollees according to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act and federal regulations adopted under

that law or any guidance from the United States Department of Health and Human Services; and

(3) making benefit educators available to assist applicants in choosing a managed care organization.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective October 1, 2008, or upon federal approval, whichever is later.

**Sec. 7. [256L.28] FEDERAL APPROVAL.**

The commissioner shall seek all federal waivers and approvals necessary to implement sections 256L.22 to 256L.28, including, but not limited to, waivers and approvals necessary to:

(1) coordinate medical assistance and MinnesotaCare coverage for children; and

(2) maximize receipt of the federal medical assistance match for covered children, by increasing income standards through the use of more liberal income methodologies as provided under United States Code, title 42, sections 1396a and 1396u-1.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective October 1, 2008, or upon federal approval, whichever is later.

## ARTICLE 14

### HEALTH CARE REFORM POLICY

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 62J.82, is amended to read:

**62J.82 HOSPITAL CHARGE INFORMATION REPORTING DISCLOSURE.**

Subdivision 1. **Required information.** The Minnesota Hospital Association shall develop a Web-based system, available to the public free of charge, for reporting ~~charge information~~ the following, for Minnesota residents,;

(1) hospital-specific performance on the measures of care developed under section 256B.072 for acute myocardial infarction, heart failure, and pneumonia;

(2) by January 1, 2009, hospital-specific performance on the public reporting measures for hospital-acquired infections as published by the National Quality Forum and collected by the Minnesota Hospital Association and Stratis Health in collaboration with infection control practitioners; and

(3) charge information, including, but not limited to, number of discharges, average length of stay, average charge, average charge per day, and median charge, for each of the 50 most common inpatient diagnosis-related groups and the 25 most common outpatient surgical procedures as specified by the Minnesota Hospital Association.

Subd. 2. **Web site.** The Web site must provide information that compares hospital-specific data to hospital statewide data. The Web site must be ~~established by October 1, 2006, and must be updated annually.~~ The commissioner shall provide a link to this reporting information on the department's Web site.

Subd. 3. **Enforcement.** The commissioner shall provide a link to this information on the

department's Web site. If a hospital does not provide this information to the Minnesota Hospital Association, the commissioner of health may require the hospital to do so in accordance with section 144.55, subdivision 6. ~~The commissioner shall provide a link to this information on the department's Web site.~~

## ARTICLE 15

### HEALTH CARE REFORM

#### Section 1. [62J.431] EVIDENCE-BASED HEALTH CARE GUIDELINES.

Evidence-based guidelines must meet the following criteria:

- (1) the scope and application are clear;
- (2) authorship is stated and any conflicts of interest disclosed;
- (3) authors represent all pertinent clinical fields or other means of input have been used;
- (4) the development process is explicitly stated;
- (5) the guideline is grounded in evidence;
- (6) the evidence is cited and graded;
- (7) the document itself is clear and practical;
- (8) the document is flexible in use, with exceptions noted or provided for with general statements;
- (9) measures are included for use in systems improvement; and
- (10) the guideline has scheduled reviews and updating.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 62J.495, is amended to read:

#### **62J.495 HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND INFRASTRUCTURE ADVISORY COMMITTEE.**

Subdivision 1. ~~Establishment; members; duties~~ **Implementation.** By January 1, 2015, all hospitals and health care providers must have in place an interoperable electronic health records system within their hospital system or clinical practice setting. The commissioner of health, in consultation with the Health Information Technology and Infrastructure Advisory Committee, shall develop a statewide plan to meet this goal, including uniform standards to be used for the interoperable system for sharing and synchronizing patient data across systems. The standards must be compatible with federal efforts. The uniform standards must be developed by January 1, 2009, with a status report on the development of these standards submitted to the legislature by January 15, 2008.

Subd. 2. **Health Information Technology and Infrastructure Advisory Committee.** (a) The commissioner shall establish a Health Information Technology and Infrastructure Advisory Committee governed by section 15.059 to advise the commissioner on the following matters:

- (1) assessment of the use of health information technology by the state, licensed health care providers and facilities, and local public health agencies;

(2) recommendations for implementing a statewide interoperable health information infrastructure, to include estimates of necessary resources, and for determining standards for administrative data exchange, clinical support programs, patient privacy requirements, and maintenance of the security and confidentiality of individual patient data; and

(3) recommendations for encouraging use of innovative health care applications using information technology and systems to improve patient care and reduce the cost of care, including applications relating to disease management and personal health management that enable remote monitoring of patients' conditions, especially those with chronic conditions; and

(4) other related issues as requested by the commissioner.

(b) The members of the Health Information Technology and Infrastructure Advisory Committee shall include the commissioners, or commissioners' designees, of health, human services, administration, and commerce and additional members to be appointed by the commissioner to include persons representing Minnesota's local public health agencies, licensed hospitals and other licensed facilities and providers, private purchasers, the medical and nursing professions, health insurers and health plans, the state quality improvement organization, academic and research institutions, consumer advisory organizations with an interest and expertise in health information technology, and other stakeholders as identified by the Health Information Technology and Infrastructure Advisory Committee.

~~Subd. 2. Annual report.~~ (c) The commissioner shall prepare and issue an annual report not later than January 30 of each year outlining progress to date in implementing a statewide health information infrastructure and recommending future projects.

~~Subd. 3. Expiration.~~ (d) Notwithstanding section 15.059, this ~~section~~ subdivision expires June 30, ~~2009~~ 2015.

**Sec. 3. [62J.496] ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORD SYSTEM REVOLVING ACCOUNT AND LOAN PROGRAM.**

Subdivision 1. Account establishment. An account is established to provide loans to eligible borrowers to assist in financing the installation or support of an interoperable health record system. The system must provide for the interoperable exchange of health care information between the applicant and, at a minimum, a hospital system, pharmacy, and a health care clinic or other physician group.

Subd. 2. Eligibility. (a) "Eligible borrower" means one of the following:

- (1) community clinics, as defined under section 145.9268;
- (2) hospitals eligible for rural hospital capital improvement grants, as defined in section 144.148;
- (3) physician clinics located in a community with a population of less than 50,000 according to United States Census Bureau statistics and outside the seven-county metropolitan area;
- (4) nursing facilities licensed under sections 144A.01 to 144A.27; and
- (5) other providers of health or health care services approved by the commissioner for which interoperable electronic health record capability would improve quality of care, patient safety, or community health.

(b) To be eligible for a loan under this section, the applicant must submit a loan application to the commissioner of health on forms prescribed by the commissioner. The application must include, at a minimum:

(1) the amount of the loan requested and a description of the purpose or project for which the loan proceeds will be used;

(2) a quote from a vendor;

(3) a description of the health care entities and other groups participating in the project;

(4) evidence of financial stability and a demonstrated ability to repay the loan; and

(5) a description of how the system to be financed interconnects or plans in the future to interconnect with other health care entities and provider groups located in the same geographical area.

Subd. 3. **Loans.** (a) The commissioner of health may make a no interest loan to a provider or provider group who is eligible under subdivision 2 on a first-come, first-served basis provided that the applicant is able to comply with this section. The total accumulative loan principal must not exceed \$1,500,000 per loan. The commissioner of health has discretion over the size and number of loans made.

(b) The commissioner of health may prescribe forms and establish an application process and, notwithstanding section 16A.1283, may impose a reasonable nonrefundable application fee to cover the cost of administering the loan program. Any application fees imposed and collected under the electronic health records system revolving account and loan program in this section are appropriated to the commissioner of health for the duration of the loan program.

(c) The borrower must begin repaying the principal no later than two years from the date of the loan. Loans must be amortized no later than six years from the date of the loan.

(d) Repayments must be credited to the account.

Subd. 4. **Data classification.** Data collected by the commissioner of health on the application to determine eligibility under subdivision 2 and to monitor borrowers' default risk or collect payments owed under subdivision 3 are (1) private data on individuals as defined in section 13.02, subdivision 12; and (2) nonpublic data as defined in section 13.02, subdivision 9. The names of borrowers and the amounts of the loans granted are public data.

Sec. 4. **[6J.536] UNIFORM ELECTRONIC TRANSACTIONS AND IMPLEMENTATION GUIDE STANDARDS.**

Subdivision 1. **Electronic claims and eligibility transactions required.** (a) Beginning January 15, 2009, all group purchasers must accept from health care providers the eligibility for a health plan transaction described under Code of Federal Regulations, title 45, part 162, subpart L. Beginning July 15, 2009, all group purchasers must accept from health care providers the health care claims or equivalent encounter information transaction described under Code of Federal Regulations, title 45, part 162, subpart K.

(b) Beginning January 15, 2009, all group purchasers must transmit to providers the eligibility for a health plan transaction described under Code of Federal Regulations, title 45, part 162, subpart



L. Beginning December 1, 2009, all group purchasers must transmit to providers the health care payment and remittance advice transaction described under Code of Federal Regulations, title 45, part 162, subpart P.

(c) Beginning January 15, 2009, all health care providers must submit to group purchasers the eligibility for a health plan transaction described under Code of Federal Regulations, title 45, part 162, subpart L. Beginning July 15, 2009, all health care providers must submit to group purchasers the health care claims or equivalent encounter information transaction described under Code of Federal Regulations, title 45, part 162, subpart K.

(d) Beginning January 15, 2009, all health care providers must accept from group purchasers the eligibility for a health plan transaction described under Code of Federal Regulations, title 45, part 162, subpart L. Beginning December 15, 2009, all health care providers must accept from group purchasers the health care payment and remittance advice transaction described under Code of Federal Regulations, title 45, part 162, subpart P.

(e) Each of the transactions described in paragraphs (a) to (d) shall require the use of a single, uniform companion guide to the implementation guides described under Code of Federal Regulations, title 45, part 162. The companion guides will be developed pursuant to subdivision 2.

(f) Notwithstanding any other provisions in sections 62J.50 to 62J.61, all group purchasers and health care providers must exchange claims and eligibility information electronically using the transactions, companion guides, implementation guides, and timelines required under this subdivision. Group purchasers may not impose any fee on providers for the use of the transactions prescribed in this subdivision.

(g) Nothing in this subdivision shall prohibit group purchasers and health care providers from using a direct data entry, Web-based methodology for complying with the requirements of this subdivision. Any direct data entry method for conducting the transactions specified in this subdivision must be consistent with the data content component of the single, uniform companion guides required in paragraph (e) and the implementation guides described under Code of Federal Regulations, title 45, part 162.

Subd. 2. **Establishing uniform, standard companion guides.** (a) At least 12 months prior to the timelines required in subdivision 1, the commissioner of health shall promulgate rules pursuant to section 62J.61 establishing and requiring group purchasers and health care providers to use the transactions and the uniform, standard companion guides required under subdivision 1, paragraph (e).

(b) The commissioner of health must consult with the Minnesota Administrative Uniformity Committee on the development of the single, uniform companion guides required under subdivision 1, paragraph (e), for each of the transactions in subdivision 1. The single uniform companion guides required under subdivision 1, paragraph (e), must specify uniform billing and coding standards. The commissioner of health shall base the companion guides required under subdivision 1, paragraph (e), billing and coding rules, and standards on the Medicare program, with modifications that the commissioner deems appropriate after consulting the Minnesota Administrative Uniformity Committee.

(c) No group purchaser or health care provider may add to or modify the single, uniform companion guides defined in subdivision 1, paragraph (e), through additional companion guides

or other requirements.

(d) In promulgating the rules in paragraph (a), the commissioner shall not require data content that is not essential to accomplish the purpose of the transactions in subdivision 1.

Subd. 3. **Definition.** Notwithstanding section 62J.03, subdivision 8, for purposes of this section, "health care provider" includes licensed nursing homes, licensed boarding care homes, and licensed home care providers.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 62J.692, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

(a) "Accredited clinical training" means the clinical training provided by a medical education program that is accredited through an organization recognized by the Department of Education, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, or another national body who reviews the accrediting organizations for multiple disciplines and whose standards for recognizing accrediting organizations are reviewed and approved by the commissioner of health in consultation with the Medical Education and Research Advisory Committee.

(b) "Commissioner" means the commissioner of health.

(c) "Clinical medical education program" means the accredited clinical training of physicians (medical students and residents), doctor of pharmacy practitioners, doctors of chiropractic, dentists, advanced practice nurses (clinical nurse specialists, certified registered nurse anesthetists, nurse practitioners, and certified nurse midwives), and physician assistants.

(d) "Sponsoring institution" means a hospital, school, or consortium located in Minnesota that sponsors and maintains primary organizational and financial responsibility for a clinical medical education program in Minnesota and which is accountable to the accrediting body.

(e) "Teaching institution" means a hospital, medical center, clinic, or other organization that conducts a clinical medical education program in Minnesota.

(f) "Trainee" means a student or resident involved in a clinical medical education program.

(g) "Eligible trainee FTEs FTE's" means the number of trainees, as measured by full-time equivalent counts, that are at training sites located in Minnesota with a currently active medical assistance ~~provider number~~ enrollment status and a National Provider Identification (NPI) number where training occurs in either an inpatient or ambulatory patient care setting and where the training is funded, in part, by patient care revenues. Training that occurs in nursing facility settings is not eligible for funding under this section.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2008.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 62J.692, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Distribution of funds.** (a) Following the distribution described under paragraph (b), the commissioner shall annually distribute 90 percent of the available medical education funds to all qualifying applicants based on a distribution formula that reflects a summation of two factors:

~~(1) an education factor, which is determined by the total number of eligible trainee FTEs and~~

~~the total statewide average costs per trainee, by type of trainee, in each clinical medical education program; and~~

~~(2) a public program volume factor, which is determined by the total volume of public program revenue received by each training site as a percentage of all public program revenue received by all training sites in the fund pool; and~~

(2) a supplemental public program volume factor, which is determined by providing a supplemental payment of 20 percent of each training site's grant to training sites whose public program revenue accounted for at least 0.98 percent of the total public program revenue received by all eligible training sites. Grants to training sites whose public program revenue accounted for less than 0.98 percent of the total public program revenue received by all eligible training sites shall be reduced by an amount equal to the total value of the supplemental payment.

~~In this formula, the education factor is weighted at 67 percent and the public program volume factor is weighted at 33 percent.~~

Public program revenue for the distribution formula includes revenue from medical assistance, prepaid medical assistance, general assistance medical care, and prepaid general assistance medical care. Training sites that receive no public program revenue are ineligible for funds available under this paragraph subdivision. For purposes of determining training-site level grants to be distributed under paragraph (a), total statewide average costs per trainee for medical residents is based on audited clinical training costs per trainee in primary care clinical medical education programs for medical residents. Total statewide average costs per trainee for dental residents is based on audited clinical training costs per trainee in clinical medical education programs for dental students. Total statewide average costs per trainee for pharmacy residents is based on audited clinical training costs per trainee in clinical medical education programs for pharmacy students.

~~(b) The commissioner shall annually distribute ten percent of total available medical education funds to all qualifying applicants based on the percentage received by each applicant under paragraph (a). These funds are to be used to offset clinical education costs at eligible clinical training sites based on criteria developed by the clinical medical education program. Applicants may choose to distribute funds allocated under this paragraph based on the distribution formula described in paragraph (a). \$5,350,000 of the available medical education funds shall be distributed as follows:~~

- (1) \$1,475,000 to the University of Minnesota Medical Center-Fairview;
- (2) \$2,075,000 to the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry; and
- (3) \$1,800,000 to the Academic Health Center.

(c) Funds distributed shall not be used to displace current funding appropriations from federal or state sources.

(d) Funds shall be distributed to the sponsoring institutions indicating the amount to be distributed to each of the sponsor's clinical medical education programs based on the criteria in this subdivision and in accordance with the commissioner's approval letter. Each clinical medical education program must distribute funds allocated under paragraph (a) to the training sites as specified in the commissioner's approval letter. Sponsoring institutions, which are accredited through an organization recognized by the Department of Education or the Centers for Medicare

and Medicaid Services, may contract directly with training sites to provide clinical training. To ensure the quality of clinical training, those accredited sponsoring institutions must:

(1) develop contracts specifying the terms, expectations, and outcomes of the clinical training conducted at sites; and

(2) take necessary action if the contract requirements are not met. Action may include the withholding of payments under this section or the removal of students from the site.

(e) Any funds not distributed in accordance with the commissioner's approval letter must be returned to the medical education and research fund within 30 days of receiving notice from the commissioner. The commissioner shall distribute returned funds to the appropriate training sites in accordance with the commissioner's approval letter.

~~(f) The commissioner shall distribute by June 30 of each year an amount equal to the funds transferred under subdivision 10, plus five percent interest to the University of Minnesota Board of Regents for the instructional costs of health professional programs at the Academic Health Center and for interdisciplinary academic initiatives within the Academic Health Center.~~

~~(g)~~ A maximum of \$150,000 of the funds dedicated to the commissioner under section 297F.10, subdivision 1, ~~paragraph (b),~~ clause (2), may be used by the commissioner for administrative expenses associated with implementing this section.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2008.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 62J.692, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **Report.** (a) Sponsoring institutions receiving funds under this section must sign and submit a medical education grant verification report (GVR) to verify that the correct grant amount was forwarded to each eligible training site. If the sponsoring institution fails to submit the GVR by the stated deadline, or to request and meet the deadline for an extension, the sponsoring institution is required to return the full amount of funds received to the commissioner within 30 days of receiving notice from the commissioner. The commissioner shall distribute returned funds to the appropriate training sites in accordance with the commissioner's approval letter.

(b) The reports must provide verification of the distribution of the funds and must include:

(1) the total number of eligible trainee FTEs in each clinical medical education program;

(2) the name of each funded program and, for each program, the dollar amount distributed to each training site;

(3) documentation of any discrepancies between the initial grant distribution notice included in the commissioner's approval letter and the actual distribution;

~~(4) a statement by the sponsoring institution describing the distribution of funds allocated under subdivision 4, paragraph (b), including information on which clinical training sites received funding and the rationale used for determining funding priorities;~~

~~(5)~~ a statement by the sponsoring institution stating that the completed grant verification report is valid and accurate; and

~~(6)~~ (5) other information the commissioner, with advice from the advisory committee, deems appropriate to evaluate the effectiveness of the use of funds for medical education.

(c) By February 15 of each year, the commissioner, with advice from the advisory committee, shall provide an annual summary report to the legislature on the implementation of this section.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2008.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 62J.692, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

Subd. 8. **Federal financial participation.** ~~(a) The commissioner of human services shall seek to maximize federal financial participation in payments for medical education and research costs. If the commissioner of human services determines that federal financial participation is available for the medical education and research, the commissioner of health shall transfer to the commissioner of human services the amount of state funds necessary to maximize the federal funds available. The amount transferred to the commissioner of human services, plus the amount of federal financial participation, shall be distributed to medical assistance providers in accordance with the distribution methodology described in subdivision 4.~~

~~(b) For the purposes of paragraph (a),~~ The commissioner shall use physician clinic rates where possible to maximize federal financial participation. Any additional funds that become available must be distributed under subdivision 4, paragraph (a).

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2008.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 62J.81, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Required disclosure of estimated payment.** (a) A health care provider, as defined in section 62J.03, subdivision 8, or the provider's designee as agreed to by that designee, shall, at the request of a consumer, and at no cost to the consumer or the consumer's employer, provide that consumer with a good faith estimate of the reimbursement allowable payment the provider expects to receive from the health plan company in which the consumer is enrolled has agreed to accept from the consumer's health plan company for the services specified by the consumer, specifying the amount of the allowable payment due from the health plan company. Health plan companies must allow contracted providers, or their designee, to release this information. A good faith estimate must also be made available at the request of a consumer who is not enrolled in a health plan company. If a consumer has no applicable public or private coverage, the health care provider must give the consumer, and at no cost to the consumer, a good faith estimate of the average allowable reimbursement the provider accepts as payment from private third-party payers for the services specified by the consumer and the estimated amount the noncovered consumer will be required to pay. Payment information provided by a provider, or by the provider's designee as agreed to by that designee, to a patient pursuant to this subdivision does not constitute a legally binding estimate of the allowable charge for or cost to the consumer of services.

(b) A health plan company, as defined in section 62J.03, subdivision 10, shall, at the request of an enrollee or the enrollee's designee, provide that enrollee with a good faith estimate of the reimbursement allowable amount the health plan company would expect to pay to has contracted for with a specified provider within the network as total payment for a health care service specified by the enrollee and the portion of the allowable amount due from the enrollee and the enrollee's

~~out-of-pocket costs. If requested by the enrollee, the health plan company shall also provide to the enrollee a good faith estimate of the enrollee's out-of-pocket cost for the health care service. An estimate provided to an enrollee under this paragraph is not a legally binding estimate of the reimbursement allowable amount or enrollee's out-of-pocket cost.~~

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective August 1, 2007.

Sec. 10. **[62Q.101] EVALUATION OF PROVIDER PERFORMANCE.**

A health plan company, or a vendor of risk management services as defined under section 60A.23, subdivision 8, shall, in evaluating the performance of a health care provider:

(1) conduct the evaluation using a bona fide baseline based upon practice experience of the provider group; and

(2) disclose the baseline to the health care provider in writing and prior to the beginning of the time period used for the evaluation.

Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 62Q.165, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Definition.** It is the commitment of the state to achieve universal health coverage for all Minnesotans by the year 2011. Universal coverage is achieved when:

(1) every Minnesotan has access to a full range of quality health care services;

(2) every Minnesotan is able to obtain affordable health coverage which pays for the full range of services, including preventive and primary care; and

(3) every Minnesotan pays into the health care system according to that person's ability.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007.

Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 62Q.165, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Goal.** It is the goal of the state to make continuous progress toward reducing the number of Minnesotans who do not have health coverage so that by January 1, 2000, ~~fewer than four percent of the state's population will be without health coverage~~ 2011, all Minnesota residents have access to affordable health care. The goal will be achieved by improving access to private health coverage through insurance reforms and market reforms, by making health coverage more affordable for low-income Minnesotans through purchasing pools and state subsidies, and by reducing the cost of health coverage through cost containment programs and methods of ensuring that all Minnesotans are paying into the system according to their ability.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007.

Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 144.698, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Yearly reports.** Each hospital and each outpatient surgical center, which has not filed the financial information required by this section with a voluntary, nonprofit reporting organization pursuant to section 144.702, shall file annually with the commissioner of health after the close of the fiscal year:

(1) a balance sheet detailing the assets, liabilities, and net worth of the hospital or outpatient

surgical center;

- (2) a detailed statement of income and expenses;
- (3) a copy of its most recent cost report, if any, filed pursuant to requirements of Title XVIII of the United States Social Security Act;
- (4) a copy of all changes to articles of incorporation or bylaws;
- (5) information on services provided to benefit the community, including services provided at no cost or for a reduced fee to patients unable to pay, teaching and research activities, or other community or charitable activities;
- (6) information required on the revenue and expense report form set in effect on July 1, 1989, or as amended by the commissioner in rule;
- (7) information on changes in ownership or control; ~~and~~
- (8) other information required by the commissioner in rule.;
- (9) information on the number of available hospital beds that are dedicated to certain specialized services, as designated by the commissioner, and annual occupancy rates for those beds, separately for adult and pediatric care;
- (10) from outpatient surgical centers, the total number of surgeries; and
- (11) a report on health care capital expenditures during the previous year, as required by section 62J.17.

Sec. 14. [145.985] HEALTH PROMOTION AND WELLNESS.

Community health boards as defined in section 145A.02, subdivision 5, may work with schools, health care providers, and others to coordinate health and wellness programs in their communities. In order to meet the requirements of this section, community health boards may:

- (1) provide instruction, technical assistance, and recommendations on how to evaluate project outcomes;
- (2) assist with on-site health and wellness programs utilizing volunteers and others addressing health and wellness topics including smoking, nutrition, obesity, and others; and
- (3) encourage health and wellness programs consistent with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Community Guide and goals consistent with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Healthy People 2010 initiative.

Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256.01, subdivision 2b, is amended to read:

Subd. 2b. **Performance payments.** (a) The commissioner shall develop and implement a pay-for-performance system to provide performance payments to eligible medical groups and clinics that demonstrate optimum care in serving individuals with chronic diseases who are enrolled in health care programs administered by the commissioner under chapters 256B, 256D, and 256L. The commissioner may receive any federal matching money that is made available through the medical assistance program for managed care oversight contracted through vendors, including

consumer surveys, studies, and external quality reviews as required by the federal Balanced Budget Act of 1997, Code of Federal Regulations, title 42, part 438-managed care, subpart E-external quality review. Any federal money received for managed care oversight is appropriated to the commissioner for this purpose. The commissioner may expend the federal money received in either year of the biennium.

(b) Upon federal approval the commissioner shall develop and implement a patient incentive health program to provide incentives and rewards to patients who are enrolled in health care programs administered by the commissioner under chapters 256B, 256D, and 256L, and who have agreed to and have met personal health goals established with the patients' primary care providers to manage a chronic disease or condition, including but not limited to diabetes, high blood pressure, and coronary artery disease.

Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0625, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 49. **Provider-directed care coordination services.** The commissioner shall develop and implement a provider-directed care coordination program for medical assistance recipients who are not enrolled in the prepaid medical assistance program and who are receiving services on a fee-for-service basis. This program provides payment to primary care clinics for care coordination for people who have complex and chronic medical conditions. Clinics must meet certain criteria such as the capacity to develop care plans; have a dedicated care coordinator; and have an adequate number of fee-for-service clients, evaluation mechanisms, and quality improvement processes to qualify for reimbursement. For purposes of this subdivision, a primary care clinic is a medical clinic designated as the patient's first point of contact for medical care, available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, that provides or arranges for the patient's comprehensive health care needs, and provides overall integration, coordination and continuity over time and referrals for specialty care.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2008.

Sec. 17. **HEALTH CARE PAYMENT SYSTEM REFORM.**

Subdivision 1. **Payment reform plan.** The commissioners of employee relations, human services, commerce, and health shall develop a plan for promoting and facilitating changes in payment rates and methods for paying for health care services, drugs, devices, supplies, and equipment in order to:

- (1) reward the provision of cost-effective primary and preventive care;
  - (2) reward the use of evidence-based care;
  - (3) discourage underutilization, overuse, and misuse;
  - (4) reward the use of the most cost-effective settings, drugs, devices, providers, and treatments;
- and
- (5) encourage consumers to maintain good health and use the health care system appropriately.

In developing the plan, the commissioners shall analyze existing data to determine specific services and health conditions for which changes in payment rates and methods would lead to significant improvements in quality of care. The commissioners shall include a definition of the



term "quality" for uniform understanding of the plan's impact.

Subd. 2. **Report.** The commissioners shall submit a report to the legislature by December 15, 2007, describing the payment reform plan. The report must include proposed legislation for implementing those components of the plan requiring legislative action or appropriations of money.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007.

Sec. 18. **COMMUNITY INITIATIVES TO COVER UNINSURED AND UNDERINSURED.**

Subdivision 1. **Community partnerships.** The commissioner of health shall provide planning grants to up to three community partnerships that satisfy the requirements in this section. A community partnership is eligible for a grant if the community partnership includes:

(1) at least one county;

(2) at least one local hospital;

(3) at least one local employer who collectively provides at least 300 jobs in the community;

(4) at least one school system;

(5) at least one of the following:

(i) one or more integrated health care clinics or physician groups. For purposes of this section, "integrated health care" means integrated mental health and primary care; or

(ii) one or more health care clinics or physician groups and one or more mental health clinics; and

(6) a third-party payer, which may include a county-based purchasing plan, an employer, or a health plan company.

Subd. 2 **Proposal requirements.** The planning grants shall be used by community partnerships to develop a comprehensive proposal to provide affordable health care services to uninsured and underinsured individuals with chronic health conditions through an integrated community partnership system. A community partnership requesting a planning grant must submit to the commissioner a planning proposal that includes:

(1) methods for identifying potential uninsured or underinsured individuals and patients who have or who are at risk of developing a chronic health condition;

(2) methods to integrate and coordinate medical, mental health, and chemical health services with services provided through county social services, corrections, public health, school districts, and health care providers;

(3) providing early intervention and prevention activities; and

(4) methods to identify and support accountability across public and private systems, including means to measure outcomes and economic savings from providing services through an integrated system.

Subd. 3. **Planning grant criteria.** (a) Proposals for planning grants shall be submitted to the

commissioner. Preference shall be given to planning proposals that:

(1) have broad community support from local business, providers, counties, and other public and private organizations;

(2) propose to provide services to uninsured or underinsured individuals of every age who have or are at risk of developing multiple, co-occurring chronic conditions;

(3) integrate or coordinate resources from multiple sources; and

(4) demonstrate how administrative costs for health plan companies and providers can be reduced through greater simplification, coordination, consolidation, standardization, reducing billing errors, or other methods.

(b) Community partnerships receiving a planning grant under this section shall submit their proposed initiatives to the commissioner by December 15, 2007.

(c) The commissioner shall submit a report to the legislature by February 15, 2008, that:

(1) identifies the community partnerships that received a planning grant under this section; and

(2) summarizes the planned initiatives submitted to the commissioner based on the requirements in this section.

#### **Sec. 19. CARE COORDINATION PILOT PROJECTS.**

Subdivision 1. **Pilot projects.** (a) The commissioner of human services shall develop and administer up to four pilot projects for children and adults with complex health care needs who are enrolled in fee-for-service medical assistance, to the extent permitted by federal requirements. At least two of the grantees must focus on children with autism or children with complex/multi-diagnoses physical conditions. The purpose of the projects is to pilot primary care clinic models of care delivery focused on care coordination and family involvement in order to:

(1) incent and support the provision of cost-effective primary and preventive care;

(2) reward the use of evidence-based care;

(3) reward coordination of care for patients with chronic conditions;

(4) discourage overuse and misuse of high cost services;

(5) reward the use of the most cost-effective settings, drugs, devices, providers, and treatments;  
and

(6) encourage consumers to maintain good health and use the health care system appropriately.

(b) The pilot projects must involve the use of designated care professionals or clinics to serve as a patient's medical home and be responsible for coordinating health care services across the continuum of care.

Subd. 2. **Requirements.** In order to be designated a pilot project, health care professionals or clinics must demonstrate the ability to:

(1) be the patient's first point of contact by telephone or other means, 24 hours per day, seven

days a week;

(2) provide or arrange for patients' comprehensive health care needs, including the ability to structure planned chronic disease visits and train and support the caregivers to effectively monitor and manage the person's health condition;

(3) coordinate patients' care when care must be provided outside the medical home;

(4) provide longitudinal care, not just episodic care, including meeting long-term and unique personal needs; and

(5) systematically improve quality of care using, among other inputs, patient feedback.

Subd. 3. **Evaluation.** Pilot projects must be evaluated based on patient satisfaction, provider satisfaction, clinical process and outcome measures, program costs and savings, and economic impact on health care providers. Pilot projects must be evaluated based on the extent to which the medical home:

(1) coordinated health care services across the continuum of care and thereby reduced duplication of services and enhanced communication across providers;

(2) provided safe and high-quality care by increasing utilization of effective treatments, reduced use of ineffective treatments, reduced barriers to essential care and services, and eliminated barriers to access;

(3) reduced unnecessary hospitalizations and emergency room visits and increased use of cost-effective care and settings;

(4) encouraged long-term patient and provider relationships by shifting from episodic care to consistent, coordinated communication and care with a specified team of providers or individual providers;

(5) engaged and educated consumers by encouraging shared patient and provider responsibility and accountability for disease prevention, health promotion, chronic disease management, acute care, and overall well-being, encouraging informed medical decision-making, ensuring the availability of accurate medical information, and facilitated the transfer of accurate medical information;

(6) fostered the expansion of a technology infrastructure that supports collaboration; and

(7) reduced overall health care costs as compared to conventional payment methods for similar patient populations.

Subd. 4. **Rulemaking.** The commissioner is exempt from administrative rulemaking under chapter 14 for purposes of developing, administering, contracting for, and evaluating pilot projects under this section. The commissioner shall publish a proposed request for proposals in the State Register and allow 30 days for comment before issuing the final request for proposals.

Subd. 5. **Care coordination payments.** Grantees under this section are not eligible for care coordination payments under Minnesota Statutes, section 256B.0625, subdivision 49.

Sec. 20. **MERC DISTRIBUTION FORMULA.**

The commissioner of health shall evaluate the effect of the 2007 revisions to the medical education and research costs (MERC) distribution formula adopted in this act on sponsoring institutions and clinical training sites with low numbers of eligible trainee full-time equivalents. The commissioner shall present to the legislature, by January 15, 2009, any recommendations for changes in the MERC distribution formula necessary to ensure the financial viability of clinical medical education at these sponsoring institutions and clinical training sites.

**Sec. 21. HEALTH CARE TRANSFORMATION TASK FORCE.**

Subdivision 1. **Task force.** (a) The governor shall convene a health care transformation task force to advise and assist the governor and the Minnesota legislature regarding activities to transform the health care system, and to develop a statewide action plan as provided under subdivision 3. The task force shall consist of:

(1) two legislators from the house of representatives appointed by the speaker, and two legislators from the senate appointed by the Subcommittee on Committees of the Committee on Rules and Administration;

(2) four representatives of the governor and state agencies, appointed by the governor;

(3) four persons appointed by the governor who have demonstrated leadership in health care organizations, health improvement initiatives, health care trade or professional associations, or other collaborative health system improvement activities;

(4) four persons appointed by the governor who have demonstrated leadership in employer and group purchaser activities related to health system improvement, at least two of which must be from a labor organization; and

(5) one person appointed by the governor who has demonstrated public or private sector leadership and innovation.

The governor is exempt from the requirements of the open appointments process for purposes of appointing task force members.

(b) The Department of Health shall provide staff support to the task force. The task force may accept outside resources to help support its efforts.

Subd. 2. **Public and stakeholder engagement.** (a) The commissioner of health shall review available research, and conduct statewide, regional, and local surveys, focus groups, and other activities as needed to fill gaps in existing research, to determine Minnesotans' values, preferences, opinions, and perceptions related to health care and to the issues confronting the task force, and shall report the findings to the task force.

(b) The task force shall seek information, advice, and assistance from private-sector groups that are collaborating across health care industry sectors, business, labor, consumer, and stakeholder groups to assist the task force, legislature, and governor in planning and implementing health system changes to achieve the goals and timelines established by the task force as specified in subdivision 3.

Subd. 3. **Duties.** (a) The task force shall, by August 1, 2007, establish overall goals, timelines, and guiding principles for transforming the health care system to improve affordability, quality,

access, and the health status of Minnesotans.

(b) By December 15, 2007, the task force shall develop and present to the legislature and the governor a statewide action plan for transforming the health care system to improve affordability, quality, access, and the health status of Minnesotans. The plan shall include draft legislation needed to implement the plan. The plan may consist of legislative actions, administrative actions of governmental entities, collaborative actions, and actions of individuals and individual organizations. Among other things, the action plan must include the following, with specific and measurable goals and deadlines for each:

(1) proposed action that will reduce the rate of growth in health care spending in Minnesota by ten percent per year for the next five years;

(2) actions that will increase the affordable health coverage options for uninsured and underinsured Minnesotans and other strategies that will ensure all Minnesotans will have health coverage by January 2011;

(3) actions to improve the quality and safety of health care and reduce racial and ethnic disparities in access and quality;

(4) actions that will improve the health status of Minnesotans and reduce the rate of preventable chronic illness through prevention, public health, and wellness initiatives;

(5) proposed changes to state health care purchasing and payment strategies used for state health care programs and state employees that will promote higher quality, lower cost health care through incentives that reward prevention and early intervention, use of cost-effective primary care, effective care coordination, and management of chronic disease;

(6) actions that will promote the appropriate and cost-effective investment in new facilities, technologies, and drugs;

(7) on options for serving small employers and their employees, and self-employed individuals; and

(8) actions to reduce administrative costs.

**Sec. 22. REPEALER.**

(a) Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 62J.052, subdivision 1, is repealed effective August 1, 2007.

(b) Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 62J.692, subdivision 10, is repealed effective January 1, 2008.

## **ARTICLE 16**

### **PUBLIC HEALTH POLICY**

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16B.61, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 3b. **Window fall prevention device code.** The commissioner of labor and industry shall adopt rules for window fall prevention devices as part of the state Building Code. Window fall prevention devices include, but are not limited to, safety screens, hardware, guards, and other devices that comply with the standards established by the commissioner of labor and industry. The rules

shall require compliance with standards for window fall prevention devices developed by ASTM International, contained in the International Building Code as the model language with amendments deemed necessary to coordinate with the other adopted building codes in Minnesota. The rules shall establish a scope that includes the applicable building occupancies, and the types, locations, and sizes of windows that will require the installation of fall devices. The rules will be effective July 1, 2009. The commissioner shall report to the legislature on the status of the rulemaking on or before February 15, 2008.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 103I.101, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

Subd. 6. **Fees for variances.** The commissioner shall charge a nonrefundable application fee of ~~\$175~~ \$215 to cover the administrative cost of processing a request for a variance or modification of rules adopted by the commissioner under this chapter.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2008.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 103I.208, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Well notification fee.** The well notification fee to be paid by a property owner is:

(1) for a new water supply well, ~~\$175~~ \$215, which includes the state core function fee;

(2) for a well sealing, ~~\$35~~ \$50 for each well, which includes the state core function fee, except that for monitoring wells constructed on a single property, having depths within a 25 foot range, and sealed within 48 hours of start of construction, a single fee of ~~\$35~~ \$50; and

(3) for construction of a dewatering well, ~~\$175~~ \$215, which includes the state core function fee, for each dewatering well except a dewatering project comprising five or more dewatering wells shall be assessed a single fee of ~~\$875~~ \$1,075 for the dewatering wells recorded on the notification.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2008.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 103I.208, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Permit fee.** The permit fee to be paid by a property owner is:

(1) for a water supply well that is not in use under a maintenance permit, ~~\$150~~ \$175 annually;

(2) for construction of a monitoring well, ~~\$175~~ \$215, which includes the state core function fee;

(3) for a monitoring well that is unsealed under a maintenance permit, ~~\$150~~ \$175 annually;

(4) for monitoring wells used as a leak detection device at a single motor fuel retail outlet, a single petroleum bulk storage site excluding tank farms, or a single agricultural chemical facility site, the construction permit fee is ~~\$175~~ \$215, which includes the state core function fee, per site regardless of the number of wells constructed on the site, and the annual fee for a maintenance permit for unsealed monitoring wells is ~~\$150~~ \$175 per site regardless of the number of monitoring wells located on site;

(5) for a groundwater thermal exchange device, in addition to the notification fee for water supply wells, ~~\$175~~ \$215, which includes the state core function fee;

(6) for a vertical heat exchanger, ~~\$175~~ \$215;

(7) for a dewatering well that is unsealed under a maintenance permit, ~~\$150~~ \$175 annually for each dewatering well, except a dewatering project comprising more than five dewatering wells shall be issued a single permit for ~~\$750~~ \$875 annually for dewatering wells recorded on the permit; and

(8) for an elevator boring, ~~\$175~~ \$215 for each boring.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2008.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 103I.235, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Disclosure of wells to buyer.** (a) Before signing an agreement to sell or transfer real property, the seller must disclose in writing to the buyer information about the status and location of all known wells on the property, by delivering to the buyer either a statement by the seller that the seller does not know of any wells on the property, or a disclosure statement indicating the legal description and county, and a map drawn from available information showing the location of each well to the extent practicable. In the disclosure statement, the seller must indicate, for each well, whether the well is in use, not in use, or sealed.

(b) At the time of closing of the sale, the disclosure statement information, name and mailing address of the buyer, and the quartile, section, township, and range in which each well is located must be provided on a well disclosure certificate signed by the seller or a person authorized to act on behalf of the seller.

(c) A well disclosure certificate need not be provided if the seller does not know of any wells on the property and the deed or other instrument of conveyance contains the statement: "The Seller certifies that the Seller does not know of any wells on the described real property."

(d) If a deed is given pursuant to a contract for deed, the well disclosure certificate required by this subdivision shall be signed by the buyer or a person authorized to act on behalf of the buyer. If the buyer knows of no wells on the property, a well disclosure certificate is not required if the following statement appears on the deed followed by the signature of the grantee or, if there is more than one grantee, the signature of at least one of the grantees: "The Grantee certifies that the Grantee does not know of any wells on the described real property." The statement and signature of the grantee may be on the front or back of the deed or on an attached sheet and an acknowledgment of the statement by the grantee is not required for the deed to be recordable.

(e) This subdivision does not apply to the sale, exchange, or transfer of real property:

(1) that consists solely of a sale or transfer of severed mineral interests; or

(2) that consists of an individual condominium unit as described in chapters 515 and 515B.

(f) For an area owned in common under chapter 515 or 515B the association or other responsible person must report to the commissioner by July 1, 1992, the location and status of all wells in the common area. The association or other responsible person must notify the commissioner within 30 days of any change in the reported status of wells.

(g) For real property sold by the state under section 92.67, the lessee at the time of the sale is responsible for compliance with this subdivision.

(h) If the seller fails to provide a required well disclosure certificate, the buyer, or a person authorized to act on behalf of the buyer, may sign a well disclosure certificate based on the

information provided on the disclosure statement required by this section or based on other available information.

(i) A county recorder or registrar of titles may not record a deed or other instrument of conveyance dated after October 31, 1990, for which a certificate of value is required under section 272.115, or any deed or other instrument of conveyance dated after October 31, 1990, from a governmental body exempt from the payment of state deed tax, unless the deed or other instrument of conveyance contains the statement made in accordance with paragraph (c) or (d) or is accompanied by the well disclosure certificate containing all the information required by paragraph (b) or (d). The county recorder or registrar of titles must not accept a certificate unless it contains all the required information. The county recorder or registrar of titles shall note on each deed or other instrument of conveyance accompanied by a well disclosure certificate that the well disclosure certificate was received. The notation must include the statement "No wells on property" if the disclosure certificate states there are no wells on the property. The well disclosure certificate shall not be filed or recorded in the records maintained by the county recorder or registrar of titles. After noting "No wells on property" on the deed or other instrument of conveyance, the county recorder or registrar of titles shall destroy or return to the buyer the well disclosure certificate. The county recorder or registrar of titles shall collect from the buyer or the person seeking to record a deed or other instrument of conveyance, a fee of ~~\$40~~ \$45 for receipt of a completed well disclosure certificate. By the tenth day of each month, the county recorder or registrar of titles shall transmit the well disclosure certificates to the commissioner of health. By the tenth day after the end of each calendar quarter, the county recorder or registrar of titles shall transmit to the commissioner of health ~~\$32.50~~ \$37.50 of the fee for each well disclosure certificate received during the quarter. The commissioner shall maintain the well disclosure certificate for at least six years. The commissioner may store the certificate as an electronic image. A copy of that image shall be as valid as the original.

(j) No new well disclosure certificate is required under this subdivision if the buyer or seller, or a person authorized to act on behalf of the buyer or seller, certifies on the deed or other instrument of conveyance that the status and number of wells on the property have not changed since the last previously filed well disclosure certificate. The following statement, if followed by the signature of the person making the statement, is sufficient to comply with the certification requirement of this paragraph: "I am familiar with the property described in this instrument and I certify that the status and number of wells on the described real property have not changed since the last previously filed well disclosure certificate." The certification and signature may be on the front or back of the deed or on an attached sheet and an acknowledgment of the statement is not required for the deed or other instrument of conveyance to be recordable.

(k) The commissioner in consultation with county recorders shall prescribe the form for a well disclosure certificate and provide well disclosure certificate forms to county recorders and registrars of titles and other interested persons.

(l) Failure to comply with a requirement of this subdivision does not impair:

(1) the validity of a deed or other instrument of conveyance as between the parties to the deed or instrument or as to any other person who otherwise would be bound by the deed or instrument; or

(2) the record, as notice, of any deed or other instrument of conveyance accepted for filing or recording contrary to the provisions of this subdivision.



**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2008.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 144.123, is amended to read:

**144.123 FEES FOR DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORY SERVICES; EXCEPTIONS.**

Subdivision 1. **Who must pay.** Except for the limitation contained in this section, the commissioner of health shall charge a handling fee for each specimen submitted to the Department of Health for analysis for diagnostic purposes by any hospital, private laboratory, private clinic, or physician. No fee shall be charged to any entity which receives direct or indirect financial assistance from state or federal funds administered by the Department of Health, including any public health department, nonprofit community clinic, ~~veneral sexually transmitted disease clinic, family planning clinic,~~ or similar entity. No fee will be charged for any biological materials submitted to the Department of Health as a requirement of Minnesota Rules, part 4605.7040, or for those biological materials requested by the department to gather information for disease prevention or control purposes. The commissioner of health may establish ~~by rule~~ other exceptions to the handling fee as may be necessary to ~~gather information for epidemiologic purposes~~ protect the public's health. All fees collected pursuant to this section shall be deposited in the state treasury and credited to the state government special revenue fund.

Subd. 2. ~~Rules for Fee amounts.~~ The commissioner of health shall ~~promulgate rules, in accordance with chapter 14, which shall specify the amount of the~~ charge a handling fee prescribed in subdivision 1. The fee shall approximate the costs to the department of handling specimens including reporting, postage, specimen kit preparation, and overhead costs. The fee prescribed in subdivision 1 shall be ~~\$15~~ \$25 per specimen ~~until the commissioner promulgates rules pursuant to this subdivision.~~

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 144.125, is amended to read:

**144.125 TESTS OF INFANTS FOR HERITABLE AND CONGENITAL DISORDERS.**

Subdivision 1. **Duty to perform testing.** It is the duty of (1) the administrative officer or other person in charge of each institution caring for infants 28 days or less of age, (2) the person required in pursuance of the provisions of section 144.215, to register the birth of a child, or (3) the nurse midwife or midwife in attendance at the birth, to arrange to have administered to every infant or child in its care tests for heritable and congenital disorders according to subdivision 2 and rules prescribed by the state commissioner of health. Testing and the recording and reporting of test results shall be performed at the times and in the manner prescribed by the commissioner of health. The commissioner shall charge ~~laboratory service fees~~ a fee so that the total of fees collected will approximate the costs of conducting the tests and implementing and maintaining a system to follow-up infants with heritable or congenital disorders, including hearing loss detected through the early hearing detection and intervention program under section 144.966. The ~~laboratory service~~ fee is ~~\$61~~ \$101 per specimen. Costs associated with capital expenditures and the development of new procedures may be prorated over a three-year period when calculating the amount of the fees.

Subd. 2. **Determination of tests to be administered.** The commissioner shall periodically revise the list of tests to be administered for determining the presence of a heritable or congenital disorder. Revisions to the list shall reflect advances in medical science, new and improved testing methods, or other factors that will improve the public health. In determining whether a test must be administered, the commissioner shall take into consideration the adequacy of ~~laboratory~~ analytical methods to

detect the heritable or congenital disorder, the ability to treat or prevent medical conditions caused by the heritable or congenital disorder, and the severity of the medical conditions caused by the heritable or congenital disorder. The list of tests to be performed may be revised if the changes are recommended by the advisory committee established under section 144.1255, approved by the commissioner, and published in the State Register. The revision is exempt from the rulemaking requirements in chapter 14, and sections 14.385 and 14.386 do not apply.

Subd. 3. **Objection of parents to test.** Persons with a duty to perform testing under subdivision 1 shall advise parents of infants (1) that the blood or tissue samples used to perform testing thereunder as well as the results of such testing may be retained by the Department of Health, (2) the benefit of retaining the blood or tissue sample, and (3) that the following options are available to them with respect to the testing: (i) to decline to have the tests, or (ii) to elect to have the tests but to require that all blood samples and records of test results be destroyed within 24 months of the testing. If the parents of an infant object in writing to testing for heritable and congenital disorders or elect to require that blood samples and test results be destroyed, the objection or election shall be recorded on a form that is signed by a parent or legal guardian and made part of the infant's medical record. A written objection exempts an infant from the requirements of this section and section 144.128.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 144.9507, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 6. **Medical assistance.** Medical assistance reimbursement for lead risk assessment services under section 256B.0625, subdivision 49, shall not be used to replace or decrease existing state or local funding for lead services and lead-related activities.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 144.9512, is amended to read:

**144.9512 LEAD ABATEMENT PROGRAM.**

Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) The definitions in section 144.9501 and in this subdivision apply to this section.

(b) ~~"Eligible organization" means a lead contractor, city, board of health, community health department, community action agency as defined in section 256E.30, or community development corporation.~~

(e) ~~"Commissioner" means the commissioner of health, or the commissioner of the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency as authorized by section 462A.05, subdivision 15e.~~

Subd. 2. **Grants; administration.** ~~Within the limits of the available appropriation, the commissioner must develop a swab team services program which may shall make demonstration and training grants to eligible organizations a nonprofit organization currently operating the CLEARCorps lead hazard reduction project to train workers to provide swab team services and swab team services for residential property. Grants may be awarded to nonprofit organizations to provide technical assistance and training to ensure quality and consistency within the statewide program. Grants must be awarded to help ensure full-time employment to workers providing swab team services and must be awarded for a two-year period.~~

~~Grants awarded under this section must be made in consultation with the commissioner of the Housing Finance Agency and representatives of neighborhood groups from areas at high risk for toxic lead exposure, a labor organization, the lead coalition, community action agencies, and the legal aid society. The consulting team must review grant applications and recommend awards to~~

eligible organizations that meet requirements for receiving a grant under this section.

Subd. 3. **Applicants.** (a) Interested eligible organizations may apply to the commissioner for grants under this section. Two or more eligible organizations may jointly apply for a grant. Priority shall be given to community action agencies in greater Minnesota and to either community action agencies or neighborhood-based nonprofit organizations in cities of the first class. Of the total annual appropriation, 12.5 percent may be used for administrative purposes. The commissioner may deviate from this percentage if a grantee can justify the need for a larger administrative allowance. Of this amount, up to five percent may be used by the commissioner for state administrative purposes. Applications must provide information requested by the commissioner, including at least the information required to assess the factors listed in paragraph (d).

(b) The commissioner must consult with boards of health to provide swab team services for purposes of secondary prevention. The priority for swab teams created by grants to eligible organizations under this section must be work assigned by the commissioner of health, or by a board of health if so designated by the commissioner of health, to provide secondary prevention swab team services to fulfill the requirements of section 144.9504, subdivision 6, in response to a lead order. Swab teams assigned work under this section by the commissioner, that are not engaged daily in fulfilling the requirements of section 144.9504, subdivision 6, must deliver swab team services in response to elevated blood lead levels as defined in section 144.9501, subdivision 9, where lead orders were not issued, and for purposes of primary prevention in census tracts known to be in areas at high risk for toxic lead exposure as described in section 144.9503, subdivision 2.

(c) Any additional money must be used for grants to establish swab teams for primary prevention under section 144.9503, in census tracts in areas at high risk for toxic lead exposure as determined under section 144.9503, subdivision 2.

(d) In evaluating grant applications, the commissioner must consider the following criteria:

- (1) the use of lead contractors and lead workers for residential swab team services;
- (2) the participation of neighborhood groups and individuals, as swab team workers, in areas at high risk for toxic lead exposure;
- (3) plans for the provision of swab team services for primary and secondary prevention as required under subdivision 4;
- (4) plans for supervision, training, career development, and postprogram placement of swab team members;
- (5) plans for resident and property owner education on lead safety;
- (6) plans for distributing cleaning supplies to area residents and educating residents and property owners on cleaning techniques;
- (7) sources of other funding and cost estimates for training, lead inspections, swab team services, equipment, monitoring, testing, and administration;
- (8) measures of program effectiveness;
- (9) coordination of program activities with other federal, state, and local public health, job training, apprenticeship, and housing renovation programs including programs under sections

116L.86 to 116L.881; and

~~(10) prior experience in providing swab team services.~~

Subd. 4. ~~Lead supervisor or certified firm~~ **Eligible grant activities.** ~~(a) Eligible organizations and lead supervisors or certified firms may participate in the swab team program. An eligible organization~~ The nonprofit receiving a grant under this section must assure ensure that all participating lead supervisors or certified firms are licensed and that all swab team workers are certified by the Department of Health under section 144.9505. Eligible organizations and lead supervisors or certified firms may distinguish between interior and exterior services in assigning duties and The nonprofit organization may participate in the program by:

(1) providing on-the-job training for swab team workers;

(2) providing swab team services to meet the requirements of sections 144.9503, subdivision 4, and 144.9504, subdivision 6;

(3) providing a removal and replacement component using skilled craft workers under subdivision 7 lead hazard reduction to meet the requirements of section 144.9501, subdivision 17;

~~(4) providing lead testing according to subdivision 8;~~

~~(5) (4) providing lead dust cleaning supplies cleanup equipment and materials, as described in section 144.9507 144.9503, subdivision 4, paragraph (e) 1, to residents; or~~

~~(6) (5) having a swab team worker instruct residents and property owners on appropriate lead control techniques, including the lead-safe directives developed by the commissioner of health;~~

(6) conducting blood lead testing events including screening children and pregnant women according to Department of Health screening guidelines;

(7) performing case management services according to Department of Health case management guidelines; or

(8) conducting mandated risk assessments under Minnesota Statutes, section 144.9504, subdivision 2.

~~(b) Participating lead supervisors or certified firms must:~~

~~(1) demonstrate proof of workers' compensation and general liability insurance coverage;~~

~~(2) be knowledgeable about lead abatement requirements established by the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration and lead hazard reduction requirements and lead-safe directives of the commissioner of health;~~

~~(3) demonstrate experience with on-the-job training programs;~~

~~(4) demonstrate an ability to recruit employees from areas at high risk for toxic lead exposure;~~  
and

~~(5) demonstrate experience in working with low-income clients.~~

Subd. 5. **Swab team workers.** Each worker engaged in swab team services established under this section must have blood lead concentrations below 15 micrograms of lead per deciliter of whole

blood as determined by a baseline blood lead screening. ~~Any~~ The nonprofit organization receiving a grant under this section is responsible for lead screening and ~~must assure~~ ensure that all swab team workers meet the standards established in this subdivision. ~~Grantees~~ The nonprofit organization must use appropriate workplace procedures including following the lead-safe directives developed by the commissioner of health to reduce risk of elevated blood lead levels. ~~Grantees~~ The nonprofit organization and participating contractors must report all employee blood lead levels that exceed 15 micrograms of lead per deciliter of whole blood to the commissioner of health.

~~Subd. 6. **On-the-job training component.** (a) Programs established under this section must provide on-the-job training for swab team workers.~~

~~(b) Swab team workers must receive monetary compensation equal to the prevailing wage as defined in section 177.42, subdivision 6, for comparable jobs in the licensed contractor's principal business.~~

~~Subd. 7. **Removal and replacement component.** (a) Within the limits of the available appropriation and if a need is identified by a lead inspector, the commissioner may establish a component for removal and replacement of deteriorated paint in residential properties according to the following criteria:~~

~~(1) components within a residence must have both deteriorated lead-based paint and substrate damage beyond repair or rotting wooden framework to be eligible for removal and replacement;~~

~~(2) all removal and replacement must be done using least-cost methods and following lead-safe directives;~~

~~(3) whenever windows and doors or other components covered with deteriorated lead-based paint have sound substrate or are not rotting, those components should be repaired, sent out for stripping, planed down to remove deteriorated lead-based paint, or covered with protective guards instead of being replaced, provided that such an activity is the least-cost method of providing the swab team service;~~

~~(4) removal and replacement or repair must be done by lead contractors using skilled craft workers or trained swab team members; and~~

~~(5) all craft work that requires a state license must be supervised by a person with a state license in the craft work being supervised. The grant recipient may contract for this supervision.~~

~~(b) The program design must:~~

~~(1) identify the need for on-the-job training of swab team workers to be removal and replacement workers; and~~

~~(2) describe plans to involve appropriate groups in designing methods to meet the need for training swab team workers.~~

~~Subd. 8. **Testing and evaluation.** (a) Testing of the environment is not necessary by swab teams whose work is assigned by the commissioner of health or a designated board of health under section 144.9504. The commissioner of health or designated board of health must share the analytical testing data collected on each residence for purposes of secondary prevention under section 144.9504 with the swab team workers in order to provide constructive feedback on their~~

~~work and to the commissioner for the purposes set forth in paragraph (c).~~

~~(b) For purposes of primary prevention evaluation, the following samples must be collected: pretesting and posttesting of one noncarpeted floor dust lead sample and a notation of the extent and location of bare soil and of deteriorated lead-based paint. The analytical testing data collected on each residence for purposes of primary prevention under section 144.9503 must be shared with the swab team workers in order to provide constructive feedback on their work and to the commissioner for the purposes set forth in paragraph (c).~~

~~(c) The commissioner of health must establish a program to collect appropriate data as required under paragraphs (a) and (b), in order to conduct an ongoing evaluation of swab team services for primary and secondary prevention. Within the limits of available appropriations, the commissioner of health must conduct on up to 1,000 residences which have received primary or secondary prevention swab team services, a postremediation evaluation, on at least a quarterly basis for a period of at least two years for each residence. The evaluation must note the condition of the paint within the residence, the extent of bare soil on the grounds, and collect and analyze one noncarpeted floor dust lead sample. The data collected must be evaluated to determine the efficacy of providing swab team services as a method of reducing lead exposure in young children. In evaluating this data, the commissioner of health must consider city size, community location, historic traffic flow, soil lead level of the property by area or census tract, distance to industrial point sources that emit lead, season of the year, age of the housing, age and number of children living at the residence, the presence of pets that move in and out of the residence, and other relevant factors as the commissioner of health may determine.~~

Subd. 9. **Program benefits.** As a condition of providing swab team services under this section, ~~an~~ the nonprofit organization may require a property owner to not increase rents on a property solely as a result of a substantial improvement made with public funds under the programs in this section.

Subd. 10. **Requirements of ~~organizations receiving grants~~ the nonprofit organization.** ~~An eligible~~ The nonprofit organization that is awarded a ~~training and demonstration~~ grant under this section must prepare and submit a quarterly progress report to the commissioner beginning three months after receipt of the grant.

Sec. 10. **[144.966] EARLY HEARING DETECTION AND INTERVENTION PROGRAM.**

Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) "Child" means a person 18 years of age or younger.

(b) "False positive rate" means the proportion of infants identified as having a significant hearing loss by the screening process who are ultimately found to not have a significant hearing loss.

(c) "False negative rate" means the proportion of infants not identified as having a significant hearing loss by the screening process who are ultimately found to have a significant hearing loss.

(d) "Hearing screening test" means automated auditory brain stem response, otoacoustic emissions, or another appropriate screening test approved by the Department of Health.

(e) "Hospital" means a birthing health care facility or birthing center licensed in this state that provides obstetrical services.

(f) "Infant" means a child who is not a newborn and has not attained the age of one year.

(g) "Newborn" means an infant 28 days of age or younger.

(h) "Parent" means a natural parent, stepparent, adoptive parent, guardian, or custodian of a newborn or infant.

Subd. 2. **Newborn Hearing Screening Advisory Committee.** (a) The commissioner of health shall establish a Newborn Hearing Screening Advisory Committee to advise and assist the Department of Health and the Department of Education in:

(1) developing protocols and timelines for screening, rescreening, and diagnostic audiological assessment and early medical, audiological, and educational intervention services for children who are deaf or hard-of-hearing;

(2) designing protocols for tracking children from birth through age three that may have passed newborn screening but are at risk for delayed or late onset of permanent hearing loss;

(3) designing a technical assistance program to support facilities implementing the screening program and facilities conducting rescreening and diagnostic audiological assessment;

(4) designing implementation and evaluation of a system of follow-up and tracking; and

(5) evaluating program outcomes to increase effectiveness and efficiency and ensure culturally appropriate services for children with a confirmed hearing loss and their families.

(b) The commissioner of health shall appoint at least one member from each of the following groups with no less than two of the members being deaf or hard-of-hearing:

(1) a representative from a consumer organization representing culturally deaf persons;

(2) a parent with a child with hearing loss representing a parent organization;

(3) a consumer from an organization representing oral communication options;

(4) a consumer from an organization representing cued speech communication options;

(5) an audiologist who has experience in evaluation and intervention of infants and young children;

(6) a speech-language pathologist who has experience in evaluation and intervention of infants and young children;

(7) two primary care providers who have experience in the care of infants and young children, one of which shall be a pediatrician;

(8) a representative from the early hearing detection intervention teams;

(9) a representative from the Department of Education resource center for the deaf and hard-of-hearing or the representative's designee;

(10) a representative of the Minnesota Commission Serving Deaf and Hard of Hearing People;

(11) a representative from the Department of Human Services Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services Division;

(12) one or more of the Part C coordinators from the Department of Education, the Department of Health, or the Department of Human Services or the department's designees;

(13) the Department of Health early hearing detection and intervention coordinator;

(14) two birth hospital representatives from one rural and one urban hospital;

(15) a pediatric geneticist;

(16) an otolaryngologist;

(17) a representative from the Newborn Screening Advisory Committee under this subdivision;  
and

(18) a representative of the Department of Education regional low-incidence facilitators.

The commissioner must complete the appointments required under this subdivision by September 1, 2007.

(c) The Department of Health member shall chair the first meeting of the committee. At the first meeting, the committee shall elect a chair from its membership. The committee shall meet at the call of the chair, at least four times a year. The committee shall adopt written bylaws to govern its activities. The Department of Health shall provide technical and administrative support services as required by the committee. These services shall include technical support from individuals qualified to administer infant hearing screening, rescreening, and diagnostic audiological assessments.

Members of the committee shall receive no compensation for their service, but shall be reimbursed as provided in section 15.059 for expenses incurred as a result of their duties as members of the committee.

(d) This subdivision expires June 30, 2013.

Subd. 3. **Early hearing detection and intervention programs.** All hospitals shall establish an early hearing detection and intervention (EHDI) program. Each EHDI program shall:

(1) in advance of any hearing screening testing, provide to the newborn's or infant's parents or parent information concerning the nature of the screening procedure, applicable costs of the screening procedure, the potential risks and effects of hearing loss, and the benefits of early detection and intervention;

(2) comply with parental consent under section 144.125, subdivision 3;

(3) develop policies and procedures for screening and rescreening based on Department of Health recommendations;

(4) provide appropriate training and monitoring of individuals responsible for performing hearing screening tests as recommended by the Department of Health;

(5) test the newborn's hearing prior to discharge, or, if the newborn is expected to remain in the hospital for a prolonged period, testing shall be performed prior to three months of age or when medically feasible;

(6) develop and implement procedures for documenting the results of all hearing screening tests;



(7) inform the newborn's or infant's parents or parent, primary care physician, and the Department of Health according to recommendations of the Department of Health of the results of the hearing screening test or rescreening if conducted, or if the newborn or infant was not successfully tested. The hospital that discharges the newborn or infant to home is responsible for the screening; and

(8) collect performance data specified by the Department of Health.

Subd. 4. **Notification and information.** (a) Notification to the parents or parent, primary care provider, and the Department of Health shall occur prior to discharge or no later than ten days following the date of testing. Notification shall include information recommended by the Department of Health.

(b) A physician, nurse, midwife, or other health professional attending a birth outside a hospital or institution shall provide information, orally and in writing, as established by the Department of Health, to parents regarding places where the parents may have their infant's hearing screened and the importance of the screening.

(c) The professional conducting the diagnostic procedure to confirm the hearing loss must report the results to the parents, primary care provider, and Department of Health according to the Department of Health recommendations.

Subd. 5. **Oversight responsibility.** The Department of Health shall exercise oversight responsibility for EHDI programs, including establishing a performance data set and reviewing performance data collected by each hospital.

Subd. 6. **Civil and criminal immunity and penalties.** (a) No physician or hospital shall be civilly or criminally liable for failure to conduct hearing screening testing.

(b) No physician, midwife, nurse, other health professional, or hospital acting in compliance with this section shall be civilly or criminally liable for any acts conforming with this section, including furnishing information required according to this section.

Subd. 7. **Fees.** The commissioner shall charge a fee so that the total of fees collected will approximate the costs of implementing and maintaining a system to follow up on infants and provide technical assistance, a tracking system, data management, and evaluation. The fee shall be incorporated in the fee charged under section 144.125.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 144E.101, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

Subd. 6. **Basic life support.** (a) Except as provided in paragraph (e), a basic life support ambulance shall be staffed by at least two ambulance service personnel, at least one of which must be an EMT, who provide a level of care so as to ensure that:

- (1) life-threatening situations and potentially serious injuries are recognized;
- (2) patients are protected from additional hazards;
- (3) basic treatment to reduce the seriousness of emergency situations is administered; and

(4) patients are transported to an appropriate medical facility for treatment.

(b) A basic life support service shall provide basic airway management.

(c) By January 1, 2001, a basic life support service shall provide automatic defibrillation, as provided in section 144E.103, subdivision 1, paragraph (b).

(d) A basic life support service licensee's medical director may authorize the ambulance service personnel to carry and to use medical antishock trousers and to perform intravenous infusion if the ambulance service personnel have been properly trained.

(e) Upon application from an ambulance service that includes evidence demonstrating hardship, the board may grant a ~~temporary~~ variance from the staff requirements in paragraph (a) and may authorize a basic life support ambulance to be staffed by one EMT and one first responder. The variance shall apply to basic life support ambulances operated by the ambulance service ~~for up to one year from the date of the variance's issuance~~ until the ambulance service renews its license. When a variance expires, an ambulance service may apply for a new variance under this paragraph. For purposes of this paragraph, "ambulance service" means either an ambulance service whose primary service area is located outside the metropolitan counties listed in section 473.121, subdivision 4, and outside the cities of Duluth, Mankato, Moorhead, Rochester, and St. Cloud; or an ambulance service based in a community with a population of less than 1,000.

Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 144E.127, is amended to read:

**144E.127 INTERHOSPITAL; INTERFACILITY TRANSFER.**

Subdivision 1. Interhospital transfers. When transporting a patient from one licensed hospital to another, a licensee may substitute for one of the required ambulance service personnel, a physician, a registered nurse, or physician's assistant who has been trained to use the equipment in the ambulance and is knowledgeable of the licensee's ambulance service protocols.

Subd. 2. Interfacility transfers. In an interfacility transport, a licensee whose primary service area is located outside the metropolitan counties listed in section 473.121, subdivision 4, and outside the cities of Duluth, Mankato, Moorhead, Rochester, and St. Cloud; or an ambulance service based in a community with a population of less than 1,000, may substitute one EMT with a registered first responder if an EMT or EMT-paramedic, physician, registered nurse, or physician's assistant is in the patient compartment. If using a physician, registered nurse, or physician's assistant as the sole provider in the patient compartment, the individual must be trained to use the equipment in the ambulance and be knowledgeable of the ambulance service protocols.

Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 144E.35, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

~~Subdivision 1. Any political subdivision, or nonprofit hospital or nonprofit corporation operating~~ **Subdivision 1. Repayment for volunteer training.** A licensed ambulance service shall be reimbursed by the board for the necessary expense of the initial training of a volunteer ambulance attendant upon successful completion by the attendant of a basic emergency care course, or a continuing education course for basic emergency care, or both, which has been approved by the board, pursuant to section 144E.285. Reimbursement may include tuition, transportation, food, lodging, hourly payment for the time spent in the training course, and other necessary expenditures, except that in no instance shall a volunteer ambulance attendant be reimbursed more than \$450 \$600 for successful completion of a basic course, and \$225 \$275 for successful completion of a continuing

education course.

Sec. 14. **[156.015] FEES.**

Subdivision 1. **Verification of licensure.** The board may charge a fee of \$25 per license verification to a licensee for verification of licensure status provided to other veterinary licensing boards.

Subd. 2. **Continuing education review.** The board may charge a fee of \$50 per submission to a sponsor for review and approval of individual continuing education seminars, courses, wet labs, and lectures. This fee does not apply to continuing education sponsors that already meet the criteria for preapproval under Minnesota Rules, part 9100.1000, subpart 3, item A.

Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 198.075, is amended to read:

**198.075 MINNESOTA VETERANS HOME EMPLOYEES; EXCLUDED FROM COMMISSARY PRIVILEGES.**

Except as provided in this section, no commissary privileges including food, laundry service, janitorial service, and household supplies shall be furnished to any employee of the Minnesota veterans homes. An employee of the Minnesota veterans homes who works a second shift that is consecutive with a regularly scheduled shift may be allowed one free meal at the veterans home on the day of that extra shift.

Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256B.0625, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 49. **Lead risk assessments.** (a) Effective October 1, 2007, or six months after federal approval, whichever is later, medical assistance covers lead risk assessments provided by a lead risk assessor who is licensed by the commissioner of health under section 144.9505 and employed by an assessing agency as defined in section 144.9501. Medical assistance covers a onetime on-site investigation of a recipient's home or primary residence to determine the existence of lead so long as the recipient is under the age of 21 and has a venous blood lead level specified in section 144.9504, subdivision 2, paragraph (a).

(b) Medical assistance reimbursement covers the lead risk assessor's time to complete the following activities:

(1) gathering samples;

(2) interviewing family members;

(3) gathering data, including meter readings; and

(4) providing a report with the results of the investigation and options for reducing lead-based paint hazards.

Medical assistance coverage of lead risk assessment does not include testing of environmental substances such as water, paint, or soil or any other laboratory services. Medical assistance coverage of lead risk assessments is not included in the capitated services for children enrolled in health plans through the prepaid medical assistance program and the MinnesotaCare program.

(c) Payment for lead risk assessment must be cost-based and must meet the criteria for federal financial participation under the Medicaid program. The rate must be based on allowable expenditures from cost information gathered. Under section 144.9507, subdivision 5, federal medical assistance funds may not replace existing funding for lead-related activities. The nonfederal share of costs for services provided under this subdivision must be from state or local funds and is the responsibility of the agency providing the risk assessment. When the risk assessment is conducted by the commissioner of health, the state share must be from appropriations to the commissioner of health for this purpose. Eligible expenditures for the nonfederal share of costs may not be made from federal funds or funds used to match other federal funds. Any federal disallowances are the responsibility of the agency providing risk assessment services.

Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 471.59, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Agreement.** Two or more governmental units, by agreement entered into through action of their governing bodies, may jointly or cooperatively exercise any power common to the contracting parties or any similar powers, including those which are the same except for the territorial limits within which they may be exercised. The agreement may provide for the exercise of such powers by one or more of the participating governmental units on behalf of the other participating units. The term "governmental unit" as used in this section includes every city, county, town, school district, other political subdivision of this or another state, another state, the University of Minnesota, nonprofit hospitals licensed under sections 144.50 to 144.56, rehabilitation facilities and extended employment providers that are certified by the commissioner of employment and economic development, day training and habilitation services licensed under sections 245B.01 to 245B.08, nonprofit community health clinics providing family planning services as defined in section 145.925, and any agency of the state of Minnesota or the United States, and includes any instrumentality of a governmental unit. For the purpose of this section, an instrumentality of a governmental unit means an instrumentality having independent policy making and appropriating authority.

Sec. 18. Laws 2005, First Special Session chapter 4, article 9, section 3, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

**Subd. 2. Community and Family Health Improvement**

	Summary by Fund	
General	40,413,000	40,382,000
State Government		
Special Revenue	141,000	128,000
Health Care Access	3,510,000	3,516,000
Federal TANF	6,000,000	6,000,000

~~**Family Planning Base Reduction.** Base level funding for the family planning special projects grant program is reduced by \$1,877,000 each year of the biennium beginning July 1, 2007, provided that this~~

~~reduction shall only take place upon full implementation of the family planning project section of the 1115 waiver. Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 145.925, the commissioner shall give priority to community health care clinics providing family planning services that either serve a high number of women who do not qualify for medical assistance or are unable to participate in the medical assistance program as a medical assistance provider when allocating the remaining appropriations. Notwithstanding section 15, this paragraph shall not expire.~~

**Shaken Baby Video.** Of the state government special revenue fund appropriation, \$13,000 in 2006 is appropriated to the commissioner of health to provide a video to hospitals on shaken baby syndrome. The commissioner of health shall assess a fee to hospitals to cover the cost of the approved shaken baby video and the revenue received is to be deposited in the state government special revenue fund.

**Sec. 19. STUDY OF BLOOD LEAD TESTING METHODS.**

(a) The commissioner of health, in consultation with the commissioner of human services, cities of the first class, health care providers, and other interested parties, shall conduct a study to evaluate blood lead testing methods used to confirm elevated blood lead status. The study shall examine:

- (1) the false positive rate of capillary tests for children who are younger than 72 months old;
- (2) current protocols for conducting capillary testing, including filter paper methodology; and
- (3) existing guidelines and regulations from other states and federal agencies regarding lead testing.

(b) The commissioner shall make recommendations on:

- (1) the use of capillary tests to initiate environmental investigations and case management, including number and timing of tests and fiscal implications for state and local lead programs; and
- (2) reducing the state mandatory intervention to ten micrograms of lead per deciliter of whole blood.

(c) The commissioner shall submit the results of the study and recommendations, including any necessary legislative changes, to the legislature by January 15, 2008.

**Sec. 20. WINDOW SAFETY EDUCATION.**

The commissioner of health shall create in the department's current educational safety program

a component targeted at parents and caregivers of young children to provide awareness of the need to take precautions to prevent children from falling through open windows. The commissioner of health shall consult with representatives of the residential building industry, the window products industry, the child safety advocacy community, and the Department of Labor and Industry to create the window safety program component. The program must include the gathering of data about falls from windows that result in severe injury in order to measure the effectiveness of the safety program. The commissioner of health may consult with other child safety advocacy groups, experts, and interested parties in the development and implementation of the window safety program. The commissioner of health shall prepare and submit a final report on the window safety program to the legislature by March 1, 2011. The commissioner shall prepare and submit a yearly progress report to the legislature by March 1 of each year beginning in 2008 until the submission of the final report. The final report must include a summary of the safety program, the impact of the program on children falling from windows, and any recommendations for further study or action.

Sec. 21. **REVISOR'S INSTRUCTION.**

The revisor of statutes shall change the range reference "144.9501 to 144.9509" to "144.9501 to 144.9512" wherever the reference appears in Minnesota Statutes and Minnesota Rules.

Sec. 22. **REPEALER.**

Laws 2004, chapter 288, article 6, section 27, is repealed.

## ARTICLE 17

### PUBLIC HEALTH

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 145A.17, is amended to read:

#### **145A.17 FAMILY HOME VISITING PROGRAMS.**

Subdivision 1. **Establishment; goals.** The commissioner shall establish a program to fund family home visiting programs designed to foster a healthy beginning for children in families at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty guidelines beginnings, improve pregnancy outcomes, promote school readiness, prevent child abuse and neglect, reduce juvenile delinquency, promote positive parenting and resiliency in children, and promote family health and economic self-sufficiency for children and families. The commissioner shall promote partnerships, collaboration, and multidisciplinary visiting done by teams of professionals and paraprofessionals from the fields of public health nursing, social work, and early childhood education. A program funded under this section must serve families at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty guidelines, and other families determined to be at risk, including but not limited to being at risk for child abuse, child neglect, or juvenile delinquency. Programs must give priority for services to families considered to be in need of services, including but not limited to begin prenatally whenever possible and must be targeted to families with:

- (1) adolescent parents;
- (2) a history of alcohol or other drug abuse;
- (3) a history of child abuse, domestic abuse, or other types of violence;
- (4) a history of domestic abuse, rape, or other forms of victimization;

- (5) reduced cognitive functioning;
- (6) a lack of knowledge of child growth and development stages;
- (7) low resiliency to adversities and environmental stresses; ~~or~~
- (8) insufficient financial resources to meet family needs;
- (9) a history of homelessness;
- (10) a risk of long-term welfare dependence or family instability due to employment barriers; or
- (11) other risk factors as determined by the commissioner.

**Subd. 3. Requirements for programs; process.** ~~(a) Before a community health board or tribal government may receive an allocation under subdivision 2, a community health board or tribal government must submit a proposal to the commissioner that includes identification, based on a community assessment, of the populations at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty guidelines that will be served and the other populations that will be served. Each program that receives funds must~~ Community health boards and tribal governments that receive funding under this section must submit a plan to the commissioner describing a multidisciplinary approach to targeted home visiting for families. The plan must be submitted on forms provided by the commissioner. At a minimum, the plan must include the following:

- (1) a description of outreach strategies to families prenatally or at birth;
- (2) provisions for the seamless delivery of health, safety, and early learning services;
- (3) methods to promote continuity of services when families move within the state;
- (4) a description of the community demographics;
- (5) a plan for meeting outcome measures; and
- (6) a proposed work plan that includes:
  - (i) coordination to ensure nonduplication of services for children and families;
  - (ii) a description of the strategies to ensure that children and families at greatest risk receive appropriate services; and
  - (iii) collaboration with multidisciplinary partners including public health, ECFE, Head Start, community health workers, social workers, community home visiting programs, school districts, and other relevant partners. Letters of intent from multidisciplinary partners must be submitted with the plan.

(b) Each program that receives funds must accomplish the following program requirements:

- (1) use ~~either a broad community-based or selective community-based~~ strategy to provide preventive and early intervention home visiting services;
- (2) offer a home visit by a trained home visitor. If a home visit is accepted, the first home visit must occur prenatally or as soon after birth as possible and must include a public health nursing assessment by a public health nurse;

(3) offer, at a minimum, information on infant care, child growth and development, positive parenting, preventing diseases, preventing exposure to environmental hazards, and support services available in the community;

(4) provide information on and referrals to health care services, if needed, including information on and assistance in applying for health care coverage for which the child or family may be eligible; and provide information on preventive services, developmental assessments, and the availability of public assistance programs as appropriate;

(5) provide youth development programs when appropriate;

(6) recruit home visitors who will represent, to the extent possible, the races, cultures, and languages spoken by families that may be served;

(7) train and supervise home visitors in accordance with the requirements established under subdivision 4;

(8) maximize resources and minimize duplication by coordinating activities or contracting with local social and human services organizations, education organizations, and other appropriate governmental entities and community-based organizations and agencies; ~~and~~

(9) utilize appropriate racial and ethnic approaches to providing home visiting services; and

(10) connect eligible families, as needed, to additional resources available in the community, including, but not limited to, early care and education programs, health or mental health services, family literacy programs, employment agencies, social services, and child care resources and referral agencies.

(c) When available, programs that receive funds under this section must offer or provide the family with a referral to center-based or group meetings that meet at least once per month for those families identified with additional needs. The meetings must focus on further enhancing the information, activities, and skill-building addressed during home visitation; offering opportunities for parents to meet with and support each other; and offering infants and toddlers a safe, nurturing, and stimulating environment for socialization and supervised play with qualified teachers.

~~(b)~~ (d) Funds available under this section shall not be used for medical services. The commissioner shall establish an administrative cost limit for recipients of funds. The outcome measures established under subdivision 6 must be specified to recipients of funds at the time the funds are distributed.

~~(e)~~ (e) Data collected on individuals served by the home visiting programs must remain confidential and must not be disclosed by providers of home visiting services without a specific informed written consent that identifies disclosures to be made. Upon request, agencies providing home visiting services must provide recipients with information on disclosures, including the names of entities and individuals receiving the information and the general purpose of the disclosure. Prospective and current recipients of home visiting services must be told and informed in writing that written consent for disclosure of data is not required for access to home visiting services.

Subd. 4. **Training.** The commissioner shall establish training requirements for home visitors and minimum requirements for supervision by a public health nurse. The requirements for nurses must be consistent with chapter 148. The commissioner must provide training for home visitors. Training



must include ~~child development, positive parenting techniques, screening and referrals for child abuse and neglect, and diverse cultural practices in child rearing and family systems~~ the following:

- (1) effective relationships for engaging and retaining families and ensuring family health, safety, and early learning;
- (2) effective methods of implementing parent education, conducting home visiting, and promoting quality early childhood development;
- (3) early childhood development from birth to age five;
- (4) diverse cultural practices in child rearing and family systems;
- (5) recruiting, supervising, and retaining qualified staff;
- (6) increasing services for underserved populations; and
- (7) relevant issues related to child welfare and protective services, with information provided being consistent with state child welfare agency training.

Subd. 5. **Technical assistance.** The commissioner shall provide administrative and technical assistance to each program, including assistance in data collection and other activities related to conducting short- and long-term evaluations of the programs as required under subdivision 7. The commissioner may request research and evaluation support from the University of Minnesota.

Subd. 6. **Outcome and performance measures.** The commissioner shall establish ~~outcomes~~ measures to determine the impact of family home visiting programs funded under this section on the following areas:

- (1) appropriate utilization of preventive health care;
- (2) rates of substantiated child abuse and neglect;
- (3) rates of unintentional child injuries;
- (4) rates of children who are screened and who pass early childhood screening; ~~and~~
- (5) rates of children accessing early care and educational services;
- (6) program retention rates;
- (7) number of home visits provided compared to the number of home visits planned;
- (8) participant satisfaction;
- (9) rates of at-risk populations reached; and
- (10) any additional qualitative goals and quantitative measures established by the commissioner.

Subd. 7. **Evaluation.** Using the qualitative goals and quantitative outcome and performance measures established under subdivisions 1 and 6, the commissioner shall conduct ongoing evaluations of the programs funded under this section. Community health boards and tribal governments shall cooperate with the commissioner in the evaluations and shall provide the commissioner with the information necessary to conduct the evaluations. As part of the ongoing

evaluations, the commissioner shall rate the impact of the programs on the outcome measures listed in subdivision 6, and shall periodically determine whether home visiting programs are the best way to achieve the qualitative goals established under subdivisions 1 and 6. If the commissioner determines that home visiting programs are not the best way to achieve these goals, the commissioner shall provide the legislature with alternative methods for achieving them.

Subd. 8. **Report.** By January 15, 2002, and January 15 of each even-numbered year thereafter, the commissioner shall submit a report to the legislature on the family home visiting programs funded under this section and on the results of the evaluations conducted under subdivision 7.

Subd. 9. **No supplanting of existing funds.** Funding available under this section may be used only to supplement, not to replace, nonstate funds being used for home visiting services as of July 1, 2001.

### Sec. 2. WATER LEVEL STANDARDS.

(a) Until the commissioner of health adopts rules setting the health risk limits required in paragraph (b), the health risk limit for all contaminants in private domestic wells must be the more stringent of the state standards or the federal standards determined by the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

(b) By March 1, 2008, the commissioner of health must publish in the State Register notice of intent to adopt rules relating to health risk limits for commonly detected contaminants. The commissioner of health shall review current scientific information to establish health risk limits for commonly detected contaminants in groundwater that provides a reasonable margin of safety to adequately protect the health of developing fetuses, infants, and children, in accordance with the requirements of Minnesota Statutes, section 144.0751. Nothing in paragraph (a) prohibits the commissioner from setting standards that are stricter than the federal standards.

(c) By March 1, 2009, the commissioner shall adopt rules relating to health risk limits for the ten most commonly detected contaminants.

(d) By February 1, 2008, the commissioner shall report to the legislature on the implications for public health and the costs to enforce the more stringent of health risk limits or maximum contaminant levels for public water systems.

### Sec. 3. FUNDING FOR ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE MAPPING.

The commissioner of health, in conjunction with the commissioner of the Pollution Control Agency, shall apply for federal funding to renew and expand the state's environmental justice mapping capacity in order to promote public health tracking. If implemented, the commissioner of health shall coordinate the project with the Pollution Control Agency and the Department of Agriculture in order to explore possible links between environmental health and toxic exposures and to help create a system for environmental public health tracking and make recommendations to the legislature for additional sources of funding within the state.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

### Sec. 4. FRAGRANCE-FREE SCHOOLS EDUCATION PILOT PROJECT.

Subdivision 1. **Purpose.** Recognizing that scented products may trigger asthma or chemical

sensitivity reactions in students and school staff, which can contribute to learning and breathing problems, the commissioner of health shall develop a fragrance-free schools education pilot project.

Subd. 2. **Education.** The commissioner of health, in collaboration with the Minneapolis Board of Education, shall establish a working group composed of at least three students, two teachers, one school administrator, and one member of the Minneapolis Board of Education to recommend an education campaign in Minneapolis public schools to inform students and parents about the potentially harmful effects of the use of fragrance products on sensitive students and school personnel in Minneapolis schools. The commissioner shall report findings to the legislature by February 1, 2008.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

**Sec. 5. MEDICAL ASSISTANCE COVERAGE FOR ARSENIC TESTING.**

The commissioner of human services shall inform providers that testing for arsenic under Minnesota Statutes, section 144.967, is covered under medical assistance.

**ARTICLE 18**

**HUMAN SERVICES FORECAST ADJUSTMENTS**

**Section 1. SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS; DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES FORECAST ADJUSTMENT.**

The dollar amounts shown are added to or, if shown in parentheses, are subtracted from the appropriations in Laws 2006, chapter 282, from the general fund, or any other fund named, to the Department of Human Services for the purposes specified in this article, to be available for the fiscal year indicated for each purpose. The figure "2007" used in this article means that the appropriation or appropriations listed are available for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2007.

	<u>2007</u>
<u>General Fund</u>	\$ (25,226,000)
<u>Health Care Access</u>	\$ (53,980,000)
<u>TANF</u>	\$ (24,805,000)
<b><u>Total</u></b>	<b>\$ (104,011,000)</b>

**Sec. 2. COMMISSIONER OF HUMAN SERVICES**

**Subdivision 1. Total Appropriation** \$ **(104,011,000)**

Appropriations by Fund

	<u>2007</u>
<u>General</u>	(25,226,000)
<u>Health Care Access</u>	(53,980,000)
<u>TANF</u>	(24,805,000)

Subd. 2. Revenue and Pass Through

<u>TANF</u>	<u>(106,000)</u>
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Subd. 3. Children and Economic Assistance Grants

<u>General</u>	<u>3,221,000</u>
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<u>TANF</u>	<u>(24,699,000)</u>
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The amounts that may be spent from this appropriation for each purpose are as follows:

(a) MFIP/DWP Grants

<u>General</u>	<u>13,827,000</u>
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<u>TANF</u>	<u>(24,699,000)</u>
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(b) MFIP Child Care Assistance Grants

<u>General</u>	<u>(4,733,000)</u>
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(c) General Assistance Grants

<u>General</u>	<u>1,081,000</u>
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(d) Minnesota Supplemental Aid Grants

<u>General</u>	<u>(1,099,000)</u>
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(e) Group Residential Housing Grants

<u>General</u>	<u>(5,855,000)</u>
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Subd. 4. Basic Health Care Grants

<u>General</u>	<u>17,592,000</u>
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<u>Health Care Access</u>	<u>(53,980,000)</u>
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The amounts that may be spent from this appropriation for each purpose are as follows:

<u>(a) MinnesotaCare Health Care Access</u>	<u>(53,980,000)</u>
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(b) MA Basic Health Care - Families and Children

<u>General</u>	<u>15,729,000</u>
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(c) MA Basic Health Care - Elderly and Disabled

<u>General</u>	<u>(4,540,000)</u>
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(d) General Assistance Medical Care

<u>General</u>	<u>6,403,000</u>
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Subd. 5. Continuing Care Grants

<u>General</u>	<u>(46,039,000)</u>
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The amounts that may be spent from this appropriation for each purpose are as follows:

(a) MA Long-Term Care Facilities

<u>General</u>	<u>(15,028,000)</u>
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(b) MA Long-Term Care Waivers

<u>General</u>	<u>(20,677,000)</u>
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(c) Chemical Dependency Entitlement Grants

<u>General</u>	<u>(10,334,000)</u>
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Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.

Sections 1 and 2 are effective the day following final enactment.

**ARTICLE 19****HUMAN SERVICES APPROPRIATIONS**Section 1. SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS.

The amounts shown in this section summarize direct appropriations, by fund, made in this article.

	<u>2008</u>		<u>2009</u>		<u>Total</u>
<u>General</u>	\$ 4,767,301,000	\$	5,109,906,000	\$	9,877,206,000
<u>State Government Special Revenue</u>	59,686,000		58,595,000		118,281,000
<u>Health Care Access</u>	448,113,000		526,381,000		974,494,000
<u>Federal TANF</u>	265,813,000		278,334,000		544,147,000
<u>Lottery Prize Fund</u>	2,185,000		1,790,000		3,975,000
<b><u>Total</u></b>	<b>\$ 5,543,098,000</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>5,975,006,000</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>11,518,104,000</b>

Sec. 2. **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES APPROPRIATIONS.**

The sums shown in the columns marked "Appropriations" are appropriated to the agencies and for the purposes specified in this article. The appropriations are from the general fund, or another named fund, and are available for the fiscal years indicated for each purpose. The figures "2008" and "2009" used in this article mean that the appropriations listed under them are available for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, or June 30, 2009, respectively. "The first year" is fiscal year 2008. "The second year" is fiscal year 2009. "The biennium" is fiscal years 2008 and 2009. Appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2007, are effective the day following final enactment.

**APPROPRIATIONS**  
**Available for the Year**  
**Ending June 30**  
**2008**                      **2009**

Sec. 3. **HUMAN SERVICES**

Subdivision 1. **Total Appropriation**    \$    **5,316,163,000**    \$    **5,752,672,000**

	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>	
	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>
<u>General</u>	<u>4,631,549,000</u>	<u>4,977,470,000</u>
<u>State Government</u>		
<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>549,000</u>	<u>565,000</u>
<u>Health Care Access</u>	<u>427,485,000</u>	<u>506,246,000</u>
<u>Federal TANF</u>	<u>254,395,000</u>	<u>266,601,000</u>
<u>Lottery Prize Fund</u>	<u>2,185,000</u>	<u>1,790,000</u>

The amounts that may be spent for each purpose are specified in the following subdivisions.

**Receipts for Systems Projects.** Appropriations and federal receipts for information system projects for MAXIS, PRISM, MMIS, and SSIS must be deposited in the state system account authorized in Minnesota Statutes, section 256.014. Money appropriated for computer projects approved by the Minnesota Office of Enterprise Technology,

funded by the legislature, and approved by the commissioner of finance, may be transferred from one project to another and from development to operations as the commissioner of human services considers necessary. Any unexpended balance in the appropriation for these projects does not cancel but is available for ongoing development and operations.

**Pay for Performance.** (a) Of the general fund appropriation, \$272,000 each year is available to the commissioner of human services only under the following circumstances:

(1) \$272,000 shall be made available by the commissioner of finance on January 1, 2009, only after notification by the commissioner of human services to the commissioner of finance and to the chairs of the relevant house of representatives and senate finance and policy committees that the average number of days from the receipt of a MinnesotaCare application at the state processing unit until the initial eligibility determination of the application was 30 days or less during the period October 1, 2007, to September 30, 2008. Applications transferred from counties to the state processing unit are excluded from this calculation; and

(2) \$272,000 shall be made available by the commissioner of finance on January 1, 2009, only after notification by the commissioner of human services to the commissioner of finance and to the chairs of the relevant house of representatives and senate finance and policy committees that the commissioner initiated a separate treatment program for persons in the Minnesota sex offenders program who are between the ages of 18 and 25 by January 1, 2008.

(b) Regardless of whether these appropriations are made available to the commissioner of human services, they shall be part of base level funding for the biennium beginning July 1, 2009.

**Nonfederal Share Transfers.** The nonfederal share of activities for which federal administrative reimbursement is appropriated to the commissioner may be transferred to the special revenue fund.

**TANF Maintenance of Effort.** (a) In order to meet the basic MOE requirements of the TANF block grant specified under Code of Federal Regulations, title 45, section 263.1, the commissioner may only report nonfederal money expended for allowable activities listed in the following clauses as TANF/MOE expenditures:

(1) MFIP cash, diversionary work program, and food assistance benefits under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 256J;

(2) the child care assistance programs under Minnesota Statutes, sections 119B.03 and 119B.05, and county child care administrative costs under Minnesota Statutes, section 119B.15;

(3) state and county MFIP administrative costs under Minnesota Statutes, chapters 256J and 256K;

(4) state, county, and tribal MFIP employment services under Minnesota Statutes, chapters 256J and 256K;

(5) expenditures made on behalf of noncitizen MFIP recipients who qualify for the medical assistance without federal financial participation program under Minnesota Statutes, section 256B.06, subdivision 4, paragraphs (d), (e), and (j); and

(6) qualifying working family credit expenditures under Minnesota Statutes, section 290.0671.

(b) The commissioner shall ensure that sufficient qualified nonfederal expenditures are made each year to meet the state's TANF/MOE requirements. For the activities listed in paragraph (a), clauses (2) to (6), the commissioner may only report



expenditures that are excluded from the definition of assistance under Code of Federal Regulations, title 45, section 260.31.

(c) The commissioner shall ensure that the MOE used by the commissioner of finance for the February and November forecasts required under Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.103, contains expenditures under paragraph (a), clause (1), equal to at least 16 percent of the total required under Code of Federal Regulations, title 45, section 263.1.

(d) Minnesota Statutes, section 256.011, subdivision 3, which requires that federal grants or aids secured or obtained under that subdivision be used to reduce any direct appropriations provided by law, does not apply if the grants or aids are federal TANF funds.

(e) Notwithstanding any contrary provision in this article, this rider expires June 30, 2011.

**Working Family Credit Expenditures as TANF/MOE.** The commissioner may claim as TANF/MOE up to \$6,707,000 per year for fiscal year 2008 through fiscal year 2011. Notwithstanding any contrary provision in this article, this rider expires June 30, 2011.

**Additional Working Family Credit Expenditures to be Claimed for TANF/MOE.** In addition to the amounts provided in this section, the commissioner may count the following amounts of working family credit expenditure as TANF/MOE:

- (1) fiscal year 2008, \$11,126,000;
- (2) fiscal year 2009, \$25,788,000;
- (3) fiscal year 2010, \$13,113,000; and
- (4) fiscal year 2011, \$11,414,000.

Notwithstanding any contrary provision in this article, this rider expires June 30, 2011.

**Capitation Rate Increase.** Of the health care access fund appropriations to the University

of Minnesota in the higher education omnibus appropriation bill, \$2,157,000 in fiscal year 2008 and \$2,157,000 in fiscal year 2009 are to be used to increase the capitation payments under Minnesota Statutes, section 256B.69.

**Subd. 2. Agency Management**

The amounts that may be spent from the appropriation for each purpose are as follows:

**(a) Financial Operations**

	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>	
<u>General</u>	<u>7,165,000</u>	<u>7,652,000</u>
<u>Health Care Access</u>	<u>799,000</u>	<u>804,000</u>
<u>Federal TANF</u>	<u>122,000</u>	<u>122,000</u>

**(b) Legal and Regulation Operations**

	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>	
<u>General</u>	<u>12,352,000</u>	<u>12,439,000</u>
<u>State Government</u>		
<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>427,000</u>	<u>440,000</u>
<u>Health Care Access</u>	<u>900,000</u>	<u>926,000</u>
<u>Federal TANF</u>	<u>100,000</u>	<u>100,000</u>

**Base Adjustment.** The general fund base is \$12,376,000 for each of fiscal years 2010 and 2011.

**(c) Management Operations**

	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>	
<u>General</u>	<u>4,332,000</u>	<u>4,419,000</u>
<u>Health Care Access</u>	<u>236,000</u>	<u>243,000</u>

**(d) Information Technology Operations**

	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>	
<u>General</u>	<u>23,949,000</u>	<u>23,922,000</u>
<u>Health Care Access</u>	<u>6,015,000</u>	<u>5,972,000</u>

**Subd. 3. Revenue and Pass-Through Expenditures**

<u>Federal TANF</u>	<u>59,246,000</u>	<u>61,680,000</u>
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**TANF Transfer to Federal Child Care and Development Fund.** The following TANF fund amounts are appropriated to the commissioner for the purposes of MFIP and transition year child care under Minnesota Statutes, section 119B.05:

- (1) fiscal year 2008, \$2,737,000;
- (2) fiscal year 2009, \$4,783,000;
- (3) fiscal year 2010, \$4,789,000; and
- (4) fiscal year 2011, \$4,821,000.

The commissioner shall authorize transfer of sufficient TANF funds to the federal child care and development fund to meet this appropriation and shall ensure that all transferred funds are expended according the federal child care and development fund regulations.

**Subd. 4. Children and Economic Assistance Grants**

The amounts that may be spent from this appropriation for each purpose are as follows:

**(a) MFIP/DWP Grants**

	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>	
<u>General</u>	<u>62,069,000</u>	<u>62,514,000</u>
<u>Federal TANF</u>	<u>78,402,000</u>	<u>85,221,000</u>

**(b) Support Services Grants**

	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>	
<u>General</u>	<u>8,715,000</u>	<u>8,715,000</u>
<u>Federal TANF</u>	<u>113,429,000</u>	<u>115,902,000</u>

**TANF Prior Appropriation Cancellation.** Notwithstanding Laws 2001, First Special Session chapter 9, article 17, section 2, subdivision 11, paragraph (b), any

unexpended TANF funds appropriated to the commissioner to contract with the Board of Trustees of Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, to provide tuition waivers to employees of health care and human service providers that are members of qualifying consortia operating under Minnesota Statutes, sections 116L.10 to 116L.15, must cancel at the end of fiscal year 2007.

**MFIP Pilot Program.** Of the TANF appropriation, \$100,000 in fiscal year 2008 and \$750,000 in fiscal year 2009 are for a grant to the Stearns-Benton Employment and Training Council for the Workforce U pilot program. Base level funding for this program shall be \$750,000 in 2010 and \$0 in 2011.

**Supported Work.** (1) Of the TANF appropriation, \$5,468,000 in fiscal year 2008 and \$7,291,000 in fiscal year 2009 are for supported work for MFIP participants, to be allocated to counties and tribes based on the criteria under clauses (2) and (3). Paid transitional work experience and other supported employment under this rider provides a continuum of employment assistance, including outreach and recruitment, program orientation and intake, testing and assessment, job development and marketing, preworksite training, supported worksite experience, job coaching, and postplacement follow-up, in addition to extensive case management and referral services.

(2) A county or tribe is eligible to receive an allocation under this rider if:

(i) the county or tribe is not meeting the federal work participation rate;

(ii) the county or tribe has participants who are required to perform work activities under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 256J, but are not meeting hourly work requirements; and

(iii) the county or tribe has assessed participants who have completed six weeks

of job search or are required to perform work activities and are not meeting the hourly requirements, and the county or tribe has determined that the participant would benefit from working in a supported work environment.

(3) A county or tribe may also be eligible for funds in order to contract for supplemental hours of paid work at the participant's child's place of education, child care location, or the child's physical or mental health treatment facility or office. This grant to counties and tribes is specifically for MFIP participants who need to work up to five hours more per week in order to meet the hourly work requirement, and the participant's employer cannot or will not offer more hours to the participant.

**Work Study.** Of the TANF appropriation, \$750,000 each year are to the commissioner to contract with the Minnesota Office of Higher Education for the biennium beginning July 1, 2007, for work study grants under Minnesota Statutes, section 136A.233, specifically for low-income individuals who receive assistance under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 256J, and for grants to opportunities industrialization centers.

**Integrated Service Projects.** \$2,500,000 in fiscal year 2008 and \$2,500,000 in fiscal year 2009 are appropriated from the TANF fund to the commissioner to fund the integrated services project for MFIP families.

**Base Adjustment.** The TANF base for fiscal year 2010 is \$115,902,000 and for fiscal year 2011 is \$115,152,000.

**(c) MFIP Child Care Assistance Grants**

<u>General</u>	<u>74,672,000</u>	<u>72,173,000</u>
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**(d) Basic Sliding Fee Child Care Assistance Grants**

<u>General</u>	<u>43,398,000</u>	<u>45,548,000</u>
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**Base Adjustment.** The general fund base is \$45,557,000 for fiscal year 2010 and \$45,535,000 for fiscal year 2011.

**At-Home Infant Care Program.** No funding shall be allocated to or spent on the at-home infant care program under Minnesota Statutes, section 119B.035.

**(e) Child Care Development Grants**

<u>General</u>	<u>4,365,000</u>	<u>4,365,000</u>
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**Child Care Services Grants.** Of this appropriation, \$1,000,000 each year are for the purpose of providing child care services grants under Minnesota Statutes, section 119B.21, subdivision 5. This appropriation is for the 2008-2009 biennium only, and does not increase the base funding.

**Early Childhood Professional Development System.** Of this appropriation, \$1,000,000 each year are for purposes of the early childhood professional development system, which increases the quality and continuum of professional development opportunities for child care practitioners. This appropriation is for the 2008-2009 biennium only, and does not increase the base funding.

**Family, Friend, and Neighbor Grant Program.** Of this appropriation, \$750,000 each year are for the family, friend, and neighbor grant program in article 1, section 94. Any balance in the first year does not cancel but is available in the second year. This appropriation is for the 2008-2009 biennium only, and does not increase the base funding.

**Increased Child Care Provider Connections.** (1) Of the general fund appropriation, \$100,000 each year are for the following purposes: \$50,000 each year is for a grant to Hennepin County, and \$50,000 each year is for a grant to Ramsey County. The two counties shall each contract with a nonprofit organization to work with the contracting county and county-based licensed family

child care providers to facilitate county-based information regarding family and children's resources and to make training and peer support available to licensed family child care providers consistent with clause (2). These appropriations are available until June 30, 2009, and shall not become part of base level funding for the biennium beginning July 1, 2009.

(2) Programs to improve child care provider connections to county services shall be established in Hennepin and Ramsey counties to:

(i) improve county contact activities with county-licensed family child care providers that facilitate utilization of county educational, social service, public health, and economic assistance services by eligible families, parents, and children using licensed family child care; and

(ii) support licensed family child care providers to qualify as quality-rated child care providers through peer support and coaching networks.

Hennepin and Ramsey Counties shall contract with a nonprofit organization under clause (1) that utilizes licensed family child care providers as contacts for families using licensed family child care and to provide peer support to licensed family child care providers.

(3) Hennepin and Ramsey Counties must evaluate (i) successful strategies for increasing contact with county-based licensed family child care providers and (ii) the effect of that increased contact and report their findings to the appropriate legislative committees by February 15, 2010.

**Base Adjustment.** The general fund base is \$1,515,000 for each of fiscal years 2010 and 2011.

**(f) Child Support Enforcement Grants**

<u>General</u>	<u>11,038,000</u>	<u>3,705,000</u>
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**Child Support Enforcement.** \$7,333,000 for fiscal year 2008 is to make grants to counties for child support enforcement programs to make up for the loss under the 2005 federal Deficit Reduction Act of federal matching funds for federal incentive funds passed on to the counties by the state.

This appropriation is available until June 30, 2009.

**(g) Children's Services Grants**

	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>	
<u>General</u>	<u>61,293,000</u>	<u>73,281,000</u>
<u>Health Care Access</u>	<u>250,000</u>	<u>-0-</u>
<u>TANF</u>	<u>250,000</u>	<u>730,000</u>

**Child Welfare Project.** Of this appropriation, \$10,000 in fiscal year 2008 and \$390,000 in fiscal year 2009 from the TANF fund and \$720,000 in fiscal year 2009 from the general fund are for expanding the American Indian child welfare project under Minnesota Statutes, section 256.01, subdivision 14b, to include the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians Tribe, provided the tribe meets the criteria in Minnesota Statutes, section 256.01, subdivision 14b.

**Grants for Programs Serving Young Parents.** Of the TANF fund appropriation, \$140,000 each year is for a grant to a program or programs that provide comprehensive services through a private, nonprofit agency to young parents in Hennepin County who have dropped out of school and are receiving public assistance. The program administrator shall report annually to the commissioner on skills development, education, job training, and job placement outcomes for program participants.

**County Allocations for Rate Increases.** County Children and Community Services Act



allocations shall be increased by \$321,000 effective October 1, 2007, and \$980,000 effective October 1, 2008, to help counties pay for the rate adjustments to day training and habilitation providers for participants paid by county social service funds. Notwithstanding the provisions of Minnesota Statutes, section 256M.40, the allocation to a county shall be based on the county's proportion of social services spending for day training and habilitation services as determined in the most recent social services expenditure and grant reconciliation report.

**Privatized Adoption Grants.** Federal reimbursement for privatized adoption grant and foster care recruitment grant expenditures is appropriated to the commissioner for adoption grants and foster care and adoption administrative purposes.

**Adoption Assistance Incentive Grants.** Federal funds available during fiscal year 2008 and fiscal year 2009 for the adoption incentive grants are appropriated to the commissioner for these purposes.

**Adoption Assistance and Relative Custody Assistance.** The commissioner may transfer unencumbered appropriation balances for adoption assistance and relative custody assistance between fiscal years and between programs.

**Crisis Nurseries.**Of the general fund appropriation, \$1,100,000 each year are for the crisis nurseries program. Of this amount, \$100,000 each year are to be made available for capacity development and technical support for crisis nurseries.

**Children's Mental Health Grants.** Of the general fund appropriation,\$3,413,000 in fiscal year 2008 and\$6,825,000 in fiscal year 2009 are for children's mental health grants. The purpose of these grants is to increase and maintain the state's children's mental health service capacity, especially for school-based mental health services. The commissioner

shall require grantees to utilize all available third party reimbursement sources as a condition of using state grant funds. At least 15 percent of these funds shall be used to encourage efficiencies through early intervention services. At least another 15 percent shall be used to provide respite care services for children with severe emotional disturbance at risk of out-of-home placement.

**Mental Health Crisis Services.** Of the general fund appropriation,\$1,278,000 in fiscal year 2008 and\$2,850,000 in fiscal year 2009 are for statewide funding of children's mental health crisis services. Providers must utilize all available funding streams.

**Children's Mental Health Evidence-Based and Best Practices.** Of the general fund appropriation,\$375,000 in fiscal year 2008 and\$750,000 in fiscal year 2009 are for children's mental health evidence-based and best practices including, but not limited to: Adolescent Integrated Dual Diagnosis Treatment services; school-based mental health services; co-location of mental health and physical health care, and; the use of technological resources to better inform diagnosis and development of treatment plan development by mental health professionals. The commissioner shall require grantees to utilize all available third-party reimbursement sources as a condition of using state grant funds.

**Culturally Specific Mental Health Treatment Grants.** Of the general fund appropriation,\$75,000 in fiscal year 2008 and\$300,000 in fiscal year 2009 are for children's mental health grants to support increased availability of mental health services for persons from cultural and ethnic minorities within the state. The commissioner shall use at least 20 percent of these funds to help members of cultural and ethnic minority communities to become qualified mental health professionals and practitioners. The commissioner shall assist

grantees to meet third-party credentialing requirements and require them to utilize all available third-party reimbursement sources as a condition of using state grant funds.

**Mental Health Services for Children with Special Treatment Needs.** Of the general fund appropriation, \$50,000 in fiscal year 2008 and \$200,000 in fiscal year 2009 are for children's mental health grants to support increased availability of mental health services for children with special treatment needs. These shall include, but not be limited to: victims of trauma, including children subjected to abuse or neglect, veterans and their families, and refugee populations; persons with complex treatment needs, such as eating disorders; and those with low incidence disorders. Of this amount, \$150,000 in fiscal year 2008 and \$250,000 in fiscal year 2009 must be directed to programs serving victims of trauma.

**MFIP and Children's Mental Health Pilot Project.** Of the TANF appropriation, \$100,000 in fiscal year 2008 and \$200,000 in fiscal year 2009 are to fund the MFIP and children's mental health pilot project. Of these amounts, up to \$100,000 may be expended on evaluation of this pilot.

**Regional Children's Mental Health Initiative.** Of the general fund appropriation, \$700,000 each year are to fund the Regional Children's Mental Health Initiative pilot project. This is a onetime appropriation.

**Fetal Alcohol Syndrome.** Of the general fund appropriation, \$75,000 each year is to the commissioner to transfer as grants to three programs that provide services to reduce fetal alcohol syndrome under Minnesota Statutes, section 254A.171. The three program grantees are the University of Minnesota, the Meeker-McLeod-Sibley Community, and the American Indian Family Center. This appropriation shall become part of the base appropriation.

**Prenatal Alcohol or Drug Use.** Of the general fund appropriation, \$75,000 each year is to award grants beginning July 1, 2007, to programs that provide services under Minnesota Statutes, section 254A.171, in Pine, Kanabec, and Carlton Counties. This appropriation shall become part of the base appropriation.

**Base Adjustment.** The general fund base is \$71,399,000 in fiscal year 2010 and \$71,402,000 in fiscal year 2011.

The TANF fund base is \$722,000 in each year of the 2010-2011 biennium.

**(h) Children and Community Services Grants**

<u>General</u>	<u>104,911,000</u>	<u>69,371,000</u>
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**Base Adjustment.** The general fund base is \$69,616,000 in each of fiscal years 2010 and 2011.

**Targeted Case Management Temporary Funding.** Of the general fund appropriation, \$36,134,000 in fiscal year 2008 is allocated to counties and tribes affected by reductions in targeted case management federal Medicaid revenue as a result of the provisions in the federal Deficit Reduction Act of 2005, Public Law 109-171. The commissioner shall distribute the funds proportionate to each affected county or tribe's targeted case management federal earnings for calendar year 2005. Prior to distribution of funds, the commissioner shall estimate and certify the amount by which the federal regulations will reduce case management revenue over the 2008-2009 biennium. The commissioner may provide grants up to the amount of the estimated reduction, not to exceed \$36,134,000 for the biennium. The commissioner may determine the timing and frequency of payments to counties. These funds are available in either year of the biennium. Counties shall use these funds to pay for social service-related costs, but the

funds are not subject to provisions of the Children and Community Services Act grant under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 256M.

**(i) General Assistance Grants**

<u>General</u>	<u>37,876,000</u>	<u>38,253,000</u>
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**General Assistance Standard.** The commissioner shall set the monthly standard of assistance for general assistance units consisting of an adult recipient who is childless and unmarried or living apart from parents or a legal guardian at \$203. The commissioner may reduce this amount according to Laws 1997, chapter 85, article 3, section 54.

**Emergency General Assistance.** The amount appropriated for emergency general assistance funds is limited to no more than \$7,889,812 in fiscal year 2008 and \$7,889,812 in fiscal year 2009. Funds to counties must be allocated by the commissioner using the allocation method specified in Minnesota Statutes, section 256D.06.

**(j) Minnesota Supplemental Aid Grants**

<u>General</u>	<u>30,505,000</u>	<u>30,812,000</u>
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**Emergency Minnesota Supplemental Aid Funds.** The amount appropriated for emergency Minnesota supplemental aid funds is limited to no more than \$1,100,000 in fiscal year 2008 and \$1,100,000 in fiscal year 2009. Funds to counties must be allocated by the commissioner using the allocation method specified in Minnesota Statutes, section 256D.46.

**(k) Group Residential Housing Grants**

<u>General</u>	<u>91,181,000</u>	<u>98,879,000</u>
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**People Incorporated.** Of the general fund appropriation, \$460,000 each year is to augment community support and mental

health services provided to individuals residing in facilities under Minnesota Statutes, section 256I.05, subdivision 1m.

**(1) Other Children and Economic Assistance Grants**

<u>General</u>	<u>21,547,000</u>	<u>19,433,000</u>
<u>Federal TANF</u>	<u>1,500,000</u>	<u>1,500,000</u>

**Base Adjustment.** The general fund base shall be \$19,708,000 in fiscal year 2010 and \$19,208,000 in fiscal year 2011.

**Homeless and Runaway Youth.** Of the general fund appropriation, \$1,639,000 the first year and \$1,375,000 the second year are for the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act under Minnesota Statutes, section 256K.45. Funds shall be spent in each area of the continuum of care to ensure that programs are meeting the greatest need. The base is decreased by \$425,000 each year in fiscal year 2010 and fiscal year 2011.

**Transitional Housing and Emergency Services.**

(1) Of the general fund appropriation, \$750,000 the first year is for transitional housing programs under Minnesota Statutes, section 256E.33. Up to ten percent of this appropriation may be used for housing and services which extend beyond 24 months; and

(2) \$600,000 the first year is added to the base for emergency services grants under Laws 1997, chapter 162, article 3, section 7.

**Foodshelf Programs.** Of the general fund appropriation, \$325,000 each year is for foodshelf programs under Minnesota Statutes, section 256E.34.

**Minnesota Community Action Grants.** (a) Of the general fund appropriation, \$250,000 each year is for the purposes of Minnesota community action grants under Minnesota Statutes, sections 256E.30 to 256E.32. Base level funding for this appropriation for the

biennium beginning July 1, 2009, shall be \$500,000 each year.

(b) Of the TANF appropriation, \$1,500,000 each year is for community action agencies for auto repairs, auto loans, and auto purchase grants to individuals who are eligible to receive benefits under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 256J, or who have lost eligibility for benefits under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 256J, due to earnings in the prior 12 months.

(c) Money appropriated under paragraphs (a) and (b) that is not spent in the first year does not cancel but is available for the second year.

**Tenant Hotline Services Program.** Of the general fund appropriation, \$50,000 each year is for a grant to HOME Line for the tenant hotline services program. This is a onetime appropriation.

**Subd. 5. Children and Economic Assistance Management**

The amounts that may be spent from the appropriation for each purpose are as follows:

**(a) Children and Economic Assistance Administration**

	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>	
<u>General</u>	<u>9,888,000</u>	<u>9,956,000</u>
<u>Federal TANF</u>	<u>1,196,000</u>	<u>1,196,000</u>

**Child Care Licensing.** Of the general fund appropriation, \$116,000 in fiscal year 2008 and \$223,000 in fiscal year 2009 are for purposes of completing background studies for family and group family child care providers under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 245C.

**Base Adjustment.** The general fund base is \$9,829,000 in fiscal year 2010 and \$9,741,000 in fiscal year 2011.

**(b) Children and Economic Assistance Operations**

<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>		
<u>General</u>	<u>35,667,000</u>	<u>36,023,000</u>
<u>Health Care Access</u>	<u>350,000</u>	<u>361,000</u>

**Financial Institution Data Match and Payment of Fees.** The commissioner is authorized to allocate up to \$310,000 each year in fiscal years 2008 and 2009 from the PRISM special revenue account to make payments to financial institutions in exchange for performing data matches between account information held by financial institutions and the public authority's database of child support obligors as authorized by Minnesota Statutes, section 13B.06, subdivision 7.

**Base Adjustment.** The general fund base is \$35,967,000 in each of fiscal years 2010 and 2011.

**Subd. 6. Basic Health Care Grants**

The amounts that may be spent from the appropriation for each purpose are as follows:

**(a) MinnesotaCare Grants**

<u>Health Care Access</u>	<u>391,818,000</u>	<u>470,951,000</u>
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**HealthMatch Delay.** Of this appropriation, \$2,560,000 the first year and \$21,735,000 the second year are for the MinnesotaCare program costs related to a six-month delay in implementation of the HealthMatch program.

**(b) MA Basic Health Care - Families and Children**

<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>		
<u>General</u>	<u>740,771,000</u>	<u>843,211,000</u>
<u>Health Care Access</u>	<u>1,672,000</u>	<u>-0-</u>

**(c) MA Basic Health Care - Elderly and Disabled**

<u>General</u>	<u>997,868,000</u>	<u>1,106,356,000</u>
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**Provider-Directed Care Coordination.** In



addition to medical assistance reimbursement under Minnesota Statutes, sections 256B.0625 and 256B.76, clinics participating in provider-directed care coordination under Minnesota Statutes, section 256B.0625, also receive a monthly payment per client when the clinic serves an eligible client. The payments across the program must average \$50 per month per client.

The commissioner must serve: an additional 50 persons in the MR/RC waiver program beginning in fiscal year 2008.

**(d) General Assistance Medical Care Grants**

<u>General</u>	<u>239,215,000</u>	<u>251,729,000</u>
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**(e) Other Health Care Grants**

<u>General</u>	<u>1,621,000</u>	<u>1,671,000</u>
<u>Health Care Access</u>	<u>150,000</u>	<u>150,000</u>

**Community-Based Health Care Demonstration Project.** Of the general fund appropriation, \$212,000 each year is to be transferred to the commissioner of health for the demonstration project grant described in Minnesota Statutes, section 62Q.80, subdivision 1a. This appropriation shall remain part of base level funding until June 30, 2012. Notwithstanding any contrary provision in this article, this rider expires July 1, 2012.

**Care Coordination Pilot Projects.** Of the general fund appropriation, \$750,000 in fiscal year 2009 is for the health care pilot projects for children and adults with complex health care needs. Base level funding for this program is \$750,000 in 2010 and \$0 in 2011.

**Patient Incentive Programs.** Of the general fund appropriation, \$500,000 in fiscal year 2008 and \$500,000 in fiscal year 2009 are for patient incentive programs.

**Base Adjustment.** The general fund base is \$1,671,000 in fiscal year 2010 and \$921,000

in fiscal year 2011.

**Oral Health Care Innovations Grants.** (a) Of the general fund appropriation, \$400,000 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2007, is to award competitive oral health care innovations grants to organizations described in Minnesota Statutes, section 256B.76, paragraph (b), clause (4), or coalitions of such organizations, providing access to oral health services for low-income and uninsured persons. The commissioner shall award one grant for a project to develop a nonprofit dental clinic serving public program recipients and uninsured persons in Beltrami County; one grant for the maintenance of nonprofit dental clinics providing oral health care services to children ages birth to 18 in St. Louis County; and one grant for the bright smiles program to increase access to oral health care for low-income and immigrant children, ages birth to five years, and their families in underserved areas in Minneapolis.

(b) This grant shall not become part of base level funding.

**State Health Policies Grant.** Of the general fund appropriation, \$300,000 in fiscal year 2008 is to provide a grant to a research center associated with a safety net hospital and county-affiliated health system to develop the capabilities necessary for evaluating the effects of changes in state health policies on low-income and uninsured individuals, including the impact on state health care program costs, health outcomes, cost-shifting to different units and levels of government, and utilization patterns including use of emergency room care and hospitalization rates. The center shall report on the use of this money by December 1, 2008, to the chairs of the senate and house of representatives committees with relevant jurisdiction.

**Subd. 7. Health Care Management**

The amounts that may be spent from the

appropriation for each purpose are as follows:

**(a) Health Care Policy Administration**

	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>	
<u>General</u>	<u>10,993,000</u>	<u>11,370,000</u>
<u>Health Care Access</u>	<u>1,897,000</u>	<u>3,082,000</u>

**Minnesota Senior Health Options Reimbursement.** Federal administrative reimbursement resulting from the Minnesota senior health options project is appropriated to the commissioner for this activity.

**Disproportionate Share Hospital Payment Formulas.** The commissioner is prohibited from altering formulas for disbursement of disproportionate share hospital funds under the disproportionate share hospital program by rule, bulletin, or any other administrative method without explicit legislative authority.

**Utilization Review.** Federal administrative reimbursement resulting from prior authorization and inpatient admission certification by a professional review organization is dedicated to the commissioner for these purposes. A portion of these funds must be used for activities to decrease unnecessary pharmaceutical costs in medical assistance.

**Base Adjustment.** The health care access fund base is \$4,049,000 in fiscal year 2010 and \$4,065,000 in fiscal year 2011, for health care administration.

**Base Adjustment.** The general fund base is \$11,164,000 in fiscal year 2010 and \$10,770,000 in fiscal year 2011.

**(b) Health Care Operations**

	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>	
<u>General</u>	<u>21,941,000</u>	<u>21,874,000</u>
<u>Health Care Access</u>	<u>22,355,000</u>	<u>23,007,000</u>

**Base Adjustment.** The general fund base is

\$21,839,000 in each of fiscal years 2010 and 2011. The health care access fund base is \$24,024,000 in fiscal year 2010 and \$23,627,000 in fiscal year 2011.

**Outreach Funding.** Of these appropriations, the following amounts are to the commissioner for the Minnesota health care outreach program under Minnesota Statutes, section 256.962:

(1) \$950,000 the first year and \$1,000,000 the second year from the health care access fund for a statewide outreach campaign under Minnesota Statutes, section 256.962, subdivision 1;

(2) \$700,000 each year from the general fund and \$300,000 each year from the health care access fund for the incentive program under Minnesota Statutes, section 256.962, subdivision 5; and

(3) \$150,000 each year from the health care access fund appropriation for other health care grants for a grant to a nonprofit organization to provide a statewide toll-free number under Minnesota Statutes, section 256.962, subdivision 4.

**Subd. 8. Continuing Care Grants**

The amounts that may be spent from the appropriation for each purpose are as follows:

**(a) Aging and Adult Services Grants**

<u>General</u>	<u>14,957,000</u>	<u>15,390,000</u>
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**Information and Assistance Reimbursement.** Federal administrative reimbursement obtained from information and assistance services provided by the Senior LinkAge Line to people who are identified as eligible for medical assistance is appropriated to the commissioner for this activity.

**Senior Companion Program.** Of this appropriation, \$83,000 each year is for the

senior companion program under Minnesota Statutes, section 256.977.

**Volunteer Senior Citizens.** Of this appropriation,\$84,000 each year is for the volunteer programs for retired senior citizens under Minnesota Statutes, section 256.9753.

**Foster Grandparent Program.** Of this appropriation,\$83,000 each year is for the foster grandparent program in Minnesota Statutes, section 256.976.

**Senior Nutrition.** Of this appropriation, \$250,000 each year is for the senior nutrition programs under Minnesota Statutes, section 256.9752. The commissioner shall give priority to increase services to: (1) persons facing language or cultural barriers, (2) persons with special diets, (3) persons living in isolated rural areas, and (4) other hard-to-serve populations.

**Kinship Navigator Program.** Of the general fund appropriation, \$175,000 in fiscal year 2008 and \$175,000 in fiscal year 2009 is to the commissioner for a two-year demonstration grant, to be transferred to a nonprofit statewide organization advocating for, supporting, and providing information and resources to individuals raising their grandchildren, other related children, or children of friends for purposes of providing support to grandparents or relatives who are raising kinship children. The demonstration grant sites must include a central site in the metropolitan area and another site in the Bemidji region. The support must provide a one-stop services program. The services that may be provided include, but are not limited to, legal services, education, information, family activities, support groups, mental health access, advocacy, mentors, and information related to foster care licensing. The funds may also be used for a media campaign to inform kinship families about available information and services, support sites, and other program development. For the

biennium beginning July 1, 2009, base level funding for these grants shall be \$160,000 each year.

**Reverse Mortgage Incentive Program.** Of the general fund appropriation for the biennium beginning July 1, 2007, the following amounts are for the purposes listed:

(1) \$120,000 the first year and \$120,000 the second year are for costs associated with the reverse mortgage incentive program; and

(2) \$39,000 each year is to be transferred to the commissioner of the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency for the purposes of Minnesota Statutes, section 462A.05.

**Base Adjustment.** The general fund base is \$15,554,000 in each of fiscal years 2010 and 2011.

**(b) Alternative Care Grants**

<u>General</u>	<u>50,012,000</u>	<u>52,099,000</u>
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**Alternative Care Transfer.** Any money allocated to the alternative care program that is not spent for the purposes indicated does not cancel but is transferred to the medical assistance account.

**Base Adjustment.** The general fund base is \$52,940,000 in fiscal year 2010 and \$53,167,000 in fiscal year 2011 for alternative care grants.

**(c) Medical Assistance Grants - Long-Term Care Facilities**

<u>General</u>	<u>499,615,000</u>	<u>506,667,000</u>
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**Long-Term Care Consultation Funding Increase.** For the rate year beginning October 1, 2008, the county long-term care consultation allocations in Minnesota Statutes, section 256B.0911, subdivision 6, must be increased based on the number of transitional long-term care consultation

visits projected by the commissioner in each county. For the rate year beginning October 1, 2009, final allocations must be determined based on the average between the actual number of transitional long-term care visits that were conducted in the prior 12-month period and the projected number of consultations that will be provided in the rate year beginning October 1, 2009. Notwithstanding any contrary provision in this article, this paragraph expires June 30, 2010.

**Nursing Facility Sprinkler Systems.** Of the general fund appropriation, \$2,500,000 the first year is to reimburse the costs of nursing facility sprinkler systems under Minnesota Statutes, section 256B.434, subdivision 4, paragraph (e). Any portion of this appropriation not spent in the first year shall not cancel but shall be available for the second year.

**Nursing Home Moratorium Exceptions.** During fiscal year 2008, the commissioner of health may approve moratorium exception projects under Minnesota Statutes, section 144A.073, for which the full annualized state share of medical assistance costs does not exceed \$3,000,000. During fiscal year 2009, the commissioner of health may approve moratorium exception projects under Minnesota Statutes, section 144A.073, for which the full annualized state share of medical assistance costs does not exceed \$3,000,000 less the amount approved during the first year. Priority shall be given to proposals that entail:

(1) complete building replacement in conjunction with reductions in the number of beds in a county, with greater weight given to projects in counties with a greater than average number of beds per 1,000 elderly;

(2) technology improvements;

(3) improvements in life safety;

(4) construction of nursing facilities that are part of senior services campuses; and

(5) improvements in the work environment.

**(d) Medical Assistance Grants - Long-Term Care Waivers and Home Care Grants**

<u>General</u>	<u>961,966,000</u>	<u>1,085,510,000</u>
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**(e) Mental Health Grants**

	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>	
<u>General</u>	<u>57,609,000</u>	<u>62,656,000</u>
<u>Health Care Access</u>	<u>750,000</u>	<u>750,000</u>
<u>Lottery Prize</u>	<u>1,933,000</u>	<u>1,633,000</u>

**County CADI allocation adjustment. (1)**

The commissioner shall adjust 2007 home and community-based allocations under Minnesota Statutes, section 256B.49, to qualifying counties that transferred persons to the community alternatives for disabled individuals (CADI) waiver program under Laws 2006, chapter 282, article 20, section 35. The adjustment shall reflect the amount that county-authorized funding for CADI waiver services exceeded the allowable amount as shown in the Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS) on March 1, 2007.

(2) A county that may qualify under paragraph (1) shall apply to the commissioner by June 10, 2007. Following a review of the county request and the MMIS documentation, the commissioner shall adjust the county allocation, as appropriate, by June 25, 2007.

(3) The amounts provided to a county under this section shall become part of the county's base level state allocation for the CADI waiver for the biennium beginning July 1, 2007.

(4) This rider is effective the day following final enactment.



**Mental Health Crisis Services.** Of the general fund appropriation,\$1,278,000 in fiscal year 2008 and\$3,278,000 in fiscal year 2009 are for statewide funding of adult mental health crisis services. Providers must utilize all available funding streams.

**Adult Mental Health Evidence-Based and Best Practices.** Of the general fund appropriation,\$375,000 in fiscal year 2008 and\$750,000 in fiscal year 2009 are for adult mental health evidence-based and best practices including, but not limited to, Assertive Community Treatment and Integrated Dual Diagnosis Treatment services. The commissioner shall require grantees to utilize all available third-party reimbursement sources as a condition of using state grant funds.

**Culturally Specific Mental Health Treatment Grants.** Of the general fund appropriation,\$75,000 in fiscal year 2008 and\$300,000 in fiscal year 2009 are for adult mental health grants to support increased availability of mental health services for persons from cultural and ethnic minorities within the state. The commissioner shall use at least 20 percent of these funds to help members of cultural and ethnic minority communities to become qualified mental health professionals and practitioners. The commissioner shall assist grantees to meet third-party credentialing requirements and require them to utilize all available third-party reimbursement sources as a condition of using state grant funds.

**Mental Health Services for Adults with Special Treatment Needs.** Of the general fund appropriation,\$50,000 in fiscal year 2008 and\$200,000 in fiscal year 2009 are for adult mental health grants to support increased availability of mental health services for adults with special treatment needs. These adults shall include, but not be limited to: victims of trauma, including persons subjected to abuse or neglect, veterans and

their families, and refugee populations; person's with complex treatment needs, such as eating disorders; and those with low incidence disorders.

**Supportive Housing Services for Adults with Mental Illness.** Of the general fund appropriation,\$750,000 in fiscal year 2008 and\$1,500,000 in fiscal year 2009 are for adult mental health grants to support increased availability of a range of housing options with supports for persons with serious mental illness.

**National Council on Problem Gambling. (1)** Of the appropriation from the lottery prize fund, \$225,000 each year is for a grant to the state affiliate recognized by the National Council on Problem Gambling. The affiliate must provide services to increase public awareness of problem gambling, education, and training for individuals and organizations providing effective treatment services to problem gamblers and their families, and research relating to problem gambling. These services must be complementary to and not duplicative of the services provided through the problem gambling program administered by the commissioner of human services. This grant does not prevent the commissioner from regular monitoring and oversight of the grant or the ability to reallocate the funds to other services within the problem gambling program for nonperformance of duties by the grantee.

(2) Of this appropriation, \$100,000 in fiscal year 2008 and \$100,000 in fiscal year 2009 are contingent on the contribution of nonstate matching funds. Matching funds may be either cash or qualifying in-kind contributions. The commissioner of finance may disburse the state portion of the matching funds in increments of \$25,000 upon receipt of a commitment for an equal amount of matching nonstate funds. The general fund base shall be \$100,000 in fiscal year 2010 and \$100,000 in fiscal year 2011.

(3) Of the lottery prize fund appropriation, \$100,000 in fiscal year 2008 is for a grant or grants to be awarded competitively to develop programs and services for problem gambling treatment, prevention, and education in immigrant communities. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2009, at which time the project must be completed and final products delivered, unless an earlier completion date is specified in the work program.

**Compulsive Gambling.** Of the lottery prize fund appropriation, \$300,000 in fiscal year 2008 and \$100,000 in fiscal year 2009 are for purposes of compulsive gambling education, assessment, and treatment under Minnesota Statutes, section 245.98.

**Compulsive Gambling Study.** Of the lottery prize fund appropriation, \$100,000 in fiscal year 2008 is to continue the study currently being done on compulsive gambling treatment effectiveness and long-term effects of gambling.

**Base Adjustment.** The general fund base is \$62,940,000 in each of fiscal years 2010 and 2011.

**Base Adjustment.** The lottery prize fund base is \$1,508,000 in each of fiscal years 2010 and 2011.

**(f) Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Grants**

<u>General</u>	<u>1,932,000</u>	<u>2,368,000</u>
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**Hearing Loss Mentors.** Of the general fund appropriation, \$40,000 each year is to provide mentors who have a hearing loss to parents of newly identified infants and children with hearing loss.

**Base Adjustment.** The general fund base is \$2,387,000 in each of fiscal years 2010 and 2011.

**(g) Chemical Dependency Entitlement Grants**

<u>General</u>	<u>78,618,000</u>	<u>88,957,000</u>
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**(h) Chemical Dependency Nonentitlement Grants**

<u>General</u>	<u>1,605,000</u>	<u>1,805,000</u>
<u>TANF</u>	<u>150,000</u>	<u>150,000</u>

**Alcohol and Drug Intervention.** Of this appropriation, \$300,000 each year from the general fund and \$150,000 each year from the TANF fund are to the commissioner for the purposes of a program in Ramsey County that provides early intervention efforts designed to discourage pregnant women from using alcohol and illegal drugs. The appropriation shall not become part of base level funding and is available until spent.

**Long-Term Homelessness.** Of the general fund appropriation, \$1,900,000 each year is for implementation of programs to address long-term homelessness.

**Methamphetamine Abuse Grants.** Of the general fund appropriation, \$175,000 in the first year and \$375,000 in the second year are for grants to existing programs that treat methamphetamine abuse, and the abuse of other substances in Carlton, Faribault, Martin, Olmsted, and Anoka Counties, that received grant funds under Laws 2005, chapter 136, article 1, section 9, subdivision 6. The commissioner shall administer the grants to programs that the commissioner deems successful, and may discontinue grants to programs after an evaluation of the program and a determination by the commissioner that the program should no longer receive funds. This appropriation shall not become part of base level funding.

**Base Adjustment.** The general fund base is \$1,055,000 in each of fiscal years 2010 and 2011.

**(i) Other Continuing Care Grants**

<u>General</u>	<u>21,889,000</u>	<u>17,856,000</u>
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**Family Support Program; SILS.** The commissioner must serve an additional 100 persons in fiscal year 2008 and 200 persons in fiscal year 2009 in the family support grant program under Minnesota Statutes, section 252.32, and an additional 100 persons in fiscal year 2008 and 200 persons in fiscal year 2009 in the semi-independent living services program under Minnesota Statutes, section 252.275.

**Native American Juvenile Treatment Center.** Of the general fund appropriation, \$50,000 is to conduct a feasibility study of and to predesign a Native American juvenile treatment center on or near the White Earth Reservation. The facility must house and treat Native American juveniles and provide culturally specific programming to juveniles placed in the treatment center. The commissioner of human services may contract with parties who have experience in the design and construction of juvenile treatment centers to assist in the feasibility study and predesign. On or before January 15, 2008, the commissioner shall present the results of the feasibility study and the predesign of the facility to the chairs of house of representatives and senate committees having jurisdiction over human services finance, public safety finance, and capital investment.

**Leech Lake Youth Treatment Center.** Of the general fund appropriation, \$75,000 each year are for a grant to the Leech Lake Youth Treatment Center project partners, in order to pay the salaries and other directly related costs associated with the development of this project. This is a onetime appropriation.

**Repayment.** Of the general fund appropriation, \$4,302,000 the first year is to repay the amount of overspending in the waiver

program for persons with developmental disabilities incurred by Fillmore, Steele, and St. Louis Counties in calendar years 2004 and 2005.

**Department of Employment and Economic Development Transfer.** For fiscal year 2008, the commissioner of finance shall transfer \$200,000 from the methamphetamine abatement loan fund to the commissioner of human services for methamphetamine treatment programs.

**Base Adjustment.** The general fund base is \$18,228,000 in fiscal year 2010 and \$18,282,000 in fiscal year 2011 for other continuing care grants.

**Subd. 9. Continuing Care Management**

<u>General</u>	<u>19,722,000</u>	<u>19,914,000</u>
<u>State Government</u>		
<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>122,000</u>	<u>125,000</u>
<u>Health Care Access</u>	<u>293,000</u>	<u>-0-</u>
<u>Lottery Prize</u>	<u>252,000</u>	<u>157,000</u>

**Quality Assurance System Expansion.** Of the general fund appropriation, \$200,000 in fiscal year 2008 and \$200,000 in fiscal year 2009 are to develop a statewide quality assurance and improvement system under Minnesota Statutes, section 256B.096, for persons receiving disability services. Any unspent portion of the appropriation for the first year shall not cancel but shall be available for the second year. These are onetime appropriations.

**Base Adjustment.** The general fund base is \$19,745,000 in fiscal year 2010 and \$19,835,000 in fiscal year 2011.

**Disability Linkage Line.** Of the general fund appropriation, \$469,000 in fiscal year 2008 and \$626,000 in fiscal year 2009 are to establish and maintain the disability linkage

line.

**Home Health Reimbursement Study.** (1) Of the general fund appropriation, \$100,000 in fiscal year 2008 is to the commissioner to contract with a Minnesota-based, nonprofit quality improvement organization that collaborates with providers and consumers in health improvement activities, for the purpose of conducting an independent analysis of the reimbursement methodologies for home health services provided to enrollees in the Minnesota senior health options and Minnesota disability health options programs.

(2) The analysis of reimbursement methodologies shall include, at a minimum, a review of:

(i) any limitations on flexibility in services or technology for the home health provider;

(ii) the Medicare program reimbursement methodologies, including possible alternatives, and Medicare benefits;

(iii) potential access issues raised by current reimbursement methodologies; and

(iv) incentives, including episodic care reimbursement methodologies, to promote best practices and achieve identified clinical outcomes.

(3) The analysis and any supporting recommendations shall be presented to the commissioner by December 1, 2007, and to the chairs of the appropriate legislative committees by December 15, 2007. In no event shall the study disclose any specific reimbursement amount or methodologies attributable to an individual health carrier.

(4) In conducting its analysis, the organization described in paragraph (a) shall consult with the commissioner, the Minnesota Home Care Association, managed care organizations, and other interested home health entities and advocates, and shall convene the parties to discuss pertinent issues.

Subd. 10. State-Operated Services

**Transfer Authority Related to State-Operated Services.** Money appropriated to finance state-operated services programs and administrative services may be transferred between fiscal years of the biennium with the approval of the commissioner of finance.

(a) Mental Health Services

<u>General</u>	<u>116,185,000</u>	<u>119,507,000</u>
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**Appropriation Limitation.** No part of the appropriation in this article to the commissioner for mental health treatment services at the regional treatment centers shall be used for the Minnesota sex offender program.

**Remembering With Dignity Project.** (1) Of the general fund appropriation, \$200,000 is to the commissioner to be available until June 30, 2009, to make a grant to Advocating Change Together for the purposes of the Remembering With Dignity project in paragraph (2).

(2) As part of the Remembering With Dignity project, the grant recipient shall:

(i) conduct necessary research on persons buried in state cemeteries who were residents of state hospitals or regional treatment centers and buried in numbered or unmarked graves;

(ii) purchase and install headstones that are properly inscribed with their names on the graves of those persons; and

(iii) collaborate with community groups and state and local government agencies to build community involvement and public awareness, ensure public access to the graves, and ensure appropriate perpetual maintenance of state cemeteries.

**Community Behavioral Health Hospitals.** Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section



246.51, subdivision 1, a determination order for clients in a community behavioral health hospital operated by the commissioner is only required when a client's third-party coverage has been exhausted.

**(b) Minnesota Sex Offender Services**

<u>General</u>	<u>67,614,000</u>	<u>62,569,000</u>
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**(c) Minnesota Security Hospital and METO Services**

<u>General</u>	<u>82,495,000</u>	<u>84,505,000</u>
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Minnesota Security Hospital. For the purposes of enhancing the safety of the public, improving supervision, and enhancing community-based mental health treatment, state-operated services may establish additional community capacity for providing treatment and supervision of clients who have been ordered into less restrictive alternative care from the state-operated services transitional services program consistent with Minnesota Statutes, section 246.014.

**Sec. 4. COMMISSIONER OF HEALTH**

<b><u>Subdivision 1. Total Appropriation</u></b>	<b><u>\$</u></b>	<b><u>161,774,000</u></b>	<b><u>\$</u></b>	<b><u>155,440,000</u></b>
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Appropriations by Fund

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>
<u>General</u>	<u>85,932,000</u>	<u>80,773,000</u>
<u>State Government</u>		
<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>43,796,000</u>	<u>42,799,000</u>
<u>Health Care Access</u>	<u>20,628,000</u>	<u>20,135,000</u>
<u>Federal TANF</u>	<u>11,418,000</u>	<u>11,733,000</u>

Pay for Performance. (a) For the biennium beginning July 1, 2009, of the general fund appropriation, \$91,000 each year shall be made available to the commissioner of health on January 1, 2011, only after notification by the commissioner of health to the commissioner of finance and to the chairs

of the relevant house of representatives and senate finance and policy committees that the state has met by that date the health disparity elimination goals established in Minnesota Statutes, section 145.928, subdivision 1.

(b) Regardless of whether these appropriations are made available to the commissioner of health, they shall be part of base level funding for the biennium beginning July 1, 2011.

(c) Notwithstanding any contrary provision of this article, this rider shall not expire.

**Transfer from the State Government Special Revenue Fund.** During the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2007, the commissioner of finance shall transfer \$7,200,000 from the state government special revenue fund to the general fund.

**Subd. 2. Community and Family Health Promotion**

	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>	
<u>General</u>	<u>44,672,000</u>	<u>44,436,000</u>
<u>State Government</u>		
<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>870,000</u>	<u>875,000</u>
<u>Health Care Access</u>	<u>3,550,000</u>	<u>3,586,000</u>
<u>Federal TANF</u>	<u>8,735,000</u>	<u>8,735,000</u>

**TANF Appropriations.** (a) \$3,579,000 of the TANF funds is appropriated in each year of the biennium to the commissioner for home visiting and nutritional services listed under Minnesota Statutes, section 145.882, subdivision 7, clauses (6) and (7). Funding shall be distributed to community health boards based on Minnesota Statutes, section 145A.131, subdivision 1.

(b) \$4,000,000 in the first year and \$4,000,000 in the second year are appropriated to the commissioner of health for the family home visiting grant program according to Minnesota Statutes, section 145A.17. The commissioner may use five percent of the

funds appropriated in each fiscal year to conduct the ongoing evaluations required under Minnesota Statutes, section 145A.17, subdivision 7, and may use ten percent of the funds appropriated each fiscal year to provide training and technical assistance as required under Minnesota Statutes, section 145A.17, subdivisions 4 and 5.

**TANF Carryforward.** Any unexpended balance of the TANF appropriation in the first year of the biennium does not cancel but is available for the second year.

**Loan Forgiveness.** \$400,000 in fiscal year 2010 and \$400,000 in fiscal year 2011 from the state government special revenue fund are to the commissioner for the loan forgiveness program under Minnesota Statutes, section 144.1501. This appropriation shall not become part of base level funding for the biennium beginning July 1, 2011. Notwithstanding any contrary provision in this article, this rider expires December 31, 2011.

**MN ENABL.** Base level funding for the MN ENABL program, under Minnesota Statutes, section 145.9255, is reduced by \$220,000 each year of the biennium beginning July 1, 2007.

**Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder.** \$500,000 each year is added to the base for fetal alcohol spectrum disorder.

(1) On July 1 of each fiscal year, the portion of the general fund appropriation to the commissioner of health for fetal alcohol spectrum disorder administration and grants shall be transferred to a statewide organization that focuses solely on prevention of and intervention with fetal alcohol spectrum disorder as follows:

(i) on July 1, 2007, \$2,090,000; and

(ii) on July 1, 2008, \$2,090,000.

(2) The money shall be used for prevention

and intervention services and programs, including, but not limited to, community grants, professional education, public awareness, and diagnosis. The organization may retain \$60,000 of the transferred money for administrative costs. The organization shall report to the commissioner annually by January 15 on the services and programs funded by the appropriation.

(3) Notwithstanding any contrary provision in this article, this rider shall not expire.

**Deaf or Hearing Loss Support.** \$100,000 for the first year and \$100,000 for the second year is for the purpose of providing family support and assistance to families with children who are deaf or have a hearing loss. The family support provided must include direct parent-to-parent assistance and information on communication, educational, and medical options. The commissioner may contract with a nonprofit organization that has the ability to provide these services throughout the state.

**Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention.** Of the general fund appropriation, \$200,000 the first year is for the heart disease and stroke prevention unit to fund data collection and other activities to improve cardiovascular health and reduce the burden of heart disease and stroke in Minnesota. This is a onetime appropriation.

**Family Planning Grants.** Of the TANF appropriation, \$1,156,000 each year is for family planning grants under Minnesota Statutes, section 145.925.

**Suicide prevention programs.** \$355,000 in fiscal year 2008 and \$145,000 in fiscal year 2009 are to fund the suicide prevention program.

**Hearing Aid and Instrument Loan Bank.** Of the general fund appropriation, \$70,000 each year is to the commissioner for the purpose of providing a grant to cover administrative costs for a statewide hearing

aid and instrument loan bank to families with children newly diagnosed with hearing loss from birth to the age of ten.

**Medical Home Learning Collaborative.** Of the general fund appropriation, \$500,000 in fiscal year 2008 and \$500,000 in fiscal year 2009 are to expand the medical home learning collaborative initiative in collaboration with the commissioner of human services. Services provided under this funding must support a medical home model for children with special health care needs. The collaborative shall report back to the legislature on use of the funds by January 15, 2010. This appropriation shall not become part of the base funding for the 2010-2011 biennium.

**Community Collaboratives.** Of the general fund appropriation, \$300,000 in fiscal year 2008 is to provide planning grants to community collaboratives to cover the uninsured. This is a onetime appropriation.

**Base Adjustment.** General fund base is \$43,936,000 in each of fiscal years 2010 and 2011. State government special revenue base is \$1,275,000 in each fiscal years 2010 and 2011.

**Subd. 3. Policy, Quality, and Compliance**

	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>	
<u>General</u>	<u>12,402,000</u>	<u>11,950,000</u>
<u>State Government</u>		
<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>13,451,000</u>	<u>13,597,000</u>
<u>Health Care Access</u>	<u>17,078,000</u>	<u>16,549,000</u>

**Transformation Task Force.** Of the general fund appropriation, \$170,000 the first year is for the health care Transformation Task Force.

**Health Care Access Survey.** Of the health care access fund appropriation, \$600,000 in fiscal year 2008 is appropriated to the commissioner to conduct a health insurance survey of

Minnesota households, in partnership with the State Health Access Data Assistance Center at the University of Minnesota. The commissioner shall contract with the State Health Access Data Assistance Center to conduct a survey that provides information on the characteristics of the uninsured in Minnesota and the reasons for changing patterns of insurance coverage and access to health care services. This appropriation shall become part of the agency's base budget for even-numbered fiscal years.

**MERC Federal Compliance.** Of the general fund appropriation, \$6,750,000 each year is to the commissioner to distribute to the Mayo Clinic for the purpose of providing transition funding while federal compliance changes are made to the medical education and research cost funding distribution formula in Minnesota Statutes, section 62J.692.

The base level funding for 2010 and 2011 is \$2,500,000 each year.

Notwithstanding any contrary provision of this article, this rider expires June 30, 2012.

**Health Information Technology.** Of the health care access fund appropriation, \$6,750,000 each fiscal year is to implement Minnesota Statutes, section 144.3345. Up to \$350,000 each fiscal year is available for grant administration and health information technology technical assistance and \$6,400,000 each year is to establish a revolving loan account under Minnesota Statutes, section 62J.496. This appropriation shall not be included in the agency's base budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009.

**Uniform Electronic Transactions.** Of the general fund appropriation, \$146,000 in fiscal year 2008 is for development of uniform electronic transactions and implementation guide standards under Minnesota Statutes, section 62J.536.

**Federally Qualified Health Centers.** Of the general fund appropriation,\$1,500,000 in each fiscal year is for subsidies to federally qualified health centers under Minnesota Statutes, section 145.9269.

**Base Adjustment.** The general fund base is\$7,846,000 in each of fiscal years 2010 and 2011. The health care access fund base is \$3,503,000 in fiscal year 2010 and \$2,903,000 in fiscal year 2011.

**Subd. 4. Health Protection**

	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>	
<u>General</u>	<u>15,314,000</u>	<u>10,851,000</u>
<u>State Government</u>		
<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>27,475,000</u>	<u>28,327,000</u>

**Pandemic Influenza Preparedness.** Of the general fund appropriation\$115,000 in fiscal year 2008is for department activities of epidemiology, laboratory services, exercises, and planning. This appropriation shall not become part of base level funding for the biennium beginning July 1, 2009.

**Pandemic Influenza Preparedness.** \$3,970,000 is to prepare for and respond to a pandemic influenza outbreak. Of this appropriation,\$1,985,000 is to purchase antiviral medications and\$1,985,000 is to prepare and manage a stockpile of health care supplies.

**AIDS Prevention Initiative Focusing on Foreign-born Residents.**\$250,000 in 2008 is for an AIDS prevention initiative focusing on foreign-born residents. This appropriation is a onetime appropriation and shall not become part of the base level funding for the 2010-2011 biennium.

The commissioner of health shall award grants in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 145.924, paragraph (b), for a public education and awareness campaign targeting communities of foreign-born Minnesota

residents. The grants shall be designed to promote knowledge and understanding about HIV and to increase knowledge in order to eliminate and reduce the risk for HIV infection; to encourage screening and testing for HIV; and to link individuals to public health and health care resources. The grants must be awarded to collaborative efforts that bring together nonprofit community-based groups with demonstrated experience in addressing the public health, health care, and social service needs of foreign-born communities.

**Lead Abatement.** \$550,000 in each fiscal year is for the lead abatement program in Minnesota Statutes, section 144.9512.

**Water Treatment.** \$40,000 in fiscal year 2008 is to augment any appropriation from the remediation fund to conduct an evaluation of point of use water treatment units at removing perfluorooctanoic acid, perfluorooctane sulfonate, and perfluorobutanoic acid from known concentrations of these compounds in drinking water. The evaluation shall be completed by December 31, 2007, and the commissioner may contract for services to complete the evaluation. This is a onetime appropriation.

**HIV Information.** \$80,000 each year is to fund a community-based nonprofit organization with demonstrated capacity to operate a statewide HIV information and referral service using telephone, Internet, and other appropriate technologies. This appropriation shall become part of base level funding for the biennium beginning July 1, 2009.

**Base Adjustment.** The general fund base is \$10,751,000 in each of the fiscal years 2010 and 2011.

#### **Subd. 5. Minority and Multicultural Health**

	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>	
<u>General</u>	<u>5,047,000</u>	<u>5,012,000</u>



<u>Federal TANF</u>	<u>2,683,000</u>	<u>2,998,000</u>
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**TANF Appropriations.** (a) \$2,000,000 of the TANF funds is appropriated in each year of the biennium to the commissioner for decreasing racial and ethnic disparities in infant mortality rates under Minnesota Statutes, section 145.928, subdivision 7.

(b) \$503,000 the first year and \$818,000 the second year of the TANF funds are appropriated to the commissioner for the family home visiting and grant program under Minnesota Statutes, section 145A.17. Funding shall be distributed to tribal governments based on Minnesota Statutes, section 145A.14, subdivision 2a, paragraph (b). The commissioner may use five percent of the funds appropriated in each fiscal year to conduct the ongoing evaluations required under Minnesota Statutes, section 145A.17, subdivision 7, and may use ten percent of the funds appropriated each fiscal year to provide training and technical assistance as required under Minnesota Statutes, section 145A.17, subdivisions 4 and 5.

**TANF Carryforward.** Any unexpended balance of the TANF appropriation in the first year of the biennium does not cancel but is available for the second year.

**Subd. 6. Administrative Support Services**

	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>	
<u>General</u>	<u>8,497,000</u>	<u>8,524,000</u>
<u>State Government</u>		
<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>2,000,000</u>	<u>-0-</u>

**Disease Surveillance.** Of the state government special revenue fund appropriation, \$2,000,000 the first year is for redesigning and implementing coordinated and modern disease surveillance systems for the department, and for modifying the Minnesota Cancer Surveillance database and communicating with providers to include

occupational and residential histories. This is a onetime appropriation.

Sec. 5. VETERANS NURSING HOMES BOARD    \$            43,434,000    \$            45,456,000

**Veterans Homes Special Revenue Account.**

The general fund appropriations made to the board may be transferred to a veterans homes special revenue account in the special revenue fund in the same manner as other receipts are deposited according to Minnesota Statutes, section 198.34, and are appropriated to the board for the operation of board facilities and programs.

**Repair and Betterment.** Of this appropriation, \$3,500,000 in fiscal year 2008 and \$3,500,000 in fiscal year 2009 are to be used for repair, maintenance, rehabilitation, and betterment activities at facilities statewide. This is a onetime appropriation.

**Base Adjustment.** The general fund base is \$41,956,000 in each year of the fiscal 2010 and 2011 biennium.

**Pay for Performance.** (a) For fiscal year 2008, \$50,000 shall be made available to the board on January 1, 2009, only after notification by the board to the commissioner of finance and to the chairs of the relevant house of representatives and senate finance and policy committees that during the period October 1, 2007, to September 30, 2008, the Department of Health has not issued any penalty assessments under the provisions of Minnesota Statutes, section 144.653 or 144A.10, or any correction orders under the provisions of Minnesota Statutes, section 144.653 or 144A.10, that the Department of Health deems equivalent to findings of either immediate jeopardy or substandard quality of care, as defined in Code of Federal Regulations, title 42, section 488.301.

(b) Regardless of whether this appropriation is made available to the board, it shall be part of base level funding for the biennium beginning July 1, 2009.

Sec. 6. **HEALTH-RELATED BOARDS**

<b><u>Subdivision 1. Total Appropriation; State Government Special Revenue Fund</u></b>	<b><u>\$</u></b>	<b><u>14,654,000</u></b>	<b><u>\$</u></b>	<b><u>14,527,000</u></b>
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The amounts that may be spent for each purpose are specified in the following subdivisions.

<b><u>Subd. 2. Board of Chiropractic Examiners</u></b>	<u>450,000</u>	<u>447,000</u>
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<b><u>Subd. 3. Board of Dentistry</u></b>	<u>987,000</u>	<u>1,009,000</u>
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<b><u>Subd. 4. Board of Dietetic and Nutrition Practice</u></b>	<u>103,000</u>	<u>119,000</u>
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**Base Adjustment.** Of this appropriation in fiscal year 2009, \$14,000 is onetime.

<b><u>Subd. 5. Board of Marriage and Family Therapy</u></b>	<u>134,000</u>	<u>154,000</u>
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**Base Adjustment.** Of this appropriation in fiscal year 2009, \$17,000 is onetime.

<b><u>Subd. 6. Board of Medical Practice</u></b>	<u>4,120,000</u>	<u>3,674,000</u>
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<b><u>Subd. 7. Board of Nursing</u></b>	<u>3,985,000</u>	<u>4,146,000</u>
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<b><u>Subd. 8. Board of Nursing Home Administrators</u></b>	<u>633,000</u>	<u>647,000</u>
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**Administrative Services Unit.** Of this appropriation, \$430,000 in fiscal year 2008 and \$439,000 in fiscal year 2009 are for the administrative services unit. The administrative services unit may receive and expend reimbursements for services performed by other agencies.

<b><u>Subd. 9. Board of Optometry</u></b>	<u>98,000</u>	<u>114,000</u>
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**Base Adjustment.** Of this appropriation in fiscal year 2009, \$13,000 is onetime.

<b><u>Subd. 10. Board of Pharmacy</u></b>	<u>1,375,000</u>	<u>1,442,000</u>
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**Base Adjustment.** Of this appropriation in fiscal year 2009, \$29,000 is onetime.

<b><u>Subd. 11. Board of Physical Therapy</u></b>	<u>306,000</u>	<u>295,000</u>
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Subd. 12. <u>Board of Podiatry</u>	<u>54,000</u>	<u>63,000</u>
<u>Base Adjustment.</u> Of this appropriation in fiscal year 2009, \$7,000 is onetime.		
Subd. 13. <u>Board of Psychology</u>	<u>788,000</u>	<u>806,000</u>
Subd. 14. <u>Board of Social Work</u>	<u>997,000</u>	<u>1,022,000</u>
Subd. 15. <u>Board of Veterinary Medicine</u>	<u>230,000</u>	<u>195,000</u>
Subd. 16. <u>Board of Behavioral Health and Therapy</u>	<u>394,000</u>	<u>394,000</u>
<b>Sec. 7. <u>EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES BOARD</u></b>	<b>\$ <u>4,421,000</u></b>	<b>\$ <u>4,467,000</u></b>

Appropriations by Fund

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>
<u>General</u>	<u>3,734,000</u>	<u>3,763,000</u>
<u>State Government</u>		
<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>687,000</u>	<u>704,000</u>

Regional Grants. Of the general fund appropriation, \$400,000 in fiscal year 2008 and \$400,000 in fiscal year 2009 are to the board for regional emergency medical services programs, to be distributed equally to the eight emergency medical service regions. This amount shall not become part of base level funding. Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 144E.50, 100 percent of the appropriation shall be passed on to the emergency medical service regions.

Longevity Award and Incentive Program. (a) Of the general fund appropriation, \$700,000 in fiscal year 2008 and \$700,000 in fiscal year 2009 are to the board for the ambulance service personnel longevity award and incentive program, under Minnesota Statutes, section 144E.40.

(b) In fiscal year 2008, \$800,000 shall be transferred from the ambulance service personnel longevity award and incentive trust to the general fund.

**Health Professional Services Program.**

\$687,000 in fiscal year 2008 and \$704,000 in fiscal year 2009 from the state government special revenue fund are for the health professional services program.

**Base Adjustment.** The general fund base is \$3,363,000 in each year of the fiscal 2010 and 2011 biennium.

Sec. 8. <b><u>COUNCIL ON DISABILITY</u></b>	<b><u>\$</u></b>	<b><u>812,000</u></b>	<b><u>\$</u></b>	<b><u>524,000</u></b>
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**Assistive Technology.** Of the general fund appropriation to the Council on Disability in fiscal year 2008, \$100,000 is to provide financial support to the Minnesota Regional Assistive Technology Collaborative, and \$200,000 is for a transfer to the commissioner of administration for the purposes of completing the state's remaining share of the local match required to access the federal Technology Related Assistance Act for Persons with Disabilities, Title III, Alternative Financing Project 2003 grant award, which provides microloans to individuals for the purpose of acquiring assistive technology devices and services.

Sec. 9. <b><u>OMBUDSMAN FOR MENTAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES</u></b>	<b><u>\$</u></b>	<b><u>1,584,000</u></b>	<b><u>\$</u></b>	<b><u>1,655,000</u></b>
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Sec. 10. <b><u>OMBUDSMAN FOR FAMILIES</u></b>	<b><u>\$</u></b>	<b><u>255,000</u></b>	<b><u>\$</u></b>	<b><u>265,000</u></b>
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Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16A.724, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

**Subd. 3. MinnesotaCare federal receipts.** Receipts received as a result of federal participation pertaining to administrative costs of the Minnesota health care reform waiver shall be deposited as nondedicated revenue in the health care access fund. Receipts received as a result of federal participation pertaining to grants shall be deposited in the federal fund and shall offset health care access funds for payments to providers.

Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16A.724, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

**Subd. 4. MinnesotaCare funding.** The commissioner of human services may expend money appropriated from the health care access fund for MinnesotaCare in either year of the biennium.

Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 69.021, subdivision 11, is amended to read:

**Subd. 11. Excess police state-aid holding account.** (a) The excess police state-aid holding account is established in the general fund. The excess police state-aid holding account must be

administered by the commissioner.

(b) Excess police state aid determined according to subdivision 10, must be deposited in the excess police state-aid holding account.

(c) From the balance in the excess police state-aid holding account, \$900,000 ~~is appropriated to and must be transferred~~ canceled annually to the ambulance service personnel longevity award and incentive suspense account established by section 144E.42, subdivision 2 to the general fund.

(d) If a police officer stress reduction program is created by law and money is appropriated for that program, an amount equal to that appropriation must be transferred to the administrator of that program from the balance in the excess police state-aid holding account.

(e) On October 1 of each year, one-half of the balance of the excess police state-aid holding account remaining after the deductions under paragraphs (c) and (d) is appropriated for additional amortization aid under section 423A.02, subdivision 1b.

(f) Annually, the remaining balance in the excess police state-aid holding account, after the deductions under paragraphs (c), (d), and (e), cancels to the general fund.

Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 245.771, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 4. **Food stamp bonus awards.** In the event that Minnesota qualifies for the United States Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Services Food Stamp Program performance bonus awards, the funding is appropriated to the commissioner. The commissioner shall retain 25 percent of the funding and distribute the other 75 percent among the counties according to a formula that takes into account each county's impact on state performance in the applicable bonus categories.

Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256.01, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 23. **Nonstate funding for program costs.** Notwithstanding sections 16A.013 to 16A.016, the commissioner may accept, on behalf of the state, additional funding from sources other than state funds for the purpose of financing the cost of assistance program grants or nongrant administration. All additional funding is appropriated to the commissioner for use as designated by the grantor of funding.

Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256.01, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 24. **Systems continuity.** In the event of disruption of technical systems or computer operations, the commissioner may use available grant appropriations to ensure continuity of payments for maintaining the health, safety, and well-being of clients served by programs administered by the Department of Human Services. Grant funds must be used in a manner consistent with the original intent of the appropriation.

Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256J.02, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 6. **TANF funds appropriated to other entities.** Any expenditures from the TANF block grant shall be expended in accordance with the requirements and limitations of part A of Title IV of the Social Security Act, as amended, and any other applicable federal requirement or limitation. Prior to any expenditure of these funds, the commissioner shall ensure that funds are expended in compliance with the requirements and limitations of federal law and that any reporting requirements of federal law are met. It shall be the responsibility of any entity to which these

funds are appropriated to implement a memorandum of understanding with the commissioner that provides the necessary assurance of compliance prior to any expenditure of funds. The commissioner shall receipt TANF funds appropriated to other state agencies and coordinate all related interagency accounting transactions necessary to implement these appropriations. Unexpended TANF funds appropriated to any state, local, or nonprofit entity cancel at the end of the state fiscal year unless appropriating or statutory language permits otherwise.

Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 256J.77, is amended to read:

**256J.77 AGING OF CASH BENEFITS.**

Cash benefits under chapters 256D, 256J, and 256K, except food stamp benefits under chapter 256D, by warrants or electronic benefit transfer that have not been accessed within 90 days of issuance shall be canceled. Cash benefits may be replaced after they are canceled, for up to one year after the date of issuance, if failure to do so would place the client or family at risk. For purposes of this section, "accessed" means cashing a warrant or making at least one withdrawal from benefits deposited in an electronic benefit account.

Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 518A.56, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 13. **Child support payment center.** Payments to the commissioner from other governmental units, private enterprises, and individuals for services performed by the child support payment center must be deposited in the state systems account authorized under section 256.014. These payments are appropriated to the commissioner for the operation of the child support payment center or system, according to section 256.014.

**Sec. 20. NONGRANT OPERATING CARRYFORWARD.**

For the biennium ending June 30, 2007, any remaining nongrant operating balances in the Department of Human Services, Minnesota Department of Health, veterans homes, health-related boards, emergency medical services boards, Council on Disability, the ombudsman for mental health and developmental disabilities, and the ombudsman for families direct appropriated accounts may be transferred, with the approval of the commissioner of finance, to a special revenue account. Funds in those accounts are appropriated for costs associated with onetime technology, infrastructure, and systems development projects. Remaining nongrant operating balances in fiscal year 2007 in the Minnesota sex offender program and the Minnesota security hospital shall not be transferred.

(a) Transfers to a special revenue account shall be reported to the chairs and the ranking members of the senate Health and Human Services Budget Division and the house of representatives Health Care and Human Services Finance Division.

(b) When these balances originate in nongeneral funds, the transfers shall be made to separate accounts within the same funds and may only be used to support projects relevant to the original funding source.

(c) Uses of these special revenue account funds shall be reported annually by each agency to the commissioner of finance, and to the chairs and ranking members of the senate Health and Human Services Budget Division and the house of representatives Health Care and Human Services Finance Division.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 21. **TRANSFERS.**

Subdivision 1. **Grants.** The commissioner of human services, with the approval of the commissioner of finance and after notifying the chairs of the senate and house committees with jurisdiction, may transfer unencumbered appropriation balances for the biennium ending June 30, 2009, within fiscal years among the MFIP; general assistance; general assistance medical care; medical assistance; MFIP child care assistance under Minnesota Statutes, section 119B.05; Minnesota supplemental aid and group residential housing programs; and the entitlement portion of the chemical dependency consolidated treatment fund and between fiscal years of the biennium.

Subd. 2. **Administration.** Positions, salary money, and nonsalary administrative money may be transferred within the Departments of Human Services and Health and within the programs operated by the Veterans Nursing Homes Board as the commissioners and the board consider necessary, with the advance approval of the commissioner of finance. The commissioner or the board shall inform the chairs of the house and senate committees with jurisdiction quarterly about transfers made under this provision.

Sec. 22. **INDIRECT COSTS NOT TO FUND PROGRAMS.**

The commissioners of health and of human services shall not use indirect cost allocations to pay for the operational costs of any program for which they are responsible.

Sec. 23. **SUNSET OF UNCODIFIED LANGUAGE.**

All uncodified language contained in this article expires on June 30, 2009, unless a different expiration date is explicit.

Sec. 24. **EFFECTIVE DATE.**

The provisions in this article are effective July 1, 2007, unless a different effective date is specified."

Amend the title accordingly

And when so amended the bill be reported to the Senate without recommendation. Amendments adopted. Report adopted.

**Senator Pogemiller from the Committee on Rules and Administration, to which was re-referred**

**H.F. No. 122:** A bill for an act relating to commerce; regulating sales of American flags; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 325E.

Reports the same back with the recommendation that the bill be amended as follows:

Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

**"ARTICLE 1**

**JOBS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, HOUSING AND MINNESOTA HERITAGE  
APPROPRIATIONS SUMMARY**



**Section 1. SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

The amounts shown in this section summarize direct appropriations, by fund, made in this act.

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>General</u>	\$ 197,148,000	\$ 141,911,000	\$ 339,059,000
<u>Workforce Development</u>	16,759,000	16,774,000	33,533,000
<u>Remediation</u>	700,000	700,000	1,400,000
<u>Workers' Compensation</u>	22,736,000	23,074,000	45,810,000
<b><u>Total</u></b>	<b>\$ 237,343,000</b>	<b>\$ 182,459,000</b>	<b>\$ 419,802,000</b>

**Sec. 2. JOBS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS.**

The sums shown in the columns marked "Appropriations" are appropriated to the agencies and for the purposes specified in this act. The appropriations are from the general fund, or another named fund, and are available for the fiscal years indicated for each purpose. The figures "2008" and "2009" used in this act mean that the appropriations listed under them are available for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, or June 30, 2009, respectively. "The first year" is fiscal year 2008. "The second year" is fiscal year 2009. "The biennium" is fiscal years 2008 and 2009. Appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2007, are effective the day following final enactment.

**APPROPRIATIONS**  
**Available for the Year**  
**Ending June 30**  
**2008**                      **2009**

**Sec. 3. EMPLOYMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Subdivision 1. Total Appropriation                      \$        75,080,000    \$        45,569,000

Appropriations by Fund

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>
<u>General</u>	75,080,000	45,569,000
<u>Remediation</u>	700,000	700,000
<u>Workforce Development</u>	15,995,000	15,995,000

The amounts that may be spent for each purpose are specified in the following subdivisions.

Subd. 2. Business and Community Development                      38,742,000                      9,389,000

<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>		
<u>General</u>	<u>38,042,000</u>	<u>8,689,000</u>
<u>Remediation</u>	<u>700,000</u>	<u>700,000</u>

(a) (1) \$250,000 the first year and \$250,000 the second year are from the general fund for a grant under Minnesota Statutes, section 116J.421, to the Rural Policy and Development Center at St. Peter, Minnesota. The grant shall be used for research and policy analysis on emerging economic and social issues in rural Minnesota, to serve as a policy resource center for rural Minnesota communities, to encourage collaboration across higher education institutions to provide interdisciplinary team approaches to research and problem-solving in rural communities, and to administer overall operations of the center.

(2) The grant shall be provided upon the condition that each state-appropriated dollar be matched with a nonstate dollar. Acceptable matching funds are nonstate contributions that the center has received and have not been used to match previous state grants. Any unencumbered balance in the first year is available for the second year.

(b) \$250,000 the first year and \$250,000 the second year are from the general fund for a grant to WomenVenture for women's business development programs.

(c) \$250,000 the first year is for a grant to University Enterprise Laboratories (UEL) for its direct and indirect expenses to support efforts to encourage the growth of early-stage and emerging bioscience companies. UEL must provide a report by June 30 each year to the commissioner on the expenditures until the appropriation is expended. This is a onetime appropriation and is available until expended.

(d) \$2,000,000 the first year is for grants under Minnesota Statutes, section 116J.571,

for the redevelopment grant program. This is a onetime appropriation.

(e) \$100,000 the first year and \$100,000 the second year are to help small businesses access federal funds through the federal Small Business Innovation Research Program and the federal Small Business Technology Transfer Program. Department services must include maintaining connections to 11 federal programs, assessment of specific funding opportunities, review of funding proposals, referral to specific consulting services, and training workshops throughout the state. Unless prohibited by federal law, the department must implement fees for services that help companies seek federal Phase II Small Business Innovation Research grants. The recommended fee schedule must be reported to the chairs of the house of representatives finance committee and senate budget division with jurisdiction over economic development by February 1, 2008.

(f) \$100,000 the first year and \$100,000 the second year are appropriated to the Public Facilities Authority for the small community wastewater treatment program under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 446A.

(g) \$255,000 the first year and \$155,000 the second year are from the general fund for a grant to the Metropolitan Economic Development Association for continuing minority business development programs in the metropolitan area.

(h) \$85,000 the first year and \$85,000 the second year are for grants to the Minnesota Inventors Congress. Of this amount, \$10,000 each year is for the Student Inventors Congress.

(i) \$151,000 the first year is for a onetime grant to the city of Faribault to design, construct, furnish, and equip renovations to accommodate handicapped accessibility at the Paradise Center for the Arts.

(j) \$750,000 each year is to Minnesota Technology, Inc. for the small business growth acceleration program established under Minnesota Statutes, section 116O.115. This is a onetime appropriation.

(k) \$300,000 the first year is for a onetime grant to the city of Northome for the construction of a new municipal building to replace the structures damaged by fire on July 22, 2006. This appropriation is available when the commissioner determines that a sufficient match is available from nonstate sources to complete the project.

(l) \$250,000 the first year and \$250,000 the second year are for a technology and commercialization unit established in this act. This is a onetime appropriation and is available until expended.

(m) \$300,000 the first year is for a grant to the city of Worthington for an agricultural-based bioscience training and testing center. Funds appropriated under this section must be used to provide a training and testing facility for incubator firms developing new agricultural processes and products. This is a onetime appropriation and is available until expended.

(n) \$1,000,000 the first year is for a onetime grant to BioBusiness Alliance of Minnesota for bioscience business development programs to promote and position the state as a global leader in bioscience business activities. These funds may be used for:

(1) completion and periodic updating of a statewide bioscience business industry assessment of business technology enterprises and Minnesota's competitive position employing annual updates to federal industry classification data;

(2) long-term strategic planning that includes projections of market changes resulting from developments in biotechnology and the development of 20-year goals, strategies, and identified objectives for renewable energy,

medical devices, biopharma, and biologics  
business development in Minnesota;

(3) the design and construction of a Minnesota  
focused bioscience business model to test  
competing strategies and scenarios, evaluate  
options, and forecast outcomes; and

(4) creation of a bioscience business resources  
network that includes development of a  
statewide bioscience business economic  
development framework to encourage  
bioscience business development and  
encourage spin-off activities, attract  
bioscience business location or expansion in  
Minnesota, and establish a local capability to  
support strategic system level planning for  
industry, government, and academia.

This appropriation is available until June 30,  
2009.

(o) \$325,000 is for a grant to the Walker Area  
Community Center, Inc., to construct, furnish,  
and equip the Walker Area Community  
Center. This appropriation is not available  
until the commissioner has determined that an  
amount sufficient to complete the project has  
been committed from nonstate sources. This  
is a onetime appropriation and is available  
until expended.

(p) \$100,000 the first year is for a grant  
to the Pine Island Economic Development  
Authority for predesign to upgrade and extend  
utilities to serve Elk Run Bioscience Research  
Park and The Falls - Healthy Living By  
Nature, an integrated medicine facility. This  
is a onetime appropriation and is available  
until expended.

(q) \$350,000 the first year is for a grant  
to Thomson Township for infrastructure  
improvements for the industrial park. This is  
a onetime appropriation and is available until  
expended.

(r) \$75,000 the first year is for a grant to  
Le Sueur County for the cost of cleaning  
up debris from lakes in Le Sueur County,

caused by the August 24, 2006, tornado in southern Le Sueur County. This is a onetime appropriation and is available until expended.

(s) \$75,000 the first year is for a grant to the city of Warroad for new public facilities to replace those damaged or destroyed by the August 2006 tornado, including approximately 28 new street lights and underground electrical circuits and a new fish cleaning house. This is a onetime appropriation and is available until expended. If an appropriation for this purpose is enacted more than once in the 2007 session, the appropriation is effective only once.

(t) \$500,000 the first year is for a grant to the Upper Sioux Community to improve the current water system to ensure continuity of service to the entire population of the community and to meet the demands of the community expansion over the next 20 years. This is a onetime appropriation and is not available until the Public Facilities Authority has determined that at least \$1,000,000 has been committed from nonstate sources. This appropriation is available until expended.

(u) \$500,000 the second year is for bioscience business development and commercialization grants. The commissioner shall designate an evaluation team to accept grant applications, review and evaluate grant proposals, and select up to five grant proposals to receive funding each year. The evaluation team shall be comprised of not more than 12 members including: the commissioner or the commissioner's designee; representatives of bioscience businesses; public and private institutions of higher education; private investment companies; a nonprofit entity that qualifies as a 501(c)6 under the Internal Revenue Code and is a trade association representing the life sciences industry; and a bio business alliance that qualifies as a 501(c)3 under the Internal Revenue Code. The criteria used by the evaluation team in evaluating grant proposals must include, but

is not limited to: the potential to create and sustain jobs within the state of Minnesota; the potential for long-term business activity, growth, and expansion in Minnesota; the level of technological maturity; the potential to attract private investment; and the availability and readiness of markets. The commissioner must report to the standing committees of the house of representatives and the senate having jurisdiction over bioscience and technology issues by February 1 each year on the number, type, and amounts of grants awarded and the activities of the grant recipients. This is a onetime appropriation and is available until expended.

All data contained in a grant application and evaluations of a grant application are classified as nonpublic data, as defined in section 13.02, subdivision 9, or private data on individuals, as defined in section 13.02, subdivision 12. The grant applicant's name, address, and amount requested are classified as public data. When a grant is approved, the commissioner shall release the following in a manner that does not disclose the nonpublic or private data: a description of the problem presented by the applicant, how the applicant proposes to resolve the problem, and for what the grant will be used.

The commissioner may share nonpublic or private data contained in a grant application with the grant evaluation team and outside experts consulted by the grant evaluation team. Prior to sharing the data, the commissioner must obtain a signed nondisclosure agreement from each member of the grant evaluation team and any outside expert providing consultation to the team. The nondisclosure agreement must prohibit the use or dissemination of any of the nonpublic or private data outside of the grant evaluation process.

The grant evaluation team and any outside experts consulted by the grant evaluation team are subject to the penalties and remedies

provided in sections 13.08 and 13.09.

(v) \$755,000 the first year is for the urban challenge grant program under Minnesota Statutes, section 116M.18. This is a onetime appropriation.

(w) \$1,100,000 is for a grant to the Neighborhood Development Center for assistance necessary to retain minority business enterprises at the Global Market. This is a onetime appropriation and is available until expended.

(x) \$350,000 the first year is for a onetime grant to the city of Inver Grove Heights to reduce debt on the Inver Grove Heights Veterans Memorial Community Center.

(y) \$14,900,000 the first year is for the Minnesota minerals 21st century fund created in Minnesota Statutes, section 116J.423, to partially restore the money unallotted by the commissioner of finance in 2003 pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.152. This appropriation may be used as provided in Minnesota Statutes, section 116J.423, subdivision 2. This appropriation is available until expended.

(z) \$2,500,000 the first year is for a grant to the city of St. Paul to be used to pay, redeem, or refund debt service costs incurred for the River Centre Campus.

(aa) \$147,000 each year is appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner of employment and economic development for grants of \$49,000 to eligible organizations each year and for the purposes of this paragraph. Each state grant dollar must be matched with \$1 of nonstate funds. Any balance in the first year does not cancel but is available in the second year. The base for these grants in fiscal years 2010 and 2011 is \$189,000 each year, with each eligible organization receiving a \$63,000 grant each year.

The commissioner of employment and



economic development must make grants to organizations to assist in the development of entrepreneurs and small businesses. Three grants must be awarded to continue or to develop a program. One grant must be awarded to the Riverbend Center for Entrepreneurial Facilitation in Blue Earth County, and two to other organizations serving Faribault and Martin Counties. Grant recipients must report to the commissioner by February 1 of each year that the organization receives a grant with the number of customers served; the number of businesses started, stabilized, or expanded; the number of jobs created and retained; and business success rates. The commissioner must report to the house of representatives and senate committees with jurisdiction over economic development finance on the effectiveness of these programs for assisting in the development of entrepreneurs and small businesses.

(bb) \$4,100,000 the first year is for grants under Minnesota Statutes, section 116J.8731, for the Minnesota investment fund program. Of this amount, up to \$2,000,000 may be used for a legal reference office and data center facility, provided that the total capital investment in the facility is at least \$60,000,000. This grant is not subject to grant limitations under Minnesota Statutes, section 116J.8731, subdivision 5. This is a onetime appropriation.

<u>Subd. 3. Workforce Development</u>	<u>50,024,000</u>	<u>49,833,000</u>
<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>		
<u>General</u>	<u>34,029,000</u>	<u>33,838,000</u>
<u>Workforce Development</u>	<u>15,995,000</u>	<u>15,995,000</u>

(a) \$6,785,000 the first year and \$6,785,000 the second year are from the general fund for the Minnesota job skills partnership program under Minnesota Statutes, sections 116L.01 to 116L.17. If the appropriation for either year is insufficient, the appropriation for the other

year is available for it. This appropriation does not cancel.

(b) \$455,000 the first year and \$455,000 the second year are from the general fund for a grant under Minnesota Statutes, section 116J.8747, to Twin Cities RISE! to provide training to hard-to-train individuals.

(c) \$1,375,000 each year is from the workforce development fund for Opportunities Industrialization Center programs.

(d) \$5,614,000 each year is from the general fund and \$6,920,000 each year is from the workforce development fund for extended employment services for persons with severe disabilities or related conditions under Minnesota Statutes, section 268A.15. Of this, \$125,000 each year and in the base for fiscal years 2010 and 2011 is to supplement funds paid for wage incentives for the community support fund established in Minnesota Rules, part 3300.2045.

(e) \$1,650,000 the first year and \$1,650,000 the second year are from the general fund for grants for programs that provide employment support services to persons with mental illness under Minnesota Statutes, sections 268A.13 and 268A.14. Up to \$77,000 each year may be used for administrative and salary expenses.

(f) \$2,440,000 the first year and \$2,440,000 the second year are from the general fund for grants under Minnesota Statutes, section 268A.11, for the eight centers for independent living. The base for this program is \$2,190,000 each year in fiscal years 2010 and 2011. Money not expended the first year is available the second year.

The commissioner must:

(1) transfer \$115,000 of federal independent living Part B rehabilitation services funds to the Minnesota Centers for Independent Living each year contingent upon the

availability of federal funds under Title VII, Part B, of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended under United States Code, title 29, section 711(c), and approved by the Statewide Independent Living Council;

(2) replace federal Part B funds in the State Independent Living Council budget transferred under clause (1) with \$115,000 of Social Security Administration program income funds each year; and

(3) provide an additional \$185,000 each year from the Social Security Administration program income to the Minnesota Centers for Independent Living to be allocated equally among the eight centers.

Additional funding for centers for independent living under clauses (1) and (3) must be used for core independent living services by the Centers for Independent Living. The Statewide Independent Living Council framework for statewide distribution of state and federal funding to the Minnesota Centers for Independent Living does not apply to the funds under clauses (1) and (3). The commissioner must report on the transfers in clauses (1), (2), and (3), and any other effort to pursue additional funding for the Centers for Independent Living to the standing committees of the senate and house of representatives having jurisdiction over Centers for Independent Living by March 15 each year.

(g) \$5,940,000 the first year and \$5,940,000 the second year are from the general fund for state services for the blind activities.

(h) \$150,000 the first year and \$150,000 the second year are from the general fund and \$175,000 the first year and \$175,000 the second year are from the workforce development fund for grants under Minnesota Statutes, section 268A.03, to Rise, Inc. for the Minnesota Employment Center for People Who are Deaf or Hard-of-Hearing. Money not expended the first year is available the

second year.

(i) \$9,021,000 the first year and \$9,021,000 the second year are from the general fund for the state's vocational rehabilitation program for people with significant disabilities to assist with employment, under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 268A.

(j) \$350,000 the first year and \$350,000 the second year are from the workforce development fund for grants to provide interpreters for a regional transition program that specializes in providing culturally appropriate transition services leading to employment for deaf, hard-of-hearing, and deaf-blind students. This amount must be added to the department's base.

(k) \$150,000 the first year and \$150,000 the second year are for a grant to Advocating Change Together for training, technical assistance, and resources materials to persons with developmental and mental illness disabilities.

(l) \$250,000 the first year and \$250,000 the second year are from the workforce development fund and \$150,000 the first year and \$100,000 the second year are from the general fund for a grant to Lifetrack Resources for its immigrant and refugee collaborative programs, including those related to job-seeking skills and workplace orientation, intensive job development, functional work English, and on-site job coaching. \$50,000 of the first year general fund appropriation is for a onetime pilot Lifetrack project in Rochester.

(m) \$575,000 the first year and \$575,000 the second year are from the general fund and \$500,000 the first year and \$500,000 the second year are from the workforce development fund for the youthbuild program under Minnesota Statutes, sections 116L.361 to 116L.366. This appropriation may be used for:

(1) restoring the three youthbuild programs that were eliminated due to budget reductions and adding seven more youthbuild programs statewide;

(2) restoring funding levels for all youthbuild programs plus an inflationary increase for each program;

(3) increasing the number of at-risk youth served by the youthbuild programs from 260 youth per year to 500 youth per year; and

(4) restoring the youthbuild focus on careers in technology and adding a youthbuild focus on careers in the medical field.

(n) \$1,325,000 each year is from the workforce development fund for grants to fund summer youth employment in Minneapolis. The grants shall be used to fund up to 500 jobs for youth each summer. Of this appropriation, \$325,000 each year is for a grant to the learn-to-earn summer youth employment program. The commissioner shall establish criteria for awarding the grants. This appropriation is available in either year of the biennium and is available until spent.

(o) \$600,000 the first year and \$600,000 the second year are from the workforce development fund for a grant to the city of St. Paul for grants to fund summer youth employment in St. Paul. The grants shall be used to fund up to 500 jobs for youth each summer. The commissioner shall establish criteria for awarding the grants within the city of St. Paul. This appropriation is available in either year of the biennium and is available until spent.

(p) \$250,000 the first year and \$250,000 the second year are from the general fund for grants to Northern Connections in Perham to implement and operate a pilot workforce program that provides one-stop supportive services to individuals as they transition into the workforce.

(q) \$100,000 each year is for a grant to

Ramsey County Workforce Investment Board for the development of the building lives program. This is a onetime appropriation.

(r) \$150,000 each year is for a grant to the Hennepin-Carver Workforce Investment Board (WIB) to coordinate with the Partners for Progress Regional Skills Consortium to provide employment and training as demonstrated by the Twin Cities regional health care training partnership project.

(s) \$160,000 the first year is for a onetime grant to Workforce Development, Inc., for a pilot project to provide demand-driven employment and training services to welfare recipients and other economically disadvantaged populations in Mower, Freeborn, Dodge, and Steele Counties.

(t) \$200,000 the first year and \$200,000 the second year are from the general fund for a grant to HIRED to operate its industry sector training initiatives, which provide employee training developed in collaboration with employers in specific, high-demand industries.

(u) \$100,000 the first year is for a onetime grant to a nonprofit organization. The nonprofit organization must work on behalf of all licensed vendors to coordinate their efforts to respond to solicitations or other requests from private and governmental units as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 471.59, subdivision 1, in order to increase employment opportunities for persons with disabilities.

(v) \$3,500,000 each year from the workforce development fund is for the Minnesota youth program under Minnesota Statutes, sections 116L.56 and 116L.561.

(w) \$1,000,000 each year from the workforce development fund is for a grant to the Minnesota Alliance of Boys and Girls Clubs to administer a statewide project of youth job skills development. This

project, which may have career guidance components, including health and life skills, is to encourage, train, and assist youth in job-seeking skills, workplace orientation, and job site knowledge through coaching. This grant requires a 25 percent match from nonstate resources.

(x) \$10,000 the first year is for a study on ways to promote employment opportunities for minorities, with a particular focus on opportunities for African Americans, in the state of Minnesota. The study should focus on how to significantly expand the job training available to minorities and promote substantial increases in the wages paid to minorities, at least to a rate well above living wage, and within several years, to equality. The commissioner must report on the study to the governor and the chair of the finance committee in each house of the legislature that has jurisdiction over employment by January 15, 2008, with recommendations for implementing the findings.

(y) The commissioner must provide funding for the Minnesota Conservation Corps to provide learning stipends for deaf students and wages for interpreters participating in the MCC summer youth program.

<u>Subd. 4. <b>State-Funded Administration</b></u>	<u>3,009,000</u>	<u>3,042,000</u>
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The first \$1,450,000 deposited in each year of the biennium and in each year of subsequent bienniums into the contingent account created under Minnesota Statutes, section 268.196, subdivision 3, shall be transferred by June 30 of each fiscal year to the workforce development fund created under Minnesota Statutes, section 116L.20. Deposits in excess of \$1,450,000 shall be transferred by June 30 of each fiscal year to the general fund.

<u>Sec. 4. <b>EXPLORE MINNESOTA TOURISM</b></u>	<u>\$ 11,178,000</u>	<u>\$ 11,130,000</u>
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(a) To develop maximum private sector involvement in tourism, \$500,000 the first

year and \$500,000 the second year must be matched by Explore Minnesota Tourism from nonstate sources. Each \$1 of state incentive must be matched with \$3 of private sector funding. Cash match is defined as revenue to the state or documented cash expenditures directly expended to support Explore Minnesota Tourism programs. Up to one-half of the private sector contribution may be in-kind or soft match. The incentive in the first year shall be based on fiscal year 2007 private sector contributions as prescribed in Laws 2005, First Special Session chapter 1, article 3, section 6. The incentive increase in the second year will be based on fiscal year 2008 private sector contributions. This incentive is ongoing.

Funding for the marketing grants is available either year of the biennium. Unexpended grant funds from the first year are available in the second year.

Any unexpended money from the general fund appropriations made under this section does not cancel but must be placed in a special marketing account for use by Explore Minnesota Tourism for additional marketing activities.

(b) \$325,000 the first year and \$325,000 the second year are for the Minnesota Film and TV Board. The appropriation in each year is available only upon receipt by the board of \$1 in matching contributions of money or in-kind contributions from nonstate sources for every \$3 provided by this appropriation.

(c) \$650,000 the first year and \$650,000 the second year are appropriated for a grant to the Minnesota Film and TV Board for the film jobs production program under Minnesota Statutes, section 116U.26. These appropriations are available in either year of the biennium and are available until expended.

(d) \$150,000 the first year is for a onetime grant to St. Louis County to be used for



feasibility studies and planning activities concerning additional uses for the St. Louis County Heritage and Arts Center at the Duluth depot. The studies and planning activities must include:

(1) examining the costs and benefits of relocating the Northeast Minnesota Office of Tourism to the Duluth depot;

(2) establishing a heritage tourism center at the Duluth depot;

(3) developing a multimodal operational plan integrating railroad and bus service; and

(4) identifying additional services and activities that would contribute toward returning the Duluth depot to being a working railroad station and cultural gateway to Duluth and St. Louis County.

This appropriation is available until expended.

**Sec. 5. HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY**

<b>Subdivision 1. Total Appropriation</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b><u>69,323,000</u></b>	<b>\$</b>	<b><u>45,234,000</u></b>
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The amounts that may be spent for each purpose are specified in the following subdivisions.

This appropriation is for transfer to the housing development fund for the programs specified. Except as otherwise indicated, this transfer is part of the agency's permanent budget base.

<b>Subd. 2. Challenge Program</b>		<b><u>24,622,000</u></b>		<b><u>9,622,000</u></b>
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For the economic development and housing challenge program under Minnesota Statutes, section 462A.33, for housing that:

(1) conserves energy and utilizes sustainable, healthy building materials;

(2) preserves sensitive natural areas and open spaces and minimizes the need for new infrastructure;

(3) is accessible to jobs and services through integration with transportation or transit systems; and

(4) expands the mix of housing choices in a community by diversifying the levels of housing affordability.

The agency may fund demonstration projects that have unique approaches to achieving the housing described in clauses (1) to (4).

**Subd. 3. Housing Trust Fund**

13,555,000

8,555,000

For deposit in the housing trust fund account created under Minnesota Statutes, section 462A.201, and used for the purposes provided in that section.

**Subd. 4. Rental Assistance for Mentally Ill**

2,638,000

2,638,000

For a rental housing assistance program for persons with a mental illness or families with an adult member with a mental illness under Minnesota Statutes, section 462A.2097. The agency must not reduce the funding under this subdivision.

**Subd. 5. Family Homeless Prevention**

7,465,000

7,465,000

For family homeless prevention and assistance programs under Minnesota Statutes, section 462A.204. Any balance in the first year does not cancel but is available in the second year.

**Subd. 6. Home Ownership Assistance Fund**

885,000

885,000

For the home ownership assistance program under Minnesota Statutes, section 462A.21, subdivision 8.

**Subd. 7. Affordable Rental Investment Fund**

11,496,000

8,996,000

For the affordable rental investment fund program under Minnesota Statutes, section 462A.21, subdivision 8b.

This appropriation is to finance the acquisition, rehabilitation, and debt

restructuring of federally assisted rental property and for making equity take-out loans under Minnesota Statutes, section 462A.05, subdivision 39.

The owner of the federally assisted rental property must agree to participate in the applicable federally assisted housing program and to extend any existing low-income affordability restrictions on the housing for the maximum term permitted. The owner must also enter into an agreement that gives local units of government, housing and redevelopment authorities, and nonprofit housing organizations the right of first refusal if the rental property is offered for sale. Priority must be given among comparable federally assisted rental properties to properties with the longest remaining term under an agreement for federal rental assistance. Priority must also be given among comparable rental housing developments to developments that are or will be owned by local government units, a housing and redevelopment authority, or a nonprofit housing organization.

This appropriation also may be used to finance the acquisition, rehabilitation, and debt restructuring of existing supportive housing properties. For purposes of this subdivision, "supportive housing" means affordable rental housing with links to services necessary for individuals, youth, and families with children to maintain housing stability.

Of this amount, \$2,500,000 is appropriated for the purposes of financing the rehabilitation and operating costs to preserve public housing. For purposes of this subdivision, "public housing" is housing for low-income persons and households financed by the federal government and owned and operated by public housing authorities and agencies. Eligible public housing authorities must have a public housing assessment system rating of standard or above. Priority among

comparable proposals must be given to proposals that maximize federal or local resources to finance the capital and operating costs.

<b><u>Subd. 8. Housing Rehabilitation and Accessibility</u></b>	<u>5,587,000</u>	<u>4,287,000</u>
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For the housing rehabilitation and accessibility program under Minnesota Statutes, section 462A.05, subdivisions 14a and 15a.

<b><u>Subd. 9. Urban Indian Housing Program</u></b>	<u>187,000</u>	<u>187,000</u>
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For the urban Indian housing program under Minnesota Statutes, section 462A.07, subdivision 15. The base is reduced by \$7,000 each year in fiscal year 2010 and fiscal year 2011.

<b><u>Subd. 10. Tribal Indian Housing Program</u></b>	<u>1,683,000</u>	<u>1,394,000</u>
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For the tribal Indian housing program under Minnesota Statutes, section 462A.07, subdivision 14. The base is reduced by \$179,000 each year in fiscal year 2010 and fiscal year 2011.

<b><u>Subd. 11. Home Ownership Education, Counseling, and Training</u></b>	<u>865,000</u>	<u>865,000</u>
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For the home ownership education, counseling, and training program under Minnesota Statutes, section 462A.209.

<b><u>Subd. 12. Capacity Building Grants</u></b>	<u>340,000</u>	<u>340,000</u>
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For nonprofit capacity building grants under Minnesota Statutes, section 462A.21, subdivision 3b. The base is reduced by \$90,000 each year in fiscal year 2010 and fiscal year 2011.

**Sec. 6. LABOR AND INDUSTRY**

<b><u>Subdivision 1. Total Appropriation</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 22,909,000</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 23,174,000</u></b>
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Appropriations by Fund

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>
<u>General</u>	<u>1,069,000</u>	<u>1,024,000</u>
<u>Workers' Compensation</u>	<u>21,076,000</u>	<u>21,371,000</u>
<u>Workforce Development</u>	<u>764,000</u>	<u>779,000</u>

The amounts that may be spent for each purpose are specified in the following subdivisions.

<b><u>Subd. 2. Workers' Compensation</u></b>	<u>10,360,000</u>	<u>10,617,000</u>
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This appropriation is from the workers' compensation fund.

Up to \$200,000 the first year and up to \$200,000 the second year are for grants to the Vinland Center for rehabilitation services. The grants shall be distributed as the department refers injured workers to the Vinland Center to receive rehabilitation services.

<b><u>Subd. 3. Safety Codes and Services</u></b>	<u>4,685,000</u>	<u>4,773,000</u>
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This appropriation is from the workers' compensation fund.

\$500,000 the first year and \$500,000 the second year are from the workers' compensation fund for patient safe handling grants under Minnesota Statutes, section 182.6553. This is a onetime appropriation and is available until expended.

<b><u>Subd. 4. Labor Standards/Apprenticeship</u></b>	<u>1,833,000</u>	<u>1,803,000</u>
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Appropriations by Fund

<u>General</u>	<u>1,069,000</u>	<u>1,024,000</u>
<u>Workforce Development</u>	<u>764,000</u>	<u>779,000</u>

The appropriation from the workforce development fund is for the apprenticeship program under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 178, and includes \$100,000 each year for labor education and advancement program grants.

\$360,000 the first year and \$300,000 the second year from the general fund are for prevailing wage enforcement of which \$60,000 in the first year is for outreach and survey participation improvements.

<b>Subd. 5. <u>General Support</u></b>	<u>6,031,000</u>	<u>5,981,000</u>
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This appropriation is from the workers' compensation fund.

**Sec. 7. BUREAU OF MEDIATION SERVICES**

<b>Subdivision 1. <u>Total Appropriation</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 1,864,000</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 1,904,000</u></b>
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The amounts that may be spent for each purpose are specified in the following subdivisions.

<b>Subd. 2. <u>Mediation Services</u></b>	<u>1,714,000</u>	<u>1,754,000</u>
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<b>Subd. 3. <u>Labor Management Cooperation Grants</u></b>	<u>150,000</u>	<u>150,000</u>
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\$150,000 the first year and \$150,000 the second year are for grants to area labor-management committees. Grants may be awarded for a 12-month period beginning July 1 of each year. Any unencumbered balance remaining at the end of the first year does not cancel but is available for the second year.

<b>Sec. 8. <u>WORKERS' COMPENSATION COURT OF APPEALS</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 1,660,000</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 1,703,000</u></b>
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This appropriation is from the workers' compensation fund.

**Sec. 9. MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

<b>Subdivision 1. <u>Total Appropriation</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 25,994,000</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 24,504,000</u></b>
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The amounts that may be spent for each purpose are specified in the following subdivisions. Of the appropriations, \$500,000 the first year and \$500,000 the second year are for increased building lease costs. These amounts are added to the department's base.

**Subd. 2. Education and Outreach**14,875,00013,862,000

(a) Of this amount, \$750,000 the first year is a onetime appropriation for the Minnesota Sesquicentennial Commission. Of this appropriation, \$325,000 is for competitive matching grants for local events and projects; \$325,000 is for planning and support of statewide activities, and up to \$100,000 may be used for administration.

The Minnesota Historical Society, the State Arts Board, and Explore Minnesota Tourism may assist the commission in designing and implementing the grants program.

The commission shall encourage private contributions to match the state funds to the greatest extent possible. Any gifts, pledges, membership fees, or contributions received by the commission are appropriated to the commission.

(b) \$500,000 the first year is for a grant-in-aid program for county and local historical societies. The Minnesota Historical Society shall establish program guidelines and grant evaluation and award criteria for the program. Each dollar of state funds awarded to a grantee must be matched with nonstate funds on a dollar-for-dollar basis by a grantee. This is a onetime appropriation and is available until expended.

(c) Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 138.668, the Minnesota Historical Society may not charge a fee for its general tours at the Capitol, but may charge fees for special programs other than general tours.

**Subd. 3. Preservation and Access**10,607,00010,396,000

(a) \$250,000 the first year is to conduct a conservation survey and for restoration, treatment, moving, and storage of the 1905 historic furnishings and works of art in the Minnesota State Capitol. This is a onetime appropriation and is available until expended.

(b) \$150,000 the first year is for the preservation of battle flags. This is a onetime appropriation and is available until expended.

(c) Funds may be reallocated between paragraphs (a) and (b) for the purpose of maximizing federal funds.

**Subd. 4. Fiscal Agent**

<u>(a) Minnesota International Center</u>	<u>43,000</u>	<u>43,000</u>
<u>(b) Minnesota Air National Guard Museum</u>	<u>16,000</u>	<u>-0-</u>
<u>(c) Minnesota Military Museum</u>	<u>100,000</u>	<u>-0-</u>
<u>(d) Farmamerica</u>	<u>128,000</u>	<u>128,000</u>

(e) Balances Forward

Any unencumbered balance remaining in this subdivision the first year does not cancel but is available for the second year of the biennium.

(f) \$75,000 the first year is for a onetime grant to the Nicollet County Historical Society for renovation of the center exhibit gallery in the Treaty Site History Center in St. Peter, including additions to the center's infrastructure and state-of-the-art interpretive elements. This appropriation is available until expended.

(g) \$75,000 the first year is for a grant to the Hmong Studies Center at Concordia University in St. Paul, Minnesota, to be used for preservation of Hmong historical artifacts and documents. Any part of the appropriation not used in fiscal year 2008 is available for use in fiscal year 2009. This is a onetime appropriation and is available until expended.

(h) \$75,000 the first year and \$75,000 the second year are for a grant to the city of Eveleth to be used for the support of the Hockey Hall of Fame Museum provided that it continues to operate in the city. This grant is in addition to and must not be used to supplant funding under Minnesota Statutes, section



298.28, subdivision 9c. This appropriation is added to the society's base budget.

**Subd. 5. Fund Transfer**

The Minnesota Historical Society may reallocate funds appropriated in and between subdivisions 2 and 3 for any program purposes.

**Subd. 6. Minnesota River Valley Study Group**

The Minnesota Historical Society in cooperation with Explore Minnesota Tourism shall establish and coordinate a Minnesota River Valley study group. The Minnesota River Valley study group shall be comprised of representatives of the Minnesota Valley Scenic Byway Alliance, the Department of Natural Resources, the Department of Transportation, the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council, the Region 6 West, Region 6 East, Region 8 and Region 9 Regional Development Commissions, the Minnesota Historical Society, Explore Minnesota Tourism, State Arts Board, and other interested parties. The study group must develop a plan for coordinated activities among organizations represented on the study group to enhance and promote historic sites, and historic, scenic, and natural features of the Minnesota River Valley area. Study topics shall include, but are not limited to, historic sites related to the Dakota Conflict of 1862 and the state and local preparations for the sesquicentennial of this event. The Minnesota Historical Society and Explore Minnesota Tourism shall report on the findings and recommendations of the Minnesota River Valley study group to the standing committees of the house of representatives and senate with jurisdiction over historic sites and tourism by March 1, 2008. The Minnesota River Valley study group shall serve without compensation.

**Sec. 10. BOARD OF THE ARTS**

Subdivision 1. <b>Total Appropriation</b>	\$	<b>10,215,000</b>	\$	<b>10,227,000</b>
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If the appropriation for either year is insufficient, the appropriation for the other year is available.

The amounts that may be spent for each purpose are specified in the following subdivisions.

Subd. 2. <b>Operations and Services</b>		641,000		651,000
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Subd. 3. <b>Grants Program</b>		6,617,000		6,617,000
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The base for this program is \$6,477,000 each year in the 2010-2011 biennium.

Subd. 4. <b>Regional Arts Councils</b>		2,957,000		2,959,000
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Sec. 11. <b>BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY</b>	\$	<b>496,000</b>	\$	<b>505,000</b>
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Sec. 12. <b>BOARD OF ARCHITECTURE, ENGINEERING, LAND SURVEYING, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE, GEOSCIENCE, AND INTERIOR DESIGN</b>	\$	<b>800,000</b>	\$	<b>815,000</b>
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Sec. 13. <b>BOARD OF BARBER AND COSMETOLOGIST EXAMINERS</b>	\$	<b>829,000</b>	\$	<b>749,000</b>
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Sec. 14. <b>MINNESOTA BOXING COMMISSION</b>	\$	<b>50,000</b>	\$	<b>-0-</b>
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This is a onetime appropriation to transition the commission to being a self-funded entity.

Sec. 15. <b>MINNESOTA HUMANITIES COMMISSION</b>	\$	<b>250,000</b>	\$	<b>250,000</b>
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Of this amount, ten percent each year is for lifelong learning programs in greater Minnesota communities that do not receive financial support from other large educational institutions. The base budget for the Minnesota Humanities Commission is \$250,000 each year in the 2010-2011 biennium.

Sec. 16. <b>TRANSFERS</b>				
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The commissioner of labor and industry shall transfer \$1,627,000 by June 30, 2008, and \$1,515,000 by June 30, 2009, and each year thereafter, from the construction code fund to the general fund.

Of the balance remaining in Laws 2005, First Special Session chapter 1, article 3, section 2, subdivision 2, for the methamphetamine laboratory cleanup revolving loan fund, \$100,000 is for transfer to the small community wastewater treatment account established in Minnesota Statutes, section 446A.075, subdivision 1.

## ARTICLE 2

### EMPLOYMENT AND DEVELOPMENT-RELATED PROVISIONS

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 13.7931, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 5. **Data from safety and education programs for loggers.** The following data collected from persons who attend safety and education programs or seminars for loggers established or approved by the commissioner under section 176.130, subdivision 11, is public data:

- (1) the names of the individuals attending the program or seminar;
- (2) the names of each attendee's employer;
- (3) the city where the employer is located;
- (4) the date the program or seminar was held; and
- (5) a description of the seminar or program.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16B.61, subdivision 1a, is amended to read:

Subd. 1a. **Administration by commissioner.** The commissioner shall administer and enforce the State Building Code as a municipality with respect to public buildings and state licensed facilities in the state. The commissioner shall establish appropriate permit, plan review, and inspection fees, and surcharges for public buildings and state licensed facilities. Fees and surcharges for public buildings and state licensed facilities must be remitted to the commissioner, who shall deposit them in the state treasury for credit to the special revenue fund.

Municipalities other than the state having an agreement with the commissioner for code administration and enforcement service for public buildings and state licensed facilities shall charge their customary fees, including surcharge, to be paid directly to the jurisdiction by the applicant seeking authorization to construct a public building or a state licensed facility. The commissioner shall sign an agreement with a municipality other than the state for plan review, code administration, and code enforcement service for public buildings and state licensed facilities in the jurisdiction if the building officials of the municipality meet the requirements of section 16B.65

and wish to provide those services and if the commissioner determines that the municipality has enough adequately trained and qualified building inspectors to provide those services for the construction project.

The commissioner may direct the state building official to assist a community that has been affected by a natural disaster with building evaluation and other activities related to building codes.

Administration and enforcement in a municipality under this section must apply any optional provisions of the State Building Code adopted by the municipality. A municipality adopting any optional code provision shall notify the state building official within 30 days of its adoption.

The commissioner shall administer and enforce the provisions of the code relating to elevators statewide, except as provided for under section 16B.747, subdivision 3.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16B.65, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Designation.** ~~By January 1, 2002,~~ Each municipality shall designate a building official to administer the code. A municipality may designate no more than one building official responsible for code administration defined by each certification category established in rule. Two or more municipalities may combine in the designation of a building official for the purpose of administering the provisions of the code within their communities. In those municipalities for which no building officials have been designated, the state building official may use whichever state employees are necessary to perform the duties of the building official until the municipality makes a temporary or permanent designation. All costs incurred by virtue of these services rendered by state employees must be borne by the involved municipality and receipts arising from these services must be paid ~~into the state treasury and credited to the special revenue fund~~ to the commissioner.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16B.65, subdivision 5a, is amended to read:

Subd. 5a. **Administrative action and penalties.** The commissioner shall, by rule, establish a graduated schedule of administrative actions for violations of sections 16B.59 to 16B.75 and rules adopted under those sections. The schedule must be based on and reflect the culpability, frequency, and severity of the violator's actions. The commissioner may impose a penalty from the schedule on a certification holder for a violation of sections 16B.59 to 16B.75 and rules adopted under those sections. The penalty is in addition to any criminal penalty imposed for the same violation. ~~Administrative monetary penalties imposed by the commissioner must be paid to the special revenue fund.~~

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16B.70, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Collection and reports.** All permit surcharges must be collected by each municipality and a portion of them remitted to the state. Each municipality having a population greater than 20,000 people shall prepare and submit to the commissioner once a month a report of fees and surcharges on fees collected during the previous month but shall retain the greater of two percent or that amount collected up to \$25 to apply against the administrative expenses the municipality incurs in collecting the surcharges. All other municipalities shall submit the report and surcharges on fees once a quarter but shall retain the greater of four percent or that amount collected up to \$25 to apply against the administrative expenses the municipalities incur in collecting the surcharges. The report, which must be in a form prescribed by the commissioner, must be submitted together with a remittance covering the surcharges collected by the 15th day following the month or quarter

in which the surcharges are collected. ~~All money collected by the commissioner through surcharges and other fees prescribed by sections 16B.59 to 16B.75 shall be deposited in the state government special revenue fund and is appropriated to the commissioner for the purpose of administering and enforcing the State Building Code under sections 16B.59 to 16B.75.~~

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 116J.551, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Grant account.** A contaminated site cleanup and development grant account is created in the general fund. Money in the account may be used, as appropriated by law, to make grants as provided in section 116J.554 and to pay for the commissioner's costs in reviewing applications and making grants. Notwithstanding section 16A.28, money appropriated to the account for this program from any source is available for four years until spent.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 116J.554, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Qualifying sites.** A site qualifies for a grant under this section, if the following criteria are met:

(1) the site is not scheduled for funding during the current or next fiscal year under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, United States Code, title 42, section 9601, et seq. or under the Environmental Response, and Liability Act under sections 115B.01 to 115B.20;

~~(2) the appraised value of the site after adjusting for the effect on the value of the presence or possible presence of contaminants using accepted appraisal methodology, or the current market value of the site as issued under section 273.121, separately taking into account the effect of the contaminants on the market value, (i) is less than 75 percent of the estimated project costs for the site or (ii) is less than or equal to the estimated cleanup costs for the site and the cleanup costs equal or exceed \$3 per square foot for the site; and~~

~~(3)~~ (2) if the proposed cleanup is completed, it is expected that the site will be improved with buildings or other improvements and these improvements will provide a substantial increase in the property tax base within a reasonable period of time or the site will be used for an important publicly owned or tax-exempt facility.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 116J.555, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Priorities.** (a) The legislature expects that applications for grants will exceed the available appropriations and the agency will be able to provide grants to only some of the applicant development authorities.

(b) If applications for grants for qualified sites exceed the available appropriations, the agency shall make grants for sites that, in the commissioner's judgment, provide the highest return in public benefits for the public costs incurred and that meet all the requirements provided by law. In making this judgment, the commissioner shall consider the following factors:

(1) the recommendations or ranking of projects by the commissioner of the Pollution Control Agency regarding the potential threat to public health and the environment that would be reduced or eliminated by completion of each of the response action plans;

(2) the potential increase in the property tax base of the local taxing jurisdictions, considered

relative to the fiscal needs of the jurisdictions, that will result from developments that will occur because of completion of each of the response action plans;

(3) the social value to the community of the cleanup and redevelopment of the site, including the importance of development of the proposed public facilities on each of the sites;

(4) the probability that each site will be cleaned up without use of government money in the reasonably foreseeable future by considering but not limited to the current market value of the site versus the cleanup cost;

(5) the amount of cleanup costs for each site; and

(6) the amount of the commitment of municipal or other local resources to pay for the cleanup costs.

The factors are not listed in a rank order of priority; rather the commissioner may weigh each factor, depending upon the facts and circumstances, as the commissioner considers appropriate. The commissioner may consider other factors that affect the net return of public benefits for completion of the response action plan. The commissioner, notwithstanding the listing of priorities and the goal of maximizing the return of public benefits, shall make grants that distribute available money to sites both within and outside of the metropolitan area. The commissioner shall provide a written statement of the supporting reasons for each grant. Unless sufficient applications are not received for qualifying sites outside of the metropolitan area, at least 25 percent of the money provided as grants must be made for sites located outside of the metropolitan area.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 116J.575, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Commissioner discretion.** The commissioner may make a grant for up to 50 percent of the eligible costs of a project. The determination of whether to make a grant for a site is within the discretion of the commissioner, subject to this section and sections 116J.571 to 116J.574 and available unencumbered money in the redevelopment account. ~~If the commissioner determines that the applications for grants for projects in greater Minnesota are less than the amount of grant funds available, the commissioner may make grants for projects anywhere in Minnesota.~~ The commissioner's decisions and application of the priorities under this section are not subject to judicial review, except for abuse of discretion.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 116J.575, subdivision 1a, is amended to read:

Subd. 1a. **Priorities.** (a) If applications for grants exceed the available appropriations, grants shall be made for sites that, in the commissioner's judgment, provide the highest return in public benefits for the public costs incurred. "Public benefits" include job creation, bioscience development, environmental benefits to the state and region, efficient use of public transportation, efficient use of existing infrastructure, provision of affordable housing, multiuse development that constitutes community rebuilding rather than single-use development, crime reduction, blight reduction, community stabilization, and property tax base maintenance or improvement. In making this judgment, the commissioner shall give priority to redevelopment projects with one or more of the following characteristics:

(1) the need for redevelopment in conjunction with contamination remediation needs;

(2) the redevelopment project meets current tax increment financing requirements for a

redevelopment district and tax increments will contribute to the project;

- (3) the redevelopment potential within the municipality;
- (4) proximity to public transit if located in the metropolitan area; ~~and~~
- (5) redevelopment costs related to expansion of a bioscience business in Minnesota; and
- ~~(5)~~ (6) multijurisdictional projects that take into account the need for affordable housing, transportation, and environmental impact.

(b) The factors in paragraph (a) are not listed in a rank order of priority; rather, the commissioner may weigh each factor, depending upon the facts and circumstances, as the commissioner considers appropriate. The commissioner may consider other factors that affect the net return of public benefits for completion of the redevelopment plan. The commissioner, notwithstanding the listing of priorities and the goal of maximizing the return of public benefits, shall make grants that distribute available money to sites both within and outside of the metropolitan area. Unless sufficient applications are not received for qualifying sites outside of the metropolitan area, at least 50 percent of the money provided as grants must be made for sites located outside of the metropolitan area.

Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 116J.966, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Generally.** (a) The commissioner shall promote, develop, and facilitate trade and foreign investment in Minnesota. In furtherance of these goals, and in addition to the powers granted by section 116J.035, the commissioner may:

- (1) locate, develop, and promote international markets for Minnesota products and services;
- (2) arrange and lead trade missions to countries with promising international markets for Minnesota goods, technology, services, and agricultural products;
- (3) promote Minnesota products and services at domestic and international trade shows;
- (4) organize, promote, and present domestic and international trade shows featuring Minnesota products and services;
- (5) host trade delegations and assist foreign traders in contacting appropriate Minnesota businesses and investments;
- (6) develop contacts with Minnesota businesses and gather and provide information to assist them in locating and communicating with international trading or joint venture counterparts;
- (7) provide information, education, and counseling services to Minnesota businesses regarding the economic, commercial, legal, and cultural contexts of international trade;
- (8) provide Minnesota businesses with international trade leads and information about the availability and sources of services relating to international trade, such as export financing, licensing, freight forwarding, international advertising, translation, and custom brokering;
- (9) locate, attract, and promote foreign direct investment and business development in Minnesota to enhance employment opportunities in Minnesota;

(10) provide foreign businesses and investors desiring to locate facilities in Minnesota information regarding sources of governmental, legal, real estate, financial, and business services;

(11) enter into contracts or other agreements with private persons and public entities, including agreements to establish and maintain offices and other types of representation in foreign countries, to carry out the purposes of promoting international trade and attracting investment from foreign countries to Minnesota and to carry out this section, without regard to section 16C.06; and

(12) market trade-related materials to businesses and organizations, and the proceeds of which must be placed in a special revolving account and are appropriated to the commissioner to prepare and distribute trade-related materials.

(b) The programs and activities of the commissioner of employment and economic development and the Minnesota Trade Division may not duplicate programs and activities of the commissioner of agriculture.

(c) The commissioner shall notify the chairs of the senate Finance and house Ways and Means Committees of each agreement under this subdivision to establish and maintain an office or other type of representation in a foreign country.

(d) The Minnesota Trade Office shall serve as the state's office of protocol providing assistance to official visits by foreign government representatives and shall serve as liaison to the foreign diplomatic corps in Minnesota.

Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 116L.01, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 4. **Workforce development intermediaries.** "Workforce development intermediaries" means public, private, or nonprofit entities that provide employment services to low-income individuals and have a demonstrated track record bringing together employers and workers, private and public funding streams, and other stakeholders to implement pathways to career advancement for low-income individuals. Entities may include, but are not limited to, nonprofit organizations, educational institutions, or the administrative entity of a local workforce service area.

Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 116L.04, subdivision 1a, is amended to read:

Subd. 1a. **Pathways program.** The pathways program may provide grants-in-aid for developing programs which assist in the transition of persons from welfare to work and assist individuals at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty guidelines. The program is to be operated by the board. The board shall consult and coordinate with program administrators at the Department of Employment and Economic Development to design and provide services for temporary assistance for needy families recipients.

Pathways grants-in-aid may be awarded to educational or other nonprofit training institutions or to workforce development intermediaries for education and training programs and services supporting education and training programs that serve eligible recipients.

Preference shall be given to projects that:

- (1) provide employment with benefits paid to employees;
- (2) provide employment where there are defined career paths for trainees;



(3) pilot the development of an educational pathway that can be used on a continuing basis for transitioning persons from welfare to work; and

(4) demonstrate the active participation of Department of Employment and Economic Development workforce centers, Minnesota State College and University institutions and other educational institutions, and local welfare agencies.

Pathways projects must demonstrate the active involvement and financial commitment of private business. Pathways projects must be matched with cash or in-kind contributions on at least a ~~one-to-one~~ one-half-to-one ratio by participating private business.

A single grant to any one institution shall not exceed \$400,000. A portion of a grant may be used for preemployment training.

Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 116L.17, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) For the purposes of this section, the following terms have the meanings given them in this subdivision.

(b) "Commissioner" means the commissioner of employment and economic development.

(c) "Dislocated worker" means an individual who is a resident of Minnesota at the time employment ceased or was working in the state at the time employment ceased and:

(1) has been permanently separated or has received a notice of permanent separation from public or private sector employment and is eligible for or has exhausted entitlement to unemployment benefits, and is unlikely to return to the previous industry or occupation;

(2) has been long-term unemployed and has limited opportunities for employment or reemployment in the same or a similar occupation in the area in which the individual resides, including older individuals who may have substantial barriers to employment by reason of age;

(3) has been terminated or has received a notice of termination of employment as a result of a plant closing or a substantial layoff at a plant, facility, or enterprise;

(4) has been self-employed, including farmers and ranchers, and is unemployed as a result of general economic conditions in the community in which the individual resides or because of natural disasters; or

~~(4)~~ (5) is a displaced homemaker. A "displaced homemaker" is an individual who has spent a substantial number of years in the home providing homemaking service and (i) has been dependent upon the financial support of another; and now due to divorce, separation, death, or disability of that person, must find employment to self support; or (ii) derived the substantial share of support from public assistance on account of dependents in the home and no longer receives such support.

To be eligible under this clause, the support must have ceased while the worker resided in Minnesota.

(d) "Eligible organization" means a state or local government unit, nonprofit organization, community action agency, business organization or association, or labor organization.

(e) "Plant closing" means the announced or actual permanent shutdown of a single site of

employment, or one or more facilities or operating units within a single site of employment.

(f) "Substantial layoff" means a permanent reduction in the workforce, which is not a result of a plant closing, and which results in an employment loss at a single site of employment during any 30-day period for at least 50 employees excluding those employees that work less than 20 hours per week.

Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 116L.20, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Determination and collection of special assessment.** (a) In addition to amounts due from an employer under the Minnesota unemployment insurance program, each employer, except an employer making reimbursements is liable for a special assessment levied at the rate of .10 percent per year for calendar years 2006 and 2007 on all taxable wages, as defined in section 268.035, subdivision 24. Beginning January 1, 2008, the special assessment shall be levied at a rate of .085 percent per year on all taxable wages. The assessment shall become due and be paid by each employer on the same schedule and in the same manner as other amounts due from an employer under section 268.051, subdivision 1.

(b) The special assessment levied under this section shall be subject to the same requirements and collection procedures as any amounts due from an employer under the Minnesota unemployment insurance program.

Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 116L.666, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Designation of workforce service areas.** For the purpose of administering federal, state, and local employment and training services, the commissioner shall designate the geographic boundaries for workforce service areas in Minnesota.

The commissioner shall approve a request to be a workforce service area from:

(1) a home rule charter or statutory city with a population of 200,000 or more or a county with a population of 200,000 or more; or

(2) a consortium of contiguous home rule charter or statutory cities or counties with an aggregate population of 200,000 or more that serves a substantial part of one or more labor markets.

The commissioner may approve a request to be a workforce service area from a home rule charter or statutory city or a county or a consortium of contiguous home rule charter or statutory cities or counties, without regard to population, that serves a substantial portion of a labor market area.

The commissioner shall make a final designation of workforce service areas within the state after consulting with local elected officials and the governor's Workforce Development Council. Existing service delivery areas designated under the federal Job Training Partnership Act shall be initially designated as workforce service areas providing that no other petitions are submitted by local elected officials.

The commissioner may redesignate workforce service areas, upon the advice of the affected local elected officials, no more frequently than every two years. These redesignations must be made not later than four months before the beginning of a program year.

Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 116M.18, subdivision 6a, is amended to read:

Subd. 6a. **Nonprofit corporation loans.** The board may make loans to a nonprofit corporation with which it has entered into an agreement under subdivision 1. These loans must be used to support a new or expanding business. This support may include such forms of financing as the sale of goods to the business on installment or deferred payments, lease purchase agreements, or royalty investments in the business. The interest rate charged by a nonprofit corporation for a loan under this subdivision must not exceed the Wall Street Journal prime rate plus four percent. For a loan under this subdivision, the nonprofit corporation may charge a loan origination fee equal to or less than one percent of the loan value. The nonprofit corporation may retain the amount of the origination fee. The nonprofit corporation must provide at least an equal match to the loan received by the board. The maximum loan available to the nonprofit corporation under this subdivision is \$50,000. Loans made to the nonprofit corporation under this subdivision may be made without interest. Repayments made by the nonprofit corporation must be deposited in the revolving fund created for urban initiative grants.

Sec. 18. [1160.115] SMALL BUSINESS GROWTH ACCELERATION PROGRAM.

Subdivision 1. **Establishment; purpose.** The small business growth acceleration program is established. The purpose of the program is to (1) help qualified companies implement technology and business improvements; and (2) bridge the gap between standard market pricing for technology and business improvements and what qualified companies can afford to pay.

Subd. 2. **Qualified company.** A company is qualified to receive assistance under the small business growth acceleration program if it is a manufacturing company or a manufacturing-related service company that employs 100 or fewer full-time equivalent employees.

Subd. 3. **Applications for assistance.** A company seeking assistance under the small business growth acceleration program must file an application according to the requirements of the corporation. A company's application for small business growth acceleration program assistance must include documentation of the company's overall plan for technology and business improvement and prioritize the components of the overall plan. The application must also document the company's need for small business growth acceleration program funds in order to carry forward the highest priority components of the plan.

Subd. 4. **Fund awards; use of funds.** (a) The corporation shall establish procedures for determining which applicants for assistance under the small business growth acceleration program will receive program funding. Funding shall be awarded only to accelerate a qualified company's adoption of needed technology or business improvements when the corporation concludes that it is unlikely the improvements could be accomplished in any other way.

(b) The maximum amount of funds awarded to a qualified company under the small business growth acceleration program for a particular project must not exceed 50 percent of the total cost of a project and must not under any circumstances exceed \$25,000 during a calendar year. The corporation shall not award to a qualified company small business growth acceleration program funds in excess of \$50,000 per year.

(c) Any funds awarded to a qualified company under the small business growth acceleration program must be used for business services and products that will enhance the operation of the company. These business services and products must come either directly from the corporation or from a network of expert providers identified and approved by the corporation. No company receiving small business growth acceleration program funds may use the funds for refinancing,

overhead costs, new construction, renovation, equipment, or computer hardware.

(d) Any funds awarded must be disbursed to the qualified company as reimbursement documented according to requirements of the corporation.

Subd. 5. **Service agreements.** The corporation shall enter a written service agreement with each company awarded funds under the small business growth acceleration program. Each service agreement shall clearly articulate the company's need for service, state the cost of the service, identify who will provide the service, and define the scope of the service that will be provided. The service agreement must also include an estimate of the financial impact of the service on the company and require the company to report the actual financial impact of the service to the corporation 24 months after the service is provided.

Subd. 6. **Reporting.** The corporation shall report annually to the legislative committees with fiscal jurisdiction over the Department of Employment and Economic Development:

(1) the funds awarded under the small business growth acceleration program during the past 12 months;

(2) the estimated financial impact of the funds awarded to each company receiving service under the program; and

(3) the actual financial impact of funds awarded during the past 24 months.

**Sec. 19. [179.86] PACKINGHOUSE WORKERS BILL OF RIGHTS.**

Subdivision 1. **Definition.** For the purpose of this section, "employer" means an employer in the meatpacking industry.

Subd. 2. **Right to adequate equipment.** An employer must furnish its employees with equipment to safely perform their jobs under OSHA standards.

Subd. 3. **Information provided to employee by employer.** (a) An employer must provide an explanation in an employee's native language of the employee's rights and duties as an employee either person to person or through written materials that, at a minimum, include:

(1) a complete description of the salary and benefits plans as they relate to the employee;

(2) a job description for the employee's position;

(3) a description of leave policies;

(4) a description of the work hours and work hours policy; and

(5) a description of the occupational hazards known to exist for the position.

(b) The explanation must also include information on the following employee rights as protected by state or federal law and a description of where additional information about those rights may be obtained:

(1) the right to organize and bargain collectively and refrain from organizing and bargaining collectively;

(2) the right to a safe workplace; and

(3) the right to be free from discrimination.

Subd. 4. **Commissioner duties.** The commissioner of labor and industry in consultation with the commissioner of human rights must develop and implement a strategy to assist employers in providing adequate notice and education to employees of their rights under this section. The commissioner shall assign the duty to implement the strategy to a specific identified position in the department. The position, along with contact information, must be included on printed materials the department prepares and distributes to carry out the commissioner's duties under this section.

Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 179A.04, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Other duties.** (a) The commissioner shall:

(1) provide mediation services as requested by the parties until the parties reach agreement, and may continue to assist parties after they have submitted their final positions for interest arbitration;

(2) issue notices, subpoenas, and orders required by law to carry out duties under sections 179A.01 to 179A.25;

(3) assist the parties in formulating petitions, notices, and other papers required to be filed with the commissioner;

(4) conduct elections;

(5) certify the final results of any election or other voting procedure conducted under sections 179A.01 to 179A.25;

(6) adopt rules relating to the administration of this chapter and the conduct of hearings and elections;

(7) receive, catalogue, file, and make available to the public all decisions of arbitrators and panels authorized by sections 179A.01 to 179A.25, all grievance arbitration decisions, and the commissioner's orders and decisions;

(8) adopt, subject to chapter 14, a grievance procedure that fulfills the purposes of section 179A.20, subdivision 4, that is available to any employee in a unit not covered by a contractual grievance procedure;

(9) maintain a schedule of state employee classifications or positions assigned to each unit established in section 179A.10, subdivision 2;

(10) collect fees established by rule for empanelment of persons on the labor arbitrator roster maintained by the commissioner or in conjunction with fair share fee challenges. Arbitrator application fees will be \$100 per year for initial applications and renewals effective July 1, 2007;

(11) provide technical support and assistance to voluntary joint labor-management committees established for the purpose of improving relationships between exclusive representatives and employers, at the discretion of the commissioner;

(12) provide to the parties a list of arbitrators as required by section 179A.16, subdivision 4; and

(13) maintain a list of up to 60 arbitrators for referral to employers and exclusive representatives for the resolution of grievance or interest disputes. Each person on the list must be knowledgeable

about collective bargaining and labor relations in the public sector, well versed in state and federal labor law, and experienced in and knowledgeable about labor arbitration. To the extent practicable, the commissioner shall appoint members to the list so that the list is gender and racially diverse.

(b) From the names provided by representative organizations, the commissioner shall maintain a list of arbitrators to conduct teacher discharge or termination hearings according to section 122A.40 or 122A.41. The persons on the list must meet at least one of the following requirements:

- (1) be a former or retired judge;
- (2) be a qualified arbitrator on the list maintained by the bureau;
- (3) be a present, former, or retired administrative law judge; or
- (4) be a neutral individual who is learned in the law and admitted to practice in Minnesota, who is qualified by experience to conduct these hearings, and who is without bias to either party.

Each year, education Minnesota shall provide a list of up to 14 names and the Minnesota School Boards Association a list of up to 14 names of persons to be on the list. The commissioner may adopt rules about maintaining and updating the list.

**Sec. 21. [181A.115] PROHIBITED EMPLOYMENT RELATING TO THE PRESENCE OF LIQUOR.**

No minor under the age of 18 shall be employed in any rooms constituting the place in which intoxicating liquors or 3.2 percent malt liquors are served or consumed or in any tasks involving the serving, dispensing, or handling of such liquors that are consumed on the premises except that:

(1) minors who have reached the age of 16 may be employed to perform busing, dishwashing, or hosting services in those rooms or areas of a restaurant, hotel, motel, or resort where the presence of intoxicating liquor is incidental to food service or preparation;

(2) minors who have reached the age of 16 may be employed to perform busing, dishwashing, or hosting services or to provide waiter or waitress service in rooms or areas where the presence of 3.2 percent malt liquor is incidental to food service or preparation;

(3) minors who have reached the age of 16 may be employed to provide musical entertainment in those rooms or areas where the presence of intoxicating liquor and 3.2 percent malt liquor is incidental to food service or preparation; and

(4) minors are not prevented from working at tasks which are not prohibited by law in establishments where liquor is sold, served, dispensed, or handled in those rooms or areas where no liquor is consumed or served.

Sec. 22. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 182.65, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Legislative findings and purpose.** The legislature finds that the burden on employers and employees of this state resulting from personal injuries and illnesses arising out of work situations is substantial; that the prevention of these injuries and illnesses is an important objective of the government of this state; that the greatest hope of attaining this objective lies in programs of research and education, and in the earnest cooperation of government, employers and employees; and that a program of regulation and enforcement is a necessary supplement to these more basic

programs.

The legislature declares it to be its purpose and policy through the exercise of its powers to assure so far as possible every worker in the state of Minnesota safe and healthful working conditions and to preserve our human resources by:

(a) authorizing the Occupational Safety and Health Advisory Council to advise, consult with or recommend on any matters relating to the Minnesota occupational safety and health plan to the commissioner of labor and industry and by authorizing the commissioner of labor and industry to promulgate and enforce mandatory occupational safety and health standards applicable to employers and employees in the state of Minnesota;

(b) encouraging employers and employees to increase their efforts to reduce the number of occupational safety and health hazards at their places of employment, and to stimulate employers and employees to institute new and to perfect existing programs for providing safe and healthful working conditions;

(c) providing that employers and employees have separate but dependent responsibilities and rights with respect to achieving safe and healthful working conditions;

(d) providing for research in the field of occupational safety and health; including the psychological factors involved, and by developing innovative methods, techniques, and approaches for dealing with occupational safety and health problems;

(e) exploring ways to discover latent diseases, establishing causal connections between diseases and work in environmental conditions, and conducting other research relating to health problems, in recognition of the fact that occupational health standards present problems often different from those involved in occupational safety;

(f) utilizing advances already made by federal laws and regulations providing safe and healthful working conditions;

(g) providing criteria which will assure insofar as practicable that no employee will suffer diminished health, functional capacity, or life expectancy as a result of work experience;

(h) providing an effective enforcement program which shall include locating enforcement personnel in areas of the state with a higher incidence of workplace fatalities, injuries, and complaints and a prohibition against giving advance notice of an inspection and sanctions for any individual violating this prohibition;

(i) providing for appropriate reporting procedures with respect to occupational safety and health, which procedures will help achieve the objectives of this chapter and accurately describe the nature of the occupational safety and health problem;

(j) encouraging joint labor-management efforts to reduce injuries and diseases arising out of employment;

(k) providing consultation to employees and employers which will aid them in complying with their responsibilities under this chapter where such consultation does not interfere with the effective enforcement of this chapter; and

(l) providing for training programs to increase the number and competence of personnel engaged

in the field of occupational safety and health.

Sec. 23. [182.6551] CITATION.

Sections 182.6551 to 182.6553 may be cited as the "Safe Patient Handling Act."

Sec. 24. [182.6552] DEFINITIONS.

Subdivision 1. **Direct patient care worker.** "Direct patient care worker" means an individual doing the job of directly providing physical care to patients including nurses, as defined by section 148.171, who provide physical care to patients.

Subd. 2. **Health care facility.** "Health care facility" means a hospital as defined in section 144.50, subdivision 2; an outpatient surgical center as defined in section 144.55, subdivision 2; and a nursing home as defined in section 144A.01, subdivision 5.

Subd. 3. **Safe patient handling.** "Safe patient handling" means a process, based on scientific evidence on causes of injuries, that uses safe patient handling equipment rather than people to transfer, move, and reposition patients in all health care facilities to reduce workplace injuries. This process also reduces the risk of injury to patients.

Subd. 4. **Safe patient handling equipment.** "Safe patient handling equipment" means engineering controls, lifting and transfer aids, or mechanical assistive devices used by nurses and other direct patient care workers instead of manual lifting to perform the acts of lifting, transferring, and repositioning health care facility patients and residents.

Sec. 25. [182.6553] SAFE PATIENT HANDLING PROGRAM.

Subdivision 1. **Safe patient handling program required.** (a) By July 1, 2008, every licensed health care facility in the state shall adopt a written safe patient handling policy establishing the facility's plan to achieve by January 1, 2011, the goal of minimizing manual lifting of patients by nurses and other direct patient care workers by utilizing safe patient handling equipment.

(b) The program shall address:

- (1) assessment of hazards with regard to patient handling;
- (2) the acquisition of an adequate supply of appropriate safe patient handling equipment;
- (3) initial and ongoing training of nurses and other direct patient care workers on the use of this equipment;
- (4) procedures to ensure that physical plant modifications and major construction projects are consistent with program goals; and
- (5) periodic evaluations of the safe patient handling program.

Subd. 2. **Safe patient handling committee.** (a) By July 1, 2008, every licensed health care facility in the state shall establish a safe patient handling committee either by creating a new committee or assigning the functions of a safe patient handling committee to an existing committee.

(b) Membership of a safe patient handling committee or an existing committee must meet the following requirements:



(1) at least half the members shall be nonmanagerial nurses and other direct patient care workers; and

(2) in a health care facility where nurses and other direct patient care workers are covered by a collective bargaining agreement, the union shall select the committee members proportionate to its representation of nonmanagerial workers, nurses, and other direct patient care workers.

(c) A health care organization with more than one covered health care facility may establish a committee at each facility or one committee to serve this function for all the facilities. If the organization chooses to have one overall committee for multiple facilities, at least half of the members of the overall committee must be nonmanagerial nurses and other direct patient care workers and each facility must be represented on the committee.

(d) Employees who serve on a safe patient handling committee must be compensated by their employer for all hours spent on committee business.

Subd. 3. **Facilities with existing programs.** A facility that has already adopted a safe patient handling policy that satisfies the requirements of subdivision 1, and established a safe patient handling committee by July 1, 2008, is considered to be in compliance with those requirements. The committee must continue to satisfy the requirements of subdivision 2, paragraph (b), on an ongoing basis.

Subd. 4. **Committee duties.** A safe patient handling committee shall:

(1) complete a patient handling hazard assessment that:

(i) considers patient handling tasks, types of nursing units, patient populations, and the physical environment of patient care areas;

(ii) identifies problems and solutions;

(iii) identifies areas of highest risk for lifting injuries; and

(iv) recommends a mechanism to report, track, and analyze injury trends;

(2) make recommendations on the purchase, use, and maintenance of an adequate supply of appropriate safe patient handling equipment;

(3) make recommendations on training of nurses and other direct patient care workers on use of safe patient handling equipment, initially when the equipment arrives at the facility and periodically afterwards;

(4) conduct annual evaluations of the safe patient handling implementation plan and progress toward goals established in the safe patient handling policy; and

(5) recommend procedures to ensure that, when remodeling of patient care areas occurs, the plans incorporate safe patient handling equipment or the physical space and construction design needed to accommodate safe patient handling equipment at a later date.

Subd. 5. **Training materials.** The commissioner shall make training materials on implementation of this section available to all health care facilities at no cost as part of the training and education duties of the commissioner under section 182.673.

Subd. 6. **Enforcement.** This section shall be enforced by the commissioner under section 182.661. A violation of this section is subject to the penalties provided under section 182.666.

Subd. 7. **Grant program.** The commissioner may make grants to health care facilities to acquire safe patient handling equipment and for training on safe patient handling and safe patient handling equipment. Grants to any one facility may not exceed \$40,000. A grant must be matched on a dollar-for-dollar basis by the grantee. The commissioner shall establish a grant application process. The commissioner may give priority for grants to facilities that demonstrate that acquiring safe patient handling equipment will impose a financial hardship on the facility. For health care facilities that provide evidence of hardship, the commissioner may waive the 50 percent match requirement and may grant such a facility more than \$40,000. Health care facilities that the commissioner determines are experiencing hardship shall not be required to meet the safe patient handling requirements until July 1, 2012.

Sec. 26. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 268.196, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 5. **Unemployment insurance benefits telephone system.** The commissioner must ensure that the telephone system used for unemployment insurance benefits provides an option for any caller to speak to an unemployment insurance specialist. An individual who calls any of the publicized telephone numbers seeking information about applying for benefits or on the status of a claim must have the option to speak on the telephone to a specialist who can provide direct assistance or can direct the caller to the person or office that is able to respond to the caller's needs.

Sec. 27. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 268A.01, subdivision 13, is amended to read:

Subd. 13. **Supported employment.** (a) "Supported employment" means employment of a person with a disability so severe that the person needs ongoing training and support to get and keep a job in which:

(1) the person engages in paid work in a position removed from the service vendor's site where individuals without disabilities who do not require public subsidies also may be employed;

(2) public funds are necessary to provide ongoing training and support services throughout the period of the person's employment; and

(3) the person has the opportunity for social interaction with individuals who do not have disabilities and who are not paid caregivers.

(b) If the commissioner has certified a rehabilitation facility setting as integrated, then employment at that site may be considered supported employment.

Sec. 28. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 268A.01, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 14. **Affirmative business enterprise employment.** "Affirmative business enterprise employment" means employment which provides paid work on the premises of an affirmative business enterprise as certified by the commissioner.

Affirmative business enterprise employment is considered community employment for purposes of funding under Minnesota Rules, parts 3300.1000 to 3300.2055, provided that the wages for individuals reported must be at or above customary wages for the same employer. The employer must also provide one benefit package that is available to all employees.

Sec. 29. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 268A.085, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Appointment; membership.** Every city, town, county, nonprofit corporation, or combination thereof establishing a rehabilitation facility shall appoint a rehabilitation facility board of no fewer than ~~nine~~ seven voting members before becoming eligible for the assistance provided by sections 268A.06 to 268A.15. When any city, town, or county singly establishes such a rehabilitation facility, the board shall be appointed by the chief executive officer of the city or the chair of the governing board of the county or town. When any combination of cities, towns, counties, or nonprofit corporations establishes a rehabilitation facility, the chief executive officers of the cities, nonprofit corporations, and the chairs of the governing bodies of the counties or towns shall appoint the board. If a nonprofit corporation singly establishes a rehabilitation facility, the corporation shall appoint the board of directors. Membership on a board shall be representative of the community served and shall include a person with a disability. ~~One-third to one-half of the board shall be representative of industry or business. The remaining members should be representative of lay associations for persons with a disability, labor, the general public, and education, welfare, medical, and health professions. Nothing in sections 268A.06 to 268A.15 shall be construed to preclude the appointment of elected or appointed public officials or members of the board of directors of the sponsoring nonprofit corporation to the board, so long as the representation described above is preserved.~~ If a county establishes an extended employment program and manages the program with county employees, the governing board shall be the county board of commissioners, and other provisions of this chapter pertaining to membership on the governing board do not apply.

Sec. 30. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 268A.15, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 9. **Integrated setting.** At the commissioner's discretion, paid work on the premises of a rehabilitation facility may be certified as an integrated setting after a site review by the department.

Sec. 31. [325E.60] **RESTROOM ACCESS.**

Subdivision 1. **Short title.** This section may be cited as the Restroom Access Act.

Subd. 2. **Definitions.** For purposes of this section:

(a) "Customer" means an individual who is lawfully on the premises of a retail establishment.

(b) "Eligible medical condition" means Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis, any other inflammatory bowel disease, irritable bowel syndrome, or any other medical condition that requires immediate access to a restroom facility.

(c) "Retail establishment" means a place of business open to the general public for the sale of goods or services. Retail establishment does not include a filling station or service station with a structure of 800 square feet or less that has an employee restroom facility located within that structure.

Subd. 3. **Retail establishment; customer access to restroom facilities.** A retail establishment that has a restroom facility for its employees shall allow a customer to use that facility during normal business hours if the restroom facility is reasonably safe and all of the following conditions are met:

(1) the customer requesting the use of the employee restroom facility suffers from an eligible medical condition or uses an ostomy device, provided that the existence of the condition or device is documented in writing by the customer's physician or a nonprofit organization whose purpose

includes serving individuals who suffer from the condition;

(2) three or more employees of the retail establishment are working at the time the customer requests use of the employee restroom facility;

(3) the retail establishment does not normally make a restroom available to the public;

(4) the employee restroom facility is not located in an area where providing access would create an obvious health or safety risk to the customer or an obvious security risk to the establishment; and

(5) a public restroom is not immediately accessible to the customer.

Subd. 4. **Liability.** (a) A retail establishment or an employee of a retail establishment is not civilly liable for an act or omission in allowing a customer who claims to have an eligible medical condition to use an employee restroom facility that is not a public restroom if the act or omission:

(1) is not negligent;

(2) occurs in an area of the retail establishment that is not accessible to the public; and

(3) results in an injury to or death of the customer or an individual other than an employee accompanying the customer.

(b) This section does not require a retail establishment to make any physical changes to an employee restroom facility.

Subd. 5. **Violation.** For a first violation of this section, the city or county attorney shall issue a warning letter to the retail establishment or employee informing the establishment or employee of the requirements of this section. A retail establishment or an employee of a retail establishment that violates this section after receiving a warning letter is guilty of a petty misdemeanor. The fine for a first offense must not exceed \$50.

Sec. 32. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 462.39, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 5. **Local planning assistance.** A regional development commission or, in regions not served by regional development commissions, a regional organization selected by the commissioner of employment and economic development, may develop a program to support planning on behalf of local units of government. The local planning must be related to issues of regional or statewide significance and may include, but is not limited to, the following:

(1) local planning and development assistance, which may include local zoning ordinances and land use plans;

(2) community or economic development plans, which may include workforce development plans, housing development plans and market analysis, JOBZ administration, grant writing assistance, and grant administration;

(3) environment and natural resources plans, which may include solid waste management plans, wastewater management plans, and renewable energy development plans;

(4) rural community health services; and

(5) development of geographical information systems to serve regional needs, including

hardware and software purchases and related labor costs.

Each regional development commission or organization shall submit to the commissioner of employment and economic development an annual work program that outlines the work items for the upcoming year and establishes the relationship of the work items to development issues of regional or statewide significance. The entity completing the annual work program and identifying the statewide development issues shall consider input from the Departments of Employment and Economic Development, Natural Resources, Transportation, Agriculture, Commerce, and other state agencies as appropriate to the issues.

Sec. 33. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 469.334, is amended to read:

**469.334 DESIGNATION OF ZONE.**

Subdivision 1. **Commissioner to designate.** (a) The commissioner, in consultation with the commissioner of revenue and the director of the Office of Strategic and Long-Range Planning, ~~shall may~~ designate ~~one or more~~ biotechnology and health sciences industry zones. Priority must be given to applicants with a development plan that links a higher education/research institution with a biotechnology and health sciences industry facility.

(b) The commissioner may consult with the applicant prior to the designation of the zone. The commissioner may modify the development plan, including the boundaries of the zone or subzones, if in the commissioner's opinion a modified plan would better meet the objectives of the biotechnology and health sciences industry zone program. The commissioner shall notify the applicant of the modifications and provide a statement of the reasons for the modifications.

Subd. 2. **Need indicators.** (a) In evaluating applications to determine the need for designation of a biotechnology and health sciences industry zone, the commissioner shall consider the following factors as indicators of need:

(1) the extent to which land in proximity to a significant scientific research institution could be developed as a higher and better use for biotechnology and health sciences industry facilities;

(2) the amount of property in or near the zone that is deteriorated or underutilized; and

(3) the extent to which property in the area would remain underdeveloped or nonperforming due to physical characteristics.

(b) The commissioner may require applicants to provide data to demonstrate how the area meets one or more of the indicators of need.

Subd. 3. **Success indicators.** In determining the likelihood of success of a proposed zone, the commissioner shall consider:

(1) applicants that show a viable link between a higher education/research institution, the biotechnology and/or medical devices business sectors, and one or more units of local government with a development plan;

(2) the extent to which the area has substantial real property with adequate infrastructure and energy to support new or expanded development;

(3) the strength and viability of the proposed development goals, objectives, and strategies in

the development plan;

(4) whether the development plan is creative and innovative in comparison to other applications;

(5) local public and private commitment to development of a biotechnology and health sciences industry facility or facilities in the proposed zone and the potential cooperation of surrounding communities;

(6) existing resources available to the proposed zone;

(7) how the designation of the zone would relate to other economic and community development projects and to regional initiatives or programs;

(8) how the regulatory burden will be eased for biotechnology and health sciences industry facilities located in the proposed zone;

(9) proposals to establish and link job creation and job training in the biotechnology and health sciences industry with research/educational institutions; and

(10) the extent to which the development is directed at encouraging, and that designation of the zone is likely to result in, the creation of high-paying jobs.

Subd. 4. **Designation schedule.** (a) The schedule in paragraphs (b) to (e) applies to the designation of the first biotechnology and health sciences industry zone.

(b) The commissioner shall publish the form for applications and any procedural, form, or content requirements for applications by no later than August 1, 2003. The commissioner may publish these requirements on the Internet, in the State Register, or by any other means the commissioner determines appropriate to disseminate the information to potential applicants for designation.

(c) Applications must be submitted by October 15, 2003.

(d) The commissioner shall designate the zones by no later than December 31, 2003.

(e) The designation of the zones takes effect January 1, 2004.

(f) Additional zones may be designated in later years, following substantially the same application and designation process as provided in paragraphs (b) to (e) only after the commissioner of employment and economic development has established criteria for expanding the number of zones. The criteria must limit designating a new zone to a community that has adequate resources and infrastructure to support bioindustry, including postsecondary institutions, strong health care systems, and existing bioscience companies. It must also require that a new zone be located on a transportation corridor.

Sec. 34. **WORKFORCE ENHANCEMENT FEE.**

If the commissioner of employment and economic development determines that the need for services under the dislocated worker program substantially exceeds the resources that will be available for the program, the commissioner may increase the special assessment levied under Minnesota Statutes, section 116L.20, subdivision 1, to no more than .12 percent of taxable wages.

Sec. 35. **FEDERAL PROCUREMENT LIAISON.**

The commissioner of employment and economic development must establish and operate a technology and commercialization unit in the Department of Employment and Economic Development. Appropriation for this purpose must be used to: coordinate public and private efforts to procure federal funding for collaborative research and development projects of primary benefit to small- and medium-sized businesses; promote contractual relationships between Minnesota businesses who, as recipients of federal grants, are prime contractors, and appropriate Minnesota-based subcontractors; assess the research and development capabilities of small- and medium-sized businesses; undertake referral activities to link Minnesota companies with federal requests for proposal opportunities; and develop a framework for Minnesota companies to establish sole-sourcing relationships with federal agencies.

The commissioner must report to the committees in the house of representatives and the senate having jurisdiction over bioscience and technology issues on the activities of the technology and commercialization unit by June 30 of each year.

**Sec. 36. WORKING GROUP ON STATE ROLE IN TRADE POLICY.**

Subdivision 1. **Work group members.** The Department of Employment and Economic Development must convene a working group to develop recommendations for establishing policies and procedures regarding the role of the state in federal trade policy and trade agreements. The working group must be comprised of 17 members as follows:

- (1) the governor or his designee;
- (2) the commissioner of the Department of Employment and Economic Development or his designee;
- (3) the commissioner of the Department of Agriculture or his designee;
- (4) the commissioner of the Department of Administration or his designee;
- (5) the attorney general or her designee;
- (6) two members of the Minnesota senate one of whom is appointed by the senate majority leader and one appointed by the minority leader;
- (7) two members of the Minnesota house of representatives, one of whom is appointed by the speaker and one appointed by the minority leader;
- (8) two members designated by the Minnesota AFL-CIO;
- (9) two members representing labor organizations other than the AFL-CIO with one to be appointed by the speaker of the Minnesota house of representatives and one to be appointed by the majority leader of the Minnesota senate;
- (10) two members designated by the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce; and
- (11) two members representing business organizations other than the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce appointed by the governor.

The Department of Employment and Economic Development must provide administrative support to the working group.

Subd. 2. **Duties; responsibilities.** The working group may obtain input from other state and federal agencies as appropriate and may conduct public hearings to allow input from interested stakeholders. The working group must:

- (1) determine the state's jurisdiction regarding federal trade policy and trade agreements;
- (2) assess the state's current policies, procedures, roles and responsibilities for providing advice and consent on federal trade policy and trade agreements;
- (3) review the current means through which the state interacts with the Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) and Congress regarding trade policy and trade agreements;
- (4) inventory the federal trade policies and trade agreements that the state of Minnesota has formally approved or signed on to;
- (5) examine trade policy models established by other states;
- (6) develop recommendations for defining responsibilities and procedures for the state's role in federal trade policy and trade agreements; and
- (7) prepare legislative recommendations to implement the recommendations of the working group.

The working group must report its findings and recommendations to the governor and the legislature by December 1, 2007.

**Sec. 37. STUDY; SAFE PATIENT HANDLING.**

(a) The commissioner of labor and industry shall study ways to require workers' compensation insurers to recognize compliance with Minnesota Statutes, section 182.6553, in the workers' compensation premiums of health care and long-term care facilities. The commissioner shall report by January 15, 2008, the results of the study to the chairs of the policy committees of the legislature with primary jurisdiction over workers' compensation issues.

(b) By January 15, 2008, the commissioner must make recommendations to the legislature regarding funding sources available to health care facilities for safe patient handling programs and equipment, including, but not limited to, low interest loans, interest free loans, and federal, state, or county grants.

**Sec. 38. WORK GROUP; SAFE PATIENT HANDLING.**

The Minnesota State Council on Disability shall convene a work group comprised of representatives from the Minnesota Medical Association and other organizations representing clinics, disability advocates, and direct care workers, to do the following:

- (1) assess the current options for and use of safe patient handling equipment in unlicensed outpatient clinics, physician offices, and dental settings;
- (2) identify barriers to the use of safe patient handling equipment in these settings; and
- (3) define clinical settings that move patients to determine applicability of the Safe Patient Handling Act.



The work group must report to the legislature by January 15, 2008, including reports to the chairs of the senate and house of representatives committees on workforce development.

Sec. 39. **EFFECT ON RULES.**

The commissioner of labor and industry shall amend Minnesota Rules, part 5200.0910, to conform to Minnesota Statutes, section 181A.115. The commissioner may use the good cause exemption in Minnesota Statutes, section 14.388, in adopting the amendment required by this section.

Sec. 40. **PUBLIC FACILITIES AUTHORITY FUNDING.**

To the greatest practical extent, projects on the Public Facilities Authority's 2007 intended use plan, the listings for which were based on the Pollution Control Agency's 2006 project priority list, shall be carried over to the 2008 intended use plan. Projects that qualified for funding from the Public Facilities Authority under Laws 2006, chapter 258, section 21, that could not be certified by the Pollution Control Agency by the applicable deadline shall have until May 1, 2008, or six months after the Minnesota Supreme Court issues an opinion in the cities of Maple Lake and Annandale matter, whichever is later, to obtain the required certification from the Pollution Control Agency.

Sec. 41. **REPEALER.**

(a) Minnesota Statutes 2006, sections 16B.747, subdivision 4; 16C.18, subdivision 2; 183.375, subdivision 5; 183.545, subdivision 9; 326.241; 326.44; 326.52; and 326.64, are repealed.

(b) Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.975, is repealed effective December 1, 2007.

### ARTICLE 3

#### LICENSING AND WAGES

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16B.63, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **Interpretative authority.** To achieve uniform and consistent application of the State Building Code, the ~~state building official~~ commissioner has final interpretative authority applicable to all codes adopted as part of the State Building Code except for the Plumbing Code and the Electrical Code ~~when enforced by the State Board of Electricity~~. A final interpretative committee composed of seven members, consisting of three building officials, two inspectors from the affected field, and two construction industry representatives, shall review requests for final interpretations relating to that field for which the commissioner has final interpretative authority. ~~A request~~ The Plumbing Board has final interpretative authority applicable to the state Plumbing Code and shall review requests for final interpretation made to the board that relate to the state plumbing code. The Board of Electricity has final interpretative authority applicable to the state Electrical Code and shall review requests for final interpretation made to the board that relate to the state Electrical Code. The Board of High Pressure Piping Systems has final interpretative authority applicable to the state High Pressure Piping Code and shall review requests for final interpretation made to the board that relate to the state high pressure piping code. Except for requests for final interpretations that relate to the state plumbing code, the state Electrical Code, and the state High Pressure Piping Code, requests for final interpretation must come from a local or state level building code board of appeals. The ~~state building official~~ commissioner must establish procedures for membership of the final interpretative committees. The appropriate committee shall review the request and make a recommendation to the

~~state building official commissioner~~ for the final interpretation within 30 days of the request. The ~~state building official commissioner~~ must issue ~~an~~ a final interpretation within ten business days ~~from~~ after the receipt of the recommendation from the ~~review~~ final interpretative committee. A ~~The Plumbing Board, the Board of Electricity, or the Board of High Pressure Piping Systems~~ shall review a request and issue a final interpretation within 30 days of the request. Any person aggrieved by final interpretation may ~~be appealed~~ appeal within 30 days of its issuance ~~to~~ by the commissioner ~~under section 16B.67~~ or the board in accordance with chapter 14. The final interpretation must be published within ten business days of its issuance and made available to the public. Municipal building officials shall administer all final interpretations issued by the ~~state building official commissioner~~ until the final interpretations are considered by the commissioner, the Plumbing Board, the Board of Electricity, or the Board of High Pressure Piping Systems for adoption as part of the State Building Code, state Plumbing Code, state Electrical Code, or the High Pressure Piping Code.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 154.003, is amended to read:

**154.003 FEES.**

(a) The fees collected, as required in this chapter, chapter 214, and the rules of the board, shall be paid to the executive secretary of the board. The executive secretary shall deposit the fees in the general fund in the state treasury.

(b) The board shall charge the following fees:

- (1) examination and certificate, registered barber, \$65;
- (2) examination and certificate, apprentice, \$60;
- (3) examination, instructor, \$160;
- (4) certificate, instructor, \$45;
- (5) temporary teacher or apprentice permit, \$50;
- (6) renewal of license, registered barber, \$50;
- (7) renewal of license, apprentice, \$45;
- (8) renewal of license, instructor, \$60;
- (9) renewal of temporary teacher permit, \$35;
- (10) student permit, \$25;
- (11) initial shop registration, \$60;
- (12) initial school registration, \$1,010;
- (13) renewal shop registration, \$60;
- (14) renewal school registration, \$260;
- (15) restoration of registered barber license, \$75;
- (16) restoration of apprentice license, \$70;

- (17) restoration of shop registration, \$85;
- (18) change of ownership or location, \$35;
- (19) duplicate license, \$20; ~~and~~
- (20) home study course, \$75; and
- (21) registration of hair braiders, \$20 per year.

Sec. 3. **[154.465] HAIR BRAIDING.**

Subdivision 1. **Registration.** Any person engaged in hair braiding solely for compensation as a profession, except persons licensed as cosmetologists, shall register with the Minnesota Board of Barber and Cosmetology Examiners in a form determined by the board.

Subd. 2. **Definition.** "Hair braiding" means a natural form of hair manipulation that results in tension on hair strands by beading, braiding, cornrowing, extending, lacing, locking, sewing, twisting, weaving, or wrapping human hair, natural fibers, synthetic fibers, and hair extensions into a variety of shapes, patterns, and textures predominantly by hand and by only using simple braiding devices, and maintenance thereof. Hair braiding includes what is commonly known as "African-style hair braiding" or "natural hair care" but is not limited to any particular cultural, ethnic, racial, or religious forms of hair styles. Hair braiding includes the making of customized wigs from natural hair, natural fibers, synthetic fibers, and hair extensions. Hair braiding includes the use of topical agents such as conditioners, gels, moisturizers, oils, pomades, and shampoos. Hair braiding does not involve the use of penetrating chemical hair treatments, chemical hair coloring agents, chemical hair straightening agents, chemical hair joining agents, permanent wave styles, or chemical hair bleaching agents applied to growing human hair. For purposes of this section, "simple hair braiding devices" means clips, combs, curlers, curling irons, hairpins, rollers, scissors, needles, thread, and hair binders including adhesives, if necessary, that are required solely for hair braiding.

Subd. 3. **Requirements.** In order to qualify for initial registration, any person engaged in hair braiding solely for compensation as a profession, except persons licensed as cosmetologists, shall satisfactorily complete instruction at either an accredited school, professional association, or by an individual approved by the board. Instruction includes coursework covering the topics of health, safety, sanitation, and state laws related to cosmetology not to exceed 30 hours. The coursework is encouraged to be provided in a foreign language format and such availability shall be reported to and posted by the Minnesota Board of Barber and Cosmetology Examiners.

Subd. 4. **Curriculum.** An accredited school, professional association, or an individual approved by the board desiring to provide the coursework required under subdivision 3 shall have curriculum in place by January 1, 2008.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2008, except subdivision 4 is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 177.27, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Examination of records.** The commissioner may enter during reasonable office hours or upon request and inspect the place of business or employment of any employer of employees working in the state, to examine and inspect books, registers, payrolls, and other records

of any employer that in any way relate to wages, hours, and other conditions of employment of any employees. The commissioner may transcribe any or all of the books, registers, payrolls, and other records as the commissioner deems necessary or appropriate and may question the employees to ascertain compliance with sections 177.21 to ~~177.35~~ 177.435. The commissioner may investigate wage claims or complaints by an employee against an employer if the failure to pay a wage may violate Minnesota law or an order or rule of the department.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 177.27, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Compliance orders.** The commissioner may issue an order requiring an employer to comply with sections 177.21 to ~~177.35~~ 177.435, 181.02, 181.03, 181.031, 181.032, 181.101, 181.11, 181.12, 181.13, 181.14, 181.145, 181.15, and 181.79, or with any rule promulgated under section 177.28. The department shall serve the order upon the employer or the employer's authorized representative in person or by certified mail at the employer's place of business. An employer who wishes to contest the order must file written notice of objection to the order with the commissioner within 15 calendar days after being served with the order. A contested case proceeding must then be held in accordance with sections 14.57 to 14.69. If, within 15 calendar days after being served with the order, the employer fails to file a written notice of objection with the commissioner, the order becomes a final order of the commissioner.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 177.27, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

Subd. 8. **Court actions; suits brought by private parties.** An employee may bring a civil action seeking redress for a violation or violations of sections 177.21 to ~~177.35~~ 177.44 directly to district court. An employer who pays an employee less than the wages and overtime compensation to which the employee is entitled under sections 177.21 to ~~177.35~~ 177.44 is liable to the employee for the full amount of the wages, gratuities, and overtime compensation, less any amount the employer is able to establish was actually paid to the employee and for an additional equal amount as liquidated damages. In addition, in an action under this subdivision the employee may seek damages and other appropriate relief provided by subdivision 7 and otherwise provided by law. An agreement between the employee and the employer to work for less than the applicable wage is not a defense to the action.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 177.27, subdivision 9, is amended to read:

Subd. 9. **District court jurisdiction.** Any action brought under subdivision 8 may be filed in the district court of the county wherein a violation or violations of sections 177.21 to ~~177.35~~ 177.44 are alleged to have been committed, where the respondent resides or has a principal place of business, or any other court of competent jurisdiction. The action may be brought by one or more employees.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 177.27, subdivision 10, is amended to read:

Subd. 10. **Attorney fees and costs.** In any action brought pursuant to subdivision 8, the court shall order an employer who is found to have committed a violation or violations of sections 177.21 to ~~177.35~~ 177.44 to pay to the employee or employees reasonable costs, disbursements, witness fees, and attorney fees.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 177.28, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **General authority.** The commissioner may adopt rules, including definitions of terms, to carry out the purposes of sections 177.21 to ~~177.35~~ 177.44, to prevent the circumvention

or evasion of those sections, and to safeguard the minimum wage and overtime rates established by sections 177.24 and 177.25.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 177.30, is amended to read:

**177.30 KEEPING RECORDS; PENALTY.**

Every employer subject to sections 177.21 to ~~177.35~~ 177.44 must make and keep a record of:

- (1) the name, address, and occupation of each employee;
- (2) the rate of pay, and the amount paid each pay period to each employee;
- (3) the hours worked each day and each workweek by the employee; ~~and~~

(4) for each employer subject to sections 177.41 to 177.44, and while performing work on public works projects funded in whole or in part with state funds, the prevailing wage master job classification of each employee working on the project for each hour worked; and

~~(4)~~ (5) other information the commissioner finds necessary and appropriate to enforce sections 177.21 to 177.35. The records must be kept for three years in or near the premises where an employee works except each employer subject to sections 177.41 to 177.44, and while performing work on public works projects funded in whole or in part with state funds, the records must be kept for three years after the contracting authority has made final payment on the public works project.

The commissioner may fine an employer up to \$1,000 for each failure to maintain records as required by this section. This penalty is in addition to any penalties provided under section 177.32, subdivision 1. In determining the amount of a civil penalty under this subdivision, the appropriateness of such penalty to the size of the employer's business and the gravity of the violation shall be considered.

Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 177.43, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Contract requirements.** The contract must specifically state the prevailing wage rates, prevailing hours of labor, and hourly basic rates of pay. The contract must also provide that the contracting agency shall demand, and the contractor and subcontractor shall furnish to the contracting agency, copies of any or all payrolls not more than 14 days after the end of each pay period. The payrolls must contain all the data required by section 177.30. The contracting authority may examine all records relating to wages paid laborers or mechanics on work to which sections 177.41 to 177.44 apply.

Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 177.43, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Determination by commissioner; posting; petition for reconsideration.** The prevailing wage rates, prevailing hours of labor, and hourly basic rates of pay for all trades and occupations required in any project must be ascertained before the state asks for bids. The commissioner of labor and industry shall investigate as necessary to ascertain the information. ~~The commissioner~~ Each contractor and subcontractor performing work on a public project shall keep the information posted on the project in at least one conspicuous place for the information of the employees working on the project. A person aggrieved by a final determination of the commissioner may petition the commissioner for reconsideration of findings. A person aggrieved by a decision of the commissioner after reconsideration may, within 20 days after the decision,

petition the commissioner for a public hearing in the manner of a contested case under sections 14.57 to 14.61.

Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 177.43, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

Subd. 6. **Examination of records; investigation by the department.** The Department of Labor and Industry shall enforce this section. The department may demand, and the contractor and subcontractor shall furnish to the department, copies of any or all payrolls. The department may examine all records relating to wages paid laborers or mechanics on work to which sections 177.41 to 177.44 apply. The department shall employ at least three investigators to perform on-site project reviews, receive and investigate complaints of violations of this section, and conduct training and outreach to contractors and contracting authorities for public works projects financed in whole or in part with state funds.

Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 177.43, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 6a. **Prevailing wage violations.** Upon issuing a compliance order to an employer pursuant to section 177.27, subdivision 4, for violation of sections 177.41 to 177.44, the commissioner shall issue a withholding order to the contracting authority ordering the contracting authority to withhold payment of sufficient sum to the prime or general contractor on the project to satisfy the back wages assessed or otherwise cure the violation, and the contracting authority must withhold the sum ordered until the compliance order has become a final order of the commissioner and has been fully paid or otherwise resolved by the employer.

During an investigation of a violation of sections 177.41 to 177.44 which the commissioner reasonably determines is likely to result in the finding of a violation of sections 177.41 to 177.44 and the issuance of a compliance order pursuant to section 177.27, subdivision 4, the commissioner may notify the contracting authority of the determination and the amount expected to be assessed and the contracting authority shall give the commissioner 90 days' prior notice of the date the contracting authority intends to make final payment.

Sec. 15. **[181.723] INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS.**

Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** The definitions in this subdivision apply to this section.

(a) "Person" means any individual, limited liability corporation, corporation, partnership, incorporated or unincorporated association, sole proprietorship, joint stock company, or any other legal or commercial entity.

(b) "Department" means the Department of Labor and Industry.

(c) "Commissioner" means the commissioner of labor and industry or a duly designated representative of the commissioner who is either an employee of the Department of Labor and Industry or person working under contract with the Department of Labor and Industry.

(d) "Individual" means a human being.

(e) "Day" means calendar day unless otherwise provided.

(f) "Knowingly" means knew or could have known with the exercise of reasonable diligence.

(g) "Document" or "documents" includes papers; books; records; memoranda; data; contracts;

drawings; graphs; charts; photographs; digital, video, and audio recordings; records; accounts; files; statements; letters; e-mails; invoices; bills; notes; and calendars maintained in any form or manner.

Subd. 2. **Limited application.** This section only applies to individuals performing public or private sector commercial or residential building construction or improvement services.

Subd. 3. **Employee-employer relationship.** Except as provided in subdivision 4, for purposes of chapters 176, 177, 181A, 182, and 268, as of January 1, 2009, an individual who performs services for a person that are in the course of the person's trade, business, profession, or occupation is an employee of that person and that person is an employer of the individual.

Subd. 4. **Independent contractor.** An individual is an independent contractor and not an employee of the person for whom the individual is performing services in the course of the person's trade, business, profession, or occupation only if (1) the individual holds a current independent contractor exemption certificate issued by the commissioner; and (2) the individual is performing services for the person under the independent contractor exemption certificate as provided in subdivision 6. The requirements in clauses (1) and (2) must be met in order to qualify as an independent contractor and not as an employee of the person for whom the individual is performing services in the course of the person's trade, business, profession, or occupation.

Subd. 5. **Application.** To obtain an independent contractor exemption certificate, the individual must submit, in the manner prescribed by the commissioner, a complete application and the certificate fee required under subdivision 14.

(a) A complete application must include all of the following information:

(1) the individual's full name;

(2) the individual's residence address and telephone number;

(3) the individual's business name, address, and telephone number;

(4) the services for which the individual is seeking an independent contractor exemption certificate;

(5) the individual's Social Security number;

(6) the individual's or the individual's business federal employer identification number, if a number has been issued to the individual or the individual's business;

(7) any information or documentation that the commissioner requires by rule that will assist the department in determining whether to grant or deny the individual's application; and

(8) the individual's sworn statement that the individual meets all of the following conditions:

(i) maintains a separate business with the individual's own office, equipment, materials, and other facilities;

(ii) holds or has applied for a federal employer identification number or has filed business or self-employment income tax returns with the federal Internal Revenue Service if the person has performed services in the previous year for which the individual is seeking the independent contractor exemption certificate;

(iii) operates under contracts to perform specific services for specific amounts of money and under which the individual controls the means of performing the services;

(iv) incurs the main expenses related to the service that the individual performs under contract;

(v) is responsible for the satisfactory completion of services that the individual contracts to perform and is liable for a failure to complete the service;

(vi) receives compensation for service performed under a contract on a commission or per-job or competitive bid basis and not on any other basis;

(vii) may realize a profit or suffer a loss under contracts to perform service;

(viii) has continuing or recurring business liabilities or obligations; and

(ix) the success or failure of the individual's business depends on the relationship of business receipts to expenditures.

(b) Individuals who are applying for or renewing a residential building contractor or residential remodeler license under sections 326.83 to 326.992 and any rules promulgated pursuant thereto may simultaneously apply for or renew an independent contractor exemption certificate. The commissioner shall create an application form that allows for the simultaneous application for both a residential building contractor or residential remodeler license and an independent contractor exemption certificate. If individuals simultaneously apply for or renew a residential building contractor or residential remodeler license and an independent contractor exemption certificate using the form created by the commissioner, individuals shall only be required to provide, in addition to the information required by section 326.89 and rules promulgated pursuant thereto, the sworn statement required by paragraph (a), clause (8), and any additional information required by this subdivision that is not also required by section 326.89 and any rules promulgated thereto. When individuals submit a simultaneous application on the form created by the commissioner for both a residential building contractor or residential remodeler license and an independent contractor exemption certificate, the application fee shall be \$150. An independent contractor exemption certificate that is in effect before March 1, 2009, shall remain in effect until March 1, 2011, unless revoked by the commissioner or cancelled by the individual.

(c) Within 30 days of receiving a complete application and the certificate fee, the commissioner must either grant or deny the application. The commissioner may deny an application for an independent contractor exemption certificate if the individual has not submitted a complete application and certificate fee or if the individual does not meet all of the conditions for holding the independent contractor exemption certificate. The commissioner may revoke an independent contractor exemption certificate if the commissioner determines that the individual no longer meets all of the conditions for holding the independent contractor exemption certificate, commits any of the actions set out in subdivision 7, or fails to cooperate with a department investigation into the continued validity of the individual's certificate. Once issued, an independent contractor exemption certificate remains in effect for two years unless:

(1) revoked by the commissioner; or

(2) canceled by the individual.

(d) If the department denies an individual's original or renewal application for an independent



contractor exemption certificate or revokes an independent contractor exemption certificate, the commissioner shall issue to the individual an order denying or revoking the certificate. The commissioner may issue an administrative penalty order to an individual or person who commits any of the actions set out in subdivision 7.

(e) An individual or person to whom the commissioner issues an order under paragraph (d) shall have 30 days after service of the order to request a hearing. The request for hearing must be in writing and must be served on or faxed to the commissioner at the address or facsimile number specified in the order by the 30th day after service of the order. If the individual does not request a hearing or if the individual's request for a hearing is not served on or faxed to the commissioner by the 30th day after service of the order, the order shall become a final order of the commissioner and will not be subject to review by any court or agency. The date on which a request for hearing is served by mail shall be the postmark date on the envelope in which the request for hearing is mailed. If the individual serves or faxes a timely request for hearing, the hearing shall be a contested case hearing and shall be held in accordance with chapter 14.

Subd. 6. **Performing services under exemption certificate.** An individual is performing services for a person under an independent contractor exemption certificate if:

(a) the individual is performing services listed on the individual's independent contractor exemption certificate; and

(b) at the time the individual is performing services listed on the individual's independent contractor exemption certificate, the individual meets all of the following conditions:

(1) maintains a separate business with the individual's own office, equipment, materials, and other facilities;

(2) holds or has applied for a federal employer identification number or has filed business or self-employment income tax returns with the federal Internal Revenue Service if the individual performed services in the previous year for which the individual has the independent contractor exemption certificate;

(3) is operating under contract to perform the specific services for the person for specific amounts of money and under which the individual controls the means of performing the services;

(4) is incurring the main expenses related to the services that the individual is performing for the person under the contract;

(5) is responsible for the satisfactory completion of the services that the individual has contracted to perform for the person and is liable for a failure to complete the services;

(6) receives compensation from the person for the services performed under the contract on a commission or per-job or competitive bid basis and not on any other basis;

(7) may realize a profit or suffers a loss under the contract to perform services for the person;

(8) has continuing or recurring business liabilities or obligations; and

(9) the success or failure of the individual's business depends on the relationship of business receipts to expenditures.

Subd. 7. **Prohibited activities.** (a) An individual shall not:

(1) perform work as an independent contractor who meets the qualifications under subdivision 6 without first obtaining from the department an independent contractor exemption certificate;

(2) perform work as an independent contractor when the department has denied or revoked the individual's independent contractor exemption certificate;

(3) transfer to another individual or allow another individual to use the individual's independent contractor exemption certificate;

(4) alter or falsify an independent contractor exemption certificate;

(5) misrepresent the individual's status as an independent contractor; or

(6) make a false material statement, representation, or certification; omit material information; or alter, conceal, or fail to file a document required by this section or any rule promulgated by the commissioner under rulemaking authority set out in this section.

(b) A person shall not:

(1) require an individual through coercion, misrepresentation, or fraudulent means to adopt independent contractor status;

(2) knowingly misrepresent that an individual who has not been issued an independent contractor exemption certificate or is not performing services for the person under an independent contractor exemption certificate is an independent contractor; or

(3) make a false material statement, representation, or certification; omit material information; or alter, conceal, or fail to file a document required by this section or any rule promulgated by the commissioner under rulemaking authority set out in this section.

(c) A person for whom an individual is performing services must obtain a copy of the individual's independent contractor exemption certificate before services may commence. A copy of the independent contractor exemption certificate must be retained for five years from the date of receipt by the person for whom an individual is performing services.

Subd. 8. **Remedies.** An individual or person who violates any provision of subdivision 7 is subject to a penalty to be assessed by the department of up to \$5,000 for each violation. The department shall deposit penalties in the assigned risk safety account.

Subd. 9. **Commissioner's powers.** (a) In order to carry out the purposes of this section, the commissioner may:

(1) administer oaths and affirmations, certify official acts, interview, question, take oral or written statements, and take depositions;

(2) request, examine, take possession of, photograph, record, and copy any documents, equipment, or materials;

(3) at a time and place indicated by the commissioner, request persons to appear before the commissioner to give testimony and produce documents, equipment, or materials;

(4) issue subpoenas to compel persons to appear before the commissioner to give testimony and produce documents, equipment, or materials; and

(5) subject to paragraph (c), with or without notice, enter without delay upon any property, public or private, for the purpose of taking any action authorized under this subdivision or the applicable law, including obtaining information or conducting inspections or investigations.

(b) Persons requested by the commissioner to give testimony or produce documents, equipment, or materials shall respond within the time and in the manner specified by the commissioner. If no time to respond is specified in the request, then a response shall be submitted within 30 days of the commissioner's service of the request.

(c) Upon the refusal or anticipated refusal of a property owner, lessee, property owner's representative, or lessee's representative to permit the commissioner's entry onto property as provided in paragraph (a), the commissioner may apply for an administrative inspection order in the Ramsey County District Court or, at the commissioner's discretion, in the district court in the county in which the property is located. The commissioner may anticipate that a property owner or lessee will refuse entry if the property owner, lessee, property owner's representative, or lessee's representative has refused to permit entry on a prior occasion or has informed the commissioner that entry will be refused. Upon showing of administrative probable cause by the commissioner, the district court shall issue an administrative inspection order that compels the property owner or lessee to permit the commissioner to enter the property for the purposes specified in paragraph (a).

(d) Upon the application of the commissioner, a district court shall treat the failure of any person to obey a subpoena lawfully issued by the commissioner under this subdivision as a contempt of court.

Subd. 10. **Notice requirements.** Unless otherwise specified, service of a document on a person under this section may be by mail, by personal service, or in accordance with any consent to service filed with the commissioner. Service by mail shall be accomplished in the manner provided in Minnesota Rules, part 1400.5550, subpart 2. Personal service shall be accomplished in the manner provided in Minnesota Rules, part 1400.5550, subpart 3.

Subd. 11. **Facsimile; timely service.** When this section permits a request for hearing to be served by facsimile on the commissioner, the facsimile shall not exceed 15 pages in length. The request shall be considered timely served if the facsimile is received by the commissioner, at the facsimile number identified by the commissioner in the order, no later than 4:30 p.m. central time on the last day permitted for faxing the request. Where the quality or authenticity of the faxed request is at issue, the commissioner may require the original request to be filed. Where the commissioner has not identified quality or authenticity of the faxed request as an issue and the request has been faxed in accordance with this subdivision, the person faxing the request does not need to file the original request with the commissioner.

Subd. 12. **Time period computation.** In computing any period of time prescribed or allowed by this section, the day of the act, event, or default from which the designated period of time begins to run shall not be included. The last day of the period so computed shall be included, unless it is a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, in which event the period runs until the next day which is not a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday.

Subd. 13. **Rulemaking.** The commissioner may, in consultation with the commissioner of

revenue and the commissioner of employment and economic development, adopt, amend, suspend, and repeal rules under the rulemaking provisions of chapter 14 that relate to the commissioner's responsibilities under this section. This subdivision is effective the day following final enactment.

Subd. 14. **Fee.** The certificate fee for the original application and for the renewal of an independent contractor exemption certificate shall be \$150.

Subd. 15. **Notice to commissioner; review by commissioner of revenue.** When the commissioner has reason to believe that an individual who holds a certificate has failed to maintain all the conditions required by subdivision 6 or is not performing services for a person under the independent contractor exemption certificate, the commissioner must notify the commissioner of revenue and the commissioner of employment and economic development. Upon receipt of notification from the commissioner that an individual who holds a certificate has failed to maintain all the conditions required by subdivision 6 or is not performing services for a person under the independent contractor exemption certificate, the commissioner of revenue must review the information returns required under section 6041A of the Internal Revenue Code. The commissioner of revenue shall also review the submitted certification that is applicable to returns audited or investigated under section 289A.35.

Subd. 16. **Data classified.** Data in applications for an independent contractor exemption certificate and any required documentation submitted to the commissioner are private data on individuals as defined in section 13.02. Data in exemption certificates issued by the commissioner are public data. Data that document a revocation or cancellation of an exemption certificate are public data. Upon request of the Department of Revenue or Department of Employment and Economic Development, the commissioner may release to the requesting department data classified as private under this subdivision or investigative data that are not public under section 13.39 that relate to the issuance or denial of applications or revocations of certificates.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2008.

Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 181.932, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Prohibited action.** An employer shall not discharge, discipline, threaten, otherwise discriminate against, or penalize an employee regarding the employee's compensation, terms, conditions, location, or privileges of employment because:

(a) the employee, or a person acting on behalf of an employee, in good faith, reports a violation or suspected violation of any federal or state law or rule adopted pursuant to law to an employer or to any governmental body or law enforcement official;

(b) the employee is requested by a public body or office to participate in an investigation, hearing, inquiry;

(c) the employee refuses an employer's order to perform an action that the employee has an objective basis in fact to believe violates any state or federal law or rule or regulation adopted pursuant to law, and the employee informs the employer that the order is being refused for that reason; or

(d) the employee, in good faith, reports a situation in which the quality of health care services provided by a health care facility, organization, or health care provider violates a standard established by federal or state law or a professionally recognized national clinical or ethical

standard and potentially places the public at risk of harm; or

(e) a public employee communicates the findings of a scientific or technical study that the employee, in good faith, believes to be truthful and accurate, including reports to a governmental body or law enforcement official.

The disclosures protected pursuant to this section do not authorize the disclosure of data otherwise protected by law.

Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 181.935, is amended to read:

**181.935 INDIVIDUAL REMEDIES; PENALTY.**

(a) In addition to any remedies otherwise provided by law, an employee injured by a violation of section 181.932 may bring a civil action to recover any and all damages recoverable at law, together with costs and disbursements, including reasonable attorney's fees, and may receive such injunctive and other equitable relief as determined by the court.

(b) An employer who failed to notify, as required under section 181.933 or 181.934, an employee injured by a violation of section 181.932 is subject to a civil penalty of \$25 per day per injured employee not to exceed \$750 per injured employee.

(c) If the district court determines that a violation of section 181.932 occurred, the court may order any appropriate relief, including but not limited to reinstatement, back-pay, restoration of lost service credit, if appropriate, compensatory damages, and the expungement of any adverse records of an employee who was the subject of the alleged acts of misconduct.

Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 325E.37, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

Subd. 6. **Scope; limitations.** (a) This section applies to a sales representative who, during some part of the period of the sales representative agreement:

(1) is a resident of Minnesota or maintains that person's principal place of business in Minnesota; or

(2) whose geographical territory specified in the sales representative agreement includes part or all of Minnesota.

(b) To be effective, any demand for arbitration under subdivision 5 must be made in writing and delivered to the principal on or before one year after the effective date of the termination of the agreement.

(c) A provision in any contract between a sales representative dealing in plumbing equipment or supplies and a principal purporting to waive any provision of this act, whether by express waiver or by a provision stipulating that the contract is subject to the laws of another state, shall be void.

Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.37, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Rules.** ~~The state commissioner of health~~ Plumbing Board may, by rule, prescribe minimum standards which shall be uniform, and which ~~standards shall thereafter~~ be effective for all new plumbing installations, including additions, extensions, alterations, and replacements connected with any water or sewage disposal system owned or operated by or for any municipality,

institution, factory, office building, hotel, apartment building, or any other place of business regardless of location or the population of the city or town in which the installation is to be located. Notwithstanding the provisions of Minnesota Rules, part 4715.3130, as they apply to review of plans and specifications, the commissioner may allow plumbing construction, alteration, or extension to proceed without approval of the plans or specifications by the commissioner.

Except for powers granted to the Plumbing Board, the commissioner of labor and industry shall administer the provisions of sections 326.37 to 326.45 and for such purposes may employ plumbing inspectors and other assistants.

Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.37, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 4. **Air admittance valves and water-free urinals prohibited.** (a) Mechanical devices and fittings with internal moving parts are prohibited from installation in plumbing venting systems.

(b) All urinals covered under the jurisdiction of the state Plumbing Code must have a water flush device with a volume of not more than one gallon per use.

Sec. 21. [326.372] PLUMBING BOARD.

Subdivision 1. **Composition.** (a) The Plumbing Board shall consist of 13 members. Eleven members shall be appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate and shall be voting members. Appointments of members by the governor shall be made in accordance with section 15.066. If the senate votes to refuse to consent to an appointment of a member made by the governor, the governor shall appoint a new member with the advice and consent of the senate. One member shall be the commissioner of labor and industry or the designee, who shall be a voting member. One member shall be the commissioner of health or the designee, who shall not be a voting member. Of the 11 appointed members, the composition shall be as follows:

(1) two members shall be municipal plumbing inspectors, one from the metropolitan area and one from greater Minnesota;

(2) one member shall be a licensed professional engineer specializing in plumbing designs or systems;

(3) two members shall be commercial/industrial plumbing contractors, one from the metropolitan area and one from greater Minnesota;

(4) one member shall be a residential plumbing contractor;

(5) two members shall be commercial/industrial journeymen, one from the metropolitan area and one from greater Minnesota;

(6) one member shall be a residential plumbing journeyman;

(7) one member shall be a water conditioning contractor; and

(8) one member shall be a municipal public water supply system operator or superintendent.

One of the municipal plumbing inspectors shall be appointed for an initial term to end on December 31, 2010, and one municipal plumbing inspector shall be appointed for an initial term to end on December 31, 2011. The professional engineer shall be appointed for an initial term

to end on December 31, 2011. One of the commercial/industrial plumbing contractors shall be appointed for an initial term to end on December 31, 2010, and one commercial/industrial plumbing contractor shall be appointed for an initial term to end on December 31, 2011. The residential plumbing contractor shall be appointed for an initial term to end on December 31, 2010. One of the commercial/industrial plumbing journeymen shall be appointed for an initial term to end on December 31, 2011, and one commercial/industrial plumbing journeyman shall be appointed for an initial term to end on December 31, 2010. The residential plumbing journeyman shall be appointed for an initial term to end on December 31, 2011. The water conditioning contractor shall be appointed for an initial term to end on December 31, 2010. The municipal public water supply system operator or superintendent shall be appointed for an initial term to end on December 31, 2011.

(b) The licensed professional engineer must possess a current Minnesota professional engineering license and maintain the license for the duration of the term served on the board. All other appointed members, except the water conditioning contractor and the municipal public water supply system operator or superintendent, must possess a current plumbing license issued by the Department of Labor and Industry and maintain that license for the duration of their terms. The water conditioning contractor must be licensed as a water conditioning contractor by the department and maintain the license for the duration of the term served on the board. All appointed members must be residents of Minnesota at the time of and throughout their terms. The term of any appointed member who does not maintain membership qualification status shall end on the date of status change and the governor shall appoint a replacement member. It is the responsibility of the member to notify the board of a change in the member's status.

(c) For appointed members, except the initial terms designated in paragraph (a), each term shall be three years with the terms ending on the first Monday in January. Members appointed by the governor shall be limited to three consecutive terms. The governor shall, all or in part, reappoint the current members or appoint replacement members with the advice and consent of the senate. Midterm vacancies shall be filled for the remaining portion of the term. Vacancies occurring with less than six months time remaining in the term shall be filled for the existing term and the following three-year term. Members may serve until successors are appointed but in no case later than July 1 in a year in which the term expires unless reappointed.

Subd. 2. **Powers; duties; administrative support.** (a) The board shall have the power to:

(1) elect its chair, vice-chair, and secretary;

(2) adopt bylaws that specify the duties of its officers, the meeting dates of the board, and contain such other provisions as may be useful and necessary for the efficient conduct of the business of the board;

(3) adopt the Plumbing Code that must be followed in this state and any Plumbing Code amendments thereto. The board shall adopt the Plumbing Code and any amendments thereto pursuant to chapter 14, and as provided in subdivision 6, paragraphs (b), (c), and (d);

(4) review requests for final interpretations and issue final interpretations as provided in section 16B.63, subdivision 5;

(5) except for rules regulating continuing education, adopt rules that regulate the licensure or registration of plumbing contractors, journeymen, apprentices, master plumbers, restricted

master plumbers, and restricted journeymen and other persons engaged in the design, installation, and alteration of plumbing systems, except for those individuals licensed under section 326.02, subdivisions 2 and 3. The board shall adopt these rules pursuant to chapter 14 and as provided in subdivision 6, paragraphs (e) and (f);

(6) advise the commissioner regarding educational requirements for plumbing inspectors;

(7) refer complaints or other communications, whether oral or written, that allege or imply a violation of a statute, rule, or order that the commissioner has the authority to enforce pertaining to code compliance, licensure, or an offering to perform or performance of unlicensed plumbing services to the commissioner under subdivision 8;

(8) approve per diem and expenses deemed necessary for its members as provided in subdivision 3;

(9) approve license reciprocity agreements;

(10) select from its members individuals to serve on any other state advisory council, board, or committee; and

(11) recommend the fees for licenses and certifications.

Except for the powers granted to the Plumbing Board, the commissioner of labor and industry shall administer and enforce the provisions of sections 326.37 to 326.45 and any rules promulgated pursuant thereto.

(b) The board shall comply with section 15.0597, subdivisions 2 and 4.

(c) The commissioner shall coordinate the board's rulemaking and recommendations with the recommendations and rulemaking conducted by the other boards. The commissioner shall provide staff support to the board. The support includes professional, legal, technical, and clerical staff necessary to perform rulemaking and other duties assigned to the board. The commissioner of labor and industry shall supply necessary office space and supplies to assist the board in its duties.

Subd. 3. **Compensation.** (a) Members of the board may be compensated at the rate of \$55 a day spent on board activities, when authorized by the board, plus expenses in the same manner and amount as authorized by the commissioner's plan adopted under section 43A.18, subdivision 2. Members who, as a result of time spent attending board meetings, incur child care expenses that would not otherwise have been incurred, may be reimbursed for those expenses upon board authorization.

(b) Members who are state employees or employees of the political subdivisions of the state must not receive the daily payment for activities that occur during working hours for which they are compensated by the state or political subdivision. However, a state or political subdivision employee may receive the daily payment if the employee uses vacation time or compensatory time accumulated in accordance with a collective bargaining agreement or compensation plan for board activities. Members who are state employees or employees of the political subdivisions of the state may receive the expenses provided for in this subdivision unless the expenses are reimbursed by another source. Members who are state employees or employees of political subdivisions of the state may be reimbursed for child care expenses only for time spent on board activities that are outside their working hours.



(c) The board shall adopt internal standards prescribing what constitutes a day spent on board activities for purposes of making daily payments under this subdivision.

Subd. 4. **Removal; vacancies.** (a) An appointed member of the board may be removed by the governor at any time (1) for cause, after notice and hearing, or (2) after missing three consecutive meetings. The chair of the board shall inform the governor of an appointed member missing three consecutive meetings. After the second consecutive missed meeting and before the next meeting, the secretary of the board shall notify the appointed member in writing that the member may be removed for missing the next meeting. In the case of a vacancy on the board, the governor shall, with the advice and consent of the senate, appoint a person to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the unexpired term.

(b) Vacancies shall be filled pursuant to section 15.0597, subdivisions 5 and 6.

Subd. 5. **Membership vacancies within three months of appointment.** Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, when a seat on the board becomes vacant within three months after being filled through the appointment process, the governor may, upon notification to the Office of the Secretary of State, choose a new member from the applications on hand and need not repeat the process.

Subd. 6. **Officers, quorum, voting.** (a) The board shall elect annually from its members a chair, vice-chair, and secretary. A quorum of the board shall consist of a majority of members of the board qualified to vote on the matter in question. All questions concerning the manner in which a meeting is conducted or called that are not covered by statute shall be determined by Robert's Rules of Order (revised) unless otherwise specified by the bylaws.

(b) Except as provided in paragraph (c), each Plumbing Code amendment considered by the board that receives an affirmative two-thirds or more majority vote of all of the voting members of the board shall be included in the next Plumbing Code rulemaking proceeding initiated by the board. If a Plumbing Code amendment considered, or reconsidered, by the board receives less than a two-thirds majority vote of all of the voting members of the board, the Plumbing Code amendment shall not be included in the next Plumbing Code rulemaking proceeding initiated by the board.

(c) If the Plumbing Code amendment considered by the board is to replace the Minnesota Plumbing Code with a model Plumbing Code, then the amendment may only be included in the next Plumbing Code rulemaking proceeding if it receives an affirmative two-thirds or more majority vote of all of the voting members of the board.

(d) The board may reconsider Plumbing Code amendments during an active Plumbing Code rulemaking proceeding in which the amendment previously failed to receive a two-thirds majority vote or more of all of the voting members of the board only if new or updated information that affects the Plumbing Code amendment is presented to the board. The board may also reconsider failed Plumbing Code amendments in subsequent Plumbing Code rulemaking proceedings.

(e) Except as provided in paragraph (f), each proposed rule and rule amendment considered by the board pursuant to the rulemaking authority specified in subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clauses (5) and (6), that receives an affirmative majority vote of all of the voting members of the board shall be included in the next rulemaking proceeding initiated by the board. If a proposed rule or rule amendment considered, or reconsidered, by the board receives less than an affirmative majority vote of all of the voting members of the board, the proposed rule or rule amendment shall not be included in the next rulemaking proceeding initiated by the board.

(f) The board may reconsider a proposed rule or rule amendment during an active rulemaking proceeding in which the amendment previously failed to receive an affirmative majority vote of all of the voting members of the board only if new or updated information that affects the proposed rule or rule amendment is presented to the board. The board may also reconsider a failed proposed rule or rule amendment in subsequent rulemaking proceedings.

Subd. 6a. **Board meetings.** (a) The board shall hold meetings at such times as the board shall specify. Notice and conduct of all meetings shall be pursuant to chapter 13D and in such a manner as the bylaws may provide.

(b) If compliance with section 13D.02 is impractical, the board may conduct a meeting of its members by telephone or other electronic means so long as the following conditions are met:

(1) all members of the board participating in the meeting, wherever their physical location, can hear one another and can hear all discussion and testimony;

(2) members of the public present at the regular meeting location of the board can hear clearly all discussion and testimony and all votes of members of the board and, if needed, receive those services required by sections 15.44 and 15.441;

(3) at least one member of the board is physically present at the regular meeting location; and

(4) all votes are conducted by roll call, so each member's vote on each issue can be identified and recorded.

Each member of the board participating in a meeting by telephone or other electronic means is considered present at the meeting for purposes of determining a quorum and participating in all proceedings.

If telephone or other electronic means is used to conduct a regular, special, or emergency meeting, the board, to the extent practical, shall allow a person to monitor the meeting electronically from a remote location. The board may require the person making such a connection to pay for documented costs that the board incurs as a result of the additional connection.

If telephone or other electronic means is used to conduct a regular, special, or emergency meeting, the board shall provide notice of the regular meeting location, of the fact that some members may participate by telephone or other electronic means, and that a person may monitor the meeting electronically from a remote location. The timing and method of providing notice is governed by section 13D.04.

Subd. 8. **Complaints.** (a) The board shall promptly forward to the commissioner the substance of any complaint or communication it receives, whether written or oral, that alleges or implies a violation of a statute, rule, or order that the commissioner has the authority to enforce pertaining to the license or registration of any person authorized by the department to provide plumbing services, the performance or offering to perform plumbing services requiring licensure by an unlicensed person, or Plumbing Code compliance. Each complaint or communication that is forwarded to the commissioner shall be submitted on a form provided by the commissioner.

(b) The commissioner shall advise the board of the status of a complaint within 90 days after the board's written submission is received, or within 90 days after the board is provided with a written request for additional information or documentation from the commissioner or the commissioner's

designee, whichever is later. The commissioner shall advise the board of the disposition of a complaint referred by the board within 180 days after the board's written submission is received. The commissioner shall annually report to the board a summary of the actions taken in response to complaints referred by the board.

Subd. 9. **Data Practices Act.** The board is subject to chapter 13, the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, and shall protect from unlawful disclosure data classified as not public.

Subd. 10. **Official records.** The board shall make and preserve all records necessary to a full and accurate knowledge of its official activities in accordance with section 15.17.

Sec. 22. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.38, is amended to read:

### **326.38 LOCAL REGULATIONS.**

Any city having a system of waterworks or sewerage, or any town in which reside over 5,000 people exclusive of any statutory cities located therein, or the metropolitan airports commission, may, by ordinance, adopt local regulations providing for plumbing permits, bonds, approval of plans, and inspections of plumbing, which regulations are not in conflict with the plumbing standards on the same subject prescribed by the state ~~commissioner of health~~ Plumbing Board. No city or such town shall prohibit plumbers licensed by the state commissioner of ~~health~~ labor and industry from engaging in or working at the business, except cities and statutory cities which, prior to April 21, 1933, by ordinance required the licensing of plumbers. No city or town may require a license for persons performing building sewer or water service installation who have completed pipe laying training as prescribed by the commissioner of labor and industry. Any city by ordinance may prescribe regulations, reasonable standards, and inspections and grant permits to any person, firm, or corporation engaged in the business of installing water softeners, who is not licensed as a master plumber or journeyman plumber by the state commissioner of ~~health~~ labor and industry, to connect water softening and water filtering equipment to private residence water distribution systems, where provision has been previously made therefor and openings left for that purpose or by use of cold water connections to a domestic water heater; where it is not necessary to rearrange, make any extension or alteration of, or addition to any pipe, fixture or plumbing connected with the water system except to connect the water softener, and provided the connections so made comply with minimum standards prescribed by the state ~~commissioner of health~~ Plumbing Board.

Sec. 23. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.40, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. ~~License required; master and journeyman plumbers.~~ ~~In any city now or hereafter having 5,000 or more population, according to the last federal census, and having a system of waterworks or sewerage,~~ (a) No person, firm, or corporation shall engage in or work at the business of a master plumber or, restricted master plumber, journeyman plumber, and restricted journeyman plumber unless licensed to do so by the state commissioner of ~~health~~ labor and industry. A license is not required for persons performing building sewer or water service installation who have completed pipe laying training as prescribed by the commissioner of labor and industry. A master plumber may also work as a journeyman plumber, a restricted journeyman plumber, and a restricted master plumber. A journeyman plumber may also work as a restricted journeyman plumber. Anyone not so licensed may do plumbing work which complies with the provisions of the minimum ~~standard~~ standards prescribed by the state ~~commissioner of health~~ Plumbing Board on premises or that part of premises owned and actually occupied by the worker as a residence, unless otherwise forbidden to do so by a local ordinance.

~~In any such city~~ (b) No person, firm, or corporation shall engage in the business of installing plumbing nor install plumbing in connection with the dealing in and selling of plumbing material and supplies unless at all times a licensed master plumber, or in cities and towns with a population of fewer than 5,000 according to the federal census a restricted master plumber, who shall be responsible for proper installation, is in charge of the plumbing work of the person, firm, or corporation.

The ~~Department of Health~~ Plumbing Board shall prescribe rules, not inconsistent herewith, for the examination and licensing of plumbers.

Sec. 24. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.401, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Journeyman exam.** A plumber's apprentice who has completed four years of practical plumbing experience is eligible to take the journeyman plumbing examination. Up to 24 months of practical plumbing experience prior to registration as an apprentice may be applied to the four-year experience requirement. However, none of this practical plumbing experience may be applied if the person did not have any practical plumbing experience in the 12-month period immediately prior to registration. ~~The commissioner~~ Plumbing Board may adopt rules to evaluate whether the person's past practical plumbing experience is applicable in preparing for the journeyman's examination. If two years after completing the training the person has not taken the examination, the four years of experience shall be forfeited.

The commissioner may allow an extension of the two-year period for taking the exam for cases of hardship or other appropriate circumstances.

Sec. 25. [326.402] RESTRICTED PLUMBER LICENSE.

Subdivision 1. Licensure. The commissioner of labor and industry shall grant a restricted journeyman or restricted master plumber license to an individual if:

(1) the individual completes an application with information required by the commissioner of labor and industry;

(2) the completed application is accompanied by a fee of \$30;

(3) the commissioner of labor and industry receives the completed application and fee before January 1, 2008;

(4) the completed application demonstrates that the applicant has had at least two years for a restricted journeyman plumber license or four years for a restricted master plumber license of practical plumbing experience in the plumbing trade prior to the application; and

(5) during the entire time for which the applicant is claiming experience in contracting for plumbing work under clause (4), the applicant was in compliance with all applicable requirements of section 326.40.

Subd. 2. **Use of license.** A restricted master plumber and restricted journeyman plumber may engage in the plumbing trade in all areas of the state except in cities and towns with a population of more than 5,000 according to the federal census.

Subd. 3. **Application period.** Applications for restricted master plumber and restricted journeyman plumber licenses must be submitted to the commissioner prior to January 1, 2008.

Subd. 4. **Renewal; use period for license.** A restricted master plumber and restricted journeyman plumber license must be renewed annually for as long as that licensee engages in the plumbing trade. Failure to renew a restricted master plumber and restricted journeyman plumber license within 12 months after the expiration date will result in permanent forfeiture of the restricted master plumber and restricted journeyman plumber license.

Subd. 5. **Prohibition of transference.** A restricted master plumber and restricted journeyman plumber license may not be transferred or sold to any other person.

Subd. 6. **Bond; insurance.** A restricted master plumber licensee is subject to the bond and insurance requirements of section 326.40, subdivision 2, unless the exemption provided by section 326.40, subdivision 3, applies.

Subd. 7. **Fee.** The annual fee for the restricted master plumber and restricted journeyman plumber licenses is the same fee as for a master or journeyman plumber license, respectively.

Sec. 26. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.405, is amended to read:

**326.405 RECIPROCITY WITH OTHER STATES.**

The commissioner of health may license without examination, upon payment of the required fee, nonresident applicants who are licensed under the laws of a state having standards for licensing plumbers which the commissioner determines are substantially equivalent to the standards of this state if the other state grants similar privileges to Minnesota residents duly licensed in this state. The commissioner may enter into reciprocity agreements for personal licenses with another state if approved by the board. Once approved by the board, the commissioner may issue a plumber's license without requiring the applicant to pass an examination provided the applicant:

- (a) submits an application under section 326.42;
- (b) pays the fee required under section 326.42; and
- (c) holds a valid comparable license in the state participating in the agreement.

Agreements are subject to the following:

(1) The parties to the agreement must administer a statewide licensing program that includes examination and qualifying experience or training comparable to Minnesota's.

(2) The experience and training requirements under which an individual applicant qualified for examination in the qualifying state must be deemed equal to or greater than required for an applicant making application in Minnesota at the time the applicant acquired the license in the qualifying state.

(3) The applicant must have acquired the license in the qualifying state through an examination deemed equivalent to the same class of license examination in Minnesota. A lesser class of license may be granted where the applicant has acquired a greater class of license in the qualifying state and the applicant otherwise meets the conditions of this subdivision.

(4) At the time of application, the applicant must hold a valid license in the qualifying state and have held the license continuously for at least one year before making application in Minnesota.

(5) An applicant is not eligible for a license under this subdivision if the applicant has failed the

same or greater class of license examination in Minnesota, or if the applicant's license of the same or greater class has been revoked or suspended.

(6) An applicant who has failed to renew a plumber's license for two years or more after its expiration is not eligible for a license under this subdivision.

Sec. 27. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.42, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Application.** Applications for plumber's license shall be made to the state commissioner of ~~health~~ labor and industry, with fee. Unless the applicant is entitled to a renewal, the applicant shall be licensed by the state commissioner of ~~health~~ labor and industry only after passing a satisfactory examination developed and administered by the ~~examiners~~ commissioner of labor and industry, based upon rules adopted by the Plumbing Board showing fitness. Examination fees for both journeyman and master plumbers shall be in an amount prescribed by the state commissioner of ~~health~~ labor and industry pursuant to section 144.122. Upon being notified that of having successfully passed the examination for original license the applicant shall submit an application, with the license fee herein provided. License fees shall be in an amount prescribed by the state commissioner of ~~health~~ labor and industry pursuant to section 144.122. Licenses shall expire and be renewed as prescribed by the commissioner pursuant to section 144.122.

Sec. 28. **[326B.04] DEPOSIT OF MONEY.**

Subdivision 1. **Construction code fund.** There is created in the state treasury a construction code fund as a special revenue fund for the purpose of administering this chapter, sections 327.31 to 327.36, and chapter 327B. All money collected under those sections, except penalties, is credited to the construction code fund unless otherwise specifically designated by law. Any interest or profit accruing from investment of these sums is credited to the construction code fund. All money collected in the construction code fund is appropriated to the commissioner of labor and industry to administer and enforce the provisions of the laws identified in this section.

Unless otherwise provided by law, all penalties assessed under this chapter, section 327.35, and chapter 327B are credited to the assigned risk safety account established by section 79.253.

Subd. 2. **Deposits.** All remaining balances as of June 30, 2007, in the state government special revenue fund and special revenue fund accounts maintained for the Building Codes and Standards Division, Board of Electricity, and plumbing and engineering unit are transferred to the construction code fund. Unless otherwise specifically designated by law: (1) all money collected under chapter 183 and sections 16B.59 to 16B.76; 144.122, paragraph (f); 181.723; 326.241 to 326.248; 326.37 to 326.521; 326.57 to 326.65; 326.83 to 326.992; 327.31 to 327.36; and 327B.01 to 327B.12, except penalties, is credited to the construction code fund; (2) all fees collected under section 45.23 in connection with continuing education for residential contractors, residential remodelers, and residential roofers are credited to the construction code fund; and (3) all penalties assessed under the sections set forth in clauses (1) and (2) and all penalties assessed under sections 144.99 to 144.993 in connection with any violation of sections 326.37 to 326.45 or 326.57 to 327.65 or the rules adopted under those sections are credited to the assigned risk safety account established by section 79.253.

Sec. 29. **[326B.89] CONTRACTOR RECOVERY FUND.**

Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) For the purposes of this section, the following terms have the

meanings given them.

(b) "Gross annual receipts" means the total amount derived from residential contracting or residential remodeling activities, regardless of where the activities are performed, and must not be reduced by costs of goods sold, expenses, losses, or any other amount.

(c) "Licensee" means a person licensed as a residential contractor or residential remodeler.

(d) "Residential real estate" means a new or existing building constructed for habitation by one to four families, and includes detached garages.

(e) "Fund" means the contractor recovery fund.

Subd. 2. **Generally.** The contractor recovery fund is created in the state treasury and shall be administered by the commissioner for the purposes described in this section. Any interest or profit accruing from investment of money in the fund shall be credited to the contractor recovery fund.

Subd. 3. **Fund fees.** In addition to any other fees, a person who applies for or renews a license under sections 326.83 to 326.98 shall pay a fee to the fund. The person shall pay, in addition to the appropriate application or renewal fee, the following additional fee that shall be deposited in the fund. The amount of the fee shall be based on the person's gross annual receipts for the person's most recent fiscal year preceding the application or renewal, on the following scale:

<u>Fee</u>	<u>Gross Annual Receipts</u>
<u>\$160</u>	<u>under \$1,000,000</u>
<u>\$210</u>	<u>\$1,000,000 to \$5,000,000</u>
<u>\$260</u>	<u>over \$5,000,000</u>

Subd. 4. **Purpose of fund.** The purpose of this fund is to:

(1) compensate owners or lessees of residential real estate who meet the requirements of this section;

(2) reimburse the department for all legal and administrative expenses, disbursements, and costs, including staffing costs, incurred in administering and defending the fund;

(3) pay for educational or research projects in the field of residential contracting to further the purposes of sections 326B.801 to 326B.825; and

(4) provide information to the public on residential contracting issues.

Subd. 5. **Payment limitations.** Except as otherwise provided in this section, the commissioner shall not pay compensation from the fund to an owner or a lessee in an amount greater than \$75,000. Except as otherwise provided in this section, the commissioner shall not pay compensation from the fund to owners and lessees in an amount that totals more than \$150,000 per licensee. The commissioner shall not pay compensation from the fund for a final judgment based on a cause of action that arose before the commissioner's receipt of the licensee's fee required by subdivision 3.

Subd. 6. **Verified application.** To be eligible for compensation from the fund, an owner or lessee shall serve on the commissioner a verified application for compensation on a form approved by the

commissioner. The application shall verify the following information:

- (1) the specific grounds upon which the owner or lessee seeks to recover from the fund:
- (2) that the owner or the lessee has obtained a final judgment in a court of competent jurisdiction against a licensee licensed under section 326B.803;
- (3) that the final judgment was obtained against the licensee on the grounds of fraudulent, deceptive, or dishonest practices, conversion of funds, or failure of performance that arose directly out of a transaction that occurred when the licensee was licensed and performing any of the special skills enumerated under section 326B.802, subdivision 19;
- (4) the amount of the owner's or the lessee's actual and direct out-of-pocket loss on the owner's residential real estate, on residential real estate leased by the lessee, or on new residential real estate that has never been occupied or that was occupied by the licensee for less than one year prior to purchase by the owner;
- (5) that the residential real estate is located in Minnesota;
- (6) that the owner or the lessee is not the spouse of the licensee or the personal representative of the licensee;
- (7) the amount of the final judgment, any amount paid in satisfaction of the final judgment, and the amount owing on the final judgment as of the date of the verified application; and
- (8) that the verified application is being served within two years after the judgment became final.

The owner's and the lessee's actual and direct out-of-pocket loss shall not include attorney fees, interest on the loss, and interest on the final judgment obtained as a result of the loss. An owner or lessee may serve a verified application regardless of whether the final judgment has been discharged by a bankruptcy court. A judgment issued by a court is final if all proceedings on the judgment have either been pursued and concluded or been forgone, including all reviews and appeals. For purposes of this section, owners who are joint tenants or tenants in common are deemed to be a single owner. For purposes of this section, owners and lessees eligible for payment of compensation from the fund shall not include government agencies, political subdivisions, financial institutions, and any other entity that purchases, guarantees, or insures a loan secured by real estate.

Subd. 7. **Commissioner review.** The commissioner shall within 120 days after receipt of the verified application:

- (1) enter into an agreement with an owner or a lessee that resolves the verified application for compensation from the fund; or
- (2) issue an order to the owner or the lessee accepting, modifying, or denying the verified application for compensation from the fund.

Upon receipt of an order issued under clause (2), the owner or the lessee shall have 30 days to serve upon the commissioner a written request for a hearing. If the owner or the lessee does not serve upon the commissioner a timely written request for hearing, the order issued under clause (2) shall become a final order of the commissioner that may not be reviewed by any court or agency. The commissioner shall order compensation from the fund only if the owner or the lessee has filed a verified application that complies with subdivision 6 and if the commissioner determines based on



review of the application that compensation should be paid from the fund. The commissioner shall not be bound by any prior settlement, compromise, or stipulation between the owner or the lessee and the licensee.

Subd. 8. **Administrative hearing.** If an owner or a lessee timely serves a request for hearing under subdivision 7, the commissioner shall request that an administrative law judge be assigned and that a hearing be conducted under the contested case provisions of chapter 14 within 30 days after the service of the request for hearing upon the commissioner. Upon petition of the commissioner, the administrative law judge shall continue the hearing up to 60 days and upon a showing of good cause may continue the hearing for such additional period as the administrative law judge deems appropriate. At the hearing the owner or the lessee shall have the burden of proving by substantial evidence under subdivision 6, clauses (1) to (8). The administrative law judge shall issue findings of fact, conclusions of law, and order. If the administrative law judge finds that compensation should be paid to the owner or the lessee, the administrative law judge shall order the commissioner to make payment from the fund of the amount it finds to be payable pursuant to the provisions of and in accordance with the limitations contained in this section. The order of the administrative law judge shall constitute the final decision of the agency in the contested case. Judicial review of the administrative law judge's findings of fact, conclusions of law, and order shall be in accordance with sections 14.63 to 14.69.

Subd. 9. **Satisfaction of applications for compensation.** The commissioner shall pay compensation from the fund to an owner or a lessee pursuant to the terms of an agreement that has been entered into under subdivision 7, clause (1), or pursuant to a final order that has been issued under subdivision 7, clause (2), or subdivision 8 by December 1 of the fiscal year following the fiscal year during which the agreement was entered into or during which the order became final, subject to the limitations of this section. At the end of each fiscal year the commissioner shall calculate the amount of compensation to be paid from the fund pursuant to agreements that have been entered into under subdivision 7, clause (1), and final orders that have been issued under subdivision 7, clause (2), or subdivision 8. If the calculated amount exceeds the amount available for payment, then the commissioner shall allocate the amount available among the owners and the lessees in the ratio that the amount agreed to or ordered to be paid to each owner or lessee bears to the amount calculated. The commissioner shall mail notice of the allocation to all owners and lessees not less than 45 days following the end of the fiscal year. Any compensation paid by the commissioner in accordance with this subdivision shall be deemed to satisfy and extinguish any right to compensation from the fund based upon the verified application of the owner or lessee.

Subd. 10. **Right of subrogation.** If the commissioner pays compensation from the fund to an owner or a lessee pursuant to an agreement under subdivision 7, clause (1), or a final order issued under subdivision 7, clause (2), or subdivision 8, then the commissioner shall be subrogated to all of the rights, title, and interest in the owner's or lessee's final judgment in the amount of compensation paid from the fund and the owner or the lessee shall assign to the commissioner all rights, title, and interest in the final judgment in the amount of compensation paid. The commissioner shall deposit in the fund money recovered under this subdivision.

Subd. 11. **Effect of section on commissioner's authority.** Nothing contained in this section shall limit the authority of the commissioner to take disciplinary action against a licensee under the provisions of this chapter. A licensee's repayment in full of obligations to the fund shall not nullify or modify the effect of any other disciplinary proceeding brought under the provisions of this chapter.

Subd. 12. **Limitation.** Nothing may obligate the fund to compensate:

(1) insurers or sureties under subrogation or similar theories; or

(2) owner of residential property for final judgments against a prior owner of the residential property unless the claim is brought and judgment is rendered for breach of the statutory warranty set forth in chapter 327A.

Subd. 13. **Condominiums or townhouses.** For purposes of this section, the owner or the lessee of a condominium or townhouse is considered an owner or a lessee of residential property regardless of the number of residential units per building.

Subd. 14. **Accelerated compensation.** (a) Payments made from the fund to compensate owners and lessees that do not exceed the jurisdiction limits for conciliation court matters as specified in section 491A.01 may be paid on an accelerated basis if all of the requirements in paragraphs (b) and (c) have been satisfied.

(b) The owner or the lessee has served upon the commissioner a verified application for compensation that complies with the requirements set out in subdivision 6 and the commissioner determines based on review of the application that compensation should be paid from the fund. The commissioner shall calculate the actual and direct out-of-pocket loss in the transaction, minus attorney fees, interest on the loss and on the judgment obtained as a result of the loss, and any satisfaction of the judgment, and make payment to the owner or the lessee up to the conciliation court jurisdiction limits within 15 days after the owner or lessee serves the verified application.

(c) The commissioner may pay compensation to owners or lessees that totals not more than \$50,000 per licensee per fiscal year under this accelerated process. The commissioner may prorate the amount of compensation paid to owners or lessees under this subdivision if applications submitted by owners and lessees seek compensation in excess of \$50,000 against a licensee. Any unpaid portion of a verified application that has been prorated under this subdivision shall be satisfied in the manner set forth in subdivision 9.

Subd. 15. **Appropriation.** Money in the fund is appropriated to the commissioner for the purposes of this section.

Subd. 16. **Additional assessment.** If the balance in the fund is at any time less than the commissioner determines is necessary to carry out the purposes of this section, every licensee, when renewing a license, shall pay, in addition to the annual renewal fee and the fee set forth in subdivision 3 an assessment not to exceed \$100. The commissioner shall set the amount of assessment based on a reasonable determination of the amount that is necessary to restore a balance in the fund that is adequate to carry out the purposes of this section.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective December 1, 2007, except that subdivisions 1, 3, and 15 are effective July 1, 2007.

Sec. 30. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 341.21, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 8. **Mixed martial arts.** "Mixed martial arts" means any combination of boxing, kick boxing, wrestling, grappling, or other recognized martial arts.

Sec. 31. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 341.22, is amended to read:

**341.22 BOXING COMMISSION.**

There is hereby created the Minnesota Boxing Commission consisting of five nine members who are citizens of this state. The members must be appointed by the governor. One member of the commission must be a retired judge of the Minnesota district court, Minnesota Court of Appeals, Minnesota Supreme Court, the United States District Court for the District of Minnesota, or the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals, and at least three members must have knowledge of the boxing industry. At least four members must have knowledge of the mixed martial arts industry. The governor shall make serious efforts to appoint qualified women to serve on the commission. Membership terms, compensation of members, removal of members, the filling of membership vacancies, and fiscal year and reporting requirements must be as provided in sections 214.07 to 214.09. The provision of staff, administrative services, and office space; the review and processing of complaints; the setting of fees; and other provisions relating to commission operations must be as provided in chapter 214. The purpose of the commission is to protect health, promote safety, and ensure fair events.

Sec. 32. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 341.25, is amended to read:

**341.25 RULES.**

(a) The commission may adopt rules that include standards for the physical examination and condition of boxers and referees.

(b) The commission may adopt other rules necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter, including, but not limited to, the conduct of boxing exhibitions, bouts, and fights, and their manner, supervision, time, and place.

(c) The commission must adopt unified rules for mixed martial arts.

Sec. 33. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 341.27, is amended to read:

**341.27 COMMISSION DUTIES.**

The commission shall:

- (1) issue, deny, renew, suspend, or revoke licenses;
- (2) make and maintain records of its acts and proceedings including the issuance, denial, renewal, suspension, or revocation of licenses;
- (3) keep public records of the commission open to inspection at all reasonable times;
- (4) assist the director in the development of rules to be implemented under this chapter; ~~and~~
- (5) conform to the rules adopted under this chapter; and
- (6) develop policies and procedures for regulating mixed martial arts.

Sec. 34. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 341.28, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Regulatory authority; tough person contests.** All tough person contests, including amateur tough person contests, are subject to this chapter. All tough person contests are subject to American Boxing Commission (ABC) rules. Every contestant in a tough person contest shall

have a physical examination prior to their bouts. Every contestant in a tough person contest shall wear padded gloves that weigh at least 12 ounces. All tough person bouts are limited to two-minute rounds and a maximum of four total rounds. Officials at tough person bouts shall be licensed under this chapter.

Sec. 35. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 341.28, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 3. **Regulatory authority; similar sporting events.** All mixed martial arts, ultimate fight contests, and similar sporting events are subject to this chapter.

Sec. 36. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 341.32, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Expiration and renewal.** A license ~~expires December 31 at midnight in the year of its issuance~~ issued after the effective date of this act is valid for one year from the date it is issued and may be renewed by filing an application for renewal with the commission and payment of the license fee. An application for a license and renewal of a license must be on a form provided by the commission. There is a 30-day grace period during which a license may be renewed if a late filing penalty fee equal to the license fee is submitted with the regular license fee. A licensee that files late shall not conduct any activity regulated by this chapter until the commission has renewed the license. If the licensee fails to apply to the commission within the 30-day grace period, the licensee must apply for a new license under subdivision 1.

Sec. 37. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 341.321, is amended to read:

**341.321 FEE SCHEDULE.**

(a) The fee schedule for licenses issued by the Minnesota Boxing Commission is as follows:

- (1) referees, \$35 ~~\$45~~ for each initial license and each renewal;
- (2) promoters, \$400 for each initial license and each renewal;
- (3) judges and knockdown judges, \$25 ~~\$45~~ for each initial license and each renewal;
- (4) trainers, \$35 ~~\$45~~ for each initial license and each renewal;
- (5) ring announcers, \$25 ~~\$45~~ for each initial license and each renewal;
- (6) boxers' seconds, \$25 ~~\$45~~ for each initial license and each renewal;
- (7) timekeepers, \$25 ~~\$45~~ for each initial license and each renewal; ~~and~~
- (8) boxers, \$35 ~~\$45~~ for each initial license and each renewal;
- (9) managers, \$45 for each initial license and each renewal; ~~and~~
- (10) ringside physicians, \$45 for each initial license and each renewal.

(b) The commission shall establish and assess an event fee for each sporting event. The event fee is set at a minimum of \$1,500 per event or a percentage of the ticket sales as determined by the commission when the sporting event is scheduled.

(c) All fees collected by the Minnesota Boxing Commission must be deposited in the Boxing Commission account in the special revenue fund.

Sec. 38. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 471.471, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Application process.** A person seeking a waiver shall apply to the ~~Building Code and Standards Division of the~~ Department of ~~Administration~~ Labor and Industry on a form prescribed by the board and pay a \$70 fee to the construction code fund. The division shall review the application to determine whether it appears to be meritorious, using the standards set out in subdivision 3. The division shall forward applications it considers meritorious to the board, along with a list and summary of applications considered not to be meritorious. The board may require the division to forward to it an application the division has considered not to be meritorious. The board shall issue a decision on an application within 90 days of its receipt. A board decision to approve an application must be unanimous. An application that contains false or misleading information must be rejected.

Sec. 39. **WHISTLE-BLOWER PROTECTION ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES.**

By January 15, 2008, the commissioner of labor and industry shall report to the legislature its recommendations for implementing an administrative review procedure to address whistle-blower protection complaints under section 181.932.

Sec. 40. **TRANSFER OF AUTHORITY; PLUMBING BOARD.**

The commissioner of administration may not use the authority under Minnesota Statutes, section 16B.37, to modify the transfers of authority in this act.

Sec. 41. **FIRST MEETING; APPOINTMENTS FOR PLUMBING BOARD.**

The governor must complete the appointments required by Minnesota Statutes, section 326.372, no later than July 1, 2007. The commissioner of labor and industry shall convene the first meeting of the Plumbing Board no later than September 1, 2007.

Sec. 42. **REPEALER.**

Minnesota Statutes 2006, sections 176.042; 268.035, subdivision 9; and 326.45, are repealed.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** Sections 176.042 and 286.035, subdivision 9, are repealed effective January 1, 2009.

## ARTICLE 4

### HIGH PRESSURE PIPING

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.46, is amended to read:

**326.46 SUPERVISION—OF DEPARTMENT TO SUPERVISE HIGH PRESSURE PIPING.**

~~The department of Labor and Industry shall supervise all high pressure piping used on all projects in this state, and may prescribe minimum standards which shall be uniform.~~

The department shall employ inspectors and other assistants to carry out the provisions of sections 326.46 to 326.52.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.47, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Permissive municipal regulation.** A municipality may, by ordinance, provide for

the inspection of high pressure piping system materials and construction, and provide that it shall not be constructed or installed except in accordance with minimum state standards. The authority designated by the ordinance for issuing high pressure piping permits and assuring compliance with state standards must report to the Department of Labor and Industry all violations of state high pressure piping standards.

A municipality may not adopt an ordinance with high pressure piping standards that does not conform to the uniform standards prescribed by the Department of Labor and Industry board. The Department of Labor and Industry board shall specify by rule the minimum qualifications for municipal inspectors.

Sec. 3. **[326.471] BOARD OF HIGH PRESSURE PIPING SYSTEMS.**

Subdivision 1. **Composition.** (a) The Board of High Pressure Piping Systems shall consist of 12 members. Eleven members shall be appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate and shall be voting members. Appointments of members by the governor shall be made in accordance with section 15.066. If the senate votes to refuse to consent to an appointment of a member made by the governor, the governor shall appoint a new member with the advice and consent of the senate. One member shall be the commissioner of labor and industry or the commissioner's designee, who shall be a voting member. Of the 11 appointed members, the composition shall be as follows:

- (1) one member shall be a high pressure piping inspector;
- (2) one member shall be a licensed professional mechanical engineer;
- (3) one member shall be a representative of the high pressure piping industry;
- (4) four members shall be high pressure piping contractors engaged in the scope of high pressure piping, two from the metropolitan area and two from greater Minnesota;
- (5) two members shall be high pressure piping journeymen engaged in the scope of high pressure piping systems installation, one from the metropolitan area and one from greater Minnesota; and
- (6) two members shall be representatives of industrial companies which use high pressure piping systems in their industrial processes.

(b) The high pressure piping inspector shall be appointed for a term to end December 31, 2011. The professional mechanical engineer shall be appointed for a term to end December 31, 2010. The representative of the high pressure piping industry shall be appointed for a term to end December 31, 2011. Two of the high pressure piping contractors shall be appointed for a term to end December 31, 2011, and two high pressure piping contractors shall be appointed for a term to end December 31, 2010. One of the high pressure piping journeymen shall be appointed for a term to end December 31, 2011, and one high pressure piping journeyman shall be appointed for a term to end December 31, 2010. The two representatives of industrial companies that use high pressure piping systems in their industrial process shall be appointed for a term to end December 31, 2010.

(c) The licensed professional mechanical engineer must possess a current Minnesota professional engineering license and maintain the license for the duration of the term served on the board. All other appointed members, except for the representative of the piping industry and the representatives of industrial companies that use high pressure piping systems in their industrial

processes must possess a current high pressure piping license issued by the Department of Labor and Industry and maintain that license for the duration of their terms. All appointed members must be residents of Minnesota at the time of and throughout their terms. The term of any appointed member who does not maintain membership qualification status shall end on the date of status change and the governor shall appoint a replacement member. It is the responsibility of the member to notify the board of a change in the member's status.

(d) For appointed members, except for the initial terms designated in paragraph (a), each term shall be three years with the terms ending on the first Monday in January. Members appointed by the governor shall be limited to three consecutive terms. The governor shall, all or in part, reappoint the current members or appoint replacement members with the advice and consent of the senate. Midterm vacancies shall be filled for the remaining portion of the term. Vacancies occurring with less than six months time remaining in the term shall be filled for the existing term and the following three-year term. Members may serve until their successors are appointed but in no case later than July 1 in a year in which the term expires unless reappointed.

Subd. 2. **Powers; duties; administrative support.** (a) The board shall have the power to:

(1) elect its chair, vice-chair, and secretary;

(2) adopt bylaws that specify the duties of its officers, the meeting dates of the board, and contain such other provisions as may be useful and necessary for the efficient conduct of the business of the board;

(3) adopt the High Pressure Piping Code that must be followed in this state and any High Pressure Piping Code amendments thereto pursuant to chapter 14 and as provided in subdivision 6, paragraphs (b), (c), and (d);

(4) review requests for final interpretations and issue final interpretations as provided in section 16B.63, subdivision 5;

(5) adopt rules that regulate the licensure or registration of high pressure piping contractors, journeymen, and other persons engaged in the design, installation, and alteration of high pressure piping systems, except for those individuals licensed under section 326.02, subdivisions 2 and 3. The board shall adopt these rules pursuant to chapter 14 and as provided in subdivision 6, paragraph (e);

(6) adopt rules that regulate continuing education for individuals licensed or registered as high pressure piping contractors, journeymen, or other persons engaged in the design, installation, and alteration of high pressure piping systems. The board shall adopt these rules pursuant to chapter 14 and as provided in subdivision 6, paragraph (e);

(7) advise the commissioner regarding educational requirements for high pressure piping inspectors;

(8) refer complaints or other communications, whether orally or in writing, that allege or imply a violation of a statute, rule, or order that the commissioner has the authority to enforce pertaining to code compliance, licensure, or an offering to perform or performance of unlicensed high pressure piping services to the commissioner under subdivision 8;

(9) approve per diem and expenses deemed necessary for its members as provided in subdivision

3;

(10) select from its members individuals to serve on any other state advisory council, board, or committee; and

(11) recommend the fees for licenses and certifications.

Except for the powers granted to the Board of High Pressure Piping Systems, the commissioner of labor and industry shall administer and enforce the provisions of sections 326.46 to 326.521 and any rules promulgated pursuant thereto.

(b) The board shall comply with section 15.0597, subdivisions 2 and 4.

(c) The commissioner shall coordinate the board's rulemaking and recommendations with the recommendations and rulemaking conducted by the other boards. The commissioner shall provide staff support to the board. The support includes professional, legal, technical, and clerical staff necessary to perform rulemaking and other duties assigned to the board. The commissioner of labor and industry shall supply necessary office space and supplies to assist the board in its duties.

Subd. 3. **Compensation.** (a) Members of the board may be compensated at the rate of \$55 per day spent on board activities, when authorized by the board, plus expenses in the same manner and amount as authorized by the commissioner's plan adopted under section 43A.18, subdivision 2. Members who, as a result of time spent attending board meetings, incur child care expenses that would not otherwise have been incurred, may be reimbursed for those expenses upon board authorization.

(b) Members who are state employees or employees of political subdivisions of the state must not receive the daily payment for activities that occur during working hours for which they are compensated by the state or political subdivision. However, a state or political subdivision employee may receive the daily payment if the employee uses vacation time or compensatory time accumulated in accordance with a collective bargaining agreement or compensation plan for board activities. Members who are state employees or employees of the political subdivisions of the state may receive the expenses provided for in this subdivision unless the expenses are reimbursed by another source. Members who are state employees or employees of political subdivisions of the state may be reimbursed for child care expenses only for time spent on board activities that are outside their working hours.

(c) The board shall adopt internal standards prescribing what constitutes a day spent on board activities for purposes of making daily payments under this subdivision.

Subd. 4. **Removal; vacancies.** (a) An appointed member of the board may be removed by the governor at any time (1) for cause, after notice and hearing, or (2) after missing three consecutive meetings. The chair of the board shall inform the governor of an appointed member missing three consecutive meetings. After the second consecutive missed meeting and before the next meeting, the secretary of the board shall notify the appointed member in writing that the member may be removed for missing the next meeting. In the case of a vacancy on the board, the governor shall, with the advice and consent of the senate, appoint a person to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the unexpired term.

(b) Vacancies shall be filled pursuant to section 15.0597, subdivisions 5 and 6.



Subd. 5. **Membership vacancies within three months of appointment.** Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, when a seat on the board becomes vacant within three months after being filled through the appointment process, the governor may, upon notification to the Office of the Secretary of State, choose a new member from the applications on hand and need not repeat the process.

Subd. 6. **Officers, quorum, voting.** (a) The board shall elect annually from its members a chair, vice-chair, and secretary. A quorum of the board shall consist of a majority of members of the board qualified to vote on the matter in question. All questions concerning the manner in which a meeting is conducted or called that are not covered by statute shall be determined by Robert's Rules of Order (revised) unless otherwise specified by the bylaws.

(b) Except as provided in paragraph (c), each High Pressure Piping Code amendment considered by the board that receives an affirmative two-thirds or more majority vote of all of the voting members of the board shall be included in the next High Pressure Piping Code rulemaking proceeding initiated by the board. If a High Pressure Piping Code amendment considered, or reconsidered, by the board receives less than a two-thirds majority vote of all of the voting members of the board, the High Pressure Piping Code amendment shall not be included in the next High Pressure Piping Code rulemaking proceeding initiated by the board.

(c) If the High Pressure Piping Code amendment considered by the board is to replace the Minnesota High Pressure Piping Code with a model High Pressure Piping Code, then the amendment may only be included in the next High Pressure Piping Code rulemaking proceeding if it receives an affirmative two-thirds or more majority vote of all of the voting members of the board.

(d) The board may reconsider High Pressure Piping Code amendments during an active High Pressure Piping Code rulemaking proceeding in which the amendment previously failed to receive a two-thirds or more majority vote of all of the voting members of the board only if new or updated information that affects the High Pressure Piping Code amendment is presented to the board. The board may also reconsider failed High Pressure Piping Code amendments in subsequent High Pressure Piping Code rulemaking proceedings.

(e) Except as provided in paragraph (f), each proposed rule and rule amendment considered by the board pursuant to the rulemaking authority specified in subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clauses (5) and (6), that receives an affirmative majority vote of all of the voting members of the board shall be included in the next rulemaking proceeding initiated by the board. If a proposed rule or rule amendment considered, or reconsidered, by the board receives less than an affirmative majority vote of all of the voting members of the board, the proposed rule or rule amendment shall not be included in the next rulemaking proceeding initiated by the board.

(f) The board may reconsider a proposed rule or rule amendment during an active rulemaking proceeding in which the amendment previously failed to receive an affirmative majority vote of all of the voting members of the board only if new or updated information that affects the proposed rule or rule amendment is presented to the board. The board may also reconsider a failed proposed rule or rule amendment in subsequent rulemaking proceedings.

Subd. 7. **Board meetings.** (a) The board shall hold meetings at such times as the board shall specify. Notice and conduct of all meetings shall be pursuant to chapter 13D and in such a manner as the bylaws may provide.

(b) If compliance with section 13D.02 is impractical, the board may conduct a meeting of its

members by telephone or other electronic means so long as the following conditions are met:

(1) all members of the board participating in the meeting, wherever their physical location, can hear one another and can hear all discussion and testimony;

(2) members of the public present at the regular meeting location of the board can hear clearly all discussion and testimony and all votes of members of the board and, if needed, receive those services required by sections 15.44 and 15.441;

(3) at least one member of the board is physically present at the regular meeting location; and

(4) all votes are conducted by roll call, so each member's vote on each issue can be identified and recorded.

Each member of the board participating in a meeting by telephone or other electronic means is considered present at the meeting for purposes of determining a quorum and participating in all proceedings.

If telephone or other electronic means is used to conduct a regular, special, or emergency meeting, the board, to the extent practical, shall allow a person to monitor the meeting electronically from a remote location. The board may require the person making such a connection to pay for documented costs that the board incurs as a result of the additional connection.

If telephone or other electronic means is used to conduct a regular, special, or emergency meeting, the board shall provide notice of the regular meeting location, of the fact that some members may participate by telephone or other electronic means, and that a person may monitor the meeting electronically from a remote location. The timing and method of providing notice is governed by section 13D.04.

Subd. 8. **Complaints.** (a) The board shall promptly forward to the commissioner the substance of any complaint or communication it receives, whether in writing or orally, that alleges or implies a violation of a statute, rule, or order that the commissioner has the authority to enforce pertaining to the license or registration of any person authorized by the department to provide high pressure piping services, the performance or offering to perform high pressure piping services requiring licensure by an unlicensed person, or high pressure code compliance. Each complaint or communication that is forwarded to the commissioner shall be submitted on a form provided by the commissioner.

(b) The commissioner shall advise the board of the status of a complaint within 90 days after the board's written submission is received, or within 90 days after the board is provided with a written request for additional information or documentation from the commissioner or the commissioner's designee, whichever is later. The commissioner shall advise the board of the disposition of a complaint referred by the board within 180 days after the board's written submission is received. The commissioner shall annually report to the board a summary of the actions taken in response to complaints referred by the board.

Subd. 9. **Data Practices Act.** The board is subject to chapter 13, the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, and shall protect from unlawful disclosure data classified as not public.

Subd. 10. **Official records.** The board shall make and preserve all records necessary to a full and accurate knowledge of its official activities in accordance with section 15.17.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.48, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **License required; rules; time credit.** No ~~person~~ individual shall engage in or work at the business of a contracting high pressure pipefitter unless issued an individual contracting pipefitter license to do so by the ~~department of Labor and Industry~~ under rules adopted by the board. No license shall be required for repairs on existing installations. No ~~person~~ individual shall engage in or work at the business of journeyman high pressure pipefitter unless issued an individual journeyman pipefitter competency license to do so by the ~~department of Labor and Industry~~ under rules adopted by the board. A person possessing an individual contracting pipefitter competency license may also work as a journeyman high pressure pipefitter.

No ~~person, partnership, firm, or corporation~~ shall construct or install high pressure piping, nor install high pressure piping in connection with the dealing in and selling of high pressure pipe material and supplies, unless, at all times, a ~~person~~ individual possessing a contracting high pressure pipefitter individual competency license or a journeyman high pressure pipefitter individual competency license is responsible for ensuring that the high pressure pipefitting work conducted by the person, partnership, firm, or corporation being is in conformity with Minnesota Statutes and Minnesota Rules.

The ~~Department of Labor and Industry~~ board shall prescribe rules, not inconsistent herewith, for the examination and individual competency licensing of contracting high pressure pipefitters and journeyman high pressure pipefitters and for issuance of permits by the department and municipalities for the installation of high pressure piping.

An employee performing the duties of inspector for the Department of Labor and Industry in regulating pipefitting shall not receive time credit for the inspection duties when making an application for a license required by this section.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.48, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **High pressure pipefitting business license.** Before obtaining a permit for high pressure piping work, a ~~person, partnership, firm, or corporation~~ must obtain or utilize a business with a high pressure piping business license.

A ~~person, partnership, firm, or corporation~~ must have at all times as a full-time employee at least one individual holding an individual contracting high pressure pipefitter competency license. Only full-time employees who hold individual contracting high pressure pipefitter licenses are authorized to obtain high pressure piping permits in the name of the business. The individual contracting high pressure pipefitter competency license holder can be the employee of only one high pressure piping business at a time.

To retain its business license without reapplication, a ~~person, partnership, firm, or corporation~~ holding a high pressure piping business license that ceases to employ a ~~person~~ an individual holding an individual contracting high pressure pipefitter competency license shall have 60 days from the last day of employment of its previous individual contracting pipefitter competency license holder to employ another license holder. The ~~department of Labor and Industry~~ must be notified no later than five days after the last day of employment of the previous license holder.

No high pressure pipefitting work may be performed during any period when the high pressure pipefitting business does not have an individual contracting high pressure pipefitter competency

license holder on staff. If a license holder is not employed within 60 days after the last day of employment of the previous license holder, the pipefitting business license shall lapse.

The Department of Labor and Industry board shall prescribe by rule procedures for application for and issuance of business licenses and fees.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.48, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

**Subd. 6. Reciprocity with other states.** The commissioner may issue a temporary license without examination, upon payment of the required fee, nonresident applicants who are licensed under the laws of a state having standards for licensing which the commissioner determines are substantially equivalent to the standards of this state if the other state grants similar privileges to Minnesota residents duly licensed in this state. Applicants who receive a temporary license under this section may acquire an aggregate of 24 months of experience before they have to apply and pass the licensing examination. Applicants must register with the commissioner of labor and industry and the commissioner shall set a fee for a temporary license. Applicants have five years in which to comply with this section.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.50, is amended to read:

**326.50 LICENSE APPLICATION; FEES AND RENEWAL.**

Application for an individual contracting high pressure pipefitter competency or an individual journeyman high pressure pipefitter competency license shall be made to the department of Labor and Industry, with fees. The applicant shall be licensed only after passing an examination developed and administered by the department of Labor and Industry in accordance with rules adopted by the board. A competency license issued by the department shall expire on December 31 of each year. A renewal application must be received by the department within one year after expiration of the competency license. A license that has been expired for more than one year cannot be renewed, and can only be reissued if the applicant submits a new application for the competency license, pays a new application fee, and retakes and passes the applicable license examination.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.975, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Generally.** (a) In addition to any other fees, each applicant for a license under sections 326.83 to 326.98 shall pay a fee to the contractor's recovery fund. The contractor's recovery fund is created in the state treasury and must be administered by the commissioner in the manner and subject to all the requirements and limitations provided by section 82.43 ~~with the following exceptions:~~

~~(1) each licensee who renews a license shall pay in addition to the appropriate renewal fee an additional fee which shall be credited to the contractor's recovery fund. The amount of the fee shall be based on the licensee's gross annual receipts for the licensee's most recent fiscal year preceding the renewal, on the following scale:~~

Fee	Gross Receipts
\$100	under \$1,000,000
\$150	\$1,000,000 to \$5,000,000
\$200	over \$5,000,000

~~Any person who receives a new license shall pay a fee based on the same scale;~~

~~(2)~~ (b) The purpose of this fund is:

~~(i)~~ (1) to compensate any aggrieved owner or lessee of residential property located within this state who obtains a final judgment in any court of competent jurisdiction against a licensee licensed under section 326.84, on grounds of fraudulent, deceptive, or dishonest practices, conversion of funds, or failure of performance arising directly out of any transaction when the judgment debtor was licensed and performed any of the activities enumerated under section 326.83, subdivision 19, on the owner's residential property or on residential property rented by the lessee, or on new residential construction which was never occupied prior to purchase by the owner, or which was occupied by the licensee for less than one year prior to purchase by the owner, and which cause of action arose on or after April 1, 1994; and

~~(ii)~~ (2) to reimburse the Department of ~~Commerce~~ Labor and Industry for all legal and administrative expenses, including staffing costs, incurred in administering the fund;

~~(3)~~ Nothing may obligate the fund for more than \$50,000 per claimant, nor more than \$75,000 per licensee; and.

(4) Nothing may obligate the fund for claims based on a cause of action that arose before the licensee paid the recovery fund fee set in clause (1), or as provided in section 326.945, subdivision 3.

~~(b)~~ (c) Should the commissioner pay from the contractor's recovery fund any amount in settlement of a claim or toward satisfaction of a judgment against a licensee, the license shall be automatically suspended upon the effective date of an order by the court authorizing payment from the fund. No licensee shall be granted reinstatement until the licensee has repaid in full, plus interest at the rate of 12 percent a year, twice the amount paid from the fund on the licensee's account, and has obtained a surety bond issued by an insurer authorized to transact business in this state in the amount of at least \$40,000.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.992, is amended to read:

**326.992 BOND REQUIRED FOR CERTAIN CONTRACTORS.**

(a) A person contracting to do gas, heating, ventilation, cooling, air conditioning, fuel burning, or refrigeration work must give bond to the state in the amount of \$25,000 for all work entered into within the state. The bond must be for the benefit of persons suffering financial loss by reason of the contractor's failure to comply with the requirements of the State Mechanical Code. A bond given to the state must be filed with the commissioner of ~~administration~~ labor and industry and is in lieu of all other bonds to any political subdivision required for work covered by this section. The bond must be written by a corporate surety licensed to do business in the state.

(b) The commissioner of ~~administration~~ labor and industry may charge each person giving bond under this section an annual bond filing fee of \$15. ~~The money must be deposited in a special revenue fund and is appropriated to the commissioner to cover the cost of administering the bond program.~~

Sec. 10. **TRANSFER OF AUTHORITY; BOARD OF HIGH PRESSURE PIPING SYSTEMS.**

The commissioner of administration may not use the authority under Minnesota Statutes, section 16B.37, to modify transfers of authority in this act.

**Sec. 11. FIRST MEETING; APPOINTMENTS FOR BOARD OF HIGH PRESSURE PIPING SYSTEMS.**

The governor must complete the appointments required by Minnesota Statutes, section 326.471, no later than July 1, 2007. The commissioner of labor and industry shall convene the first meeting of the Board of High Pressure Piping Systems no later than September 1, 2007.

**ARTICLE 5**

**IRON RANGE RESOURCES AND REHABILITATION BOARD**

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 298.227, is amended to read:

**298.227 TACONITE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND.**

An amount equal to that distributed pursuant to each taconite producer's taxable production and qualifying sales under section 298.28, subdivision 9a, shall be held by the Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board in a separate taconite economic development fund for each taconite and direct reduced ore producer. Money from the fund for each producer shall be released by the commissioner after review by a joint committee consisting of an equal number of representatives of the salaried employees and the nonsalaried production and maintenance employees of that producer. The District 11 director of the United States Steelworkers of America, on advice of each local employee president, shall select the employee members. In nonorganized operations, the employee committee shall be elected by the nonsalaried production and maintenance employees. The review must be completed no later than six months after the producer presents a proposal for expenditure of the funds to the committee. The funds held pursuant to this section may be released only for acquisition of plant and stationary mining equipment and facilities for the producer or for research and development in Minnesota on new mining, or taconite, iron, or steel production technology, but only if the producer provides a matching expenditure to be used for the same purpose of at least 50 percent of the distribution based on 14.7 cents per ton beginning with distributions in 2002. Effective for proposals for expenditures of money from the fund beginning the day following final enactment, the commissioner may not release the funds before the next scheduled meeting of the board. If the board rejects a proposed expenditure, the funds must be deposited in the Taconite Environmental Protection Fund under sections 298.222 to 298.225. If a producer uses money which has been released from the fund prior to the day following final enactment to procure haulage trucks, mobile equipment, or mining shovels, and the producer removes the piece of equipment from the taconite tax relief area defined in section 273.134 within ten years from the date of receipt of the money from the fund, a portion of the money granted from the fund must be repaid to the taconite economic development fund. The portion of the money to be repaid is 100 percent of the grant if the equipment is removed from the taconite tax relief area within 12 months after receipt of the money from the fund, declining by ten percent for each of the subsequent nine years during which the equipment remains within the taconite tax relief area. If a taconite production facility is sold after operations at the facility had ceased, any money remaining in the fund for the former producer may be released to the purchaser of the facility on the terms otherwise applicable to the former producer under this section. If a producer fails to provide matching funds for a proposed expenditure within six months after the commissioner approves release of the funds, the funds are available for release to another producer in proportion to the

distribution provided and under the conditions of this section. Any portion of the fund which is not released by the commissioner within two years of its deposit in the fund shall be divided between the taconite environmental protection fund created in section 298.223 and the Douglas J. Johnson economic protection trust fund created in section 298.292 for placement in their respective special accounts. Two-thirds of the unreleased funds shall be distributed to the taconite environmental protection fund and one-third to the Douglas J. Johnson economic protection trust fund.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for proposals for expenditures of money from the fund the day following final enactment.

**Sec. 2. APPROPRIATION; IRON RANGE RESOURCES AND REHABILITATION BOARD.**

(a) \$575,000 is appropriated from the Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board fund for fiscal year 2008 for allocation in this section:

(1) \$225,000 is for Aitkin County Growth, Inc. to extend electric service and other infrastructure to a peat project in Spencer Township in Aitkin County;

(2) \$75,000 is for a nonprofit organization for the preservation of the B'nai Abraham Synagogue in Virginia, of which \$50,000 is for renovation and \$25,000 is for a permanent endowment for the preservation;

(3) \$150,000 is for a grant to the Iron Range youth in action program to assist the organization to employ youth for the construction of community centers;

(4) \$50,000 is for a grant to the Iron Range retriever club for pond and field construction; and

(5) \$75,000 is for a grant to the city of Chisholm to improve infrastructure at the city-owned baseball field.

These are onetime appropriations.

**Sec. 3. IRRRB BUILDING.**

The Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board office building in Eveleth, Minnesota is designated and named the Joe Begich Building and shall be signed as such at every entrance.

## **ARTICLE 6**

### **ELECTRICAL**

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.01, subdivision 6g, is amended to read:

Subd. 6g. **Personal Direct supervision.** ~~The term "personal "Direct supervision" means that a person licensed to perform electrical work oversees and directs the electrical work performed by an unlicensed person such that:~~

(1) the licensed person actually reviews the electrical work performed by the unlicensed person an unlicensed individual is being supervised by an individual licensed to perform the electrical work being supervised;

(2) during the entire working day of the unlicensed individual, the licensed individual is

physically present at the location where the unlicensed individual is performing electrical work and immediately available to the unlicensed individual;

(3) the licensed ~~person~~ individual is physically present and immediately available to the unlicensed ~~person~~ individual at all times for assistance and direction; and

(4) electronic supervision does not meet the requirement of physically present and immediately available;

(5) the licensed individual shall review the electrical work performed by the unlicensed individual before the electrical work is operated; and

~~(3)~~ (6) the licensed ~~person~~ individual is able to and does determine that all electrical work performed by the unlicensed ~~person~~ individual is performed in compliance with section 326.243.

The licensed ~~person~~ individual is responsible for the compliance with section 326.243 of all electrical work performed by the unlicensed ~~person~~ individual.

## Sec. 2. [326.2411] BOARD OF ELECTRICITY.

Subdivision 1. **Composition.** (a) The Board of Electricity shall consist of 12 members. Eleven members shall be appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate and shall be voting members. Appointments of members by the governor shall be made in accordance with section 15.066. If the senate votes to refuse to consent to an appointment of a member made by the governor, the governor shall appoint a new member with the advice and consent of the senate. One member shall be the commissioner of labor and industry or the commissioner's designee, who shall be a voting member. Of the 11 appointed members, the composition shall be as follows:

(1) one member shall be an electrical inspector;

(2) two members shall be representatives of the electrical suppliers in rural areas;

(3) two members shall be master electricians, who shall be contractors;

(4) two members shall be journeyman electricians;

(5) one member shall be a registered consulting electrical engineer;

(6) two members shall be power limited technicians, who shall be technology system contractors primarily engaged in the business of installing technology circuits or systems; and

(7) one member shall be a public member as defined by section 214.02.

The electrical inspector shall be appointed to a term to end December 31, 2011. One of the rural electrical suppliers shall be appointed for a term to end December 31, 2011, and one rural electrical supplier shall serve for a term to end December 31, 2010. The consulting electrical engineer shall be appointed for a term to end December 31, 2011. One of the master electrician contractors shall be appointed for a term to end December 31, 2011, and one master electrician contractor shall be appointed for a term to end December 31, 2010. One of the journeyman electricians shall be appointed for a term to end December 31, 2011, and one journeyman electrician shall be appointed for a term to end December 31, 2010. One of the power limited technicians shall be appointed for a term to end December 31, 2011, and one power limited technician shall be appointed for a term



to end December 31, 2010. The public member shall be appointed for a term to end December 31, 2010.

(b) The consulting electrical engineer must possess a current Minnesota professional engineering license and maintain the license for the duration of the term served on the board. All other appointed members, except the public member and the representatives of electrical suppliers in rural areas, must possess a current electrical license issued by the Department of Labor and Industry and maintain that license for the duration of their terms. All appointed members must be residents of Minnesota at the time of and throughout their terms. The term of any appointed member who does not maintain membership qualification status shall end on the date of status change and the governor shall appoint a replacement member. It is the responsibility of the member to notify the board of a change in the member's status.

(c) For appointed members, except the initial terms designated in paragraph (a), each term shall be three years with the terms ending on the first Monday in January. Members appointed by the governor shall be limited to three consecutive terms. The governor shall, all or in part, reappoint the current members or appoint replacement members with the advice and consent of the senate. Midterm vacancies shall be filled for the remaining portion of the term. Vacancies occurring with less than six months time remaining in the term shall be filled for the existing term and the following three-year term. Members may serve until their successors are appointed but in no case later than July 1 in a year in which the term expires unless reappointed.

**Subd. 2. Powers; duties; administrative support.** (a) The board shall have the power to:

(1) elect its chair, vice-chair, and secretary;

(2) adopt bylaws that specify the duties of its officers, the meeting dates of the board, and contain such other provisions as may be useful and necessary for the efficient conduct of the business of the board;

(3) the Minnesota Electrical Code shall be the most current edition of the National Electrical Code upon its adoption by the board and any amendments thereto as adopted by the board. The board shall adopt the most current edition of the National Electrical Code and any amendments thereto pursuant to chapter 14 and as provided in subdivision 6, paragraphs (b) and (c);

(4) review requests for final interpretations and issue final interpretations as provided in section 16B.63, subdivision 5;

(5) adopt rules that regulate the licensure or registration of electrical businesses, electrical contractors, master electricians, journeyman electricians, class A installer, class B installer, power limited technicians, and other persons who perform electrical work. The board shall adopt these rules pursuant to chapter 14 and as provided in subdivision 6, paragraphs (d) and (e);

(6) adopt rules that regulate continuing education for individuals licensed or registered as electrical businesses, electrical contractors, master electricians, journeyman electricians, class A installer, class B installer, power limited technicians, and other persons who perform electrical work. The board shall adopt these rules pursuant to chapter 14 and as provided in subdivision 6, paragraph (e);

(7) advise the commissioner regarding educational requirements for electrical inspectors;

(8) refer complaints or other communications, whether orally or in writing, that allege or imply a violation of a statute, rule, or order that the commissioner has the authority to enforce pertaining to code compliance, licensure, or an offering to perform or performance of unlicensed electrical services to the commissioner under subdivision 8;

(9) approve per diem and expenses deemed necessary for its members as provided in subdivision 3;

(10) approve license reciprocity agreements;

(11) select from its members individuals to serve on any other state advisory council, board, or committee; and

(12) recommend the fees for licenses and certifications.

Except for the powers granted to the Board of Electricity, the commissioner of labor and industry shall administer and enforce the provisions of sections 326.241 to 326.248 and any rules promulgated pursuant thereto.

(b) The board shall comply with section 15.0597, subdivisions 2 and 4.

(c) The commissioner shall coordinate the board's rulemaking and recommendations with the recommendations and rulemaking conducted by the other boards. The commissioner shall provide staff support to the board. The support includes professional, legal, technical, and clerical staff necessary to perform rulemaking and other duties assigned to the board. The commissioner of labor and industry shall supply necessary office space and supplies to assist the board in its duties.

Subd. 3. **Compensation.** (a) Members of the board may be compensated at the rate of \$55 per day spent on board activities, when authorized by the board, plus expenses, in the same manner and amount as authorized by the commissioner's plan adopted under section 43A.18, subdivision 2. Members who, as a result of time spent attending board meetings, incur child care expenses that would not otherwise have been incurred, may be reimbursed for those expenses upon board authorization.

(b) Members who are state employees or employees of political subdivisions of the state must not receive the daily payment for activities that occur during working hours for which they are compensated by the state or political subdivision. However, a state or political subdivision employee may receive the daily payment if the employee uses vacation time or compensatory time accumulated in accordance with a collective bargaining agreement or compensation plan for board activities. Members who are state employees or employees of the political subdivisions of the state may receive the expenses provided for in this subdivision unless the expenses are reimbursed by another source. Members who are state employees or employees of political subdivisions of the state may be reimbursed for child care expenses only for time spent on board activities that are outside their working hours.

(c) The board shall adopt internal standards prescribing what constitutes a day spent on board activities for purposes of making daily payments under this subdivision.

Subd. 4. **Removal; vacancies.** (a) An appointed member of the board may be removed by the governor at any time (1) for cause, after notice and hearing, or (2) after missing three consecutive meetings. The chair of the board shall inform the governor of an appointed member missing three

consecutive meetings. After the second consecutive missed meeting and before the next meeting, the secretary of the board shall notify the appointed member in writing that the member may be removed for missing the next meeting. In the case of a vacancy on the board, the governor shall, with the advice and consent of the senate, appoint a person to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the unexpired term.

(b) Vacancies shall be filled pursuant to section 15.0597, subdivisions 5 and 6.

Subd. 5. **Membership vacancies within three months of appointment.** Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, when a seat on the board becomes vacant within three months after being filled through the appointment process, the governor may, upon notification to the Office of the Secretary of State, choose a new member from the applications on hand and need not repeat the process.

Subd. 6. **Officers, quorum, voting.** (a) The board shall elect annually from its members a chair, vice-chair, and secretary. A quorum of the board shall consist of a majority of members of the board qualified to vote on the matter in question. All questions concerning the manner in which a meeting is conducted or called that are not covered by statute shall be determined by Robert's Rules of Order (revised) unless otherwise specified by the bylaws.

(b) Except as provided in paragraph (c), each Electrical Code amendment considered by the board that receives an affirmative two-thirds or more majority vote of all of the voting members of the board shall be included in the next Electrical Code rulemaking proceeding initiated by the board. If an Electrical Code amendment considered, or reconsidered, by the board receives less than a two-thirds majority vote of all of the voting members of the board, the Electrical Code amendment shall not be included in the next Electrical Code rulemaking proceeding initiated by the board.

(c) The board may reconsider Electrical Code amendments during an active Electrical Code rulemaking proceeding in which the amendment previously failed to receive a two-thirds or more majority vote of all of the voting members of the board only if new or updated information that affects the Electrical Code amendment is presented to the board. The board may also reconsider failed Electrical Code amendments in subsequent Electrical Code rulemaking proceedings.

(d) Except as provided in paragraph (e), each proposed rule and rule amendment considered by the board pursuant to the rulemaking authority specified in subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clauses (5) and (6), that receives an affirmative majority vote of the all the voting members of the board shall be included in the next rulemaking proceeding initiated by the board. If a proposed rule or rule amendment considered, or reconsidered, by the board receives less than an affirmative majority vote of all of the voting members of the board, the proposed rule or rule amendment shall not be included in the next rulemaking proceeding initiated by the board.

(e) The board may reconsider a proposed rule or rule amendment during an active rulemaking proceeding in which the amendment previously failed to receive an affirmative majority vote of all of the voting members of the board only if new or updated information that affects the proposed rule or rule amendment is presented to the board. The board may also reconsider a failed proposed rule or rule amendment in subsequent rulemaking proceedings.

Subd. 7. **Board meetings.** (a) The board shall hold meetings at such times as the board shall specify. Notice and conduct of all meetings shall be pursuant to chapter 13D and in such a manner as the bylaws may provide.

(b) If compliance with section 13D.02 is impractical, the board may conduct a meeting of its members by telephone or other electronic means so long as the following conditions are met:

(1) all members of the board participating in the meeting, wherever their physical location, can hear one another and can hear all discussion and testimony;

(2) members of the public present at the regular meeting location of the board can hear clearly all discussion and testimony and all votes of members of the board and, if needed, receive those services required by sections 15.44 and 15.441;

(3) at least one member of the board is physically present at the regular meeting location; and

(4) all votes are conducted by roll call, so each member's vote on each issue can be identified and recorded.

Each member of the board participating in a meeting by telephone or other electronic means is considered present at the meeting for purposes of determining a quorum and participating in all proceedings.

If telephone or other electronic means is used to conduct a regular, special, or emergency meeting, the board, to the extent practical, shall allow a person to monitor the meeting electronically from a remote location. The board may require the person making such a connection to pay for documented costs that the board incurs as a result of the additional connection.

If telephone or other electronic means is used to conduct a regular, special, or emergency meeting, the board shall provide notice of the regular meeting location, of the fact that some members may participate by telephone or other electronic means, and that a person may monitor the meeting electronically from a remote location. The timing and method of providing notice is governed by section 13D.04.

Subd. 8. **Complaints.** (a) The board shall promptly forward to the commissioner the substance of any complaint or communication it receives, whether in writing or orally, that alleges or implies a violation of a statute, rule, or order that the commissioner has the authority to enforce pertaining to the license or registration of any person authorized by the department to provide electrical services, the performance or offering to perform electrical services requiring licensure by an unlicensed person, or Electrical Code compliance. Each complaint or communication that is forwarded to the commissioner shall be submitted on a form provided by the commissioner.

(b) The commissioner shall advise the board of the status of a complaint within 90 days after the board's written submission is received, or within 90 days after the board is provided with a written request for additional information or documentation from the commissioner or the commissioner's designee, whichever is later. The commissioner shall advise the board of the disposition of a complaint referred by the board within 180 days after the board's written submission is received. The commissioner shall annually report to the board a summary of the actions taken in response to complaints referred by the board.

Subd. 9. **Data Practices Act.** The board is subject to chapter 13, the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, and shall protect from unlawful disclosure data classified as not public.

Subd. 10. **Official records.** The board shall make and preserve all records necessary to a full and accurate knowledge of its official activities in accordance with section 15.17.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.242, subdivision 3d, is amended to read:

Subd. 3d. **Power limited technician.** (a) Except as otherwise provided by law, no ~~person~~ individual shall install, alter, repair, plan, lay out, or supervise the installing, altering, ~~or~~ repairing, planning, or laying out of electrical wiring, apparatus, or equipment for technology circuits or systems unless:

(1) the ~~person~~ individual is licensed by the ~~board~~ commissioner as a power limited technician; and

(2) the electrical work is:

(i) for a licensed contractor and the ~~person~~ individual is an employee, partner, or officer of, or is the licensed contractor; or

(ii) performed under the direct supervision of a master electrician or power limited technician also employed by the ~~person's~~ individual's employer on technology circuits, systems, apparatus, equipment, or facilities that are owned or leased by the employer that are located within the limits of property operated, maintained, and either owned or leased, ~~operated, and maintained~~ by the employer.

(b) An applicant for a power limited technician's license shall (1) be a graduate of a four-year electrical course ~~in~~ offered by an accredited college or university; or (2) have had at least 36 months' experience, acceptable to the board, in planning for, laying out, supervising, and installing, altering and repairing wiring, apparatus, or equipment for power limited systems, provided however, that the board may by rule provide for the allowance of up to 12 months (2,000 hours) of experience credit for successful completion of a two-year post high school electrical course or other technical training approved by the board.

~~(c) The board may initially set experience requirements without rulemaking, but must adopt rules before July 1, 2004.~~

~~(d)~~ Licensees must attain ~~eight~~ 16 hours of continuing education acceptable to the board every renewal period.

~~(e) A person who has submitted an application by June 30, 2003, to take the alarm and communications examination administered by the board, and who has achieved a minimal score of 70 percent on the examination by September 30, 2003, may obtain a power limited technician license without further examination by submitting an application and a license fee of \$30.~~

~~(f)~~ (d) A company holding an alarm and communication license as of June 30, 2003, may designate one ~~person~~ individual who may obtain a power limited technician license without passing an examination administered by the ~~board~~ commissioner by submitting an application and license fee of \$30.

~~(g)~~ (e) A person who has submitted an application by ~~September 30, 2005~~ December 31, 2007, to take the power limited technician examination administered by the ~~board~~ department is not required to meet the qualifications set forth in paragraph (b).

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.242, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **Unlicensed persons individuals.** (a) An unlicensed ~~person~~ individual means an individual who has not been licensed by the department to perform specific electrical work. An unlicensed individual shall not perform electrical work required to be performed by a licensed individual unless the individual has first registered with the department as an unlicensed individual. Thereafter, an unlicensed individual shall not perform electrical work required to be performed by a licensed individual unless the work is performed under the ~~personal~~ direct supervision of a ~~person~~ an individual actually licensed to perform such work ~~and~~. The licensed ~~electrician~~ individual and unlicensed ~~persons~~ are individual must be employed by the same employer. Licensed ~~persons~~ individuals shall not permit unlicensed ~~persons~~ individuals to perform electrical work except under the ~~personal~~ direct supervision of a ~~person~~ an individual actually licensed to perform such work. Unlicensed ~~persons~~ individuals shall not supervise the performance of electrical work or make assignments of electrical work to unlicensed ~~persons~~ individuals. Except for technology circuit or system work, licensed ~~persons~~ individuals shall supervise no more than two unlicensed ~~persons~~ individuals. For technology circuit or system work, licensed ~~persons~~ individuals shall supervise no more than three unlicensed ~~persons~~ individuals.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, no ~~person~~ individual other than a master electrician or power limited technician shall plan or lay out electrical wiring, apparatus, or equipment for light, heat, power, or other purposes, except circuits or systems exempted from personal licensing by subdivision 12, paragraph (b).

(c) Contractors employing unlicensed ~~persons performing~~ individuals to perform electrical work shall maintain records establishing compliance with this subdivision, ~~which that shall designate identify~~ all unlicensed ~~persons~~ individuals performing electrical work, except for persons working on circuits or systems exempted from personal licensing by subdivision 12, paragraph (b), and shall permit the ~~board~~ department to examine and copy all such records as ~~provided for in section 326.244, subdivision 6.~~

(d) When a licensed individual supervises the electrical work of an unlicensed individual, the licensed individual is responsible for ensuring that the electrical work complies with the Minnesota Electrical Act and rules adopted under the act.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.242, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 5a. **Registration of unlicensed individuals.** Unlicensed individuals performing electrical work for a contractor or employer shall register with the department in the manner prescribed by the commissioner. Experience credit for electrical work performed in Minnesota after January 1, 2008, by an applicant for a license identified in this section shall not be granted where the applicant has not registered with or is not licensed by the department.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.242, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

Subd. 8. **License, registration, and renewal fees; expiration.** ~~All licenses issued hereunder shall expire in a manner as provided by the board.~~ (a) Unless revoked or suspended under this chapter, all licenses issued or renewed under this section expire on the date specified in this subdivision. Master licenses expire March 1 of each odd-numbered year after issuance or renewal. Electrical contractor licenses expire March 1 of each even-numbered year after issuance or renewal. Technology system contractor licenses expire August 1 of each even-numbered year after issuance or renewal. All other personal licenses expire two years from the date of original issuance and every two years thereafter. Registrations of unlicensed individuals expire one year from the date of

original issuance and every year thereafter.

(b) Fees, as set by the board, shall be payable for application and examination, and for the original issuance and each subsequent renewal of the following, are:

(1) For each personal license application and examination: \$35;

~~Class A Master.~~

~~Class B Master.~~

~~Class A Journeyman, Class B Journeyman, Installer, Power Limited Technician, or Special Electrician.~~

(2) For original issuance of original license and each subsequent renewal of:

Class A Master, or master special electrician, including master elevator constructor: \$40 per year;

Class B Master: \$25 per year;

Power Limited Technician: \$15 per year;

Class A Journeyman, Class B Journeyman, Installer, or Special Electrician, other than master special electrician: \$15 per year;

Electrical contractor: \$100 per year.

~~Technology Systems Contractor~~ Unlicensed individual registration: \$15 per year.

(c) If any new license is issued in accordance with this subdivision for less than two years, the fee for the license shall be prorated on an annual basis.

(d) A license fee may not be refunded after a license is issued or renewed. However, if the fee paid for a license was not prorated in accordance with this subdivision, the amount of the overpayment shall be refunded.

(e) Any contractor who seeks reissuance of a license after it has been revoked or suspended under this chapter shall submit a reissuance fee of \$100 before the license is reinstated.

(f) The fee for the issuance of each duplicate license is \$15.

~~(3)~~ (g) An individual or contractor who fails to renew a license before 30 days after the expiration or registration of the license must submit a late fee equal to one year's license fee in addition to the full renewal fee. Fees for renewed licenses or registrations are not prorated. An individual or contractor that fails to renew a license or registration by the expiration date is unlicensed until the license or registration is renewed.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.242, subdivision 11, is amended to read:

Subd. 11. **Reciprocity.** ~~To the extent that any other state which provides for the licensing of electricians provides for similar action the board may grant licenses, without examination, of the same grade and class to an electrician who has been licensed by such other state for at least one year, upon payment by the applicant of the required fee and upon the board being furnished with proof that~~

the required fee and upon the board being furnished with proof that the qualifications of the applicant are equal to the qualifications of holders of similar licenses in Minnesota. The commissioner may enter into reciprocity agreements for personal licenses with another state if approved by the board. Once approved by the board, the commissioner may issue a personal license without requiring the applicant to pass an examination provided the applicant:

- (a) submits an application under section 326.242;
- (b) pays the fee required under section 326.242; and
- (c) holds a valid comparable license in the state participating in the agreement.

Agreements are subject to the following:

(1) The parties to the agreement must administer a statewide licensing program that includes examination and qualifying experience or training comparable to Minnesota's.

(2) The experience and training requirements under which an individual applicant qualified for examination in the qualifying state must be deemed equal to or greater than required for an applicant making application in Minnesota at the time the applicant acquired the license in the qualifying state.

(3) The applicant must have acquired the license in the qualifying state through an examination deemed equivalent to the same class of license examination in Minnesota. A lesser class of license may be granted where the applicant has acquired a greater class of license in the qualifying state and the applicant otherwise meets the conditions of this subdivision.

(4) At the time of application, the applicant must hold a valid license in the qualifying state and have held the license continuously for at least one year before making application in Minnesota.

(5) An applicant is not eligible for a license under this subdivision if the applicant has failed the same or greater class of license examination in Minnesota, or if the applicant's license of the same or greater class has been revoked or suspended.

(6) An applicant who has failed to renew a personal license for two years or more after its expiration is not eligible for a license under this subdivision.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 326.2441, is amended to read:

### **326.2441 INSPECTION FEE SCHEDULE.**

Subdivision 1. **Schedule.** State electrical inspection fees shall be ~~paid according to~~ calculated in accordance with subdivisions 2 to 15.

Subd. 2. **Fee for each separate inspection.** The minimum fee for each separate inspection of an installation, replacement, alteration, or repair is ~~\$20.~~ \$35. Except as otherwise provided in this section, the maximum number of separate inspections allowed without payment of an additional fee is the whole number resulting from dividing by 35 the total fee calculated in accordance with this section. Where additional separate inspections are necessary, additional fees are required to result in a value equal to the total number of separate inspections multiplied by 35. The fee for any inspections needed after a "final inspection" is performed shall be calculated without consideration of any fee paid before the final inspection.



Subd. 3. **Fee for services, generators, other power supply sources, or feeders to separate structures.** The inspection fee for the installation, addition, alteration, or repair of each service, change of service, temporary service, generator, other power supply source, or feeder to a separate structure is:

- (1) 0 ampere to and including 400 ampere capacity, ~~\$25~~ \$35;
- (2) 401 ampere to and including 800 ampere capacity, ~~\$50~~ \$60; and
- (3) ampere capacity above 800, ~~\$75~~ \$100.

Where multiple disconnects are grouped at a single location and are supplied by a single set of supply conductors the cumulative rating of the overcurrent devices shall be used to determine the supply ampere capacity.

Subd. 4. **Fee for circuits, feeders, feeder taps, or sets of transformer secondary conductors.** The inspection fee for the installation, addition, alteration, or repair of each circuit, feeder, feeder tap, or set of transformer secondary conductors, including the equipment served, is:

- (1) 0 ampere to and including 200 ampere capacity, ~~\$5~~ \$6; and
- (2) ampere capacity above 200, ~~\$10~~ \$15.

Where existing feeders and circuits are reconnected to overcurrent devices installed as part of the replacement of an existing disconnect, switchboard, motor control center, or panelboard, the inspection fee for each circuit or feeder is \$2.

Subd. 5. ~~Limitations to fees of subdivisions 3 and 4~~ **Inspection fee for dwellings.** (a) ~~The inspection fee for a one-family dwelling and each dwelling unit of a two-family dwelling with a supply of up to 500 amperes where a combination of ten or more sources of supply, feeders, or circuits are installed, added, altered, repaired, or extended is \$80.~~ is the following:

- (1) the fee for each service or other source of power as provided in subdivision 3;
- (2) \$100 for up to 30 feeders and circuits; and
- (3) for each additional feeder or circuit, the fee as provided in subdivision 4.

This fee applies to each separate installation for new dwellings and additions, alterations, or repairs to existing dwellings and includes not more than two inspections, where 15 or more feeders or circuits are installed or extended in connection with any addition, alteration, or repair to existing dwellings. Where existing feeders and circuits are reconnected to overcurrent devices installed as part of the replacement of an existing panelboard, the fee for each reconnected feeder or circuit is \$2. The maximum number of separate inspections shall be determined in accordance with subdivision 2. The fee for additional inspections or other installations is that specified in subdivisions 2, 4, 6, and 8. The installer may submit fees for additional inspections when filing the request for electrical inspection. The fee for each detached accessory structure directly associated with a dwelling unit shall be calculated in accordance with subdivisions 3 and 4. When included on the same request for electrical inspection form, inspection fees for detached accessory structures directly associated with the dwelling unit may be combined with the dwelling unit fees to determine the maximum number of separate inspections in accordance with subdivision 2.

(b) ~~The inspection fee for each dwelling unit of a multifamily dwelling with three to 12 or more dwelling units is \$50 and the fee for each additional dwelling unit is \$25. \$70 for a combination of up to 20 feeders and circuits and \$6 for each additional feeder or circuit. This fee applies to each separate installation for each new dwelling unit and where ten or more feeders or circuits are installed or extended in connection with any addition, alteration, or repair to existing dwelling units. Where existing feeders or circuits are reconnected to overcurrent devices installed as part of the replacement of an existing panelboard, the fee for each reconnected feeder or circuit is \$2. The maximum number of separate inspections for each dwelling unit shall be determined in accordance with subdivision 2. The fee for additional inspections or for inspection of other installations is that specified in subdivisions 2, 4, 6, and 8. These fees include only inspection of the wiring within individual dwelling units and the final feeder to that unit. This limitation is subject to the following conditions:-~~

~~(1) where the multifamily dwelling is provided with common service equipment and each dwelling unit is supplied by a separate feeder or feeders extended from common service or distribution equipment. The fee for multifamily dwelling services or other power source supplies and all other circuits is that specified in subdivisions 2 to 4; and.~~

~~(2) this limitation applies only to new installations for multifamily dwellings where the majority of the individual dwelling units are available for inspection during each inspection trip.~~

(c) A separate request for electrical inspection form must be filed for each dwelling unit that is supplied with an individual set of service entrance conductors. These fees are the one-family dwelling rate specified in paragraph (a).

Subd. 6. **Additions to fees of subdivisions 3 to 5.** (a) The fee for the electrical supply for each manufactured home park lot is ~~\$25~~ \$35. This fee includes the service or feeder conductors up to and including the service equipment or disconnecting means. The fee for feeders and circuits that extend from the service or disconnecting means is that specified in subdivision 4.

(b) The fee for each recreational vehicle site electrical supply equipment is ~~\$5~~ \$6 for each circuit originating within the equipment. The fee for recreational vehicle park services, feeders, and circuits is that specified in subdivisions 3 and 4.

(c) The fee for each street, parking lot, or outdoor area lighting standard is ~~\$1~~, and the fee for each traffic signal standard is \$5. Circuits originating within the standard or traffic signal controller shall not be used when ~~computing~~ calculating the fee for each standard.

(d) The fee for transformers for light, heat, and power is ~~\$10~~ \$15 for transformers rated up to ten kilovolt-amperes and ~~\$20~~ \$30 for transformers rated in excess of ten kilovolt-amperes. The previous sentence does not apply to Class 1 transformers or power supplies for Class 1 power-limited circuits or to Class 2 or Class 3 transformers or power supplies.

(e) The fee for transformers and electronic power supplies for electric signs and outline lighting is \$5 per unit.

(f) The fee for ~~alarm, communication, remote control, and signaling~~ technology circuits or systems, and circuits of less than 50 volts, is ~~50~~ 75 cents for each system device or apparatus.

(g) The fee for each separate inspection of the bonding for a swimming pool, spa, fountain, an equipotential plane for an agricultural confinement area, or similar installation ~~shall be \$20~~ is \$35.

Bonding conductors and connections require an inspection before being concealed.

(h) The fee for all wiring installed on center pivot irrigation booms is ~~\$40~~ \$35 plus \$5 for each electrical drive unit.

(i) The fee for retrofit modifications to existing lighting fixtures is 25 cents per ~~lighting fixture~~ luminaire.

(j) When a separate inspection of a concrete-encased grounding electrode is performed, the fee is \$35.

(k) The fees required by subdivisions 3 and 4 are doubled for installations over 600 volts.

Subd. 7. **Investigation fees: work without a request for electrical inspection.** (a) Whenever any work for which a request for electrical inspection is required ~~by the board~~ has begun without the request for electrical inspection form being filed with the ~~board~~ commissioner, a special investigation shall be made before a request for electrical inspection form is accepted ~~by the board~~.

(b) An investigation fee, in addition to the full fee required by subdivisions 1 to 6, shall be paid before an inspection is made. The investigation fee is two times the ~~hourly rate~~ minimum fee specified in subdivision ~~40~~ 2 or the inspection fee required by subdivisions 1 to 6, whichever is greater, not to exceed \$1,000. The payment of the investigation fee does not exempt any person from compliance with all other provisions of the ~~board~~ department rules or statutes nor from any penalty prescribed by law.

Subd. 8. **Reinspection fee.** Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivisions 2 and 5, when reinspection is necessary to determine whether unsafe conditions identified during a final inspection have been corrected and the conditions are not the subject of an appeal pending before the board commissioner or any court, a reinspection fee of \$20 may \$35 shall be assessed in writing by the inspector.

Subd. 9. **Supplemental fee.** When inspections scheduled by the installer are preempted, obstructed, prevented, or otherwise not able to be completed as scheduled due to circumstances beyond the control of the inspector, a supplemental inspection fee of ~~\$20 may~~ \$35 shall be assessed in writing by the inspector.

Subd. 10. **Special inspection.** For inspections not covered in this section, or for requested special inspections or services, the fee ~~shall be \$30~~ is \$80 per hour, including travel time, plus ~~31 cents~~ the standard mileage rate per mile traveled, plus the reasonable cost of equipment or material consumed. This provision is applicable to inspection of empty conduits and other jobs as may be determined by the ~~board~~ commissioner. This fee may also be assessed when installations are not accessible by roadway and require alternate forms of transportation ~~or are located in the Northwest Angle, or when inspections are performed outside of Minnesota.~~ For purposes of this subdivision, the standard mileage rate is the standard mileage rate effective at the time of travel, as established by the Internal Revenue Service for computing the deductible costs of operating an automobile for business expense purposes.

Subd. 11. **Inspection of transitory projects.** (a) For inspection of transitory projects including, but not limited to, festivals, fairs, carnivals, circuses, shows, production sites, and portable road construction plants, the inspection procedures and fees are as specified in paragraphs (b) to (i).

(b) The fee for inspection of each generator or other source of supply is that specified in subdivision 3. A like fee is required at each engagement or setup.

(c) In addition to the fee for generators or other sources of supply, there must be an inspection of all installed feeders, circuits, and equipment at each engagement or setup at the hourly rate specified in subdivision 10, with a ~~two-hour~~ one-hour minimum.

(d) An owner, operator, or appointed representative of a transitory enterprise including, but not limited to, festivals, fairs, carnivals, circuses, production companies, shows, portable road construction plants, and similar enterprises shall notify the ~~board~~ commissioner of its itinerary or schedule and make application for initial inspection a minimum of 14 days before its first engagement or setup. An owner, operator, or appointed representative of a transitory enterprise who fails to notify the ~~board~~ commissioner 14 days before its first engagement or setup may be subject to the investigation fees specified in subdivision 7. The owner, operator, or appointed representative shall request inspection and pay the inspection fee for each subsequent engagement or setup at the time of the initial inspection. For subsequent engagements or setups not listed on the itinerary or schedule submitted to the ~~board~~ commissioner and where the ~~board~~ commissioner is not notified at least 48 hours in advance, a charge of \$100 may be made in addition to all required fees.

(e) Amusement rides, devices, concessions, attractions, or other units must be inspected at their first appearance of the year. The inspection fee is ~~\$20~~ \$35 per unit with a supply of up to 60 amperes and ~~\$30~~ \$40 per unit with a supply above 60 amperes.

(f) An additional fee at the hourly rate specified in subdivision 10 must be charged for additional time spent by each inspector if equipment is not ready or available for inspection at the time and date specified on the application for initial inspection or the request for electrical inspection form.

(g) In addition to the fees specified in paragraphs (a) and (b), a fee of ~~two hours~~ one hour at the hourly rate specified in subdivision 10 must be charged for inspections required to be performed on Saturdays, Sundays, holidays, or after regular business hours.

(h) The fee for reinspection of corrections or supplemental inspections where an additional trip is necessary may be assessed as specified in subdivision 8.

(i) The ~~board may~~ commissioner shall retain the inspection fee when an owner, operator, or appointed representative of a transitory enterprise fails to notify the ~~board~~ commissioner at least 48 hours in advance of a scheduled inspection that is canceled.

Subd. 11a. **Negotiated fee.** When the fee calculated in accordance with subdivisions 2 to 11 results in a total fee that unreasonably exceeds the cost of inspection, the commissioner may negotiate a fee that more reasonably offsets the cost of inspection.

Subd. 12. **Handling fee.** The handling fee to pay the cost of printing and handling of the paper form requesting an electrical inspection is up to \$1.

Subd. 13. **National Electrical Code used for interpretation of provisions.** For purposes of interpretation of this section and Minnesota Rules, chapter 3800, the most recently adopted edition of the National Electrical Code shall be prima facie evidence of the definitions, interpretations, and scope of words and terms used.

## ARTICLE 7

**APPRENTICESHIP BOARD**

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 178.01, is amended to read:

**178.01 PURPOSES.**

The purposes of this chapter are: to open to young people regardless of race, sex, creed, color or national origin, the opportunity to obtain training that will equip them for profitable employment and citizenship; to establish as a means to this end, a program of voluntary apprenticeship under approved apprentice agreements providing facilities for their training and guidance in the arts, skills, and crafts of industry and trade, with concurrent, supplementary instruction in related subjects; to promote employment opportunities under conditions providing adequate training and reasonable earnings; to relate the supply of skilled workers to employment demands; to establish standards for apprentice training; to establish an Apprenticeship ~~Advisory Council Board~~ and apprenticeship committees to assist in effectuating the purposes of this chapter; to provide for a Division of Labor Standards and Apprenticeship within the Department of Labor and Industry; to provide for reports to the legislature regarding the status of apprentice training in the state; to establish a procedure for the determination of apprentice agreement controversies; and to accomplish related ends.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 178.02, is amended to read:

**178.02 APPRENTICESHIP ~~ADVISORY COUNCIL BOARD~~.**

Subdivision 1. **Members.** The commissioner of labor and industry, hereinafter called the commissioner, shall appoint an Apprenticeship ~~Advisory Council Board~~, hereinafter referred to as the ~~council board~~, composed of three representatives each from employer and employee organizations, and two representatives of the general public. The director of education responsible for career and technical education or designee shall be an ex officio member of the ~~council board~~ and shall serve in an advisory capacity only.

Subd. 2. **Terms.** The ~~council board~~ shall expire and the terms, compensation, and removal of appointed members shall be as provided in section 15.059, ~~except that the council shall not expire before June 30, 2003.~~

Subd. 4. **Duties.** The ~~council board~~ shall meet at the call of the commissioner. It shall propose occupational classifications for apprenticeship programs; propose minimum standards for apprenticeship programs and agreements; and advise on the establishment of such policies, procedures, and rules as the ~~commissioner board~~ deems necessary in implementing the intent of this chapter.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 178.03, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Duties and functions.** The director, under the supervision of the commissioner, and with the advice and consultation of the Apprenticeship ~~Advisory Council Board~~, is authorized: to administer the provisions of this chapter; to promote apprenticeship and other forms of on the job training; to establish, in cooperation and consultation with the Apprenticeship ~~Advisory Council Board~~ and with the apprenticeship committees, conditions and training standards for the approval of apprenticeship programs and agreements, which conditions and standards shall in no case be lower than those prescribed by this chapter; to promote equal employment opportunity in apprenticeship and other on the job training and to establish a Minnesota plan for equal employment opportunity in apprenticeship which shall be consistent with standards established

under Code of Federal Regulations, title 29, part 30, as amended; to issue certificates of registration to sponsors of approved apprenticeship programs; to act as secretary of the Apprenticeship Advisory Council Board; to approve, if of the opinion that approval is for the best interest of the apprentice, any apprenticeship agreement which meets the standards established hereunder; to terminate any apprenticeship agreement in accordance with the provisions of such agreement; to keep a record of apprenticeship agreements and their disposition; to issue certificates of completion of apprenticeship; and to perform such other duties as the commissioner deems necessary to carry out the intent of this chapter; provided, that the administration and supervision of supplementary instruction in related subjects for apprentices; coordination of instruction on a concurrent basis with job experiences, and the selection and training of teachers and coordinators for such instruction shall be the function of state and local boards responsible for vocational education. The director shall have the authority to make wage determinations applicable to the graduated schedule of wages and journeyman wage rate for apprenticeship agreements, giving consideration to the existing wage rates prevailing throughout the state, except that no wage determination by the director shall alter an existing wage provision for apprentices or journeymen that is contained in a bargaining agreement in effect between an employer and an organization of employees, nor shall the director make any determination for the beginning rate for an apprentice that is below the wage minimum established by federal or state law.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 178.041, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Rules.** The commissioner may, upon receipt of the ~~council's~~ board's proposals, accept, adopt, and issue them by rule with any modifications or amendments the commissioner finds appropriate. The commissioner may refer them back to the ~~council board~~ with recommendations for further study, consideration and revision. If the commissioner refuses to accept, adopt, and issue by rule or other appropriate action a board proposal, the commissioner must provide a written explanation of the reason for the refusal to the board within 30 days after the board submitted the proposal to the commissioner. Additional rules may be issued as the commissioner may deem necessary.

## ARTICLE 8

### MISCELLANEOUS

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 190.096, is amended to read:

#### **190.096 BATTLE FLAGS; REPAIR.**

Subdivision 1. **Authority to repair.** Notwithstanding the provisions of Minnesota Statutes 1961, chapters 16 and 43, the adjutant general or the Minnesota Historical Society may contract for the repair, restoration, and preservation of regimental battle flags, standards, and guidons with persons or corporations skilled in such repair, restoration, and preservation, upon terms or conditions the adjutant general or the Minnesota Historical Society deems proper, ~~subject to the approval of the commissioner of administration.~~

Subd. 2. **Surrender.** Notwithstanding the provisions of this section or section 190.09, the adjutant general or the Minnesota Historical Society may, for the purposes of this section, surrender the immediate custody and control of regimental battle flags, standards, and guidons under conditions and safeguards the adjutant general or the Minnesota Historical Society deems necessary and proper, for such time as is reasonably necessary for their restoration, after which they shall

at once be again properly stored or displayed. The adjutant general or the Minnesota Historical Society shall provide adequate storage and display space for flags, standards, and guidons which have been repaired and restored.

Subd. 3. **Battle flags; care and control.** (a) The flags and colors carried by Minnesota troops in the Civil War, Indian Wars, and the Spanish-American War shall be preserved under the care and control of the Minnesota Historical Society. They shall be suitably encased and marked, and, so far as the historical society may deem it consistent with the safety of the flags and colors, they shall be publicly displayed in the capitol.

(b) The flags and colors carried by Minnesota troops in subsequent wars shall be preserved under the care and control of the adjutant general. They shall be suitably encased and marked, and, so far as the adjutant general may deem it consistent with the safety of the flags and colors, shall be publicly displayed.

**Sec. 2. [325E.65] SALE OF AMERICAN FLAGS.**

No person in the business of offering goods at retail may sell or offer for sale in this state an American flag unless the flag was manufactured in the United States of America.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2008.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 327.33, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Fees.** The commissioner shall by rule establish reasonable fees for seals, installation seals and inspections which are sufficient to cover all costs incurred in the administration of sections 327.31 to 327.35. The commissioner shall also establish by rule a monitoring inspection fee in an amount that will comply with the secretary's fee distribution program. This monitoring inspection fee shall be an amount paid by the manufacturer for each manufactured home produced in Minnesota. The monitoring inspection fee shall be paid by the manufacturer to the secretary. The rules of the fee distribution program require the secretary to distribute the fees collected from all manufactured home manufacturers among states approved and conditionally approved based on the number of new manufactured homes whose first location after leaving the manufacturer is on the premises of a distributor, dealer or purchaser in that state. ~~All money collected by the commissioner through fees prescribed by sections 327.31 to 327.36 shall be deposited in the state government special revenue fund and is appropriated to the commissioner for the purpose of administering and enforcing the Manufactured Home Building Code under sections 327.31 to 327.36.~~

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 327.33, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

Subd. 6. **Authorization as agency.** The commissioner shall apply to the secretary for approval of the commissioner as the administrative agency for the regulation of manufactured homes under the rules of the secretary. The commissioner may make rules for the administration and enforcement of department responsibilities as a state administrative agency including, but not limited to, rules for the handling of citizen's complaints. All money received for services provided by the commissioner or the department's authorized agents as a state administrative agency shall be deposited in the ~~general~~ construction code fund. The commissioner is charged with the adoption, administration, and enforcement of the Manufactured Home Construction and Safety Standards, consistent with rules and regulations promulgated by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. The commissioner may adopt the rules, codes, and standards necessary to

enforce the standards promulgated under this section. The commissioner is authorized to conduct hearings and presentations of views consistent with regulations adopted by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development and to adopt rules in order to carry out this function.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 327B.04, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Fees; licenses; when granted.** Each application for a license or license renewal must be accompanied by a fee in an amount established by the commissioner by rule pursuant to section 327B.10. The fees shall be set in an amount which over the fiscal biennium will produce revenues approximately equal to the expenses which the commissioner expects to incur during that fiscal biennium while administering and enforcing sections 327B.01 to 327B.12. ~~All money collected by the commissioner through fees prescribed in sections 327B.01 to 327B.12 shall be deposited in the state government special revenue fund and is appropriated to the commissioner for purposes of administering and enforcing the provisions of this chapter.~~ The commissioner shall grant or deny a license application or a renewal application within 60 days of its filing. If the license is granted, the commissioner shall license the applicant as a dealer or manufacturer for the remainder of the calendar year. Upon application by the licensee, the commissioner shall renew the license for a two year period, if:

- (a) the renewal application satisfies the requirements of subdivisions 3 and 4;
- (b) the renewal applicant has made all listings, registrations, notices and reports required by the commissioner during the preceding year; and
- (c) the renewal applicant has paid all fees owed pursuant to sections 327B.01 to 327B.12 and all taxes, arrearages, and penalties owed to the state.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 462A.21, subdivision 8b, is amended to read:

Subd. 8b. **Family rental housing.** It may establish a family rental housing assistance program to provide loans or direct rental subsidies for housing for families with incomes of up to 80 percent of state median income, or to provide grants for the operating cost of public housing. Priority must be given to those developments with resident families with the lowest income. The development may be financed by the agency or other public or private lenders. Direct rental subsidies must be administered by the agency for the benefit of eligible families. Financial assistance provided under this subdivision to recipients of aid to families with dependent children must be in the form of vendor payments whenever possible. Loans, grants, and direct rental subsidies under this subdivision may be made only with specific appropriations by the legislature. The limitations on eligible mortgagors contained in section 462A.03, subdivision 13, do not apply to loans for the rehabilitation of existing housing under this subdivision.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 462A.33, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Contribution requirement.** Fifty percent of the funds appropriated for this section must be used for challenge grants or loans which meet the requirements of this subdivision for housing proposals with financial or in-kind contributions from nonstate resources that reduce the need for deferred loan or grant funds from state resources. ~~These Challenge grants or loans must be used for economically viable homeownership or rental housing proposals that:~~

- ~~(1) include a financial or in-kind contribution from an area employer and either a unit of local~~



~~government or a private philanthropic, religious, or charitable organization; and~~

(2) address the housing needs of the local work force.

Among comparable proposals, preference must be given to proposals that include contributions from nonstate resources for the greatest portion of the total development cost. Comparable proposals with contributions from local units of government or private philanthropic, religious, or charitable organizations must be given preference in awarding grants or loans.

For the purpose of this subdivision, ~~an employer~~ a contribution may consist partially or wholly of the premium paid for federal housing tax credits.

~~Preference for grants and loans shall also be given to comparable proposals that include a financial or in-kind contribution from a unit of local government, an area employer, and a private philanthropic, religious, or charitable organization.~~

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 469.021, is amended to read:

**469.021 PREFERENCES.**

As between applicants equally in need and eligible for occupancy of a dwelling and at the rent involved, preference shall be given to disabled veterans, persons with disabilities, and families of service persons who died in service and to families of veterans. In admitting families of low income to dwelling accommodations in any housing project an authority shall, as far as is reasonably practicable, give consideration to applications from families ~~to which aid for dependent children is payable~~ receiving assistance under chapter 256J, and to resident families to whom public assistance or supplemental security income for the aged, blind, and disabled is payable, when those families are otherwise eligible.

Sec. 9. **WORK GROUP.**

The commissioner of employment and economic development shall convene a work group to evaluate the impact of the money appropriated for wage incentives and how the wage incentive program works. The work group is to make recommendations to the legislature by January 15, 2008.

Sec. 10. **EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Unless another effective date is expressly provided, this act is effective July 1, 2007."

Delete the title and insert:

"A bill for an act relating to state government; appropriating money for jobs, economic development, and housing; establishing and modifying certain programs; providing for regulation of certain activities and practices; providing for accounts, assessments, and fees; changing codes and licensing provisions; providing penalties; amending Minnesota Statutes 2006, sections 13.7931, by adding a subdivision; 16B.61, subdivision 1a; 16B.63, subdivision 5; 16B.65, subdivisions 1, 5a; 16B.70, subdivision 2; 116J.551, subdivision 1; 116J.554, subdivision 2; 116J.555, subdivision 1; 116J.575, subdivisions 1, 1a; 116J.966, subdivision 1; 116L.01, by adding a subdivision; 116L.04, subdivision 1a; 116L.17, subdivision 1; 116L.20, subdivision 1; 116L.666, subdivision 1; 116M.18, subdivision 6a; 154.003; 177.27, subdivisions 1, 4, 8, 9, 10; 177.28, subdivision 1; 177.30; 177.43, subdivisions 3, 4, 6, by adding a subdivision; 178.01; 178.02; 178.03, subdivision 3; 178.041, subdivision 1; 179A.04, subdivision 3; 181.932, subdivision 1;

181.935; 182.65, subdivision 2; 190.096; 268.196, by adding a subdivision; 268A.01, subdivision 13, by adding a subdivision; 268A.085, subdivision 1; 268A.15, by adding a subdivision; 298.227; 325E.37, subdivision 6; 326.01, subdivision 6g; 326.242, subdivisions 3d, 5, 8, 11, by adding a subdivision; 326.2441; 326.37, subdivision 1, by adding a subdivision; 326.38; 326.40, subdivision 1; 326.401, subdivision 2; 326.405; 326.42, subdivision 1; 326.46; 326.47, subdivision 2; 326.48, subdivisions 1, 2, by adding a subdivision; 326.50; 326.975, subdivision 1; 326.992; 327.33, subdivisions 2, 6; 327B.04, subdivision 7; 341.21, by adding a subdivision; 341.22; 341.25; 341.27; 341.28, subdivision 2, by adding a subdivision; 341.32, subdivision 2; 341.321; 462.39, by adding a subdivision; 462A.21, subdivision 8b; 462A.33, subdivision 3; 469.021; 469.334; 471.471, subdivision 4; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapters 116O; 154; 179; 181; 181A; 182; 325E; 326; proposing coding for new law as Minnesota Statutes, chapter 326B; repealing Minnesota Statutes 2006, sections 16B.747, subdivision 4; 16C.18, subdivision 2; 176.042; 183.375, subdivision 5; 183.545, subdivision 9; 268.035, subdivision 9; 326.241; 326.44; 326.45; 326.52; 326.64; 326.975."

And when so amended the bill be reported to the Senate without recommendation. Amendments adopted. Report adopted.

### **SECOND READING OF SENATE BILLS**

S.F. Nos. 430 and 1196 were read the second time.

### **SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILLS**

H.F. Nos. 548, 1063, 1078 and 122 were read the second time.

### **APPOINTMENTS**

Senator Pogemiller from the Subcommittee on Conference Committees recommends that the following Senators be and they hereby are appointed as a Conference Committee on:

S.F. No. 1048: Senators Lourey, Torres Ray and Dille.

S.F. No. 1302: Senators Pappas, Rest and Robling.

S.F. No. 1724: Senators Prettner Solon, Higgins and Fischbach.

S.F. No. 1333: Senators Latz, Higgins and Vandever.

S.F. No. 2226: Senators Vickerman, Wiger and Koering.

Senator Pogemiller moved that the foregoing appointments be approved. The motion prevailed.

**RECESS**

Senator Pogemiller moved that the Senate do now recess subject to the call of the President. The motion prevailed.

After a brief recess, the President called the Senate to order.

**MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS - CONTINUED**

Without objection, remaining on the Order of Business of Motions and Resolutions, the Senate reverted to the Orders of Business of Reports of Committees and Second Reading of House Bills.

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

Senator Pogemiller moved that the Committee Reports at the Desk be now adopted. The motion prevailed.

**Senator Pogemiller from the Committee on Rules and Administration, to which was referred**

**H.F. No. 2268:** A bill for an act relating to public finance; providing terms and conditions related to the issuance of obligations and the financing of public improvements and services; extending the time for certain publications of notices; authorizing and validating trusts to pay public postemployment benefits; amending Minnesota Statutes 2006, sections 118A.03, subdivision 3; 123B.61; 204B.46; 275.61, subdivision 1; 331A.05, subdivision 2; 365A.02; 365A.04; 365A.08; 365A.095; 373.01, subdivision 3; 373.40, subdivision 4; 375B.09; 383B.117, subdivision 2; 383B.77, subdivisions 1, 2; 410.32; 412.301; 428A.02, subdivision 1; 453A.02, subdivision 3; 473.39, by adding subdivisions; 475.52, subdivision 6; 475.53, subdivision 1; 475.58, subdivisions 1, 3b; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapters 471; 475.

Reports the same back with the recommendation that the bill be amended as follows:

Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

**"ARTICLE 1****AIDS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND PROPERTY TAX REFUNDS**

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 290A.04, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Homeowners.** A claimant whose property taxes payable are in excess of the percentage of the household income stated below shall pay an amount equal to the percent of income shown

for the appropriate household income level along with the percent to be paid by the claimant of the remaining amount of property taxes payable. The state refund equals the amount of property taxes payable that remain, up to the state refund amount shown below.

Household Income	Percent of Income	Percent Paid by Claimant	Maximum State Refund
\$0 to 1,189	1.0 percent	15 percent	<del>\$1,450</del> <u>\$1,810</u>
1,190 to 2,379	1.1 percent	15 percent	<del>\$1,450</del> <u>\$1,810</u>
2,380 to 3,589	1.2 percent	15 percent	<del>\$1,440</del> <u>\$1,760</u>
3,590 to 4,789	1.3 percent	20 percent	<del>\$1,440</del> <u>\$1,760</u>
4,790 to 5,979	1.4 percent	20 percent	<del>\$1,360</del> <u>\$1,700</u>
5,980 to 8,369	1.5 percent	20 percent	<del>\$1,360</del> <u>\$1,700</u>
8,370 to 9,559	1.6 percent	25 percent	<del>\$1,310</del> <u>\$1,570</u>
9,560 to 10,759	1.7 percent	25 percent	<del>\$1,310</del> <u>\$1,570</u>
10,760 to 11,949	1.8 percent	25 percent	<del>\$1,260</del> <u>\$1,530</u>
11,950 to 13,139	1.9 percent	30 percent	<del>\$1,260</del> <u>\$1,530</u>
13,140 to 14,349	2.0 percent	30 percent	<del>\$1,210</del> <u>\$1,450</u>
14,350 to 16,739	2.1 percent	30 percent	<del>\$1,210</del> <u>\$1,450</u>
16,740 to 17,929	2.2 percent	35 percent	<del>\$1,160</del> <u>\$1,390</u>
17,930 to 19,119	2.3 percent	35 percent	<del>\$1,160</del> <u>\$1,390</u>
19,120 to 20,319	2.4 percent	35 percent	<del>\$1,110</del> <u>\$1,330</u>
20,320 to 25,099	2.5 percent	40 percent	<del>\$1,110</del> <u>\$1,330</u>
25,100 to 28,679	2.6 percent	40 percent	<del>\$1,070</del> <u>\$1,280</u>
28,680 to 35,849	2.7 percent	40 percent	<del>\$1,070</del> <u>\$1,280</u>
35,850 to 41,819	2.8 percent	45 percent	<del>\$ 970</del> <u>\$1,160</u>
41,820 to 47,799	3.0 percent	45 percent	<del>\$ 970</del> <u>\$1,160</u>
47,800 to 53,779	3.2 percent	45 percent	<del>\$ 870</del> <u>\$1,040</u>
53,780 to 59,749	3.5 percent	50 percent	<del>\$ 780</del> <u>\$940</u>
59,750 to 65,729	4.0 percent	50 percent	<del>\$ 680</del> <u>\$820</u>
65,730 to 69,319	4.0 percent	50 percent	<del>\$ 580</del> <u>\$700</u>
69,320 to 71,719	4.0 percent	50 percent	<del>\$ 480</del> <u>\$580</u>
71,720 to 74,619	4.0 percent	50 percent	<del>\$ 390</del> <u>\$470</u>
74,620 to 77,519	4.0 percent	50 percent	<del>\$ 290</del> <u>\$350</u>

The payment made to a claimant shall be the amount of the state refund calculated under this

subdivision. No payment is allowed if the claimant's household income is \$77,520 or more.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective beginning with refunds based on property taxes payable in 2008.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 477A.011, subdivision 36, is amended to read:

Subd. 36. **City aid base.** (a) Except as otherwise provided in this subdivision, "city aid base" is zero.

(b) The city aid base for any city with a population less than 500 is increased by \$40,000 for aids payable in calendar year 1995 and thereafter, and the maximum amount of total aid it may receive under section 477A.013, subdivision 9, paragraph (c), is also increased by \$40,000 for aids payable in calendar year 1995 only, provided that:

- (i) the average total tax capacity rate for taxes payable in 1995 exceeds 200 percent;
- (ii) the city portion of the tax capacity rate exceeds 100 percent; and
- (iii) its city aid base is less than \$60 per capita.

(c) The city aid base for a city is increased by \$20,000 in 1998 and thereafter and the maximum amount of total aid it may receive under section 477A.013, subdivision 9, paragraph (c), is also increased by \$20,000 in calendar year 1998 only, provided that:

- (i) the city has a population in 1994 of 2,500 or more;
- (ii) the city is located in a county, outside of the metropolitan area, which contains a city of the first class;
- (iii) the city's net tax capacity used in calculating its 1996 aid under section 477A.013 is less than \$400 per capita; and
- (iv) at least four percent of the total net tax capacity, for taxes payable in 1996, of property located in the city is classified as railroad property.

(d) The city aid base for a city is increased by \$200,000 in 1999 and thereafter and the maximum amount of total aid it may receive under section 477A.013, subdivision 9, paragraph (c), is also increased by \$200,000 in calendar year 1999 only, provided that:

- (i) the city was incorporated as a statutory city after December 1, 1993;
- (ii) its city aid base does not exceed \$5,600; and
- (iii) the city had a population in 1996 of 5,000 or more.

(e) The city aid base for a city is increased by \$450,000 in 1999 to 2008 and the maximum amount of total aid it may receive under section 477A.013, subdivision 9, paragraph (c), is also increased by \$450,000 in calendar year 1999 only, provided that:

- (i) the city had a population in 1996 of at least 50,000;
- (ii) its population had increased by at least 40 percent in the ten-year period ending in 1996; and

(iii) its city's net tax capacity for aids payable in 1998 is less than \$700 per capita.

(f) The city aid base for a city is increased by \$150,000 for aids payable in 2000 and thereafter, and the maximum amount of total aid it may receive under section 477A.013, subdivision 9, paragraph (c), is also increased by \$150,000 in calendar year 2000 only, provided that:

(1) the city has a population that is greater than 1,000 and less than 2,500;

(2) its commercial and industrial percentage for aids payable in 1999 is greater than 45 percent; and

(3) the total market value of all commercial and industrial property in the city for assessment year 1999 is at least 15 percent less than the total market value of all commercial and industrial property in the city for assessment year 1998.

(g) The city aid base for a city is increased by \$200,000 in 2000 and thereafter, and the maximum amount of total aid it may receive under section 477A.013, subdivision 9, paragraph (c), is also increased by \$200,000 in calendar year 2000 only, provided that:

(1) the city had a population in 1997 of 2,500 or more;

(2) the net tax capacity of the city used in calculating its 1999 aid under section 477A.013 is less than \$650 per capita;

(3) the pre-1940 housing percentage of the city used in calculating 1999 aid under section 477A.013 is greater than 12 percent;

(4) the 1999 local government aid of the city under section 477A.013 is less than 20 percent of the amount that the formula aid of the city would have been if the need increase percentage was 100 percent; and

(5) the city aid base of the city used in calculating aid under section 477A.013 is less than \$7 per capita.

(h) The city aid base for a city is increased by \$102,000 in 2000 and thereafter, and the maximum amount of total aid it may receive under section 477A.013, subdivision 9, paragraph (c), is also increased by \$102,000 in calendar year 2000 only, provided that:

(1) the city has a population in 1997 of 2,000 or more;

(2) the net tax capacity of the city used in calculating its 1999 aid under section 477A.013 is less than \$455 per capita;

(3) the net levy of the city used in calculating 1999 aid under section 477A.013 is greater than \$195 per capita; and

(4) the 1999 local government aid of the city under section 477A.013 is less than 38 percent of the amount that the formula aid of the city would have been if the need increase percentage was 100 percent.

(i) The city aid base for a city is increased by \$32,000 in 2001 and thereafter, and the maximum amount of total aid it may receive under section 477A.013, subdivision 9, paragraph (c), is also increased by \$32,000 in calendar year 2001 only, provided that:

- (1) the city has a population in 1998 that is greater than 200 but less than 500;
  - (2) the city's revenue need used in calculating aids payable in 2000 was greater than \$200 per capita;
  - (3) the city net tax capacity for the city used in calculating aids available in 2000 was equal to or less than \$200 per capita;
  - (4) the city aid base of the city used in calculating aid under section 477A.013 is less than \$65 per capita; and
  - (5) the city's formula aid for aids payable in 2000 was greater than zero.
- (j) The city aid base for a city is increased by \$7,200 in 2001 and thereafter, and the maximum amount of total aid it may receive under section 477A.013, subdivision 9, paragraph (c), is also increased by \$7,200 in calendar year 2001 only, provided that:
- (1) the city had a population in 1998 that is greater than 200 but less than 500;
  - (2) the city's commercial industrial percentage used in calculating aids payable in 2000 was less than ten percent;
  - (3) more than 25 percent of the city's population was 60 years old or older according to the 1990 census;
  - (4) the city aid base of the city used in calculating aid under section 477A.013 is less than \$15 per capita; and
  - (5) the city's formula aid for aids payable in 2000 was greater than zero.
- (k) The city aid base for a city is increased by \$45,000 in 2001 and thereafter and by an additional \$50,000 in calendar years 2002 to 2011, and the maximum amount of total aid it may receive under section 477A.013, subdivision 9, paragraph (c), is also increased by \$45,000 in calendar year 2001 only, and by \$50,000 in calendar year 2002 only, provided that:
- (1) the net tax capacity of the city used in calculating its 2000 aid under section 477A.013 is less than \$810 per capita;
  - (2) the population of the city declined more than two percent between 1988 and 1998;
  - (3) the net levy of the city used in calculating 2000 aid under section 477A.013 is greater than \$240 per capita; and
  - (4) the city received less than \$36 per capita in aid under section 477A.013, subdivision 9, for aids payable in 2000.
- (l) The city aid base for a city with a population of 10,000 or more which is located outside of the seven-county metropolitan area is increased in 2002 and thereafter, and the maximum amount of total aid it may receive under section 477A.013, subdivision 9, paragraph (b) or (c), is also increased in calendar year 2002 only, by an amount equal to the lesser of:
- (1)(i) the total population of the city, as determined by the United States Bureau of the Census, in the 2000 census, (ii) minus 5,000, (iii) times 60; or

(2) \$2,500,000.

(m) The city aid base is increased by \$50,000 in 2002 and thereafter, and the maximum amount of total aid it may receive under section 477A.013, subdivision 9, paragraph (c), is also increased by \$50,000 in calendar year 2002 only, provided that:

- (1) the city is located in the seven-county metropolitan area;
- (2) its population in 2000 is between 10,000 and 20,000; and
- (3) its commercial industrial percentage, as calculated for city aid payable in 2001, was greater than 25 percent.

(n) The city aid base for a city is increased by \$150,000 in calendar years 2002 to 2011 and by an additional \$75,000 in calendar years 2008 to 2013 and the maximum amount of total aid it may receive under section 477A.013, subdivision 9, paragraph (c), is also increased by \$150,000 in calendar year 2002 only and by \$75,000 in calendar year 2008 only, provided that:

- (1) the city had a population of at least 3,000 but no more than 4,000 in 1999;
- (2) its home county is located within the seven-county metropolitan area;
- (3) its pre-1940 housing percentage is less than 15 percent; and
- (4) its city net tax capacity per capita for taxes payable in 2000 is less than \$900 per capita.

(o) The city aid base for a city is increased by \$200,000 beginning in calendar year 2003 and the maximum amount of total aid it may receive under section 477A.013, subdivision 9, paragraph (c), is also increased by \$200,000 in calendar year 2003 only, provided that the city qualified for an increase in homestead and agricultural credit aid under Laws 1995, chapter 264, article 8, section 18.

(p) The city aid base for a city is increased by \$200,000 in 2004 only and the maximum amount of total aid it may receive under section 477A.013, subdivision 9, is also increased by \$200,000 in calendar year 2004 only, if the city is the site of a nuclear dry cask storage facility.

(q) The city aid base for a city is increased by \$10,000 in 2004 and thereafter and the maximum total aid it may receive under section 477A.013, subdivision 9, is also increased by \$10,000 in calendar year 2004 only, if the city was included in a federal major disaster designation issued on April 1, 1998, and its pre-1940 housing stock was decreased by more than 40 percent between 1990 and 2000.

(r) The city aid base for a city is increased by ~~\$25,000~~ \$30,000 ~~in 2006 only~~ 2008 and thereafter and the maximum total aid it may receive under section 477A.013, subdivision 9, is also increased by ~~\$25,000~~ \$30,000 in calendar year 2006 only if the city had a population in 2003 of at least 1,000 and has a state park for which the city provides rescue services and which comprised at least 14 percent of the total geographic area included within the city boundaries in 2000.

(s) The city aid base for a city with a population less than 5,000 is increased in 2006 and thereafter and the minimum and maximum amount of total aid it may receive under this section is also increased in calendar year 2006 only by an amount equal to \$6 multiplied by its population.



(t) The city aid base for a city is increased by \$80,000 in 2007 ~~only~~ and thereafter and the minimum and maximum amount of total aid it may receive under section 477A.013, subdivision 9, is also increased by \$80,000 in calendar year 2007 only, if:

(1) as of May 1, 2006, at least 25 percent of the tax capacity of the city is proposed to be placed in trust status as tax-exempt Indian land;

(2) the placement of the land is being challenged administratively or in court; and

(3) due to the challenge, the land proposed to be placed in trust is still on the tax rolls as of May 1, 2006.

(u) The city aid base for a city is increased by \$100,000 in 2007 and thereafter and the minimum and maximum total amount of aid it may receive under this section is also increased in calendar year 2007 only, provided that:

(1) the city has a 2004 estimated population greater than 200 but less than 2,000;

(2) its city net tax capacity for aids payable in 2006 was less than \$300 per capita;

(3) the ratio of its pay 2005 tax levy compared to its city net tax capacity for aids payable in 2006 was greater than 110 percent; and

(4) it is located in a county where at least 15,000 acres of land are classified as tax-exempt Indian reservations according to the 2004 abstract of tax-exempt property.

(v) The city aid base for a city is increased by \$30,000 in 2008 only, and the maximum total aid it may receive under section 477A.013, subdivision 9, is also increased by \$30,000 in calendar year 2008 only if the city had a population in 2005 of less than 3,000 and the city's boundaries as of 2007 were formed by the consolidation of two cities and one township in 2002.

(w) The city aid base for a city is increased by \$100,000 in 2008 and thereafter, and the maximum total aid it may receive under section 477A.013, subdivision 9, is also increased by \$100,000 in calendar year 2008 only if the city had a city net tax capacity for aids payable in 2007 of less than \$150 per capita and the city experienced flooding on March 14, 2007, that resulted in evacuation of at least 40 homes.

(x) The city aid base for a city is increased by \$200,000 in 2008 through 2012, and the maximum total aid it may receive under section 477A.013, subdivision 9, is also increased by \$200,000 in calendar year 2008 only if the city:

(i) is located outside of the Minneapolis-St. Paul standard metropolitan statistical area;

(ii) has a 2005 population greater than 7,000 but less than 8,000; and

(iii) has a 2005 net tax capacity per capita of less than \$500.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for sales and purchases made after June 30, 2007.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 477A.0124, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **County transition aid.** (a) For 2005, a county is eligible for transition aid equal to the amount, if any, by which:

(1) the difference between:

(i) the aid the county received under subdivision 1 in 2004, divided by the total aid paid to all counties under subdivision 1, multiplied by \$205,000,000; and

(ii) the amount of aid the county is certified to receive in 2005 under subdivisions 3 and 4; exceeds:

(2) three percent of the county's adjusted net tax capacity.

A county's aid under this paragraph may not be less than zero.

(b) In 2006, a county is eligible to receive two-thirds of the transition aid it received in 2005.

(c) In 2007 and subsequent years, a county is eligible to receive one-third of the transition aid it received in 2005.

~~(d) No county shall receive aid under this subdivision after 2007.~~ In 2008 only, a county with (1) a 2005 population greater than 10,000 and less than 29,000, and (2) an average Part I crimes per capita greater than 3.6 percent for aids payable in 2007 shall receive \$250,000.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 477A.013, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Towns.** ~~In 2002, no~~ In 2008 and subsequent years, each town is eligible for a distribution under this subdivision equal to 20 percent of the amount of homestead and agricultural credit aid reimbursement it received under Minnesota Statutes 2000, section 273.1398, in calendar year 2001.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 477A.013, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

Subd. 8. **City formula aid.** In calendar year 2004 and subsequent years, the formula aid for a city is equal to the need increase percentage multiplied by the difference between (1) the city's revenue need multiplied by its population, and (2) ~~the sum of the city's net tax capacity multiplied by the tax effort rate; the taconite aids under sections 298.28 and 298.282 to any city except a city directly impacted by a taconite mine or plant,~~ multiplied by the following percentages:

~~(i) zero percent for aids payable in 2004;~~

~~(ii) 25 percent for aids payable in 2005;~~

~~(iii) 50 percent for aids payable in 2006;~~

~~(iv) 75 percent for aids payable in 2007; and~~

~~(v) 100 percent for aids payable in 2008 and thereafter.~~

~~For purposes of this subdivision, "a city directly impacted by a taconite mine or plant" means: (1) Babbitt, (2) Eveleth, (3) Hibbing, (4) Keewatin, (5) Mountain Iron, (6) Silver Bay, or (7) Virginia.~~

No city may have a formula aid amount less than zero. The need increase percentage must be the same for all cities.

The applicable need increase percentage must be calculated by the Department of Revenue so

that the total of the aid under subdivision 9 equals the total amount available for aid under section 477A.03 after the subtraction under section 477A.014, subdivisions 4 and 5.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective beginning with aids payable in 2008.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 477A.013, subdivision 9, is amended to read:

Subd. 9. **City aid distribution.** (a) In calendar year ~~2002 and thereafter~~ 2008, each city shall receive an aid distribution equal to the sum of (1) the city formula aid under subdivision 8, ~~and~~ (2) its city aid base, and (3) ~~one-half of the difference between its total aid in the previous year under this section and its city aid base in the previous year.~~ For aids payable in 2009 and thereafter, each city shall receive an aid distribution equal to the sum of (1) the city formula aid under subdivision 8, (2) its city aid base, and (3) its formula aid under subdivision 8 in the previous year, prior to any adjustments under this subdivision.

(b) For aids payable in 2008, the total aid for any city shall not exceed the sum of (1) 30 percent of its net levy for the year prior to the aid distribution plus (2) its total aid in the previous year. ~~For aids payable in 2005 2009 and thereafter, the total aid for any city shall not exceed the sum of (1) ten percent of the city's net levy for the year prior to the aid distribution plus (2) its total aid in the previous year.~~ For aids payable in 2005 2008 and thereafter, the total aid for any city with a population of 2,500 or more may not decrease from be less than its total aid under this section in the previous year by an amount greater than minus the lesser of (1) \$15 multiplied by its population, or (2) ten percent of its net levy in the year prior to the aid distribution.

(c) ~~For aids payable in 2004 only, the total aid for a city with a population less than 2,500 may not be less than the amount it was certified to receive in 2003 minus the greater of (1) the reduction to this aid payment in 2003 under Laws 2003, First Special Session chapter 21, article 5, or (2) five percent of its 2003 aid amount.~~ For aids payable in 2008 only, the total aid for a city with a population less than 2,500 must not be less than the amount it would otherwise be certified to receive in 2008 if this act was not enacted. ~~For aids payable in 2005 2008 and thereafter, the total aid for a city with a population less than 2,500 must not be less than the amount it was certified to receive in the previous year minus the lesser of (1) \$15 multiplied by its population, or (2) five percent of its 2003 certified aid amount.~~

(d) If a city's net tax capacity used in calculating aid under this section has decreased in any year by more than 25 percent from its net tax capacity in the previous year due to property becoming tax-exempt Indian land, the city's maximum allowed aid increase under paragraph (b) shall be increased by an amount equal to (1) the city's tax rate in the year of the aid calculation, multiplied by (2) the amount of its net tax capacity decrease resulting from the property becoming tax exempt.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for aids payable in 2008 and thereafter.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 477A.03, is amended to read:

#### **477A.03 APPROPRIATION.**

Subd. 2. **Annual appropriation.** A sum sufficient to discharge the duties imposed by sections 477A.011 to 477A.014 is annually appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner of revenue.

Subd. 2a. **Cities.** ~~For aids payable in 2004, the total aids paid under section 477A.013,~~

~~subdivision 9, are limited to \$429,000,000. For aids payable in 2005, the total aids paid under section 477A.013, subdivision 9, are limited to \$437,052,000. For aids payable in 2006 2008 and thereafter, the total aids paid under section 477A.013, subdivision 9, is limited to \$485,052,000 \$565,052,000.~~

Subd. 2b. **Counties.** (a) For aids payable in calendar year ~~2005~~ 2008 and thereafter, the total aids paid to counties under section 477A.0124, subdivision 3, are limited to ~~\$100,500,000 \$118,000,000~~. Each calendar year, \$500,000 shall be retained by the commissioner of revenue to make reimbursements to the commissioner of finance for payments made under section 611.27. ~~For calendar year 2004, the amount shall be in addition to the payments authorized under section 477A.0124, subdivision 1. For calendar year 2005 and subsequent years,~~ The amount shall be deducted from the appropriation under this paragraph. The reimbursements shall be to defray the additional costs associated with court-ordered counsel under section 611.27. Any retained amounts not used for reimbursement in a year shall be included in the next distribution of county need aid that is certified to the county auditors for the purpose of property tax reduction for the next taxes payable year.

(b) ~~For aids payable in 2005, the total aids under section 477A.0124, subdivision 4, are limited to \$105,000,000. For aids payable in 2006 2008 and thereafter, the total aid under section 477A.0124, subdivision 4, is limited to \$105,132,923 \$122,632,923.~~ The commissioner of finance shall bill the commissioner of revenue for the cost of preparation of local impact notes as required by section 3.987, not to exceed \$207,000 in fiscal year 2004 and thereafter. The commissioner of education shall bill the commissioner of revenue for the cost of preparation of local impact notes for school districts as required by section 3.987, not to exceed \$7,000 in fiscal year 2004 and thereafter. The commissioner of revenue shall deduct the amounts billed under this paragraph from the appropriation under this paragraph. The amounts deducted are appropriated to the commissioner of finance and the commissioner of education for the preparation of local impact notes.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for aids payable in calendar year 2008 and thereafter.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 477A.12, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Types of land; payments.** (a) As an offset for expenses incurred by counties and towns in support of natural resources lands, the following amounts are annually appropriated to the commissioner of natural resources from the general fund for transfer to the commissioner of revenue. The commissioner of revenue shall pay the transferred funds to counties as required by sections 477A.11 to 477A.145. The amounts are:

(1) for acquired natural resources land, \$3, as adjusted for inflation under section 477A.145, multiplied by the total number of acres of acquired natural resources land or, at the county's option three-fourths of one percent of the appraised value of all acquired natural resources land in the county, whichever is greater;

(2) 75 cents, as adjusted for inflation under section 477A.145, multiplied by the number of acres of county-administered other natural resources land;

(3) ~~75 cents~~ \$3, as adjusted for inflation under section 477A.145, multiplied by the total number of acres of land utilization project land that is located entirely within a wildlife management area as described in section 86A.05, subdivision 8; and 75 cents, as adjusted for inflation under section

477A.145, multiplied by the total number of acres of land utilization project land not located within a wildlife management area; and

(4) 37.5 cents, as adjusted for inflation under section 477A.145, multiplied by the number of acres of commissioner-administered other natural resources land located in each county as of July 1 of each year prior to the payment year.

(b) The amount determined under paragraph (a), clause (1), is payable for land that is acquired from a private owner and owned by the Department of Transportation for the purpose of replacing wetland losses caused by transportation projects, but only if the county contains more than 500 acres of such land at the time the certification is made under subdivision 2.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for payments in 2008 and thereafter.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 477A.14, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **General distribution.** Except as provided in subdivision 2 or in section 97A.061, subdivision 5, 40 percent of the total payment to the county shall be deposited in the county general revenue fund to be used to provide property tax levy reduction. The remainder shall be distributed by the county in the following priority:

(a) 37.5 cents, as adjusted for inflation under section 477A.145, for each acre of county-administered other natural resources land shall be deposited in a resource development fund to be created within the county treasury for use in resource development, forest management, game and fish habitat improvement, and recreational development and maintenance of county-administered other natural resources land. Any county receiving less than \$5,000 annually for the resource development fund may elect to deposit that amount in the county general revenue fund;

(b) From the funds remaining, within 30 days of receipt of the payment to the county, the county treasurer shall pay each organized township 30 cents, as adjusted for inflation under section 477A.145, for each acre of acquired natural resources land, each acre of land utilization project land located entirely within a wildlife management area, and each acre of land described in section 477A.12, subdivision 1, paragraph (b), and 7.5 cents, as adjusted for inflation under section 477A.145, for each acre of other natural resources land and each acre of land utilization project land not located within a wildlife management area, located within its boundaries. Payments for natural resources lands not located in an organized township shall be deposited in the county general revenue fund. Payments to counties and townships pursuant to this paragraph shall be used to provide property tax levy reduction, except that of the payments for natural resources lands not located in an organized township, the county may allocate the amount determined to be necessary for maintenance of roads in unorganized townships. Provided that, if the total payment to the county pursuant to section 477A.12 is not sufficient to fully fund the distribution provided for in this clause, the amount available shall be distributed to each township and the county general revenue fund on a pro rata basis; and

(c) Any remaining funds shall be deposited in the county general revenue fund. Provided that, if the distribution to the county general revenue fund exceeds \$35,000, the excess shall be used to provide property tax levy reduction.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for payments in 2008 and thereafter.

Sec. 10. Laws 2006, chapter 259, article 11, section 3, is amended to read:

**Sec. 3. MAHNOMEN COUNTY; COUNTY, CITY, SCHOOL DISTRICT, PROPERTY TAX REIMBURSEMENT; 2006-ONLY.**

Subdivision 1. **Aid appropriation.** \$600,000 is appropriated annually from the general fund to the commissioner of revenue to be used to make payments to compensate for the loss of property tax revenue due to the placement of land located in the city of Mahnomen that was put in trust status by the United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, during calendar year 2006. The commissioner shall pay the county of Mahnomen, \$450,000; the city of Mahnomen, \$80,000; and Independent School District No. 432, Mahnomen, \$70,000, provided that these payments shall be reduced in 2007 and any subsequent year by the amount, if any, of payments to that political subdivision made during the previous calendar year by the owner of the land that was placed in trust. The payments shall be made on July 20, of 2006, and each subsequent year.

Subd. 2. **School district tax base adjustments.** The Department of Revenue must reduce the referendum market value and the adjusted net tax capacity certified for assessment year 2005 used to calculate school levies for taxes payable in 2007 and subsequent years for Independent School District No. 432, Mahnomen, by the amounts of any values attributable to property that is no longer subject to property taxation because the land has been placed in trust in calendar year 2006 through action of the United States Department of Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs. The Mahnomen County auditor must certify the reductions in value to the Department of Revenue in the form and manner specified by the Department of Revenue.

**Sec. 11. MAHNOMEN COUNTY; CITY, COUNTY, AND SCHOOL DISTRICT TAX BASE ADJUSTMENTS.**

(a) The commissioner of revenue must reduce the referendum market value and adjusted net tax capacity used to calculate school levies beginning with taxes payable in 2008 and subsequent years for Independent School District No. 432, Mahnomen, by the amounts attributable to the property that is pending placement into trust status by the United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs. This adjustment shall be made for each assessment year that the property remains on the tax rolls.

(b) The commissioner of revenue must reduce the county and city net tax capacities used to calculate aids under sections 477A.011 to 477A.03, beginning with aids payable in 2008 for the county of Mahnomen and the city of Mahnomen, by the amounts attributable to property that is pending placement into trust status by the United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs. This adjustment shall be made for each assessment year that the property remains on the tax rolls.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for aids and levies payable in 2008 and thereafter.

**Sec. 12. GRAND MARAIS FIRE AID.**

\$250,000 is appropriated in fiscal years 2008 and 2009 from the general fund to the commissioner of revenue to be paid to the city of Grand Marais for costs related to the Ham Lake fire of 2007.

**Sec. 13. STATE AID TRANSITION RESERVE.**

Subdivision 1. **Reserve account.** A state aid transition reserve account is established in the general fund to provide two additional years of transition funding for county program aid and local government aid.

Subd. 2. **Transfer to account.** On June 29, 2009, the commissioner of finance shall transfer \$80,629,000 from the general fund to the state aid transition reserve account.

Subd. 3. **Transfer to general fund.** On July 1, 2009, the commissioner of finance shall transfer the balance in the state aid transition reserve account to the general fund.

Subd. 4. **Expiration date.** This section expires July 2, 2009.

## ARTICLE 2

### PROPERTY TAXES

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 97A.061, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Allocation.** (a) Except as provided in subdivision 3, the county treasurer shall allocate the payment among the county, towns, and school districts on the same basis as if the payments were taxes on the land received in the year. Payment of a town's or a school district's allocation must be made by the county treasurer to the town or school district within 30 days of receipt of the payment to the county. The county's share of the payment shall be deposited in the county general revenue fund.

(b) The county treasurer of a county with a population over 39,000 but less than 42,000 in the 1950 federal census shall allocate the payment only among the towns and school districts on the same basis as if the payments were taxes on the lands received in the current year.

(c) If a town received a payment in calendar year 2006 or thereafter under this subdivision, and subsequently incorporated as a city, the city will continue to receive any future year's allocations that would have been made to the town had it not incorporated, provided that the payments will terminate if the governing body of the city passes an ordinance that prohibits hunting within the boundaries of the city.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for aid payments made in 2007 and thereafter.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 126C.41, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Retired employee health benefits.** A district may levy an amount up to the amount the district is required by the collective bargaining agreement in effect on March 30, 1992, to pay for health insurance or unreimbursed medical expenses for licensed and nonlicensed employees who have terminated services in the employing district and withdrawn from active teaching service or other active service, as applicable, before July 1, 1992, or in the case of a school district located within the taconite tax relief area defined in section 273.134, before July 1, 1998, if a sunset clause is in effect for the current collective bargaining agreement. The total amount of the levy each year may not exceed \$600,000.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 127A.48, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Methodology.** In making its annual assessment/sales ratio studies, the Department of Revenue must use a methodology consistent with the most recent Standard on Assessment

Ratio Studies published by the assessment standards committee of the International Association of Assessing Officers. The commissioner of revenue shall supplement this general methodology with specific procedures necessary for execution of the study in accordance with other Minnesota laws impacting the assessment/sales ratio study. The commissioner shall document these specific procedures in writing and shall publish the procedures in the State Register, but these procedures will not be considered "rules" pursuant to the Minnesota Administrative Procedure Act. When property is sold and the purchaser changes its use in a manner that would result in a change of classification of the property, the assessment sales ratio study under this subdivision must take into account that changed classification as soon as practicable. A change in status from homestead to nonhomestead or from nonhomestead to homestead is not a change under this subdivision. For purposes of this section, sections 270.12, subdivision 2, clause (8), and 278.05, subdivision 4, the commissioner of revenue shall exclude from the assessment/sales ratio study the sale of any nonagricultural property which does not contain an improvement, if (1) the statutory basis on which the property's taxable value as most recently assessed is less than market value as defined in section 273.11, or (2) the property has undergone significant physical change or a change of use since the most recent assessment.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 272.02, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

**Subd. 85. Modular homes used as models by dealers.** (a) A modular home is exempt if it:

- (1) is owned by a modular home dealer and is located on land owned or leased by that dealer;
- (2) is a single-family model home;
- (3) is not available for sale and is used exclusively as a model;
- (4) is not permanently connected to any utilities except electricity; and
- (5) is situated on a temporary foundation.

(b) The exemption under this subdivision is allowable for up to five assessment years after the date it becomes located on the property, provided that the modular home continues to meet all of the criteria under this subdivision each year. The owner of a modular model home must notify the county assessor within 60 days that it has been constructed or located on the property and must again notify the assessor if the modular home ceases to meet any of the criteria. If more than one modular home is constructed or situated on a property, the owner must notify the assessor within 60 days for each of the models placed on the property.

(c) For purposes of this subdivision, a "modular home" means a building or structural unit that has been in whole or substantial part manufactured or constructed at an off-site location to be wholly or partially assembled on-site as a single family dwelling. Construction of the modular home must comply with applicable standards adopted in Minnesota Rules authorized under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 16B. A modular home does not include a structure subject to the requirements of the National Manufactured Home Construction and Safety Standards Act of 1974 or prefabricated buildings, as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 327.31, subdivision 6.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for assessment year 2007 and thereafter, for taxes payable in 2008 and thereafter. The five-year assessment time period begins with the 2007



assessment for a modular model home currently situated provided it meets all of the criteria and the county assessor is notified within 90 days of the day following final enactment.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 272.02, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 86. **Electric generation facility; personal property.** (a) Notwithstanding subdivision 9, clause (a), attached machinery and other personal property which is part of a simple-cycle combustion-turbine electric generation facility that exceeds 150 megawatts of installed capacity and that meets the requirements of this subdivision is exempt. At the time of construction, the facility must:

- (1) utilize natural gas as a primary fuel;
- (2) be owned by an electric generation and transmission cooperative;
- (3) be located within one mile of an existing 16-inch natural gas pipeline and a 69-kilovolt and a 230-kilovolt high-voltage electric transmission line;
- (4) be designed to provide peaking, emergency backup, or contingency services;
- (5) have received a certificate of need under section 216B.243 demonstrating demand for its capacity; and
- (6) have received by resolution the approval from the governing bodies of the county and the city in which the proposed facility is to be located for the exemption of personal property under this subdivision.

(b) Construction of the facility must be commenced after January 1, 2008, and before January 1, 2012. Property eligible for this exemption does not include electric transmission lines and interconnections or gas pipelines and interconnections appurtenant to the property or the facility.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for the 2007 assessment payable in 2008 and thereafter.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 272.02, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 87. **Apprenticeship training facilities.** All or a portion of a property is exempt if: (1) the property is used exclusively for a state-approved apprenticeship program through the Department of Labor and Industry, (2) the property is owned and operated by a nonprofit corporation, and (3) the program participants receive no compensation.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for assessment year 2007 and thereafter, for taxes payable in 2008 and thereafter.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 272.02, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 88. **Monosloped roofs for feedlots and manure storage areas.** A monosloped, single-pitched roof installed over a feedlot or manure storage area to prevent runoff is exempt.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for property taxes levied in 2007, payable in 2008, and thereafter.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 272.115, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Requirement.** Except as otherwise provided in subdivision 5, whenever any real estate is sold for a consideration in excess of \$1,000, whether by warranty deed, quitclaim deed, contract for deed or any other method of sale, the grantor, grantee or the legal agent of either shall file a certificate of value with the county auditor in the county in which the property is located when the deed or other document is presented for recording. Contract for deeds are subject to recording under section 507.235, subdivision 1. Value shall, in the case of any deed not a gift, be the amount of the full actual consideration thereof, paid or to be paid, including the amount of any lien or liens assumed. The items and value of personal property transferred with the real property must be listed and deducted from the sale price. The certificate of value shall include the classification to which the property belongs for the purpose of determining the fair market value of the property, and shall include any proposed change in use of the property known to the person filing the certificate that could change the classification of the property. The certificate shall include financing terms and conditions of the sale which are necessary to determine the actual, present value of the sale price for purposes of the sales ratio study. If the property is being acquired as part of a like-kind exchange under section 1031 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended through December 31, 2006, that must be indicated on the certificate. The commissioner of revenue shall promulgate administrative rules specifying the financing terms and conditions which must be included on the certificate. Pursuant to the authority of the commissioner of revenue in section 270C.306, the certificate of value must include the Social Security number or the federal employer identification number of the grantors and grantees. The identification numbers of the grantors and grantees are private data on individuals or nonpublic data as defined in section 13.02, subdivisions 9 and 12, but, notwithstanding that section, the private or nonpublic data may be disclosed to the commissioner of revenue for purposes of tax administration. The information required to be shown on the certificate of value is limited to the information required as of the date of the acknowledgment on the deed or other document to be recorded.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for certificates filed after June 30, 2007.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 273.111, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

Subd. 6. **Agricultural use.** Real property qualifying under subdivision 3 shall be considered to be in agricultural use provided that ~~annually~~:

(1) in at least one of the three calendar years preceding the assessment year;

at least ~~33 1/3 percent of the total family income of the owner is derived therefrom, or~~ (i) the total production income including rental from the property is \$300 plus \$10 per tillable acre no less than an amount equal to five percent of the per acre agricultural value determined under subdivision 16 for the county where the property is located for the previous assessment year, multiplied by the number of acres in the parcel subject to this section; or

(ii) the amount of total farm expenses shown on Schedule F of the property owner's federal income tax return exceeds 25 percent of the federal adjusted gross income of the owner for federal tax purposes; and

(2) it is devoted to the production for sale of agricultural products as defined in section 273.13, subdivision 23, paragraph (e).

In this subdivision, "total production income" means gross income as reported for federal income tax purposes on Schedule F for the calendar year ending in the year preceding the assessment year,

plus rental income from the property.

Slough, wasteland, and woodland contiguous to or surrounded by land that is entitled to valuation and tax deferral under this section is considered to be in agricultural use if under the same ownership and management.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for taxes levied in 2008, payable in 2009 and thereafter, provided that property that qualified under Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 273.111, for the 2007 assessment shall not be disqualified in any of the assessment years 2008 to 2012 because of a failure to meet the requirements of this section.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 273.111, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

**Subd. 16. Agricultural value determination.** (a) In order to account for the presence of nonagricultural influences that may affect the sales of agricultural land, the commissioner of revenue shall develop a fair and uniform method of determining, for each county in the state, an agricultural value that is consistent with subdivision 4. The commissioner shall annually assign the resulting agricultural value to each county, and this value shall be used as the agricultural value for the county under this section.

(b) When property classified as agricultural is sold and the purchaser changes its use in a manner that would result in a change of classification of the property, and the sale price exceeds the agricultural value determined under paragraph (a), the assessor and the commissioner must review the sale along with other appropriate sales information to determine if there are nonagricultural influences on the value. If upon review it is determined that nonagricultural factors have affected the value, the resulting sales ratio shall be excluded from use in any study measuring agricultural value and applied to a study measuring market value.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for taxes levied in 2009, payable in 2010 and thereafter.

Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 273.111, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

**Subd. 17. Implementation of program.** This section must be applied to eligible properties by all county assessors, beginning no later than assessments for taxes levied in 2008, payable in 2009, and thereafter, unless the commissioner of revenue determines that a county is unable to comply with this requirement, in which case the county must implement it for the earliest assessment year determined by the commissioner to be feasible.

Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 273.111, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

**Subd. 18. Applications; denied by county.** For applications filed for the 2007 and 2008 assessment years, all applications for deferral of taxes and assessment under this section that have been denied by the county shall be forwarded to the commissioner of revenue by the county assessor within 30 days of denial. The assessor shall also provide the commissioner with a list of any property owners that requested an application and were denied, including names and addresses, and the reason for the denial. For the purpose of monitoring compliance with this section, the commissioner shall compile a report identifying all denied applications and requests for applications that were denied, the reason for the denial, and any commissioner action or recommendation. A report must be submitted to the chairs of the house and senate tax committees on or before February 1, 2008, and February 1, 2009, in compliance with Minnesota Statutes,

sections 3.195 and 3.197.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 273.123, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Local option; other property.** The owner of homestead property not qualifying for an adjustment in valuation pursuant to subdivisions 1 to 5 or of nonhomestead property may receive a reduction in the amount of taxes payable on the property for the year in which the destruction occurs and in the following year if:

(a) 50 percent or more of the homestead dwelling or other structure, as established by the county assessor, is:

(1) unintentionally or accidentally destroyed, or

(2) destroyed by arson or vandalism, by someone other than the owner,

and the homestead is uninhabitable or the other structure is not usable;

(b) the owner of the property makes written application to the county assessor as soon as practical after the damage has occurred; and

(c) the owner of the property makes written application to the county board.

The county board may grant a reduction in the amount of property tax which the owner must pay on the qualifying property in the year of destruction and in the following year. Any reduction in the amount of tax payable which is authorized by county board action shall be calculated based upon the number of months that the home is uninhabitable or the other structure is unusable. The amount of net tax due from the taxpayer shall be multiplied by a fraction, the numerator of which is the number of months the dwelling was occupied by that taxpayer, or the number of months the other structure was used by the taxpayer, and the denominator of which is 12. For purposes of this subdivision, if a structure is occupied or used for a fraction of a month, it is considered a month. "Net tax" is defined as the amount of tax after the subtraction of all of the state paid property tax credits. If application is made following payment of all property taxes due for the year of destruction, the amount of the reduction granted by the county board shall be refunded to the taxpayer by the county treasurer as soon as practical.

Any reductions or refunds approved by the county board shall not be subject to approval by the commissioner of revenue.

The county board may levy in the following year the amount of tax dollars lost to the county government as a result of the reductions granted pursuant to this subdivision.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for destruction that occurs in calendar year 2006 and thereafter.

Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 273.124, subdivision 14, is amended to read:

Subd. 14. **Agricultural homesteads; special provisions.** (a) Real estate of less than ten acres that is the homestead of its owner must be classified as class 2a under section 273.13, subdivision 23, paragraph (a), if:

(1) the parcel on which the house is located is contiguous on at least two sides to (i) agricultural land, (ii) land owned or administered by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, or (iii) land administered by the Department of Natural Resources on which in lieu taxes are paid under sections 477A.11 to 477A.14;

(2) its owner also owns a noncontiguous parcel of agricultural land that is at least 20 acres;

(3) the noncontiguous land is located not farther than four townships or cities, or a combination of townships or cities from the homestead; and

(4) the agricultural use value of the noncontiguous land and farm buildings is equal to at least 50 percent of the market value of the house, garage, and one acre of land.

Homesteads initially classified as class 2a under the provisions of this paragraph shall remain classified as class 2a, irrespective of subsequent changes in the use of adjoining properties, as long as the homestead remains under the same ownership, the owner owns a noncontiguous parcel of agricultural land that is at least 20 acres, and the agricultural use value qualifies under clause (4). Homestead classification under this paragraph is limited to property that qualified under this paragraph for the 1998 assessment.

(b)(i) Agricultural property ~~consisting of at least 40 acres~~ shall be classified as the owner's homestead, to the same extent as other agricultural homestead property, if all of the following criteria are met:

(1) the property consists of at least 40 acres including undivided government lots and correctional 40's, or at least 20 acres if used exclusively and intensively for raising or cultivating agricultural products as defined under section 273.13, subdivision 23, paragraph (e);

~~(1)~~ (2) the owner, the owner's spouse, the son or daughter of the owner or owner's spouse, or the grandson or granddaughter of the owner or the owner's spouse, is actively farming the agricultural property, either on the person's own behalf as an individual or on behalf of a partnership operating a family farm, family farm corporation, joint family farm venture, or limited liability company of which the person is a partner, shareholder, or member;

~~(2)~~ (3) both the owner of the agricultural property and the person who is actively farming the agricultural property under clause ~~(1)~~ (2), are Minnesota residents;

~~(3)~~ (4) neither the owner nor the spouse of the owner claims another agricultural homestead in Minnesota; and

~~(4)~~ (5) neither the owner nor the person actively farming the property lives farther than four townships or cities, or a combination of four townships or cities, from the agricultural property, except that if the owner or the owner's spouse is required to live in employer-provided housing, the owner or owner's spouse, whichever is actively farming the agricultural property, may live more than four townships or cities, or combination of four townships or cities from the agricultural property.

The relationship under this paragraph may be either by blood or marriage.

(ii) Real property held by a trustee under a trust is eligible for agricultural homestead classification under this paragraph if the qualifications in clause (i) are met, except that "owner" means the grantor of the trust.

(iii) Property containing the residence of an owner who owns qualified property under clause (i) shall be classified as part of the owner's agricultural homestead, if that property is also used for noncommercial storage or drying of agricultural crops.

(c) Noncontiguous land shall be included as part of a homestead under section 273.13, subdivision 23, paragraph (a), only if the homestead is classified as class 2a and the detached land is located in the same township or city, or not farther than four townships or cities or combination thereof from the homestead. Any taxpayer of these noncontiguous lands must notify the county assessor that the noncontiguous land is part of the taxpayer's homestead, and, if the homestead is located in another county, the taxpayer must also notify the assessor of the other county.

(d) Agricultural land used for purposes of a homestead and actively farmed by a person holding a vested remainder interest in it must be classified as a homestead under section 273.13, subdivision 23, paragraph (a). If agricultural land is classified class 2a, any other dwellings on the land used for purposes of a homestead by persons holding vested remainder interests who are actively engaged in farming the property, and up to one acre of the land surrounding each homestead and reasonably necessary for the use of the dwelling as a home, must also be assessed class 2a.

(e) Agricultural land and buildings that were class 2a homestead property under section 273.13, subdivision 23, paragraph (a), for the 1997 assessment shall remain classified as agricultural homesteads for subsequent assessments if:

(1) the property owner abandoned the homestead dwelling located on the agricultural homestead as a result of the April 1997 floods;

(2) the property is located in the county of Polk, Clay, Kittson, Marshall, Norman, or Wilkin;

(3) the agricultural land and buildings remain under the same ownership for the current assessment year as existed for the 1997 assessment year and continue to be used for agricultural purposes;

(4) the dwelling occupied by the owner is located in Minnesota and is within 30 miles of one of the parcels of agricultural land that is owned by the taxpayer; and

(5) the owner notifies the county assessor that the relocation was due to the 1997 floods, and the owner furnishes the assessor any information deemed necessary by the assessor in verifying the change in dwelling. Further notifications to the assessor are not required if the property continues to meet all the requirements in this paragraph and any dwellings on the agricultural land remain uninhabited.

(f) Agricultural land and buildings that were class 2a homestead property under section 273.13, subdivision 23, paragraph (a), for the 1998 assessment shall remain classified agricultural homesteads for subsequent assessments if:

(1) the property owner abandoned the homestead dwelling located on the agricultural homestead as a result of damage caused by a March 29, 1998, tornado;

(2) the property is located in the county of Blue Earth, Brown, Cottonwood, LeSueur, Nicollet, Nobles, or Rice;

(3) the agricultural land and buildings remain under the same ownership for the current

assessment year as existed for the 1998 assessment year;

(4) the dwelling occupied by the owner is located in this state and is within 50 miles of one of the parcels of agricultural land that is owned by the taxpayer; and

(5) the owner notifies the county assessor that the relocation was due to a March 29, 1998, tornado, and the owner furnishes the assessor any information deemed necessary by the assessor in verifying the change in homestead dwelling. For taxes payable in 1999, the owner must notify the assessor by December 1, 1998. Further notifications to the assessor are not required if the property continues to meet all the requirements in this paragraph and any dwellings on the agricultural land remain uninhabited.

(g) Agricultural property ~~consisting of at least 40 acres~~ of a family farm corporation, joint family farm venture, family farm limited liability company, or partnership operating a family farm as described under subdivision 8 shall be classified homestead, to the same extent as other agricultural homestead property, if all of the following criteria are met:

(1) the property consists of at least 40 acres including undivided government lots and correctional 40's, or at least 20 acres if used exclusively and intensively for raising or cultivating agricultural products as defined under section 273.13, subdivision 23, paragraph (e);

~~(1)~~ (2) a shareholder, member, or partner of that entity is actively farming the agricultural property;

~~(2)~~ (3) that shareholder, member, or partner who is actively farming the agricultural property is a Minnesota resident;

~~(3)~~ (4) neither that shareholder, member, or partner, nor the spouse of that shareholder, member, or partner claims another agricultural homestead in Minnesota; and

~~(4)~~ (5) that shareholder, member, or partner does not live farther than four townships or cities, or a combination of four townships or cities, from the agricultural property.

Homestead treatment applies under this paragraph for property leased to a family farm corporation, joint farm venture, limited liability company, or partnership operating a family farm if legal title to the property is in the name of an individual who is a member, shareholder, or partner in the entity.

(h) To be eligible for the special agricultural homestead under this subdivision, an initial full application must be submitted to the county assessor where the property is located. Owners and the persons who are actively farming the property shall be required to complete only a one-page abbreviated version of the application in each subsequent year provided that none of the following items have changed since the initial application:

(1) the day-to-day operation, administration, and financial risks remain the same;

(2) the owners and the persons actively farming the property continue to live within the four townships or city criteria and are Minnesota residents;

(3) the same operator of the agricultural property is listed with the Farm Service Agency;

(4) a Schedule F or equivalent income tax form was filed for the most recent year;

(5) the property's acreage is unchanged; and

(6) none of the property's acres have been enrolled in a federal or state farm program since the initial application.

The owners and any persons who are actively farming the property must include the appropriate Social Security numbers, and sign and date the application. If any of the specified information has changed since the full application was filed, the owner must notify the assessor, and must complete a new application to determine if the property continues to qualify for the special agricultural homestead. The commissioner of revenue shall prepare a standard reapplication form for use by the assessors.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for assessment year 2007, taxes payable in 2008 and thereafter.

Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 273.124, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 22. **Annual registration of certain relative homesteads.** If the owner of property or the owner's relative who occupies property that is classified as a homestead under subdivision 1, paragraph (c), receives compensation for allowing occupancy of any part of that property for a period that exceeds 31 consecutive days during the calendar year, the recipient of the compensation must register the property with the city in which it is located no later than 60 days after the initial rental period began. This requirement applies to property located in a city that has a population over 25,000. Each city must maintain a file of these property registrations that is open to the public, and retain the registrations for one year after the date of filing.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007.

Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 273.125, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

**Subd. 8. **Manufactured homes; sectional structures.**** (a) In this section, "manufactured home" means a structure transportable in one or more sections, which is built on a permanent chassis, and designed to be used as a dwelling with or without a permanent foundation when connected to the required utilities, and contains the plumbing, heating, air conditioning, and electrical systems in it. Manufactured home includes any accessory structure that is an addition or supplement to the manufactured home and, when installed, becomes a part of the manufactured home.

(b) Except as provided in paragraph (c), a manufactured home that meets each of the following criteria must be valued and assessed as an improvement to real property, the appropriate real property classification applies, and the valuation is subject to review and the taxes payable in the manner provided for real property:

(1) the owner of the unit holds title to the land on which it is situated;

(2) the unit is affixed to the land by a permanent foundation or is installed at its location in accordance with the Manufactured Home Building Code in sections 327.31 to 327.34, and rules adopted under those sections, or is affixed to the land like other real property in the taxing district; and

(3) the unit is connected to public utilities, has a well and septic tank system, or is serviced by water and sewer facilities comparable to other real property in the taxing district.



(c) A manufactured home that meets each of the following criteria must be assessed at the rate provided by the appropriate real property classification but must be treated as personal property, and the valuation is subject to review and the taxes payable in the manner provided in this section:

(1) the owner of the unit is a lessee of the land under the terms of a lease, or the unit is located in a manufactured home park but is not the homestead of the park owner;

(2) the unit is affixed to the land by a permanent foundation or is installed at its location in accordance with the Manufactured Home Building Code contained in sections 327.31 to 327.34, and the rules adopted under those sections, or is affixed to the land like other real property in the taxing district; and

(3) the unit is connected to public utilities, has a well and septic tank system, or is serviced by water and sewer facilities comparable to other real property in the taxing district.

(d) Sectional structures must be valued and assessed as an improvement to real property if the owner of the structure holds title to the land on which it is located or is a qualifying lessee of the land under section 273.19. In this paragraph "sectional structure" means a building or structural unit that has been in whole or substantial part manufactured or constructed at an off-site location to be wholly or partially assembled on-site alone or with other units and attached to a permanent foundation.

(e) The commissioner of revenue may adopt rules under the Administrative Procedure Act to establish additional criteria for the classification of manufactured homes and sectional structures under this subdivision.

(f) A storage shed, deck, or similar improvement constructed on property that is leased or rented as a site for a manufactured home, sectional structure, park trailer, or travel trailer is taxable as provided in this section. In the case of property that is leased or rented as a site for a travel trailer, a storage shed, deck, or similar improvement on the site that is considered personal property under this paragraph is taxable only if its total estimated market value is over ~~\$500~~ \$1,000. The property is taxable as personal property to the lessee of the site if it is not owned by the owner of the site. The property is taxable as real estate if it is owned by the owner of the site. As a condition of permitting the owner of the manufactured home, sectional structure, park trailer, or travel trailer to construct improvements on the leased or rented site, the owner of the site must obtain the permanent home address of the lessee or user of the site. The site owner must provide the name and address to the assessor upon request.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for assessment year 2007 and thereafter, for taxes payable in 2008 and thereafter.

Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 273.128, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Requirement.** Low-income rental property classified as class 4d under section 273.13, subdivision 25, is entitled to valuation under this section if at least ~~75~~ 20 percent of the units in the rental housing property meet any of the following qualifications:

(1) the units are subject to a housing assistance payments contract under Section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937, as amended;

(2) the units are rent-restricted and income-restricted units of a qualified low-income housing project receiving tax credits under section 42(g) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended;

(3) the units are financed by the Rural Housing Service of the United States Department of Agriculture and receive payments under the rental assistance program pursuant to section 521(a) of the Housing Act of 1949, as amended; or

(4) the units are subject to rent and income restrictions under the terms of financial assistance provided to the rental housing property by the federal government or the state of Minnesota, or a local unit of government, as evidenced by a document recorded against the property.

The restrictions must require assisted units to be occupied by residents whose household income at the time of initial occupancy does not exceed 60 percent of the greater of area or state median income, adjusted for family size, as determined by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. The restriction must also require the rents for assisted units to not exceed 30 percent of 60 percent of the greater of area or state median income, adjusted for family size, as determined by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for property taxes levied in 2007, payable in 2008, and thereafter.

Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 273.13, subdivision 22, is amended to read:

Subd. 22. **Class 1.** (a) Except as provided in subdivision 23 and in paragraphs (b) and (c), real estate which is residential and used for homestead purposes is class 1a. In the case of a duplex or triplex in which one of the units is used for homestead purposes, the entire property is deemed to be used for homestead purposes. The market value of class 1a property must be determined based upon the value of the house, garage, and land.

The first \$500,000 of market value of class 1a property has a net class rate of one percent of its market value; and the market value of class 1a property that exceeds \$500,000 has a class rate of 1.25 percent of its market value.

(b) Class 1b property includes homestead real estate or homestead manufactured homes used for the purposes of a homestead by

(1) any person who is blind as defined in section 256D.35, or the blind person and the blind person's spouse; or

(2) ~~any person, hereinafter referred to as "veteran," who:~~

~~(i) served in the active military or naval service of the United States; and~~

~~(ii) is entitled to compensation under the laws and regulations of the United States for permanent and total service-connected disability due to the loss, or loss of use, by reason of amputation, ankylosis, progressive muscular dystrophies, or paralysis, of both lower extremities, such as to preclude motion without the aid of braces, crutches, canes, or a wheelchair; and~~

~~(iii) has acquired a special housing unit with special fixtures or movable facilities made necessary by the nature of the veteran's disability, or the surviving spouse of the deceased veteran for as long as the surviving spouse retains the special housing unit as a homestead; or~~

~~(3) any person who is permanently and totally disabled.~~

Property is classified and assessed under clause (3) only if the government agency or

income-providing source certifies, upon the request of the homestead occupant, that the homestead occupant satisfies the disability requirements of this paragraph.

Property is classified and assessed pursuant to clause (1) only if the commissioner of revenue certifies to the assessor that the homestead occupant satisfies the requirements of this paragraph.

Permanently and totally disabled for the purpose of this subdivision means a condition which is permanent in nature and totally incapacitates the person from working at an occupation which brings the person an income. The first ~~\$32,000~~ \$50,000 market value of class 1b property has a net class rate of .45 percent of its market value. The remaining market value of class 1b property has a class rate using the rates for class 1a or class 2a property, whichever is appropriate, of similar market value.

(c) Class 1c property is commercial use real and personal property that abuts a lakeshore line public water as defined in section 103G.005, subdivision 15, and is devoted to temporary and seasonal residential occupancy for recreational purposes but not devoted to commercial purposes for more than 250 days in the year preceding the year of assessment, and that includes a portion used as a homestead by the owner, which includes a dwelling occupied as a homestead by a shareholder of a corporation that owns the resort, a partner in a partnership that owns the resort, or a member of a limited liability company that owns the resort even if the title to the homestead is held by the corporation, partnership, or limited liability company. For purposes of this clause, property is devoted to a commercial purpose on a specific day if any portion of the property, excluding the portion used exclusively as a homestead, is used for residential occupancy and a fee is charged for residential occupancy. Class 1c property must contain three or more rental units. A "rental unit" is defined as a cabin, condominium, townhouse, sleeping room, or individual camping site equipped with water and electrical hookups for recreational vehicles. Class 1c property must provide recreational activities such as the rental of ice fishing houses, boats and motors, snowmobiles, downhill or cross-country ski equipment; provide marina services, launch services, or guide services; or sell bait and fishing tackle. Any unit in which the right to use the property is transferred to an individual or entity by deeded interest, or the sale of shares or stock, no longer qualifies for class 1c even though it may remain available for rent. A camping pad offered for rent by a property that otherwise qualifies for class 1c is also class 1c, regardless of the term of the rental agreement, as long as the use of the camping pad does not exceed 250 days. The portion of the property used as a homestead is class 1a property under paragraph (a). The remainder of the property is classified as follows: the first ~~\$500,000~~ \$600,000 of market value is tier I, the next \$1,700,000 of market value is tier II, and any remaining market value is tier III. The class rates for class 1c are: tier I, ~~0.55~~ 0.50 percent; tier II, 1.0 percent; and tier III, 1.25 percent. ~~If a class 1c resort property has any market value in tier III, the entire property must meet the requirements of subdivision 25, paragraph (d), clause (1), to qualify for class 1c treatment under this paragraph.~~ Owners of real and personal property devoted to temporary and seasonal residential occupancy for recreation purposes in which all or a portion of the property was devoted to commercial purposes for not more than 250 days in the year preceding the year of assessment desiring classification as class 1c, must submit a declaration to the assessor designating the cabins or units occupied for 250 days or less in the year preceding the year of assessment by January 15 of the assessment year. Those cabins or units and a proportionate share of the land on which they are located must be designated as class 1c as otherwise provided. The remainder of the cabins or units and a proportionate share of the land on which they are located must be designated as class 3a commercial. The owner of property desiring designation as class 1c property must provide guest registers or other records

demonstrating that the units for which class 1c designation is sought were not occupied for more than 250 days in the year preceding the assessment if so requested. The portion of a property operated as a (1) restaurant, (2) bar, (3) gift shop, (4) conference center or meeting room, and (5) other nonresidential facility operated on a commercial basis not directly related to temporary and seasonal residential occupancy for recreation purposes does not qualify for class 1c.

(d) Class 1d property includes structures that meet all of the following criteria:

(1) the structure is located on property that is classified as agricultural property under section 273.13, subdivision 23;

(2) the structure is occupied exclusively by seasonal farm workers during the time when they work on that farm, and the occupants are not charged rent for the privilege of occupying the property, provided that use of the structure for storage of farm equipment and produce does not disqualify the property from classification under this paragraph;

(3) the structure meets all applicable health and safety requirements for the appropriate season; and

(4) the structure is not salable as residential property because it does not comply with local ordinances relating to location in relation to streets or roads.

The market value of class 1d property has the same class rates as class 1a property under paragraph (a).

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** The portion of this section modifying the market value and class rate of the first tier of class 1c resorts and striking the language relating to class 1b veterans' homesteads is effective for taxes payable in 2008 and thereafter. The remaining portion of this section relating to class 1c resorts is effective for taxes payable in 2009 and thereafter.

Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 273.13, subdivision 23, is amended to read:

Subd. 23. **Class 2.** (a) Class 2a property is agricultural land including any improvements that is homesteaded. The market value of the house and garage and immediately surrounding one acre of land has the same class rates as class 1a property under subdivision 22. The value of the remaining land including improvements up to the first tier valuation limit of agricultural homestead property has a net class rate of ~~0.55~~ 0.5 percent of market value. The remaining property over the first tier has a class rate of one percent of market value. For purposes of this subdivision, the "first tier valuation limit of agricultural homestead property" and "first tier" means the limit certified under section 273.11, subdivision 23.

(b) Class 2b property is ~~(1) unplatted real estate, rural in character and used exclusively for growing trees for timber, lumber, and wood and wood products; (2) real estate, that is not improved with a structure and is used exclusively for growing trees for timber, lumber, and wood and wood products, if the owner has participated or is participating in a cost-sharing program for afforestation, reforestation, or timber stand improvement on that particular property, administered or coordinated by the commissioner of natural resources; (3) and that consists of at least ten acres, including land used for growing trees for timber, lumber, and wood and wood products, but not including land used for agricultural purposes, provided that the presence of a minor, ancillary nonresidential structure does not disqualify property from classification under this clause, (2) real estate that is nonhomestead agricultural land; or (4) (3) a landing area or public access area of a privately owned public use~~

airport. Class 2b property has a net class rate of one percent of market value, except that property described in clause (1) has a net class rate of .65 percent if it consists of no more than 1,920 acres and is being managed under a forest management plan that meets the requirements of chapter 290C, but is not enrolled in the sustainable forest resource management incentive program, provided that the owner of the property must apply to the assessor annually to receive the reduced class rate and provide the information required by the assessor to verify that the property qualifies for the reduced rate.

(c) Agricultural land as used in this section means contiguous acreage of ten acres or more, used during the preceding year for agricultural purposes. "Agricultural purposes" as used in this section means the raising or cultivation of agricultural products. "Agricultural purposes" also includes enrollment in the Reinvest in Minnesota program under sections 103F.501 to 103F.535 or the federal Conservation Reserve Program as contained in Public Law 99-198 if the property was classified as agricultural (i) under this subdivision for the assessment year 2002 or (ii) in the year prior to its enrollment. Contiguous acreage on the same parcel, or contiguous acreage on an immediately adjacent parcel under the same ownership, may also qualify as agricultural land, but only if it is pasture, timber, waste, unusable wild land, or land included in state or federal farm programs. Agricultural classification for property shall be determined excluding the house, garage, and immediately surrounding one acre of land, and shall not be based upon the market value of any residential structures on the parcel or contiguous parcels under the same ownership.

(d) Real estate, excluding the house, garage, and immediately surrounding one acre of land, of less than ten acres which is exclusively and intensively used for raising or cultivating agricultural products, shall be considered as agricultural land.

Land shall be classified as agricultural even if all or a portion of the agricultural use of that property is the leasing to, or use by another person for agricultural purposes.

Classification under this subdivision is not determinative for qualifying under section 273.111.

The property classification under this section supersedes, for property tax purposes only, any locally administered agricultural policies or land use restrictions that define minimum or maximum farm acreage.

(e) The term "agricultural products" as used in this subdivision includes production for sale of:

(1) livestock, dairy animals, dairy products, poultry and poultry products, fur-bearing animals, horticultural and nursery stock, fruit of all kinds, vegetables, forage, grains, bees, and apiary products by the owner;

(2) fish bred for sale and consumption if the fish breeding occurs on land zoned for agricultural use;

(3) the commercial boarding of horses if the boarding is done in conjunction with raising or cultivating agricultural products as defined in clause (1);

(4) property which is owned and operated by nonprofit organizations used for equestrian activities, excluding racing;

(5) game birds and waterfowl bred and raised for use on a shooting preserve licensed under section 97A.115;

(6) insects primarily bred to be used as food for animals;

(7) trees, grown for sale as a crop, including short rotation woody crops, and not sold for timber, lumber, wood, or wood products; and

(8) maple syrup taken from trees grown by a person licensed by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture under chapter 28A as a food processor.

(f) If a parcel used for agricultural purposes is also used for commercial or industrial purposes, including but not limited to:

(1) wholesale and retail sales;

(2) processing of raw agricultural products or other goods;

(3) warehousing or storage of processed goods; and

(4) office facilities for the support of the activities enumerated in clauses (1), (2), and (3),

the assessor shall classify the part of the parcel used for agricultural purposes as class 1b, 2a, or 2b, whichever is appropriate, and the remainder in the class appropriate to its use. The grading, sorting, and packaging of raw agricultural products for first sale is considered an agricultural purpose. A greenhouse or other building where horticultural or nursery products are grown that is also used for the conduct of retail sales must be classified as agricultural if it is primarily used for the growing of horticultural or nursery products from seed, cuttings, or roots and occasionally as a showroom for the retail sale of those products. Use of a greenhouse or building only for the display of already grown horticultural or nursery products does not qualify as an agricultural purpose.

The assessor shall determine and list separately on the records the market value of the homestead dwelling and the one acre of land on which that dwelling is located. If any farm buildings or structures are located on this homesteaded acre of land, their market value shall not be included in this separate determination.

(g) To qualify for classification under paragraph (b), clause (4), a privately owned public use airport must be licensed as a public airport under section 360.018. For purposes of paragraph (b), clause (4), "landing area" means that part of a privately owned public use airport properly cleared, regularly maintained, and made available to the public for use by aircraft and includes runways, taxiways, aprons, and sites upon which are situated landing or navigational aids. A landing area also includes land underlying both the primary surface and the approach surfaces that comply with all of the following:

(i) the land is properly cleared and regularly maintained for the primary purposes of the landing, taking off, and taxiing of aircraft; but that portion of the land that contains facilities for servicing, repair, or maintenance of aircraft is not included as a landing area;

(ii) the land is part of the airport property; and

(iii) the land is not used for commercial or residential purposes.

The land contained in a landing area under paragraph (b), clause (4), must be described and certified by the commissioner of transportation. The certification is effective until it is modified, or until the airport or landing area no longer meets the requirements of paragraph (b), clause (4). For purposes

of paragraph (b), clause (4), "public access area" means property used as an aircraft parking ramp, apron, or storage hangar, or an arrival and departure building in connection with the airport.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for taxes levied in 2007, payable in 2008, and thereafter.

Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 273.13, subdivision 24, is amended to read:

Subd. 24. **Class 3.** (a) Commercial and industrial property and utility real and personal property is class 3a.

(1) Except as otherwise provided, each parcel of commercial, industrial, or utility real property has a class rate of 1.5 percent of the first tier of market value, and 2.0 percent of the remaining market value. In the case of contiguous parcels of property owned by the same person or entity, only the value equal to the first-tier value of the contiguous parcels qualifies for the reduced class rate, except that contiguous parcels owned by the same person or entity shall be eligible for the first-tier value class rate on each separate business operated by the owner of the property, provided the business is housed in a separate structure. For the purposes of this subdivision, the first tier means the first \$150,000 of market value. Real property owned in fee by a utility for transmission line right-of-way shall be classified at the class rate for the higher tier.

For purposes of this subdivision, parcels are considered to be contiguous even if they are separated from each other by a road, street, waterway, or other similar intervening type of property. Connections between parcels that consist of power lines or pipelines do not cause the parcels to be contiguous. Property owners who have contiguous parcels of property that constitute separate businesses that may qualify for the first-tier class rate shall notify the assessor by July 1, for treatment beginning in the following taxes payable year.

(2) ~~All Personal property that is: (i) part of an electric generation, transmission, or distribution system; or (ii), including tools, implements, and machinery, has a class rate of 2.5 percent for taxes levied in 2007, payable in 2008, and 3.0 percent for taxes levied in 2008, payable in 2009, and thereafter.~~

(3) Personal property that is either: (i) part of a pipeline system transporting or distributing water, gas, crude oil, or petroleum products; and (iii) not described in clause (3), and all, including tools, implements, and machinery, or (ii) part of an electric transmission or distribution system, including tools, implements, and machinery, has a class rate of 2.15 percent for taxes levied in 2007, payable in 2008, and 2.25 percent for taxes levied in 2008, payable in 2009, and thereafter.

(4) railroad operating property has a class rate as provided under clause (1) for the first tier of market value and the remaining market value. In the case of multiple parcels in one county that are owned by one person or entity, only one first tier amount is eligible for the reduced rate.

~~(3) The entire market value of personal property that is: (i) tools, implements, and machinery of an electric generation, transmission, or distribution system; (ii) tools, implements, and machinery of a pipeline system transporting or distributing water, gas, crude oil, or petroleum products; or (iii) the~~ (5) Personal property consisting of mains and pipes used in the distribution of steam or hot or chilled water for heating or cooling buildings, has a class rate as provided under clause (1) for the remaining market value in excess of the first tier.

(b) Employment property defined in section 469.166, during the period provided in section

469.170, shall constitute class 3b. The class rates for class 3b property are determined under paragraph (a).

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for taxes levied in 2007, payable in 2008, and thereafter.

Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 273.13, subdivision 25, is amended to read:

Subd. 25. **Class 4.** (a) Class 4a is residential real estate containing four or more units and used or held for use by the owner or by the tenants or lessees of the owner as a residence for rental periods of 30 days or more, excluding property qualifying for class 4d. Class 4a also includes hospitals licensed under sections 144.50 to 144.56, other than hospitals exempt under section 272.02, and contiguous property used for hospital purposes, without regard to whether the property has been platted or subdivided. The market value of class 4a property has a class rate of 1.25 percent.

(b) Class 4b includes:

(1) residential real estate containing less than four units that does not qualify as class 4bb, other than seasonal residential recreational property;

(2) manufactured homes not classified under any other provision;

(3) a dwelling, garage, and surrounding one acre of property on a nonhomestead farm classified under subdivision 23, paragraph (b) containing two or three units; and

(4) unimproved property that is classified residential as determined under subdivision 33.

The market value of class 4b property has a class rate of 1.25 percent.

(c) Class 4bb includes:

(1) nonhomestead residential real estate containing one unit, other than seasonal residential recreational property; and

(2) a single family dwelling, garage, and surrounding one acre of property on a nonhomestead farm classified under subdivision 23, paragraph (b).

Class 4bb property has the same class rates as class 1a property under subdivision 22.

Property that has been classified as seasonal residential recreational property at any time during which it has been owned by the current owner or spouse of the current owner does not qualify for class 4bb.

(d) Class 4c property includes:

(1) except as provided in subdivision 22, paragraph (c), or subdivision 23, paragraph (b), clause (1), real and personal property devoted to temporary and seasonal residential occupancy for recreation purposes, including real and personal property devoted to temporary and seasonal residential occupancy for recreation purposes and not devoted to commercial purposes for more than 250 days in the year preceding the year of assessment. For purposes of this clause, property is devoted to a commercial purpose on a specific day if any portion of the property is used for residential occupancy, and a fee is charged for residential occupancy. Class 4c property must contain three or more rental units. A "rental unit" is defined as a cabin, condominium,



townhouse, sleeping room, or individual camping site equipped with water and electrical hookups for recreational vehicles. Class 4c property must provide recreational activities such as renting ice fishing houses, boats and motors, snowmobiles, downhill or cross-country ski equipment; provide marina services, launch services, or guide services; or sell bait and fishing tackle. A camping pad offered for rent by a property that otherwise qualifies for class 4c is also class 4c regardless of the term of the rental agreement, as long as the use of the camping pad does not exceed 250 days. In order for a property to be classified as class 4c, seasonal residential recreational for commercial purposes, at least 40 percent of the annual gross lodging receipts related to the property must be from business conducted during 90 consecutive days and either (i) at least 60 percent of all paid bookings by lodging guests during the year must be for periods of at least two consecutive nights; or (ii) at least 20 percent of the annual gross receipts must be from charges for rental of fish houses, boats and motors, snowmobiles, downhill or cross-country ski equipment, or charges for marina services, launch services, and guide services, or the sale of bait and fishing tackle. For purposes of this determination, a paid booking of five or more nights shall be counted as two bookings. Class 4c also includes commercial use real property used exclusively for recreational purposes in conjunction with class 4c property devoted to temporary and seasonal residential occupancy for recreational purposes, up to a total of two acres, provided the property is not devoted to commercial recreational use for more than 250 days in the year preceding the year of assessment and is located within two miles of the class 4c property with which it is used. Owners of real and personal property devoted to temporary and seasonal residential occupancy for recreation purposes and all or a portion of which was devoted to commercial purposes for not more than 250 days in the year preceding the year of assessment desiring classification as class ~~1e-0f~~ 4c, must submit a declaration to the assessor designating the cabins or units occupied for 250 days or less in the year preceding the year of assessment by January 15 of the assessment year. Those cabins or units and a proportionate share of the land on which they are located ~~will~~ must be designated class ~~1e-0f~~ 4c as otherwise provided. The remainder of the cabins or units and a proportionate share of the land on which they are located will be designated as class 3a. The owner of property desiring designation as class ~~1e-0f~~ 4c property must provide guest registers or other records demonstrating that the units for which class ~~1e-0f~~ 4c designation is sought were not occupied for more than 250 days in the year preceding the assessment if so requested. The portion of a property operated as a (1) restaurant, (2) bar, (3) gift shop, (4) conference center or meeting room, and (4) (5) other nonresidential facility operated on a commercial basis not directly related to temporary and seasonal residential occupancy for recreation purposes ~~shall~~ does not qualify for class ~~1e-0f~~ 4c;

(2) qualified property used as a golf course if:

(i) it is open to the public on a daily fee basis. It may charge membership fees or dues, but a membership fee may not be required in order to use the property for golfing, and its green fees for golfing must be comparable to green fees typically charged by municipal courses; and

(ii) it meets the requirements of section 273.112, subdivision 3, paragraph (d).

A structure used as a clubhouse, restaurant, or place of refreshment in conjunction with the golf course is classified as class 3a property;

(3) real property up to a maximum of ~~one acre~~ three acres of land owned and used by a nonprofit community service oriented organization; ~~provided that and that~~ and that is not used for residential purposes on either a temporary or permanent basis, qualifies for class 4c provided that it meets either of the following:

(i) the property is not used for a revenue-producing activity for more than six days in the calendar year preceding the year of assessment and the property is not used for residential purposes on either a temporary or permanent basis; or

(ii) the organization makes annual charitable contributions and donations at least equal to the property's previous year's property taxes and the property is allowed to be used for public and community meetings or events for no charge, as appropriate to the size of the facility.

For purposes of this clause,

(A) "charitable contributions and donations" has the same meaning as lawful gambling purposes under section 349.12, subdivision 25, excluding those purposes relating to the payment of taxes, assessments, fees, auditing costs, and utility payments;

(B) "property taxes" excludes the state general tax;

(C) a "nonprofit community service oriented organization" means any corporation, society, association, foundation, or institution organized and operated exclusively for charitable, religious, fraternal, civic, or educational purposes, and which is exempt from federal income taxation pursuant to section 501(c)(3), (10), or (19) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended through December 31, 1990. For purposes of this clause,; and

(D) "revenue-producing activities" shall include but not be limited to property or that portion of the property that is used as an on-sale intoxicating liquor or 3.2 percent malt liquor establishment licensed under chapter 340A, a restaurant open to the public, bowling alley, a retail store, gambling conducted by organizations licensed under chapter 349, an insurance business, or office or other space leased or rented to a lessee who conducts a for-profit enterprise on the premises.

Any portion of the property qualifying under item (i) which is used for revenue-producing activities for more than six days in the calendar year preceding the year of assessment shall be assessed as class 3a. The use of the property for social events open exclusively to members and their guests for periods of less than 24 hours, when an admission is not charged nor any revenues are received by the organization shall not be considered a revenue-producing activity;.

The organization shall maintain records of its charitable contributions and donations and of public meetings and events held on the property and make them available upon request any time to the assessor to ensure eligibility. An organization meeting the requirement under item (ii) must file an application by May 1 with the assessor for eligibility for the current year's assessment. The commissioner shall prescribe a uniform application form and instructions;

(4) postsecondary student housing of not more than one acre of land that is owned by a nonprofit corporation organized under chapter 317A and is used exclusively by a student cooperative, sorority, or fraternity for on-campus housing or housing located within two miles of the border of a college campus;

(5) manufactured home parks as defined in section 327.14, subdivision 3;

(6) real property that is actively and exclusively devoted to indoor fitness, health, social, recreational, and related uses, is owned and operated by a not-for-profit corporation, and is located within the metropolitan area as defined in section 473.121, subdivision 2;

(7) a leased or privately owned noncommercial aircraft storage hangar not exempt under section 272.01, subdivision 2, and the land on which it is located, provided that:

(i) the land is on an airport owned or operated by a city, town, county, Metropolitan Airports Commission, or group thereof; and

(ii) the land lease, or any ordinance or signed agreement restricting the use of the leased premise, prohibits commercial activity performed at the hangar.

If a hangar classified under this clause is sold after June 30, 2000, a bill of sale must be filed by the new owner with the assessor of the county where the property is located within 60 days of the sale;

(8) a privately owned noncommercial aircraft storage hangar not exempt under section 272.01, subdivision 2, and the land on which it is located, provided that:

(i) the land abuts a public airport; and

(ii) the owner of the aircraft storage hangar provides the assessor with a signed agreement restricting the use of the premises, prohibiting commercial use or activity performed at the hangar; and

(9) residential real estate, a portion of which is used by the owner for homestead purposes, and that is also a place of lodging, if all of the following criteria are met:

(i) rooms are provided for rent to transient guests that generally stay for periods of 14 or fewer days;

(ii) meals are provided to persons who rent rooms, the cost of which is incorporated in the basic room rate;

(iii) meals are not provided to the general public except for special events on fewer than seven days in the calendar year preceding the year of the assessment; and

(iv) the owner is the operator of the property.

The market value subject to the 4c classification under this clause is limited to five rental units. Any rental units on the property in excess of five, must be valued and assessed as class 3a. The portion of the property used for purposes of a homestead by the owner must be classified as class 1a property under subdivision 22.

Class 4c property has a class rate of 1.5 percent of market value, except that (i) each parcel of seasonal residential recreational property not used for commercial purposes has the same class rates as class 4bb property, (ii) manufactured home parks assessed under clause (5) have the same class rate as class 4b property, (iii) commercial-use seasonal residential recreational property has a class rate of one percent for the first \$500,000 of market value, and 1.25 percent for the remaining market value, (iv) the market value of property described in clause (4) has a class rate of one percent, (v) the market value of property described in clauses (2) and (6) has a class rate of 1.25 percent, and (vi) that portion of the market value of property in clause (9) qualifying for class 4c property has a class rate of 1.25 percent.

(e) Class 4d property is qualifying low-income rental housing certified to the assessor by the

Housing Finance Agency under section 273.128, subdivision 3. If only a portion of the units in the building qualify as low-income rental housing units as certified under section 273.128, subdivision 3, only the proportion of qualifying units to the total number of units in the building qualify for class 4d. The remaining portion of the building shall be classified by the assessor based upon its use. Class 4d also includes the same proportion of land as the qualifying low-income rental housing units are to the total units in the building. For all properties qualifying as class 4d, the market value determined by the assessor must be based on the normal approach to value using normal unrestricted rents.

Class 4d property has a class rate of 0.75 percent.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** The portion of this section relating to class 4c resorts in paragraph (d), clause (1), is effective for assessment year 2008 and thereafter, for taxes payable in 2009 and thereafter. The portion of this section relating to nonprofit community service oriented organizations is effective for assessment year 2007 and thereafter, for taxes payable in 2008 and thereafter, except that the application date in paragraph (d), clause (3), item (ii), for the 2007 assessment is extended to September 1, 2007.

Sec. 22. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 273.13, subdivision 33, is amended to read:

Subd. 33. **Classification of unimproved property.** (a) All real property that is not improved with a structure must be classified according to its current use.

(b) Except as provided in subdivision 23, paragraph (b), clause (1), real property that is not improved with a structure and for which there is no identifiable current use must be classified according to its highest and best use permitted under the local zoning ordinance. If the ordinance permits more than one use, the land must be classified according to the highest and best use permitted under the ordinance. If no such ordinance exists, the assessor shall consider the most likely potential use of the unimproved land based upon the use made of surrounding land or land in proximity to the unimproved land.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for assessment year 2007 and thereafter, for taxes payable in 2008 and thereafter.

Sec. 23. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 273.13, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 34. **Homestead of disabled veteran.** (a) All or a portion of the market value of property qualifying for homestead classification under subdivision 22 or 23 is excluded in determining the property's taxable market value if it serves as the homestead of a military veteran, as defined in section 197.447, who has a service-connected disability of 70 percent or more. To qualify for exclusion under this subdivision, the veteran must have been honorably discharged from the United States armed forces, as indicated by United States Government Form DD214 or other official military discharge papers, and must be certified by the United States Veterans Administration as having a service-connected disability.

(b)(1) For a disability rating of 70 percent or more, \$150,000 of market value is excluded, except as provided in clause (2); and

(2) for a total (100 percent) and permanent disability, \$300,000 of market value is excluded.

(c) If a disabled veteran qualifying for a valuation exclusion under paragraph (b), clause (2), predeceases the veteran's spouse, and if upon the death of the veteran the spouse holds the legal or

beneficial title to the homestead and permanently resides there, the exclusion shall carry over to the benefit of the veteran's spouse until such time as the spouse sells, transfers, or otherwise disposes of the property.

(d) In the case of an agricultural homestead, only the portion of the property consisting of the house and garage and immediately surrounding one acre of land qualifies for the valuation exclusion under this subdivision.

(e) A property qualifying for a valuation exclusion under this subdivision is not eligible for the credit under section 273.1384, subdivision 1.

(f) To qualify for a valuation exclusion under this subdivision a property owner must apply to the assessor by July 1 of each assessment year, except that an annual reapplication is not required once a property has been accepted for a valuation exclusion under paragraph (b), clause (2), and the property continues to qualify until there is a change in ownership.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for assessment year 2007 and thereafter, for taxes payable in 2008 and thereafter.

Sec. 24. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 275.025, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Seasonal residential recreational tax capacity.** For the purposes of this section, "seasonal residential recreational tax capacity" means the tax capacity of tier III of class 1c under section 273.13, subdivision 22, and all class 4c(1) and 4c(3)(ii) property under section 273.13, subdivision 25, except that the first \$76,000 of market value of each noncommercial class 4c(1) property has a tax capacity for this purpose equal to 40 percent of its tax capacity under section 273.13.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for taxes payable in 2008 and thereafter.

Sec. 25. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 275.065, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 6c. **Joint public hearing; nonmetropolitan county, cities, and school districts.** (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the county board may hold a joint hearing with the governing bodies of all taxing authorities located wholly or partially within the county that are required to hold a public hearing under this section, excluding special taxing districts. The primary purpose of the joint hearing is for taxpayer efficiency by allowing taxpayers to come to a single public hearing to discuss the budgets and proposed property tax levies of most taxing authorities that impact the taxes on their property.

(b) This subdivision applies only to counties located outside the metropolitan area as defined under section 473.121, subdivision 2. If a city or school district is located partially within the metropolitan area, that taxing jurisdiction may participate in its nonmetropolitan county's joint hearing, if it so chooses.

(c) Upon the adoption of a resolution by the county board to hold a joint public hearing, the county shall notify each city with a population over 500 and each school district located wholly or partially within the county of its intention to hold the joint hearing and ask each of the taxing authorities if it would like to participate. Participation is voluntary, and participation in the joint hearing is in lieu of the requirement for the governing body to hold a separate public hearing under subdivision 6. If a participating city or school district is located in more than one county, the hearing

under this subdivision is in lieu of the requirement to hold a separate public hearing if 75 percent or more of that city or school district's previous year's net tax capacity is in the county where the hearing is held.

(d) The initial joint hearing must be held on the first Thursday in December. The county may hold an additional joint hearing on another date before December 20 if the majority of the participating taxing authorities want an additional hearing.

The county board shall obtain a meeting space to hold the joint hearing, preferably at a public building such as the courthouse, school, or community center. The location shall be as centrally located within the county as possible. The meeting shall generally be structured in the following general manner:

- (1) 30 to 60 minutes must be devoted to discussion of the county's budget and levy;
- (2) 30 to 60 minutes must be devoted to discussion of the city's budget and levy, with each city's discussion held in a separate room, preferably in the same building;
- (3) 30 to 60 minutes must be devoted to discussion of the school district's levy, with each school district's discussion held in a separate room, preferably in the same building; and
- (4) during the last 30 minutes the governing bodies must reassemble in a joint meeting to entertain any follow-up questions that have arisen from the separate discussions.

The county shall attempt to keep the total public hearing to within three hours.

(e) In lieu of the public advertisement requirement in subdivision 5a, the county shall have a single advertisement listing the county, each city with a population of over 500, and each school district participating in the joint public hearing listing. Any taxing authority participating under this subdivision is exempt from the separate public advertisement requirement under subdivision 5a. The cost of the joint hearing advertisement shall be apportioned in the same manner provided in subdivision 4. The notice must be published not less than two business days nor more than six business days before the hearing. The newspaper selected must be one of general interest and readership in the county, and not one of limited subject matter. The advertisement must appear in a newspaper that is published at least once per week. The advertisement must be in the following form:

"NOTICE OF JOINT PUBLIC HEARING  
PROPOSED TOTAL PROPERTY TAXES  
FOR PARTICIPATING TAXING AUTHORITIES

The property tax amounts below compare that portion of the current budget levied in property taxes in the county, cities, and school districts for (year) with the property taxes the county, cities, and school districts propose to collect in (year) for those taxing authorities participating in the joint public hearing.

<u>Taxing Authority</u>	<u>(Year) Property Taxes</u>	<u>Proposed (Year) Property Taxes</u>	<u>Change (Year) - (Year)</u>
<u>\$.....</u>	<u>\$.....</u>	<u>\$.....</u>	<u>...%</u>

<u>\$.....</u>	<u>\$.....</u>	<u>\$.....</u>	<u>...%</u>
<u>\$.....</u>	<u>\$.....</u>	<u>\$.....</u>	<u>...%</u>

ATTEND THE JOINT PUBLIC HEARING

All residents are invited to attend the joint public hearing of the county/cities/school districts to express your opinions on the proposed amount of (year) property taxes. The hearing will be held on:

(Month/Day/Year/Time)

(Location/Address)

If the discussion cannot be completed, and another hearing is scheduled, a time and place for that hearing will be announced at this hearing. You are also invited to send your written comments to the county auditor. If the comments relate to the city or school district's levy, please identify that on the envelope so the county auditor can direct the correspondence to the right jurisdiction."

The formal adoption of the taxing authority's levy must not be made at the joint public hearing held under this subdivision. The formal adoption must be made at one of the regularly scheduled meetings of the taxing authority's governing body. However, the property tax levy amount that is subsequently adopted cannot exceed the amount shown to taxpayers at the joint public hearing.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for hearings held in 2007 and thereafter.

Sec. 26. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 275.066, is amended to read:

**275.066 SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICTS; DEFINITION.**

For the purposes of property taxation and property tax state aids, the term "special taxing districts" includes the following entities:

- (1) watershed districts under chapter 103D;
- (2) sanitary districts under sections 115.18 to 115.37;
- (3) regional sanitary sewer districts under sections 115.61 to 115.67;
- (4) regional public library districts under section 134.201;
- (5) park districts under chapter 398;
- (6) regional railroad authorities under chapter 398A;
- (7) hospital districts under sections 447.31 to 447.38;
- (8) St. Cloud Metropolitan Transit Commission under sections 458A.01 to 458A.15;
- (9) Duluth Transit Authority under sections 458A.21 to 458A.37;
- (10) regional development commissions under sections 462.381 to 462.398;
- (11) housing and redevelopment authorities under sections 469.001 to 469.047;

- (12) port authorities under sections 469.048 to 469.068;
- (13) economic development authorities under sections 469.090 to 469.1081;
- (14) Metropolitan Council under sections 473.123 to 473.549;
- (15) Metropolitan Airports Commission under sections 473.601 to 473.680;
- (16) Metropolitan Mosquito Control Commission under sections 473.701 to 473.716;
- (17) Morrison County Rural Development Financing Authority under Laws 1982, chapter 437, section 1;
- (18) Croft Historical Park District under Laws 1984, chapter 502, article 13, section 6;
- (19) East Lake County Medical Clinic District under Laws 1989, chapter 211, sections 1 to 6;
- (20) Floodwood Area Ambulance District under Laws 1993, chapter 375, article 5, section 39;
- (21) Middle Mississippi River Watershed Management Organization under sections 103B.211 and 103B.241;
- (22) emergency medical services special taxing districts under section 144F.01;
- (23) a county levying under the authority of section 103B.241, 103B.245, or 103B.251;
- (24) Southern St. Louis County Special Taxing District; Chris Jensen Nursing Home under Laws 2003, First Special Session chapter 21, article 4, section 12; ~~and~~
- (25) an airport authority created under section 360.0426; and
- (26) any other political subdivision of the state of Minnesota, excluding counties, school districts, cities, and towns, that has the power to adopt and certify a property tax levy to the county auditor, as determined by the commissioner of revenue.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for taxes levied in 2007, payable in 2008, and thereafter.

Sec. 27. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 278.05, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

**Subd. 6. Dismissal of petition; exclusion of certain evidence.** (a) In cases where the petitioner contests the valuation of income-producing property, information, including income and expense figures in the form of (1) year-end financial statements for the year prior to the assessment date, (2) year-end financial statements for the year of the assessment date, and (3) rent rolls on the assessment date including tenant name, lease start and end dates, option terms, base rent, square footage leased and vacant space, verified net rentable areas in the form of net rentable square footage of the building or buildings, and anticipated income and expenses in the form of proposed budgets for the year subsequent to the year of the assessment date, ~~for income-producing property~~ must be provided to the county assessor no later than 60 days after the applicable filing deadline contained in section 278.01, subdivision 1 or 4. Failure to provide the information required in this paragraph shall result in the dismissal of the petition, unless (1) the failure to provide it was due to the unavailability of the evidence at the time that the information was due, or (2) the petitioner was not aware of or informed of the requirement to provide the information.



If the petitioner proves that the requirements under clause (2) are met, the petitioner has an additional 30 days to provide the information from the time the petitioner became aware of or was informed of the requirement to provide the information, otherwise the petition shall be dismissed.

(b) Provided that the information as contained in paragraph (a) is timely submitted to the county assessor, the county assessor shall furnish the petitioner at least five days before the hearing under this chapter with the property's appraisal, if any, which will be presented to the court at the hearing. The petitioner shall furnish to the county assessor at least five days before the hearing under this chapter with the property's appraisal, if any, which will be presented to the court at the hearing. An appraisal of the petitioner's property done by or for the county shall not be admissible as evidence if the county assessor does not comply with the provisions in this paragraph. The petition shall be dismissed if the petitioner does not comply with the provisions in this paragraph.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for petitions filed on or after July 1, 2007.

Sec. 28. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 279.37, subdivision 1a, is amended to read:

Subd. 1a. **Class 3a property.** (a) The delinquent taxes upon a parcel of property which was classified class 3a, for the previous year's assessment and had a total market value of ~~\$200,000~~ \$500,000 or less for that same assessment shall be eligible to be composed into a confession of judgment. Property qualifying under this subdivision shall be subject to the same provisions as provided in this section except as provided in paragraphs (b) to (d).

(b) Current year taxes and penalty due at the time the confession of judgment is entered must be paid.

(c) The down payment must include all special assessments due in the current tax year, all delinquent special assessments, and 20 percent of the ad valorem tax, penalties, and interest accrued against the parcel. The balance remaining is payable in four equal annual installments.

(d) The amounts entered in judgment bear interest at the rate provided in section 279.03, subdivision 1a, commencing with the date the judgment is entered. The interest rate is subject to change each year on the unpaid balance in the manner provided in section 279.03, subdivision 1a.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for confessions of judgment entered into July 1, 2007, and thereafter.

Sec. 29. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 280.39, is amended to read:

**280.39 DELINQUENT TAXES MAY BE PAID IN INVERSE ORDER.**

In any case where taxes for two or more years are delinquent against a parcel of land, such taxes for one or more ~~entire~~ years, if held by the state, may be paid in the inverse order to that in which the taxes were levied, with accrued penalties, interest, and costs upon the taxes so paid, without payment of the taxes for the first of such years; provided, that such payment shall not affect the lien of any unpaid taxes or tax judgment.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 30. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 289A.08, subdivision 13, is amended to read:

Subd. 13. **Long and short forms; local use tax instructions; property tax refund**

**information.** (a) The commissioner shall provide a long form individual income tax return and may provide a short form individual income tax return. The returns shall be in a form that is consistent with the provisions of chapter 290, notwithstanding any other law to the contrary. The nongame wildlife checkoff provided in section 290.431 and the dependent care credit provided in section 290.067 must be included on the short form.

(b) The commissioner must provide information on local use taxes in the individual income tax instruction booklet. The commissioner must provide this information in the same section of the booklet that provides information on the state use tax.

(c) The commissioner must refer to the property tax refunds allowed under chapter 290A on the front cover of the individual income tax instruction booklet, as well as information within the booklet on income eligibility for the homestead and renter refunds, and maximum refund amounts allowed in the current year.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 31. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 290C.07, is amended to read:

**290C.07 CALCULATION OF INCENTIVE PAYMENT.**

An approved claimant under the sustainable forest incentive program is eligible to receive an annual payment. The payment shall equal the greater of:

(1) the difference between the property tax that would be paid on the land using the previous year's statewide average total township tax rate and the class rate for class 2b timberland under section 273.13, subdivision 23, paragraph (b), if the land were valued at (i) the average statewide timberland market value per acre calculated under section 290C.06, and (ii) the average statewide timberland current use value per acre calculated under section 290C.02, subdivision 5; or

(2) two-thirds of the property tax amount determined by using the previous year's statewide average total township tax rate, the estimated market value per acre as calculated in section 290C.06, and the class rate for 2b timberland under section 273.13, subdivision 23, paragraph (b); ~~or~~

~~(3) \$1.50~~, provided that the payment shall be no less than \$5 per acre for each acre enrolled in the sustainable forest incentive program.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for payments made after June 30, 2007.

Sec. 32. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 360.031, is amended to read:

**360.031 DEFINITION OF MUNICIPALITY.**

For the purposes of sections 360.031 to 360.045, ~~inclusive~~ (except section 360.042), ~~only~~, "municipality" means any county, city, ~~or town~~, or airport authority of this state.

Sec. 33. **[360.0425] GENERAL POWERS OF AUTHORITY.**

An airport authority created under section 360.0426 has all the powers granted a municipality under sections 360.032 to 360.046.

Sec. 34. **[360.0426] CREATION OF AN AIRPORT AUTHORITY, DISSOLUTION.**

Subdivision 1. **Members; definition.** A city together with another city, county, town, or an Indian tribe may create an airport authority. For purposes of this chapter, "airport authority" means a governmental entity created pursuant to this section for the purpose of acquiring, establishing, constructing, maintaining, improving, and operating airports and other air navigation facilities.

Subd. 2. **Process to establish authority.** A city that owns an airport by joint resolution together with other willing governmental units may create an airport authority that is authorized to exercise its functions upon passage of a joint resolution by each of their governing bodies, including a proposed date for the first meeting of the authority.

Subd. 3. **Airport authority commission.** The powers of the airport authority shall be vested in the airport authority commissioners. The commission shall consist of at least five commissioners. Each governmental unit that is a member of the authority shall be represented by at least one commissioner. If fewer than five governmental units are members of the authority, there must be two commissioners appointed from each member unit of government. The terms of each commissioner are three years, provided that the length of the initial appointments must be staggered so that the terms of approximately one-third of the commissioners expire each calendar year.

Subd. 4. **Appointment of commissioners.** The governmental body of each member governmental unit shall appoint a resident of that governmental unit to be a commissioner of the airport authority. Upon vacancy of a commissioner prior to the end of a normal term, the appropriate governmental body shall appoint a commissioner to fill the unexpired term.

Subd. 5. **Compensation; meetings; officers.** Commissioners shall receive no compensation for services, but are entitled to payment for necessary expenses, including travel expenses, incurred in the discharge of the commissioners' duties.

The commission shall establish a regular meeting schedule. A majority of the commissioners of the authority constitutes a quorum for purposes of conducting business of the authority. Action may be taken by the majority vote of not less than a majority of the commissioners present, providing there is a quorum.

The commission shall elect a chair, a vice-chair, a secretary, and a treasurer at its organizational meeting. The authority may hire an executive director, a legal advisor, technical experts, and other employees, permanent and temporary, as it may require.

Subd. 6. **Process to increase size of authority.** An airport authority may be increased in size by adding additional governmental entities if each of the additional entities and each of the governmental entities currently included in the existing authority adopt a resolution agreeing to the size increase.

Subd. 7. **Process to decrease size of authority.** An airport authority may be decreased in size if each of the governmental entities that are members of the authority and the current commissioners consent to change and make provisions for the retention or disposition of its assets and liabilities.

Subd. 8. **Process to dissolve authority.** An airport authority may be dissolved after payment of all debts and adoption of a joint resolution of the governing bodies of all of the participating units of government. Before dissolution, the property of the airport authority must be sold, transferred, or distributed as agreed to by the participating units of government. Any remaining funds must be distributed to the general funds of the participating units of government in proportion to their relative

shares of the most recent levy under section 360.0427.

**Sec. 35. [360.0427] TAX LEVY MAY BE CERTIFIED BY AN AIRPORT AUTHORITY.**

In any year in which it imposes a property tax levy, an airport authority must certify to the auditor of any county that contains property within the boundaries of the airport authority a uniform tax rate to be levied on all taxable property within the boundaries of the airport authority.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for taxes levied in 2007, payable in 2008, and thereafter.

Sec. 36. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 435.193, is amended to read:

**435.193 HARDSHIP ASSESSMENT DEFERRAL FOR SENIORS OR, DISABLED, OR MILITARY PERSONS.**

(a) Notwithstanding the provisions of any law to the contrary, any county, statutory or home rule charter city, or town, making a special assessment may, at its discretion, defer the payment of that assessment for any homestead property:

(1) owned by a person 65 years of age or older or retired by virtue of a permanent and total disability for whom it would be a hardship to make the payments; or

(2) owned by a person who is a member of the Minnesota National Guard or other military reserves who is ordered into active military service, as defined in section 190.05, subdivision 5b or 5c, as stated in the person's military orders, for whom it would be a hardship to make the payments.

(b) Any county, statutory or home rule charter city, or town electing to defer special assessments shall adopt an ordinance or resolution establishing standards and guidelines for determining the existence of a hardship and for determining the existence of a disability, but nothing herein shall be construed to prohibit the determination of hardship on the basis of exceptional and unusual circumstances not covered by the standards and guidelines where the determination is made in a nondiscriminatory manner and does not give the applicant an unreasonable preference or advantage over other applicants.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment, and applies to any special assessment for which payment is due on or after that date.

Sec. 37. Laws 1973, chapter 393, section 1, as amended by Laws 1974, chapter 153, section 1, is amended to read:

**Section 1. MINNEAPOLIS, CITY OF; STREET MAINTENANCE AND LIGHTING.**

Notwithstanding the provisions of any statute or the charter of the city of Minneapolis to the contrary, the city council of said city may provide that all or part of the costs of construction, operation, and maintenance of streets and street lighting within the city may hereafter be paid from the general revenues of the city of Minneapolis; provided that the portion of the costs assessable against nongovernmental real property exempt from ad valorem taxation may be levied as a special assessment against the property.

Sec. 38. Laws 1988, chapter 645, section 3, as amended by Laws 1999, chapter 243, article 6, section 9, and Laws 2000, chapter 490, article 6, section 15, is amended to read:

**Sec. 3. TAX; PAYMENT OF EXPENSES.**

(a) The tax levied by the hospital district under Minnesota Statutes, section 447.34, must not be levied at a rate that exceeds ~~0.063 percent of taxable market value~~ the amount authorized to be levied under that section. The proceeds of the tax may be used for all purposes of the hospital district, except as provided in paragraph (b).

~~(b) 0.048 percent of taxable market value of tax in paragraph (a) may be used only for acquisition, betterment, and maintenance of the district's hospital and nursing home facilities and equipment, and not for administrative or salary expenses.~~

~~(c)~~ 0.015 percent of taxable market value of the tax in paragraph (a) may be used solely for the purpose of capital expenditures as it relates to ambulance acquisitions for the Cook ambulance service and the Orr ambulance service and not for administrative or salary expenses.

The part of the levy referred to in paragraph ~~(c)~~ (b) must be administered by the Cook Hospital and passed on directly to the Cook area ambulance service board and the city of Orr to be held in trust until funding for a new ambulance is needed by either the Cook ambulance service or the Orr ambulance service.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective upon compliance with Minnesota Statutes, section 645.021, subdivision 3, by the governing body of the Cook-Orr Hospital District.

Sec. 39. Laws 1989, chapter 211, section 8, subdivision 4, as amended by Laws 2002, chapter 390, section 24, and Laws 2003, chapter 127, article 2, section 22, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Tax levy.** The tax levied under Minnesota Statutes, section 447.34, shall not exceed \$300,000 for taxes levied in 2002. ~~For taxes levied in 2003 and subsequent years, the tax must not exceed the lesser of:~~

~~(1) the product of the hospital district's property tax levy limitation for the previous year determined under this subdivision, multiplied by 103 percent; or~~

~~(2) the product of the hospital district's property tax levy limitation for the previous year determined under this subdivision multiplied by the ratio of the most recent available annual medical care expenditure category of the revised Consumer Price Index, U.S. citywide average, for all urban consumers prepared by the United States Department of Labor to the same annual index for the previous year~~ the amount authorized to be levied under that section.

The proceeds of the tax may be used for all purposes of the hospital district.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective upon compliance with Minnesota Statutes, section 645.021, subdivision 3, by the governing body of the Cook County Hospital District.

Sec. 40. Laws 2006, chapter 236, article 1, section 21, is amended to read:

**Sec. 21. EXCHANGE OF TAX-FORFEITED LAND; PRIVATE SALE; ITASCA COUNTY.**

(a) For the purpose of a land exchange for use in connection with a proposed steel mill in Itasca County referenced in Laws 1999, chapter 240, article 1, section 8, subdivision 3, title examination and approval of the land described in paragraph (b) shall be undertaken as a condition of exchange of

the land for class B land, and shall be governed by Minnesota Statutes, section 94.344, subdivisions 9 and 10, and the provisions of this section. Notwithstanding the evidence of title requirements in Minnesota Statutes, section 94.344, subdivisions 9 and 10, the county attorney shall examine one or more title reports or title insurance commitments prepared or underwritten by a title insurer licensed to conduct title insurance business in this state, regardless of whether abstracts were created or updated in the preparation of the title reports or commitments. The opinion of the county attorney, and approval by the attorney general, shall be based on those title reports or commitments.

(b) The land subject to this section is located in Itasca County and is described as:

(1) Sections 3, 4, 7, 10, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 20, 21, 22, 23, 26, 28, and 29, Township 56 North, Range 22 West;

(2) Sections 3, 4, 9, 10, 13, and 14, Township 56 North, Range 23 West;

(3) Section 30, Township 57 North, Range 22 West; and

(4) Sections 25, 26, 34, 35, and 36, Township 57 North, Range 23 West.

(c) Riparian land given in exchange by Itasca County for the purpose of the steel mill referenced in paragraph (a), is exempt from the restrictions imposed by Minnesota Statutes, section 94.342, subdivision 3.

(d) Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, sections 92.45 and 282.018, subdivision 1, and the public sale provisions of Minnesota Statutes, chapter 282, Itasca County may sell, by private sale, any land received in exchange for the purpose of the steel mill referenced in paragraph (a), under the remaining provisions of Minnesota Statutes, chapter 282. The sale must be in a form approved by the attorney general.

(e) Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 284.28, subdivision 8, or any other law to the contrary, land acquired through an exchange under this section is exempt from payment of three percent of the sales price required to be collected by the county auditor at the time of sale for deposit in the state treasury.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

**Sec. 41. FISCAL DISPARITIES STUDY.**

The commissioner of revenue shall conduct a study of the metropolitan revenue distribution program contained in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 473F, commonly known as the fiscal disparities program. On or before February 1, 2009, the commissioner shall make a report to the chairs of the house of representatives and senate tax committees consisting of the findings of the study and any recommendations resulting from the study.

The study must consider to what extent the program is meeting the following goals, and what changes could be made to the program in the furtherance of meeting those goals:

(1) reducing the extent to which the property tax encourages development patterns that do not make cost-effective use of public infrastructure or impose other high public costs;

(2) ensuring that the benefits of economic growth of the region are shared throughout the region, especially for growth that results from state and/or regional decisions;

(3) improving the ability of each jurisdiction within the region to deliver services at a level commensurate with its tax effort;

(4) compensating jurisdictions containing properties that provide regional benefits for the costs those properties impose on their host jurisdictions in excess of their tax payments;

(5) promoting a fair distribution of property tax burdens across jurisdictions of the region; and

(6) reducing the economic losses that result from competition among communities for commercial-industrial tax base.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007.

**Sec. 42. CITY OF BROOKLYN CENTER; PARTICIPATION IN CRIME-FREE MULTIHOUSING PROGRAM.**

(a) In addition to the requirements of Minnesota Statutes, section 273.128, if property located in the city of Brooklyn Center qualifies under paragraph (b), the owners or managers must complete the three phases of the city's crime-free multihousing program and the qualifying property must be annually certified by the police as participating in the program. If a qualifying property is not certified within one year after it is first determined to be a qualifying property under paragraph (b), or does not annually maintain its certification in the program, the city shall notify the property owner that the qualifying property must comply with the requirements of this section to maintain its classification as class 4d property. If a qualifying property is not in compliance within one year after receiving the notice from the city, the city shall issue a second notice and require the owners to enter into a plan to achieve compliance within one year. If, upon expiration of the one-year time period, the qualifying property has not been certified by the police as completing the program, the city shall notify the commissioner of the Housing Finance Agency and the commissioner shall remove the property from the list of class 4d properties certified to the assessor under Minnesota Statutes, section 273.128, subdivision 3. Once removed from the list, the property is not eligible for class 4d classification until it complies with this section and its compliance has been certified to the Housing Finance Agency by the city. Certification to the Housing Finance Agency must be made by May 15 to be effective for taxes payable in the following year.

(b) A property is a qualifying property for purposes of this section's requirements if it satisfies each of the following requirements:

(1) the city offers a crime-free multihousing program through its city police;

(2) over the preceding three-year period, the number of police calls to the property exceeded the city's average number of calls for multiunit rental properties for the period by at least 25 percent, adjusted for the number of rental units;

(3) the police department has requested, in writing, the owners or managers of the property to enroll in the crime-free multihousing program and the owners or managers refused or failed to enroll within 60 days after the request, or failed to complete phases one and three within 90 days and all three phases of the program within a one-year time period; and

(4) the governing body of the city, by resolution, determines the property is a qualifying property under clauses (1) to (3).

(c) Calls for police or emergency assistance in response to domestic abuse or medical assistance shall not be counted toward the number of calls in paragraph (b), clause (2). For purposes of this section, "domestic abuse" has the meaning given in Minnesota Statutes, section 518B.01, subdivision 2.

(d) Low-income qualifying rental housing property classified as class 4d property for taxes payable in 2007 must meet the requirements of this section by May 15, 2010.

**EFFECTIVE DATE; LOCAL APPROVAL.** This section is effective the day after compliance by the governing body of the city of Brooklyn Center and its chief clerical officer with Minnesota Statutes, section 645.021, subdivisions 2 and 3, and applies to property taxes levied in 2007, payable in 2008, and thereafter.

**Sec. 43. CLAIR A. NELSON MEMORIAL FOREST, LAKE COUNTY; TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF APPORTIONMENT OF PROCEEDS FROM TAX-FORFEITED LANDS.**

(a) Upon approval of an affected political subdivision within Lake County, the Lake County Board may suspend the apportionment of the balance of net proceeds from tax-forfeited lands within the affected political subdivision under Minnesota Statutes, section 282.08, clause (4), item (iii), and retain the net proceeds. The authority under this paragraph is available until Lake County suspends the apportionment of net proceeds subject to item (iii) in the amount of \$2,200,000 plus any interest costs incurred by the county to purchase land described in this section. The money received by Lake County is to reimburse the county for the purchase in 2006 of 6,085 acres of forest land named the Clair A. Nelson Memorial Forest.

(b) Any revenue derived from acquired land that was reimbursed under paragraph (a) is subject to apportionment as provided in Minnesota Statutes, section 282.08.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective retroactively from January 1, 2006.

**Sec. 44. LAKEVIEW CEMETERY ASSOCIATION.**

Subdivision 1. **Authorized.** Any two or more of the following cities and towns in Itasca County may enter into a joint powers agreement under Minnesota Statutes, section 471.59, to establish the Lakeview Cemetery Association with the powers and duties of a cemetery association under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 306: the cities of Bovey, Calumet, Coleraine, Marble, and Taconite, and the towns of Greenway, Iron Range, Lawrence, and Trout Lake.

Subd. 2. **Additions; withdrawals.** (a) A city or town listed in subdivision 1 that does not join the association at the time of the initial agreement may join as provided in the joint powers agreement, or if the joint powers agreement does not provide for later additions, by providing the association a copy of the adopted resolution to join. If the joint powers agreement does not provide for adding members, a city or town that joins after the initial agreement is effective, may join prior to July 1 of the levy year, for taxes payable in the following year.

(b) A city or town may withdraw from the association as otherwise provided in the joint powers agreement, or providing to the association a copy of the adopted resolution of the city or town, prior to July 1 of the levy year for taxes payable in the following year.

Subd. 3. **Operation; tax levy.** The joint powers agreement for the association may provide for



each participating city and town to levy a tax against all taxable properties located within the city or town. The maximum amount that may be levied by all participating cities and towns combined shall not exceed a total of \$200,000 per year. If levied, the tax is in addition to all other taxes permitted to be levied on the property, including taxes permitted to be levied for cemetery purposes by a participating city or town. The levy under this section must be disregarded in the calculation of all other rate or per capita levy limitations imposed by law. One of the cities or towns within the association, chosen by the members of the association, shall certify a tax levy to the Itasca County auditor. When collected, the Itasca County auditor shall pay the Lakeview Cemetery Association directly.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for taxes levied in 2007, payable in 2008, and thereafter.

Sec. 45. **TAX-FORFEITED LANDS LEASE; ITASCA COUNTY.**

Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 282.04, or other law to the contrary, the Itasca County auditor may lease tax-forfeited land to Minnesota Steel for a period of 20 years, for use as a tailings basin and buffer area. A lease entered under this section is renewable.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 46. **HAM LAKE FIRE; PROPERTY TAX REDUCTION; STATE REIMBURSEMENT.**

Subdivision 1. **Property tax reduction.** The owner of property that was destroyed in the Ham Lake fire in 2007 may apply to the Cook County assessor to receive a reduction in the amount of taxes payable on the property for 2007 and 2008. The reduction provided under this section must be granted if 50 percent or more of the homestead dwelling or nonhomestead structure, as established by the county assessor, has been destroyed by the fire and related effects and the homestead is uninhabitable or the other structure is not useable. For property that meets the requirements of this section, the tax liabilities for the second half of property taxes due in October 2007 and for all property taxes due in 2008 are reduced to zero. If application is made following payment of all property taxes due for 2007, the amount of the reduction shall be refunded to the taxpayer by the county treasurer as soon as practical. A reduction granted under this section is in lieu of a reduction under Minnesota Statutes, section 273.123.

Subd. 2. **State reimbursement.** The Cook County auditor shall calculate the tax on the property described in subdivision 1 based on the assessment made on January 2, 2007, paid in 2007 and 2008 after the reduction granted in subdivision 1. The difference between the tax determined on the January 2 tax capacity and the tax actually paid pursuant to this section shall be reimbursed to each taxing jurisdiction in which the damaged property is located. The amount shall be certified by the county auditor and reported to the commissioner of revenue. The commissioner shall make the payments to the taxing jurisdictions containing the property on the settlement dates in Minnesota Statutes, sections 276.11 and 276.111, for the second half of 2007 payments and for both 2008 payments in the same proportion that the ad valorem tax is distributed.

Subd. 3. **Computation of credits.** The amounts of the market value homestead credit provided in Minnesota Statutes, section 273.1384, shall be computed on the tax determined before the reduction under subdivision 1. For purposes of the property tax refund, property taxes payable, as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 290A.03, subdivision 13, must be computed upon the tax determined

under subdivision 1.

Subd. 4. **Appropriation.** \$500,000 is appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner of revenue to make the payments required by this section. This amount does not cancel, but remains available until June 30, 2009.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 47. **REPEALER.**

(a) Laws 1973, chapter 393, section 2, is repealed.

(b) Laws 1994, chapter 587, article 9, section 8, subdivision 1, as amended by Laws 2005, First Special Session chapter 3, article 1, section 36, is repealed, effective for the same levy year in which the association initially levies under section 44.

### ARTICLE 3

#### CORPORATE FRANCHISE TAX

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 290.01, subdivision 6b, is amended to read:

Subd. 6b. **Foreign operating corporation.** The term "foreign operating corporation," when applied to a corporation, means a domestic corporation with the following characteristics:

- (1) it is part of a unitary business at least one member of which is taxable in this state;
- (2) it is not a foreign sales corporation under section 922 of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended through December 31, 1999, for the taxable year;
- (3) either (i) the average of the percentages of its property and payrolls, including the pro rata share of its unitary partnerships' property and payrolls, assigned to locations outside the United States, where the United States includes the District of Columbia and excludes the commonwealth of Puerto Rico and possessions of the United States, as determined under section 290.191 or 290.20, is 80 percent or more; or (ii) it has in effect a valid election under section 936 of the Internal Revenue Code; or (ii) at least 80 percent of the gross income from all sources of the corporation in the tax year is and
- (4) it has \$1,000,000 of payroll and \$2,000,000 of property, as determined under section 290.191 or 290.20, that are located outside the United States. If the domestic corporation does not have payroll as determined under section 290.191 or 290.20, but it or its partnerships have paid \$1,000,000 for work, performed directly for the domestic corporation or the partnerships, outside the United States, then paragraph (3)(i) shall not require payrolls to be included in the average calculation derived from sources without the United States, as defined in subtitle A, chapter 1, subchapter N, part 1, of the Internal Revenue Code.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2006.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 290.01, subdivision 19c, is amended to read:

Subd. 19c. **Corporations; additions to federal taxable income.** For corporations, there shall be added to federal taxable income:

(1) the amount of any deduction taken for federal income tax purposes for income, excise, or franchise taxes based on net income or related minimum taxes, including but not limited to the tax imposed under section 290.0922, paid by the corporation to Minnesota, another state, a political subdivision of another state, the District of Columbia, or any foreign country or possession of the United States;

(2) interest not subject to federal tax upon obligations of: the United States, its possessions, its agencies, or its instrumentalities; the state of Minnesota or any other state, any of its political or governmental subdivisions, any of its municipalities, or any of its governmental agencies or instrumentalities; the District of Columbia; or Indian tribal governments;

(3) exempt-interest dividends received as defined in section 852(b)(5) of the Internal Revenue Code;

(4) the amount of any net operating loss deduction taken for federal income tax purposes under section 172 or 832(c)(10) of the Internal Revenue Code or operations loss deduction under section 810 of the Internal Revenue Code;

(5) the amount of any special deductions taken for federal income tax purposes under sections 241 to 247 and 965 of the Internal Revenue Code;

(6) losses from the business of mining, as defined in section 290.05, subdivision 1, clause (a), that are not subject to Minnesota income tax;

(7) the amount of any capital losses deducted for federal income tax purposes under sections 1211 and 1212 of the Internal Revenue Code;

(8) the exempt foreign trade income of a foreign sales corporation under sections 921(a) and 291 of the Internal Revenue Code;

(9) the amount of percentage depletion deducted under sections 611 through 614 and 291 of the Internal Revenue Code;

(10) for certified pollution control facilities placed in service in a taxable year beginning before December 31, 1986, and for which amortization deductions were elected under section 169 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended through December 31, 1985, the amount of the amortization deduction allowed in computing federal taxable income for those facilities;

(11) the amount of any deemed dividend from a foreign operating corporation determined pursuant to section 290.17, subdivision 4, paragraph (g). The deemed dividend shall be reduced by the amount of the addition to income required by clauses (19), (20), (21), and (22);

(12) the amount of a partner's pro rata share of net income which does not flow through to the partner because the partnership elected to pay the tax on the income under section 6242(a)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code;

(13) the amount of net income excluded under section 114 of the Internal Revenue Code;

(14) any increase in subpart F income, as defined in section 952(a) of the Internal Revenue Code, for the taxable year when subpart F income is calculated without regard to the provisions of section 103 of Public Law 109-222;

(15) 80 percent of the depreciation deduction allowed under section 168(k)(1)(A) and (k)(4)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code. For purposes of this clause, if the taxpayer has an activity that in the taxable year generates a deduction for depreciation under section 168(k)(1)(A) and (k)(4)(A) and the activity generates a loss for the taxable year that the taxpayer is not allowed to claim for the taxable year, "the depreciation allowed under section 168(k)(1)(A) and (k)(4)(A)" for the taxable year is limited to excess of the depreciation claimed by the activity under section 168(k)(1)(A) and (k)(4)(A) over the amount of the loss from the activity that is not allowed in the taxable year. In succeeding taxable years when the losses not allowed in the taxable year are allowed, the depreciation under section 168(k)(1)(A) and (k)(4)(A) is allowed;

(16) 80 percent of the amount by which the deduction allowed by section 179 of the Internal Revenue Code exceeds the deduction allowable by section 179 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended through December 31, 2003;

(17) to the extent deducted in computing federal taxable income, the amount of the deduction allowable under section 199 of the Internal Revenue Code; and

(18) the exclusion allowed under section 139A of the Internal Revenue Code for federal subsidies for prescription drug plans;

(19) an amount equal to the interest and intangible expenses, losses, and costs paid, accrued, or incurred by any member of the taxpayer's unitary group to or for the benefit of a corporation that is a member of the taxpayer's unitary business group that qualifies as a foreign operating corporation. For purposes of this clause, intangible expenses and costs include:

(i) expenses, losses, and costs for, or related to, the direct or indirect acquisition, use, maintenance or management, ownership, sale, exchange, or any other disposition of intangible property;

(ii) losses incurred, directly or indirectly, from factoring transactions or discounting transactions;

(iii) royalty, patent, technical, and copyright fees;

(iv) licensing fees; and

(v) other similar expenses and costs.

For purposes of this clause, "intangible property" includes stocks, bonds, patents, patent applications, trade names, trademarks, service marks, copyrights, mask works, trade secrets, and similar types of intangible assets.

This clause does not apply to any item of interest or intangible expenses or costs paid, accrued, or incurred, directly or indirectly, to a foreign operating corporation with respect to such item of income to the extent that the income to the foreign operating corporation is income from sources without the United States as defined in subtitle A, chapter 1, subchapter N, part 1, of the Internal Revenue Code;

(20) except as already included in the taxpayer's taxable income pursuant to clause (19), any interest income and income generated from intangible property received or accrued by a foreign operating corporation that is a member of the taxpayer's unitary group. For purposes of this clause, income generated from intangible property includes:

(i) income related to the direct or indirect acquisition, use, maintenance or management, ownership, sale, exchange, or any other disposition of intangible property;

(ii) income from factoring transactions or discounting transactions;

(iii) royalty, patent, technical, and copyright fees;

(iv) licensing fees; and

(v) other similar income.

For purposes of this clause, "intangible property" includes stocks, bonds, patents, patent applications, trade names, trademarks, service marks, copyrights, mask works, trade secrets, and similar types of intangible assets.

This clause does not apply to any item of interest or intangible income received or accrued by a foreign operating corporation with respect to such item of income to the extent that the income is income from sources without the United States as defined in subtitle A, chapter 1, subchapter N, part 1, of the Internal Revenue Code;

(21) the dividends attributable to the income of a foreign operating corporation that is a member of the taxpayer's unitary group in an amount that is equal to the dividends paid deduction of a real estate investment trust under section 561(a) of the Internal Revenue Code for amounts paid or accrued by the real estate investment trust to the foreign operating corporation; and

(22) the income of a foreign operating corporation that is a member of the taxpayer's unitary group in an amount that is equal to gains derived from the sale of real or personal property located in the United States.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2006.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 290.01, subdivision 19d, is amended to read:

Subd. 19d. **Corporations; modifications decreasing federal taxable income.** For corporations, there shall be subtracted from federal taxable income after the increases provided in subdivision 19c:

(1) the amount of foreign dividend gross-up added to gross income for federal income tax purposes under section 78 of the Internal Revenue Code;

(2) the amount of salary expense not allowed for federal income tax purposes due to claiming the federal jobs credit under section 51 of the Internal Revenue Code;

(3) any dividend (not including any distribution in liquidation) paid within the taxable year by a national or state bank to the United States, or to any instrumentality of the United States exempt from federal income taxes, on the preferred stock of the bank owned by the United States or the instrumentality;

(4) amounts disallowed for intangible drilling costs due to differences between this chapter and the Internal Revenue Code in taxable years beginning before January 1, 1987, as follows:

(i) to the extent the disallowed costs are represented by physical property, an amount equal to the allowance for depreciation under Minnesota Statutes 1986, section 290.09, subdivision 7, subject

to the modifications contained in subdivision 19e; and

(ii) to the extent the disallowed costs are not represented by physical property, an amount equal to the allowance for cost depletion under Minnesota Statutes 1986, section 290.09, subdivision 8;

(5) the deduction for capital losses pursuant to sections 1211 and 1212 of the Internal Revenue Code, except that:

(i) for capital losses incurred in taxable years beginning after December 31, 1986, capital loss carrybacks shall not be allowed;

(ii) for capital losses incurred in taxable years beginning after December 31, 1986, a capital loss carryover to each of the 15 taxable years succeeding the loss year shall be allowed;

(iii) for capital losses incurred in taxable years beginning before January 1, 1987, a capital loss carryback to each of the three taxable years preceding the loss year, subject to the provisions of Minnesota Statutes 1986, section 290.16, shall be allowed; and

(iv) for capital losses incurred in taxable years beginning before January 1, 1987, a capital loss carryover to each of the five taxable years succeeding the loss year to the extent such loss was not used in a prior taxable year and subject to the provisions of Minnesota Statutes 1986, section 290.16, shall be allowed;

(6) an amount for interest and expenses relating to income not taxable for federal income tax purposes, if (i) the income is taxable under this chapter and (ii) the interest and expenses were disallowed as deductions under the provisions of section 171(a)(2), 265 or 291 of the Internal Revenue Code in computing federal taxable income;

(7) in the case of mines, oil and gas wells, other natural deposits, and timber for which percentage depletion was disallowed pursuant to subdivision 19c, clause (11), a reasonable allowance for depletion based on actual cost. In the case of leases the deduction must be apportioned between the lessor and lessee in accordance with rules prescribed by the commissioner. In the case of property held in trust, the allowable deduction must be apportioned between the income beneficiaries and the trustee in accordance with the pertinent provisions of the trust, or if there is no provision in the instrument, on the basis of the trust's income allocable to each;

(8) for certified pollution control facilities placed in service in a taxable year beginning before December 31, 1986, and for which amortization deductions were elected under section 169 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended through December 31, 1985, an amount equal to the allowance for depreciation under Minnesota Statutes 1986, section 290.09, subdivision 7;

(9) amounts included in federal taxable income that are due to refunds of income, excise, or franchise taxes based on net income or related minimum taxes paid by the corporation to Minnesota, another state, a political subdivision of another state, the District of Columbia, or a foreign country or possession of the United States to the extent that the taxes were added to federal taxable income under section 290.01, subdivision 19c, clause (1), in a prior taxable year;

(10) 80 percent of royalties, fees, or other like income accrued or received from a foreign operating corporation or a foreign corporation which is part of the same unitary business as the receiving corporation, unless the income resulting from such payments or accruals is income from sources within the United States as defined in subtitle A, chapter 1, subchapter N, part 1, of the

Internal Revenue Code;

(11) income or gains from the business of mining as defined in section 290.05, subdivision 1, clause (a), that are not subject to Minnesota franchise tax;

(12) the amount of disability access expenditures in the taxable year which are not allowed to be deducted or capitalized under section 44(d)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code;

(13) the amount of qualified research expenses not allowed for federal income tax purposes under section 280C(c) of the Internal Revenue Code, but only to the extent that the amount exceeds the amount of the credit allowed under section 290.068;

(14) the amount of salary expenses not allowed for federal income tax purposes due to claiming the Indian employment credit under section 45A(a) of the Internal Revenue Code;

(15) the amount of any refund of environmental taxes paid under section 59A of the Internal Revenue Code;

(16) for taxable years beginning before January 1, 2008, the amount of the federal small ethanol producer credit allowed under section 40(a)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code which is included in gross income under section 87 of the Internal Revenue Code;

(17) for a corporation whose foreign sales corporation, as defined in section 922 of the Internal Revenue Code, constituted a foreign operating corporation during any taxable year ending before January 1, 1995, and a return was filed by August 15, 1996, claiming the deduction under section 290.21, subdivision 4, for income received from the foreign operating corporation, an amount equal to 1.23 multiplied by the amount of income excluded under section 114 of the Internal Revenue Code, provided the income is not income of a foreign operating company;

(18) any decrease in subpart F income, as defined in section 952(a) of the Internal Revenue Code, for the taxable year when subpart F income is calculated without regard to the provisions of section 614 of Public Law 107-147;

(19) in each of the five tax years immediately following the tax year in which an addition is required under subdivision 19c, clause (15), an amount equal to one-fifth of the delayed depreciation. For purposes of this clause, "delayed depreciation" means the amount of the addition made by the taxpayer under subdivision 19c, clause (15). The resulting delayed depreciation cannot be less than zero; and

(20) in each of the five tax years immediately following the tax year in which an addition is required under subdivision 19c, clause (16), an amount equal to one-fifth of the amount of the addition.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2006.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 290.0921, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Alternative minimum taxable income.** "Alternative minimum taxable income" is Minnesota net income as defined in section 290.01, subdivision 19, and includes the adjustments and tax preference items in sections 56, 57, 58, and 59(d), (e), (f), and (h) of the Internal Revenue Code. If a corporation files a separate company Minnesota tax return, the minimum tax must be

computed on a separate company basis. If a corporation is part of a tax group filing a unitary return, the minimum tax must be computed on a unitary basis. The following adjustments must be made.

(1) For purposes of the depreciation adjustments under section 56(a)(1) and 56(g)(4)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code, the basis for depreciable property placed in service in a taxable year beginning before January 1, 1990, is the adjusted basis for federal income tax purposes, including any modification made in a taxable year under section 290.01, subdivision 19e, or Minnesota Statutes 1986, section 290.09, subdivision 7, paragraph (c).

For taxable years beginning after December 31, 2000, the amount of any remaining modification made under section 290.01, subdivision 19e, or Minnesota Statutes 1986, section 290.09, subdivision 7, paragraph (c), not previously deducted is a depreciation allowance in the first taxable year after December 31, 2000.

(2) The portion of the depreciation deduction allowed for federal income tax purposes under section 168(k) of the Internal Revenue Code that is required as an addition under section 290.01, subdivision 19c, clause ~~(16)~~ (15), is disallowed in determining alternative minimum taxable income.

(3) The subtraction for depreciation allowed under section 290.01, subdivision 19d, clause (19), is allowed as a depreciation deduction in determining alternative minimum taxable income.

(4) The alternative tax net operating loss deduction under sections 56(a)(4) and 56(d) of the Internal Revenue Code does not apply.

(5) The special rule for certain dividends under section 56(g)(4)(C)(ii) of the Internal Revenue Code does not apply.

(6) The special rule for dividends from section 936 companies under section 56(g)(4)(C)(iii) does not apply.

(7) The tax preference for depletion under section 57(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code does not apply.

(8) The tax preference for intangible drilling costs under section 57(a)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code must be calculated without regard to subparagraph (E) and the subtraction under section 290.01, subdivision 19d, clause (4).

(9) The tax preference for tax exempt interest under section 57(a)(5) of the Internal Revenue Code does not apply.

(10) The tax preference for charitable contributions of appreciated property under section 57(a)(6) of the Internal Revenue Code does not apply.

(11) For purposes of calculating the tax preference for accelerated depreciation or amortization on certain property placed in service before January 1, 1987, under section 57(a)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code, the deduction allowable for the taxable year is the deduction allowed under section 290.01, subdivision 19e.

For taxable years beginning after December 31, 2000, the amount of any remaining modification made under section 290.01, subdivision 19e, not previously deducted is a depreciation or amortization allowance in the first taxable year after December 31, 2004.



(12) For purposes of calculating the adjustment for adjusted current earnings in section 56(g) of the Internal Revenue Code, the term "alternative minimum taxable income" as it is used in section 56(g) of the Internal Revenue Code, means alternative minimum taxable income as defined in this subdivision, determined without regard to the adjustment for adjusted current earnings in section 56(g) of the Internal Revenue Code.

(13) For purposes of determining the amount of adjusted current earnings under section 56(g)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, no adjustment shall be made under section 56(g)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code with respect to (i) the amount of foreign dividend gross-up subtracted as provided in section 290.01, subdivision 19d, clause (1), or (ii) the amount of refunds of income, excise, or franchise taxes subtracted as provided in section 290.01, subdivision 19d, clause ~~(10)~~ (9), or (iii) the amount of royalties, fees or other like income subtracted as provided in section 290.01, subdivision 19d, clause ~~(11)~~ (10).

(14) Alternative minimum taxable income excludes the income from operating in a job opportunity building zone as provided under section 469.317.

(15) Alternative minimum taxable income excludes the income from operating in a biotechnology and health sciences industry zone as provided under section 469.337.

(16) Alternative minimum taxable income excludes the income from operating in an international economic development zone as provided under section 469.326.

Items of tax preference must not be reduced below zero as a result of the modifications in this subdivision.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2006.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 290.34, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

**Subd. 3a. Transactions without economic substance.** (a) When any person, directly or indirectly, engages in a transaction or series of transactions without economic substance to create a loss or to reduce taxable income or to increase credits allowed in determining Minnesota tax, the commissioner must determine the amount of a taxpayer's taxable income or tax so as to reflect what would have been the taxpayer's taxable income or tax but for the transaction or transactions without economic substance causing the reduction in taxable income or tax.

(b) A transaction has economic substance only if a taxpayer shows by clear and convincing evidence:

(1) the transaction changes in a meaningful way (apart from federal, state, local, and foreign tax effects) the taxpayer's economic position; and

(2) the taxpayer has a substantial nontax purpose for entering into a transaction and the transaction is a reasonable means of accomplishing the substantial nontax purpose.

A transaction does not have a substantial nontax purpose if it does not have a potential for profit. A transaction has a substantial nontax purpose when the taxpayer reasonably expects that the pretax profit for the transaction is substantial in relation to the present value of the expected net tax benefits that would be allowed if the transaction were respected for tax purposes, and the reasonably expected

pretax profit from the transaction exceeds the risk-free rate of return.

(c) It is the intent of the legislature that the provisions of this subdivision must not be construed as supplanting any existing Minnesota law.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2006.

#### ARTICLE 4

#### INDIVIDUAL INCOME TAXES

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 289A.12, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Returns by persons, corporations, cooperatives, governmental entities, or school districts.** (a) The commissioner may by notice and demand require to the extent required by section 6041 of the Internal Revenue Code, a person, corporation, or cooperative, the state of Minnesota and its political subdivisions, and a city, county, and school district in Minnesota, making payments in the regular course of a trade or business during the taxable year to any person or corporation of \$600 or more on account of rents or royalties, or of \$10 or more on account of interest, or \$10 or more on account of dividends or patronage dividends, or \$600 or more on account of either wages, salaries, commissions, fees, prizes, awards, pensions, annuities, or any other fixed or determinable gains, profits or income, not otherwise reportable under section 289A.09, subdivision 2, or on account of earnings of \$10 or more distributed to its members by savings associations or credit unions chartered under the laws of this state or the United States, (1) to file with the commissioner a return (except in cases where a valid agreement to participate in the combined federal and state information reporting system has been entered into, and the return is filed only with the commissioner of internal revenue under the applicable filing and informational reporting requirements of the Internal Revenue Code) with respect to the payments in excess of the amounts named, giving the names and addresses of the persons to whom the payments were made, the amounts paid to each, and (2) to make a return with respect to the total number of payments and total amount of payments, for each category of income named, which were in excess of the amounts named. This subdivision does not apply to the payment of interest or dividends to a person who was a nonresident of Minnesota for the entire year.

(b) For payments for which a return is covered by paragraph (a), regardless of whether the commissioner has required filing under paragraph (a), the payor must file a copy of the return with the commissioner if:

(i) the return is for a payment made to a Minnesota resident, to a recipient with a Minnesota address, or for activity occurring in the state of Minnesota; and

(ii) the payment is for wages, salaries, or other compensation for services provided. The commissioner may require this information to be filed in electronic or another form that the commissioner determines is appropriate, notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (c).

(c) A person, corporation, or cooperative required to file returns under this subdivision must file the returns on magnetic media if magnetic media was used to satisfy the federal reporting requirement under section 6011(e) of the Internal Revenue Code, unless the person establishes to the satisfaction of the commissioner that compliance with this requirement would be an undue hardship.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for forms required to be filed by federal law after

December 31, 2007.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 290.01, subdivision 19a, is amended to read:

Subd. 19a. **Additions to federal taxable income.** For individuals, estates, and trusts, there shall be added to federal taxable income:

(1)(i) interest income on obligations of any state other than Minnesota or a political or governmental subdivision, municipality, or governmental agency or instrumentality of any state other than Minnesota exempt from federal income taxes under the Internal Revenue Code or any other federal statute; and

(ii) exempt-interest dividends as defined in section 852(b)(5) of the Internal Revenue Code, except the portion of the exempt-interest dividends derived from interest income on obligations of the state of Minnesota or its political or governmental subdivisions, municipalities, governmental agencies or instrumentalities, but only if the portion of the exempt-interest dividends from such Minnesota sources paid to all shareholders represents 95 percent or more of the exempt-interest dividends that are paid by the regulated investment company as defined in section 851(a) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the fund of the regulated investment company as defined in section 851(g) of the Internal Revenue Code, making the payment; and

(iii) for the purposes of items (i) and (ii), interest on obligations of an Indian tribal government described in section 7871(c) of the Internal Revenue Code shall be treated as interest income on obligations of the state in which the tribe is located;

(2) the amount of income or sales and use taxes paid or accrued within the taxable year under this chapter and the amount of taxes based on net income paid or sales and use taxes paid to any other state or to any province or territory of Canada, to the extent allowed as a deduction under section 63(d) of the Internal Revenue Code, but the addition may not be more than the amount by which the itemized deductions as allowed under section 63(d) of the Internal Revenue Code exceeds the amount of the standard deduction as defined in section 63(c) of the Internal Revenue Code. For the purpose of this paragraph, the disallowance of itemized deductions under section 68 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, income or sales and use tax is the last itemized deduction disallowed;

(3) the capital gain amount of a lump sum distribution to which the special tax under section 1122(h)(3)(B)(ii) of the Tax Reform Act of 1986, Public Law 99-514, applies;

(4) the amount of income taxes paid or accrued within the taxable year under this chapter and taxes based on net income paid to any other state or any province or territory of Canada, to the extent allowed as a deduction in determining federal adjusted gross income. For the purpose of this paragraph, income taxes do not include the taxes imposed by sections 290.0922, subdivision 1, paragraph (b), 290.9727, 290.9728, and 290.9729;

(5) the amount of expense, interest, or taxes disallowed pursuant to section 290.10 other than expenses or interest used in computing net interest income for the subtraction allowed under subdivision 19b, clause (1);

(6) the amount of a partner's pro rata share of net income which does not flow through to the partner because the partnership elected to pay the tax on the income under section 6242(a)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code;

(7) 80 percent of the depreciation deduction allowed under section 168(k) of the Internal Revenue Code. For purposes of this clause, if the taxpayer has an activity that in the taxable year generates a deduction for depreciation under section 168(k) and the activity generates a loss for the taxable year that the taxpayer is not allowed to claim for the taxable year, "the depreciation allowed under section 168(k)" for the taxable year is limited to excess of the depreciation claimed by the activity under section 168(k) over the amount of the loss from the activity that is not allowed in the taxable year. In succeeding taxable years when the losses not allowed in the taxable year are allowed, the depreciation under section 168(k) is allowed;

(8) 80 percent of the amount by which the deduction allowed by section 179 of the Internal Revenue Code exceeds the deduction allowable by section 179 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended through December 31, 2003;

(9) to the extent deducted in computing federal taxable income, the amount of the deduction allowable under section 199 of the Internal Revenue Code; and

(10) the exclusion allowed under section 139A of the Internal Revenue Code for federal subsidies for prescription drug plans; and

(11) the amount of expenses disallowed under section 290.10, subdivision 2.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2006.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 290.01, subdivision 19b, is amended to read:

Subd. 19b. **Subtractions from federal taxable income.** For individuals, estates, and trusts, there shall be subtracted from federal taxable income:

(1) net interest income on obligations of any authority, commission, or instrumentality of the United States to the extent includable in taxable income for federal income tax purposes but exempt from state income tax under the laws of the United States;

(2) if included in federal taxable income, the amount of any overpayment of income tax to Minnesota or to any other state, for any previous taxable year, whether the amount is received as a refund or as a credit to another taxable year's income tax liability;

(3) the amount paid to others, less the amount used to claim the credit allowed under section 290.0674, not to exceed \$1,625 for each qualifying child in grades kindergarten to 6 and \$2,500 for each qualifying child in grades 7 to 12, for tuition, textbooks, and transportation of each qualifying child in attending an elementary or secondary school situated in Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa, or Wisconsin, wherein a resident of this state may legally fulfill the state's compulsory attendance laws, which is not operated for profit, and which adheres to the provisions of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and chapter 363A. For the purposes of this clause, "tuition" includes fees or tuition as defined in section 290.0674, subdivision 1, clause (1). As used in this clause, "textbooks" includes books and other instructional materials and equipment purchased or leased for use in elementary and secondary schools in teaching only those subjects legally and commonly taught in public elementary and secondary schools in this state. Equipment expenses qualifying for deduction includes expenses as defined and limited in section 290.0674, subdivision 1, clause (3). "Textbooks" does not include instructional books and materials used in the teaching of religious tenets, doctrines, or worship, the purpose of which is to instill such tenets, doctrines, or

worship, nor does it include books or materials for, or transportation to, extracurricular activities including sporting events, musical or dramatic events, speech activities, driver's education, or similar programs. For purposes of the subtraction provided by this clause, "qualifying child" has the meaning given in section 32(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code;

(4) income as provided under section 290.0802;

(5) to the extent included in federal adjusted gross income, income realized on disposition of property exempt from tax under section 290.491;

(6) to the extent not deducted in determining federal taxable income by an individual who does not itemize deductions for federal income tax purposes for the taxable year, an amount equal to 50 percent of the excess of charitable contributions over \$500 allowable as a deduction for the taxable year under section 170(a) of the Internal Revenue Code and under the provisions of Public Law 109-1;

(7) for taxable years beginning before January 1, 2008, the amount of the federal small ethanol producer credit allowed under section 40(a)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code which is included in gross income under section 87 of the Internal Revenue Code;

(8) for individuals who are allowed a federal foreign tax credit for taxes that do not qualify for a credit under section 290.06, subdivision 22, an amount equal to the carryover of subnational foreign taxes for the taxable year, but not to exceed the total subnational foreign taxes reported in claiming the foreign tax credit. For purposes of this clause, "federal foreign tax credit" means the credit allowed under section 27 of the Internal Revenue Code, and "carryover of subnational foreign taxes" equals the carryover allowed under section 904(c) of the Internal Revenue Code minus national level foreign taxes to the extent they exceed the federal foreign tax credit;

(9) in each of the five tax years immediately following the tax year in which an addition is required under subdivision 19a, clause (7), or 19c, clause (15), in the case of a shareholder of a corporation that is an S corporation, an amount equal to one-fifth of the delayed depreciation. For purposes of this clause, "delayed depreciation" means the amount of the addition made by the taxpayer under subdivision 19a, clause (7), or subdivision 19c, clause (15), in the case of a shareholder of an S corporation, minus the positive value of any net operating loss under section 172 of the Internal Revenue Code generated for the tax year of the addition. The resulting delayed depreciation cannot be less than zero;

(10) job opportunity building zone income as provided under section 469.316;

(11) to the extent included in federal taxable income, the amount of compensation paid to members of the Minnesota National Guard or other reserve components of the United States military for active service performed in Minnesota, excluding compensation for services performed under the Active Guard Reserve (AGR) program. For purposes of this clause, "active service" means (i) state active service as defined in section 190.05, subdivision 5a, clause (1); (ii) federally funded state active service as defined in section 190.05, subdivision 5b; or (iii) federal active service as defined in section 190.05, subdivision 5c, but "active service" excludes services performed exclusively for purposes of basic combat training, advanced individual training, annual training, and periodic inactive duty training; special training periodically made available to reserve members; and service performed in accordance with section 190.08, subdivision 3;

(12) to the extent included in federal taxable income, the amount of compensation paid to Minnesota residents who are members of the armed forces of the United States or United Nations for active duty performed outside Minnesota under United States Code, title 10, section 101(d); United States Code, title 32, section 101(12); or the authority of the United Nations;

(13) an amount, not to exceed \$10,000, equal to qualified expenses related to a qualified donor's donation, while living, of one or more of the qualified donor's organs to another person for human organ transplantation. For purposes of this clause, "organ" means all or part of an individual's liver, pancreas, kidney, intestine, lung, or bone marrow; "human organ transplantation" means the medical procedure by which transfer of a human organ is made from the body of one person to the body of another person; "qualified expenses" means unreimbursed expenses for both the individual and the qualified donor for (i) travel, (ii) lodging, and (iii) lost wages net of sick pay, except that such expenses may be subtracted under this clause only once; and "qualified donor" means the individual or the individual's dependent, as defined in section 152 of the Internal Revenue Code. An individual may claim the subtraction in this clause for each instance of organ donation for transplantation during the taxable year in which the qualified expenses occur;

(14) in each of the five tax years immediately following the tax year in which an addition is required under subdivision 19a, clause (8), or 19c, clause (16), in the case of a shareholder of a corporation that is an S corporation, an amount equal to one-fifth of the addition made by the taxpayer under subdivision 19a, clause (8), or 19c, clause (16), in the case of a shareholder of a corporation that is an S corporation, minus the positive value of any net operating loss under section 172 of the Internal Revenue Code generated for the tax year of the addition. If the net operating loss exceeds the addition for the tax year, a subtraction is not allowed under this clause;

(15) to the extent included in federal taxable income, compensation paid to a nonresident who is a service member as defined in United States Code, title 10, section 101(a)(5), for military service as defined in the Service Member Civil Relief Act, Public Law 108-189, section 101(2); ~~and~~

(16) international economic development zone income as provided under section 469.325.; and

(17) to the extent included in federal taxable income, the amount of national service educational awards received from the National Service Trust under United States Code, title 42, sections 12601 to 12604, for service in an approved AmeriCorps national service program.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective retroactively for tax years beginning after December 31, 2004, except that clause (17) is effective for tax years beginning after December 31, 2006.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 290.01, subdivision 19c, is amended to read:

Subd. 19c. **Corporations; additions to federal taxable income.** For corporations, there shall be added to federal taxable income:

(1) the amount of any deduction taken for federal income tax purposes for income, excise, or franchise taxes based on net income or related minimum taxes, including but not limited to the tax imposed under section 290.0922, paid by the corporation to Minnesota, another state, a political subdivision of another state, the District of Columbia, or any foreign country or possession of the United States;

(2) interest not subject to federal tax upon obligations of: the United States, its possessions,

its agencies, or its instrumentalities; the state of Minnesota or any other state, any of its political or governmental subdivisions, any of its municipalities, or any of its governmental agencies or instrumentalities; the District of Columbia; or Indian tribal governments;

(3) exempt-interest dividends received as defined in section 852(b)(5) of the Internal Revenue Code;

(4) the amount of any net operating loss deduction taken for federal income tax purposes under section 172 or 832(c)(10) of the Internal Revenue Code or operations loss deduction under section 810 of the Internal Revenue Code;

(5) the amount of any special deductions taken for federal income tax purposes under sections 241 to 247 and 965 of the Internal Revenue Code;

(6) losses from the business of mining, as defined in section 290.05, subdivision 1, clause (a), that are not subject to Minnesota income tax;

(7) the amount of any capital losses deducted for federal income tax purposes under sections 1211 and 1212 of the Internal Revenue Code;

(8) the exempt foreign trade income of a foreign sales corporation under sections 921(a) and 291 of the Internal Revenue Code;

(9) the amount of percentage depletion deducted under sections 611 through 614 and 291 of the Internal Revenue Code;

(10) for certified pollution control facilities placed in service in a taxable year beginning before December 31, 1986, and for which amortization deductions were elected under section 169 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended through December 31, 1985, the amount of the amortization deduction allowed in computing federal taxable income for those facilities;

(11) the amount of any deemed dividend from a foreign operating corporation determined pursuant to section 290.17, subdivision 4, paragraph (g);

(12) the amount of a partner's pro rata share of net income which does not flow through to the partner because the partnership elected to pay the tax on the income under section 6242(a)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code;

(13) the amount of net income excluded under section 114 of the Internal Revenue Code;

(14) any increase in subpart F income, as defined in section 952(a) of the Internal Revenue Code, for the taxable year when subpart F income is calculated without regard to the provisions of section 103 of Public Law 109-222;

(15) 80 percent of the depreciation deduction allowed under section 168(k)(1)(A) and (k)(4)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code. For purposes of this clause, if the taxpayer has an activity that in the taxable year generates a deduction for depreciation under section 168(k)(1)(A) and (k)(4)(A) and the activity generates a loss for the taxable year that the taxpayer is not allowed to claim for the taxable year, "the depreciation allowed under section 168(k)(1)(A) and (k)(4)(A)" for the taxable year is limited to excess of the depreciation claimed by the activity under section 168(k)(1)(A) and (k)(4)(A) over the amount of the loss from the activity that is not allowed in the taxable year. In succeeding taxable years when the losses not allowed in the taxable year are allowed, the

depreciation under section 168(k)(1)(A) and (k)(4)(A) is allowed;

(16) 80 percent of the amount by which the deduction allowed by section 179 of the Internal Revenue Code exceeds the deduction allowable by section 179 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended through December 31, 2003;

(17) to the extent deducted in computing federal taxable income, the amount of the deduction allowable under section 199 of the Internal Revenue Code; ~~and~~

(18) the exclusion allowed under section 139A of the Internal Revenue Code for federal subsidies for prescription drug plans; and

(19) the amount of expenses disallowed under section 290.10, subdivision 2.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2006.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 290.06, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

**Subd. 34. Investment tax credit.** (a) A credit is allowed against the tax imposed by this chapter for a qualified taxpayer's investment in a qualified new business venture. The credit shall equal 25 percent of the taxpayer's investment made in the business, but shall not exceed the lesser of:

(1) the liability for tax under this chapter, including the applicable alternative minimum tax;

(2) \$25,000 for an individual not part of a partnership; or

(3) \$300,000 for a pass-through entity.

(b) For purposes of this subdivision, a qualified taxpayer means:

(1) an accredited investor within the meaning of Regulation D of the Securities and Exchange Commission, Code of Federal Regulations, title 17, section 230.501(a), whether part of a pass-through entity or not; and

(2) an accredited investor who does not own, control, or hold power to vote 20 percent or more of the outstanding securities of the qualified business venture in which the eligible investment is proposed.

(c) Pass-through entities and individuals may apply to the commissioner of employment and economic development for certification as a qualifying pass-through entity or individual. The application must be in the form and made under the procedures specified by the commissioner of employment and economic development. The commissioner of employment and economic development may provide certificates entitling investors to tax credit under this subdivision, but must not issue a total amount of certificates of more than \$2,000,000. In awarding certificates under this paragraph, the commissioner of employment and economic development shall award them to qualified applicants in the order in which the applications are received.

(d) Each pass-through entity must provide each investor a statement indicating the investor's share of the credit amount certified to the pass-through entity under paragraph (c) based on its share of the pass-through entity's assets. The credit shall not exceed \$25,000 for each individual part of a pass-through entity.



(e) If the amount of the credit under this subdivision or any taxable year exceeds the limitation under paragraph (a), clause (1), the excess shall be a credit carryover to each of the ten succeeding years but shall not exceed \$25,000 for an individual not part of a partnership and \$300,000 for a pass-through entity. The entire amount of the excess unused credit must be carried first to the earliest of the taxable years to which the credit may be carried, and then to each successive year to which the credit may be carried. The amount of the unused credit that may be added under this paragraph may not exceed the taxpayer's liability for tax less the credit for the taxable year.

(f) Unless otherwise provided under the rules of the Department of Employment and Economic Development, a business is a qualified business venture for purposes of this subdivision only if the business satisfies all of the following conditions:

(1) the business has its headquarters in Minnesota;

(2) at least 51 percent of the business's employees are employed in Minnesota;

(3) the business is engaged in, or is committed to engage in:

(i) manufacturing, processing, or assembling biotechnology or medical device products, including biotechnology and device products for use in agriculture;

(ii) conducting research in and development of biotechnology or medical device products or services; or

(iii) developing a new biotechnology or medical device product or business process;

(4) the business is not engaged in real estate development, insurance, banking, lending, lobbying, political consulting, wholesale or retail trade, leisure, hospitality, transportation, construction, or professional services provided by attorneys, accountants, business consultants, physicians, or health care consultants;

(5) the business has less than 25 employees;

(6) the business has not been in operation for more than ten consecutive years;

(7) the business has not received more than \$1,000,000 in investments that have qualified for and received tax credits under this section;

(8) the business has less than \$1,000,000 in annual gross sales receipts;

(9) the business is not a subsidiary or an affiliate of a business that employs more than 100 employees or has gross sales receipts for the previous year of more than \$1,000,000, computed by aggregating all of the employees and gross sales receipts of the business entities affiliated with the business; and

(10) the business has not received private equity investments of more than \$2,000,000.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2007.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 290.0677, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Credit allowed.** (a) An individual is allowed a credit against the tax due under

this chapter equal to \$59 for each month or portion thereof that the individual was in active military service in a designated area after September 11, 2001, and before January 1, 2007, while a Minnesota domiciliary.

(b) An individual is allowed a credit against the tax due under this chapter equal to \$120 for each month or portion thereof that the individual was in active military service in a designated area after December 31, 2006, while a Minnesota domiciliary.

(c) For active service performed after September 11, 2001, and before December 31, 2006, the individual may claim the credit in the taxable year beginning after December 31, 2005, and before January 1, 2007.

~~(e)~~(d) For active service performed after December 31, 2006, the individual may claim the credit for the taxable year in which the active service was performed.

~~(d)~~ (e) If a Minnesota domiciliary is killed while performing active military service in a designated area, the individual's surviving spouse or dependent child may take the credit in the taxable year of the death. If a Minnesota domiciliary was killed while performing active military service in a designated area between September 11, 2001, and December 31, 2006, the individual's surviving spouse or dependent child may claim this credit in the taxable year beginning after December 31, 2005, and before January 1, 2007 an individual entitled to the credit died prior to January 1, 2006, the individual's estate or heirs at law, if the individual's probate estate has closed or the estate was not probated, may claim the credit.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2006, except that paragraph (e) is effective retroactively for tax years beginning after December 31, 2005.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 290.091, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Exemption amount.** (a) For purposes of computing the alternative minimum tax, the exemption amount is:

~~(1)~~ for taxable years beginning before January 1, 2006, the exemption determined under section 55(d) of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended through December 31, 1992; and

~~(2)~~, for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2005, \$60,000 for married couples filing joint returns, \$30,000 for married individuals filing separate returns, estates, and trusts, and \$45,000 for unmarried individuals.

(b) The exemption amount determined under this subdivision is subject to the phase out under section 55(d)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, except that alternative minimum taxable income as determined under this section must be substituted in the computation of the phase out, and the income threshold used in the phaseout must be adjusted for inflation as provided in paragraph (c).

(c) For taxable years beginning after December 31, 2006, the exemption amount under paragraph (a), ~~clause (2),~~ and the income threshold for the phaseout under paragraph (b) must be adjusted for inflation. The commissioner shall make the inflation adjustments in accordance with section 1(f) of the Internal Revenue Code except that for the purposes of this subdivision the percentage increase must be determined from the year starting September 1, 2005, and ending August 31, 2006, as the base year for adjusting for inflation for the tax year beginning after

December 31, 2006. The commissioner shall adjust the exemption amount and phaseout threshold by the percentage determined pursuant to the provisions of section 1(f) of the Internal Revenue Code, except that in section 1(f)(3)(B) the word "2005" shall be substituted for the word "1992." For 2007, the commissioner shall then determine the percentage change from the 12 months ending on August 31, 2005, to the 12 months ending on August 31, 2006, and in each subsequent year, from the 12 months ending on August 31, 2005, to the 12 months ending on August 31 of the year preceding the taxable year. The exemption amount and phaseout threshold as adjusted must be rounded to the nearest \$10. If the amount ends in \$5, it must be rounded up to the nearest \$10 amount. The determination of the commissioner under this subdivision is not a rule under the Administrative Procedure Act.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2006.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 290.10, is amended to read:

**290.10 NONDEDUCTIBLE ITEMS.**

Subdivision 1. **Expenses, interest, and taxes.** Except as provided in section 290.17, subdivision 4, paragraph (i), in computing the net income of a taxpayer no deduction shall in any case be allowed for expenses, interest and taxes connected with or allocable against the production or receipt of all income not included in the measure of the tax imposed by this chapter, except that for corporations engaged in the business of mining or producing iron ore, the mining of which is subject to the occupation tax imposed by section 298.01, subdivision 4, this shall not prevent the deduction of expenses and other items to the extent that the expenses and other items are allowable under this chapter and are not deductible, capitalizable, retainable in basis, or taken into account by allowance or otherwise in computing the occupation tax and do not exceed the amounts taken for federal income tax purposes for that year. Occupation taxes imposed under chapter 298, royalty taxes imposed under chapter 299, or depletion expenses may not be deducted under this clause subdivision.

Subd. 2. **Fines, fees, and penalties.** (a) Except as provided in this subdivision, no deduction from taxable income for a trade or business expense under section 162(a) of the Internal Revenue Code shall be allowed for any amount paid or incurred, whether by suit, agreement, or otherwise, to, or at the direction of, a government or entity described in paragraph (d) in relation to the violation of any law or the investigation or inquiry by such government or entity into the potential violation of any law.

(b) Exception for amounts constituting restitution or paid to come into compliance with the law. Paragraph (a) does not apply to any amount which:

(1) the taxpayer establishes:

(i) constitutes restitution, including remediation of property for damage or harm caused by or which may be caused by the violation of any law or the potential violation of any law; or

(ii) is paid to come into compliance with any law which was violated or involved in the investigation or inquiry; and

(2) is identified as restitution or as an amount paid to come into compliance with the law, as the case may be, in the court order or settlement agreement.

This paragraph does not apply to any amount paid or incurred as reimbursement to the government or entity for the costs of any investigation or litigation.

(c) Paragraph (a) does not apply to any amount paid or incurred by order of a court in a suit in which no government or entity described in paragraph (d) is a party.

(d) An entity is described in this paragraph if it is:

(1) a nongovernmental entity which exercises self-regulatory powers, including imposing sanctions, in connection with a qualified board or exchange, as defined in section 1256(g)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code, or;

(2) to the extent provided in regulations, a nongovernmental entity which exercises self-regulatory powers, including imposing sanctions, as part of performing an essential governmental function.

(e) Paragraph (a) does not apply to any amount paid or incurred as taxes due.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2006, and for fines, fees, and penalties assessed after the date of enactment.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 290.17, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Income not derived from conduct of a trade or business.** The income of a taxpayer subject to the allocation rules that is not derived from the conduct of a trade or business must be assigned in accordance with paragraphs (a) to (f):

(a)(1) Subject to paragraphs (a)(2), and (a)(3), and ~~(a)(4)~~, income from wages as defined in section 3401(a) and (f) of the Internal Revenue Code is assigned to this state if, and to the extent that, the work of the employee is performed within it; all other income from such sources is treated as income from sources without this state.

Severance pay shall be considered income from labor or personal or professional services.

(2) In the case of an individual who is a nonresident of Minnesota and who is an athlete or entertainer, income from compensation for labor or personal services performed within this state shall be determined in the following manner:

(i) The amount of income to be assigned to Minnesota for an individual who is a nonresident salaried athletic team employee shall be determined by using a fraction in which the denominator contains the total number of days in which the individual is under a duty to perform for the employer, and the numerator is the total number of those days spent in Minnesota. For purposes of this paragraph, off-season training activities, unless conducted at the team's facilities as part of a team imposed program, are not included in the total number of duty days. Bonuses earned as a result of play during the regular season or for participation in championship, play-off, or all-star games must be allocated under the formula. Signing bonuses are not subject to allocation under the formula if they are not conditional on playing any games for the team, are payable separately from any other compensation, and are nonrefundable; and

(ii) The amount of income to be assigned to Minnesota for an individual who is a nonresident, and who is an athlete or entertainer not listed in clause (i), for that person's athletic or entertainment performance in Minnesota shall be determined by assigning to this state all income from

performances or athletic contests in this state.

(3) For purposes of this section, amounts received by a nonresident as "retirement income" as defined in section (b)(1) of the State Income Taxation of Pension Income Act, Public Law 104-95, are not considered income derived from carrying on a trade or business or from wages or other compensation for work an employee performed in Minnesota, and are not taxable under this chapter.

~~(4) Wages, otherwise assigned to this state under clause (1) and not qualifying under clause (3), are not taxable under this chapter if the following conditions are met:~~

~~(i) the recipient was not a resident of this state for any part of the taxable year in which the wages were received; and~~

~~(ii) the wages are for work performed while the recipient was a resident of this state.~~

(b) Income or gains from tangible property located in this state that is not employed in the business of the recipient of the income or gains must be assigned to this state.

(c) Income or gains from intangible personal property not employed in the business of the recipient of the income or gains must be assigned to this state if the recipient of the income or gains is a resident of this state or is a resident trust or estate.

Gain on the sale of a partnership interest is allocable to this state in the ratio of the original cost of partnership tangible property in this state to the original cost of partnership tangible property everywhere, determined at the time of the sale. If more than 50 percent of the value of the partnership's assets consists of intangibles, gain or loss from the sale of the partnership interest is allocated to this state in accordance with the sales factor of the partnership for its first full tax period immediately preceding the tax period of the partnership during which the partnership interest was sold.

Gain on the sale of goodwill or income from a covenant not to compete that is connected with a business operating all or partially in Minnesota is allocated to this state to the extent that the income from the business in the year preceding the year of sale was assignable to Minnesota under subdivision 3.

When an employer pays an employee for a covenant not to compete, the income allocated to this state is in the ratio of the employee's service in Minnesota in the calendar year preceding leaving the employment of the employer over the total services performed by the employee for the employer in that year.

(d) Income from winnings on a bet made by an individual while in Minnesota is assigned to this state. In this paragraph, "bet" has the meaning given in section 609.75, subdivision 2, as limited by section 609.75, subdivision 3, clauses (1), (2), and (3).

(e) All items of gross income not covered in paragraphs (a) to (d) and not part of the taxpayer's income from a trade or business shall be assigned to the taxpayer's domicile.

(f) For the purposes of this section, working as an employee shall not be considered to be conducting a trade or business.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2006.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 290.92, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 31. **Payments to persons who are not employees.** (a) For purposes of this subdivision, "contractor" means a person carrying on a trade or business described in industry code numbers 23 through 238990 of the North American Industry Classification System.

(b) A contractor or a third-party bulk filer acting on behalf of a contractor, who makes payments to an individual, carrying on a trade or business described in paragraph (a) as a sole proprietorship, must deduct and withhold two percent of the payment as Minnesota withholding tax when the amount the contractor paid to that individual during the calendar year exceeds \$600.

(c) A payment subject to withholding under this subdivision must be treated as if the payment were a wage paid by an employer to an employee. The requirements in the definitions of "employee" and "employer" in subdivision 1 relating to geographic location apply in determining whether withholding tax applies under this subdivision, but without regard to whether the contractor or the individual otherwise satisfy the definition of an employer or an employee. Each recipient of a payment subject to withholding under this subdivision must furnish the contractor with a statement of the recipient's name, address, and Social Security account number.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for payments made after December 31, 2007.

Sec. 11. **AUDIT AND REPORT TO LEGISLATURE.**

The commissioner must conduct a random sample audit of withholdings under Minnesota Statutes, section 290.92, subdivision 31, and returns associated with those withholdings. The commissioner must report on the findings of the audit to the committees of the senate and house of representatives with jurisdiction over taxes, in compliance with Minnesota Statutes, sections 3.195 and 3.197, no later than February 1, 2010. The report must also include information on the number and amount of payments received, and on the types of contractors making payments, grouped by specialty skills definitions provided in the North American Industry Classification System.

## ARTICLE 5

### SALES AND USE TAX

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 297A.668, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 8. **Manufactured and modular housing.** (a) Notwithstanding other subdivisions of this section, a sale of a manufactured or modular home shall be sourced to the site where the housing is first set up or installed.

(b) For purposes of this section, "manufactured home" has the meaning given in section 327.31, subdivision 6. For purposes of this section, "modular home" means a building or structural unit that has been substantially manufactured or constructed, in whole or in part, at an off-site location, with the final assembly occurring on-site alone or with other units and attached to a permanent foundation site and occupied as a single-family dwelling. Modular home construction must comply with applicable standards adopted in Minnesota Rules authorized under chapter 16B. A modular home does not include a structure subject to the requirements of the National Manufactured Home Construction and Safety Standards Act of 1974 or a manufactured home.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for sales and purchases made after June 30, 2007.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 297A.70, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

Subd. 8. **Regionwide public safety radio communication system; products and services.** Products and services including, but not limited to, end user equipment used for construction, ownership, operation, maintenance, and enhancement of the backbone system of the regionwide public safety radio communication system established under sections 403.21 to 403.34 ~~403.40~~, are exempt. For purposes of this subdivision, backbone system is defined in section 403.21, subdivision 9. This subdivision is effective for purchases, sales, storage, use, or consumption for use in the first and second phases of the system, as defined in section 403.21, subdivisions 3, 10, and 11, ~~and that portion of the third phase of the system that is located in the southeast district of the State Patrol and the counties of Benton, Sherburne, Stearns, and Wright, and that portion of the system that is located in Itasca County.~~

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 297A.71, subdivision 23, is amended to read:

Subd. 23. **Construction materials for qualified low-income housing projects.** (a) Purchases of materials and supplies used or consumed in and equipment incorporated into the construction, improvement, or expansion of qualified low-income housing projects are exempt from the tax imposed under this chapter if the owner of the qualified low-income housing project is:

- (1) the public housing agency or housing and redevelopment authority of a political subdivision;
- (2) an entity exercising the powers of a housing and redevelopment authority within a political subdivision;
- (3) a limited partnership in which the sole or managing general partner is an authority under clause (1) or an entity under clause (2) or (4);
- (4) a nonprofit corporation subject to the provisions of chapter 317A, and qualifying under section 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended; or
- (5) an owner entity, as defined in Code of Federal Regulations, title 24, part 941.604, for a qualified low-income housing project described in paragraph (b), clause (5).

This exemption applies regardless of whether the purchases are made by the owner of the facility or a contractor.

(b) For purposes of this exemption, "qualified low-income housing project" means:

- (1) a housing or mixed use project in which at least 20 percent of the residential units are qualifying low-income rental housing units as defined in section 273.126;
- (2) a federally assisted low-income housing project financed by a mortgage insured or held by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development under United States Code, title 12, section 1701s, 1715l(d)(3), 1715l(d)(4), or 1715z-1; United States Code, title 42, section 1437f; the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act, United States Code, title 25, section 4101 et seq.; or any similar successor federal low-income housing program;
- (3) a qualified low-income housing project as defined in United States Code, title 26, section 42(g), meeting all of the requirements for a low-income housing credit under section 42 of

the Internal Revenue Code regardless of whether the project actually applies for or receives a low-income housing credit;

(4) a project that will be operated in compliance with Internal Revenue Service revenue procedure 96-32; or

(5) a housing or mixed use project in which all or a portion of the residential units are subject to the requirements of section 5 of the United States Housing Act of 1937.

(c) For a project, a portion of which is not used for low-income housing units, the amount of purchases that are exempt under this subdivision must be determined by multiplying the total purchases, as specified in paragraph (a), by the ratio of:

(1) the total gross square footage of units subject to the income limits under section 273.126, the financing for the project, the federal low-income housing tax credit, revenue procedure 96-32, or section 5 of the United States Housing Act of 1937, as applicable to the project; and

(2) the total gross square footage of all units in the project.

(d) The tax must be imposed and collected as if the rate under section 297A.62, subdivision 1, applied, and then refunded in the manner provided in section 297A.75.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for sales and purchases made after June 30, 2007.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 297A.99, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Authorization; scope.** (a) A political subdivision of this state may impose a general sales tax if permitted by special law enacted prior to January 1, 2008, or if the political subdivision enacted and imposed the tax before the effective date of section 477A.016 and its predecessor provision.

(b) This section governs the imposition of a general sales tax by the political subdivision. The provisions of this section preempt the provisions of any special law:

(1) enacted before June 2, 1997, or

(2) enacted on or after June 2, 1997, that does not explicitly exempt the special law provision from this section's rules by reference.

(c) This section does not apply to or preempt a sales tax on motor vehicles or a special excise tax on motor vehicles.

(d) From June 1, 2007, through December 31, 2010, a political subdivision must not advertise, promote, expend funds, or hold a referendum to support imposing a local option sales tax unless authorized by a special law enacted prior to June 1, 2007.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 297B.03, is amended to read:

### **297B.03 EXEMPTIONS.**

There is specifically exempted from the provisions of this chapter and from computation of the amount of tax imposed by it the following:



(1) purchase or use, including use under a lease purchase agreement or installment sales contract made pursuant to section 465.71, of any motor vehicle by the United States and its agencies and instrumentalities and by any person described in and subject to the conditions provided in section 297A.67, subdivision 11;

(2) purchase or use of any motor vehicle by any person who was a resident of another state or country at the time of the purchase and who subsequently becomes a resident of Minnesota, provided the purchase occurred more than 60 days prior to the date such person began residing in the state of Minnesota and the motor vehicle was registered in the person's name in the other state or country;

(3) purchase or use of any motor vehicle by any person making a valid election to be taxed under the provisions of section 297A.90;

(4) purchase or use of any motor vehicle previously registered in the state of Minnesota when such transfer constitutes a transfer within the meaning of section 118, 331, 332, 336, 337, 338, 351, 355, 368, 721, 731, 1031, 1033, or 1563(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended through December 31, 1999;

(5) purchase or use of any vehicle owned by a resident of another state and leased to a Minnesota-based private or for-hire carrier for regular use in the transportation of persons or property in interstate commerce provided the vehicle is titled in the state of the owner or secured party, and that state does not impose a sales tax or sales tax on motor vehicles used in interstate commerce;

(6) purchase or use of a motor vehicle by a private nonprofit or public educational institution for use as an instructional aid in automotive training programs operated by the institution. "Automotive training programs" includes motor vehicle body and mechanical repair courses but does not include driver education programs;

(7) purchase of a motor vehicle for use as an ambulance by an ambulance service licensed under section 144E.10;

(8) purchase of a motor vehicle by or for a public library, as defined in section 134.001, subdivision 2, as a bookmobile or library delivery vehicle;

(9) purchase of a ready-mixed concrete truck;

(10) purchase or use of a motor vehicle by a town for use exclusively for road maintenance, including snowplows and dump trucks, but not including automobiles, vans, or pickup trucks;

(11) purchase or use of a motor vehicle by a corporation, society, association, foundation, or institution organized and operated exclusively for charitable, religious, or educational purposes, except a public school, university, or library, but only if the vehicle is:

(i) a truck, as defined in section 168.011, a bus, as defined in section 168.011, or a passenger automobile, as defined in section 168.011, if the automobile is designed and used for carrying more than nine persons including the driver; and

(ii) intended to be used primarily to transport tangible personal property or individuals, other than employees, to whom the organization provides service in performing its charitable, religious, or educational purpose;

(12) purchase of a motor vehicle for use by a transit provider exclusively to provide transit service is exempt if the transit provider is either (i) receiving financial assistance or reimbursement under section 174.24 or 473.384, or (ii) operating under section 174.29, 473.388, or 473.405;

(13) purchase or use of a motor vehicle by a qualified business, as defined in section 469.310, located in a job opportunity building zone, if the motor vehicle is principally garaged in the job opportunity building zone and is primarily used as part of or in direct support of the person's operations carried on in the job opportunity building zone. The exemption under this clause applies to sales, if the purchase was made and delivery received during the duration of the job opportunity building zone. The exemption under this clause also applies to any local sales and use tax;

(14) purchase of a leased vehicle by the lessee who was a participant in a lease-to-own program from a charitable organization that is:

(i) described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code; and

(ii) licensed as a motor vehicle lessor under section 168.27, subdivision 4.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for sales and purchases made after June 30, 2007.

Sec. 6. Laws 1980, chapter 511, section 1, subdivision 2, as amended by Laws 1991, chapter 291, article 8, section 22, and Laws 1998, chapter 389, article 8, section 25, and Laws 2003, First Special Session chapter 21, article 8, section 11, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, Section 477A.016, or any other law, ordinance, or city charter provision to the contrary, the city of Duluth may, by ordinance, impose an additional sales tax of up to ~~one and one-half~~ two and one-quarter percent on sales transactions which are described in Minnesota Statutes 2000, Section 297A.01, Subdivision 3, Clause (c). When the city council determines that the taxes imposed under this subdivision and under Laws 1998, chapter 389, article 8, section 26, at a rate of one-half of one percent have produced revenue sufficient to pay (1) the debt service on bonds in a principal amount of \$8,000,000 issued for capital improvements to the Duluth Entertainment and Convention Center, and (2) debt service on outstanding bonds originally issued in the principal amount of \$4,970,000 to finance capital improvements to the Great Lakes Aquarium since the imposition of the taxes at the rate of one and one-half percent, the rate of the tax under this subdivision is reduced ~~to~~ by one-half of one percent. The imposition of this tax shall not be subject to voter referendum under either state law or city charter provisions. When the city council determines that the taxes imposed under this subdivision at a rate of three-quarters of one percent and other sources of revenue produce revenue sufficient to pay debt service on bonds in the principal amount of \$37,931,000 plus issuance and discount costs, issued for capital improvements at the Duluth Entertainment and Convention Center, which include a new arena, the rate of tax under this subdivision must be reduced by three-quarters of one percent.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day after the governing body of the city of Duluth and its chief clerical officer comply with Minnesota Statutes, section 645.021, subdivisions 2 and 3.

Sec. 7. Laws 1987, chapter 168, section 2, is amended to read:

**Sec. 2. LODGING TAX IN TOWNS.**

Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 477A.016, or other law, the Cook county board

may impose a tax of up to two percent on the gross receipts from the furnishing for consideration of lodging at a hotel, motel, rooming house, tourist court or resort, other than the renting or leasing of it for a continuous period of 30 days or more, located in the towns of Lutsen, Tofte, and Schroeder. The tax may be imposed in one or more of the towns. The tax may be imposed in a town only with the agreement of the town expressed by its voters at an annual or special meeting. The tax shall be collected by and its proceeds paid to the county. ~~The proceeds of the tax shall be dedicated for the construction, debt service, and maintenance of a public recreational facility within the towns.~~ The proceeds of the tax must be used to fund a new Cook County Event and Visitors Bureau.

Sec. 8. Laws 1993, chapter 375, article 9, section 45, subdivision 2, as amended by Laws 1997, chapter 231, article 7, section 36, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Use of revenues.** (a) Revenues received from taxes authorized by subdivision 1 shall be used by Cook county to pay the cost of collecting the tax and to pay all or a portion of the costs of expanding and improving the health care facility located in the county and known as North Shore hospital. Authorized costs include, but are not limited to, securing or paying debt service on bonds or other obligations issued to finance the expansion and improvement of North Shore hospital. The total capital expenditures payable from bond proceeds, excluding investment earnings on bond proceeds and tax revenues, shall not exceed \$4,000,000.

(b) Additional revenues received from taxes authorized by subdivision 1 may be used by Cook county to pay all or a portion of the costs of betterment of North Shore care center and providing additional improvements to North Shore hospital. Authorized costs include, but are not limited to, securing or paying debt service on bonds or other obligations issued to finance the remodeling of North Shore care center and additional improvements to North Shore hospital. The total capital expenditures payable from bond proceeds, excluding investment earnings on bond proceeds and tax revenues, shall not exceed \$2,200,000.

(c) If approved by the voters at a special election held before December 31, 2007, additional revenues received from taxes authorized by subdivision 1 may be used by Cook County to pay for the following projects:

(1) construction and improvements to community centers, museums, interpretive centers, associated trails, and recreation areas, including, but not limited to, improvements and additions to the skateboard park, hockey rink, ball fields, community center addition, county parking area, tennis courts, and all associated improvements;

(2) construction and improvement to the Grand Marais pool;

(3) construction and improvement to the Grand Marais Public Library; and

(4) debt service to retire bonds for improvements to the Superior National Golf Course.

Authorized expenses include, but are not limited to, paying construction expenses related to these improvements, and paying debt service on bonds or other obligations issued to finance acquisition and construction of these improvements.

Sec. 9. Laws 1993, chapter 375, article 9, section 45, subdivision 3, as amended by Laws 1997, chapter 231, article 7, section 37, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Expiration of taxing authority and expenditure limitation.** The authority granted

by subdivision 1 to Cook county to impose a sales tax shall expire ~~when the principal and interest on any bonds or obligations issued under subdivision 4, paragraph (a), to finance the expansion and improvement of North Shore hospital described in subdivision 2, paragraph (a), have been paid, or at an earlier time as the county shall, by resolution, determine~~ when the county determines that the amount of revenues received is sufficient to pay for the principal and interest on any bonds or obligations issued to finance the projects in subdivision 2. Any funds remaining after completion of the improvements and retirement or redemption of the bonds may be placed in the general fund of the county.

Sec. 10. Laws 1993, chapter 375, article 9, section 45, subdivision 4, as amended by Laws 1997, chapter 231, article 7, section 38, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Bonds.** (a) Cook county may issue general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed \$4,000,000 for the expansion and improvement of North Shore hospital.

(b) Additionally, Cook county may issue (b) general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed \$2,200,000 for the betterment of North Shore care center and additional improvements to North Shore hospital.

(c) The bonds may be issued without election under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 475, on the question of issuance of the bonds or a property tax to pay them. The debt represented by the bonds shall not be included in computing any debt limitations applicable to Cook county, and the levy of taxes required by Minnesota Statutes, section 475.61, to pay principal of and interest on the bonds shall not be subject to any levy limitation or be included in computing or applying any levy limitation applicable to the county.

(d) Cook County may issue bonds under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 475, to pay capital and administrative expenses for the improvements authorized in subdivision 2, paragraph (c), in an amount that does not exceed \$14,000,000. An election to approve the bonds under Minnesota Statutes, section 475.58, is not required. The issuance of bonds under this subdivision is not subject to Minnesota Statutes, sections 275.60 and 275.61. The debt represented by the bonds is not included in computing any debt limitation applicable to the county, and any levy of taxes under Minnesota Statutes, section 475.61, to pay principal and interest on the bonds is not subject to any levy limitation.

Sec. 11. Laws 1999, chapter 243, article 4, section 18, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Sales and use tax.** Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section ~~297A.48,~~ ~~subdivision 1a,~~ 477A.016, or any other provision of law, ordinance, or city charter, if approved by the city voters at the first municipal general election held after the date of final enactment of this act or at a special election held November 2, 1999, the city of Proctor may impose by ordinance a sales and use tax of up to one-half of one percent for the purposes specified in subdivision 3. The provisions of Minnesota Statutes, section ~~297A.48~~ 297A.99, govern the imposition, administration, collection, and enforcement of the tax authorized under this subdivision.

Sec. 12. Laws 1999, chapter 243, article 4, section 18, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Use of revenues.** (a) Revenues received from taxes authorized by subdivisions 1 and 2 must be used by the city to pay the cost of collecting the taxes and to pay for construction and improvement of the following city facilities:

- (1) streets; and
- (2) constructing and equipping the Proctor community activity center.

Authorized expenses include, but are not limited to, acquiring property, paying construction and operating expenses related to the development of an authorized facility, and paying debt service on bonds or other obligations, including lease obligations, issued to finance the construction, expansion, or improvement of an authorized facility. The capital expenses for all projects authorized under this paragraph that may be paid with these taxes is limited to \$3,600,000, plus an amount equal to the costs related to issuance of the bonds.

(b) Additional revenues received from taxes authorized by subdivision 1, may be used by the city to pay for the following capital improvement projects: public utilities, including water, sanitary sewer, storm sewer, and electric; bikeways and trails; and parks and recreation.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment, upon compliance by the city of Proctor with Minnesota Statutes, section 645.021, subdivision 3.

Sec. 13. Laws 1999, chapter 243, article 4, section 18, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Bonding authority.** (a) The city may issue bonds under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 475, to finance the capital expenditure and improvement projects described in subdivision 3. An election to approve the bonds under Minnesota Statutes, section 475.58, is not required.

(b) The issuance of bonds under this subdivision is not subject to Minnesota Statutes, sections 275.60 and ~~279.61~~ 275.61.

(c) The bonds are not included in computing any debt limitation applicable to the city, and the levy of taxes under Minnesota Statutes, section 475.61, to pay principal of and interest on the bonds is not subject to any levy limitation.

(d) For projects described in subdivision 3, paragraph (a), the aggregate principal amount of bonds, plus the aggregate of the taxes used directly to pay eligible capital expenditures and improvements, may not exceed \$3,600,000, plus an amount equal to the costs related to issuance of the bonds, including interest on the bonds. For projects described in subdivision 3, paragraph (b), the aggregate principal amount of bonds may not exceed \$7,200,000, plus an amount equal to the costs related to issuance of the bonds, including interest on the bonds.

(e) The sales and use and excise taxes authorized in this section may be pledged to and used for the payment of the bonds and any bonds issued to refund them only if the bonds and any refunding bonds are general obligations of the city.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment, upon compliance by the city of Proctor with Minnesota Statutes, section 645.021, subdivision 3.

Sec. 14. Laws 2005, First Special Session chapter 3, article 5, section 39, is amended to read:

Sec. 39. **CITY OF BEMIDJI.**

Subdivision 1. **Sales and use tax authorized.** Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 477A.016, or any other provision of law, ordinance, or city charter, pursuant to the approval of the city voters at the general election held on November 5, 2002, and at the general election held

November 7, 2006, the city of Bemidji may impose by ordinance a sales and use tax of one-half of one percent for the purposes specified in subdivision 2. The provisions of Minnesota Statutes, section 297A.99, govern the imposition, administration, collection, and enforcement of the tax authorized under this subdivision.

Subd. 2. **Use of revenues.** Revenues received from the tax authorized by subdivision 1 must be used for the cost of collecting and administering the tax and to pay for the projects listed in this subdivision:

(1) To pay all or part of the capital or administrative costs of the acquisition, construction, and improvement of parks and trails within the city, as provided for in the city of Bemidji's parks, open space, and trail system plan, adopted by the Bemidji City Council on November 21, 2001. Authorized expenses include, but are not limited to, acquiring property, paying construction expenses related to the development of these facilities and improvements, and securing and paying debt service on bonds or other obligations issued to finance acquisition, construction, improvement, or development of parks and trails within the city of Bemidji.

(2) To pay all or part of the city's share of costs for acquisition, design, and construction of a regional event center, not to exceed \$40,000,000 plus any associated bond costs. Authorized expenses include, but are not limited to, acquiring property, paying demolition and construction expenses, improving associated infrastructure, and purchasing furniture, fixtures, and equipment for the regional event center, and securing and paying debt service on bonds or other obligations issued to finance the regional event center project.

Subd. 3. **Bonds.** (a) Pursuant to the approval of the city voters at the general election held on November 5, 2002, the city of Bemidji may issue, without an additional election, general obligation bonds of the city in an amount not to exceed \$9,826,000 to pay capital and administrative expenses for the acquisition, construction, improvement, and development of parks and trails as specified in subdivision 2. The debt represented by the bonds must not be included in computing any debt limitations applicable to the city, and the levy of taxes required by Minnesota Statutes, section 475.61, to pay the principal of any interest on the bonds must not be subject to any levy limitations or be included in computing or applying any levy limitation applicable to the city.

(b) Pursuant to the approval of the city voters at the general election held on November 7, 2006, the city of Bemidji may issue, without an additional election, general obligation bonds of the city in an amount not to exceed \$40,000,000 to pay capital and administrative expenses for the acquisition, construction, improvement, and development of the regional event center specified in subdivision 2. The debt represented by the bonds must not be included in computing any debt limitations applicable to the city, and the levy of taxes required by Minnesota Statutes, section 475.61, to pay the principal of any interest on the bonds must not be subject to any levy limitations or be included in computing or applying any levy limitation applicable to the city.

Subd. 4. **Termination of tax.** The tax imposed under subdivision 1 expires when the Bemidji City Council determines that the amount described in subdivision 3, paragraph (a), has been received from the tax to finance the capital and administrative costs for acquisition, construction, improvement, and development of parks and trails and to repay or retire at maturity the principal, interest, and premium due on any bonds issued for the park and trail improvements under subdivision 3, paragraph (a), plus the earlier of (1) 30 years, or (2) when the city council first determines that the additional revenues received from the extension of the tax equals or exceeds

the amount authorized to be spent for the regional event center under subdivision 2, clause (2). Any funds remaining after completion of the ~~park and trail improvements~~ authorized projects and retirement or redemption of the bonds may be placed in the general fund of the city. The tax imposed under subdivision 1 may expire at an earlier time if the city so determines by ordinance.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day after compliance by the governing body of the city of Bemidji and its chief clerical officer with Minnesota Statutes, section 645.021, subdivisions 2 and 3.

Sec. 15. **CITY OF CLEARWATER; TAXES AUTHORIZED.**

Subdivision 1. **Sales and use tax.** Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 477A.016, or any other provision of law, ordinance, or city charter, pursuant to the approval of the voters on November 7, 2006, the city of Clearwater may impose by ordinance a sales and use tax of up to one-half of one percent for the purposes specified in subdivision 2. Except as otherwise provided in this section, the provisions of Minnesota Statutes, section 297A.99, govern the imposition, administration, collection, and enforcement of the tax authorized under this subdivision.

Subd. 2. **Excise tax authorized.** Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 477A.016, or any other provision of law, ordinance, or city charter, the city of Clearwater may impose by ordinance, for the purposes specified in subdivision 3, an excise tax of up to \$20 per motor vehicle, as defined by ordinance, purchased or acquired from any person engaged within the city in the business of selling motor vehicles at retail.

Subd. 3. **Use of revenues.** The proceeds of the tax imposed under this section shall be used to pay for the costs of acquisition, construction, improvement, and development of a pedestrian bridge, and land and buildings for a community and recreation center.

Subd. 4. **Bonding authority.** The city of Clearwater may issue bonds in an amount not to exceed \$12,000,000 under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 475, to finance the capital expenditures and improvements authorized by the referendum under subdivision 3. An election to approve the bonds under Minnesota Statutes, section 475.59, is not required. The issuance of bonds under this subdivision is not subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 275.60 or 275.61. The debt represented by the bonds must not be included in computing any debt limitations applicable to the city, and the levy of taxes required by Minnesota Statutes, section 475.61, to pay the principal or any interest on the bonds must not be subject to any levy limitation.

Subd. 5. **Termination of tax.** The tax authorized under subdivision 1 terminates at the earlier of (1) 20 years after the date of initial imposition of the tax, or (2) when the city council determines that sufficient funds have been raised from the tax to finance the capital and administrative costs of the improvements described in subdivision 3, plus the additional amount needed to pay the costs related to issuance of bonds under subdivision 4, including interest on the bonds. Any funds remaining after completion of the projects specified in subdivision 3 and retirement or redemption of the bonds in subdivision 4 may be placed in the general fund of the city. The tax imposed under subdivision 1 may expire at an earlier time if the city so determines by ordinance.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day after compliance by the governing body of the city of Clearwater with Minnesota Statutes, section 645.021, subdivisions 2 and 3.

Sec. 16. **COOK COUNTY; LODGING AND ADMISSIONS TAXES.**

Subdivision 1. **Lodging tax.** Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 477A.016, or any other provision of law, ordinance, or city charter, the Board of Commissioners of Cook County may impose, by ordinance, a tax of up to one percent on the gross receipts subject to the lodging tax under Minnesota Statutes, section 469.190. This tax is in addition to any tax imposed under Minnesota Statutes, section 469.190, and the total tax imposed under that section and this provision must not exceed four percent.

Subd. 2. **Admissions and recreation tax.** Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 477A.016, or any other provision of law, ordinance, or city charter, the Board of Commissioners of Cook County may impose, by ordinance, a tax of up to three percent on admissions to entertainment and recreational facilities and rental of recreation equipment.

In its ordinance, the Board of Commissioners of Cook County may provide that entities exempt from the tax imposed under Minnesota Statutes, section 297A.70, are not required to collect the taxes in subdivisions 1 and 2. The Board of Commissioners of Cook County may also create lodging districts smaller than the county in which to impose the tax.

Subd. 3. **Use of taxes.** The taxes imposed in subdivisions 1 and 2 must be used to fund a new Cook County Event and Visitors Bureau as established by the Board of Commissioners of Cook County. The Board of Commissioners of Cook County must annually review the budget of the Cook County Event and Visitors Bureau.

Subd. 4. **Termination of taxes.** The taxes authorized under subdivisions 1 and 2 terminate ten years after the date of initial imposition of the taxes.

Subd. 5. **Cook County Event and Visitors Bureau.** (a) The Cook County Event and Visitors Bureau shall be governed by a 14-member board of directors composed of:

- (1) four directors to be appointed by the Grand Marais Area Tourism Association;
- (2) two directors to be appointed by the Gunflint Trail Association;
- (3) seven directors to be appointed by the Lutsen-Tofte Tourism Association; and
- (4) one nonvoting member appointed by Grand Portage.

(b) The Cook County Event and Visitors Bureau may adjust its membership upon a vote of approval by at least nine members.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for sales and purchases after June 30, 2007.

Sec. 17. **CITY OF NORTH MANKATO; TAXES AUTHORIZED.**

Subdivision 1. **Sales and use tax authorized.** Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 477A.016, or any other provision of law, ordinance, or city charter, pursuant to the approval of the voters on November 7, 2006, the city of North Mankato may impose by ordinance a sales and use tax of one-half of one percent for the purposes specified in subdivision 2. The provisions of Minnesota Statutes, section 297A.99, govern the imposition, administration, collection, and enforcement of the taxes authorized under this subdivision.

Subd. 2. **Use of revenues.** Revenues received from the tax authorized by subdivision 1 must be used to pay all or part of the capital costs of the following projects:



- (1) the local share of the Trunk Highway 14/County State Aid Highway 41 interchange project;
- (2) development of regional parks and hiking and biking trails; and
- (3) lake improvement projects.

The total amount of revenues from the tax in subdivision 1 that may be used to fund these projects is \$4,500,000 plus any associated bond costs.

Subd. 3. **Bonds.** (a) The city of North Mankato, pursuant to the approval of the voters at the November 7, 2006, referendum authorizing the imposition of the taxes in this section, may issue bonds under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 475, to pay capital and administrative expenses for the projects described in subdivision 2, in an amount that does not exceed \$4,500,000. A separate election to approve the bonds under Minnesota Statutes, section 475.58, is not required.

(b) The debt represented by the bonds is not included in computing any debt limitation applicable to the city, and any levy of taxes under Minnesota Statutes, section 475.61, to pay principal and interest on the bonds is not subject to any levy limitation.

Subd. 4. **Termination of taxes.** The tax imposed under subdivision 1 expires when the city council determines that the amount of revenues received from the taxes to pay for the projects under subdivision 2, first equals or exceeds \$4,000,000 plus the additional amount needed to pay the costs related to issuance of bonds under subdivision 3, including interest on the bonds. Any funds remaining after completion of the projects and retirement or redemption of the bonds shall be placed in a capital facilities and equipment replacement fund of the city. The tax imposed under subdivision 1 may expire at an earlier time if the city so determines by ordinance.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day after compliance by the governing body of the city of North Mankato with Minnesota Statutes, section 645.021, subdivision 3.

#### Sec. 18. **MINNETONKA WATER TREATMENT FACILITY.**

Capital equipment used in or incorporated into the construction of a water treatment facility owned by the city of Minnetonka is exempt from sales tax regardless of whether purchased by the owner, contractor, subcontractor, or builder. The tax must be imposed and collected as if the rate under Minnesota Statutes, section 297A.62, subdivision 1, applied and then refunded to the city of Minnetonka in the manner provided in Minnesota Statutes, section 297A.75.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for sales and purchases made before December 31, 2006.

### **ARTICLE 6**

#### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 268.19, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Use of data.** (a) Except as otherwise provided by this section, data gathered from any person pursuant to the administration of the Minnesota Unemployment Insurance Law are private data on individuals or nonpublic data not on individuals as defined in section 13.02, subdivisions 9 and 12, and may not be disclosed except pursuant to a district court order or section 13.05. A subpoena shall not be considered a district court order. These data may be disseminated to

and used by the following agencies without the consent of the subject of the data:

- (1) state and federal agencies specifically authorized access to the data by state or federal law;
- (2) any agency of any other state or any federal agency charged with the administration of an unemployment insurance program;
- (3) any agency responsible for the maintenance of a system of public employment offices for the purpose of assisting individuals in obtaining employment;
- (4) human rights agencies within Minnesota that have enforcement powers;
- (5) the Department of Revenue only to the extent necessary for its duties under Minnesota laws;
- (6) public and private agencies responsible for administering publicly financed assistance programs for the purpose of monitoring the eligibility of the program's recipients;
- (7) the Department of Labor and Industry and the Division of Insurance Fraud Prevention in the Department of Commerce on an interchangeable basis with the department for uses consistent with the administration of their duties under Minnesota law;
- (8) local and state welfare agencies for monitoring the eligibility of the data subject for assistance programs, or for any employment or training program administered by those agencies, whether alone, in combination with another welfare agency, or in conjunction with the department or to monitor and evaluate the statewide Minnesota family investment program by providing data on recipients and former recipients of food stamps or food support, cash assistance under chapter 256, 256D, 256J, or 256K, child care assistance under chapter 119B, or medical programs under chapter 256B, 256D, or 256L;
- (9) local and state welfare agencies for the purpose of identifying employment, wages, and other information to assist in the collection of an overpayment debt in an assistance program;
- (10) local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies for the sole purpose of ascertaining the last known address and employment location of a person who is the subject of a criminal investigation;
- (11) the federal Immigration and Naturalization Service shall have access to data on specific individuals and specific employers provided the specific individual or specific employer is the subject of an investigation by that agency; ~~and~~
- (12) the Department of Health solely for the purposes of epidemiologic investigations; and
- (13) the state auditor to the extent necessary to conduct audits of job opportunity building zones as required under section 469.3201.

(b) Data on individuals and employers that are collected, maintained, or used by the department in an investigation pursuant to section 268.182 are confidential as to data on individuals and protected nonpublic data not on individuals as defined in section 13.02, subdivisions 3 and 13, and must not be disclosed except pursuant to statute or district court order or to a party named in a criminal proceeding, administrative or judicial, for preparation of a defense.

(c) Data gathered by the department pursuant to the administration of the Minnesota

unemployment insurance program must not be made the subject or the basis for any suit in any civil proceedings, administrative or judicial, unless the action is initiated by the department.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 270B.15, is amended to read:

**270B.15 DISCLOSURE TO LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR AND STATE AUDITOR.**

(a) Returns and return information must be disclosed to the legislative auditor to the extent necessary for the legislative auditor to carry out sections 3.97 to 3.979.

(b) The commissioner must disclose return information, including the report required under section 289A.12, subdivision 15, to the state auditor to the extent necessary to conduct audits of job opportunity building zones as required under section 469.3201.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 272.02, subdivision 64, is amended to read:

Subd. 64. **Job opportunity building zone property.** (a) Improvements to real property, and personal property, classified under section 273.13, subdivision 24, and located within a job opportunity building zone, designated under section 469.314, are exempt from ad valorem taxes levied under chapter 275.

(b) Improvements to real property, and tangible personal property, of an agricultural production facility located within an agricultural processing facility zone, designated under section 469.314, is exempt from ad valorem taxes levied under chapter 275.

(c) For property to qualify for exemption under paragraph (a), the occupant must be a qualified business, as defined in section 469.310.

(d) The exemption applies beginning for the first assessment year after designation of the job opportunity building zone by the commissioner of employment and economic development. The exemption applies to each assessment year that begins during the duration of the job opportunity building zone. To be exempt, the property must be occupied by July 1 of the assessment year by a qualified business that has signed the business subsidy agreement and relocation agreement, if required, by July 1 of the assessment year. This exemption does not apply to:

(1) the levy under section 475.61 or similar levy provisions under any other law to pay general obligation bonds; or

(2) a levy under section 126C.17, ~~if the levy was approved by the voters before the designation of the job opportunity building zone.~~

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective beginning for taxes payable in 2008.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 272.02, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 85. **Fergus Falls historical zone.** (a) Property located in the area of the campus of the former state regional treatment center in the city of Fergus Falls, including the fire buildings and associated land that were acquired by the city prior to January 1, 2007, is exempt from ad valorem taxes levied under chapter 275.

(b) The exemption applies for 15 calendar years on the date specified by resolution, by the governing body of the city of Fergus Falls. For the final three assessment years of the duration limit, the exemption applies to the following percentages of estimated market value of the property:

- (1) for the third to the last assessment year of the duration, 75 percent;
- (2) for the second to the last assessment year of the duration, 50 percent; and
- (3) for the last assessment year of the duration, 25 percent.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for property taxes levied in 2007, payable in 2008, and thereafter.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 289A.12, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

**Subd. 15. Report of job opportunity zone benefits; penalty for failure to file report.** (a) By October 15 of each year, every qualified business, as defined under section 469.310, subdivision 11, must file with the commissioner, on a form prescribed by the commissioner, a report listing the tax benefits under section 469.315 received by the business for the previous year.

(b) The commissioner shall send notice to each business that fails to timely submit the report required under paragraph (a). The notice shall demand that the business submit the report within 60 days. Where good cause exists, the commissioner may extend the period for submitting the report as long as a request for extension is filed by the business before the expiration of the 60-day period. The commissioner shall notify the commissioner of the Department of Employment and Economic Development and the appropriate job opportunity subzone administrator whenever notice is sent to a business under this paragraph.

(c) A business that fails to submit the report as required under paragraph (b) is no longer a qualified business under section 469.310, subdivision 11, and is subject to the repayment provisions of section 469.319.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective beginning with reports required to be filed October 15, 2008.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 290.06, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

**Subd. 34. Tax-free renaissance zone; historic rehabilitation credit.** (a) A taxpayer who incurs costs that are eligible for a credit under section 47 of the Internal Revenue Code for the rehabilitation of a property in the Fergus Falls historical zone, as defined under section 272.02, subdivision 85, is allowed a credit against the tax imposed under this chapter, including the taxes under sections 290.091 and 290.0922, equal to 100 percent of the credit allowed for rehabilitation of a certified historic structure under section 47(a)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code, but is limited to credits generated by rehabilitation of certified historic structures that are placed in service during the taxable year.

(b) If the amount of the credit under this subdivision exceeds the tax liability under this chapter for the year in which the cost is incurred, the amount that exceeds the tax liability may be carried back to any of the three preceding taxable years or carried forward to each of the ten taxable years succeeding the taxable year in which the expense was incurred. The entire amount of the credit must be carried to the earliest taxable year to which the amount may be carried. The unused portion of

the credit must be carried to the following taxable year.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2007.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 469.169, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 18. **Additional border city allocations; 2007.** (a) In addition to tax reductions authorized in subdivisions 7 to 17, the commissioner shall allocate \$750,000 for tax reductions to border city enterprise zones in cities located on the western border of the state. The commissioner shall make allocations to zones in cities on the western border on a per capita basis. Allocations made under this subdivision may be used for tax reductions as provided in section 469.171, or for other offsets of taxes imposed on or remitted by businesses located in the enterprise zone, but only if the municipality determines that the granting of the tax reduction or offset is necessary in order to retain a business within or attract a business to the zone. The city alternatively may elect to use any portion of the allocation provided in this paragraph for tax reductions under section 469.1732 or 469.1734.

(b) The commissioner shall allocate \$750,000 for tax reductions under section 469.1732 or 469.1734 to cities with border city enterprise zones located on the western border of the state. The commissioner shall allocate this amount among the cities on a per capita basis. The city alternatively may elect to use any portion of the allocation provided in this paragraph for tax reductions as provided in section 469.171.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 469.174, subdivision 10, is amended to read:

Subd. 10. **Redevelopment district.** (a) "Redevelopment district" means a type of tax increment financing district consisting of a project, or portions of a project, within which the authority finds by resolution that one or more of the following conditions, reasonably distributed throughout the district, exists:

(1) parcels consisting of 70 percent of the area of the district are occupied by buildings, streets, utilities, paved or gravel parking lots, or other similar structures and more than 50 percent of the buildings, not including outbuildings, are structurally substandard to a degree requiring substantial renovation or clearance;

(2) the property consists of vacant, unused, underused, inappropriately used, or infrequently used railyards, rail storage facilities, or excessive or vacated railroad rights-of-way;

(3) tank facilities, or property whose immediately previous use was for tank facilities, as defined in section 115C.02, subdivision 15, if the tank facilities:

(i) have or had a capacity of more than 1,000,000 gallons;

(ii) are located adjacent to rail facilities; and

(iii) have been removed or are unused, underused, inappropriately used, or infrequently used; or

(4) a qualifying disaster area, as defined in subdivision 10b.

(b) For purposes of this subdivision, "structurally substandard" shall mean containing defects

in structural elements or a combination of deficiencies in essential utilities and facilities, light and ventilation, fire protection including adequate egress, layout and condition of interior partitions, or similar factors, which defects or deficiencies are of sufficient total significance to justify substantial renovation or clearance.

(c) A building is not structurally substandard if it is in compliance with the building code applicable to new buildings or could be modified to satisfy the building code at a cost of less than 15 percent of the cost of constructing a new structure of the same square footage and type on the site. The municipality may find that a building is not disqualified as structurally substandard under the preceding sentence on the basis of reasonably available evidence, such as the size, type, and age of the building, the average cost of plumbing, electrical, or structural repairs, or other similar reliable evidence. The municipality may not make such a determination without an interior inspection of the property, but need not have an independent, expert appraisal prepared of the cost of repair and rehabilitation of the building. An interior inspection of the property is not required, if the municipality finds that (1) the municipality or authority is unable to gain access to the property after using its best efforts to obtain permission from the party that owns or controls the property; and (2) the evidence otherwise supports a reasonable conclusion that the building is structurally substandard. Items of evidence that support such a conclusion include recent fire or police inspections, on-site property tax appraisals or housing inspections, exterior evidence of deterioration, or other similar reliable evidence. Written documentation of the findings and reasons why an interior inspection was not conducted must be made and retained under section 469.175, subdivision 3, clause (1). Failure of a building to be disqualified under the provisions of this paragraph is a necessary, but not a sufficient, condition to determining that the building is substandard.

(d) A parcel is deemed to be occupied by a structurally substandard building for purposes of the finding under paragraph (a) or by the improvements described in paragraph (e) if all of the following conditions are met:

(1) the parcel was occupied by a substandard building or met the requirements of paragraph (e), as the case may be, within three years of the filing of the request for certification of the parcel as part of the district with the county auditor;

(2) the substandard building was or the improvements described in paragraph (e) were demolished or removed by the authority or the demolition or removal was financed by the authority or was done by a developer under a development agreement with the authority;

(3) the authority found by resolution before the demolition or removal that the parcel was occupied by a structurally substandard building or met the requirements of paragraph (e) and that after demolition and clearance the authority intended to include the parcel within a district; and

(4) upon filing the request for certification of the tax capacity of the parcel as part of a district, the authority notifies the county auditor that the original tax capacity of the parcel must be adjusted as provided by section 469.177, subdivision 1, paragraph (f).

(e) For purposes of this subdivision, a parcel is not occupied by buildings, streets, utilities, paved or gravel parking lots, or other similar structures unless 15 percent of the area of the parcel contains buildings, streets, utilities, paved or gravel parking lots, or other similar structures.

(f) For districts consisting of two or more noncontiguous areas, each area must qualify as a

redevelopment district under paragraph (a) to be included in the district, and the entire area of the district must satisfy paragraph (a).

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for requests for certification made after June 30, 2007.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 469.174, subdivision 10a, is amended to read:

Subd. 10a. **Renewal and renovation district.** (a) "Renewal and renovation district" means a type of tax increment financing district consisting of a project, or portions of a project, within which the authority finds by resolution that:

(1)(i) parcels consisting of 70 percent of the area of the district are occupied by buildings, streets, utilities, paved or gravel parking lots, or other similar structures; (ii) 20 percent of the buildings are structurally substandard; and (iii) 30 percent of the other buildings require substantial renovation or clearance to remove existing conditions such as: inadequate street layout, incompatible uses or land use relationships, overcrowding of buildings on the land, excessive dwelling unit density, obsolete buildings not suitable for improvement or conversion, or other identified hazards to the health, safety, and general well-being of the community; and

(2) the conditions described in clause (1) are reasonably distributed throughout the geographic area of the district.

(b) For purposes of determining whether a building is structurally substandard, whether parcels are occupied by buildings, streets, utilities, paved or gravel parking lots, or other similar structures, or whether noncontiguous areas qualify, the provisions of subdivision 10, paragraphs ~~(e)~~, ~~(e)~~, and (b) through (f) apply.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for requests for certification made after June 30, 2007.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 469.175, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Tax increment financing plan.** (a) A tax increment financing plan shall contain:

(1) a statement of objectives of an authority for the improvement of a project;

(2) a statement as to the development program for the project, including the property within the project, if any, that the authority intends to acquire, identified by parcel number, identifiable property name, block, or other appropriate means indicating the area in which the authority intends to acquire properties;

(3) a list of any development activities that the plan proposes to take place within the project, for which contracts have been entered into at the time of the preparation of the plan, including the names of the parties to the contract, the activity governed by the contract, the cost stated in the contract, and the expected date of completion of that activity;

(4) identification or description of the type of any other specific development reasonably expected to take place within the project, and the date when the development is likely to occur;

(5) estimates of the following:

(i) cost of the project, including administrative expenses, except that if part of the cost of the project is paid or financed with increment from the tax increment financing district, the tax increment financing plan for the district must contain an estimate of the amount of the cost of the project, including administrative expenses, that will be paid or financed with tax increments from the district;

(ii) amount of bonded indebtedness to be incurred;

(iii) sources of revenue to finance or otherwise pay public costs;

(iv) the most recent net tax capacity of taxable real property within the tax increment financing district and within any subdistrict;

(v) the estimated captured net tax capacity of the tax increment financing district at completion; and

(vi) the duration of the tax increment financing district's and any subdistrict's existence;

(6) statements of the authority's alternate estimates of the impact of tax increment financing on the net tax capacities of all taxing jurisdictions in which the tax increment financing district is located in whole or in part. For purposes of one statement, the authority shall assume that the estimated captured net tax capacity would be available to the taxing jurisdictions without creation of the district, and for purposes of the second statement, the authority shall assume that none of the estimated captured net tax capacity would be available to the taxing jurisdictions without creation of the district or subdistrict;

(7) identification and description of studies and analyses used to make the determination set forth in subdivision 3, clause (2); and

(8) identification of all parcels to be included in the district or any subdistrict.

(b) The authority may specify in the tax increment financing plan the first year in which it elects to receive increment, up to four years following the year of approval of the district. This paragraph does not apply to an economic development district.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for districts for which the request for certification is made after June 30, 2007.

Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 469.175, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Municipality approval.** (a) A county auditor shall not certify the original net tax capacity of a tax increment financing district until the tax increment financing plan proposed for that district has been approved by the municipality in which the district is located. If an authority that proposes to establish a tax increment financing district and the municipality are not the same, the authority shall apply to the municipality in which the district is proposed to be located and shall obtain the approval of its tax increment financing plan by the municipality before the authority may use tax increment financing. The municipality shall approve the tax increment financing plan only after a public hearing thereon after published notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipality at least once not less than ten days nor more than 30 days prior to the date of the hearing. The published notice must include a map of the area of the district from which increments may be collected and, if the project area includes additional area, a map of the project area in which the increments may be expended. The hearing may be held before or after the approval or creation



of the project or it may be held in conjunction with a hearing to approve the project.

(b) Before or at the time of approval of the tax increment financing plan, the municipality shall make the following findings, and shall set forth in writing the reasons and supporting facts for each determination:

(1) that the proposed tax increment financing district is a redevelopment district, a renewal or renovation district, a housing district, a soils condition district, or an economic development district; if the proposed district is a redevelopment district or a renewal or renovation district, the reasons and supporting facts for the determination that the district meets the criteria of section 469.174, subdivision 10, paragraph (a), clauses (1) and (2), or subdivision 10a, must be documented in writing and retained and made available to the public by the authority until the district has been terminated;

(2) that, in the opinion of the municipality:

(i) the proposed development or redevelopment would not reasonably be expected to occur solely through private investment within the reasonably foreseeable future; and

(ii) the increased market value of the site that could reasonably be expected to occur without the use of tax increment financing would be less than the increase in the market value estimated to result from the proposed development after subtracting the present value of the projected tax increments for the maximum duration of the district permitted by the plan. The requirements of this item do not apply if the district is a ~~qualified~~ housing district;

(3) that the tax increment financing plan conforms to the general plan for the development or redevelopment of the municipality as a whole;

(4) that the tax increment financing plan will afford maximum opportunity, consistent with the sound needs of the municipality as a whole, for the development or redevelopment of the project by private enterprise;

(5) that the municipality elects the method of tax increment computation set forth in section 469.177, subdivision 3, paragraph (b), if applicable.

(c) When the municipality and the authority are not the same, the municipality shall approve or disapprove the tax increment financing plan within 60 days of submission by the authority. When the municipality and the authority are not the same, the municipality may not amend or modify a tax increment financing plan except as proposed by the authority pursuant to subdivision 4. Once approved, the determination of the authority to undertake the project through the use of tax increment financing and the resolution of the governing body shall be conclusive of the findings therein and of the public need for the financing.

(d) For a district that is subject to the requirements of paragraph (b), clause (2), item (ii), the municipality's statement of reasons and supporting facts must include all of the following:

(1) an estimate of the amount by which the market value of the site will increase without the use of tax increment financing;

(2) an estimate of the increase in the market value that will result from the development or redevelopment to be assisted with tax increment financing; and

(3) the present value of the projected tax increments for the maximum duration of the district

permitted by the tax increment financing plan.

(e) For purposes of this subdivision, "site" means the parcels on which the development or redevelopment to be assisted with tax increment financing will be located.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment and applies to all districts, regardless of when the request for certification was made.

Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 469.176, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Duration of tax increment financing districts.** (a) Subject to the limitations contained in subdivisions 1a to 1f, any tax increment financing district as to which bonds are outstanding, payment for which the tax increment and other revenues have been pledged, shall remain in existence at least as long as the bonds continue to be outstanding. The municipality may, at the time of approval of the initial tax increment financing plan, provide for one or both of the following:

- (1) a shorter maximum duration limit than specified in subdivisions 1a to 1f;
- (2) an election as provided under section 469.175, subdivision 1, paragraph (b).

The specified limit applies in place of the otherwise applicable limit, unless the authority modifies the plan following the procedures under section 469.175, subdivision 4, paragraph (b).

(b) The tax increment pledged to the payment of the bonds and interest thereon may be discharged and the tax increment financing district may be terminated if sufficient funds have been irrevocably deposited in the debt service fund or other escrow account held in trust for all outstanding bonds to provide for the payment of the bonds at maturity or date of redemption and interest thereon to the maturity or redemption date.

(c) For bonds issued pursuant to section 469.178, subdivisions 2 and 3, the full faith and credit and any taxing powers of the municipality or authority are pledged to the payment of the bonds until the principal of and interest on the bonds has been paid in full.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for districts for which the request for certification is made after June 30, 2007.

Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 469.176, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Excess increments.** (a) The authority shall annually determine the amount of excess increments for a district, if any. This determination must be based on the tax increment financing plan in effect on December 31 of the year and the increments and other revenues received as of December 31 of the year. The authority must spend or return the excess increments under paragraph (c) within nine months after the end of the year.

(b) For purposes of this subdivision, "excess increments" equals the excess of:

(1) total increments collected from the district since its certification, reduced by any excess increments paid under paragraph (c), clause (4), for a prior year, over

(2) the total costs authorized by the tax increment financing plan to be paid with increments from the district, reduced, but not below zero, by the sum of:

(i) the amounts of those authorized costs that have been paid from sources other than tax increments from the district;

(ii) revenues, other than tax increments from the district, that are dedicated for or otherwise required to be used to pay those authorized costs and that the authority has received and that are not included in item (i);

(iii) the amount of principal and interest obligations due on outstanding bonds after December 31 of the year and not prepaid under paragraph (c) in a prior year; and

(iv) increased by the sum of the transfers of increments made under section 469.1763, subdivision 6, to reduce deficits in other districts made by December 31 of the year.

(c) The authority shall use excess increment only to do one or more of the following:

(1) prepay any outstanding bonds;

(2) discharge the pledge of tax increment for any outstanding bonds;

(3) pay into an escrow account dedicated to the payment of any outstanding bonds; or

(4) return the excess amount to the county auditor who shall distribute the excess amount to the city or town, county, and school district in which the tax increment financing district is located in direct proportion to their respective local tax rates.

(d) For purposes of a district for which the request for certification was made prior to August 1, 1979, excess increments equal the amount of increments on hand on December 31, less the principal and interest obligations due on outstanding bonds or advances, qualifying under subdivision 1c, clauses (1), (2), (4), and (5), after December 31 of the year and not prepaid under paragraph (c).

(e) The county auditor must report to the commissioner of education the amount of any excess tax increment distributed to a school district within 30 days of the distribution.

(f) For purposes of this subdivision, "outstanding bonds" means bonds which are secured by increments from the district.

(g) The state auditor may exempt an authority from reporting the amounts calculated under this subdivision for a calendar year, if the authority certifies to the auditor in its report that the total amount authorized by the tax increment plan to be paid with increments from the district exceeds the sum of the total increments collected for the district for all years by 20 percent.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment and applies to all districts regardless of when the request for certification was made, including districts for which the request for certification was made on or before August 1, 1979.

Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 469.176, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Parcels not includable in districts.** (a) The authority may request inclusion in a tax increment financing district and the county auditor may certify the original tax capacity of a parcel or a part of a parcel that qualified under the provisions of section 273.111 or 273.112 or chapter 473H for taxes payable in any of the five calendar years before the filing of the request for certification only for:

(1) a district in which 85 percent or more of the planned buildings and facilities (determined on the basis of square footage) are a qualified manufacturing facility or a qualified distribution facility or a combination of both; or

(2) a ~~qualified~~ housing district.

(b)(1) A distribution facility means buildings and other improvements to real property that are used to conduct activities in at least each of the following categories:

(i) to store or warehouse tangible personal property;

(ii) to take orders for shipment, mailing, or delivery;

(iii) to prepare personal property for shipment, mailing, or delivery; and

(iv) to ship, mail, or deliver property.

(2) A manufacturing facility includes space used for manufacturing or producing tangible personal property, including processing resulting in the change in condition of the property, and space necessary for and related to the manufacturing activities.

(3) To be a qualified facility, the owner or operator of a manufacturing or distribution facility must agree to pay and pay 90 percent or more of the employees of the facility at a rate equal to or greater than 160 percent of the federal minimum wage for individuals over the age of 20.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment and applies to all districts regardless of when the request for certification was made.

Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 469.176, subdivision 4l, is amended to read:

Subd. 4l. **Prohibited facilities.** (a) No tax increment from any district may be used for:

(1) a commons area used as a public park; or

(2) a facility used for social, recreational, or conference purposes.

(b) This subdivision does not apply to a privately owned facility for conference purposes or a parking structure, whether it is public or privately owned or whether it is ancillary to a use listed in paragraph (a).

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section confirms the original intent of the legislature in enacting Minnesota Statutes, section 469.176, subdivision 4l, and is effective the day following final enactment and applies to any expenditure subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 469.176, subdivision 4l.

Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 469.1761, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Requirement imposed.** (a) In order for a tax increment financing district to qualify as a housing district:

(1) the income limitations provided in this section must be satisfied; and

(2) no more than 20 percent of the square footage of buildings that receive assistance from tax increments may consist of commercial, retail, or other nonresidential uses.

(b) The requirements imposed by this section apply to property receiving assistance financed with tax increments, including interest reduction, land transfers at less than the authority's cost of acquisition, utility service or connections, roads, parking facilities, or other subsidies. The provisions of this section do not apply to districts located in a targeted area as defined in section 462C.02, subdivision 9, clause (e).

(c) For purposes of the requirements of paragraph (a), the authority may elect to treat an addition to an existing structure as a separate building if:

(1) construction of the addition begins more than three years after construction of the existing structure was completed; and

(2) for an addition that does not meet the requirements of paragraph (a), clause (2), if it is treated as a separate building, the addition was not contemplated by the tax increment financing plan which includes the existing structure.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for expenditures of tax increment authorized and made after the day following final enactment, regardless of when the request for certification of the district was made.

Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 469.1763, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Expenditures outside district.** (a) For each tax increment financing district, an amount equal to at least 75 percent of the total revenue derived from tax increments paid by properties in the district must be expended on activities in the district or to pay bonds, to the extent that the proceeds of the bonds were used to finance activities in the district or to pay, or secure payment of, debt service on credit enhanced bonds. For districts, other than redevelopment districts for which the request for certification was made after June 30, 1995, the in-district percentage for purposes of the preceding sentence is 80 percent. Not more than 25 percent of the total revenue derived from tax increments paid by properties in the district may be expended, through a development fund or otherwise, on activities outside of the district but within the defined geographic area of the project except to pay, or secure payment of, debt service on credit enhanced bonds. For districts, other than redevelopment districts for which the request for certification was made after June 30, 1995, the pooling percentage for purposes of the preceding sentence is 20 percent. The revenue derived from tax increments for the district that are expended on costs under section 469.176, subdivision 4h, paragraph (b), may be deducted first before calculating the percentages that must be expended within and without the district.

(b) In the case of a housing district, a housing project, as defined in section 469.174, subdivision 11, is an activity in the district.

(c) All administrative expenses are for activities outside of the district, except that if the only expenses for activities outside of the district under this subdivision are for the purposes described in paragraph (d), administrative expenses will be considered as expenditures for activities in the district.

(d) The authority may elect, in the tax increment financing plan for the district, to increase by up to ten percentage points the permitted amount of expenditures for activities located outside the geographic area of the district under paragraph (a). As permitted by section 469.176, subdivision 4k, the expenditures, including the permitted expenditures under paragraph (a), need not be made

within the geographic area of the project. Expenditures that meet the requirements of this paragraph are legally permitted expenditures of the district, notwithstanding section 469.176, subdivisions 4b, 4c, and 4j. To qualify for the increase under this paragraph, the expenditures must:

(1) be used exclusively to assist housing that meets the requirement for a qualified low-income building, as that term is used in section 42 of the Internal Revenue Code;

(2) not exceed the qualified basis of the housing, as defined under section 42(c) of the Internal Revenue Code, less the amount of any credit allowed under section 42 of the Internal Revenue Code; and

(3) be used to:

(i) acquire and prepare the site of the housing;

(ii) acquire, construct, or rehabilitate the housing; or

(iii) make public improvements directly related to the housing.

(e) For a district created within a biotechnology and health sciences industry zone as defined in section 469.330, subdivision 6, or for an existing district located within such a zone, tax increment derived from such a district may be expended outside of the district but within the zone only for expenditures required for the construction of public infrastructure necessary to support the activities of the zone, land acquisition, and other redevelopment costs as defined in section 469.176, subdivision 4j. Public infrastructure These expenditures are considered as expenditures for activities within the district.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for all districts located in bioscience zones, regardless of when the request for certification was made.

Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 469.177, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Original net tax capacity.** (a) Upon or after adoption of a tax increment financing plan, the auditor of any county in which the district is situated shall, upon request of the authority, certify the original net tax capacity of the tax increment financing district and that portion of the district overlying any subdistrict as described in the tax increment financing plan and shall certify in each year thereafter the amount by which the original net tax capacity has increased or decreased as a result of a change in tax exempt status of property within the district and any subdistrict, reduction or enlargement of the district or changes pursuant to subdivision 4. The auditor shall certify the amount within 30 days after receipt of the request and sufficient information to identify the parcels included in the district. The certification relates to the taxes payable year as provided in subdivision 6.

(b) If the classification under section 273.13 of property located in a district changes to a classification that has a different assessment ratio, the original net tax capacity of that property must be redetermined at the time when its use is changed as if the property had originally been classified in the same class in which it is classified after its use is changed.

(c) The amount to be added to the original net tax capacity of the district as a result of previously tax exempt real property within the district becoming taxable equals the net tax capacity of the real property as most recently assessed pursuant to section 273.18 or, if that assessment was made

more than one year prior to the date of title transfer rendering the property taxable, the net tax capacity assessed by the assessor at the time of the transfer. If improvements are made to tax exempt property after the municipality approves the district and before the parcel becomes taxable, the assessor shall, at the request of the authority, separately assess the estimated market value of the improvements. If the property becomes taxable, the county auditor shall add to original net tax capacity, the net tax capacity of the parcel, excluding the separately assessed improvements. If substantial taxable improvements were made to a parcel after certification of the district and if the property later becomes tax exempt, in whole or part, as a result of the authority acquiring the property through foreclosure or exercise of remedies under a lease or other revenue agreement or as a result of tax forfeiture, the amount to be added to the original net tax capacity of the district as a result of the property again becoming taxable is the amount of the parcel's value that was included in original net tax capacity when the parcel was first certified. The amount to be added to the original net tax capacity of the district as a result of enlargements equals the net tax capacity of the added real property as most recently certified by the commissioner of revenue as of the date of modification of the tax increment financing plan pursuant to section 469.175, subdivision 4.

(d) If the net tax capacity of a property increases because the property no longer qualifies under the Minnesota Agricultural Property Tax Law, section 273.111; the Minnesota Open Space Property Tax Law, section 273.112; or the Metropolitan Agricultural Preserves Act, chapter 473H, or because platted, unimproved property is improved or market value is increased after approval of the plat under section 273.11, subdivision 14, 14a, or 14b, the increase in net tax capacity must be added to the original net tax capacity.

(e) The amount to be subtracted from the original net tax capacity of the district as a result of previously taxable real property within the district becoming tax exempt, or a reduction in the geographic area of the district, shall be the amount of original net tax capacity initially attributed to the property becoming tax exempt or being removed from the district. If the net tax capacity of property located within the tax increment financing district is reduced by reason of a court-ordered abatement, stipulation agreement, voluntary abatement made by the assessor or auditor or by order of the commissioner of revenue, the reduction shall be applied to the original net tax capacity of the district when the property upon which the abatement is made has not been improved since the date of certification of the district and to the captured net tax capacity of the district in each year thereafter when the abatement relates to improvements made after the date of certification. The county auditor may specify reasonable form and content of the request for certification of the authority and any modification thereof pursuant to section 469.175, subdivision 4.

(f) If a parcel of property contained a substandard building or improvements described in section 469.174, subdivision 10, paragraph (e), that was demolished or removed and if the authority elects to treat the parcel as occupied by a substandard building under section 469.174, subdivision 10, paragraph (b), or by improvements under section 469.174, subdivision 10, paragraph (e), the auditor shall certify the original net tax capacity of the parcel using the greater of (1) the current net tax capacity of the parcel, or (2) the estimated market value of the parcel for the year in which the building was or other improvements were demolished or removed, but applying the class rates for the current year.

(g) For a redevelopment district qualifying under section 469.174, subdivision 10, paragraph (a), clause (4), as a qualified disaster area, the auditor shall certify the value of the land as the original tax capacity for any parcel in the district that contains a building that suffered substantial damage

as a result of the disaster or emergency.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for requests for certification made after June 30, 2007.

Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 469.178, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Interfund loans.** The authority or municipality may advance or loan money to finance expenditures under section 469.176, subdivision 4, from its general fund or any other fund under which it has legal authority to do so. The loan or advance must be authorized, by resolution of the governing body or of the authority, whichever has jurisdiction over the fund from which the advance or loan is made, before money is transferred, advanced, or spent, whichever is earliest. The resolution may generally grant to the authority the power to make interfund loans under one or more tax increment financing plans or for one or more districts. The terms and conditions for repayment of the loan must be provided in writing and include, at a minimum, the principal amount, the interest rate, and maximum term. The maximum rate of interest permitted to be charged is limited to the greater of the rates specified under section 270C.40 or 549.09 as of the date the loan or advance is made, unless the written agreement states that the maximum interest rate will fluctuate as the interest rates specified under section 270C.40 or 549.09 are from time to time adjusted.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment and applies to all districts subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 469.178, subdivision 7, regardless of when the request for certification was made.

Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 469.1791, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Preconditions to establish district.** (a) A city may establish a special taxing district within a tax increment financing district under this section only if the conditions under paragraphs (b) and (c) are met or if the city elects to exercise the authority under paragraph (d).

(b) The city has determined that:

(1) total tax increments from the district, including unspent increments from previous years and increments transferred under paragraph (c), will be insufficient to pay the amounts due in a year on preexisting obligations; and

(2) this insufficiency of increments resulted from the reduction in property tax class rates enacted in the 1997 and 1998 legislative sessions.

(c) The city has agreed to transfer any available increments from other tax increment financing districts in the city to pay the preexisting obligations of the district under section 469.1763, subdivision 6. This requirement does not apply to any available increments of a ~~qualified~~ housing district.

(d) If a tax increment financing district does not qualify under paragraphs (b) and (c), the governing body may elect to establish a special taxing district under this section. If the city elects to exercise this authority, increments from the tax increment financing district and the proceeds of the tax imposed under this section may only be used to pay preexisting obligations and reasonable administrative expenses of the authority for the tax increment financing district. The tax increment financing district must be decertified when all preexisting obligations have been paid.



**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment and applies to districts regardless of when the request for certification was made.

Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 469.312, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

**Subd. 6. Restrictions on relocations.** (a) If a business relocates or intends to relocate under a proposed project more than 25 full-time equivalent jobs from a location in Minnesota into a job opportunity building zone, the business must notify the local government unit, the commissioner of employment and economic development, and the city and the county governments from which the jobs are being or would be relocated. A city or county that objects to the relocation of jobs must file a copy of the resolution with the commissioner of employment and economic development and the local unit of government.

(b) If the governing body of the city or county from which the jobs are being relocated adopts a qualified resolution objecting to the relocation within 60 days after its receipt of the notice, the following rules apply until the requirements of paragraph (c) are satisfied:

(1) if the business has not entered into a business subsidy agreement, the local unit of government may not enter into a business subsidy agreement with the business; or

(2) if the local unit of government has entered into a business subsidy agreement with the business, the business ceases to be a qualified business, effective for the current taxable year, the current assessment year, and for taxable purchases made after the first day of the month beginning after the filing of the objecting resolution.

(c) To be a qualified resolution for purposes of this subdivision, the resolution must identify one or more sites in the city or county that could serve as an appropriate site for the facility proposed by the business. To satisfy this requirement a site must:

(1) be of adequate size;

(2) have appropriate transportation access, given the nature of the business;

(3) be served by adequate public infrastructure and public utilities or the governmental unit will provide reasonably necessary public infrastructure and public utilities for the project in a timely manner; and

(4) be under the ownership or control of either the governmental unit or the business or be available for sale.

(d) When each city and county that objected to the relocation rescinds its objection by resolution, the provisions of paragraph (b) no longer apply to the business.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment and applies to business subsidy agreements entered into after that date.

Sec. 22. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 469.3201, is amended to read:

**469.3201-JOBZ EXPENDITURE LIMITATIONS; AUDITS STATE AUDITOR; AUDITS OF JOB OPPORTUNITY BUILDING ZONES AND BUSINESS SUBSIDY AGREEMENTS.**

The Tax Increment Financing, Investment and Finance Division of the Office of the State Auditor

must annually audit the creation and operation of all job opportunity building zones and business subsidy agreements entered into under Minnesota Statutes, sections 469.310 to 469.320. To the extent necessary to perform this audit, the state auditor may request from the commissioner of revenue tax return information of taxpayers who are eligible to receive tax benefits authorized under section 469.315. To the extent necessary to perform this audit, the state auditor may request from the commissioner of employment and economic development wage detail report information required under section 268.044 of taxpayers eligible to receive tax benefits authorized under section 469.315.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 23. Laws 1994, chapter 587, article 9, section 14, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Establishment.** The city of Brooklyn Center may establish ~~an~~ a redevelopment tax increment financing district in which 15 percent of the revenues generated from tax increment in any year is deposited in the housing and environmental remediation development account of the authority and expended according to the tax increment financing plan.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 24. Laws 1994, chapter 587, article 9, section 14, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Eligible activities.** The authority must identify in the plan the housing activities that will be assisted by the housing and environmental remediation development account. Housing activities may include rehabilitation, acquisition, construction, demolition, and financing of new or existing single family or multifamily housing. Housing and environmental remediation activities listed in the plan need not be located within the district or project area but must be activities that meet the income requirements of a qualified housing district under Minnesota Statutes, section ~~273.1399 or 469.1761, subdivision 2.~~

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 25. Laws 1994, chapter 587, article 9, section 14, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Housing account.** Tax increment to be expended for housing and environmental remediation activities under this section must be segregated by the authority into a special account on its official books and records. The account may also receive funds from other public and private sources.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 26. Laws 1995, chapter 264, article 5, section 44, subdivision 4, as amended by Laws 1996, chapter 471, article 7, section 21, and Laws 1997, chapter 231, article 10, section 12, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Authority.** For housing replacement projects in the city of Crystal, "authority" means the Crystal economic development authority. For housing replacement projects in the city of Fridley, "authority" means the housing and redevelopment authority in and for the city of Fridley or a successor in interest. For housing replacement projects in the city of Minneapolis, "authority" means the Minneapolis community development agency or its successors and assigns. For housing replacement projects in the city of St. Paul, "authority" means the St. Paul housing and redevelopment authority. For housing replacement projects in the city of Duluth, "authority"

means the Duluth economic development authority. For housing replacement projects in the city of Richfield, "authority" is the authority as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 469.174, subdivision 2, that is designated by the governing body of the city of Richfield. For housing replacement projects in the city of Columbia Heights, "authority" is the authority as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 469.174, subdivision 2, that is designated by the governing body of the city of Columbia Heights.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment and upon compliance by the governing body of the city of Minneapolis with Minnesota Statutes, section 645.021, subdivision 3.

Sec. 27. Laws 1995, chapter 264, article 5, section 45, subdivision 1, as amended by Laws 1996, chapter 471, article 7, section 22, and Laws 1997, chapter 231, article 10, section 13, and Laws 2002, chapter 377, article 7, section 6, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Creation of projects.** (a) An authority may create a housing replacement project under sections 44 to 47, as provided in this section.

(b) For the cities of Crystal, Fridley, Richfield, and Columbia Heights, the authority may designate up to 50 parcels in the city to be included in a housing replacement district. No more than ten parcels may be included in year one of the district, with up to ten additional parcels added to the district in each of the following nine years. For the cities of ~~Minneapolis, St. Paul, and Duluth~~, each authority may designate not more than 200 parcels in the city to be included in a housing replacement district over the life of the district. For the city of Minneapolis, the authority may designate not more than 400 parcels in the city to be included in a housing replacement district over the life of the district. The only parcels that may be included in a district are (1) vacant sites, (2) parcels containing vacant houses, or (3) parcels containing houses that are structurally substandard, as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 469.174, subdivision 10.

(c) The city in which the authority is located must pay at least 25 percent of the housing replacement project costs from its general fund, a property tax levy, or other unrestricted money, not including tax increments.

(d) The housing replacement district plan must have as its sole object the acquisition of parcels for the purpose of preparing the site to be sold for market rate housing. As used in this section, "market rate housing" means housing that has a market value that does not exceed 150 percent of the average market value of single-family housing in that municipality.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment and upon compliance by the governing body of the city of Minneapolis with Minnesota Statutes, section 645.021, subdivision 3.

Sec. 28. Laws 2005, First Special Session chapter 3, article 10, section 23, is amended to read:

**Sec. 23. GRANTS TO QUALIFYING BUSINESSES.**

\$750,000 is appropriated in fiscal year 2006 from the general fund to the commissioner of employment and economic development to be distributed to the foreign trade zone authority to provide grants to qualified businesses as determined by the authority, subject to Minnesota Statutes, sections 116J.993 to 116J.995, to provide incentives for the businesses to locate their operations in an international economic development zone. Of this appropriation, up to \$250,000 may be

used by the commissioner for a study to determine the economic viability of business plans for international economic development zones. If the money is not distributed during fiscal year 2006, it remains available for distribution under this section during fiscal year 2007.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 29. **BURNSVILLE; NORTHWEST QUADRANT TAX INCREMENT FINANCING.**

Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) For the purposes of this section, the words and phrases defined have the meanings given them in this subdivision.

(b) "City" means the city of Burnsville.

(c) "Project area" means the area in the city bounded on the south, southeast, and southwest by the southerly right-of-way line of Minnesota Trunk Highway 13; on the east by the easterly right-of-way line of Interstate Highway I-35W; on the north and northwest by the Minnesota River; and on the west by the westerly corporate limits of the city, together with a single parcel to the east of said Interstate Highway I-35W described as the North 1370 feet of the West 1075 feet of the NW Quarter of Section 34 Township 27 Range 24 in the city of Burnsville, Dakota County, except the North 50 feet thereof; provided that the project area includes the rights-of-way for all present and future highway interchanges abutting the area described in this paragraph.

(d) "Soil deficiency district" means a type of tax increment financing district consisting of a portion of the project area in which the city finds by resolution that the following conditions exist:

(1) unusual terrain or soil deficiencies for 80 percent of the acreage in the district require substantial filling, grading, or other physical preparation for use; and

(2) the estimated cost of the physical preparation under clause (1), but excluding costs directly related to roads as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 160.01, and local improvements as described in Minnesota Statutes, sections 429.021, subdivision 1, clauses (1) to (7), (11), and (12), and 430.01, exceeds the fair market value of the land before completion of the preparation.

Subd. 2. **Special rules.** (a) If the city elects, upon the adoption of the tax increment financing plan for a district, the rules under this section apply to a redevelopment district, renewal and renovation district, soil condition district, or a soil deficiency district established by the city or a development authority of the city in the project area.

(b) Prior to or upon the adoption of the first tax increment plan subject to the special rules under this subdivision, the city must find by resolution that parcels consisting of at least 80 percent of the acreage of the project area (excluding street and railroad right of way) are characterized by one or more of the following conditions:

(1) peat or other soils with geotechnical deficiencies that impair development of residential or commercial buildings or infrastructure;

(2) soils or terrain that requires substantial filling in order to permit the development of commercial or residential buildings or infrastructure;

(3) landfills, dumps, or similar deposits of municipal or private waste;

(4) quarries or similar resource extraction sites;

(5) floodway; and

(6) substandard buildings within the meaning of Minnesota Statutes, section 469.174, subdivision 10.

(c) For the purposes of paragraph (b), clauses (1) through (5), a parcel is deemed to be characterized by the relevant condition if at least 70 percent of the area of the parcel contains the relevant condition. For the purposes of paragraph (b), clause (6), a parcel is deemed to be characterized by substandard buildings if the buildings occupy at least 30 percent of the area of the parcel.

(d) The five-year rule under Minnesota Statutes, section 469.1763, subdivision 3, is extended to ten years for any district, and section 469.1763, subdivision 4, does not apply to any district.

(e) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in section 469.1763, subdivision 2, paragraph (a), not more than 80 percent of the total revenue derived from tax increments paid by properties in any district (measured over the life of the district) may be expended on activities outside the district but within the project area.

(f) For a soil deficiency district:

(1) increments may be collected through 20 years after the receipt by the authority of the first increment from the district; and

(2) except as otherwise provided in this subdivision, increments may be used only to:

(i) acquire parcels on which the improvements described in item (ii) will occur;

(ii) pay for the cost of correcting the unusual terrain or soil deficiencies and the additional cost of installing public improvements directly caused by the deficiencies; and

(iii) pay for the administrative expenses of the authority allocable to the district.

(g) Increments spent for any infrastructure costs, whether inside a district or outside a district but within the project area, are deemed to satisfy the requirements of paragraph (f) and Minnesota Statutes, section 469.176, subdivisions 4b and 4j.

(h) Increments from any district may not be used to pay the costs of landfill closure or public infrastructure located on the following parcels within the plat known as Burnsville Amphitheater: Lot 1, Block 1; Lots 1 and 2, Block 2; and Outlots A, B, C and D.

(i) The authority to approve tax increment financing plans to establish tax increment financing districts under this section expires on December 31, 2017.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective upon compliance with Minnesota Statutes, section 645.021, subdivision 3.

### Sec. 30. CITY OF EAGAN; TAX INCREMENT FINANCING DISTRICT.

Subdivision 1. **Authorization; location.** The city of Eagan may establish within the corporate boundaries of the city one or more economic development tax increment financing districts subject to the special rules under subdivision 2. The districts must be located within the "area" defined for purposes of this section as Section 13, Township 27, Range 23, Dakota County, Minnesota.

Subd. 2. **Special rules.** (a) If the city elects upon adoption of the tax increment financing plan for the district, the rules under this subdivision apply to the district.

(b) The limitations in Minnesota Statutes, section 469.176, subdivision 4c, on spending increment for developments more than 15 percent of the square footage of which is used for purposes other than those listed in that subdivision, do not apply.

(c) Increments may be expended on surface parking, sanitary sewer, storm sewer, water, and street improvements inside and outside the area whether or not included in a tax increment financing district, and without regard to any limitations in Minnesota Statutes, section 469.1763, subdivision 2, if the improvements are related to development within the area and on administrative expenses.

Subd. 3. **Business subsidy agreement required.** Prior to approval of a tax increment financing plan for a district authorized by this section, the city must enter a business subsidy agreement with the recipient or beneficiary of expenditures of the increments. The agreement must set minimum full-time employment goals, minimum compensation amounts of the employment positions, and minimum investment amounts for the project and must provide for repayment of all or part of the assistance, if the established goals are not met by the recipient or beneficiaries.

Subd. 4. **Expiration of authority.** The authority to approve tax increment financing plans to establish tax increment financing districts under this section expires on December 31, 2008.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective upon compliance by the city of Eagan with Minnesota Statutes, section 645.021.

**Sec. 31. CITY OF EYOTA; TAX INCREMENT FINANCING DISTRICT.**

Subdivision 1. **Authorization.** Notwithstanding the mileage limitation in Minnesota Statutes, section 469.174, subdivision 27, the city of Eyota is deemed to be a small city for the purposes of Minnesota Statutes, section 469.174 to 469.1799, as long as its population does not exceed the population limit in that section.

Subd. 2. **Local approval.** This section is effective for the city of Eyota upon approval of Eyota's governing body and compliance with Minnesota Statutes, section 645.021, subdivisions 2 and 3.

**Sec. 32. CITY OF FRIDLEY; TAX INCREMENT FINANCING DISTRICT; SPECIAL RULES.**

(a) If the city elects upon the adoption of a tax increment financing plan for a district, the rules under this section apply to a redevelopment tax increment financing district established by the city of Fridley or the housing and redevelopment authority of the city. The redevelopment tax increment district includes the following parcels and adjacent railroad property and shall be referred to as the Northstar Transit Station District: parcel numbers 223024120010, 223024120009, 223024120017, 223024120016, 223024120018, 223024120012, 223024120011, 223024120005, 223024120004, 223024120003, 223024120013, 223024120008, 223024120007, 223024120006, 223024130005, 223024130010, 223024130011, 223024130003, 153024440039, 153024440037, 153024440041, 153024440042, 223024110013, 223024110016, 223024110017, 223024140008, 223024130002, 223024420004, 223024410002, 223024410003, 223024110008, 223024110007, 223024110019, 223024110018, 223024110003, 223024140003, 223024140009, 223024140002, 223024140010, and 223024410007.

(b) The requirements for qualifying a redevelopment tax increment district under Minnesota Statutes, section 469.174, subdivision 10, do not apply to the parcels located within the Northstar Transit Station District, which are deemed eligible for inclusion in a redevelopment tax increment district.

(c) In addition to the costs permitted by Minnesota Statutes, section 469.176, subdivision 4j, eligible expenditures within the Northstar Transit Station District include those costs necessary to provide for the construction and land acquisition for a tunnel under the Burlington Northern Santa Fe railroad tracks.

(d) Notwithstanding the provisions of Minnesota Statutes, section 469.1763, subdivision 2, the city of Fridley may expend increments generated from its tax increment financing districts Nos. 11, 12, and 13 for costs permitted by paragraph (c) and Minnesota Statutes, section 469.176, subdivision 4j, outside the boundaries of tax increment financing districts Nos. 11, 12, and 13, but only within the Northstar Transit Station District.

(e) The five-year rule under Minnesota Statutes, section 469.1763, subdivision 3, does not apply to the Northstar Transit Station District or to tax increment financing districts Nos. 11, 12, and 13.

(f) The use of revenues for decertification under Minnesota Statutes, section 469.1763, subdivision 4, does not apply to tax increment financing districts Nos. 11, 12, and 13.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective upon approval by the governing body of the city of Fridley and upon compliance by the city with Minnesota Statutes, section 645.021, subdivision 3.

**Sec. 33. CITY OF NEW BRIGHTON; TAX INCREMENT FINANCING; EXPENDITURES OUTSIDE DISTRICT.**

Notwithstanding the provisions of Minnesota Statutes, section 469.1763, subdivision 2, the city of New Brighton may expend increments generated from its tax increment financing district No. 26 to facilitate eligible activities as permitted by Minnesota Statutes, section 469.176, subdivision 4e, outside the boundaries of tax increment financing district No. 26, but only within the area described in Laws 1998, chapter 389, article 11, section 24, subdivision 1, and commonly referred to as the Northwest Quadrant. Minnesota Statutes, section 469.1763, subdivisions 3 and 4, do not apply to expenditures permitted by this section.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective upon approval by the governing body of the city of New Brighton and compliance by the city with Minnesota Statutes, section 645.021, subdivision 3.

**Sec. 34. APPROPRIATION.**

\$200,000 in fiscal year 2008 and \$200,000 in fiscal year 2009 are appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner of employment and economic development to provide a grant to the city of Fergus Falls to market and promote economic development of the site formerly used as a regional treatment facility.

**Sec. 35. REPEALER.**

Laws 1998, chapter 389, article 11, section 18, is repealed.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective upon compliance with Minnesota Statutes, section 645.021, subdivision 3, by the governing body of the city of Burnsville. The balance of tax increments derived from tax increment financing district No. 2-1 as of the effective date of this section must be returned to the county for distribution in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 469.176, subdivision 2.

## ARTICLE 7

### PUBLIC FINANCE

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 118A.03, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Amount.** The total amount of the collateral computed at its market value shall be at least ten percent more than the amount on deposit ~~plus accrued interest~~ at the close of the financial institution's banking day, except that where the collateral is irrevocable standby letters of credit issued by Federal Home Loan Banks, the amount of collateral shall be at least equal to the amount on deposit ~~plus accrued interest~~ at the close of the financial institution's banking day. The financial institution may furnish both a surety bond and collateral aggregating the required amount.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 123B.61, is amended to read:

#### **123B.61 PURCHASE OF CERTAIN EQUIPMENT.**

The board of a district may issue general obligation certificates of indebtedness or capital notes subject to the district debt limits to: (a) purchase vehicles, computers, telephone systems, cable equipment, photocopy and office equipment, technological equipment for instruction, and other capital equipment having an expected useful life at least as long as the terms of the certificates or notes; (b) purchase computer hardware and software, without regard to its expected useful life, whether bundled with machinery or equipment or unbundled, together with application development services and training related to the use of the computer; and (c) prepay special assessments. The certificates or notes must be payable in not more than ~~five~~ ten years and must be issued on the terms and in the manner determined by the board, except that certificates or notes issued to prepay special assessments must be payable in not more than 20 years. The certificates or notes may be issued by resolution and without the requirement for an election. The certificates or notes are general obligation bonds for purposes of section 126C.55. A tax levy must be made for the payment of the principal and interest on the certificates or notes, in accordance with section 475.61, as in the case of bonds. The sum of the tax levies under this section and section 123B.62 for each year must not exceed the lesser of the amount of the district's total operating capital revenue or the sum of the district's levy in the general and community service funds excluding the adjustments under this section for the year preceding the year the initial debt service levies are certified. The district's general fund levy for each year must be reduced by the sum of (1) the amount of the tax levies for debt service certified for each year for payment of the principal and interest on the certificates or notes issued under this section as required by section 475.61, (2) the amount of the tax levies for debt service certified for each year for payment of the principal and interest on bonds issued under section 123B.62, and (3) any excess amount in the debt redemption fund used to retire bonds, certificates, or notes issued under this section or section 123B.62 after April 1, 1997, other than amounts used to pay capitalized interest. If the district's general fund levy is less than the amount of the reduction, the balance shall be deducted first from the district's community service fund levy, and next from the district's general fund or community service fund levies for the following year. A district using an excess amount in the debt redemption fund to retire the certificates or notes shall



report the amount used for this purpose to the commissioner by July 15 of the following fiscal year. A district having an outstanding capital loan under section 126C.69 or an outstanding debt service loan under section 126C.68 must not use an excess amount in the debt redemption fund to retire the certificates or notes.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 275.61, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Market value.** (a) For local governmental subdivisions other than school districts, any levy, ~~including the issuance of debt obligations payable in whole or in part from property taxes,~~ required to be approved and approved by the voters at a general or special election for taxes payable in 1993 and thereafter, shall be levied against the referendum market value of all taxable property within the governmental subdivision, as defined in section 126C.01, subdivision 3. Any levy amount subject to the requirements of this section shall be certified separately to the county auditor under section 275.07.

(b) The ballot shall state the maximum amount of the increased levy as a percentage of market value and the amount that will be raised by the new referendum tax rate in the first year it is to be levied.

(c) This subdivision does not apply to tax levies for the payment of debt obligations that are approved by the voters after June 30, 2007.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 331A.05, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Time of notice.** Unless otherwise specified by ~~a particular statute~~ law, or by order of a court, publication of a public notice shall be as follows:

(a) the notice shall be published once;

(b) if the notice is intended to inform the public about a future event, the last publication shall occur not more than 44 30 days and not less than seven days before the event;

(c) if the notice is intended to inform the public about a past action or event, the last publication shall occur not more than 45 days after occurrence of the action or event.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 365A.02, is amended to read:

**365A.02 DEFINITION DEFINITIONS.**

Subdivision 1. **Subordinate service district.** "Subordinate service district" means a defined area within the town in which ~~one or more governmental services or additions to townwide special services are provided by the town specially for the area and financed from revenues from the area.~~ The boundaries of a single subordinate service district may not embrace an entire town.

Subd. 2. **Special services.** "Special services" means one or more governmental services or additions to townwide services provided by the town specially for the area and financed from revenues from the area.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 365A.04, is amended to read:

**365A.04 CREATION BY PETITION.**

Subdivision 1. **Petition.** A petition signed by at least 50 percent of the property owners in the part of the town proposed for the subordinate service district may be submitted to the town board requesting the establishment of a subordinate service district to provide a service that the town is otherwise authorized by law to provide. The petition must include the territorial boundaries of the proposed district and specify the kinds of services to be provided within the district.

Subd. 1a. **Creation by town board.** The town board may establish a subordinate service district in a portion of the town by adoption of a resolution, subject to the requirements of subdivision 2.

Subd. 2. **Public hearing.** Upon receipt of the petition, and the verification of the signatures by the town clerk or prior to adoption of the resolution specified in subdivision 1a, the town board shall, within 30 days following verification or prior to adoption of the resolution specified in subdivision 1a, hold a public hearing on the question of whether or not the requested district shall be established. The notice of public hearing must specify the special services to be provided within the subordinate service district and must specify the territorial boundaries of the requested district. The notice of public hearing must be published once in a newspaper of general circulation in the town at least 14 days prior to the date of the public hearing.

Subd. 3. **Approval; disapproval.** Within 30 days after the public hearing, the town board by resolution shall approve or disapprove the establishment of the requested district. An approving resolution must specify the special services to be provided within the subordinate service district and must specify the territorial boundaries of the district. A resolution approving the establishment of the district may contain amendments or modifications of the district's boundaries or functions as set forth in the petition or the resolution specified in subdivision 1a.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 365A.08, is amended to read:

### **365A.08 FINANCING.**

Subdivision 1. **Budget.** (a) Upon adoption of the next annual budget following the creation of a subordinate service district the town board shall include in the budget appropriate provisions for the operation of the district including either a property tax levied only on property of the users of the service within the boundaries of the district or a levy of a service charge against the users of the service within the district, or a combination of a property tax and a service charge on the users of the service.

(b) A tax or service charge or a combination of them may be imposed to finance a function or service in the district that the town ordinarily provides throughout the town only to the extent that there is an increase in the level of the function or service provided in the service district over that provided throughout the town. In that case, in addition to the townwide tax levy, an amount necessary to pay for the increase in the level of the function or service may be imposed in the district.

Subd. 2. **Bonds.** At any time after the requirements of section 356A.06 have been met and the subordinate service district created, the town board may issue obligations in an amount it deems necessary to defray in whole or in part the expense incurred and estimated to be incurred in making capital improvements necessary to operate the subordinate service district and provide the special services in the district, including every item of cost from inception to completion and all fees and expenses incurred in connection with the capital improvements or the financing. The obligations are payable primarily out of the proceeds of the taxes and service charges imposed under subdivision 1, net revenues as described in section 444.075, and special assessments under chapter 429. The town

board may by resolution pledge the full faith credit and taxing power of the town to ensure payment of the principal and interest on the obligations if the proceeds of the taxes and service charges are insufficient to pay the principal and interest. Obligations must be issued in accordance with chapter 475, except that an election is not required, and the amount of the obligations is not included in determining the net indebtedness of the town under the provisions of any law limiting indebtedness.

Subd. 3. **Covenants to secure obligations.** In resolutions authorizing the issuance of general or special obligations and pledging taxes and service charges imposed under subdivision 1, net revenues, or special assessments to their payment, the town board may make covenants for the protection of holders of the obligations and taxpayers of the town as it deems necessary, including a covenant that the town will impose and collect charges of the nature authorized by this chapter at the time and in the amounts required to produce, together with any taxes or special assessments designated as a primary source of payment of the obligations, funds adequate to pay all principal and interest when due on the obligations, and to create and maintain reserves securing the payments as may be provided in the resolutions.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 365A.095, is amended to read:

**365A.095 PETITION FOR REMOVAL OF DISTRICT; PROCEDURE.**

Subdivision 1. **Petition.** A petition signed by at least 75 percent of the property owners in the territory of the subordinate service district requesting the removal of the district may be presented to the town board. Within 30 days after the town board receives the petition, the town clerk shall determine the validity of the signatures on the petition. If the requisite number of signatures are certified as valid, the town board must hold a public hearing on the petitioned matter. Within 30 days after the end of the hearing, the town board must decide whether to discontinue the subordinate service district, continue as it is, or take some other action with respect to it.

Subd. 2. **Bonds.** If obligations have been issued for the benefit of the subordinate service district, the rates, charges, and tax levies, if any, continue until the obligations and any obligations issued to refund them have been paid in full.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 373.01, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Capital notes.** (a) A county board may, by resolution and without referendum, issue capital notes subject to the county debt limit to purchase capital equipment useful for county purposes that has an expected useful life at least equal to the term of the notes. The notes shall be payable in not more than ten years and shall be issued on terms and in a manner the board determines. A tax levy shall be made for payment of the principal and interest on the notes, in accordance with section 475.61, as in the case of bonds.

(b) For purposes of this subdivision, "capital equipment" means:

- (1) public safety, ambulance, road construction or maintenance, and medical equipment; and
- (2) computer hardware and software, whether bundled with machinery or equipment or unbundled. ~~The authority to issue capital notes for software expires on July 1, 2007.~~

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 373.40, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Limitations on amount.** A county, ~~other than Ramsey,~~ may not issue bonds under

this section if the maximum amount of principal and interest to become due in any year on all the outstanding bonds issued pursuant to this section (including the bonds to be issued) will equal or exceed ~~0.05367~~ 0.12 percent of taxable market value of property in the county. ~~Ramsey county may not issue bonds under this section if the maximum amount of principal and interest to become due in any year on all the outstanding bonds issued pursuant to this section (including the bonds to be issued) will equal or exceed 0.06455 percent of taxable market value of property in the county.~~ Calculation of the limit must be made using the taxable market value for the taxes payable year in which the obligations are issued and sold. This section does not limit the authority to issue bonds under any other special or general law.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for bonds issued after June 30, 2007.

Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 375B.09, is amended to read:

**375B.09 FINANCING.**

Subdivision 1. **Budget.** (a) Upon adoption of the next annual budget following the creation of a subordinate service district the county board shall include in the budget appropriate provisions for the operation of the district including, as appropriate, either a property tax levied only on property within the boundaries of the district or a levy of a service charge against the users of the service within the district, or any combination of a property tax and a service charge.

(b) A tax or service charge or a combination thereof shall not be imposed to finance a function or service in the subordinate service district which the county generally provides throughout the county unless an increase in the level of the service is to be supplied in the subordinate service district in which case, in addition to the countywide tax levy, only an amount necessary to pay for the increased level of service may be imposed.

Subd. 2. **Bonds.** At any time after the requirements of section 375B.07 have been met and the subordinate service district created, the county board may issue obligations in an amount it deems necessary to defray in whole or in part the expense incurred and estimated to be incurred in making capital improvements necessary to operate the subordinate service district and provide the special services in the district, including every item of cost from inception to completion and all fees and expenses incurred in connection with the capital improvements or the financing. The obligations shall be payable primarily out of the proceeds of the taxes and service charges imposed pursuant to subdivision 1, net revenues as described in section 444.075, and special assessments under chapter 429. The county board may by resolution pledge the full faith credit and taxing power of the county to ensure payment of the principal and interest on the obligations if the proceeds of the taxes and service charges are insufficient to pay the principal and interest. Obligations must be issued in accordance with chapter 475, except that an election is not required, and the amount of the obligations is not included in determining the net indebtedness of the county under the provisions of any law limiting indebtedness.

Subd. 3. **Covenants to secure obligations.** In resolutions authorizing the issuance of general or special obligations and pledging taxes and service charges imposed under subdivision 1, net revenues, or special assessments to their payment, the county board may make covenants for the protection of holders of the obligations and taxpayers of the county as it deems necessary, including a covenant that the county will impose and collect charges of the nature authorized by this chapter at the time and in the amounts required to produce, together with any taxes or special assessments designated as a primary source of payment of the obligations, funds adequate to pay all principal

and interest when due on the obligations and to create and maintain reserves securing the payments as may be provided in the resolutions.

Subd. 4. **Continuance in the event of withdrawal.** If obligations have been issued for the benefit of the subordinate service district, and the district is withdrawn or removed pursuant to either section 375B.10 or 375B.11, the rates, charges, and tax levies, if any, in the withdrawn or removed district must continue until the obligations and any obligations issued to refund them have been paid in full.

Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 383B.117, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Equipment acquisition; capital notes.** The board may, by resolution and without public referendum, issue capital notes within existing debt limits for the purpose of purchasing ambulance and other medical equipment, road construction or maintenance equipment, public safety equipment and other capital equipment having an expected useful life at least equal to the term of the notes issued. The notes shall be payable in not more than ~~five~~ ten years and shall be issued on terms and in a manner as the board determines. The total principal amount of the notes issued for any fiscal year shall not exceed one percent of the total annual budget for that year and shall be issued solely for the purchases authorized in this subdivision. A tax levy shall be made for the payment of the principal and interest on such notes as in the case of bonds. For purposes of this subdivision, "equipment" includes computer hardware and software, whether bundled with machinery or equipment or unbundled. For purposes of this subdivision, the term "medical equipment" includes computer hardware and software and other intellectual property for use in medical diagnosis, medical procedures, research, record keeping, billing, and other hospital applications, together with application development services and training related to the use of the computer hardware and software and other intellectual property, all without regard to their useful life. For purposes of determining the amount of capital notes which the county may issue in any year, the budget of the county and Hennepin Healthcare System, Inc. shall be combined and the notes issuable under this subdivision shall be in addition to obligations issuable under section 373.01, subdivision 3.

Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 383B.77, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Creation.** The Hennepin County Housing and Redevelopment Authority is created in the county of Hennepin. It shall have all of the powers and duties of a housing and redevelopment authority under sections 469.001 to 469.047. For the purposes of applying the municipal housing and redevelopment act to Hennepin County, the county has all of the powers and duties of a city, the county board has all the powers and duties of a governing body, the chair of the county board has all of the powers and duties of a mayor, and, notwithstanding section 469.008, the area of operation includes the area within the territorial boundaries of the county.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** Because the population of Hennepin County is more than 1,000,000, under Minnesota Statutes, section 645.023, this section is effective without local approval.

Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 383B.77, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Limitation.** This section does not limit or restrict any existing housing and redevelopment authority or prevent a municipality from creating an authority. For purposes of this subdivision, "housing and redevelopment authority" includes any municipal department, agency, or authority of the city of Minneapolis which exercises the powers of a housing and redevelopment authority pursuant to section 469.003 or other law. The county authority shall notify a municipal

authority by January 31 of each year as to the activities the county authority plans to participate in within the municipality. The municipal authority shall notify the county authority within 45 days of the date of the notice from the county authority, if the municipal authority does not consent to the activities of the county authority. ~~The county authority shall not exercise its powers in a municipality where a housing and redevelopment authority was created under Minnesota Statutes 1969, chapter 462, before June 8, 1971, except as provided in this subdivision.~~ If a city housing and redevelopment authority requests the county housing and redevelopment authority to exercise any power or perform any function of the municipal authority, the county authority may do so.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** Because the population of Hennepin County is more than 1,000,000, under Minnesota Statutes, section 645.023, this section is effective without local approval.

Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 410.32, is amended to read:

**410.32 CITIES MAY ISSUE CAPITAL NOTES FOR CAPITAL EQUIPMENT.**

(a) Notwithstanding any contrary provision of other law or charter, a home rule charter city may, by resolution and without public referendum, issue capital notes subject to the city debt limit to purchase capital equipment.

(b) For purposes of this section, "capital equipment" means:

(1) public safety equipment, ambulance and other medical equipment, road construction and maintenance equipment, and other capital equipment; and

(2) computer hardware and software, whether bundled with machinery or equipment or unbundled.

(c) The equipment or software must have an expected useful life at least as long as the term of the notes. ~~The authority to issue capital notes for software expires on July 1, 2007.~~

(d) The notes shall be payable in not more than ten years and be issued on terms and in the manner the city determines. The total principal amount of the capital notes issued in a fiscal year shall not exceed 0.03 percent of the market value of taxable property in the city for that year.

(e) A tax levy shall be made for the payment of the principal and interest on the notes, in accordance with section 475.61, as in the case of bonds.

(f) Notes issued under this section shall require an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the governing body of the city.

(g) Notwithstanding a contrary provision of other law or charter, a home rule charter city may also issue capital notes subject to its debt limit in the manner and subject to the limitations applicable to statutory cities pursuant to section 412.301.

Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 412.301, is amended to read:

**412.301 FINANCING PURCHASE OF CERTAIN EQUIPMENT.**

(a) The council may issue certificates of indebtedness or capital notes subject to the city debt limits to purchase capital equipment.

(b) For purposes of this section, "capital equipment" means:

(1) public safety equipment, ambulance and other medical equipment, road construction and maintenance equipment, and other capital equipment; and

(2) computer hardware and software, whether bundled with machinery or equipment or unbundled.

(c) The equipment or software must have an expected useful life at least as long as the terms of the certificates or notes. ~~The authority to issue capital notes for software expires on July 1, 2007.~~

(d) Such certificates or notes shall be payable in not more than ten years and shall be issued on such terms and in such manner as the council may determine.

(e) If the amount of the certificates or notes to be issued to finance any such purchase exceeds 0.25 percent of the market value of taxable property in the city, they shall not be issued for at least ten days after publication in the official newspaper of a council resolution determining to issue them; and if before the end of that time, a petition asking for an election on the proposition signed by voters equal to ten percent of the number of voters at the last regular municipal election is filed with the clerk, such certificates or notes shall not be issued until the proposition of their issuance has been approved by a majority of the votes cast on the question at a regular or special election.

(f) A tax levy shall be made for the payment of the principal and interest on such certificates or notes, in accordance with section 475.61, as in the case of bonds.

Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 453A.02, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **City.** "City" means a city organized and existing under the laws of Minnesota or a city charter adopted pursuant thereto, and authorized by such laws or charter to engage in the local distribution and sale of gas, provided that any city so engaged on January 1, 1979 is authorized to continue such distribution and sale, and every city now or hereafter so authorized may exercise, either individually or as a member of a municipal gas agency, all of the powers granted in sections 453A.01 to 453A.12.

City also includes a city organized and existing under the laws of another state or a city charter adopted pursuant thereto which participates in a municipal gas agency with Minnesota cities.

Sec. 18. **[471.6175] TRUST FOR POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS.**

Subdivision 1. **Authorization; establishment.** A political subdivision or other public entity that creates or has created an actuarial liability to pay postemployment benefits to employees or officers after their termination of service may establish a trust to pay those benefits. For purposes of this section, the term "postemployment benefits" means benefits giving rise to a liability under Statement No. 45 of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board and the term "trust" means a trust, a trust account, or a custodial account or contract authorized under section 401(f) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Subd. 2. **Purpose of trust.** The trust established under this section may only be used to pay postemployment benefits and may be either revocable or irrevocable.

Subd. 3. **Trust administrator.** The trust administrator of a trust established under this section shall be either:

(1) the Public Employees Retirement Association;

(2) a bank or banking association incorporated under the laws of the United States or of any state and authorized by the laws under which it is organized to exercise corporate trust powers; or

(3) an insurance company or agency qualified to do business in Minnesota which has at least five years' experience in investment products and services for group retirement benefits and which has a specialized department dedicated to services for retirement investment products.

A political subdivision or public entity may, in its discretion and in compliance with any applicable trust document, change trust administrators and transfer trust assets accordingly.

Subd. 4. **Account maintenance.** (a) A political subdivision or other public entity may establish a trust account to be held under the supervision of the trust administrator for the purposes of this section. A trust administrator shall establish a separate account for each participating political subdivision or public entity. The trust administrator may charge participating political subdivisions and public entities fees for reasonable administrative costs. The amount of any fees charged by the Public Employees Retirement Association is appropriated to the association from the account. A trust administrator may establish other reasonable terms and conditions for creation and maintenance of these accounts.

(b) The trust administrator must report to the political subdivision or other public entity on the investment returns of invested trust assets and on all investment fees or costs incurred by the trust. The annual rates of return, along with investment and administrative fees and costs for the trust, must be disclosed in the political subdivision's or public entity's annual financial audit in a manner prescribed by the state auditor.

(c) Effective for fiscal years beginning after December 31, 2009, the trust administrator must report electronically to the state auditor the portfolio and performance information specified in section 356.219, subdivision 3, in the manner prescribed by the state auditor.

Subd. 5. **Investment.** (a) The assets of a trust or trust account shall be invested and held as stipulated in paragraphs (b) to (e).

(b) The Public Employees Retirement Association must certify all money in the trust accounts for which it is trust administrator to the State Board of Investment for investment under section 11A.14, subject to the policies and procedures established by the State Board of Investment. Investment earnings must be credited to the trust account of the individual political subdivision or public entity.

(c) A trust administrator, other than the Public Employees Retirement Association, must ensure that all money in the trust accounts for which it is trust administrator is invested by a registered investment adviser, a bank investment trust department, or an insurance company or agency retirement investment department. Investment earnings must be credited to the trust account of the individual political subdivision or public entity.

(d) For trust assets invested by the State Board of Investment, the investment restrictions shall be the same as those generally applicable to the State Board of Investment. For trust assets invested by a trust administrator other than the Public Employees Retirement Association, the assets may only be invested in investments authorized under chapter 118A or section 356A.06, subdivision 7, in the manner specified in the applicable trust document.

(e) A political subdivision or public entity may provide investment direction to a trust administrator in compliance with any applicable trust document.



Subd. 6. **Limit on deposit.** A political subdivision or public entity may not deposit money in a trust or trust account created pursuant to this section if the total amount invested by that political subdivision or public entity would exceed the political subdivision's or public entity's actuarially determined liabilities for postemployment benefits due to officers and employees, as determined under the applicable standards of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board.

Subd. 7. **Withdrawal of funds and termination of account.** (a) For a revocable account, a political subdivision or public entity may withdraw some or all of its money or terminate the trust account. Money and accrued investment earnings withdrawn from a revocable account must be deposited in a fund separate and distinct from any other funds of the political subdivision or public entity. This money, with accrued investment earnings, must be used to pay legally enforceable postemployment benefits to former officers and employees, unless (i) there has been a change in state or federal law affecting that political subdivision's or public entity's liabilities for postemployment benefits, or (ii) there has been a change in the demographic composition of that political subdivision's or public entity's employees eligible for postemployment benefits, or (iii) there has been a change in the provisions or terms of the postemployment benefits in that political subdivision or public entity including, but not limited to, the portion of the costs eligible employees must pay to receive the benefits, or (iv) other factors exist that have a material effect on that political subdivision's or public entity's actuarially determined liabilities for postemployment benefits, in which event any amount in excess of 100 percent of that political subdivision's or public entity's actuarially determined liabilities for postemployment benefits, as determined under standards of the Government Accounting Standards Board, may be withdrawn and used for any purpose.

(b) For an irrevocable account, a political subdivision or public entity may withdraw money only:

(1) as needed to pay postemployment benefits owed to former officers and employees of the political subdivision or public entity; or

(2) when all postemployment benefit liability owed to former officers or employees of the political subdivision or public entity has been satisfied or otherwise defeased.

(c) A political subdivision or public entity requesting withdrawal of money from an account created under this section must do so at a time and in the manner required by the executive director of the Public Employees Retirement Association or specified in an applicable trust document. The political subdivision or public entity that created the trust must ensure that withdrawals comply with the requirements of this section.

(d) The legislature may not divert funds in these trusts or trust accounts for use for another purpose.

Subd. 8. **Status of irrevocable trust.** (a) All money in an irrevocable trust or trust account created in this section is held in trust for the exclusive benefit of former officers and employees of the participating political subdivision or public entity, and is not subject to claims by creditors of the state, the participating political subdivision or public entity, the current or former officers and employees of the political subdivision or public entity, or the trust administrator.

(b) An irrevocable trust fund or trust account created in this section shall be deemed an arrangement equivalent to a trust for all legal purposes.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment, and is applicable immediately to all political subdivisions or public entities subject to Statement No. 45 of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board in 2007, to those political subdivisions or public entities whose trusts or trust accounts are validated by section 27, and to those political subdivisions or public entities that have begun consideration of measures to implement Statement No. 45 in 2007. This section is applicable on July 1, 2008, for all other political subdivisions or public entities.

Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 473.39, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 1m. **Obligations.** After July 1, 2007, in addition to other authority in this section, the council may issue certificates of indebtedness, bonds, or other obligations under this section in an amount not exceeding \$33,600,000 for capital expenditures as prescribed in the council's regional transit master plan and transit capital improvement program and for related costs, including the costs of issuance and sale of the obligations.

**APPLICATION AND EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section applies in the counties of Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott, and Washington, and is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 473.39, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 5. **Anticipation of grants.** In addition to other authority granted in this section, the council may exercise the authority granted to an issuing political subdivision by section 475.522.

**APPLICATION AND EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section applies in the counties of Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott, and Washington, and is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 475.51, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Net debt.** "Net debt" means the amount remaining after deducting from its gross debt the amount of current revenues which are applicable within the current fiscal year to the payment of any debt and the aggregate of the principal of the following:

(1) Obligations issued for improvements which are payable wholly or partly from the proceeds of special assessments levied upon property specially benefited thereby, including those which are general obligations of the municipality issuing them, if the municipality is entitled to reimbursement in whole or in part from the proceeds of the special assessments.

(2) Warrants or orders having no definite or fixed maturity.

(3) Obligations payable wholly from the income from revenue producing conveniences.

(4) Obligations issued to create or maintain a permanent improvement revolving fund.

(5) Obligations issued for the acquisition, and betterment of public waterworks systems, and public lighting, heating or power systems, and of any combination thereof or for any other public convenience from which a revenue is or may be derived.

(6) Debt service loans and capital loans made to a school district under the provisions of sections 126C.68 and 126C.69.

(7) Amount of all money and the face value of all securities held as a debt service fund for the extinguishment of obligations other than those deductible under this subdivision.

(8) Obligations to repay loans made under section 216C.37.

(9) Obligations to repay loans made from money received from litigation or settlement of alleged violations of federal petroleum pricing regulations.

(10) Obligations issued to pay pension fund or other postemployment benefit liabilities under section 475.52, subdivision 6, or any charter authority.

(11) Obligations issued to pay judgments against the municipality under section 475.52, subdivision 6, or any charter authority.

(12) All other obligations which under the provisions of law authorizing their issuance are not to be included in computing the net debt of the municipality.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for obligations issued after June 30, 2007.

Sec. 22. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 475.52, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

Subd. 6. **Certain purposes.** Any municipality may issue bonds for paying judgments against it; for refunding outstanding bonds; for funding floating indebtedness; for funding actuarial liabilities to pay postemployment benefits to employees or officers after their termination of service; or for funding all or part of the municipality's current and future unfunded liability for a pension or retirement fund or plan referred to in section 356.20, subdivision 2, as those liabilities are most recently computed pursuant to sections 356.215 and 356.216. The board of trustees or directors of a pension fund or relief association referred to in section 69.77 or chapter 422A must consent and must be a party to any contract made under this section with respect to the fund held by it for the benefit of and in trust for its members. For purposes of this section, the term "postemployment benefits" means benefits giving rise to a liability under Statement No. 45 of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board.

**Sec. 23. [475.522] GRANT ANTICIPATION FINANCING OF TRANSPORTATION OR TRANSIT PROJECTS.**

Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** For purposes of this section, the term "political subdivision" means a county or a statutory or home rule charter city, and the term "issuing political subdivision" means a political subdivision that issues obligations under subdivision 2.

Subd. 2. **Authorization.** An issuing political subdivision may enter into agreements with any other political subdivision of the state, within or without its jurisdiction, and any state agency, with respect to federal grants for transportation or transit projects to be received directly or indirectly by or on behalf of the political subdivision or agency, under an executed grant agreement with the relevant federal agency. The agreements may provide that the political subdivision or agency will pledge to the issuing political subdivision all or a specified portion of the federal grants received by or on behalf of the political subdivision or agency for a specified period of years, or until all obligations issued by the issuing political subdivision under subdivision 3 with respect to those federal grants have been paid or legally defeased. If the issuing political subdivision issues obligations under subdivision 3, the agreements must provide the method by which the proceeds of the obligations will be used to pay or reimburse the costs of the transportation or transit projects relating to the

federal grants described in the executed federal grant agreement.

Subd. 3. **Issuance of obligations.** In anticipation of any federal grants for transportation or transit projects to be received directly or indirectly by any political subdivision or agency as specified in subdivision 1, or by an issuing political subdivision with respect to any transportation or transit projects within its jurisdiction, an issuing political subdivision may issue its obligations payable from the collections of those federal grants. The obligations may be issued in the principal amount the issuing political subdivision determines provided that the estimated collections of the federal grants under the relevant executed federal grant agreement in each year in which the obligations will be outstanding must be at least equal to:

(1) if the obligations are to be issued as revenue obligations, 150 percent of the maximum annual debt service on the obligations; or

(2) if the obligations are to be issued as general obligations, 110 percent of the maximum annual debt service on the obligations.

Except as otherwise provided in this section, the issuing political subdivision shall provide for the issuance, sale, and security of the obligations as provided in chapter 475, and has the same powers and duties as a municipality issuing bonds under that law, except that no election is required and the net debt limitations in chapter 475 do not apply to the obligations. The issuing political subdivision may determine to issue the obligations as revenue obligations, payable solely from the collections of the federal grants anticipated, or may pledge its full faith and credit to the payment of the obligations.

Subd. 4. **Use of proceeds.** The proceeds of the obligations must be used:

(1) to pay or reimburse the costs of the transportation or transit projects relating to the federal grants being anticipated;

(2) to pay the costs of issuance of the obligations, including credit enhancement;

(3) to pay interest on the obligations for a period not exceeding three years from their date of issue; and

(4) if the full faith and credit of the issuing political subdivision is not pledged to the payment of the obligations, to fund a debt service reserve fund for the obligations.

Sec. 24. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 475.53, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Generally.** Except as otherwise provided in sections 475.51 to 475.74, no municipality, except a school district or a city of the first class, shall incur or be subject to a net debt in excess of ~~two~~ three percent of the market value of taxable property in the municipality.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for obligations issued after June 30, 2007.

Sec. 25. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 475.58, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Approval by electors; exceptions.** Obligations authorized by law or charter may be issued by any municipality upon obtaining the approval of a majority of the electors voting on the question of issuing the obligations, but an election shall not be required to authorize obligations issued:

- (1) to pay any unpaid judgment against the municipality;
- (2) for refunding obligations;
- (3) for an improvement or improvement program, which obligation is payable wholly or partly from the proceeds of special assessments levied upon property specially benefited by the improvement or by an improvement within the improvement program, or from tax increments, as defined in section 469.174, subdivision 25, including obligations which are the general obligations of the municipality, if the municipality is entitled to reimbursement in whole or in part from the proceeds of such special assessments or tax increments and not less than 20 percent of the cost of the improvement or the improvement program is to be assessed against benefited property or is to be paid from the proceeds of federal grant funds or a combination thereof, or is estimated to be received from tax increments;
- (4) payable wholly from the income of revenue producing conveniences;
- (5) under the provisions of a home rule charter which permits the issuance of obligations of the municipality without election;
- (6) under the provisions of a law which permits the issuance of obligations of a municipality without an election;
- (7) to fund pension or retirement fund or postemployment benefit liabilities pursuant to section 475.52, subdivision 6;
- (8) under a capital improvement plan under section 373.40; and
- (9) under sections 469.1813 to 469.1815 (property tax abatement authority bonds), if the proceeds of the bonds are not used for a purpose prohibited under section 469.176, subdivision 4g, paragraph (b).

Sec. 26. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 475.58, subdivision 3b, is amended to read:

Subd. 3b. **Street reconstruction.** (a) A municipality may, without regard to the election requirement under subdivision 1, issue and sell obligations for street reconstruction, if the following conditions are met:

(1) the streets are reconstructed under a street reconstruction plan that describes the ~~streets to be reconstructed~~ street reconstruction to be financed, the estimated costs, and any planned reconstruction of other streets in the municipality over the next five years, and the plan and issuance of the obligations has been approved by a vote of all of the members of the governing body present at the meeting following a public hearing for which notice has been published in the official newspaper at least ten days but not more than 28 days prior to the hearing; and

(2) if a petition requesting a vote on the issuance is signed by voters equal to five percent of the votes cast in the last municipal general election and is filed with the municipal clerk within 30 days of the public hearing, the municipality may issue the bonds only after obtaining the approval of a majority of the voters voting on the question of the issuance of the obligations.

(b) Obligations issued under this subdivision are subject to the debt limit of the municipality and are not excluded from net debt under section 475.51, subdivision 4.

(c) For purposes of this subdivision, street reconstruction includes utility replacement and relocation and other activities incidental to the street reconstruction, turn lanes and other improvements having a substantial public safety function, realignments, other modifications to intersect with state and county roads, and the local share of state and county road projects.

(d) Except in the case of turn lanes, safety improvements, realignments, intersection modifications, and the local share of state and county road projects, street reconstruction does not include the portion of project cost allocable to widening a street or adding curbs and gutters where none previously existed.

**Sec. 27. VALIDATION.**

Any trust or trust account or other custodial account or contract authorized under section 401(f) of the Internal Revenue Code, created prior to June 6, 2006, to pay postemployment benefits to employees or officers after termination of service, is hereby validated, may continue in full force and effect, and shall have continuing authority to accept new funds; however, this section does not validate or correct defects in any previously created trust document. Any funds held by a validated trust or account under this section may be invested as provided in Minnesota Statutes, section 471.6175, subdivision 5. A validated trust or account shall have until January 1, 2008, to bring its trust documents and procedures into compliance with Minnesota Statutes, section 471.6175.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

**Sec. 28. TOWN OF CRANE LAKE, CERTIFICATES OF INDEBTEDNESS.**

Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 366.095, or any other law to the contrary, the town board of the town of Crane Lake in St. Louis County may issue one or more certificates of indebtedness in a total amount not to exceed \$225,000, which are not subject to the debt limits of the town. The proceeds of the certificates must be used to acquire property and pay other costs related to a land exchange with the United States Forest Service. The certificates shall be payable in not more than 30 years and be issued on the terms and in the manner as the board may determine. Minnesota Statutes, sections 475.54, subdivision 1, and 475.56, paragraph (c), do not apply to the certificates issued under this section. A tax levy shall be made to pay the principal and interest on the certificates as in the case of bonds.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day after the governing body of the town of Crane Lake and its chief clerical officer timely complete their compliance with Minnesota Statutes, section 645.021, subdivisions 2 and 3.

**Sec. 29. CITY OF WINSTED; BONDING AUTHORITY.**

(a) The city of Winsted may issue general obligation bonds under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 475, to finance the acquisition and betterment of a facility consisting of a city hall, community center, and police station; park improvements, including trails and an amphitheater; related public improvements; and substantial landscaping for the improvements.

(b) The bonds may be issued as general obligations of the city without an election to approve the bonds under Minnesota Statutes, section 475.58.

(c) The bonds are not included in computing any debt limitation applicable to the city, including, but not limited to, the net debt limits under Minnesota Statutes, section 475.53, and the levy of taxes

under Minnesota Statutes, section 475.61, to pay principal of and interest on the bonds is not subject to any levy limitation.

(d) The aggregate principal amount of bonds used to pay costs of the acquisition and betterment of the facility consisting of a city hall, community center, and police station; park improvements, including trails and an amphitheater; related public improvements; and substantial landscaping for the improvements may not exceed \$4,900,000, plus an amount equal to the costs related to issuance of the bonds and capitalized interest.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective upon compliance by the governing body of the city of Winsted with Minnesota Statutes, section 645.021, subdivision 3.

## **ARTICLE 8**

### **MINERALS**

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 276A.01, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Commercial-industrial property.** "Commercial-industrial property" means the following categories of property, as defined in section 273.13, excluding that portion of the property (i) that may, by law, constitute the tax base for a tax increment pledged pursuant to section 469.042 or 469.162 or sections 469.174 to 469.178, certification of which was requested prior to May 1, 1996, to the extent and while the tax increment is so pledged; or (ii) that is exempt from taxation under section 272.02:

(1) that portion of class 5 property consisting of unmined iron ore and low-grade iron-bearing formations as defined in section 273.14, tools, implements, and machinery, except the portion of high voltage transmission lines, the value of which is deducted from net tax capacity under section 273.425; and

(2) that portion of class 3 and class 5 property which is either used or zoned for use for any commercial or industrial purpose, including property that becomes taxable under section 7, except for such property which is, or, in the case of property under construction, will when completed be used exclusively for residential occupancy and the provision of services to residential occupants thereof. Property must be considered as used exclusively for residential occupancy only if each of not less than 80 percent of its occupied residential units is, or, in the case of property under construction, will when completed be occupied under an oral or written agreement for occupancy over a continuous period of not less than 30 days.

If the classification of property prescribed by section 273.13 is modified by legislative amendment, the references in this subdivision are to the successor class or classes of property, or portions thereof, that include the kinds of property designated in this subdivision.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 276A.04, is amended to read:

#### **276A.04 INCREASE IN NET TAX CAPACITY.**

By July 15 of 1997 and each subsequent year, the auditor of each county in the area shall determine the amount, if any, by which the net tax capacity determined in the preceding year pursuant to section 276A.03, of commercial-industrial property subject to taxation within each municipality in the county exceeds the net tax capacity in 1995 of commercial-industrial property

subject to taxation within that municipality, including the total net tax capacity of property that becomes taxable under section 7. If a municipality is located in two or more counties within the area, the auditors of those counties shall certify the data required by section 276A.03 to the county auditor responsible for allocating the levies of that municipality between or among the affected counties. That county auditor shall determine the amount of the net excess, if any, for the municipality under this section, and certify that amount under section 276A.05. The increase in total net tax capacity determined by this section must be reduced by the amount of any decreases in the net tax capacity of commercial-industrial property resulting from any court decisions, court-related stipulation agreements, or abatements for a prior year, and only in the amount of such decreases made during the 12-month period ending on May 1 of the current assessment year, where the decreases, if originally reflected in the determination of a prior year's net tax capacity under section 276A.03, would have resulted in a smaller contribution from the municipality in that year. An adjustment for the decreases shall be made only if the municipality made a contribution in a prior year based on the higher net tax capacity of the commercial-industrial property.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 298.22, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 5a. **Forest trust.** The commissioner, upon the affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the board, may purchase forest lands in the taconite assistance area defined in under section 273.1341 with funds specifically authorized for the purchase. The acquired forest lands must be held in trust for the benefit of the citizens of the taconite assistance area as the Iron Range Miners' Memorial Forest. The forest trust lands shall be managed and developed for recreation and economic development purposes. Proceeds derived from the management of the lands and from the sale of timber or removal of gravel or other minerals from these forest lands shall be deposited into an Iron Range Miners' Memorial Forest account that is established within the state financial accounts. Funds may be expended from the account upon approval of a majority of the members of the board to purchase, manage, administer, convey interests in, and improve the forest lands. By majority vote of the members of the board, money in the Iron Range Miners' Memorial Forest account may be transferred into the corpus of the Douglas J. Johnson economic protection trust fund established under sections 298.291 to 298.294. The property acquired under the authority granted by this subdivision and income derived from the property or the operation or management of the property are exempt from taxation by the state or its political subdivisions.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 298.2214, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Iron Range Higher Education Committee; membership.** The members of the committee shall consist of:

- (1) one member appointed by the governor;
- (2) one member appointed by the president of the University of Minnesota;
- (3) two members ~~appointed by the commissioner~~ of the Iron Range resources and rehabilitation appointed by the chair; ~~and~~
- (4) the commissioner of Iron Range resources and rehabilitation; and
- (5) the President of the Northeast Higher Education District.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 298.227, is amended to read:



**298.227 TACONITE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND.**

Subdivision 1. Fund for producers. An amount equal to that distributed pursuant to each taconite producer's taxable production and qualifying sales under section 298.28, subdivision 9a, shall be held by the Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board in a separate taconite economic development fund for each taconite and direct reduced ore producer.

Subd. 2. Committee review. Money from the fund for each producer shall be released by the commissioner after review by a joint committee consisting of an equal number of representatives of the salaried employees and the nonsalaried production and maintenance employees of that producer. The District 11 director of the United States Steelworkers of America, on advice of each local employee president, shall select the employee members. In nonorganized operations, the employee committee shall be elected by the nonsalaried production and maintenance employees. The review must be completed no later than six months after the producer presents a proposal for expenditure of the funds to the committee.

Subd. 3. Release of funds. The funds held pursuant to this section may be released only for acquisition of equipment and facilities for the producer or for research and development in Minnesota on new mining, or taconite, iron, or steel production technology, but only if the producer provides a matching expenditure to be used for the same purpose of at least 50 percent of the distribution based on 14.7 cents per ton ~~beginning with distributions in 2002~~ for distributions in 2007, 11.7 cents per ton for distributions in 2008, 8.7 cents per ton for distributions in 2009, 5.7 cents per ton for distributions in 2010, 2.7 cents per ton for distributions in 2011, and 1 cent per ton for distributions in 2012.

Subd. 4. Repayment required. If a producer uses money from the fund to procure haulage trucks, mobile equipment, or mining shovels, and the producer removes the piece of equipment from the taconite tax relief area defined in section 273.134 within ten years from the date of receipt of the money from the fund, a portion of the money granted from the fund must be repaid to the taconite economic development fund. The portion of the money to be repaid is 100 percent of the grant if the equipment is removed from the taconite tax relief area within 12 months after receipt of the money from the fund, declining by ten percent for each of the subsequent nine years during which the equipment remains within the taconite tax relief area.

Subd. 5. Sale of facility. If a taconite production facility is sold after operations at the facility had ceased, any money remaining in the fund for the former producer may be released to the purchaser of the facility on the terms otherwise applicable to the former producer under this section.

Subd. 6. Other distributions. If a producer fails to provide matching funds for a proposed expenditure within six months after the commissioner approves release of the funds, the funds are available for release to another producer in proportion to the distribution provided and under the conditions of this section. Any portion of the fund which is not released by the commissioner within two years of its deposit in the fund shall be divided between the taconite environmental protection fund created in section 298.223 and the Douglas J. Johnson economic protection trust fund created in section 298.292 for placement in their respective special accounts. Two-thirds of the unreleased funds shall be distributed to the taconite environmental protection fund and one-third to the Douglas J. Johnson economic protection trust fund.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective for distributions in 2008 and thereafter.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 298.24, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Imposed; calculation.** (a) For concentrate produced in 2001, 2002, and 2003, there is imposed upon taconite and iron sulphides, and upon the mining and quarrying thereof, and upon the production of iron ore concentrate therefrom, and upon the concentrate so produced, a tax of \$2.103 per gross ton of merchantable iron ore concentrate produced therefrom. For concentrates produced in 2005, the tax rate is the same rate imposed for concentrates produced in 2004.

(b) For concentrates produced in 2006 and subsequent years, the tax rate shall be equal to the preceding year's tax rate plus an amount equal to the preceding year's tax rate multiplied by the percentage increase in the implicit price deflator from the fourth quarter of the second preceding year to the fourth quarter of the preceding year. "Implicit price deflator" means the implicit price deflator for the gross domestic product prepared by the Bureau of Economic Analysis of the United States Department of Commerce.

(c) On concentrates produced in 1997 and thereafter, an additional tax is imposed equal to three cents per gross ton of merchantable iron ore concentrate for each one percent that the iron content of the product exceeds 72 percent, when dried at 212 degrees Fahrenheit.

(d) The tax shall be imposed on the average of the production for the current year and the previous two years. The rate of the tax imposed will be the current year's tax rate. This clause shall not apply in the case of the closing of a taconite facility if the property taxes on the facility would be higher if this clause and section 298.25 were not applicable.

(e) If the tax or any part of the tax imposed by this subdivision is held to be unconstitutional, a tax of \$2.103 per gross ton of merchantable iron ore concentrate produced shall be imposed.

(f) Consistent with the intent of this subdivision to impose a tax based upon the weight of merchantable iron ore concentrate, the commissioner of revenue may indirectly determine the weight of merchantable iron ore concentrate included in fluxed pellets by subtracting the weight of the limestone, dolomite, or olivine derivatives or other basic flux additives included in the pellets from the weight of the pellets. For purposes of this paragraph, "fluxed pellets" are pellets produced in a process in which limestone, dolomite, olivine, or other basic flux additives are combined with merchantable iron ore concentrate. No subtraction from the weight of the pellets shall be allowed for binders, mineral and chemical additives other than basic flux additives, or moisture.

(g)(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this subdivision, for the first two years of a plant's commercial production of direct reduced ore, no tax is imposed under this section. As used in this paragraph, "commercial production" is production of more than 50,000 tons of direct reduced ore in the current year or in any prior year, "noncommercial production" is production of 50,000 tons or less of direct reduced ore in any year, and "direct reduced ore" is ore that results in a product that has an iron content of at least 75 percent. For the third year of a plant's commercial production of direct reduced ore, the rate to be applied to direct reduced ore is 25 percent of the rate otherwise determined under this subdivision. For the fourth commercial production year, the rate is 50 percent of the rate otherwise determined under this subdivision; for the fifth commercial production year, the rate is 75 percent of the rate otherwise determined under this subdivision; and for all subsequent commercial production years, the full rate is imposed.

(2) Subject to clause (1), production of direct reduced ore in this state is subject to the tax imposed by this section, but if that production is not produced by a producer of taconite or iron sulfides, the

production of taconite or iron sulfides consumed in the production of direct reduced iron in this state is not subject to the tax imposed by this section on taconite or iron sulfides.

(3) Notwithstanding any other provision of this subdivision, no tax is imposed on direct reduced ore under this section during the facility's noncommercial production of direct reduced ore. The taconite or iron sulphides consumed in the noncommercial production of direct reduced ore is subject to the tax imposed by this section on taconite and iron sulphides. Three-year average production of direct reduced ore does not include production of direct reduced ore in any noncommercial year. Three-year average production for a direct reduced ore facility that has noncommercial production is the average of the commercial production of direct reduced ore for the current year and the previous two commercial years.

(4) This paragraph applies only to plants for which all environmental permits have been obtained and construction has begun before July 1, 2008.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 298.25, is amended to read:

**298.25 TAXES ADDITIONAL TO OCCUPATION TAX; IN LIEU OF OTHER TAXES.**

The taxes imposed under section 298.24 shall be in addition to the occupation tax imposed upon the business of mining and producing iron ore. Except as herein otherwise provided, such taxes shall be in lieu of all other taxes upon such taconite, iron sulphides, and direct reduced ore or the lands in which they are contained, or upon the mining or quarrying thereof, or the production of concentrate or direct reduced ore therefrom, or upon the concentrate or direct reduced ore produced, or upon the machinery, equipment, tools, supplies and buildings used in such mining, quarrying or production, or upon the lands occupied by, or used in connection with, such mining, quarrying or production facilities. If electric or steam power for the mining, transportation or concentration of such taconite, concentrates or direct reduced ore produced therefrom is generated in plants principally devoted to the generation of power for such purposes, the plants in which such power is generated and all machinery, equipment, tools, supplies, transmission and distribution lines used in the generation and distribution of such power, shall not be considered to be machinery, equipment, tools, supplies and buildings used in the mining, quarrying, or production of taconite, taconite concentrates or direct reduced ore within the meaning of this section, and shall be subject to general property taxation. ~~If part of the power generated in such a plant is used for purposes other than the mining or concentration of taconite or direct reduced ore or the transportation or loading of taconite, the concentrates thereof or direct reduced ore, a proportionate share of the value of such generating facilities, equal to the proportion that the power used for such other purpose bears to the generating capacity of the plant, shall be subject to the general property tax in the same manner as other property; provided, power generated in such a plant and exchanged for an equivalent amount of power which is used for the mining, transportation, or concentration of such taconite, concentrates or direct reduced ore produced therefrom, shall be considered as used for such purposes within the meaning of this section.~~ Nothing herein shall prevent the assessment and taxation of the surface of reserve land containing taconite and not occupied by such facilities or used in connection therewith at the value thereof without regard to the taconite or iron sulphides therein, nor the assessment and taxation of merchantable iron ore or other minerals, or iron-bearing materials other than taconite or iron sulphides in such lands in the manner provided by law, nor the assessment and taxation of facilities used in producing sulphur or sulphur products from iron sulphide concentrates, or in refining such sulphur products, under the general property tax laws. Nothing herein shall except from general taxation or from taxation as provided by other laws any

property used for residential or townsite purposes, including utility services thereto. This section does not provide an exemption from general property taxation for ore docks even if located at the site of a taconite production facility.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for taxes levied in 2007, payable in 2008, and thereafter.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 298.28, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Cities; towns.** (a) 12.5 cents per taxable ton, less any amount distributed under subdivision 8, and paragraph (b), must be allocated to the taconite municipal aid account to be distributed as provided in section 298.282.

(b) An amount must be allocated to towns or cities that is annually certified by the county auditor of a county containing a taconite tax relief area as defined in section 273.134, paragraph (b), within which there is (1) an organized township if, as of January 2, 1982, more than 75 percent of the assessed valuation of the township consists of iron ore or (2) a city if, as of January 2, 1980, more than 75 percent of the assessed valuation of the city consists of iron ore.

(c) The amount allocated under paragraph (b) will be the portion of a township's or city's certified levy equal to the proportion of (1) the difference between 50 percent of January 2, 1982, assessed value in the case of a township and 50 percent of the January 2, 1980, assessed value in the case of a city and its current assessed value to (2) the sum of its current assessed value plus the difference determined in (1), provided that the amount distributed shall not exceed \$55 per capita in the case of a township or \$75 per capita in the case of a city. For purposes of this limitation, population will be determined according to the 1980 decennial census conducted by the United States Bureau of the Census. If the current assessed value of the township exceeds 50 percent of the township's January 2, 1982, assessed value, or if the current assessed value of the city exceeds 50 percent of the city's January 2, 1980, assessed value, this paragraph shall not apply. For purposes of this paragraph, "assessed value," when used in reference to years other than 1980 or 1982, means the appropriate net tax capacities multiplied by 10.2.

(d) In addition to other distributions under this subdivision, 3 cents per taxable ton must be allocated for distribution to towns that are entirely located within the taconite tax relief area defined in section 273.134, paragraph (b). The amount available under this paragraph will be distributed to eligible towns on a per capita basis.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for distributions in 2008 and thereafter.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 298.28, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **School districts.** (a) ~~17.15~~ 22.65 cents per taxable ton, plus the increase provided in paragraph (d) must be allocated to qualifying school districts to be distributed, based upon the certification of the commissioner of revenue, under paragraphs (b) and (c), except as otherwise provided in paragraph (f).

(b) (i) 3.43 cents per taxable ton must be distributed to the school districts in which the lands from which taconite was mined or quarried were located or within which the concentrate was produced. The distribution must be based on the apportionment formula prescribed in subdivision 2.

(ii) Three cents per taxable ton from each taconite facility must be distributed to each affected

school district for deposit in a fund dedicated to building maintenance and repairs, as follows:

(1) proceeds from Keewatin Taconite or its successor are distributed to Independent School Districts Nos. 316, Coleraine, and 319, Nashwauk-Keewatin, or their successor districts;

(2) proceeds from the Hibbing Taconite Company or its successor are distributed to Independent School Districts Nos. 695, Chisholm, and 701, Hibbing, or their successor districts;

(3) proceeds from the Mittal Steel Company and Minntac or their successors are distributed to Independent School Districts Nos. 712, Mountain Iron-Buhl, 706, Virginia, 2711, Mesabi East, and 2154, Eveleth-Gilbert, or their successor districts;

(4) proceeds from the Northshore Mining Company or its successor are distributed to Independent School Districts Nos. 2142, St. Louis County, and 318, Lake Superior, or their successor districts; and

(5) proceeds from United Taconite or its successor are distributed to Independent School Districts Nos. 2142, St. Louis County, and 2154, Eveleth-Gilbert, or their successor districts.

(c)(i) ~~13.72-16.72~~ cents per taxable ton, less any amount distributed under paragraph (e), shall be distributed to a group of school districts comprised of those school districts which qualify as a tax relief area under section 273.134, paragraph (b), or in which there is a qualifying municipality as defined by section 273.134, paragraph (a), in direct proportion to school district indexes as follows: for each school district, its pupil units determined under section 126C.05 for the prior school year shall be multiplied by the ratio of the average adjusted net tax capacity per pupil unit for school districts receiving aid under this clause as calculated pursuant to chapters 122A, 126C, and 127A for the school year ending prior to distribution to the adjusted net tax capacity per pupil unit of the district. Each district shall receive that portion of the distribution which its index bears to the sum of the indices for all school districts that receive the distributions.

(ii) Notwithstanding clause (i), each school district that receives a distribution under sections 298.018; 298.23 to 298.28, exclusive of any amount received under this clause; 298.34 to 298.39; 298.391 to 298.396; 298.405; or any law imposing a tax on severed mineral values after reduction for any portion distributed to cities and towns under section 126C.48, subdivision 8, paragraph (5), that is less than the amount of its levy reduction under section 126C.48, subdivision 8, for the second year prior to the year of the distribution shall receive a distribution equal to the difference; the amount necessary to make this payment shall be derived from proportionate reductions in the initial distribution to other school districts under clause (i).

(d) Any school district described in paragraph (c) where a levy increase pursuant to section 126C.17, subdivision 9, was authorized by referendum for taxes payable in 2001, shall receive a distribution of 21.3 cents per ton. Each district shall receive \$175 times the pupil units identified in section 126C.05, subdivision 1, enrolled in the second previous year or the 1983-1984 school year, whichever is greater, less the product of 1.8 percent times the district's taxable net tax capacity in the second previous year.

If the total amount provided by paragraph (d) is insufficient to make the payments herein required then the entitlement of \$175 per pupil unit shall be reduced uniformly so as not to exceed the funds available. Any amounts received by a qualifying school district in any fiscal year pursuant to paragraph (d) shall not be applied to reduce general education aid which the district receives

pursuant to section 126C.13 or the permissible levies of the district. Any amount remaining after the payments provided in this paragraph shall be paid to the commissioner of Iron Range resources and rehabilitation who shall deposit the same in the taconite environmental protection fund and the Douglas J. Johnson economic protection trust fund as provided in subdivision 11.

Each district receiving money according to this paragraph shall reserve the lesser of the amount received under this paragraph or \$25 times the number of pupil units served in the district. It may use the money for early childhood programs or for outcome-based learning programs that enhance the academic quality of the district's curriculum. The outcome-based learning programs must be approved by the commissioner of education.

(e) There shall be distributed to any school district the amount which the school district was entitled to receive under section 298.32 in 1975.

(f) Effective for the distribution in 2003 only, five percent of the distributions to school districts under paragraphs (b), (c), and (e); subdivision 6, paragraph (c); subdivision 11; and section 298.225, shall be distributed to the general fund. The remainder less any portion distributed to cities and towns under section 126C.48, subdivision 8, paragraph (5), shall be distributed to the Douglas J. Johnson economic protection trust fund created in section 298.292. Fifty percent of the amount distributed to the Douglas J. Johnson economic protection trust fund shall be made available for expenditure under section 298.293 as governed by section 298.296. Effective in 2003 only, 100 percent of the distributions to school districts under section 477A.15 less any portion distributed to cities and towns under section 126C.48, subdivision 8, paragraph (5), shall be distributed to the general fund.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for distributions in 2008 and thereafter.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 298.28, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **Counties.** (a) 26.05 cents per taxable ton is allocated to counties to be distributed, based upon certification by the commissioner of revenue, under paragraphs (b) to ~~(d)~~ (c).

(b) ~~20.525~~ 15.525 cents per taxable ton shall be distributed to the county in which the taconite is mined or quarried or in which the concentrate is produced, less any amount which is to be distributed pursuant to paragraph (c). The apportionment formula prescribed in subdivision 2 is the basis for the distribution.

(c) If an electric power plant owned by and providing the primary source of power for a taxpayer mining and concentrating taconite is located in a county other than the county in which the mining and the concentrating processes are conducted, one cent per taxable ton of the tax distributed to the counties pursuant to paragraph (b) and imposed on and collected from such taxpayer shall be paid to the county in which the power plant is located.

(d) ~~5.525~~ 10.525 cents per taxable ton shall be paid to the county from which the taconite was mined, quarried or concentrated to be deposited in the county road and bridge fund. If the mining, quarrying and concentrating, or separate steps in any of those processes are carried on in more than one county, the commissioner shall follow the apportionment formula prescribed in subdivision 2.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for distributions in 2008 and thereafter.

Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 298.28, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

Subd. 6. **Property tax relief.** (a) In ~~2002~~ 2008 and thereafter, ~~33.9~~ 30.9 cents per taxable ton, less any amount required to be distributed under paragraphs (b) and (c), or section 298.2961, subdivision 5, must be allocated to St. Louis County acting as the counties' fiscal agent, to be distributed as provided in sections 273.134 to 273.136.

(b) If an electric power plant owned by and providing the primary source of power for a taxpayer mining and concentrating taconite is located in a county other than the county in which the mining and the concentrating processes are conducted, .1875 cent per taxable ton of the tax imposed and collected from such taxpayer shall be paid to the county.

(c) If an electric power plant owned by and providing the primary source of power for a taxpayer mining and concentrating taconite is located in a school district other than a school district in which the mining and concentrating processes are conducted, .4541 cent per taxable ton of the tax imposed and collected from the taxpayer shall be paid to the school district.

Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 298.28, subdivision 9a, is amended to read:

Subd. 9a. **Taconite economic development fund.** (a) ~~30.1 cents per ton for distributions in 2002 and thereafter~~ For distributions in 2007 to 2012, the amount provided in this subdivision must be paid to the taconite economic development fund. The amount of the distributions is at the following amounts per ton:

- (1) for distribution in 2007, 30.1 cents;
- (2) for distribution in 2008, 25.1 cents;
- (3) for distribution in 2009, 20.1 cents;
- (4) for distribution in 2010, 15.1 cents;
- (5) for distribution in 2011, 10.1 cents; and
- (6) for distribution in 2012, 5.1 cents.

No distribution shall be made under this paragraph in ~~2004~~ or any subsequent year in which total industry production falls below 30 million tons. Distribution shall only be made to a taconite producer's fund under section 298.227 if the producer timely pays its tax under section 298.24 by the dates provided under section 298.27, or pursuant to the due dates provided by an administrative agreement with the commissioner.

(b) An amount equal to 50 percent of the tax under section 298.24 for concentrate sold in the form of pellet chips and fines not exceeding 5/16 inch in size and not including crushed pellets shall be paid to the taconite economic development fund. The amount paid shall not exceed \$700,000 annually for all companies. If the initial amount to be paid to the fund exceeds this amount, each company's payment shall be prorated so the total does not exceed \$700,000.

(c) No distributions will be made under this subdivision after 2012. Any amount remaining in this fund on January 1, 2013, shall be distributed, two-thirds to the environmental protection fund and one-third to the Douglas J. Johnson economic protection trust fund.

Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 298.28, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 9d. **Iron Range higher education account.** Two cents per taxable ton must be allocated to the Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board to be deposited in an Iron Range higher education account that is hereby created, to be used for higher education programs, including apprenticeship and training programs certified by the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry, conducted at educational institutions and apprenticeship and training facilities located in the taconite assistance area defined in section 273.1341. The Iron Range Higher Education committee under section 298.2214 and the Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board must approve all expenditures from the account.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for production in 2008, distributions in 2009, and thereafter.

Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 298.292, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Use of money.** Money in the Douglas J. Johnson economic protection trust fund may be used for the following purposes:

(1) to provide loans, loan guarantees, interest buy-downs and other forms of participation with private sources of financing, but a loan to a private enterprise shall be for a principal amount not to exceed one-half of the cost of the project for which financing is sought, and the rate of interest on a loan to a private enterprise shall be no less than the lesser of eight percent or an interest rate three percentage points less than a full faith and credit obligation of the United States government of comparable maturity, at the time that the loan is approved;

(2) to fund reserve accounts established to secure the payment when due of the principal of and interest on bonds issued pursuant to section 298.2211;

(3) to pay in periodic payments or in a lump sum payment any or all of the interest on bonds issued pursuant to chapter 474 for the purpose of constructing, converting, or retrofitting heating facilities in connection with district heating systems or systems utilizing alternative energy sources; and

(4) to invest in a venture capital fund or enterprise that will provide capital to other entities that are engaging in, or that will engage in, projects or programs that have the purposes set forth in subdivision 1. No investments may be made in a venture capital fund or enterprise unless at least two other unrelated investors make investments of at least \$500,000 in the venture capital fund or enterprise, and the investment by the Douglas J. Johnson economic protection trust fund may not exceed the amount of the largest investment by an unrelated investor in the venture capital fund or enterprise. For purposes of this subdivision, an "unrelated investor" is a person or entity that is not related to the entity in which the investment is made or to any individual who owns more than 40 percent of the value of the entity, in any of the following relationships: spouse, parent, child, sibling, employee, or owner of an interest in the entity that exceeds ten percent of the value of all interests in it. For purposes of determining the limitations under this clause, the amount of investments made by an investor other than the Douglas J. Johnson economic protection trust fund is the sum of all investments made in the venture capital fund or enterprise during the period beginning one year before the date of the investment by the Douglas J. Johnson economic protection trust fund; and

(5) to purchase forest land in the taconite assistance area defined in section 273.1341 to be held and managed as a public trust for the benefit of the area for the purposes authorized in section 298.22, subdivision 5a.



Money from the trust fund shall be expended only in or for the benefit of the taconite assistance area defined in section 273.1341.

Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 298.296, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Expenditure of funds.** (a) Before January 1, 2028, funds may be expended on projects and for administration of the trust fund only from the net interest, earnings, and dividends arising from the investment of the trust at any time, including net interest, earnings, and dividends that have arisen prior to July 13, 1982, plus \$10,000,000 made available for use in fiscal year 1983, except that any amount required to be paid out of the trust fund to provide the property tax relief specified in Laws 1977, chapter 423, article X, section 4, and to make school bond payments and payments to recipients of taconite production tax proceeds pursuant to section 298.225, may be taken from the corpus of the trust.

(b) Additionally, upon recommendation by the board, up to \$13,000,000 from the corpus of the trust may be made available for use as provided in subdivision 4, and up to \$10,000,000 from the corpus of the trust may be made available for use as provided in section 298.2961.

(c) Additionally, an amount equal to 20 percent of the value of the corpus of the trust on May 18, 2002, not including the funds authorized in paragraph (b), plus the amounts made available under section 298.28, subdivision 4, and Laws 2002, chapter 377, article 8, section 17, may be expended on projects. Funds may be expended for projects under this paragraph only if the project:

- (1) is for the purposes established under section 298.292, subdivision 1, clause (1) or (2); and
- (2) is approved by the board upon an affirmative vote of at least ten of its members.

No money made available under this paragraph or paragraph (d) can be used for administrative or operating expenses of the Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board or expenses relating to any facilities owned or operated by the board on May 18, 2002.

(d) Upon recommendation by a unanimous vote of all members of the board, amounts in addition to those authorized under paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) may be expended on projects described in section 298.292, subdivision 1.

(e) Annual administrative costs, not including detailed engineering expenses for the projects, shall not exceed five percent of the net interest, dividends, and earnings arising from the trust in the preceding fiscal year.

(f) Principal and interest received in repayment of loans made pursuant to this section, and earnings on other investments made under section 298.292, subdivision 2, clause (4), shall be deposited in the state treasury and credited to the trust. These receipts are appropriated to the board for the purposes of sections 298.291 to 298.298.

(g) Additionally, notwithstanding section 298.293, upon affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the board, money from the corpus of the trust may be expended to purchase forest lands within the taconite assistance area as provided in sections 298.22, subdivision 5a, and 298.292, subdivision 2, clause (5).

Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 298.2961, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Grant and loan fund.** (a) A fund is established to receive distributions under section

298.28, subdivision 9b, and to make grants or loans as provided in this subdivision. Any grant or loan made under this subdivision must be approved by a majority of the members of the Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board, established under section 298.22.

(b) Distributions received in calendar year 2005 are allocated to the city of Virginia for improvements and repairs to the city's steam heating system.

(c) Distributions received in calendar year 2006 are allocated to a project of the public utilities commissions of the cities of Hibbing and Virginia to convert their electrical generating plants to the use of biomass products, such as wood.

(d) Distributions received in calendar year 2007 must be paid to the city of Tower to be used for the East Two Rivers project in or near the city of Tower.

(e) For distributions received in 2008, the first \$2,000,000 of the 2008 distribution must be paid to St. Louis County for deposit in its county road and bridge fund to be used for relocation of St. Louis County Road 715, commonly referred to as Pike River Road. The remainder of the 2008 distribution ~~and the full~~ must be paid to St. Louis County for a grant to the City of Virginia for connecting sewer and water lines to the St. Louis County maintenance garage on Highway 135, further extending the lines to interconnect with the city of Gilbert's sewer and water lines. The total amount of the distributions in 2009 and subsequent years is allocated for projects under section 298.223, subdivision 1.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 298.2961, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **Public works and local economic development fund.** For distributions in 2007 only, a special fund is established to receive 38.4 cents per ton that otherwise would be allocated under section 298.28, subdivision 6. The following amounts are allocated to St. Louis County acting as the fiscal agent for the recipients for the specific purposes:

(1) 13.4 cents per ton for the Central Iron Range Sanitary Sewer District for construction of a combined wastewater facility and notwithstanding section 298.28, subdivision 11, paragraph (a), or any other law, interest accrued on this money while held by St. Louis County shall also be distributed to the recipient;

(2) six cents per ton to the city of Eveleth to redesign and design and construct improvements to renovate its water treatment facility;

(3) one cent per ton for the East Range Joint Powers Board to acquire land for and to design a central wastewater collection and treatment system;

(4) 0.5 cents per ton to the city of Hoyt Lakes to repair Leeds Road;

(5) 0.7 cents per ton to the city of Virginia to extend Eighth Street South;

(6) 0.7 cents per ton to the city of Mountain Iron to repair Hoover Road;

(7) 0.9 cents per ton to the city of Gilbert for alley repairs between Michigan and Indiana Avenues and for repayment of a loan to the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development;

- (8) 0.4 cents per ton to the city of Keewatin for a new city well;
- (9) 0.3 cents per ton to the city of Grand Rapids for planning for a fire and hazardous materials center;
- (10) 0.9 cents per ton to Aitkin County Growth for an economic development project for peat harvesting;
- (11) 0.4 cents per ton to the city of Nashwauk to develop a comprehensive city plan;
- (12) 0.4 cents per ton to the city of Taconite for development of a city comprehensive plan;
- (13) 0.3 cents per ton to the city of Marble for water and sewer infrastructure;
- (14) 0.8 cents per ton to Aitkin County for improvements to the Long Lake Environmental Learning Center;
- (15) 0.3 cents per ton to the city of Coleraine for the Coleraine Technology Center;
- (16) 0.5 cents per ton to the Economic Development Authority of the city of Grand Rapids for planning for the North Central Research and Technology Laboratory;
- (17) 0.6 cents per ton to the city of Bovey for sewer and water extension;
- (18) 0.3 cents per ton to the city of Calumet for infrastructure improvements; and
- (19) ten cents per ton to an economic development authority in a city through which State Highway 1 passes, or a city in Independent School District No. 2142 that has an active mine, the commissioner of Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation for deposit in a Highway 1 Corridor Account established by the commissioner, to be distributed by the commissioner to any of the cities of Babbitt, Cook, Ely, or Tower, for an economic development project projects approved by the Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board; notwithstanding section 298.28, subdivision 11, paragraph (a), or any other law, interest accrued on this money while held by St. Louis County or the commissioner shall also be distributed to the recipient.

Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 298.75, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** Except as may otherwise be provided, the following words, when used in this section, shall have the meanings herein ascribed to them.

~~(1)-(a)~~ "Aggregate material" shall mean means:

(1) nonmetallic natural mineral aggregate including, but not limited to sand, silica sand, gravel, crushed rock, limestone, granite, and borrow, but only if the borrow is transported on a public road, street, or highway, provided that nonmetallic aggregate material shall does not include dimension stone and dimension granite; and

(2) taconite tailings, crushed rock, and architectural or dimension stone and dimension granite removed from a taconite mine or the site of a previously operated taconite mine.

Aggregate material must be measured or weighed after it has been extracted from the pit, quarry, or deposit.

~~(2)~~ (b) "Person" shall mean means any individual, firm, partnership, corporation, organization,

trustee, association, or other entity.

~~(3)~~(c) "Operator" ~~shall mean~~ means any person engaged in the business of removing aggregate material from the surface or subsurface of the soil, for the purpose of sale, either directly or indirectly, through the use of the aggregate material in a marketable product or service.

~~(4)~~ (d) "Extraction site" ~~shall mean~~ means a pit, quarry, or deposit containing aggregate material and any contiguous property to the pit, quarry, or deposit which is used by the operator for stockpiling the aggregate material.

~~(5)~~(e) "Importer" ~~shall mean~~ means any person who buys aggregate material produced from a county not listed in paragraph ~~(6)~~(f) or another state and causes the aggregate material to be imported into a county in this state which imposes a tax on aggregate material.

~~(6)~~(f) "County" ~~shall mean~~ means the counties of Pope, Stearns, Benton, Sherburne, Carver, Scott, Dakota, Le Sueur, Kittson, Marshall, Pennington, Red Lake, Polk, Norman, Mahnomon, Clay, Becker, Carlton, St. Louis, Rock, Murray, Wilkin, Big Stone, Sibley, Hennepin, Washington, Chisago, and Ramsey. County also means any other county whose board has voted after a public hearing to impose the tax under this section and has notified the commissioner of revenue of the imposition of the tax.

~~(7)~~ (g) "Borrow" ~~shall mean~~ means granular borrow, consisting of durable particles of gravel and sand, crushed quarry or mine rock, crushed gravel or stone, or any combination thereof, the ratio of the portion passing the (#200) sieve divided by the portion passing the (1 inch) sieve may not exceed 20 percent by mass.

Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 298.75, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Report and remittance.** (a) By the 14th day following the last day of each calendar quarter, every operator or importer shall make and file with the county auditor of the county in which the aggregate material is removed or imported, a correct report under oath, in such form and containing such information as the auditor shall require relative to the quantity of aggregate material removed or imported during the preceding calendar quarter. The report shall be accompanied by a remittance of the amount of tax due.

(b) If any of the proceeds of the tax is to be apportioned as provided in subdivision 2, the operator or importer shall also include on the report any relevant information concerning the amount of aggregate material transported, the tax and the county of destination. The county auditor shall notify the county treasurer of the amount of such tax and the county to which it is due. The county treasurer shall remit the tax to the appropriate county within 30 days, except as provided in paragraph (c).

(c) The proceeds of the tax on aggregate material as defined in subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (2), must be remitted to the commissioner of iron range resources and rehabilitation to be deposited in the taconite area environmental protection fund under section 298.223, and used for the purposes of that fund.

Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 298.75, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Proceeds of taxes.** All money collected as taxes under this section on aggregate material as defined in subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (1), shall be deposited in the county treasury and credited as follows, for expenditure by the county board:

(a) Sixty percent to the county road and bridge fund for expenditure for the maintenance, construction and reconstruction of roads, highways and bridges;

(b) Thirty percent to the road and bridge fund of those towns as determined by the county board and to the general fund or other designated fund of those cities as determined by the county board, to be expended for maintenance, construction and reconstruction of roads, highways and bridges; and

(c) Ten percent to a special reserve fund which is hereby established, for expenditure for the restoration of abandoned pits, quarries, or deposits located upon public and tax forfeited lands within the county.

If there are no abandoned pits, quarries or deposits located upon public or tax forfeited lands within the county, this portion of the tax shall be deposited in the county road and bridge fund for expenditure for the maintenance, construction and reconstruction of roads, highways and bridges.

Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 298.75, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 11. **Tax may be imposed; Otter Tail County.** (a) If Otter Tail County does not impose a tax under this section and approves imposition of the tax under this subdivision, the town of Scambler in Otter Tail County may impose the aggregate materials tax under this section.

(b) For purposes of exercising the powers contained in this section, the "town" is deemed to be the "county."

(c) All provisions in this section apply to the town of Scambler, except that all proceeds of the tax must be retained by the town and used for the purposes described in subdivision 7.

(d) If Otter Tail County imposes an aggregate materials tax under this section, the tax imposed by the town of Scambler under this subdivision is repealed on the effective date of the Otter Tail County tax.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day after the governing body of the town of Scambler and its chief clerical officer comply with section 645.021, subdivisions 2 and 3.

Sec. 22. **IRON RANGE RESOURCES AND REHABILITATION BOARD; APPROPRIATION; RETIRE BONDS.**

Commencing with taxes payable in 2008 there is annually appropriated from the distribution of the taconite production tax revenues to the taconite environmental protection fund under Minnesota Statutes, section 298.28, subdivision 11, and to the Douglas J. Johnson economic protection trust fund under Minnesota Statutes, section 298.28, subdivisions 9 and 11, in equal shares, an amount of \$500,000 per year.

The revenue received under this section shall be used only to retire Mesabi East School District No. 2711 bonds in the amount of \$9,000,000 issued September 1, 2006, and in the amount of \$6,250,000 issued March 1, 2007. The payments shall continue for a period of ten years ending with taxes payable in 2017. Payments to the school district shall be made on March 1.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 23. **APPROPRIATIONS; DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.**

Subdivision 1. **Department of Education** The sums indicated in this section are appropriated from the general fund to the Department of Education. These appropriations are added to any appropriations for the same purpose in 2007 S.F. No. 2095 for the fiscal years indicated.

Subd. 2. **General education aid.** For general education aid under Minnesota Statutes, section 126C.13, subdivision 4:

\$            1,041,000        .....    2009

The 2009 appropriation includes \$1,041,000 for fiscal year 2008 and \$0 for fiscal year 2009.

Sec. 24. **REPEALER.**

Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 126C.21, subdivision 4, is repealed.

## ARTICLE 9

### SPECIAL TAXES

Section 1. **[295.90] HOCKEY HERITAGE SURCHARGE.**

Subdivision 1. **Imposition.** A surcharge of ten cents is imposed on each ticket or admission to a professional men's hockey game held in the state.

Subd. 2. **Collection, remittance.** The surcharge imposed under this subdivision shall be collected by the professional men's hockey team or association sponsoring or holding the hockey game. The team or association shall annually report the surcharge on a form prescribed by the commissioner of revenue and remit the surcharge with the return to the commissioner of revenue by March 15 of the following calendar year.

Subd. 3. **Administration.** The commissioner of revenue shall have authority to administer, collect, enforce, refund, and audit the surcharge under this section. Interest on late payments or refunds of the surcharge shall be at the rates specified under section 289A.55, and penalties for failure to file, pay, or underpay the surcharge shall be at the rates provided under section 289A.60, subdivision 1, paragraph (e), and subdivision 2.

Subd. 4. **Deposit of revenues.** The commissioner of revenue shall deposit all revenues, including penalty and interest, derived from the surcharge imposed in this section in the hockey surcharge account in the special revenue fund. The amount deposited under this section is appropriated to the Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board for payment to the city of Eveleth to be used for the support of the Hockey Hall of Fame Museum provided that it continues to operate in the city. Payments under this section for the Hockey Hall of Fame Museum are in addition to and must not be used to supplant funding under section 298.28, subdivision 9c.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 297F.21, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Inventory; judicial determination; appeal; disposition of seized property.** (a) Within ten days after the seizure of any alleged contraband, the person making the seizure shall serve by certified mail an inventory of the property seized on the person from whom the seizure was made, if known, and on any person known or believed to have any right, title, interest, or lien in the property, at the last known address, and file a copy with the commissioner. The notice must include an explanation of the right to demand a judicial forfeiture determination.

(b) Within 60 days after the date of service of the inventory, which is the date of mailing, the person from whom the property was seized or any person claiming an interest in the property may file a demand for a judicial determination of the question as to whether the property was lawfully subject to seizure and forfeiture. The demand must be in the form of a civil complaint and must be filed with the court administrator in the county in which the seizure occurred, together with proof of service of a copy of the complaint on the commissioner of revenue, and the standard filing fee for civil actions unless the petitioner has the right to sue in forma pauperis under section 563.01. If the value of the seized property is \$7,500 or less, the claimant may file an action in conciliation court for recovery of the property. If the value of the seized property is less than \$500, the claimant does not have to pay the conciliation court filing fee.

(c) The complaint must be captioned in the name of the claimant as plaintiff and the seized property as defendant, and must state with specificity the grounds on which the claimant alleges the property was improperly seized and the plaintiff's interest in the property seized. No responsive pleading is required of the commissioner, and no court fees may be charged for the commissioner's appearance in the matter. The proceedings are governed by the Rules of Civil Procedure. Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, an action for the return of property seized under this section may not be maintained by or on behalf of any person who has been served with an inventory unless the person has complied with this subdivision. The court shall decide whether the alleged contraband is contraband, as defined in subdivision 1. The court shall hear the action without a jury and shall try and determine the issues of fact and law involved.

(d) When a judgment of forfeiture is entered, ~~the commissioner may~~, unless the judgment is stayed pending an appeal, ~~either~~ the commissioner:

(1) ~~deliver the forfeited cigarette packages or tobacco products to the commissioner of human services for use by patients in state institutions~~ may authorize the forfeited property to be used for the purpose of enforcing a criminal provision of state or federal law;

(2) shall cause the property in clause (1) forfeited cigarette packages or tobacco products not used under clause (1) to be destroyed; or and products used under clause (1) to be destroyed upon the completion of use; and

(3) may cause the forfeited property, other than forfeited cigarette packages or tobacco products, to be sold at public auction as provided by law.

The person making a sale, after deducting the expense of keeping the property, the fee for seizure, and the costs of the sale, shall pay all liens according to their priority, which are established as being bona fide and as existing without the lienor having any notice or knowledge that the property was being used or was intended to be used for or in connection with the violation. The balance of the proceeds must be paid 75 percent to the Department of Revenue for deposit as a supplement to its operating fund or similar fund for official use, and 25 percent to the county attorney or other prosecuting agency that handled the court proceeding, if there is one, for deposit as a supplement to its operating fund or similar fund for prosecutorial purposes. If there is no prosecuting authority involved in the forfeiture, the 25 percent of the proceeds otherwise designated for the prosecuting authority must be deposited into the general fund.

(e) If no demand for judicial determination is made, the property seized is considered forfeited to the state by operation of law and may be disposed of by the commissioner as provided in the case of a judgment of forfeiture.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for forfeitures after June 30, 2007.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 297I.15, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 11. **Premiums paid to certain foreign insurance companies.** With respect to the state employees group insurance program established under sections 43A.23 to 43A.31, premiums paid for life insurance and accidental death and dismemberment insurance for eligible employees and dependents, including premiums paid by employees or dependents for optional coverage, are exempt from the taxes imposed under this chapter to the extent the premiums are paid to a foreign insurance company domiciled in a state that exempts its state employee group life insurance program from premium taxes.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for premiums paid after December 31, 2006.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 383A.80, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Expiration.** The authority to impose the tax under this section expires January 1, 2008 2013.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 383A.81, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Creation.** An environmental response fund is created for the purposes specified in this section. The taxes imposed by section 383A.80 must be deposited in the fund. The board of county commissioners shall administer the fund either as a county board, or a housing and redevelopment authority, ~~or a regional rail authority.~~

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 383A.81, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Uses of fund.** The fund created in subdivision 1 must be used for the following purposes:

(1) acquisition through purchase or condemnation of lands or property which are polluted or contaminated with hazardous substances;

(2) paying the costs associated with indemnifying or holding harmless the entity taking title to lands or property from any liability arising out of the ownership, remediation, or use of the land or property;

(3) paying for the costs of remediating the acquired land or property; or

(4) paying the costs associated with remediating lands or property which are polluted or contaminated with hazardous substances; ~~or~~

~~(5) paying for the costs associated with improving the property for economic development, recreational, housing, transportation or rail traffic.~~

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 383B.80, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Expiration.** The authority to impose the tax under this section expires January 1, 2008 2013.

Sec. 8. **[383C.798] COUNTY DEED AND MORTGAGE TAX.**

Subdivision 1. **Authority to impose; rate.** (a) The governing body of St. Louis County may impose a mortgage registry and deed tax.



(b) The rate of the mortgage registry tax equals .0001 of the principal.

(c) The rate of the deed tax equals .0001 of the amount.

Subd. 2. **General law provisions apply.** The taxes under this section apply to the same base and must be imposed, collected, administered, and enforced in the same manner as provided under chapter 287 for the state mortgage registry and deed taxes. All the provisions of chapter 287 apply to these taxes, except the rate is as specified in subdivision 1, the term "St. Louis County" must be substituted for "the state," and the revenue must be deposited as provided in subdivision 3.

Subd. 3. **Deposit of revenues.** All revenues from the tax are for the use of the St. Louis County Board of Commissioners and must be deposited in the county's environmental response fund under section 383C.799.

Subd. 4. **Expiration.** The authority to impose the tax under this section expires January 1, 2013.

Sec. 9. **[383C.799] ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE FUND.**

Subdivision 1. **Creation.** An environmental response fund is created for the purposes specified in this section. The taxes imposed under section 383C.798 must be deposited in the fund. The Board of County Commissioners shall administer the fund either as a county board or a housing and redevelopment authority.

Subd. 2. **Uses of fund.** The fund created in subdivision 1 must be used for the following purposes:

(1) acquisition through purchase or condemnation of lands or property which are polluted or contaminated with hazardous substances;

(2) paying the costs associated with indemnifying or holding harmless the entity taking title to lands or property from any liability arising out of the ownership, remediation, or use of the land or property;

(3) paying for the costs of remediating the acquired land or property; or

(4) paying the costs associated with remediating lands or property which are polluted or contaminated with hazardous substances.

Subd. 3. **Matching funds.** In expending funds under this section, the county shall seek matching funds from contamination cleanup funds administered by the commissioner of the Department of Employment and Economic Development, the federal government, the private sector, and any other source.

Subd. 4. **Bonds.** The county may pledge the proceeds from the taxes imposed by section 383C.798 to bonds issued under this section and chapters 462, 469, and 475.

Subd. 5. **Land sales.** Land or property acquired under this section may be resold at fair market value. Proceeds from the sale of the land must be deposited in the environmental response fund.

Sec. 10. **[383D.75] COUNTY DEED AND MORTGAGE TAX.**

Subdivision 1. **Authority to impose; rate.** (a) The governing body of Dakota County may impose a mortgage registry and deed tax.

(b) The rate of the mortgage registry tax equals .0001 of the principal.

(c) The rate of the deed tax equals .0001 of the amount.

Subd. 2. **General law provisions apply.** The taxes under this section apply to the same base and must be imposed, collected, administered, and enforced in the same manner as provided under chapter 287 for the state mortgage registry and deed taxes. All the provisions of chapter 287 apply to these taxes, except the rate is as specified in subdivision 1, the term "Dakota County" must be substituted for "the state," and the revenue must be deposited as provided in subdivision 3.

Subd. 3. **Deposit of revenues.** All revenues from the tax are for the use of the Dakota County Board of Commissioners and must be deposited in the county's environmental response fund under section 383D.76.

Subd. 4. **Expiration.** The authority to impose the tax under this section expires January 1, 2013.

Sec. 11. **[383D.76] ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE FUND.**

Subdivision 1. **Creation.** An environmental response fund is created for the purposes specified in this section. The taxes imposed under section 383D.75 must be deposited in the fund. The Board of County Commissioners shall administer the fund either as a county board or a housing and redevelopment authority.

Subd. 2. **Uses of fund.** The fund created in subdivision 1 must be used for the following purposes:

(1) acquisition through purchase or condemnation of lands or property which are polluted or contaminated with hazardous substances;

(2) paying the costs associated with indemnifying or holding harmless the entity taking title to lands or property from any liability arising out of the ownership, remediation, or use of the land or property;

(3) paying for the costs of remediating the acquired land or property; or

(4) paying the costs associated with remediating lands or property which are polluted or contaminated with hazardous substances.

Subd. 3. **Matching funds.** In expending funds under this section, the county shall seek matching funds from contamination cleanup funds administered by the commissioner of the Department of Employment and Economic Development, the Metropolitan Council, the federal government, the private sector, and any other source.

Subd. 4. **Bonds.** The county may pledge the proceeds from the taxes imposed by section 383D.75 to bonds issued under this chapter and chapters 462, 469, and 475.

Subd. 5. **Land sales.** Land or property acquired under this section may be resold at fair market value. Proceeds from the sale of the land must be deposited in the environmental response fund.

Sec. 12. **[383E.235] COUNTY DEED AND MORTGAGE TAX.**

Subdivision 1. **Authority to impose; rate.** (a) The governing body of Anoka County may impose a mortgage registry and deed tax.

(b) The rate of the mortgage registry tax equals .0001 of the principal.

(c) The rate of the deed tax equals .0001 of the amount.

Subd. 2. **General law provisions apply.** The taxes under this section apply to the same base and must be imposed, collected, administered, and enforced in the same manner as provided under chapter 287 for the state mortgage registry and deed taxes. All the provisions of chapter 287 apply to these taxes, except the rate is as specified in subdivision 1, the term "Anoka County" must be substituted for "the state," and the revenue must be deposited as provided in subdivision 3.

Subd. 3. **Deposit of revenues.** All revenues from the tax are for the use of the Anoka County Board of Commissioners and must be deposited in the county's environmental response fund under section 383E.236.

Subd. 4. **Expiration.** The authority to impose the tax under this section expires January 1, 2013.

Sec. 13. **[383E.236] ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE FUND.**

Subdivision 1. **Creation.** An environmental response fund is created for the purposes specified in this section. The taxes imposed under section 383E.235 must be deposited in the fund. The Board of County Commissioners shall administer the fund either as a county board or a housing and redevelopment authority.

Subd. 2. **Uses of fund.** The fund created in subdivision 1 must be used for the following purposes:

(1) acquisition through purchase or condemnation of lands or property which are polluted or contaminated with hazardous substances;

(2) paying the costs associated with indemnifying or holding harmless the entity taking title to lands or property from any liability arising out of the ownership, remediation, or use of the land or property;

(3) paying for the costs of remediating the acquired land or property; or

(4) paying the costs associated with remediating lands or property which are polluted or contaminated with hazardous substances.

Subd. 3. **Matching funds.** In expending funds under this section, the county shall seek matching funds from contamination cleanup funds administered by the commissioner of the Department of Employment and Economic Development, the Metropolitan Council, the federal government, the private sector, and any other source.

Subd. 4. **Bonds.** The county may pledge the proceeds from the taxes imposed by section 383E.235 to bonds issued under this section and chapters 462, 469, and 475.

Subd. 5. **Land sales.** Land or property acquired under this section may be resold at fair market value. Proceeds from the sale of the land must be deposited in the environmental response fund.

Subd. 6. **DOT assistance.** The commissioner of transportation shall collaborate with the county and any affected municipality by providing technical assistance and support in cleaning up a contaminated site related to a trunk highway or railroad improvement.

Sec. 14. Laws 2003, chapter 128, article 1, section 172, as amended by Laws 2005, First Special

Session chapter 1, article 4, section 118, is amended to read:

**Sec. 172. TEMPORARY PETROFUND FEE EXEMPTION FOR MINNESOTA COMMERCIAL AIRLINES.**

(a) A commercial airline providing regularly scheduled jet service and with its corporate headquarters in Minnesota is exempt from the fee established in Minnesota Statutes, section 115C.08, subdivision 3, until July 1, ~~2007~~ 2009, provided the airline develops a plan approved by the commissioner of commerce demonstrating that the savings from this exemption will go towards minimizing job losses in Minnesota, and to support the airline's efforts to ~~avoid filing for~~ resolve federal bankruptcy ~~protections~~ proceedings.

(b) A commercial airline exempted from the fee is ineligible to receive reimbursement under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 115C, until July 1, ~~2007~~ 2009. A commercial airline that has a release during the fee exemption period is ineligible to receive reimbursement under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 115C, for the costs incurred in response to that release.

**ARTICLE 10**

**DEPARTMENT INCOME AND FRANCHISE TAXES**

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 270A.03, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **Debt.** (a) "Debt" means a legal obligation of a natural person to pay a fixed and certain amount of money, which equals or exceeds \$25 and which is due and payable to a claimant agency. The term includes criminal fines imposed under section 609.10 or 609.125, fines imposed for petty misdemeanors as defined in section 609.02, subdivision 4a, and restitution. The term also includes the co-payment for the appointment of a district public defender imposed under section 611.17, paragraph (c). A debt may arise under a contractual or statutory obligation, a court order, or other legal obligation, but need not have been reduced to judgment.

A debt includes any legal obligation of a current recipient of assistance which is based on overpayment of an assistance grant where that payment is based on a client waiver or an administrative or judicial finding of an intentional program violation; or where the debt is owed to a program wherein the debtor is not a client at the time notification is provided to initiate recovery under this chapter and the debtor is not a current recipient of food support, transitional child care, or transitional medical assistance.

(b) A debt does not include any legal obligation to pay a claimant agency for medical care, including hospitalization if the income of the debtor at the time when the medical care was rendered does not exceed the following amount:

- (1) for an unmarried debtor, an income of \$8,800 or less;
- (2) for a debtor with one dependent, an income of \$11,270 or less;
- (3) for a debtor with two dependents, an income of \$13,330 or less;
- (4) for a debtor with three dependents, an income of \$15,120 or less;
- (5) for a debtor with four dependents, an income of \$15,950 or less; and

(6) for a debtor with five or more dependents, an income of \$16,630 or less.

~~The income amounts in this subdivision shall be adjusted for inflation for debts incurred in calendar years 2001 and thereafter. The dollar amount of each income level that applied to debts incurred in the prior year shall be increased in the same manner as provided in section 1(f) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended through December 31, 2000, except that for the purposes of this subdivision the percentage increase shall be determined from the year starting September 1, 1999, and ending August 31, 2000, as the base year for adjusting for inflation for debts incurred after December 31, 2000. (c) The commissioner shall adjust the income amounts in paragraph (b) by the percentage determined pursuant to the provisions of section 1(f) of the Internal Revenue Code, except that in section 1(f)(3)(B) the word "1999" shall be substituted for the word "1992." For 2001, the commissioner shall then determine the percent change from the 12 months ending on August 31, 1999, to the 12 months ending on August 31, 2000, and in each subsequent year, from the 12 months ending on August 31, 1999, to the 12 months ending on August 31 of the year preceding the taxable year. The determination of the commissioner pursuant to this subdivision shall not be considered a "rule" and shall not be subject to the Administrative Procedure Act contained in chapter 14. The income amount as adjusted must be rounded to the nearest \$10 amount. If the amount ends in \$5, the amount is rounded up to the nearest \$10 amount.~~

(d) Debt also includes an agreement to pay a MinnesotaCare premium, regardless of the dollar amount of the premium authorized under section 256L.15, subdivision 1a.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for debts incurred after December 31, 2006.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 289A.08, subdivision 11, is amended to read:

Subd. 11. **Information included in income tax return.** (a) The return must state:

(1) the name of the taxpayer, or taxpayers, if the return is a joint return, and the address of the taxpayer in the same name or names and same address as the taxpayer has used in making the taxpayer's income tax return to the United States, and must state;

(2) the date or dates of birth of the taxpayer or taxpayers;

(3) the Social Security number of the taxpayer, or taxpayers, if a Social Security number has been issued by the United States with respect to the taxpayers, and must state; and

(4) the amount of the taxable income of the taxpayer as it appears on the federal return for the taxable year to which the Minnesota state return applies.

(b) The taxpayer must attach to the taxpayer's Minnesota state income tax return a copy of the federal income tax return that the taxpayer has filed or is about to file for the period, unless the taxpayer is eligible to telefile the federal return and does file the Minnesota return by telefiling.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for tax years beginning after December 31, 2006.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 289A.09, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Withholding statement to employee or payee and to commissioner.** (a) A person required to deduct and withhold from an employee a tax under section 290.92, subdivision 2a or 3, or 290.923, subdivision 2, or who would have been required to deduct and withhold a tax under section 290.92, subdivision 2a or 3, or persons required to withhold tax under section 290.923,

subdivision 2, determined without regard to section 290.92, subdivision 19, if the employee or payee had claimed no more than one withholding exemption, or who paid wages or made payments not subject to withholding under section 290.92, subdivision 2a or 3, or 290.923, subdivision 2, to an employee or person receiving royalty payments in excess of \$600, or who has entered into a voluntary withholding agreement with a payee under section 290.92, subdivision 20, must give every employee or person receiving royalty payments in respect to the remuneration paid by the person to the employee or person receiving royalty payments during the calendar year, on or before January 31 of the succeeding year, or, if employment is terminated before the close of the calendar year, within 30 days after the date of receipt of a written request from the employee if the 30-day period ends before January 31, a written statement showing the following:

(1) name of the person;

(2) the name of the employee or payee and the employee's or payee's Social Security account number;

(3) the total amount of wages as that term is defined in section 290.92, subdivision 1, paragraph (1); the total amount of remuneration subject to withholding under section 290.92, subdivision 20; the amount of sick pay as required under section 6051(f) of the Internal Revenue Code; and the amount of royalties subject to withholding under section 290.923, subdivision 2; and

(4) the total amount deducted and withheld as tax under section 290.92, subdivision 2a or 3, or 290.923, subdivision 2.

(b) The statement required to be furnished by this paragraph (a) with respect to any remuneration must be furnished at those times, must contain the information required, and must be in the form the commissioner prescribes.

(c) The commissioner may prescribe rules providing for reasonable extensions of time, not in excess of 30 days, to employers or payers required to give the statements to their employees or payees under this subdivision.

(d) A duplicate of any statement made under this subdivision and in accordance with rules prescribed by the commissioner, along with a reconciliation in the form the commissioner prescribes of the statements for the calendar year, including a reconciliation of the quarterly returns required to be filed under subdivision 1, must be filed with the commissioner on or before February 28 of the year after the payments were made.

(e) If an employer cancels the employer's Minnesota withholding account number required by section 290.92, subdivision 24, the information required by paragraph (d), must be filed with the commissioner within 30 days of the end of the quarter in which the employer cancels its account number.

(f) The employer must submit the statements required to be sent to the commissioner on magnetic media, if the magnetic media was in the same manner required to satisfy the federal reporting requirements of section 6011(e) of the Internal Revenue Code and the regulations issued under it. For wages paid in calendar year 2007, an employer must submit statements to the commissioner required by this section by electronic means if the employer is required to send more than 100 statements to the commissioner, even though the employer is not required to submit the returns federally by electronic means. For calendar year 2008, the 100 statements threshold is reduced to

50, and for calendar year 2009, the threshold is reduced to 25, and for 2010 and after, the threshold is reduced to ten.

(g) A "third-party bulk filer" as defined in section 290.92, subdivision 30, paragraph (a), clause (2), must submit the returns required by this subdivision and subdivision 1, paragraph (a), with the commissioner by electronic means.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for wages paid after December 31, 2006.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 289A.12, subdivision 14, is amended to read:

Subd. 14. **Regulated investment companies; reporting exempt-interest dividends.** (a) A regulated investment company paying \$10 or more in exempt-interest dividends to an individual who is a resident of Minnesota must make a return indicating the amount of the exempt-interest dividends, the name, address, and Social Security number of the recipient, and any other information that the commissioner specifies. The return must be provided to the shareholder no later than 30 days after the close of the taxable year. The return provided to the shareholder must include a clear statement, in the form prescribed by the commissioner, that the exempt-interest dividends must be included in the computation of Minnesota taxable income. ~~The commissioner may by notice and demand require the~~ regulated investment company is required in a manner prescribed by the commissioner to file a copy of the return with the commissioner.

(b) This subdivision applies to regulated investment companies required to register under chapter 80A.

(c) For purposes of this subdivision, the following definitions apply.

(1) "Exempt-interest dividends" mean exempt-interest dividends as defined in section 852(b)(5) of the Internal Revenue Code, but does not include the portion of exempt-interest dividends that are not required to be added to federal taxable income under section 290.01, subdivision 19a, clause (1)(ii).

(2) "Regulated investment company" means regulated investment company as defined in section 851(a) of the Internal Revenue Code or a fund of the regulated investment company as defined in section 851(g) of the Internal Revenue Code.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for tax years beginning after December 31, 2006.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 289A.18, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Individual income, fiduciary income, corporate franchise, and entertainment taxes; partnership and S corporation returns; information returns; mining company returns.** The returns required to be made under sections 289A.08 and 289A.12 must be filed at the following times:

(1) returns made on the basis of the calendar year must be filed on April 15 following the close of the calendar year, except that returns of corporations must be filed on March 15 following the close of the calendar year;

(2) returns made on the basis of the fiscal year must be filed on the 15th day of the fourth month following the close of the fiscal year, except that returns of corporations must be filed on the 15th day of the third month following the close of the fiscal year;

(3) returns for a fractional part of a year must be filed on the 15th day of the fourth month following the end of the month in which falls the last day of the period for which the return is made, except that the returns of corporations must be filed on the 15th day of the third month following the end of the tax year of the unitary group in which falls the last day of the period for which the return is made;

(4) in the case of a final return of a decedent for a fractional part of a year, the return must be filed on the 15th day of the fourth month following the close of the 12-month period that began with the first day of that fractional part of a year;

(5) in the case of the return of a cooperative association, returns must be filed on or before the 15th day of the ninth month following the close of the taxable year;

(6) if a corporation has been divested from a unitary group and files a return for a fractional part of a year in which it was a member of a unitary business that files a combined report under section 290.34, subdivision 2, the divested corporation's return must be filed on the 15th day of the third month following the close of the common accounting period that includes the fractional year;

(7) returns of entertainment entities must be filed on April 15 following the close of the calendar year;

(8) returns required to be filed under section 289A.08, subdivision 4, must be filed on the 15th day of the fifth month following the close of the taxable year;

(9) returns of mining companies must be filed on May 1 following the close of the calendar year; and

(10) returns required to be filed with the commissioner under section 289A.12, subdivision 2, or 4 to 10, ~~or 14~~, must be filed within 30 days after being demanded by the commissioner.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for tax years beginning after December 31, 2006.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 289A.60, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

Subd. 8. ~~Penalty for Penalties; failure to file informational return; incorrect taxpayer identification number.~~ (a) In the case of a failure to file an informational return required by section 289A.12 with the commissioner on the date prescribed (determined with regard to any extension of time for filing), the person failing to file the return shall pay a penalty of \$50 for each failure or in the case of a partnership, S corporation, or fiduciary return, \$50 for each partner, shareholder, or beneficiary; but the total amount imposed on the delinquent person for all failures during any calendar year must not exceed \$25,000. If a failure to file a return is due to intentional disregard of the filing requirement, then the penalty imposed under the preceding sentence must not be less than an amount equal to:

(1) in the case of a return not described in clause (2) or (3), ten percent of the aggregate amount of the items required to be reported;

(2) in the case of a return required to be filed under section 289A.12, subdivision 5, five percent of the gross proceeds required to be reported; and

(3) in the case of a return required to be filed under section 289A.12, subdivision 9, relating to direct sales, \$100 for each failure; however, the total amount imposed on the delinquent person for



intentional failures during a calendar year must not exceed \$50,000. The penalty must be collected in the same manner as a delinquent income tax.

(b) If a partnership or S corporation files a partnership or S corporation return with an incorrect tax identification number used for a partner or shareholder after being notified by the commissioner that the identification number is incorrect, the partnership or S corporation must pay a penalty of \$50 for each such incorrect number.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for returns filed after December 31, 2007.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 289A.60, subdivision 12, is amended to read:

Subd. 12. **Penalties relating to property tax refunds.** (a) If it is determined that a property tax refund claim is excessive and was negligently prepared, a claimant is liable for a penalty of ten percent of the corrected claim must be disallowed claim. If the claim has been paid, the amount disallowed must be recovered by assessment and collection.

(b) An owner who without reasonable cause fails to give a certificate of rent constituting property tax to a renter, as required by section 290A.19, paragraph (a), is liable to the commissioner for a penalty of \$100 for each failure.

(c) If the owner or managing agent knowingly gives rent certificates that report total rent constituting property taxes in excess of the amount of actual rent constituting property taxes paid on the rented part of a property, the owner or managing agent is liable for a penalty equal to the greater of (1) \$100 or (2) 50 percent of the excess that is reported. An overstatement of rent constituting property taxes is presumed to be knowingly made if it exceeds by ten percent or more the actual rent constituting property taxes.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for property tax refund claims filed on or after July 1, 2007.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 289A.60, subdivision 27, is amended to read:

Subd. 27. **Reportable transaction understatement.** (a) If a taxpayer has a reportable transaction understatement for any taxable year, an amount equal to 20 percent of the amount of the reportable transaction understatement must be added to the tax.

(b)(1) For purposes of this subdivision, "reportable transaction understatement" means the product of:

(i) the amount of the increase, if any, in taxable income that results from a difference between the proper tax treatment of an item to which this section applies and the taxpayer's treatment of that item as shown on the taxpayer's tax return; and

(ii) the highest rate of tax imposed on the taxpayer under section 290.06 determined without regard to the understatement.

(2) For purposes of clause (1)(i), any reduction of the excess of deductions allowed for the taxable year over gross income for that year, and any reduction in the amount of capital losses which would, without regard to section 1211 of the Internal Revenue Code, be allowed for that year, must be treated as an increase in taxable income.

(c) This subdivision applies to any item that is attributable to:

(1) any listed transaction under section 289A.121; and

(2) any reportable transaction, other than a listed transaction, if a significant purpose of that transaction is the avoidance or evasion of federal income tax liability.

(d) Paragraph (a) applies by substituting "30 percent" for "20 percent" with respect to the portion of any reportable transaction understatement with respect to which the disclosure requirements of section 289A.121, subdivision 5, and section 6664(d)(2)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code are not met.

(e)(1) No penalty applies under this subdivision with respect to any portion of a reportable transaction understatement if the taxpayer shows that there was reasonable cause for the portion and that the taxpayer acted in good faith with respect to the portion. This paragraph applies only if:

(i) the relevant facts affecting the tax treatment of the item are adequately disclosed as required under section 289A.121;

(ii) there is or was substantial authority for the treatment; and

(iii) the taxpayer reasonably believed that the treatment was more likely than not the proper treatment.

(2) A taxpayer who did not adequately disclose under section 289A.121 meets the requirements of clause (1)(i), if the commissioner abates the penalty imposed by subdivision 26, paragraph (d), under ~~section 270C.34~~ subdivision 26, paragraph (g).

(3) For purposes of clause (1)(iii), a taxpayer is treated as having a reasonable belief with respect to the tax treatment of an item only if the belief:

(i) is based on the facts and law that exist when the return of tax which includes the tax treatment is filed; and

(ii) relates solely to the taxpayer's chances of success on the merits of the treatment and does not take into account the possibility that a return will not be audited, the treatment will not be raised on audit, or the treatment will be resolved through settlement if it is raised.

(4) An opinion of a tax advisor may not be relied upon to establish the reasonable belief of a taxpayer if:

(i) the tax advisor:

(A) is a material advisor, as defined in section 289A.121, and participates in the organization, management, promotion, or sale of the transaction or is related (within the meaning of section 267(b) or 707(b)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code) to any person who so participates;

(B) is compensated directly or indirectly by a material advisor with respect to the transaction;

(C) has a fee arrangement with respect to the transaction which is contingent on all or part of the intended tax benefits from the transaction being sustained; or

(D) has a disqualifying financial interest with respect to the transaction, as determined

under United States Treasury regulations prescribed to implement the provisions of section 6664(d)(3)(B)(ii)(IV) of the Internal Revenue Code; or

(ii) the opinion:

(A) is based on unreasonable factual or legal assumptions, including assumptions as to future events;

(B) unreasonably relies on representations, statements, findings, or agreements of the taxpayer or any other person;

(C) does not identify and consider all relevant facts; or

(D) fails to meet any other requirement as the Secretary of the Treasury may prescribe under federal law.

(f) The penalty imposed by this subdivision applies in lieu of the penalty imposed under subdivision 4.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 289A.60, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 28. **Preparer identification number.** Any Minnesota individual income tax return or claim for refund prepared by a "tax refund or return preparer" as defined in subdivision 13, paragraph (f), shall bear the identification number the preparer is required to use federally under section 6109(a)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code. A tax refund or return preparer who prepares a Minnesota individual income tax return or claim for refund and fails to include the required number on the return or claim is subject to a penalty of \$50 for each failure.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for returns prepared for tax years beginning after December 31, 2006.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 290.01, subdivision 19b, as amended by Laws 2007, chapter 1, section 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 19b. **Subtractions from federal taxable income.** For individuals, estates, and trusts, there shall be subtracted from federal taxable income:

(1) net interest income on obligations of any authority, commission, or instrumentality of the United States to the extent includable in taxable income for federal income tax purposes but exempt from state income tax under the laws of the United States;

(2) if included in federal taxable income, the amount of any overpayment of income tax to Minnesota or to any other state, for any previous taxable year, whether the amount is received as a refund or as a credit to another taxable year's income tax liability;

(3) the amount paid to others, less the amount used to claim the credit allowed under section 290.0674, not to exceed \$1,625 for each qualifying child in grades kindergarten to 6 and \$2,500 for each qualifying child in grades 7 to 12, for tuition, textbooks, and transportation of each qualifying child in attending an elementary or secondary school situated in Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa, or Wisconsin, wherein a resident of this state may legally fulfill the state's

compulsory attendance laws, which is not operated for profit, and which adheres to the provisions of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and chapter 363A. For the purposes of this clause, "tuition" includes fees or tuition as defined in section 290.0674, subdivision 1, clause (1). As used in this clause, "textbooks" includes books and other instructional materials and equipment purchased or leased for use in elementary and secondary schools in teaching only those subjects legally and commonly taught in public elementary and secondary schools in this state. Equipment expenses qualifying for deduction includes expenses as defined and limited in section 290.0674, subdivision 1, clause (3). "Textbooks" does not include instructional books and materials used in the teaching of religious tenets, doctrines, or worship, the purpose of which is to instill such tenets, doctrines, or worship, nor does it include books or materials for, or transportation to, extracurricular activities including sporting events, musical or dramatic events, speech activities, driver's education, or similar programs. For purposes of the subtraction provided by this clause, "qualifying child" has the meaning given in section 32(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code;

(4) income as provided under section 290.0802;

(5) to the extent included in federal adjusted gross income, income realized on disposition of property exempt from tax under section 290.491;

(6) to the extent not deducted in determining federal taxable income by an individual who does not itemize deductions for federal income tax purposes for the taxable year, an amount equal to 50 percent of the excess of charitable contributions over \$500 allowable as a deduction for the taxable year under section 170(a) of the Internal Revenue Code and under the provisions of Public Law 109-1;

(7) for taxable years beginning before January 1, 2008, the amount of the federal small ethanol producer credit allowed under section 40(a)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code which is included in gross income under section 87 of the Internal Revenue Code;

(8) for individuals who are allowed a federal foreign tax credit for taxes that do not qualify for a credit under section 290.06, subdivision 22, an amount equal to the carryover of subnational foreign taxes for the taxable year, but not to exceed the total subnational foreign taxes reported in claiming the foreign tax credit. For purposes of this clause, "federal foreign tax credit" means the credit allowed under section 27 of the Internal Revenue Code, and "carryover of subnational foreign taxes" equals the carryover allowed under section 904(c) of the Internal Revenue Code minus national level foreign taxes to the extent they exceed the federal foreign tax credit;

(9) in each of the five tax years immediately following the tax year in which an addition is required under subdivision 19a, clause (7), or 19c, clause ~~(15)~~ (14), in the case of a shareholder of a corporation that is an S corporation, an amount equal to one-fifth of the delayed depreciation. For purposes of this clause, "delayed depreciation" means the amount of the addition made by the taxpayer under subdivision 19a, clause (7), or subdivision 19c, clause ~~(15)~~ (14), in the case of a shareholder of an S corporation, minus the positive value of any net operating loss under section 172 of the Internal Revenue Code generated for the tax year of the addition. The resulting delayed depreciation cannot be less than zero;

(10) job opportunity building zone income as provided under section 469.316;

(11) to the extent included in federal taxable income, the amount of compensation paid to members of the Minnesota National Guard or other reserve components of the United States

military for active service performed in Minnesota, excluding compensation for services performed under the Active Guard Reserve (AGR) program. For purposes of this clause, "active service" means (i) state active service as defined in section 190.05, subdivision 5a, clause (1); (ii) federally funded state active service as defined in section 190.05, subdivision 5b; or (iii) federal active service as defined in section 190.05, subdivision 5c, but "active service" excludes services performed exclusively for purposes of basic combat training, advanced individual training, annual training, and periodic inactive duty training; special training periodically made available to reserve members; and service performed in accordance with section 190.08, subdivision 3;

(12) to the extent included in federal taxable income, the amount of compensation paid to Minnesota residents who are members of the armed forces of the United States or United Nations for active duty performed outside Minnesota;

(13) an amount, not to exceed \$10,000, equal to qualified expenses related to a qualified donor's donation, while living, of one or more of the qualified donor's organs to another person for human organ transplantation. For purposes of this clause, "organ" means all or part of an individual's liver, pancreas, kidney, intestine, lung, or bone marrow; "human organ transplantation" means the medical procedure by which transfer of a human organ is made from the body of one person to the body of another person; "qualified expenses" means unreimbursed expenses for both the individual and the qualified donor for (i) travel, (ii) lodging, and (iii) lost wages net of sick pay, except that such expenses may be subtracted under this clause only once; and "qualified donor" means the individual or the individual's dependent, as defined in section 152 of the Internal Revenue Code. An individual may claim the subtraction in this clause for each instance of organ donation for transplantation during the taxable year in which the qualified expenses occur;

(14) in each of the five tax years immediately following the tax year in which an addition is required under subdivision 19a, clause (8), or 19c, clause ~~(16)~~ (15), in the case of a shareholder of a corporation that is an S corporation, an amount equal to one-fifth of the addition made by the taxpayer under subdivision 19a, clause (8), or 19c, clause ~~(16)~~ (15), in the case of a shareholder of a corporation that is an S corporation, minus the positive value of any net operating loss under section 172 of the Internal Revenue Code generated for the tax year of the addition. If the net operating loss exceeds the addition for the tax year, a subtraction is not allowed under this clause;

(15) to the extent included in federal taxable income, compensation paid to a nonresident who is a service member as defined in United States Code, title 10, section 101(a)(5), for military service as defined in the Service Member Civil Relief Act, Public Law 108-189, section 101(2); and

(16) international economic development zone income as provided under section 469.325.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** Clauses (11) and (12) are effective retroactively for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2004.

Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 290.01, subdivision 19c, is amended to read:

Subd. 19c. **Corporations; additions to federal taxable income.** For corporations, there shall be added to federal taxable income:

(1) the amount of any deduction taken for federal income tax purposes for income, excise, or franchise taxes based on net income or related minimum taxes, including but not limited to the tax imposed under section 290.0922, paid by the corporation to Minnesota, another state, a political

subdivision of another state, the District of Columbia, or any foreign country or possession of the United States;

(2) interest not subject to federal tax upon obligations of: the United States, its possessions, its agencies, or its instrumentalities; the state of Minnesota or any other state, any of its political or governmental subdivisions, any of its municipalities, or any of its governmental agencies or instrumentalities; the District of Columbia; or Indian tribal governments;

(3) exempt-interest dividends received as defined in section 852(b)(5) of the Internal Revenue Code;

(4) the amount of any net operating loss deduction taken for federal income tax purposes under section 172 or 832(c)(10) of the Internal Revenue Code or operations loss deduction under section 810 of the Internal Revenue Code;

(5) the amount of any special deductions taken for federal income tax purposes under sections 241 to 247 and 965 of the Internal Revenue Code;

(6) losses from the business of mining, as defined in section 290.05, subdivision 1, clause (a), that are not subject to Minnesota income tax;

(7) the amount of any capital losses deducted for federal income tax purposes under sections 1211 and 1212 of the Internal Revenue Code;

(8) the exempt foreign trade income of a foreign sales corporation under sections 921(a) and 291 of the Internal Revenue Code;

(9) the amount of percentage depletion deducted under sections 611 through 614 and 291 of the Internal Revenue Code;

~~(10) for certified pollution control facilities placed in service in a taxable year beginning before December 31, 1986, and for which amortization deductions were elected under section 169 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended through December 31, 1985, the amount of the amortization deduction allowed in computing federal taxable income for those facilities;~~

~~(11)~~ the amount of any deemed dividend from a foreign operating corporation determined pursuant to section 290.17, subdivision 4, paragraph (g);

~~(12)~~ (11) the amount of a partner's pro rata share of net income which does not flow through to the partner because the partnership elected to pay the tax on the income under section 6242(a)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code;

~~(13)~~ (12) the amount of net income excluded under section 114 of the Internal Revenue Code;

~~(14)~~ (13) any increase in subpart F income, as defined in section 952(a) of the Internal Revenue Code, for the taxable year when subpart F income is calculated without regard to the provisions of section 103 of Public Law 109-222;

~~(15)~~ (14) 80 percent of the depreciation deduction allowed under section 168(k)(1)(A) and (k)(4)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code. For purposes of this clause, if the taxpayer has an activity that in the taxable year generates a deduction for depreciation under section 168(k)(1)(A) and (k)(4)(A) and the activity generates a loss for the taxable year that the taxpayer is not allowed to

claim for the taxable year, "the depreciation allowed under section 168(k)(1)(A) and (k)(4)(A)" for the taxable year is limited to excess of the depreciation claimed by the activity under section 168(k)(1)(A) and (k)(4)(A) over the amount of the loss from the activity that is not allowed in the taxable year. In succeeding taxable years when the losses not allowed in the taxable year are allowed, the depreciation under section 168(k)(1)(A) and (k)(4)(A) is allowed;

~~(16)~~ (15) 80 percent of the amount by which the deduction allowed by section 179 of the Internal Revenue Code exceeds the deduction allowable by section 179 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended through December 31, 2003;

~~(17)~~ (16) to the extent deducted in computing federal taxable income, the amount of the deduction allowable under section 199 of the Internal Revenue Code; and

~~(18)~~ (17) the exclusion allowed under section 139A of the Internal Revenue Code for federal subsidies for prescription drug plans.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for tax years beginning after December 31, 2006.

Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 290.01, subdivision 19d, is amended to read:

Subd. 19d. **Corporations; modifications decreasing federal taxable income.** For corporations, there shall be subtracted from federal taxable income after the increases provided in subdivision 19c:

(1) the amount of foreign dividend gross-up added to gross income for federal income tax purposes under section 78 of the Internal Revenue Code;

(2) the amount of salary expense not allowed for federal income tax purposes due to claiming the ~~federal jobs~~ work opportunity credit under section 51 of the Internal Revenue Code;

(3) any dividend (not including any distribution in liquidation) paid within the taxable year by a national or state bank to the United States, or to any instrumentality of the United States exempt from federal income taxes, on the preferred stock of the bank owned by the United States or the instrumentality;

(4) amounts disallowed for intangible drilling costs due to differences between this chapter and the Internal Revenue Code in taxable years beginning before January 1, 1987, as follows:

(i) to the extent the disallowed costs are represented by physical property, an amount equal to the allowance for depreciation under Minnesota Statutes 1986, section 290.09, subdivision 7, subject to the modifications contained in subdivision 19e; and

(ii) to the extent the disallowed costs are not represented by physical property, an amount equal to the allowance for cost depletion under Minnesota Statutes 1986, section 290.09, subdivision 8;

(5) the deduction for capital losses pursuant to sections 1211 and 1212 of the Internal Revenue Code, except that:

(i) for capital losses incurred in taxable years beginning after December 31, 1986, capital loss carrybacks shall not be allowed;

(ii) for capital losses incurred in taxable years beginning after December 31, 1986, a capital loss carryover to each of the 15 taxable years succeeding the loss year shall be allowed;

(iii) for capital losses incurred in taxable years beginning before January 1, 1987, a capital loss carryback to each of the three taxable years preceding the loss year, subject to the provisions of Minnesota Statutes 1986, section 290.16, shall be allowed; and

(iv) for capital losses incurred in taxable years beginning before January 1, 1987, a capital loss carryover to each of the five taxable years succeeding the loss year to the extent such loss was not used in a prior taxable year and subject to the provisions of Minnesota Statutes 1986, section 290.16, shall be allowed;

(6) an amount for interest and expenses relating to income not taxable for federal income tax purposes, if (i) the income is taxable under this chapter and (ii) the interest and expenses were disallowed as deductions under the provisions of section 171(a)(2), 265 or 291 of the Internal Revenue Code in computing federal taxable income;

(7) in the case of mines, oil and gas wells, other natural deposits, and timber for which percentage depletion was disallowed pursuant to subdivision 19c, clause ~~(11)~~ (9), a reasonable allowance for depletion based on actual cost. In the case of leases the deduction must be apportioned between the lessor and lessee in accordance with rules prescribed by the commissioner. In the case of property held in trust, the allowable deduction must be apportioned between the income beneficiaries and the trustee in accordance with the pertinent provisions of the trust, or if there is no provision in the instrument, on the basis of the trust's income allocable to each;

~~(8) for certified pollution control facilities placed in service in a taxable year beginning before December 31, 1986, and for which amortization deductions were elected under section 169 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended through December 31, 1985, an amount equal to the allowance for depreciation under Minnesota Statutes 1986, section 290.09, subdivision 7;~~

~~(9)~~ amounts included in federal taxable income that are due to refunds of income, excise, or franchise taxes based on net income or related minimum taxes paid by the corporation to Minnesota, another state, a political subdivision of another state, the District of Columbia, or a foreign country or possession of the United States to the extent that the taxes were added to federal taxable income under section 290.01, subdivision 19c, clause (1), in a prior taxable year;

~~(10)~~ (9) 80 percent of royalties, fees, or other like income accrued or received from a foreign operating corporation or a foreign corporation which is part of the same unitary business as the receiving corporation;

~~(11)~~ (10) income or gains from the business of mining as defined in section 290.05, subdivision 1, clause (a), that are not subject to Minnesota franchise tax;

~~(12)~~ (11) the amount of disability access expenditures in the taxable year which are not allowed to be deducted or capitalized under section 44(d)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code;

~~(13)~~ (12) the amount of qualified research expenses not allowed for federal income tax purposes under section 280C(c) of the Internal Revenue Code, but only to the extent that the amount exceeds the amount of the credit allowed under section 290.068;

~~(14)~~ (13) the amount of salary expenses not allowed for federal income tax purposes due to claiming the Indian employment credit under section 45A(a) of the Internal Revenue Code;

~~(15) the amount of any refund of environmental taxes paid under section 59A of the Internal~~



Revenue Code;

~~(16)~~ (14) for taxable years beginning before January 1, 2008, the amount of the federal small ethanol producer credit allowed under section 40(a)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code which is included in gross income under section 87 of the Internal Revenue Code;

~~(17)~~ (15) for a corporation whose foreign sales corporation, as defined in section 922 of the Internal Revenue Code, constituted a foreign operating corporation during any taxable year ending before January 1, 1995, and a return was filed by August 15, 1996, claiming the deduction under section 290.21, subdivision 4, for income received from the foreign operating corporation, an amount equal to 1.23 multiplied by the amount of income excluded under section 114 of the Internal Revenue Code, provided the income is not income of a foreign operating company;

~~(18)~~ (16) any decrease in subpart F income, as defined in section 952(a) of the Internal Revenue Code, for the taxable year when subpart F income is calculated without regard to the provisions of section ~~614~~ 103 of Public Law ~~107-147~~ 109-222;

~~(19)~~ (17) in each of the five tax years immediately following the tax year in which an addition is required under subdivision 19c, clause ~~(15)~~ (14), an amount equal to one-fifth of the delayed depreciation. For purposes of this clause, "delayed depreciation" means the amount of the addition made by the taxpayer under subdivision 19c, clause ~~(15)~~ (14). The resulting delayed depreciation cannot be less than zero; and

~~(20)~~ (18) in each of the five tax years immediately following the tax year in which an addition is required under subdivision 19c, clause ~~(16)~~ (15), an amount equal to one-fifth of the amount of the addition.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** The amendment to clause (2) is effective the day following final enactment. The rest of this section is effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2006.

Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 290.06, subdivision 33, is amended to read:

Subd. 33. **Bovine testing credit.** (a) An owner of cattle in Minnesota may take a credit against the tax due under this chapter for an amount equal to one-half the expenses incurred during the taxable year to conduct tuberculosis testing on those cattle.

(b) If the amount of credit which the taxpayer is eligible to receive under this subdivision exceeds the taxpayer's tax liability under this chapter, the commissioner of revenue shall refund the excess to the taxpayer.

(c) The amount necessary to pay claims for the refund provided in this subdivision is appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner of revenue.

(d) Expenses incurred in a calendar year in which tuberculosis testing of cattle in Minnesota is not federally required are not allowed in claiming the credit under paragraph (a).

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for tax years beginning after December 31, 2007.

Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 290.067, subdivision 2b, is amended to read:

Subd. 2b. **Inflation adjustment.** The commissioner shall adjust the dollar amount of the income threshold at which the maximum credit begins to be reduced under subdivision 2 ~~must be adjusted~~

~~for inflation. The commissioner shall make the inflation adjustments in accordance with section 1(f) of the Internal Revenue Code except that for the purposes of this subdivision the percentage increase must be determined from the year starting September 1, 1999, and ending August 31, 2000, as the base year for adjusting for inflation for the tax year beginning after December 31, 2000. The determination of the commissioner under this subdivision is not a rule under the Administrative Procedure Act. by the percentage determined pursuant to the provisions of section 1(f) of the Internal Revenue Code, except that in section 1(f)(3)(B) the word "1999" shall be substituted for the word "1992." For 2001, the commissioner shall then determine the percent change from the 12 months ending on August 31, 1999, to the 12 months ending on August 31, 2000, and in each subsequent year, from the 12 months ending on August 31, 1999, to the 12 months ending on August 31 of the year preceding the taxable year. The determination of the commissioner pursuant to this subdivision must not be considered a "rule" and is not subject to the Administrative Procedure Act contained in chapter 14. The threshold amount as adjusted must be rounded to the nearest \$10 amount. If the amount ends in \$5, the amount is rounded up to the nearest \$10 amount.~~

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for tax years beginning after December 31, 2006.

Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 290.0671, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Inflation adjustment.** The earned income amounts used to calculate the credit and the income thresholds at which the maximum credit begins to be reduced in subdivision 1 must be adjusted for inflation. ~~The commissioner shall make the inflation adjustments in accordance with section 1(f) of the Internal Revenue Code except that for the purposes of this subdivision the percentage increase shall be determined from the year starting September 1, 1999, and ending August 31, 2000, as the base year for adjusting for inflation for the tax year beginning after December 31, 2000.~~ adjust by the percentage determined pursuant to the provisions of section 1(f) of the Internal Revenue Code, except that in section 1(f)(3)(B) the word "1999" shall be substituted for the word "1992." For 2001, the commissioner shall then determine the percent change from the 12 months ending on August 31, 1999, to the 12 months ending on August 31, 2000, and in each subsequent year, from the 12 months ending on August 31, 1999, to the 12 months ending on August 31 of the year preceding the taxable year. The earned income thresholds as adjusted for inflation must be rounded to the nearest \$10 amount. If the amount ends in \$5, the amount is rounded up to the nearest \$10 amount. The determination of the commissioner under this subdivision is not a rule under the Administrative Procedure Act.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for tax years beginning after December 31, 2006.

Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 290.091, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Exemption amount.** (a) For purposes of computing the alternative minimum tax, the exemption amount is:

~~(1) for taxable years beginning before January 1, 2006, the exemption determined under section 55(d) of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended through December 31, 1992; and~~

~~(2), for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2005, \$60,000 for married couples filing joint returns, \$30,000 for married individuals filing separate returns, estates, and trusts, and \$45,000 for unmarried individuals.~~

(b) The exemption amount determined under this subdivision is subject to the phase out under

section 55(d)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, except that alternative minimum taxable income as determined under this section must be substituted in the computation of the phase out.

(c) For taxable years beginning after December 31, 2006, the exemption amount under paragraph (a), clause (2), must be adjusted for inflation. ~~The commissioner shall make the inflation adjustments in accordance with section 1(f) of the Internal Revenue Code except that for the purposes of this subdivision the percentage increase must be determined from the year starting September 1, 2005, and ending August 31, 2006, as the base year for adjusting for inflation for the tax year beginning after December 31, 2006.~~ The commissioner shall adjust the exemption amount by the percentage determined pursuant to the provisions of section 1(f) of the Internal Revenue Code, except that in section 1(f)(3)(B) the word "2005" shall be substituted for the word "1992." For 2007, the commissioner shall then determine the percent change from the 12 months ending on August 31, 2005, to the 12 months ending on August 31, 2006, and in each subsequent year, from the 12 months ending on August 31, 2005, to the 12 months ending on August 31 of the year preceding the taxable year. The exemption amount as adjusted must be rounded to the nearest \$10. If the amount ends in \$5, it must be rounded up to the nearest \$10 amount. The determination of the commissioner under this subdivision is not a rule under the Administrative Procedure Act.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for tax years beginning after December 31, 2006.

Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 290.0921, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Alternative minimum taxable income.** "Alternative minimum taxable income" is Minnesota net income as defined in section 290.01, subdivision 19, and includes the adjustments and tax preference items in sections 56, 57, 58, and 59(d), (e), (f), and (h) of the Internal Revenue Code. If a corporation files a separate company Minnesota tax return, the minimum tax must be computed on a separate company basis. If a corporation is part of a tax group filing a unitary return, the minimum tax must be computed on a unitary basis. The following adjustments must be made.

(1) For purposes of the depreciation adjustments under section 56(a)(1) and 56(g)(4)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code, the basis for depreciable property placed in service in a taxable year beginning before January 1, 1990, is the adjusted basis for federal income tax purposes, including any modification made in a taxable year under section 290.01, subdivision 19e, or Minnesota Statutes 1986, section 290.09, subdivision 7, paragraph (c).

For taxable years beginning after December 31, 2000, the amount of any remaining modification made under section 290.01, subdivision 19e, or Minnesota Statutes 1986, section 290.09, subdivision 7, paragraph (c), not previously deducted is a depreciation allowance in the first taxable year after December 31, 2000.

(2) The portion of the depreciation deduction allowed for federal income tax purposes under section 168(k) of the Internal Revenue Code that is required as an addition under section 290.01, subdivision 19c, clause ~~(46)~~(14), is disallowed in determining alternative minimum taxable income.

(3) The subtraction for depreciation allowed under section 290.01, subdivision 19d, clause ~~(49)~~(17), is allowed as a depreciation deduction in determining alternative minimum taxable income.

(4) The alternative tax net operating loss deduction under sections 56(a)(4) and 56(d) of the Internal Revenue Code does not apply.

(5) The special rule for certain dividends under section 56(g)(4)(C)(ii) of the Internal Revenue

Code does not apply.

(6) The special rule for dividends from section 936 companies under section 56(g)(4)(C)(iii) does not apply.

(7) The tax preference for depletion under section 57(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code does not apply.

(8) The tax preference for intangible drilling costs under section 57(a)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code must be calculated without regard to subparagraph (E) and the subtraction under section 290.01, subdivision 19d, clause (4).

(9) The tax preference for tax exempt interest under section 57(a)(5) of the Internal Revenue Code does not apply.

(10) The tax preference for charitable contributions of appreciated property under section 57(a)(6) of the Internal Revenue Code does not apply.

(11) For purposes of calculating the tax preference for accelerated depreciation or amortization on certain property placed in service before January 1, 1987, under section 57(a)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code, the deduction allowable for the taxable year is the deduction allowed under section 290.01, subdivision 19e.

For taxable years beginning after December 31, 2000, the amount of any remaining modification made under section 290.01, subdivision 19e, not previously deducted is a depreciation or amortization allowance in the first taxable year after December 31, 2004.

(12) For purposes of calculating the adjustment for adjusted current earnings in section 56(g) of the Internal Revenue Code, the term "alternative minimum taxable income" as it is used in section 56(g) of the Internal Revenue Code, means alternative minimum taxable income as defined in this subdivision, determined without regard to the adjustment for adjusted current earnings in section 56(g) of the Internal Revenue Code.

(13) For purposes of determining the amount of adjusted current earnings under section 56(g)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, no adjustment shall be made under section 56(g)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code with respect to (i) the amount of foreign dividend gross-up subtracted as provided in section 290.01, subdivision 19d, clause (1), (ii) the amount of refunds of income, excise, or franchise taxes subtracted as provided in section 290.01, subdivision 19d, clause ~~(4)~~ (8), or (iii) the amount of royalties, fees or other like income subtracted as provided in section 290.01, subdivision 19d, clause ~~(4)~~ (9).

(14) Alternative minimum taxable income excludes the income from operating in a job opportunity building zone as provided under section 469.317.

(15) Alternative minimum taxable income excludes the income from operating in a biotechnology and health sciences industry zone as provided under section 469.337.

(16) Alternative minimum taxable income excludes the income from operating in an international economic development zone as provided under section 469.326.

Items of tax preference must not be reduced below zero as a result of the modifications in this subdivision.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2006.

Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 290.191, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

Subd. 8. **Deposit; definition.** (a) "Deposit," as used in subdivision ~~7~~ 6, paragraph (n), has the meanings in this subdivision.

(b) "Deposit" means the unpaid balance of money or its equivalent received or held by a financial institution in the usual course of business and for which it has given or is obligated to give credit, either conditionally or unconditionally, to a commercial, checking, savings, time, or thrift account whether or not advance notice is required to withdraw the credited funds, or which is evidenced by its certificate of deposit, thrift certificate, investment certificate, or certificate of indebtedness, or other similar name, or a check or draft drawn against a deposit account and certified by the financial institution, or a letter of credit or a traveler's check on which the financial institution is primarily liable. However, without limiting the generality of the term "money or its equivalent," any such account or instrument must be regarded as evidencing the receipt of the equivalent of money when credited or issued in exchange for checks or drafts or for a promissory note upon which the person obtaining the credit or instrument is primarily or secondarily liable, or for a charge against a deposit account, or in settlement of checks, drafts, or other instruments forwarded to the bank for collection.

(c) "Deposit" means trust funds received or held by the financial institution, whether held in the trust department or held or deposited in any other department of the financial institution.

(d) "Deposit" means money received or held by a financial institution, or the credit given for money or its equivalent received or held by a financial institution, in the usual course of business for a special or specific purpose, regardless of the legal relationship so established. Under this paragraph, "deposit" includes, but is not limited to, escrow funds, funds held as security for an obligation due to the financial institution or others, including funds held as dealers reserves, or for securities loaned by the financial institution, funds deposited by a debtor to meet maturing obligations, funds deposited as advance payment on subscriptions to United States government securities, funds held for distribution or purchase of securities, funds held to meet its acceptances or letters of credit, and withheld taxes. It does not include funds received by the financial institution for immediate application to the reduction of an indebtedness to the receiving financial institution, or under condition that the receipt of the funds immediately reduces or extinguishes the indebtedness.

(e) "Deposit" means outstanding drafts, including advice or another such institution, cashier's checks, money orders, or other officer's checks issued in the usual course of business for any purpose, but not including those issued in payment for services, dividends, or purchases or other costs or expenses of the financial institution itself.

(f) "Deposit" means money or its equivalent held as a credit balance by a financial institution on behalf of its customer if the entity is engaged in soliciting and holding such balances in the regular course of its business.

(g) Interinstitution fund transfers are not deposits.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 290A.03, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Dependent.** "Dependent" means any person who is considered a dependent under sections 151 and 152 of the Internal Revenue Code. ~~In the case of a son, stepson, daughter, or stepdaughter of the claimant, amounts received as a Minnesota family investment program grant, allowance to or on behalf of the child, surplus food, or other relief in kind supplied by a governmental agency must not be taken into account in determining whether the child received more than half of the child's support from the claimant.~~

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for property tax refunds based on rents paid after December 31, 2006, and property taxes payable after December 31, 2007.

Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 291.215, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Determination.** All property includable in the Minnesota gross estate of a decedent shall be valued in accordance with the provisions of sections 2031 or 2032 and, if applicable, 2032A, of the Internal Revenue Code and any elections made in valuing the federal gross estate shall be applicable in valuing the Minnesota gross estate. Values for purposes of the estate tax on both probate and nonprobate assets shall be the same as those finally determined for purposes of the federal estate tax on a decedent's estate. Except as otherwise provided in section 291.075, the value of all property includable in the Minnesota gross estate of a decedent may be independently determined under those sections for Minnesota estate tax purposes.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective retroactively for estates of decedents dying after December 31, 2005.

Sec. 21. **TRANSITION; POLLUTION CONTROL FACILITIES AMORTIZATION.**

The amount of additions to federal taxable income pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 290.01, subdivision 19c, clause (10), that are properly subtractable pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 290.01, subdivision 19d, clause (8), for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2006, and have not been subtracted pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 290.01, subdivision 19d, clause (8), are subtractable in the taxpayer's first taxable year beginning after December 31, 2006.

## ARTICLE 11

### DEPARTMENT SALES AND USE TAXES

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 289A.40, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Bad debt loss.** If a claim relates to an overpayment because of a failure to deduct a loss due to a bad debt or to a security becoming worthless, the claim is considered timely if filed within seven years from the date prescribed for the filing of the return. A claim relating to an overpayment of taxes under chapter 297A must be filed within 3-1/2 years from the date ~~prescribed for filing the return, plus any extensions granted for filing the return, but only if filed within the extended time~~ when the bad debt was (1) written off as uncollectible in the taxpayer's books and records, and (2) either eligible to be deducted for federal income tax purposes or would have been eligible for a bad debt deduction for federal income tax purposes if the taxpayer were required to file a federal income tax return, or within one year from the date the taxpayer's federal income tax return is timely filed claiming the bad debt deduction, whichever period is later. The refund or credit is limited to the amount of overpayment attributable to the loss. "Bad debt" for purposes of this subdivision, has the same meaning as that term is used in United States Code, title 26, section 166, except that for a claim relating to an overpayment of taxes under chapter 297A the following are excluded from

the calculation of bad debt: financing charges or interest; sales or use taxes charged on the purchase price; uncollectible amounts on property that remain in the possession of the seller until the full purchase price is paid; expenses incurred in attempting to collect any debt; and repossessed property. For purposes of reporting a payment received on previously claimed bad debt under chapter 297A, any payments made on a debt or account are applied first proportionally to the taxable price of the property or service and the sales tax on it, and secondly to interest, service charges, and any other charges.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 289A.56, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 8. **Border city zone refunds.** Notwithstanding subdivision 3, for refunds payable under section 469.1734, subdivision 6, interest is computed from 90 days after the refund claim is filed with the commissioner.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for refund claims filed on or after July 1, 2007.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 289A.60, subdivision 25, is amended to read:

Subd. 25. **Penalty for failure to properly complete sales and use tax return.** A person who fails to report local sales tax taxes required to be reported on a sales and use tax return or who fails to report local sales tax taxes on separate tax lines on the sales and use tax return is subject to a penalty of five percent of the amount of tax not properly reported on the return. A person who files a consolidated tax return but fails to report location information is subject to a \$500 penalty for each return not containing location information. In addition, the commissioner may revoke the privilege for a taxpayer to file consolidated returns and may require the taxpayer to separately register each location and to file a tax return for each location.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for returns filed after June 30, 2007.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 289A.60, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 29. **Penalty for failure to report liquor sales.** In the case of a failure to file an informational return required by section 297A.8155 with the commissioner on or before the date prescribed, the person failing to file the report shall pay a penalty of \$500 each failure. If a failure to file a report is intentional, the penalty shall be \$1,000 each failure.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 297A.61, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Sale and purchase.** (a) "Sale" and "purchase" include, but are not limited to, each of the transactions listed in this subdivision.

(b) Sale and purchase include:

(1) any transfer of title or possession, or both, of tangible personal property, whether absolutely or conditionally, for a consideration in money or by exchange or barter; and

(2) the leasing of or the granting of a license to use or consume, for a consideration in money or by exchange or barter, tangible personal property, other than a manufactured home used for residential

purposes for a continuous period of 30 days or more.

(c) Sale and purchase include the production, fabrication, printing, or processing of tangible personal property for a consideration for consumers who furnish either directly or indirectly the materials used in the production, fabrication, printing, or processing.

(d) Sale and purchase include the preparing for a consideration of food. Notwithstanding section 297A.67, subdivision 2, taxable food includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- (1) prepared food sold by the retailer;
- (2) soft drinks;
- (3) candy;
- (4) dietary supplements; and
- (5) all food sold through vending machines.

(e) A sale and a purchase includes the furnishing for a consideration of electricity, gas, water, or steam for use or consumption within this state.

(f) A sale and a purchase includes the transfer for a consideration of prewritten computer software whether delivered electronically, by load and leave, or otherwise.

(g) A sale and a purchase includes the furnishing for a consideration of the following services:

(1) the privilege of admission to places of amusement, recreational areas, or athletic events, and the making available of amusement devices, tanning facilities, reducing salons, steam baths, turkish baths, health clubs, and spas or athletic facilities;

(2) lodging and related services by a hotel, rooming house, resort, campground, motel, or trailer camp, including furnishing the guest of the facility with access to telecommunication services, and the granting of any similar license to use real property in a specific facility, other than the renting or leasing of it for a continuous period of 30 days or more under an enforceable written agreement that may not be terminated without prior notice;

(3) nonresidential parking services, whether on a contractual, hourly, or other periodic basis, except for parking at a meter;

(4) the granting of membership in a club, association, or other organization if:

(i) the club, association, or other organization makes available for the use of its members sports and athletic facilities, without regard to whether a separate charge is assessed for use of the facilities; and

(ii) use of the sports and athletic facility is not made available to the general public on the same basis as it is made available to members.

Granting of membership means both onetime initiation fees and periodic membership dues. Sports and athletic facilities include golf courses; tennis, racquetball, handball, and squash courts; basketball and volleyball facilities; running tracks; exercise equipment; swimming pools; and other similar athletic or sports facilities;



(5) delivery of aggregate materials and concrete block by a third party, excluding delivery of aggregate material used in road construction, and delivery of concrete block by a third party if the delivery would be subject to the sales tax if provided by the seller of the aggregate material or concrete block; and

(6) services as provided in this clause:

(i) laundry and dry cleaning services including cleaning, pressing, repairing, altering, and storing clothes, linen services and supply, cleaning and blocking hats, and carpet, drapery, upholstery, and industrial cleaning. Laundry and dry cleaning services do not include services provided by coin operated facilities operated by the customer;

(ii) motor vehicle washing, waxing, and cleaning services, including services provided by coin operated facilities operated by the customer, and rustproofing, undercoating, and towing of motor vehicles;

(iii) building and residential cleaning, maintenance, and disinfecting services and pest control and exterminating services;

(iv) detective, security, burglar, fire alarm, and armored car services; but not including services performed within the jurisdiction they serve by off-duty licensed peace officers as defined in section 626.84, subdivision 1, or services provided by a nonprofit organization for monitoring and electronic surveillance of persons placed on in-home detention pursuant to court order or under the direction of the Minnesota Department of Corrections;

(v) pet grooming services;

(vi) lawn care, fertilizing, mowing, spraying and sprigging services; garden planting and maintenance; tree, bush, and shrub pruning, bracing, spraying, and surgery; indoor plant care; tree, bush, shrub, and stump removal, except when performed as part of a land clearing contract as defined in section 297A.68, subdivision 40; and tree trimming for public utility lines. Services performed under a construction contract for the installation of shrubbery, plants, sod, trees, bushes, and similar items are not taxable;

(vii) massages, except when provided by a licensed health care facility or professional or upon written referral from a licensed health care facility or professional for treatment of illness, injury, or disease; and

(viii) the furnishing of lodging, board, and care services for animals in kennels and other similar arrangements, but excluding veterinary and horse boarding services.

In applying the provisions of this chapter, the terms "tangible personal property" and "retail sale" include taxable services listed in clause (6), items (i) to (vi) and (viii), and the provision of these taxable services, unless specifically provided otherwise. Services performed by an employee for an employer are not taxable. Services performed by a partnership or association for another partnership or association are not taxable if one of the entities owns or controls more than 80 percent of the voting power of the equity interest in the other entity. Services performed between members of an affiliated group of corporations are not taxable. For purposes of the preceding sentence, "affiliated group of corporations" means those entities that would be classified as members of an affiliated group as defined under United States Code, title 26, section 1504, disregarding the exclusions in section 1504(b).

For purposes of clause (5), "road construction" means construction of (1) public roads, (2) cartways, and (3) private roads in townships located outside of the seven-county metropolitan area up to the point of the emergency response location sign.

(h) A sale and a purchase includes the furnishing for a consideration of tangible personal property or taxable services by the United States or any of its agencies or instrumentalities, or the state of Minnesota, its agencies, instrumentalities, or political subdivisions.

(i) A sale and a purchase includes the furnishing for a consideration of telecommunications services, ~~including ancillary services associated with telecommunication services,~~ cable television services ~~and,~~ direct satellite services, and ring tones. ~~Telecommunications~~ Telecommunication services include, but are not limited to, the following services, as defined in section 297A.669: air-to-ground radiotelephone service, mobile telecommunication service, postpaid calling service, prepaid calling service, prepaid wireless calling service, and private communication services. The services in this paragraph are taxed to the extent allowed under federal law.

(j) A sale and a purchase includes the furnishing for a consideration of installation if the installation charges would be subject to the sales tax if the installation were provided by the seller of the item being installed.

(k) A sale and a purchase includes the rental of a vehicle by a motor vehicle dealer to a customer when (1) the vehicle is rented by the customer for a consideration, or (2) the motor vehicle dealer is reimbursed pursuant to a service contract as defined in section 65B.29, subdivision 1, clause (1).

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for sales and purchases made after June 30, 2007, except that the amendments to paragraphs (g), clause (2), and (i), are effective for sales and purchases made on or after January 1, 2008.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 297A.61, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Retail sale.** (a) A "retail sale" means any sale, lease, or rental for any purpose, other than resale, sublease, or subrent of items by the purchaser in the normal course of business as defined in subdivision 21.

(b) A sale of property used by the owner only by leasing it to others or by holding it in an effort to lease it, and put to no use by the owner other than resale after the lease or effort to lease, is a sale of property for resale.

(c) A sale of master computer software that is purchased and used to make copies for sale or lease is a sale of property for resale.

(d) A sale of building materials, supplies, and equipment to owners, contractors, subcontractors, or builders for the erection of buildings or the alteration, repair, or improvement of real property is a retail sale in whatever quantity sold, whether the sale is for purposes of resale in the form of real property or otherwise.

(e) A sale of carpeting, linoleum, or similar floor covering to a person who provides for installation of the floor covering is a retail sale and not a sale for resale since a sale of floor covering which includes installation is a contract for the improvement of real property.

(f) A sale of shrubbery, plants, sod, trees, and similar items to a person who provides for

installation of the items is a retail sale and not a sale for resale since a sale of shrubbery, plants, sod, trees, and similar items that includes installation is a contract for the improvement of real property.

(g) A sale of tangible personal property that is awarded as prizes is a retail sale and is not considered a sale of property for resale.

(h) A sale of tangible personal property utilized or employed in the furnishing or providing of services under subdivision 3, paragraph (g), clause (1), including, but not limited to, property given as promotional items, is a retail sale and is not considered a sale of property for resale.

(i) A sale of tangible personal property used in conducting lawful gambling under chapter 349 or the State Lottery under chapter 349A, including, but not limited to, property given as promotional items, is a retail sale and is not considered a sale of property for resale.

(j) A sale of machines, equipment, or devices that are used to furnish, provide, or dispense goods or services, including, but not limited to, coin-operated devices, is a retail sale and is not considered a sale of property for resale.

(k) In the case of a lease, a retail sale occurs (1) when an obligation to make a lease payment becomes due under the terms of the agreement or the trade practices of the lessor or (2) in the case of a lease of a motor vehicle, as defined in section 297B.01, subdivision 5, but excluding vehicles with a manufacturer's gross vehicle weight rating greater than 10,000 pounds and rentals of vehicles for not more than 28 days, at the time the lease is executed.

(l) In the case of a conditional sales contract, a retail sale occurs upon the transfer of title or possession of the tangible personal property.

(m) A sale of a bundled transaction in which one or more of the products included in the bundle is a taxable product is a retail sale, except that if one of the products is a telecommunication service, ancillary service, Internet access, or audio or video programming service, and the seller has maintained books and records identifying through reasonable and verifiable standards the portions of the price that are attributable to the distinct and separately identifiable products, then the products are not considered part of a bundled transaction. For purposes of this paragraph:

(1) the books and records maintained by the seller must be maintained in the regular course of business, and do not include books and records created and maintained by the seller primarily for tax purposes;

(2) books and records maintained in the regular course of business include, but are not limited to, financial statements, general ledgers, invoicing and billing systems and reports, and reports for regulatory tariffs and other regulatory matters; and

(3) books and records are maintained primarily for tax purposes when the books and records identify taxable and nontaxable portions of the price, but the seller maintains other books and records that identify different prices attributable to the distinct products included in the same bundled transaction.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for sales and purchases made on or after January 1, 2008.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 297A.61, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Sales price.** (a) "Sales price" means the measure subject to sales tax, and means the total amount of consideration, including cash, credit, personal property, and services, for which personal property or services are sold, leased, or rented, valued in money, whether received in money or otherwise, without any deduction for the following:

- (1) the seller's cost of the property sold;
- (2) the cost of materials used, labor or service cost, interest, losses, all costs of transportation to the seller, all taxes imposed on the seller, and any other expenses of the seller;
- (3) charges by the seller for any services necessary to complete the sale, other than delivery and installation charges;
- (4) delivery charges, except the percentage of the delivery charge allocated to delivery of tax exempt property, when the delivery charge is allocated by using either (i) a percentage based on the total sales price of the taxable property compared to the total sales price of all property in the shipment, or (ii) a percentage based on the total weight of the taxable property compared to the total weight of all property in the shipment; and
- (5) installation charges; and
- ~~(6) the value of exempt property given to the purchaser when taxable and exempt personal property have been bundled together and sold by the seller as a single product or piece of merchandise.~~

(b) Sales price does not include:

- (1) discounts, including cash, terms, or coupons, that are not reimbursed by a third party and that are allowed by the seller and taken by a purchaser on a sale;
- (2) interest, financing, and carrying charges from credit extended on the sale of personal property or services, if the amount is separately stated on the invoice, bill of sale, or similar document given to the purchaser; and
- (3) any taxes legally imposed directly on the consumer that are separately stated on the invoice, bill of sale, or similar document given to the purchaser.

(c) Sales price includes consideration received by the seller from third parties if:

- (1) the seller actually receives consideration from a party other than the purchaser and the consideration is directly related to a price reduction or discount on the sale;
- (2) the seller has an obligation to pass the price reduction or discount through to the purchaser;
- (3) the amount of the consideration attributable to the sale is fixed and determinable by the seller at the time of the sale of the item to the purchaser; and
- (4) one of the following criteria is met:
  - (i) the purchaser presents a coupon, certificate, or other documentation to the seller to claim a price reduction or discount when the coupon, certificate, or documentation is authorized, distributed, or granted by a third party with the understanding that the third party will reimburse any seller to whom the coupon, certificate, or documentation is presented;

(ii) the purchaser identifies himself or herself to the seller as a member of a group or organization entitled to a price reduction or discount. A "preferred customer" card that is available to any customer does not constitute membership in such a group; or

(iii) the price reduction or discount is identified as a third-party price reduction or discount on the invoice received by the purchaser or on a coupon, certificate, or other documentation presented by the purchaser.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for sales and purchases made on or after January 1, 2008, except that the amendment to paragraph (a), clause (4), is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 297A.61, subdivision 10, is amended to read:

Subd. 10. **Tangible personal property.** (a) "Tangible personal property" means personal property that can be seen, weighed, measured, felt, or touched, or that is in any other manner perceptible to the senses. "Tangible personal property" includes, but is not limited to, electricity, water, gas, steam, and ~~prewritten computer software, and prepaid calling cards.~~

(b) Tangible personal property does not include:

(1) large ponderous machinery and equipment used in a business or production activity which at common law would be considered to be real property;

(2) property which is subject to an ad valorem property tax;

(3) property described in section 272.02, subdivision 9, clauses (a) to (d); and

(4) property described in section 272.03, subdivision 2, clauses (3) and (5).

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for sales and purchases made on or after January 1, 2008.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 297A.61, subdivision 24, is amended to read:

Subd. 24. **Telecommunications services.** (a) "Telecommunications services" means the ~~electronic transmission, conveyance, or routing of voice, data, audio, video, or any other information or signals to a point, or between or among points, by or through any electronic, satellite, optical, microwave, or other medium or method now in existence or hereafter devised, regardless of the protocol used for such transmission, conveyance, or routing.~~

(b) Telecommunications services includes the furnishing for consideration of access to telephone services by a hotel to its guests. include transmission, conveyance, or routing in which computer processing applications are used to act on the form, code, or protocol of the content for purposes of transmission, conveyance, or routing, without regard to whether the service is referred to as voice over Internet protocol services or is classified by the Federal Communications Commission as enhanced or value added.

(c) Telecommunications services do not include:

~~(1) services purchased with a prepaid telephone calling card;~~

~~(2) private communication service purchased by an agent acting on behalf of the State Lottery;~~

~~(3) information services; and~~

~~(4) purchases of telecommunications when the purchaser uses the purchased services as a component part of or integrates such service into another telecommunications service that is sold by the purchaser in the normal course of business.~~

~~(d) For purposes of this subdivision, "information services" means the offering of the capability for generating, acquiring, storing, transforming, processing, retrieving, utilizing, or making available information.~~

(1) data processing and information services that allow data to be generated, acquired, stored, processed, or retrieved and delivered by an electronic transmission to a purchaser when the purchaser's primary purpose for the underlying transaction is the processed data or information;

(2) installation or maintenance of wiring or equipment on a customer's premises;

(3) tangible personal property;

(4) advertising, including, but not limited to, directory advertising;

(5) billing and collection services provided to third parties;

(6) Internet access service;

(7) radio and television audio and video programming services, regardless of the medium, including the furnishing of transmission, conveyance, and routing of such services by the programming service provider. Radio and television audio and video programming services includes, but is not limited to, cable service as defined in United States Code, title 47, section 522(6), and audio and video programming services delivered by commercial mobile radio service providers, as defined in Code of Federal Regulations, title 47, section 20.3;

(8) ancillary services; or

(9) digital products delivered electronically, including, but not limited to, software, music, video, reading materials, or ring tones.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for sales and purchases made on or after January 1, 2008.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 297A.61, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 38. **Bundled transaction.** (a) "Bundled transaction" means the retail sale of two or more products when the products are otherwise distinct and identifiable, and the products are sold for one nonitemized price. As used in this subdivision, "product" includes tangible personal property, services, intangibles, and digital goods, but does not include real property or services to real property. A bundled transaction does not include the sale of any products in which the sales price varies, or is negotiable, based on the selection by the purchaser of the products included in the transaction.

(b) For purposes of this subdivision, "distinct and identifiable" products does not include:

(1) packaging and other materials, such as containers, boxes, sacks, bags, and bottles, wrapping, labels, tags, and instruction guides, that accompany the retail sale of the products and are incidental or immaterial to the retail sale. Examples of packaging that are incidental or immaterial include

grocery sacks, shoe boxes, dry cleaning garment bags, and express delivery envelopes and boxes;

(2) a promotional product provided free of charge with the required purchase of another product. A promotional product is provided free of charge if the sales price of another product, which is required to be purchased in order to receive the promotional product, does not vary depending on the inclusion of the promotional product; and

(3) items included in the definition of sales price.

(c) For purposes of this subdivision, the term "one nonitemized price" does not include a price that is separately identified by product on binding sales or other supporting sales-related documentation made available to the customer in paper or electronic form including, but not limited to an invoice, bill of sale, receipt, contract, service agreement, lease agreement, periodic notice of rates and services, rate card, or price list.

(d) A transaction that otherwise meets the definition of a bundled transaction is not a bundled transaction if it is:

(1) the retail sale of tangible personal property and a service and the tangible personal property is essential to the use of the service, and is provided exclusively in connection with the service, and the true object of the transaction is the service;

(2) the retail sale of services if one service is provided that is essential to the use or receipt of a second service and the first service is provided exclusively in connection with the second service and the true object of the transaction is the second service;

(3) a transaction that includes taxable products and nontaxable products and the purchase price or sales price of the taxable products is de minimis; or

(4) the retail sale of exempt tangible personal property and taxable tangible personal property if:

(i) the transaction includes food and food ingredients, drugs, durable medical equipment, mobility enhancing equipment, over-the-counter drugs, prosthetic devices, or medical supplies; and

(ii) the seller's purchase price or sales price of the taxable tangible personal property is 50 percent or less of the total purchase price or sales price of the bundled tangible personal property. Sellers must not use a combination of the purchase price and sales price of the tangible personal property when making the 50 percent determination for a transaction.

(e) For purposes of this subdivision, "purchase price" means the measure subject to use tax on purchases made by the seller, and "de minimis" means that the seller's purchase price or sales price of the taxable products is ten percent or less of the total purchase price or sales price of the bundled products. Sellers shall use either the purchase price or the sales price of the products to determine if the taxable products are de minimis. Sellers must not use a combination of the purchase price and sales price of the products to determine if the taxable products are de minimis. Sellers shall use the full term of a service contract to determine if the taxable products are de minimis.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for sales and purchases made on or after January 1, 2008.

Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 297A.61, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 39. **Ancillary services.** "Ancillary services" means services that are associated with or incidental to the provision of telecommunications services, including, but not limited to, conference bridging service, detailed telecommunications billing, directory assistance, vertical service, and voice mail services.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for sales and purchases made on or after January 1, 2008.

Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 297A.61, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 40. **Conference bridging service.** "Conference bridging service" means an ancillary service that links two or more participants of an audio or video conference call and may include the provision of a telephone number. Conference bridging service does not include the telecommunications services used to reach the conference bridge.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for sales and purchases made on or after January 1, 2008.

Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 297A.61, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 41. **Detailed telecommunications billing service.** "Detailed telecommunications billing service" means an ancillary service of separately stating information pertaining to individual calls on a customer's billing statement.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for sales and purchases made on or after January 1, 2008.

Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 297A.61, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 42. **Directory assistance.** "Directory assistance" means an ancillary service of providing telephone number information or address information, or both.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for sales and purchases made on or after January 1, 2008.

Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 297A.61, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 43. **Vertical service.** "Vertical service" means an ancillary service that is offered in connection with one or more telecommunications services and which offers advanced calling features that allow customers to identify callers and to manage multiple calls and call connections, including conference bridging services.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for sales and purchases made on or after January 1, 2008.

Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 297A.61, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 44. **Voice mail service.** "Voice mail service" means an ancillary service that enables the customer to store, send, or receive recorded messages. Voice mail service does not include any vertical services that the customer may be required to have in order to utilize the voice mail service.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for sales and purchases made on or after January 1, 2008.



Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 297A.61, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 45. **Ring tone.** "Ring tone" means a digitized sound file that is downloaded onto a device and that may be used to alert the customer of a telecommunication service with respect to a communication.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 297A.61, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 46. **Fur clothing.** "Fur clothing" means human wearing apparel that is required by the Federal Fur Products Labeling Act, United States Code, title 15, section 69, to be labeled as a fur product, and the value of the fur components in the product is more than three times the value of the next most valuable tangible component. For purposes of this subdivision, "fur" means any animal skin or part of an animal skin with hair, fleece, or fur fibers attached to it, either in its raw or processed state, but does not include animal skins that have been converted into leather or suede, or from which the hair, fleece, or fur fiber has been completely removed in processing the skins.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for sales and purchases made on or after July 1, 2007.

Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 297A.63, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Use of tangible personal property or taxable services.** (a) For the privilege of using, storing, distributing, or consuming in Minnesota tangible personal property or taxable services purchased for use, storage, distribution, or consumption in this state, a use tax is imposed on a person in Minnesota. The tax is imposed on the purchase price of retail sales of the tangible personal property or taxable services at the rate of tax imposed under section 297A.62. A person that purchases property from a Minnesota retailer and returns the tangible personal property to a point within Minnesota, except in the course of interstate commerce, after it was delivered outside of Minnesota, is subject to the use tax.

(b) No tax is imposed under paragraph (a) if the tax imposed by section 297A.62 was paid on the sales price of the tangible personal property or taxable services.

(c) No tax is imposed under paragraph (a) if the purchase meets the requirements for exemption under section 297A.67, subdivision 21.

(d) When a transaction otherwise meets the definition of a bundled transaction, but is not a bundled transaction under section 297A.61, subdivision 38, paragraph (d), and the seller's purchase price of the taxable product or taxable tangible personal property is equal to or greater than \$100, then use tax is imposed on the purchase price of the taxable product or taxable personal property. For purposes of this paragraph, "purchase price" means the measure subject to use tax on purchases made by the seller.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for sales and purchases made on or after January 1, 2008.

Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 297A.665, is amended to read:

**297A.665 PRESUMPTION OF TAX; BURDEN OF PROOF.**

(a) For the purpose of the proper administration of this chapter and to prevent evasion of the tax, until the contrary is established, it is presumed that:

(1) all gross receipts are subject to the tax; and

(2) all retail sales for delivery in Minnesota are for storage, use, or other consumption in Minnesota.

(b) The burden of proving that a sale is not a taxable retail sale is on the seller. ~~However, the seller may take from the purchaser at the time of the sale a fully completed exemption certificate which conclusively relieves the seller from collecting and remitting the tax. This~~ However, a seller is relieved of liability if:

(1) the seller obtains a fully completed exemption certificate or all the relevant information required by section 297A.72, subdivision 2, at the time of the sale or within 90 days after the date of the sale; or

(2) if the seller has not obtained a fully completed exemption certificate or all the relevant information required by section 297A.72, subdivision 2, within the time provided in clause (1), within 120 days after a request for substantiation by the commissioner, the seller either:

(i) obtains in good faith a fully completed exemption certificate or all the relevant information required by section 297A.72, subdivision 2, from the purchaser; or

(ii) proves by other means that the transaction was not subject to tax.

(c) Notwithstanding paragraph (b), relief from liability does not apply to a seller who:

(1) fraudulently fails to collect the tax; or

(2) solicits purchasers to participate in the unlawful claim of an exemption. If a seller claiming that certain sales are exempt is not in possession of the required exemption certificates within 60 days after receiving written notice from the commissioner that the certificates are required, deductions claimed by the seller that required delivery of the certificates must be disallowed. If the certificates are delivered to the commissioner within the 60-day period, the commissioner may verify the reason or basis for the exemption claimed in the certificates before allowing any deductions. A deduction must not be granted on the basis of certificates delivered to the commissioner after the 60-day period.

~~(e)~~ (d) A purchaser of tangible personal property or any items listed in section 297A.63 that are shipped or brought to Minnesota by the purchaser has the burden of proving that the property was not purchased from a retailer for storage, use, or consumption in Minnesota.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for sales and purchases made on or after January 1, 2008.

Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 297A.669, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Defined telecommunications services sourcing.** The sale of the following telecommunication services shall be sourced to each level of taxing jurisdiction in paragraphs (a) to (d).

(a) A sale of mobile telecommunications services, other than air-to-ground radiotelephone

service and prepaid calling service, is sourced to the customer's place of primary use as required by the Mobile Telecommunications Sourcing Act.

(b) A sale of postpaid calling service is sourced to the origination point of the telecommunications signal as first identified by either:

(1) the seller's telecommunications system; or

(2) information received by the seller from its service provider, where the system used to transport such signals is not that of the seller.

(c) A sale of prepaid calling service or prepaid wireless calling service is sourced in accordance with section 297A.668, subdivision 2. However, in the case of a sale of ~~mobile telecommunications service that is a prepaid telecommunications~~ wireless calling service, the rule provided in section 297A.668, subdivision 2, paragraph (f), shall include as an option the location associated with the mobile telephone number.

(d) A sale of a private communication service is sourced as follows:

(1) service for a separate charge related to a customer channel termination point is sourced to each level of jurisdiction in which the customer channel termination point is located;

(2) service where all customer termination points are located entirely within one jurisdiction or levels of jurisdiction is sourced in such jurisdiction in which the customer channel termination points are located;

(3) service for segments of a channel between two customer channel termination points located in different jurisdictions and which segment of channel are separately charged is sourced 50 percent in each level of jurisdiction in which the customer channel termination points are located; and

(4) service for segments of a channel located in more than one jurisdiction or levels of jurisdiction and which segments are not separately billed is sourced in each jurisdiction based on the percentage determined by dividing the number of customer channel termination points in the jurisdiction by the total number of customer channel termination points.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for sales and purchases made on or after January 1, 2008.

Sec. 22. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 297A.669, subdivision 13, is amended to read:

Subd. 13. **Postpaid calling service.** "Postpaid calling service," for purposes of this section, means the telecommunications service obtained by making a payment on a call-by-call basis either through the use of a credit card or payment mechanism such as a bank card, travel card, credit card, or debit card, or by a charge made to a telephone number that is not associated with the origination or termination of the telecommunications service. A postpaid calling service includes a telecommunications service, except a prepaid wireless calling service, that would be a prepaid calling service except it is not exclusively a telecommunication service.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for sales and purchases made on or after January 1, 2008.

Sec. 23. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 297A.669, subdivision 14, is amended to read:

Subd. 14. **Prepaid calling service.** "Prepaid calling service," for purposes of this section, means a telecommunications service that:

- (1) provides the right to access exclusively telecommunications services, ~~which~~;
- (2) must be paid for in advance ~~and which~~;
- (3) enables the origination of calls using an access number or authorization code, whether manually or electronically dialed,; ~~and that~~
- (4) is sold in predetermined units or dollars of which the number declines with use in a known amount.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 24. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 297A.669, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 14a. **Prepaid wireless calling service.** "Prepaid wireless calling service," for purposes of this section, means a telecommunications service that:

- (1) provides the right to utilize mobile wireless service as well as other nontelecommunications services, including the download of digital products delivered electronically, content, and ancillary services;
- (2) must be paid for in advance; and
- (3) is sold in predetermined units or dollars of which the number declines with use in a known amount.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for sales and purchases made on or after January 1, 2008.

Sec. 25. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 297A.669, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 17. **Ancillary service.** The sale of an ancillary service is sourced to the customer's place of primary use.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for sales and purchases made on or after January 1, 2008.

Sec. 26. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 297A.67, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Drugs; medical devices.** (a) Sales of the following drugs and medical devices are exempt:

- (1) drugs for human use, including over-the-counter drugs;
- (2) single-use finger-pricking devices for the extraction of blood and other single-use devices and single-use diagnostic agents used in diagnosing, monitoring, or treating diabetes;
- (3) insulin and medical oxygen for human use, regardless of whether prescribed or sold over the counter;

- (4) prosthetic devices;
- (5) durable medical equipment for home use only;
- (6) mobility enhancing equipment; ~~and~~
- (7) prescription corrective eyeglasses; and
- (8) kidney dialysis equipment, including repair and replacement parts.

(b) For purposes of this subdivision:

(1) "Drug" means a compound, substance, or preparation, and any component of a compound, substance, or preparation, other than food and food ingredients, dietary supplements, or alcoholic beverages that is:

(i) recognized in the official United States Pharmacopoeia, official Homeopathic Pharmacopoeia of the United States, or official National Formulary, and supplement to any of them;

(ii) intended for use in the diagnosis, cure, mitigation, treatment, or prevention of disease; or

(iii) intended to affect the structure or any function of the body.

(2) "Durable medical equipment" means equipment, including repair and replacement parts, but not including mobility enhancing equipment, that:

(i) can withstand repeated use;

(ii) is primarily and customarily used to serve a medical purpose;

(iii) generally is not useful to a person in the absence of illness or injury; and

(iv) is not worn in or on the body.

(3) "Mobility enhancing equipment" means equipment, including repair and replacement parts, but not including durable medical equipment, that:

(i) is primarily and customarily used to provide or increase the ability to move from one place to another and that is appropriate for use either in a home or a motor vehicle;

(ii) is not generally used by persons with normal mobility; and

(iii) does not include any motor vehicle or equipment on a motor vehicle normally provided by a motor vehicle manufacturer.

(4) "Over-the-counter drug" means a drug that contains a label that identifies the product as a drug as required by Code of Federal Regulations, title 21, section 201.66. The label must include a "drug facts" panel or a statement of the active ingredients with a list of those ingredients contained in the compound, substance, or preparation. Over-the-counter drugs do not include grooming and hygiene products, regardless of whether they otherwise meet the definition. "Grooming and hygiene products" are soaps, cleaning solutions, shampoo, toothpaste, mouthwash, antiperspirants, and suntan lotions and sunscreens.

(5) "Prescribed" and "prescription" means a direction in the form of an order, formula, or recipe

issued in any form of oral, written, electronic, or other means of transmission by a duly licensed health care professional.

(6) "Prosthetic device" means a replacement, corrective, or supportive device, including repair and replacement parts, worn on or in the body to:

- (i) artificially replace a missing portion of the body;
- (ii) prevent or correct physical deformity or malfunction; or
- (iii) support a weak or deformed portion of the body.

Prosthetic device does not include corrective eyeglasses.

(7) "Kidney dialysis equipment" means equipment that:

(i) is used to remove waste products that build up in the blood when the kidneys are not able to do so on their own; and

(ii) can withstand repeated use, including multiple use by a single patient.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 27. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 297A.67, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

Subd. 8. **Clothing.** (a) Clothing is exempt. For purposes of this subdivision, "clothing" means all human wearing apparel suitable for general use.

(b) Clothing includes, but is not limited to, aprons, household and shop; athletic supporters; baby receiving blankets; bathing suits and caps; beach capes and coats; belts and suspenders; boots; coats and jackets; costumes; children and adult diapers, including disposable; ear muffs; footlets; formal wear; garters and garter belts; girdles; gloves and mittens for general use; hats and caps; hosiery; insoles for shoes; lab coats; neckties; overshoes; pantyhose; rainwear; rubber pants; sandals; scarves; shoes and shoe laces; slippers; sneakers; socks and stockings; steel-toed boots; underwear; uniforms, athletic and nonathletic; and wedding apparel.

(c) Clothing does not include the following:

- (1) belt buckles sold separately;
- (2) costume masks sold separately;
- (3) patches and emblems sold separately;
- (4) sewing equipment and supplies, including but not limited to, knitting needles, patterns, pins, scissors, sewing machines, sewing needles, tape measures, and thimbles;
- (5) sewing materials that become part of clothing, including but not limited to, buttons, fabric, lace, thread, yarn, and zippers;
- (6) clothing accessories or equipment;
- (7) sports or recreational equipment; and
- (8) protective equipment.

Clothing also does not include ~~apparel made from fur if a uniform definition of "apparel made from fur" is developed by the member states of the Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Agreement~~ "fur clothing" as defined in section 297A.61, subdivision 46.

For purposes of this subdivision, "clothing accessories or equipment" means incidental items worn on the person or in conjunction with clothing. Clothing accessories and equipment include, but are not limited to, briefcases; cosmetics; hair notions, including barrettes, hair bows, and hairnets; handbags; handkerchiefs; jewelry; nonprescription sunglasses; umbrellas; wallets; watches; and wigs and hairpieces. "Sports or recreational equipment" means items designed for human use and worn in conjunction with an athletic or recreational activity that are not suitable for general use. Sports and recreational equipment includes, but is not limited to, ballet and tap shoes; cleated or spiked athletic shoes; gloves, including, but not limited to, baseball, bowling, boxing, hockey, and golf gloves; goggles; hand and elbow guards; life preservers and vests; mouth guards; roller and ice skates; shin guards; shoulder pads; ski boots; waders; and wetsuits and fins. "Protective equipment" means items for human wear and designed as protection of the wearer against injury or disease or as protection against damage or injury of other persons or property but not suitable for general use. Protective equipment includes, but is not limited to, breathing masks; clean room apparel and equipment; ear and hearing protectors; face shields; finger guards; hard hats; helmets; paint or dust respirators; protective gloves; safety glasses and goggles; safety belts; tool belts; and welders gloves and masks.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for sales and purchases made on or after July 1, 2007.

Sec. 28. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 297A.67, subdivision 9, is amended to read:

Subd. 9. **Baby products.** Breast pumps, baby bottles and nipples, pacifiers, teething rings, and infant syringes are exempt.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for sales and purchases made on or after the day following final enactment.

Sec. 29. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 297A.68, subdivision 11, is amended to read:

Subd. 11. **Advertising materials.** Materials designed to advertise and promote the sale of merchandise or services are exempt if these materials are mailed or transferred to a person outside the state for use solely outside the state. Mailing and reply envelopes and cards and other shipping materials including, but not limited to, boxes, labels, containers, and banding, used exclusively in connection with these advertising and promotional materials are included in this exemption. The exemption applies regardless of where the mailing occurs. The storage of these materials in the state for the purpose of subsequently shipping or otherwise transferring the material out of state is also exempt if the other conditions in this subdivision are met. For purposes of this subdivision, materials that have a primary purpose other than advertising, such as fulfilling a legal obligation or furnishing nonadvertising information, are not materials designed to advertise and promote the sale of merchandise or services even if they do include advertising content.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 30. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 297A.68, subdivision 16, is amended to read:

Subd. 16. **Packing materials.** Packing materials used to pack and ship household goods and

that are provided to and remain with the customer of a for-hire carrier are exempt if the ultimate destination of the goods is outside Minnesota and if the goods packing materials are not later returned to a point within Minnesota, except in the course of interstate commerce. This exemption does not apply to tools, equipment, pads, or accessories owned or leased by the for-hire carrier.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for sales and purchases made after June 30, 2007.

Sec. 31. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 297A.68, subdivision 35, is amended to read:

Subd. 35. **Telecommunications, cable television, and direct satellite equipment.** (a) Telecommunications, cable television, or direct satellite machinery and equipment purchased or leased for use directly by a telecommunications, cable television, or direct satellite service provider primarily in the provision of telecommunications, cable television, or direct satellite services that are ultimately to be sold at retail are exempt, regardless of whether purchased by the owner, a contractor, or a subcontractor.

(b) For purposes of this subdivision, "telecommunications, cable television, or direct satellite machinery and equipment" includes, but is not limited to:

(1) machinery, equipment, and fixtures utilized in receiving, initiating, amplifying, processing, transmitting, retransmitting, recording, switching, or monitoring telecommunications, cable television, or direct satellite services, such as computers, transformers, amplifiers, routers, bridges, repeaters, multiplexers, and other items performing comparable functions;

(2) machinery, equipment, and fixtures used in the transportation of telecommunications, cable television, or direct satellite services, radio transmitters and receivers, satellite equipment, microwave equipment, and other transporting media, but not wire, cable, fiber, poles, or conduit;

(3) ancillary machinery, equipment, and fixtures that regulate, control, protect, or enable the machinery in clauses (1) and (2) to accomplish its intended function, such as auxiliary power supply, test equipment, towers, heating, ventilating, and air conditioning equipment necessary to the operation of the telecommunications, cable television, or direct satellite equipment; and software necessary to the operation of the telecommunications, cable television, or direct satellite equipment; and

(4) repair and replacement parts, including accessories, whether purchased as spare parts, repair parts, or as upgrades or modifications to qualified machinery or equipment.

~~(c) For purposes of this subdivision, "telecommunications services" means telecommunications services as defined in section 297A.61, subdivision 24, paragraphs (a), (c), and (d).~~

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for sales and purchases made on or after January 1, 2008.

Sec. 32. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 297A.69, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Materials consumed in agricultural production.** Materials stored, used, or consumed in agricultural production of personal property intended to be sold ultimately at retail are exempt, whether or not the item becomes an ingredient or constituent part of the property produced. Materials that qualify for this exemption include, but are not limited to, the following:

(1) feeds, seeds, trees, fertilizers, and herbicides, including when purchased for use by farmers



in a federal or state farm or conservation program;

(2) materials sold to a veterinarian to be used or consumed in the care, medication, and treatment of agricultural production animals and horses;

(3) chemicals, including chemicals used for cleaning food processing machinery and equipment;

(4) materials, including chemicals, fuels, and electricity purchased by persons engaged in agricultural production to treat waste generated as a result of the production process;

(5) fuels, electricity, gas, and steam used or consumed in the production process, ~~except that including electricity, gas, or steam used for space heating, cooling, or lighting is exempt if (i) it is in excess of the average climate control or lighting for the production area, and (ii) it is necessary to produce that particular product~~ of facilities housing agricultural animals;

(6) petroleum products and lubricants;

(7) packaging materials, including returnable containers used in packaging food and beverage products; and

(8) accessory tools and equipment that are separate detachable units with an ordinary useful life of less than 12 months used in producing a direct effect upon the product.

Machinery, equipment, implements, tools, accessories, appliances, contrivances, and furniture and fixtures, except those listed in this clause are not included within this exemption.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 33. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 297A.70, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Hospitals and outpatient surgical centers.** (a) Sales, except for those listed in paragraph (c), to a hospital are exempt, if the items purchased are used in providing hospital services. For purposes of this subdivision, "hospital" means a hospital organized and operated for charitable purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, and licensed under chapter 144 or by any other jurisdiction, and "hospital services" are services authorized or required to be performed by a "hospital" under chapter 144.

(b) Sales, except for those listed in paragraph (c), to an outpatient surgical center are exempt, if the items purchased are used in providing outpatient surgical services. For purposes of this subdivision, "outpatient surgical center" means an outpatient surgical center organized and operated for charitable purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, and licensed under chapter 144 or by any other jurisdiction. For the purposes of this subdivision, "outpatient surgical services" means: (1) services authorized or required to be performed by an outpatient surgical center under chapter 144; and (2) urgent care. For purposes of this subdivision, "urgent care" means health services furnished to a person whose medical condition is sufficiently acute to require treatment unavailable through, or inappropriate to be provided by, a clinic or physician's office, but not so acute as to require treatment in a hospital emergency room.

(c) This exemption does not apply to the following products and services:

(1) purchases made by a clinic, physician's office, or any other medical facility not operating as a hospital or outpatient surgical center, even though the clinic, office, or facility may be owned and

operated by a hospital or outpatient surgical center;

(2) sales under section 297A.61, subdivision 3, paragraph (g), clause (2), and prepared food, candy, and soft drinks;

(3) building and construction materials used in constructing buildings or facilities that will not be used principally by the hospital or outpatient surgical center;

(4) building, construction, or reconstruction materials purchased by a contractor or a subcontractor as a part of a lump-sum contract or similar type of contract with a guaranteed maximum price covering both labor and materials for use in the construction, alteration, or repair of a hospital or outpatient surgical center; or

(5) the leasing of a motor vehicle as defined in section 297B.01, subdivision 5.

(d) A limited liability company also qualifies for exemption under this subdivision if (1) it consists of a sole member that would qualify for the exemption, and (2) the items purchased qualify for the exemption.

(e) An entity that contains both a hospital and a nonprofit unit may claim this exemption on purchases made for both the hospital and nonprofit unit provided that:

(1) the nonprofit unit would have qualified for exemption under subdivision 4; and

(2) the items purchased would have qualified for the exemption.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 34. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 297A.70, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 18. **Private communication service for State Lottery.** Private communication service, as defined in section 297A.61, subdivision 26, is exempt if the service is purchased by an agent acting on behalf of the State Lottery.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for sales and purchases made on or after January 1, 2008.

Sec. 35. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 297A.72, is amended to read:

**297A.72 EXEMPTION CERTIFICATES.**

Subd. 2. **Content and form of exemption certificate.** An exemption certificate must be substantially in the form prescribed by the commissioner ~~and~~. To be fully completed, the exemption certificate must:

(1) either be signed by the purchaser if it is a paper form, or meet the requirements of section 270C.304 if in electronic form;

(2) bear the name and address of the purchaser; ~~and~~

(3) indicate the ~~sales tax account~~ identification number, if any, issued to the purchaser; ~~as follows:~~

(i) the purchaser's Minnesota tax identification number;

(ii) if the purchaser does not have a Minnesota tax identification number, then the purchaser's state tax identification number that is issued by a state other than Minnesota, and the name of that state;

(iii) if the purchaser does not have an identification number described in either item (i) or (ii), then the purchaser's federal Employer Identification Number; or

(iv) if the purchaser does not have an identification number described in item (i), (ii), or (iii), then either the number of the purchaser's state-issued driver's license, if valid in the state of issue, or if the purchaser does not have a driver's license, a valid state-issued identification number, and the name of the state of issue;

(4) indicate the purchaser's type of business, using a business-type coding system prescribed by the commissioner; and

(5) indicate the reason for the exemption, using an exemption reason coding system prescribed by the commissioner.

Subd. 3. **Purchaser requirement.** A blanket exemption certificate is an exemption certificate used for continuing future purchases. A purchaser using a blanket exemption certificate must update it as needed to accurately reflect the information that is required under subdivision 2.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

**Sec. 36. [297A.8155] LIQUOR REPORTING REQUIREMENTS; PENALTY.**

A person who sells liquor, as defined in section 295.75, subdivision 1, in Minnesota to a retailer that sells liquor, shall file with the commissioner an annual informational report, in the form and manner prescribed by the commissioner, indicating the volume of liquor sold to each retailer in the previous calendar year. The report must be filed on or before February 28 of each calendar year beginning in 2008. A person failing to file this report is subject to the penalty imposed under Minnesota Statutes, section 289A.60.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 37. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 297A.90, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Payment of tax.** (a) Persons who are registered as retailers may make purchases in this state or import property into this state without payment of the sales or use taxes imposed by this chapter at the time of purchase or importation, if the purchases or importations come within the provisions of this section and are made in strict compliance with the rules of the commissioner.

(b) A person described in subdivision 1 may elect to pay directly to the commissioner any sales or use tax that may be due under this chapter for the acquisition of mobile transportation equipment and parts and accessories attached or to be attached to such equipment registered under section 168.187.

(c) The total cost of such equipment and parts and accessories attached or to be attached to such equipment must be multiplied by a fraction. The numerator of the fraction is the Minnesota mileage as reported on the current pro rata application provided for in section 168.187 and the denominator of the fraction is the total mileage reported on the current pro rata registration application. The amount so determined must be multiplied by the tax rate to obtain the tax due.

In computing the tax under this section "sales price" does not include the amount of any tax, ~~except any manufacturer's or importer's excise tax, imposed by the United States upon or with respect to retail sales, whether taxes imposed directly on the retailer or the consumer that are separately stated on the invoice, bill of sale, or similar document given to the purchaser.~~

(d) A retailer covered by this section shall make a return and remit to the commissioner the tax due for the preceding calendar month in accordance with sections 289A.11 and 289A.20, subdivision 4.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 38. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 297B.035, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Ordinary course of business.** Except as provided in this section, motor vehicles purchased solely for resale in the ordinary course of business by any motor vehicle dealer, as defined in section 168.011, subdivision 21, who is licensed under section 168.27, subdivision 2 or 3, including vehicles which bear dealer plates as authorized by section 168.27, subdivision 16, shall be exempt from the provisions of this chapter.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 39. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 469.1734, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

Subd. 6. **Sales tax exemption; equipment; construction materials.** (a) The gross receipts from the sale of machinery and equipment and repair parts are exempt from taxation under chapter 297A, if the machinery and equipment:

(1) are used in connection with a trade or business;

(2) are placed in service in a city that is authorized to designate a zone under section 469.1731, regardless of whether the machinery and equipment are used in a zone; and

(3) have a useful life of 12 months or more.

(b) The gross receipts from the sale of construction materials are exempt, if they are used to construct:

(1) a facility for use in a trade or business located in a city that is authorized to designate a zone under section 469.1731, regardless of whether the facility is located in a zone; or

(2) housing that is located in a zone.

The exemptions under this paragraph apply regardless of whether the purchase is made by the owner, the user, or a contractor.

(c) A purchaser may claim an exemption under this subdivision for tax on the purchases up to, but not exceeding:

(1) the amount of the tax credit certificates received from the city, less

(2) any tax credit certificates used under the provisions of subdivisions 4 and 5, and section 469.1732, subdivision 2.

(d) The tax on sales of items exempted under this subdivision shall be imposed and collected

as if the applicable rate under section 297A.62 applied. Upon application by the purchaser, on forms prescribed by the commissioner, a refund equal to the tax paid shall be paid to the purchaser. The application must include sufficient information to permit the commissioner to verify the sales tax paid and the eligibility of the claimant to receive the credit. No more than two applications for refunds may be filed under this subdivision in a calendar year. The provisions of section 289A.40 apply to the refunds payable under this subdivision. There is annually appropriated to the commissioner of revenue the amount required to make the refunds, which must be deducted from the amount of the city's allocation under section 469.169, subdivision 12, that remains available and its limitation under section 469.1735.

(e) The amount to be refunded shall bear interest at the rate in section 270C.405 from the date 90 days after the refund claim is filed with the commissioner.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for refund claims filed on or after July 1, 2007.

Sec. 40. **FUR TAX PAYMENTS.**

(a) Furriers must file the annual return, required by Minnesota Statutes, section 295.60, subdivision 5, which otherwise would be due March 15, 2008, by September 15, 2007.

(b) If a furrier is required by Minnesota Statutes, section 295.60, subdivision 3, to make installments of quarterly estimates, then the furrier shall make the last installment by July 15, 2007.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** Effective July 1, 2007, for sales and purchases made prior to July 1, 2007.

Sec. 41. **REPEALER.**

(a) Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 295.60, is repealed.

(b) Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 297A.61, subdivision 20, is repealed.

(c) Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 297A.668, subdivision 6, is repealed.

(d) Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 297A.67, subdivision 22, is repealed.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** Paragraph (a) is effective for sales and purchases made on or after July 1, 2007; paragraph (b) is effective for sales and purchases made on or after January 1, 2008; and paragraphs (c) and (d) are effective the day following final enactment.

## ARTICLE 12

### DEPARTMENT PROPERTY TAXES

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 270.071, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Flight property.** "Flight property" means all aircraft and flight equipment used in connection therewith, including spare flight equipment. Flight property also includes computers and computer software used in operating, controlling, or regulating aircraft and flight equipment.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 270.072, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Assessment of flight property.** The Flight property of all that is owned by, or is leased,

loaned, or otherwise made available to an airline companies company operating in Minnesota shall be assessed and appraised annually by the commissioner with reference to its value on January 2 of the assessment year in the manner prescribed by sections 270.071 to 270.079. Aircraft with a gross weight of less than 30,000 pounds and used on intermittent or irregularly timed flights shall be excluded from the provisions of sections 270.071 to 270.079.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 270.072, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Report by airline company.** Each year, on or before July 1, every airline company engaged in air commerce in this state shall file with the commissioner ~~on or before the time fixed by the commissioner~~ a report under oath setting forth specifically the information prescribed by the commissioner to enable the commissioner to make the assessment required in sections 270.071 to 270.079, unless the commissioner determines that the airline company or person should be excluded from filing because its activities do not constitute air commerce as defined herein. ~~A penalty of five percent of the tax being assessed is imposed on a late filing of the annual report. If the report is not filed within 30 days, an additional penalty of five percent of the assessed tax is imposed for each additional 30 days or fraction of 30 days until the return is filed. The penalty imposed under this section must not exceed the lesser of \$25,000 or 25 percent of the assessed tax.~~

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective beginning January 2, 2007, for taxes payable in 2008 and thereafter.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 270.072, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

Subd. 6. **Airflight property tax lien.** The tax imposed under sections 270.071 to 270.079 is a lien on all real and personal property within this state of the airline company in whose name the property is assessed. ~~For purposes of sections 270C.62 and 270C.63, the date of assessment for the tax imposed under sections 270.071 to 270.079 is~~ The lien attaches on January 2 of each year for the taxes payable in the following year.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective beginning January 2, 2007, for taxes payable in 2008 and thereafter.

Sec. 5. **[270.0725] PENALTIES.**

Subdivision 1. **Penalty for late filing.** If an airline company does not file its annual report by the date designated in section 270.072, subdivision 3, a penalty of five percent of the tax being assessed is imposed on that company. On August 1, and on the first day of each succeeding calendar month, an additional five percent penalty is imposed if the report has not yet been filed. For each airline company, the penalties imposed under this subdivision for any one year are limited to the lesser of \$25,000 or 25 percent of the assessed tax.

Subd. 2. **Penalty for repeated instances of late filing.** If there is a pattern of repeated failures by an airline company to timely file the report required by this section, a penalty of ten percent of the tax being assessed is imposed on that company.

Subd. 3. **Penalty for frivolous report.** If an airline company files a frivolous annual report, a penalty of 25 percent of the tax being assessed is imposed on that company. A frivolous report under this section is a report that would fulfill the criteria for a frivolous return under section 289A.60,

subdivision 7, notwithstanding the restriction in section 289A.01. In a proceeding involving the issue of whether or not an airline company is liable for this penalty, the burden of proof is on the commissioner.

Subd. 4. **Penalty for fraudulent report.** If an airline company files a false or fraudulent annual report with intent to evade or defeat the tax, a penalty equal to 50 percent of the tax being assessed is imposed on that company.

Subd. 5. **Penalties added to tax.** Penalties imposed under this section are added to the tax and collected as a part of it.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for annual reports due on or after July 1, 2007.

Sec. 6. **[270.0735] EXAMINATION; INVESTIGATIONS; SUBPOENAS.**

In addition to the powers granted to the commissioner in this chapter, and in order to determine net tax capacities and issue notices of net tax capacity and tax under sections 270.071 to 270.079, the commissioner has the powers contained in sections 270C.31 and 270C.32, for which purpose the word "taxpayer" as defined in section 270C.01 includes an airline company.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective beginning January 2, 2007, for taxes payable in 2008 and thereafter.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 270.074, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Tax capacity.** (a) The net tax capacity of the flight property of every airline company shall have a tax capacity of is 70 percent of the value thereof apportioned to this state under subdivision 1, except that the net tax capacity of quiet aircraft shall have a tax capacity of is 40 percent of the value determined under subdivision 1. Quiet aircraft shall include "Quiet aircraft" means turboprops and aircraft defined as stage III or IV by the Federal Aeronautics Administration. If, in the opinion of the commissioner, other aircraft may be qualified as quiet aircraft, the commissioner may adopt rules providing additional qualifications.

(b) The flight property of an airline company that owns or leases aircraft the majority of which are turboprops, and which provides, during six months or more of the year that taxes are levied, scheduled passenger service to three or more airports inside or outside of this state that serve small or medium sized communities, shall be assessed at 50 percent of the assessment percentage otherwise set by paragraph (a).

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective beginning January 2, 2007, for taxes payable in 2008 and thereafter.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 270.076, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Appeal.** Any airline company against which a tax has been imposed under sections 270.071 to 270.079 shall have the right to appeal within 60 days from the date of notice of the levy of the tax. The notices of net tax capacity and of tax required under section 270.075, subdivision 2, are orders of the commissioner. These orders must be issued in conformance with section 270C.33, subdivisions 1 and 2, but are not subject to administrative review under section 270C.35. These orders may be appealed to the Tax Court in the manner provided by law in section 271.06 for appealing official orders of the commissioner that do not deal with

valuation, assessment, or taxation for property tax purposes, and the provisions of section 273.125, subdivisions 4 and 5, and chapter 278 do not apply.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective beginning January 2, 2007, for taxes payable in 2008 and thereafter.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 270.41, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Creation; purpose; powers.** A Board of Assessors is created. The board shall ~~establish, conduct,~~ review, supervise, coordinate, and approve courses in assessment practices, and establish criteria for determining assessor's qualifications. The board shall also consider other matters relating to assessment administration brought before it by the commissioner of revenue. The board may grant, renew, suspend, or revoke an assessor's license.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 270.41, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 1a. **Definition.** For purposes of sections 270.41 to 270.50, "board" means the Board of Assessors.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 270.41, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Members.** The board shall consist of nine members, who shall be appointed by the commissioner of revenue, in the manner provided herein. The members shall include:

- (1) two from the Department of Revenue;
- (2) two county assessors;
- (3) two assessors who are not county assessors, one of whom shall be a township assessor;
- (4) one from the private appraisal field holding a professional appraisal designation; and
- (5) two public members as defined by section 214.02.

The appointment provided in clauses (2) and (3) may be made from ~~two lists~~ a list of not less than three names ~~each, one~~ submitted to the commissioner of revenue by the Minnesota Association of Assessing Officers or its successor organization containing recommendations for the appointment of appointees described in ~~clause clauses (2), and one by the Minnesota Association of Assessors, Inc. or its successor organization containing recommendations for the appointees described in clause (3)~~ and (3). The ~~lists~~ list must be submitted 30 days before the commencement of the term. In the case of a vacancy, a new list shall be furnished to the commissioner ~~by the respective organization~~ immediately. A member of the board who is no longer engaged in the capacity ~~listed above~~ that was the basis of appointment is disqualified from membership in the board.

The board shall annually elect a chair and a ~~secretary~~ vice-chair of the board.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 270.41, subdivision 3, is amended to read:



Subd. 3. **Licenses; refusal or revocation.** The board may refuse to grant or renew, or may suspend or revoke, a license of an applicant or licensee for any of the following causes or acts:

(1) failure to complete required training;

(2) inefficiency or neglect of duty;

(3) ~~"unprofessional conduct" which means knowingly neglecting to perform a duty required by law, or violation of the laws of this state relating to the assessment of property or unlawfully exempting property or knowingly and intentionally listing property on the tax list at substantially less than its market value or the level required by law in order to gain favor or benefit, or knowingly and intentionally misclassifying property in order to gain favor or benefit~~ failure to comply with the Code of Conduct and Ethics for Licensed Minnesota Assessors adopted by the board pursuant to Laws 2005, First Special Session chapter 3, article 1, section 38;

(4) conviction of a crime involving moral turpitude; or

(5) any other cause or act that in the board's opinion warrants a refusal to issue or suspension or revocation of a license.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 270.41, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **Prohibited activity.** ~~An assessor, deputy assessor, assistant assessor, appraiser, A licensed assessor~~ or other person employed by an assessment jurisdiction or contracting with an assessment jurisdiction for the purpose of valuing or classifying property for property tax purposes is prohibited from making appraisals or analyses, accepting an appraisal assignment, or preparing an appraisal report as defined in section 82B.02, subdivisions 2 to 5, on any property within the assessment jurisdiction where the individual is employed or performing the duties of the assessor under contract. Violation of this prohibition shall result in immediate revocation of the individual's license to assess property for property tax purposes. This prohibition must not be construed to prohibit an individual from carrying out any duties required for the proper assessment of property for property tax purposes. If a formal resolution has been adopted by the governing body of a governmental unit, which specifies the purposes for which such work will be done, this prohibition does not apply to appraisal activities undertaken on behalf of and at the request of the governmental unit that has employed or contracted with the individual. The resolution may only allow appraisal activities which are related to condemnations, right-of-way acquisitions, or special assessments.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 270.44, is amended to read:

#### **270.44 CHARGES FOR COURSES, EXAMINATIONS OR MATERIALS.**

The board shall charge the following fees:

(1) \$105 for a senior accredited Minnesota assessor license;

(2) \$80 for an accredited Minnesota assessor license;

(3) \$65 for a certified Minnesota assessor specialist license;

- (4) \$55 for a certified Minnesota assessor license;
- ~~(5) \$50 for a course challenge examination;~~
- ~~(6) (5) \$35 for grading a form appraisal;~~
- ~~(7) (6) \$60 for grading a narrative appraisal;~~
- ~~(8) (7) \$30 for a reinstatement fee;~~
- ~~(9) (8) \$25 for a record retention fee; and~~
- ~~(10) (9) \$20 for an educational transcript; and~~
- ~~(11) \$30 for all retests of board-sponsored educational courses.~~

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 270.45, is amended to read:

**270.45 DISPOSITION OF FEES.**

All fees so established and collected shall be paid to the commissioner of finance for deposit in the general fund. The expenses of carrying out the provisions of sections 270.41 to 270.53 shall be paid from appropriations made to the board of Assessors.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 270.46, is amended to read:

**270.46 TRAINING COURSES, ~~ESTABLISHMENT; OTHER COURSES,~~ REGULATION.**

The board shall ~~establish~~ review and approve training courses on assessment practices ~~and shall review and approve courses on assessment practices,~~ techniques of assessment, and ethics offered by schools, colleges and universities as well as ~~courses that are offered by any units of government on techniques of assessment.~~ Courses shall be established in various places throughout the state and be offered on regular intervals, units of government, and other entities.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 270.47, is amended to read:

**270.47 RULES.**

The board shall ~~establish the~~ adopt rules necessary to accomplish the purpose of ~~section sections~~ sections 270.41 to 270.51, and shall establish criteria required of assessing officials in the state. ~~Separate criteria may be established depending upon the responsibilities of the assessor. The board shall prepare and give examinations from time to time to determine whether assessing officials possess the necessary qualifications for performing the functions of the office. Such tests shall be given immediately upon completion of courses required by the board, or to persons who already possess the requisite qualifications under the rules of the board.~~ An action of the board in refusing to grant or renew a license or in suspending or revoking a license is subject to review in accordance with chapter 14.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 270.48, is amended to read:

**270.48 LICENSURE OF QUALIFIED PERSONS.**

The board ~~shall~~ may license persons as possessing the necessary qualifications of an assessing official. Different levels of licensure may be established as to classes of property which assessors may be certified to assess at the discretion of the board. Every person, except a local or county assessor, regularly employed by the assessor to assist in making decisions regarding valuing and classifying property for assessment purposes ~~shall be required to~~ must become licensed within three years of the date of employment. Licensure shall be required for local and county assessors as otherwise provided in sections 270.41 to 270.53 section 273.061 and rules adopted by the board.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 270.50, is amended to read:

**270.50 EMPLOYMENT OF LICENSED ASSESSORS.**

No assessor shall be employed who has not been licensed as qualified by the board, provided the time to comply may be extended after application to the board upon a showing that licensed assessors are not available for employment. The board may license ~~that~~ a county or local assessor who has not received the training, but possesses the necessary qualifications for performing the functions of the office by the passage of an approved examination or may waive the examination if such person has demonstrated competence in performing the functions of the office for a period of time the board deems reasonable. ~~The county or local assessing district shall assume the cost of training of its assessors in courses approved by the board for the purpose of obtaining the assessor's license to the extent of course fees, mileage, meals and lodging, and recognized travel expenses not paid by the state. If the governing body of any township or city fails to employ an assessor as required by sections 270.41 to 270.53, the assessment shall be made by the county assessor.~~

~~In the case of cities incorporated or townships organized after April 11, 1974, except cities or towns located in Ramsey county or which have elected a county assessor system in accordance with section 273.055, the board shall allow the city or town 90 days from the date of incorporation or organization to employ a licensed assessor.~~

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 270C.306, is amended to read:

**270C.306 COMMISSIONER MAY REQUIRE SOCIAL SECURITY OR IDENTIFYING NUMBERS ON FORMS.**

Notwithstanding the provisions of any other law except section 272.115, the commissioner may require that a form required to be filed with the commissioner include the Social Security number, federal employer identification number, or Minnesota taxpayer identification number of the taxpayer or applicant.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007.

Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 270C.34, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Authority.** (a) The commissioner may abate, reduce, or refund any penalty or interest that is imposed by a law administered by the commissioner as a result of the late payment of tax or late filing of a return, if the failure to timely pay the tax or failure to timely file the return is due to reasonable cause, or if the taxpayer is located in a presidentially declared disaster area.

(b) The commissioner shall abate any part of a penalty or additional tax charge under section 289A.25, subdivision 2, or 289A.26, subdivision 4, attributable to erroneous advice given to the taxpayer in writing by an employee of the department acting in an official capacity, if the advice:

(1) was reasonably relied on and was in response to a specific written request of the taxpayer; and

(2) was not the result of failure by the taxpayer to provide adequate or accurate information.

(c) The commissioner may abate a penalty imposed under section 270.0725, subdivision 1 or 2, if the failure to timely file is due to reasonable cause, or if the airline company is located in a presidentially declared disaster area.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007.

Sec. 22. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 272.02, subdivision 64, is amended to read:

Subd. 64. **Job opportunity building zone property.** (a) Improvements to real property, and personal property, classified under section 273.13, subdivision 24, and located within a job opportunity building zone, designated under section 469.314, are exempt from ad valorem taxes levied under chapter 275.

(b) Improvements to real property, and tangible personal property, of an agricultural production facility located within an agricultural processing facility zone, designated under section 469.314, is exempt from ad valorem taxes levied under chapter 275.

(c) For property to qualify for exemption under paragraph (a), the occupant must be a qualified business, as defined in section 469.310.

(d) The exemption applies beginning for the first assessment year after designation of the job opportunity building zone by the commissioner of employment and economic development. The exemption applies to each assessment year that begins during the duration of the job opportunity building zone. To be exempt, the property must be occupied by July 1 of the assessment year by a qualified business that has signed the business subsidy agreement and relocation agreement, if required, by July 1 of the assessment year. This exemption does not apply to:

(1) the levy under section 475.61 or similar levy provisions under any other law to pay general obligation bonds; or

(2) a levy under section 126C.17, if the levy was approved by the voters before the designation of the job opportunity building zone.

(e) Except for property of a business that was exempt under this subdivision for taxes payable in 2007, a business must notify the county assessor in writing of eligibility under this subdivision by July 1 in order to begin receiving the exemption under this subdivision for taxes payable in the following year. The business need not annually notify the county assessor of its continued exemption under this subdivision, but must notify the county assessor immediately if the exemption no longer

applies.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 23. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 272.115, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Requirement.** Except as otherwise provided in subdivision 5, whenever any real estate is sold for a consideration in excess of \$1,000, whether by warranty deed, quitclaim deed, contract for deed or any other method of sale, the grantor, grantee or the legal agent of either shall file a certificate of value with the county auditor in the county in which the property is located when the deed or other document is presented for recording. Contract for deeds are subject to recording under section 507.235, subdivision 1. Value shall, in the case of any deed not a gift, be the amount of the full actual consideration thereof, paid or to be paid, including the amount of any lien or liens assumed. The items and value of personal property transferred with the real property must be listed and deducted from the sale price. The certificate of value shall include the classification to which the property belongs for the purpose of determining the fair market value of the property. The certificate shall include financing terms and conditions of the sale which are necessary to determine the actual, present value of the sale price for purposes of the sales ratio study. The commissioner of revenue shall promulgate administrative rules specifying the financing terms and conditions which must be included on the certificate. ~~Pursuant to the authority of the commissioner of revenue in section 270C.306,~~ The certificate of value must include the Social Security number or the federal employer identification number of the grantors and grantees. However, a married person who is not an owner of record and who is signing a conveyance instrument along with the person's spouse solely to release and convey their marital interest, if any, in the real property being conveyed is not a grantor for the purpose of the preceding sentence. A statement in the deed that is substantially in the following form is sufficient to allow the county auditor to accept a certificate for filing without the Social Security number of the named spouse: " (Name) claims no ownership interest in the real property being conveyed and is executing this instrument solely to release and convey a marital interest, if any, in that real property." The identification numbers of the grantors and grantees are private data on individuals or nonpublic data as defined in section 13.02, subdivisions 9 and 12, but, notwithstanding that section, the private or nonpublic data may be disclosed to the commissioner of revenue for purposes of tax administration. The information required to be shown on the certificate of value is limited to the information required as of the date of the acknowledgment on the deed or other document to be recorded.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for certificates of value filed on or after July 1, 2007.

Sec. 24. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 273.05, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 3. **Cities and townships; employment of licensed assessor.** In the case of cities or townships, except cities or towns located in Ramsey County or which have elected a county assessor system in accordance with section 273.055, the commissioner shall allow the city or town 90 days from the date of incorporation or organization to employ a licensed assessor.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 25. **[273.0535] COUNTY OR LOCAL ASSESSING DISTRICT TO ASSUME COST OF TRAINING.**

The county or local assessing district must assume the cost of training its assessors in courses approved by the board for the purpose of obtaining the assessor's license to the extent of course fees, mileage, meals, and lodging, and recognized travel expenses not paid by the state.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 26. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 273.111, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Requirements.** (a) Real estate consisting of ten acres or more or a nursery or greenhouse, and qualifying for classification as class 1b, 2a, or 2b under section 273.13, shall be entitled to valuation and tax deferment under this section only if it is primarily devoted to agricultural use, and meets the qualifications in subdivision 6, and either:

(1) is the homestead of the owner, or of a surviving spouse, child, or sibling of the owner or is real estate which is farmed with the real estate which contains the homestead property; or

(2) has been in possession of the applicant, the applicant's spouse, parent, or sibling, or any combination thereof, for a period of at least seven years prior to application for benefits under the provisions of this section, or is real estate which is farmed with the real estate which qualifies under this clause and is within four townships or cities or combination thereof from the qualifying real estate; or

(3) is the homestead of a shareholder in a family farm corporation as defined in section 500.24, notwithstanding the fact that legal title to the real estate may be held in the name of the family farm corporation; or

(4) is in the possession of a nursery or greenhouse or an entity owned by a proprietor, partnership, or corporation which also owns the nursery or greenhouse operations on the parcel or parcels.

(b) Valuation of real estate under this section is limited to parcels the ownership of which is in noncorporate entities except for:

(1) family farm corporations organized pursuant to section 500.24; and

(2) corporations that derive 80 percent or more of their gross receipts from the wholesale or retail sale of horticultural or nursery stock.

~~Corporate entities who previously qualified for tax deferment pursuant to this section and who continue to otherwise qualify under subdivisions 3 and 6 for a period of at least three years following the effective date of Laws 1983, chapter 222, section 8, will not be required to make payment of the previously deferred taxes, notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision 9. Special assessments are payable at the end of the three-year period or at time of sale, whichever comes first.~~

(c) Land that previously qualified for tax deferment under this section and no longer qualifies because it is not primarily used for agricultural purposes but would otherwise qualify under subdivisions 3 and 6 for a period of at least three years will not be required to make payment of the previously deferred taxes, notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision 9. Sale of the land prior to the expiration of the three-year period requires payment of deferred taxes as follows: sale in the year the land no longer qualifies requires payment of the current year's deferred taxes plus payment of deferred taxes for the two prior years; sale during the second year the land no longer qualifies requires payment of the current year's deferred taxes plus payment of the deferred taxes

for the prior year; and sale during the third year the land no longer qualifies requires payment of the current year's deferred taxes. Deferred taxes shall be paid even if the land qualifies pursuant to subdivision 11a. When such property is sold or no longer qualifies under this paragraph, or at the end of the three-year period, whichever comes first, all deferred special assessments plus interest are payable in equal installments spread over the time remaining until the last maturity date of the bonds issued to finance the improvement for which the assessments were levied. If the bonds have matured, the deferred special assessments plus interest are payable within 90 days. The provisions of section 429.061, subdivision 2, apply to the collection of these installments. Penalties are not imposed on any such special assessments if timely paid.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 27. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 273.117, is amended to read:

**273.117 CONSERVATION PROPERTY TAX VALUATION.**

The value of real property which is subject to a conservation restriction or easement shall be entitled to reduced valuation under this section may be adjusted by the assessor if:

(a) The restriction or easement is for a conservation purpose as defined in section 84.64, subdivision 2, and is recorded on the property;

(b) The property is being used in accordance with the terms of the conservation restriction or easement.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for taxes levied in 2007, payable in 2008, and thereafter.

Sec. 28. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 273.121, is amended to read:

**273.121 VALUATION OF REAL PROPERTY, NOTICE.**

Any county assessor or city assessor having the powers of a county assessor, valuing or classifying taxable real property shall in each year notify those persons whose property is to be included on the assessment roll that year if the person's address is known to the assessor, otherwise the occupant of the property. The notice shall be in writing and shall be sent by ordinary mail at least ten days before the meeting of the local board of appeal and equalization under section 274.01 or the review process established under section 274.13, subdivision 1c. Upon written request by the owner of the property, the assessor may send the notice in electronic form or by electronic mail instead of on paper or by ordinary mail. It shall contain: (1) the market value for the current and prior assessment, (2) the limited market value under section 273.11, subdivision 1a, for the current and prior assessment, (3) the qualifying amount of any improvements under section 273.11, subdivision 16, for the current assessment, (4) the market value subject to taxation after subtracting the amount of any qualifying improvements for the current assessment, (5) the classification of the property for the current and prior assessment, (6) a note that if the property is homestead and at least 45 years old, improvements made to the property may be eligible for a valuation exclusion under section 273.11, subdivision 16, (7) the assessor's office address, and (8) the dates, places, and times set for the meetings of the local board of appeal and equalization, the review process established under section 274.13, subdivision 1c, and the county board of appeal and equalization. The commissioner of revenue shall specify the form of the notice. The assessor shall attach to the assessment roll a statement that the notices required by this section have been mailed. Any assessor

who is not provided sufficient funds from the assessor's governing body to provide such notices, may make application to the commissioner of revenue to finance such notices. The commissioner of revenue shall conduct an investigation and, if satisfied that the assessor does not have the necessary funds, issue a certification to the commissioner of finance of the amount necessary to provide such notices. The commissioner of finance shall issue a warrant for such amount and shall deduct such amount from any state payment to such county or municipality. The necessary funds to make such payments are hereby appropriated. Failure to receive the notice shall in no way affect the validity of the assessment, the resulting tax, the procedures of any board of review or equalization, or the enforcement of delinquent taxes by statutory means.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for notices required in 2008 and thereafter.

Sec. 29. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 273.123, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Reassessment of homestead property.** The county assessor shall reassess all homestead property located within a disaster or emergency area which is physically damaged by the disaster or emergency and shall adjust the valuation for taxes payable the following year to reflect the loss in market value caused by the damage as follows: Subtract the market value of the property as reassessed from the market value of the property as assessed under section 273.01 for ~~January 1~~ of the year in which the disaster or emergency occurred; multiply the remainder by a fraction, the numerator of which is the number of full months remaining in the year on the date the disaster or emergency occurred, and the denominator of which is 12; subtract the product of the calculation from the market value of the property as assessed for ~~January 1~~ of the year in which the disaster or emergency occurred; the remainder is the estimated market value to be used for taxes payable the following year. The assessor shall report to the county auditor the net tax capacity based on the assessment of ~~January 1~~ of for the year in which the disaster or emergency occurred and the net tax capacity based on the reassessment made pursuant to this subdivision.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 30. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 273.123, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Computation of local tax rates.** ~~When computing~~ Local tax rates, must be computed by the county auditor shall use based upon the valuation as of January 2 as reported by the assessor for the assessment made on January 1 of the year in which the disaster or emergency occurred, and as returned by the local, county, and state boards of review and equalization and the commissioner of revenue.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 31. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 273.124, subdivision 13, is amended to read:

Subd. 13. **Homestead application.** (a) A person who meets the homestead requirements under subdivision 1 must file a homestead application with the county assessor to initially obtain homestead classification.

(b) ~~On or before January 2, 1993, each county assessor shall mail a homestead application to the owner of each parcel of property within the county which was classified as homestead for the 1992 assessment year. The format and contents of a uniform homestead application shall be prescribed by the commissioner of revenue. The commissioner shall consult with the chairs of the house and senate tax committees on the contents of the homestead application form. The application must clearly~~



inform the taxpayer that this application must be signed by all owners who occupy the property or by the qualifying relative and returned to the county assessor in order for the property to ~~continue receiving~~ receive homestead treatment. ~~The envelope containing the homestead application shall clearly identify its contents and alert the taxpayer of its necessary immediate response.~~

(c) Every property owner applying for homestead classification must furnish to the county assessor the Social Security number of each occupant who is listed as an owner of the property on the deed of record, the name and address of each owner who does not occupy the property, and the name and Social Security number of each owner's spouse who occupies the property. The application must be signed by each owner who occupies the property and by each owner's spouse who occupies the property, or, in the case of property that qualifies as a homestead under subdivision 1, paragraph (c), by the qualifying relative.

If a property owner occupies a homestead, the property owner's spouse may not claim another property as a homestead unless the property owner and the property owner's spouse file with the assessor an affidavit or other proof required by the assessor stating that the property qualifies as a homestead under subdivision 1, paragraph (e).

Owners or spouses occupying residences owned by their spouses and previously occupied with the other spouse, either of whom fail to include the other spouse's name and Social Security number on the homestead application or provide the affidavits or other proof requested, will be deemed to have elected to receive only partial homestead treatment of their residence. The remainder of the residence will be classified as nonhomestead residential. When an owner or spouse's name and Social Security number appear on homestead applications for two separate residences and only one application is signed, the owner or spouse will be deemed to have elected to homestead the residence for which the application was signed.

The Social Security numbers or affidavits or other proofs of the property owners and spouses are private data on individuals as defined by section 13.02, subdivision 12, but, notwithstanding that section, the private data may be disclosed to the commissioner of revenue, or, for purposes of proceeding under the Revenue Recapture Act to recover personal property taxes owing, to the county treasurer.

(d) If residential real estate is occupied and used for purposes of a homestead by a relative of the owner and qualifies for a homestead under subdivision 1, paragraph (c), in order for the property to receive homestead status, a homestead application must be filed with the assessor. The Social Security number of each relative and spouse of a relative occupying the property ~~and the Social Security number of each owner who is related to an occupant of the property~~ shall be required on the homestead application filed under this subdivision. If a different relative of the owner subsequently occupies the property, the owner of the property must notify the assessor within 30 days of the change in occupancy. The Social Security number of a relative or relative's spouse occupying the property is private data on individuals as defined by section 13.02, subdivision 12, but may be disclosed to the commissioner of revenue, or, for the purposes of proceeding under the Revenue Recapture Act to recover personal property taxes owing, to the county treasurer.

(e) The homestead application shall also notify the property owners that the application filed under this section will not be mailed annually and that if the property is granted homestead status for ~~the 1993 assessment, or any assessment year thereafter,~~ that same property shall remain classified as homestead until the property is sold or transferred to another person, or the owners, the spouse of the

owner, or the relatives no longer use the property as their homestead. Upon the sale or transfer of the homestead property, a certificate of value must be timely filed with the county auditor as provided under section 272.115. Failure to notify the assessor within 30 days that the property has been sold, transferred, or that the owner, the spouse of the owner, or the relative is no longer occupying the property as a homestead, shall result in the penalty provided under this subdivision and the property will lose its current homestead status.

(f) If the homestead application is not returned within 30 days, the county will send a second application to the present owners of record. The notice of proposed property taxes prepared under section 275.065, subdivision 3, shall reflect the property's classification. ~~Beginning with assessment year 1993 for all properties,~~ If a homestead application has not been filed with the county by December 15, the assessor shall classify the property as nonhomestead for the current assessment year for taxes payable in the following year, provided that the owner may be entitled to receive the homestead classification by proper application under section 375.192.

(g) At the request of the commissioner, each county must give the commissioner a list that includes the name and Social Security number of each occupant of homestead property who is the property owner and the, property owner's spouse occupying the property, or, qualifying relative of a property owner, applying for homestead classification under this subdivision or a spouse of a qualifying relative. The commissioner shall use the information provided on the lists as appropriate under the law, including for the detection of improper claims by owners, or relatives of owners, under chapter 290A.

(h) If the commissioner finds that a property owner may be claiming a fraudulent homestead, the commissioner shall notify the appropriate counties. Within 90 days of the notification, the county assessor shall investigate to determine if the homestead classification was properly claimed. If the property owner does not qualify, the county assessor shall notify the county auditor who will determine the amount of homestead benefits that had been improperly allowed. For the purpose of this section, "homestead benefits" means the tax reduction resulting from the classification as a homestead under section 273.13, the taconite homestead credit under section 273.135, the residential homestead and agricultural homestead credits under section 273.1384, and the supplemental homestead credit under section 273.1391.

The county auditor shall send a notice to the person who owned the affected property at the time the homestead application related to the improper homestead was filed, demanding reimbursement of the homestead benefits plus a penalty equal to 100 percent of the homestead benefits. The person notified may appeal the county's determination by serving copies of a petition for review with county officials as provided in section 278.01 and filing proof of service as provided in section 278.01 with the Minnesota Tax Court within 60 days of the date of the notice from the county. Procedurally, the appeal is governed by the provisions in chapter 271 which apply to the appeal of a property tax assessment or levy, but without requiring any prepayment of the amount in controversy. If the amount of homestead benefits and penalty is not paid within 60 days, and if no appeal has been filed, the county auditor shall certify the amount of taxes and penalty to the county treasurer. The county treasurer will add interest to the unpaid homestead benefits and penalty amounts at the rate provided in section 279.03 for real property taxes becoming delinquent in the calendar year during which the amount remains unpaid. Interest may be assessed for the period beginning 60 days after demand for payment was made.

If the person notified is the current owner of the property, the treasurer may add the total amount

of homestead benefits, penalty, interest, and costs to the ad valorem taxes otherwise payable on the property by including the amounts on the property tax statements under section 276.04, subdivision 3. The amounts added under this paragraph to the ad valorem taxes shall include interest accrued through December 31 of the year preceding the taxes payable year for which the amounts are first added. These amounts, when added to the property tax statement, become subject to all the laws for the enforcement of real or personal property taxes for that year, and for any subsequent year.

If the person notified is not the current owner of the property, the treasurer may collect the amounts due under the Revenue Recapture Act in chapter 270A, or use any of the powers granted in sections 277.20 and 277.21 without exclusion, to enforce payment of the homestead benefits, penalty, interest, and costs, as if those amounts were delinquent tax obligations of the person who owned the property at the time the application related to the improperly allowed homestead was filed. The treasurer may relieve a prior owner of personal liability for the homestead benefits, penalty, interest, and costs, and instead extend those amounts on the tax lists against the property as provided in this paragraph to the extent that the current owner agrees in writing. On all demands, billings, property tax statements, and related correspondence, the county must list and state separately the amounts of homestead benefits, penalty, interest and costs being demanded, billed or assessed.

(i) Any amount of homestead benefits recovered by the county from the property owner shall be distributed to the county, city or town, and school district where the property is located in the same proportion that each taxing district's levy was to the total of the three taxing districts' levy for the current year. Any amount recovered attributable to taconite homestead credit shall be transmitted to the St. Louis County auditor to be deposited in the taconite property tax relief account. Any amount recovered that is attributable to supplemental homestead credit is to be transmitted to the commissioner of revenue for deposit in the general fund of the state treasury. The total amount of penalty collected must be deposited in the county general fund.

(j) If a property owner has applied for more than one homestead and the county assessors cannot determine which property should be classified as homestead, the county assessors will refer the information to the commissioner. The commissioner shall make the determination and notify the counties within 60 days.

(k) In addition to lists of homestead properties, the commissioner may ask the counties to furnish lists of all properties and the record owners. The Social Security numbers and federal identification numbers that are maintained by a county or city assessor for property tax administration purposes, and that may appear on the lists retain their classification as private or nonpublic data; but may be viewed, accessed, and used by the county auditor or treasurer of the same county for the limited purpose of assisting the commissioner in the preparation of microdata samples under section 270C.12.

(l) On or before April 30 each year beginning in 2007, each county must provide the commissioner with the following data for each parcel of homestead property by electronic means as defined in section 289A.02, subdivision 8:

(i) the property identification number assigned to the parcel for purposes of taxes payable in the current year;

(ii) the name and Social Security number of each occupant of homestead property who is the property owner and, property owner's spouse, as shown on the tax rolls for the current and the prior assessment year qualifying relative of a property owner, or spouse of a qualifying relative;

(iii) the classification of the property under section 273.13 for taxes payable in the current year and in the prior year;

(iv) an indication of whether the property was classified as a homestead for taxes payable in the current year ~~or for taxes payable in the prior year~~ because of occupancy by a relative of the owner or by a spouse of a relative;

(v) the property taxes payable as defined in section 290A.03, subdivision 13, for the current year and the prior year;

(vi) the market value of improvements to the property first assessed for tax purposes for taxes payable in the current year;

(vii) the assessor's estimated market value assigned to the property for taxes payable in the current year and the prior year;

(viii) the taxable market value assigned to the property for taxes payable in the current year and the prior year;

(ix) whether there are delinquent property taxes owing on the homestead;

(x) the unique taxing district in which the property is located; and

(xi) such other information as the commissioner decides is necessary.

The commissioner shall use the information provided on the lists as appropriate under the law, including for the detection of improper claims by owners, or relatives of owners, under chapter 290A.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 32. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 273.1398, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Disparity reduction credit.** (a) Beginning with taxes payable in 1989, class 4a, class 3a, and class 3b property qualifies for a disparity reduction credit if: (1) the property is located in a border city that has an enterprise zone designated pursuant to section 469.168, subdivision 4; (2) the property is located in a city with a population greater than 2,500 and less than 35,000 according to the 1980 decennial census; (3) the city is adjacent to a city in another state or immediately adjacent to a city adjacent to a city in another state; and (4) the adjacent city in the other state has a population of greater than 5,000 and less than 75,000 according to the 1980 decennial census.

(b) The credit is an amount sufficient to reduce (i) the taxes levied on class 4a property to 2.3 percent of the property's market value and (ii) the tax on class 3a and class 3b property to 2.3 percent of market value.

(c) The county auditor shall annually certify the costs of the credits to the Department of Revenue. The department shall reimburse local governments for the property taxes foregone as the result of the credits in proportion to their total levies.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective retroactively for taxes payable in 2001 and thereafter.

Sec. 33. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 273.33, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Listing and assessment by commissioner.** The personal property, consisting of the pipeline system of mains, pipes, and equipment attached thereto, of pipeline companies and others engaged in the operations or business of transporting natural gas, gasoline, crude oil, or other petroleum products by pipelines, shall be listed with and assessed by the commissioner of revenue and the values provided to the city or county assessor by order. This subdivision shall not apply to the assessment of the products transported through the pipelines nor to the lines of local commercial gas companies engaged primarily in the business of distributing gas to consumers at retail nor to pipelines used by the owner thereof to supply natural gas or other petroleum products exclusively for such owner's own consumption and not for resale to others. If more than 85 percent of the natural gas or other petroleum products actually transported over the pipeline is used for the owner's own consumption and not for resale to others, then this subdivision shall not apply; provided, however, that in that event, the pipeline shall be assessed in proportion to the percentage of gas actually transported over such pipeline that is not used for the owner's own consumption. On or before June 30, the commissioner shall certify to the auditor of each county, the amount of such personal property assessment against each company in each district in which such property is located.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 34. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 273.37, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Listing and assessment by commissioner.** Transmission lines of less than 69 kv, transmission lines of 69 kv and above located in an unorganized township, and distribution lines, and equipment attached thereto, having a fixed situs outside the corporate limits of cities except distribution lines taxed as provided in sections 273.40 and 273.41, shall be listed with and assessed by the commissioner of revenue in the county where situated and the values provided to the city or county assessor by order. The commissioner shall assess such property at the percentage of market value fixed by law; and, on or before June 30, shall certify to the auditor of each county in which such property is located the amount of the assessment made against each company and person owning such property.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 35. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 273.371, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Report required.** Every electric light, power, gas, water, express, stage, and transportation company and pipeline doing business in Minnesota shall annually file with the commissioner on or before March 31 a report under oath setting forth the information prescribed by the commissioner to enable the commissioner to make valuations, recommended valuations, and equalization required under sections 273.33, 273.35, 273.36, ~~and~~ 273.37, and 273.3711. If all the required information is not available on March 31, the company or pipeline shall file the information that is available on or before March 31, and the balance of the information as soon as it becomes available.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 36. **[273.3711] RECOMMENDED AND ORDERED VALUES.**

For purposes of sections 273.33, 273.35, 273.36, 273.37, 273.371, and 273.372, all values not required to be listed and assessed by the commissioner of revenue are recommended values.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 37. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 274.01, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Ordinary board; meetings, deadlines, grievances.** (a) The town board of a town, or the council or other governing body of a city, is the board of appeal and equalization except (1) in cities whose charters provide for a board of equalization or (2) in any city or town that has transferred its local board of review power and duties to the county board as provided in subdivision 3. The county assessor shall fix a day and time when the board or the board of equalization shall meet in the assessment districts of the county. Notwithstanding any law or city charter to the contrary, a city board of equalization shall be referred to as a board of appeal and equalization. On or before February 15 of each year the assessor shall give written notice of the time to the city or town clerk. Notwithstanding the provisions of any charter to the contrary, the meetings must be held between April 1 and May 31 each year. The clerk shall give published and posted notice of the meeting at least ten days before the date of the meeting.

The board shall meet at the office of the clerk to review the assessment and classification of property in the town or city. No changes in valuation or classification which are intended to correct errors in judgment by the county assessor may be made by the county assessor after the board has adjourned in those cities or towns that hold a local board of review; however, corrections of errors that are merely clerical in nature or changes that extend homestead treatment to property are permitted after adjournment until the tax extension date for that assessment year. The changes must be fully documented and maintained in the assessor's office and must be available for review by any person. A copy of the changes made during this period in those cities or towns that hold a local board of review must be sent to the county board no later than December 31 of the assessment year.

(b) The board shall determine whether the taxable property in the town or city has been properly placed on the list and properly valued by the assessor. If real or personal property has been omitted, the board shall place it on the list with its market value, and correct the assessment so that each tract or lot of real property, and each article, parcel, or class of personal property, is entered on the assessment list at its market value. No assessment of the property of any person may be raised unless the person has been duly notified of the intent of the board to do so. On application of any person feeling aggrieved, the board shall review the assessment or classification, or both, and correct it as appears just. The board may not make an individual market value adjustment or classification change that would benefit the property if the owner or other person having control over the property has refused the assessor access to inspect the property and the interior of any buildings or structures as provided in section 273.20. A board member shall not participate in any actions of the board which result in market value adjustments or classification changes to property owned by the board member, the spouse, parent, stepparent, child, stepchild, grandparent, grandchild, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, nephew, or niece of a board member, or property in which a board member has a financial interest. The relationship may be by blood or marriage.

(c) A local board may reduce assessments upon petition of the taxpayer but the total reductions must not reduce the aggregate assessment made by the county assessor by more than one percent. If the total reductions would lower the aggregate assessments made by the county assessor by more than one percent, none of the adjustments may be made. The assessor shall correct any clerical errors or double assessments discovered by the board without regard to the one percent limitation.

(d) A local board does not have authority to grant an exemption or to order property removed

from the tax rolls.

(e) A majority of the members may act at the meeting, and adjourn from day to day until they finish hearing the cases presented. The assessor shall attend, with the assessment books and papers, and take part in the proceedings, but must not vote. The county assessor, or an assistant delegated by the county assessor shall attend the meetings. The board shall list separately, on a form appended to the assessment book, all omitted property added to the list by the board and all items of property increased or decreased, with the market value of each item of property, added or changed by the board, placed opposite the item. The county assessor shall enter all changes made by the board in the assessment book.

(f) Except as provided in subdivision 3, if a person fails to appear in person, by counsel, or by written communication before the board after being duly notified of the board's intent to raise the assessment of the property, or if a person feeling aggrieved by an assessment or classification fails to apply for a review of the assessment or classification, the person may not appear before the county board of appeal and equalization for a review of the assessment or classification. This paragraph does not apply if an assessment was made after the local board meeting, as provided in section 273.01, or if the person can establish not having received notice of market value at least five days before the local board meeting.

(g) The local board must complete its work and adjourn within 20 days from the time of convening stated in the notice of the clerk, unless a longer period is approved by the commissioner of revenue. No action taken after that date is valid. All complaints about an assessment or classification made after the meeting of the board must be heard and determined by the county board of equalization. A nonresident may, at any time, before the meeting of the board file written objections to an assessment or classification with the county assessor. The objections must be presented to the board at its meeting by the county assessor for its consideration.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 38. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 274.13, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Members; meetings; rules for equalizing assessments.** The county commissioners, or a majority of them, with the county auditor, or, if the auditor cannot be present, the deputy county auditor, or, if there is no deputy, the court administrator of the district court, shall form a board for the equalization of the assessment of the property of the county, including the property of all cities whose charters provide for a board of equalization. This board shall be referred to as the county board of appeal and equalization. The board shall meet annually, on the date specified in section 274.14, at the office of the auditor. Each member shall take an oath to fairly and impartially perform duties as a member. Members shall not participate in any actions of the board which result in market value adjustments or classification changes to property owned by the board member, the spouse, parent, stepparent, child, stepchild, grandparent, grandchild, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, nephew, or niece of a board member, or property in which a board member has a financial interest. The relationship may be by blood or marriage. The board shall examine and compare the returns of the assessment of property of the towns or districts, and equalize them so that each tract or lot of real property and each article or class of personal property is entered on the assessment list at its market value, subject to the following rules:

(1) The board shall raise the valuation of each tract or lot of real property which in its opinion is returned below its market value to the sum believed to be its market value. The board must first give

notice of intention to raise the valuation to the person in whose name it is assessed, if the person is a resident of the county. The notice must fix a time and place for a hearing.

(2) The board shall reduce the valuation of each tract or lot which in its opinion is returned above its market value to the sum believed to be its market value.

(3) The board shall raise the valuation of each class of personal property which in its opinion is returned below its market value to the sum believed to be its market value. It shall raise the aggregate value of the personal property of individuals, firms, or corporations, when it believes that the aggregate valuation, as returned, is less than the market value of the taxable personal property possessed by the individuals, firms, or corporations, to the sum it believes to be the market value. The board must first give notice to the persons of intention to do so. The notice must set a time and place for a hearing.

(4) The board shall reduce the valuation of each class of personal property that is returned above its market value to the sum it believes to be its market value. Upon complaint of a party aggrieved, the board shall reduce the aggregate valuation of the individual's personal property, or of any class of personal property for which the individual is assessed, which in its opinion has been assessed at too large a sum, to the sum it believes was the market value of the individual's personal property of that class.

(5) The board must not reduce the aggregate value of all the property of its county, as submitted to the county board of equalization, with the additions made by the auditor under this chapter, by more than one percent of its whole valuation. The board may raise the aggregate valuation of real property, and of each class of personal property, of the county, or of any town or district of the county, when it believes it is below the market value of the property, or class of property, to the aggregate amount it believes to be its market value.

(6) The board shall change the classification of any property which in its opinion is not properly classified.

(7) The board does not have the authority to grant an exemption or to order property removed from the tax rolls.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

**Sec. 39. [274.135] COUNTY BOARDS; APPEALS AND EQUALIZATION COURSE AND MEETING REQUIREMENTS.**

Subdivision 1. Handbook for county boards. By no later than January 1, 2009, the commissioner of revenue must develop a handbook detailing procedures, responsibilities, and requirements for county boards of appeal and equalization. The handbook must include, but need not be limited to, the role of the county board in the assessment process, the legal and policy reasons for fair and impartial appeal and equalization hearings, county board meeting procedures that foster fair and impartial assessment reviews and other best practices recommendations, quorum requirements for county boards, and explanations of alternate methods of appeal.

Subd. 2. Appeals and equalization course. Beginning in 2009, and each year thereafter, there must be at least one member at each meeting of a county board of appeal and equalization who has attended an appeals and equalization course developed or approved by the commissioner within the last four years, as certified by the commissioner. The course may be offered in conjunction with a



meeting of the Minnesota Association of Assessment Officers. The course content must include, but need not be limited to, a review of the handbook developed by the commissioner under subdivision 1.

Subd. 3. **Proof of compliance; transfer of duties.** (a) Any county that conducts county boards of appeal and equalization meetings must provide proof to the commissioner by December 1, 2009, and each year thereafter, that it is in compliance with the requirements of subdivision 2. Beginning in 2009, this notice must also verify that there was a quorum of voting members at each meeting of the board of appeal and equalization in the current year. A county that does not comply with these requirements is deemed to have transferred its board of appeal and equalization powers to the special board of equalization appointed pursuant to section 274.13, subdivision 2, beginning with the following year's assessment and continuing unless the powers are reinstated under paragraph (c). A county that does not comply with the requirements of subdivision 2 and has not appointed a special board of equalization shall appoint a special board of equalization before the following year's assessment.

(b) The county shall notify the taxpayers when the board of appeal and equalization for a county has been transferred to the special board of equalization under this subdivision and, prior to the meeting time of the special board of equalization, the county shall make available to those taxpayers a procedure for a review of the assessments, including, but not limited to, open book meetings. This alternate review process must take place in April and May.

(c) A county board whose powers are transferred to the special board of equalization under this subdivision may be reinstated by resolution of the county board and upon proof of compliance with the requirements of subdivision 2. The resolution and proofs must be provided to the commissioner by December 1 in order to be effective for the following year's assessment.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 40. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 275.065, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Notice of proposed property taxes.** (a) The county auditor shall prepare and the county treasurer shall deliver after November 10 and on or before November 24 each year, by first class mail to each taxpayer at the address listed on the county's current year's assessment roll, a notice of proposed property taxes. Upon written request by the taxpayer, the treasurer may send the notice in electronic form or by electronic mail instead of on paper or by ordinary mail.

(b) The commissioner of revenue shall prescribe the form of the notice.

(c) The notice must inform taxpayers that it contains the amount of property taxes each taxing authority proposes to collect for taxes payable the following year. In the case of a town, or in the case of the state general tax, the final tax amount will be its proposed tax. In the case of taxing authorities required to hold a public meeting under subdivision 6, the notice must clearly state that each taxing authority, including regional library districts established under section 134.201, and including the metropolitan taxing districts as defined in paragraph (i), but excluding all other special taxing districts and towns, will hold a public meeting to receive public testimony on the proposed budget and proposed or final property tax levy, or, in case of a school district, on the current budget and proposed property tax levy. It must clearly state the time and place of each taxing authority's meeting, a telephone number for the taxing authority that taxpayers may call if they have questions related to the notice, and an address where comments will be received by mail.

(d) The notice must state for each parcel:

(1) the market value of the property as determined under section 273.11, and used for computing property taxes payable in the following year and for taxes payable in the current year as each appears in the records of the county assessor on November 1 of the current year; and, in the case of residential property, whether the property is classified as homestead or nonhomestead. The notice must clearly inform taxpayers of the years to which the market values apply and that the values are final values;

(2) the items listed below, shown separately by county, city or town, and state general tax, net of the residential and agricultural homestead credit under section 273.1384, voter approved school levy, other local school levy, and the sum of the special taxing districts, and as a total of all taxing authorities:

(i) the actual tax for taxes payable in the current year; and

(ii) the proposed tax amount.

If the county levy under clause (2) includes an amount for a lake improvement district as defined under sections 103B.501 to 103B.581, the amount attributable for that purpose must be separately stated from the remaining county levy amount.

In the case of a town or the state general tax, the final tax shall also be its proposed tax unless the town changes its levy at a special town meeting under section 365.52. If a school district has certified under section 126C.17, subdivision 9, that a referendum will be held in the school district at the November general election, the county auditor must note next to the school district's proposed amount that a referendum is pending and that, if approved by the voters, the tax amount may be higher than shown on the notice. In the case of the city of Minneapolis, the levy for the Minneapolis Library Board and the levy for Minneapolis Park and Recreation shall be listed separately from the remaining amount of the city's levy. In the case of the city of St. Paul, the levy for the St. Paul Library Agency must be listed separately from the remaining amount of the city's levy. In the case of Ramsey County, any amount levied under section 134.07 may be listed separately from the remaining amount of the county's levy. In the case of a parcel where tax increment or the fiscal disparities areawide tax under chapter 276A or 473F applies, the proposed tax levy on the captured value or the proposed tax levy on the tax capacity subject to the areawide tax must each be stated separately and not included in the sum of the special taxing districts; and

(3) the increase or decrease between the total taxes payable in the current year and the total proposed taxes, expressed as a percentage.

For purposes of this section, the amount of the tax on homesteads qualifying under the senior citizens' property tax deferral program under chapter 290B is the total amount of property tax before subtraction of the deferred property tax amount.

(e) The notice must clearly state that the proposed or final taxes do not include the following:

(1) special assessments;

(2) levies approved by the voters after the date the proposed taxes are certified, including bond referenda and school district levy referenda;

(3) a levy limit increase approved by the voters by the first Tuesday after the first Monday in

November of the levy year as provided under section 275.73;

(4) amounts necessary to pay cleanup or other costs due to a natural disaster occurring after the date the proposed taxes are certified;

(5) amounts necessary to pay tort judgments against the taxing authority that become final after the date the proposed taxes are certified; and

(6) the contamination tax imposed on properties which received market value reductions for contamination.

(f) Except as provided in subdivision 7, failure of the county auditor to prepare or the county treasurer to deliver the notice as required in this section does not invalidate the proposed or final tax levy or the taxes payable pursuant to the tax levy.

(g) If the notice the taxpayer receives under this section lists the property as nonhomestead, and satisfactory documentation is provided to the county assessor by the applicable deadline, and the property qualifies for the homestead classification in that assessment year, the assessor shall reclassify the property to homestead for taxes payable in the following year.

(h) In the case of class 4 residential property used as a residence for lease or rental periods of 30 days or more, the taxpayer must either:

(1) mail or deliver a copy of the notice of proposed property taxes to each tenant, renter, or lessee; or

(2) post a copy of the notice in a conspicuous place on the premises of the property.

The notice must be mailed or posted by the taxpayer by November 27 or within three days of receipt of the notice, whichever is later. A taxpayer may notify the county treasurer of the address of the taxpayer, agent, caretaker, or manager of the premises to which the notice must be mailed in order to fulfill the requirements of this paragraph.

(i) For purposes of this subdivision, subdivisions 5a and 6, "metropolitan special taxing districts" means the following taxing districts in the seven-county metropolitan area that levy a property tax for any of the specified purposes listed below:

(1) Metropolitan Council under section 473.132, 473.167, 473.249, 473.325, 473.446, 473.521, 473.547, or 473.834;

(2) Metropolitan Airports Commission under section 473.667, 473.671, or 473.672; and

(3) Metropolitan Mosquito Control Commission under section 473.711.

For purposes of this section, any levies made by the regional rail authorities in the county of Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott, or Washington under chapter 398A shall be included with the appropriate county's levy and shall be discussed at that county's public hearing.

(j) The governing body of a county, city, or school district may, with the consent of the county board, include supplemental information with the statement of proposed property taxes about the impact of state aid increases or decreases on property tax increases or decreases and on the level of services provided in the affected jurisdiction. This supplemental information may include

information for the following year, the current year, and for as many consecutive preceding years as deemed appropriate by the governing body of the county, city, or school district. It may include only information regarding:

- (1) the impact of inflation as measured by the implicit price deflator for state and local government purchases;
- (2) population growth and decline;
- (3) state or federal government action; and
- (4) other financial factors that affect the level of property taxation and local services that the governing body of the county, city, or school district may deem appropriate to include.

The information may be presented using tables, written narrative, and graphic representations and may contain instruction toward further sources of information or opportunity for comment.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for notices required in 2007 and thereafter, for taxes payable in 2008 and thereafter.

Sec. 41. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 275.065, subdivision 5a, is amended to read:

Subd. 5a. **Public advertisement.** (a) A city that has a population of more than 2,500, county, a metropolitan special taxing district as defined in subdivision 3, paragraph (i), a regional library district established under section 134.201, or school district shall advertise in a newspaper a notice of its intent to adopt a budget and property tax levy or, in the case of a school district, to review its current budget and proposed property taxes payable in the following year, at a public hearing, if a public hearing is required under subdivision 6. The notice must be published not less than two business days nor more than six business days before the hearing.

The advertisement must be at least one-eighth page in size of a standard-size or a tabloid-size newspaper. The advertisement must not be placed in the part of the newspaper where legal notices and classified advertisements appear. The advertisement must be published in an official newspaper of general circulation in the taxing authority. The newspaper selected must be one of general interest and readership in the community, and not one of limited subject matter. The advertisement must appear in a newspaper that is published at least once per week.

For purposes of this section, the metropolitan special taxing district's advertisement must only be published in the Minneapolis Star and Tribune and the Saint Paul Pioneer Press.

In addition to other requirements, a county and a city having a population of more than 2,500 must show in the public advertisement required under this subdivision the current local tax rate, the proposed local tax rate if no property tax levy increase is adopted, and the proposed rate if the proposed levy is adopted. For purposes of this subdivision, "local tax rate" means the city's or county's net tax capacity levy divided by the city's or county's taxable net tax capacity.

(b) Subject to the provisions of paragraph (g), the advertisement for school districts, metropolitan special taxing districts, and regional library districts must be in the following form, except that the notice for a school district may include references to the current budget in regard to proposed property taxes.

"NOTICE OF

PROPOSED PROPERTY TAXES

(School District/Metropolitan  
Special Taxing District/Regional  
Library District) of .....

The governing body of ..... will soon hold budget hearings and vote on the property taxes for (metropolitan special taxing district/regional library district services that will be provided in (year)/school district services that will be provided in (year) and (year)).

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING:

All concerned citizens are invited to attend a public hearing and express their opinions on the proposed (school district/metropolitan special taxing district/regional library district) budget and property taxes, or in the case of a school district, its current budget and proposed property taxes, payable in the following year. The hearing will be held on (Month/Day/Year) at (Time) at (Location, Address)."

(c) Subject to the provisions of paragraph (g), the advertisement for cities and counties must be in the following form.

"NOTICE OF PROPOSED  
TOTAL BUDGET AND PROPERTY TAXES

The (city/county) governing body or board of commissioners will hold a public hearing to discuss the budget and to vote on the amount of property taxes to collect for services the (city/county) will provide in (year).

SPENDING: The total budget amounts below compare (city's/county's) (year) total actual budget with the amount the (city/county) proposes to spend in (year).

(Year) Total Actual Budget	Proposed (Year) Budget	Change from (Year)-(Year)
\$.....	\$.....	.....%

TAXES: The property tax amounts below compare that portion of the current budget levied in property taxes in (city/county) for (year) with the property taxes the (city/county) proposes to collect in (year).

(Year) Property Taxes	Proposed (Year) Property Taxes	Change from (Year)-(Year)
\$.....	\$.....	.....%

LOCAL TAX RATE COMPARISON: The current local tax rate, the local tax rate if no tax levy increase is adopted, and the proposed local tax rate if the proposed levy is adopted.

(Year) Tax Rate	(Year) Tax Rate if NO Levy Increase	(Year) Proposed Tax Rate
.....	.....	.....

ATTEND THE PUBLIC HEARING

All (city/county) residents are invited to attend the public hearing of the (city/county) to express your opinions on the budget and the proposed amount of (year) property taxes. The hearing will be held on:

(Month/Day/Year/Time)  
(Location/Address)

If the discussion of the budget cannot be completed, a time and place for continuing the discussion will be announced at the hearing. You are also invited to send your written comments to:

(City/County)  
(Location/Address)"

(d) For purposes of this subdivision, the budget amounts listed on the advertisement mean:

(1) for cities, the total government fund expenditures, as defined by the state auditor under section 471.6965, less any expenditures for improvements or services that are specially assessed or charged under chapter 429, 430, 435, or the provisions of any other law or charter; and

(2) for counties, the total government fund expenditures, as defined by the state auditor under section 375.169, less any expenditures for direct payments to recipients or providers for the human service aids listed below:

- (i) Minnesota family investment program under chapters 256J and 256K;
- (ii) medical assistance under sections 256B.041, subdivision 5, and 256B.19, subdivision 1;
- (iii) general assistance medical care under section 256D.03, subdivision 6;
- (iv) general assistance under section 256D.03, subdivision 2;
- (v) emergency assistance under section 256J.48;
- (vi) Minnesota supplemental aid under section 256D.36, subdivision 1;
- (vii) preadmission screening under section 256B.0911, and alternative care grants under section 256B.0913;
- (viii) general assistance medical care claims processing, medical transportation and related costs under section 256D.03, subdivision 4;
- (ix) medical transportation and related costs under section 256B.0625, subdivisions 17 to 18a;
- (x) group residential housing under section 256I.05, subdivision 8, transferred from programs in clauses (iv) and (vi); or
- (xi) any successor programs to those listed in clauses (i) to (x).

(e) A city with a population of over 500 but not more than 2,500 that is required to hold a public hearing under subdivision 6 must advertise by posted notice as defined in section 645.12, subdivision 1. The advertisement must be posted at the time provided in paragraph (a). It must be in the form required in paragraph (b).

(f) For purposes of this subdivision, the population of a city is the most recent population as determined by the state demographer under section 4A.02.

(g) ~~The commissioner of revenue, subject to the approval of the chairs of the house and senate tax committees,~~ shall annually prescribe the specific form and format of the advertisements required under this subdivision, including such details as font size and style, and spacing for the required items. The commissioner may prescribe alternate and additional language for the advertisement for a taxing authority or for groups of taxing authorities. At least two weeks before November 29 each year, the commissioner shall provide a copy of the prescribed advertisements to the chairs of the committees of the house of representatives and the senate with jurisdiction over taxes.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for advertisements in 2007 and thereafter, for proposed taxes payable in 2008 and thereafter.

Sec. 42. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 275.067, is amended to read:

**275.067 SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICTS; ORGANIZATION DATE; CERTIFICATION OF LEVY OR SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS.**

Special taxing districts as defined in section 275.066 organized on or before July 1 in a the current calendar year may, and special taxing districts organized in a prior year that have not previously certified a levy to the county auditor, are allowed to certify a levy to the county auditor in that same the current year for property taxes or special assessments to be payable in the following calendar year to the extent that the special taxing district is authorized by statute or special act to levy taxes or special assessments, but only if the county auditor receives written notice from the district on or before July 1 of the current year that the district may be certifying a levy in the current year, and the notice includes a complete list or other description of the tax parcels in the district and a map showing the boundaries of the district. Special taxing districts organized after July 1 in a calendar year may not certify a levy of property taxes or special assessments to the county auditor under the powers granted to them by statute or special act and subject to the requirements of this section until the following calendar year. All special taxing districts must notify the county auditor by July 1 in order for its boundaries for the levy to be certified that year to be different than its boundaries for levies certified in prior years, and the notice must include a complete list or other description of the tax parcels within the new boundaries and a map showing the new boundaries of the district.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for taxes payable in 2008 and thereafter.

Sec. 43. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 276.04, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 5. **Electronic tax statements.** Upon written request by the owner of real property located in the county, or by the owner's agent, a county may send tax statements by electronic means instead of by mailing. For the purposes of the payment deadlines specified in section 279.01, the postmark date on the envelope containing these property tax statements is the date the statements were sent by electronic means.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for tax statements for taxes payable in 2008 and

thereafter.

Sec. 44. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 277.01, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Partial payments.** The county treasurer may accept payments of more or less than the exact amount of a tax installment due. Payments must be applied first to the oldest installment that is due but which has not been fully paid. If the accepted payment is less than the amount due, payments must be the payment is applied first to the penalty accrued for the year the payment is made or the installment being paid. Acceptance of partial payment of tax does not constitute a waiver of the minimum payment required as a condition for filing an appeal under section 278.03 or any other law, nor does it affect the order of payment of delinquent taxes under section 280.39.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for payments made on or after the day following final enactment.

Sec. 45. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 279.01, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Due dates; penalties.** Except as provided in subdivision 3 or 4, on May 16 or 21 days after the postmark date on the envelope containing the property tax statement, whichever is later, a penalty ~~shall accrue~~ accrues and thereafter ~~be is~~ is charged upon all unpaid taxes on real estate on the current lists in the hands of the county treasurer. The penalty ~~shall be~~ is at a rate of two percent on homestead property until May 31 and four percent on June 1. The penalty on nonhomestead property ~~shall be~~ is at a rate of four percent until May 31 and eight percent on June 1. This penalty ~~shall~~ does not accrue until June 1 of each year, or 21 days after the postmark date on the envelope containing the property tax statements, whichever is later, on commercial use real property used for seasonal residential recreational purposes and classified as class 1c or 4c, and on other commercial use real property classified as class 3a, provided that over 60 percent of the gross income earned by the enterprise on the class 3a property is earned during the months of May, June, July, and August. ~~Any property owner of such class 3a property who pays~~ In order for the first half of the tax due on the class 3a property to be paid after May 15 and before June 1, or 21 days after the postmark date on the envelope containing the property tax statement, whichever is later, shall without penalty, the owner of the property must attach an affidavit to the payment attesting to compliance with the income provision of this subdivision. Thereafter, for both homestead and nonhomestead property, on the first day of each month beginning July 1, up to and including October 1 following, an additional penalty of one percent for each month shall accrue accrues and ~~be is~~ is charged on all such unpaid taxes provided that if the due date was extended beyond May 15 as the result of any delay in mailing property tax statements no additional penalty shall accrue if the tax is paid by the extended due date. If the tax is not paid by the extended due date, then all penalties that would have accrued if the due date had been May 15 shall be charged. When the taxes against any tract or lot exceed \$50, one-half thereof may be paid prior to May 16 or 21 days after the postmark date on the envelope containing the property tax statement, whichever is later; and, if so paid, no penalty ~~shall attach~~ attaches; the remaining one-half ~~shall~~ may be paid at any time prior to October 16 following, without penalty; but, if not so paid, then a penalty of two percent ~~shall accrue~~ accrues thereon for homestead property and a penalty of four percent on nonhomestead property. Thereafter, for homestead property, on the first day of November an additional penalty of four percent ~~shall accrue~~ accrues and on the first day of December following, an additional penalty of two percent ~~shall accrue~~ accrues and ~~be is~~ is charged on all such unpaid taxes. Thereafter, for nonhomestead property, on the first day of November and December following, an additional penalty of four percent for each month ~~shall accrue~~ accrues and ~~be is~~ is charged on all such unpaid taxes. If one-half of such taxes ~~shall are~~ are not be paid prior to May 16



or 21 days after the postmark date on the envelope containing the property tax statement, whichever is later, the same may be paid at any time prior to October 16, with accrued penalties to the date of payment added, and thereupon no penalty ~~shall attach~~ attaches to the remaining one-half until October 16 following.

This section applies to payment of personal property taxes assessed against improvements to leased property, except as provided by section 277.01, subdivision 3.

A county may provide by resolution that in the case of a property owner that has multiple tracts or parcels with aggregate taxes exceeding \$50, payments may be made in installments as provided in this subdivision.

The county treasurer may accept payments of more or less than the exact amount of a tax installment due. Payments must be applied first to the oldest installment that is due but which has not been fully paid. If the accepted payment is less than the amount due, payments must be applied first to the penalty accrued for the year the payment is made or the installment being paid. Acceptance of partial payment of tax does not constitute a waiver of the minimum payment required as a condition for filing an appeal under section 278.03 or any other law, nor does it affect the order of payment of delinquent taxes under section 280.39.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for payments made on or after the day following final enactment.

Sec. 46. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 290B.03, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Qualifying homestead; defined.** Qualifying homestead property is defined as the dwelling occupied as the homeowner's principal residence and so much of the land surrounding it as is reasonably necessary for use of the dwelling as a home and any other property used for purposes of a homestead as defined in section 273.13, subdivisions 22 and 23, but not to exceed one acre. The homestead may be part of a multidwelling building and the land on which it is built. Property is not qualifying homestead property if a person or entity other than the applicant or the applicant's spouse holds an interest in the property as the vendor under a contract for deed or as a remainderperson.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for applications submitted on or after January 1, 2007.

Sec. 47. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 290C.02, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Claimant.** (a) "Claimant" means:

(1) a person, as that term is defined in section 290.01, subdivision 2, who owns forest land in Minnesota and files an application authorized by the Sustainable Forest Incentive Act. ~~Claimant includes;~~

(2) a purchaser or grantee if property enrolled in the program was sold or transferred after the original application was filed and prior to the annual incentive payment being made; or

(3) an owner of land previously covered by an auxiliary forest contract that automatically qualifies for inclusion in the Sustainable Forest Incentive Act program pursuant to section 88.49, subdivision 9a, or 88.491, subdivision 2.

The purchaser or grantee must notify the commissioner in writing of the sale or transfer of the property. Owners of land that qualifies for inclusion pursuant to section 88.49, subdivision 9a, or 88.491, subdivision 2, must notify the commissioner in writing of the expiration of the auxiliary forest contract or land trade with a governmental unit and submit an application to the commissioner by August 15 in order to be eligible to receive a payment by October 1 of that same year. For purposes of section 290C.11, claimant also includes any person bound by the covenant required in section 290C.04.

(b) No more than one claimant is entitled to a payment under this chapter with respect to any tract, parcel, or piece of land enrolled under this chapter that has been assigned the same parcel identification number. When enrolled forest land is owned by two or more persons, the owners must determine between them which person is eligible to claim the payments provided under sections 290C.01 to 290C.11. In the case of property sold or transferred, the former owner and the purchaser or grantee must determine between them which person is eligible to claim the payments provided under sections 290C.01 to 290C.11. The owners, transferees, or grantees must notify the commissioner in writing which person is eligible to claim the payments.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 48. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 290C.04, is amended to read:

**290C.04 APPLICATIONS.**

(a) A landowner may apply to enroll forest land for the sustainable forest incentive program under this chapter. The claimant must complete, sign, and submit an application to the commissioner by September 30 in order for the land to become eligible beginning in the next year. The application shall be on a form prescribed by the commissioner and must include the information the commissioner deems necessary. At a minimum, the application must show the following information for the land and the claimant: (i) the claimant's Social Security number or state or federal business tax registration number and date of birth, (ii) the claimant's address, (iii) the claimant's signature, (iv) the county's parcel identification numbers for the tax parcels that completely contain the claimant's forest land that is sought to be enrolled, (v) the number of acres eligible for enrollment in the program, (vi) the approved plan writer's signature and identification number, and (vii) proof, in a form specified by the commissioner, that the claimant has executed and acknowledged in the manner required by law for a deed, and recorded, a covenant that the land is not and shall not be developed in a manner inconsistent with the requirements and conditions of this chapter. The covenant shall state in writing that the covenant is binding on the claimant and the claimant's successor or assignee, and that it runs with the land for a period of not less than eight years. The commissioner shall specify the form of the covenant and provide copies upon request. The covenant must include a legal description that encompasses all the forest land that the claimant wishes to enroll under this section or the certificate of title number for that land if it is registered land.

(b) In all cases, the commissioner shall notify the claimant within 90 days after receipt of a completed application that either the land has or has not been approved for enrollment. A claimant whose application is denied may appeal the denial as provided in section ~~290C.11, paragraph (a)~~ 290C.13.

(c) Within 90 days after the denial of an application, or within 90 days after the final resolution of any appeal related to the denial, the commissioner shall execute and acknowledge a document

releasing the land from the covenant required under this chapter. The document must be mailed to the claimant and is entitled to be recorded.

(d) The Social Security numbers collected from individuals under this section are private data as provided in section 13.355. The federal business tax registration number and date of birth data collected under this section are also private data on individuals or nonpublic data, as defined in section 13.02, subdivisions 9 and 12, but may be shared with county assessors for purposes of tax administration and with county treasurers for purposes of the revenue recapture under chapter 270A.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 49. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 290C.05, is amended to read:

**290C.05 ANNUAL CERTIFICATION.**

On or before July 1 of each year, beginning with the year after the original claimant has received an approved application, the commissioner shall send each claimant enrolled under the sustainable forest incentive program a certification form. For purposes of this section, the original claimant is the person that filed the first application under section 290C.04 to enroll the land in the program. The claimant must sign the certification, attesting that the requirements and conditions for continued enrollment in the program are currently being met, and must return the signed certification form to the commissioner by August 15 of that same year. If the claimant does not return an annual certification form by the due date, the provisions in section 290C.11 apply.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 50. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 290C.11, is amended to read:

**290C.11 PENALTIES FOR REMOVAL.**

(a) If the commissioner determines that land enrolled in the sustainable forest incentive program is in violation of the conditions for enrollment as specified in section 290C.03, the commissioner shall notify the claimant of the intent to remove all enrolled land from the sustainable forest incentive program. The claimant has 60 days to appeal this determination under the provisions of section 290C.13. ~~The appeal must be made in writing to the commissioner, who shall, within 60 days, notify the claimant as to the outcome of the appeal. Within 60 days after the commissioner denies an appeal, or within 120 days after the commissioner received a written appeal if the commissioner has not made a determination in that time, the owner may appeal to Tax Court under chapter 271 as if the appeal is from an order of the commissioner.~~

(b) If the commissioner determines the land is to be removed from the sustainable forest incentive program, the claimant is liable for payment to the commissioner in the amount equal to the payments received under this chapter for the previous four-year period, plus interest. The claimant has 90 days to satisfy the payment for removal of land from the sustainable forest incentive program under this section. If the penalty is not paid within the 90-day period under this paragraph, the commissioner shall certify the amount to the county auditor for collection as a part of the general ad valorem real property taxes on the land in the following taxes payable year.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 51. **[290C.13] APPEALS.**

Subdivision 1. **Claimant right to reconsideration.** A claimant may obtain reconsideration by the commissioner of a determination removing enrolled land from the sustainable forest incentive program, a determination denying an application to enroll land in the program, or a denial of part or all of an incentive payment by filing an administrative appeal under subdivision 4. A claimant cannot obtain reconsideration under this section if the action taken by the commissioner is the outcome of an administrative appeal.

Subd. 2. **Appeal by claimant.** A claimant who wishes to seek administrative review must follow the procedures in subdivision 4.

Subd. 3. **Notice date.** For purposes of this section, the term "notice date" means the date of the determination removing enrolled land or the date of the notice denying an application to enroll land or denying part or all of an incentive payment.

Subd. 4. **Time and content for administrative appeal.** Within 60 days after the notice date, the claimant must file a written appeal with the commissioner. The appeal need not be in any particular form but must contain the following information:

- (1) name and address of the claimant;
- (2) if a corporation, the state of incorporation of the claimant, and the principal place of business of the corporation;
- (3) the Minnesota or federal business identification number or Social Security number of the claimant;
- (4) the date;
- (5) the periods involved and the amount of payment involved for each year or period;
- (6) the findings in the notice that the claimant disputes;
- (7) a summary statement that the claimant relies on for each exception; and
- (8) the claimant's signature or signature of the claimant's duly authorized agent.

Subd. 5. **Extensions.** When requested in writing and within the time allowed for filing an administrative appeal, the commissioner may extend the time for filing an appeal for a period not more than 30 days from the expiration of the 60 days from the notice date.

Subd. 6. **Determination of appeal.** On the basis of applicable law and available information, the commissioner shall determine the validity, if any, in whole or in part, of the appeal and notify the claimant of the decision. This notice must be in writing and contain the basis for the determination.

Subd. 7. **Agreement determining issues under appeal.** When it appears to be in the best interests of the state, the commissioner may settle the amount of any incentive payments, payments owed by the claimant under section 290C.11, paragraph (b), penalties, or interest that the commissioner has under consideration by virtue of an appeal filed under this section. An agreement must be in writing and signed by the commissioner and the claimant, or the claimant's representative authorized by the claimant to enter into an agreement. The agreement is final and conclusive and, except upon a showing of fraud or malfeasance, or misrepresentation of a material fact, the case must not be reopened as to the matters agreed upon.

Subd. 8. **Appeal to Tax Court.** Within 60 days after the commissioner denies an appeal, or within 120 days after the commissioner received a written appeal if the commissioner has not made a determination in that time, the claimant may appeal to Tax Court under chapter 271 as if the appeal is from an order of the commissioner.

Subd. 9. **Exemption from Administrative Procedure Act.** This section is not subject to chapter 14.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 52. **REPEALER.**

(a) Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 270.073, is repealed.

(b) Minnesota Statutes 2006, sections 270.41, subdivision 4; 270.43; 270.51; 270.52; and 270.53, are repealed.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** Paragraph (a) of this section is effective beginning January 2, 2007, for taxes payable in 2008 and thereafter. Paragraph (b) of this section is effective the day following final enactment.

## ARTICLE 13

### DEPARTMENT SPECIAL TAXES

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 62I.06, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

Subd. 6. ~~Deficits~~ **Deficit assessments.** The association shall certify to the commissioner the estimated amount of any deficit remaining after the stabilization reserve fund has been exhausted and payment of the maximum final premium for all policyholders of the association. Within 60 days after the certification, the commissioner shall authorize the association to recover the members' respective shares of the deficit by assessing all members an amount sufficient to fully fund the obligations of the association. The assessment of each member shall be determined in the manner provided in section 62I.07. An assessment made pursuant to this section shall be deductible by the member from ~~past or future~~ premium taxes due the state as provided in section 297I.20, subdivision 2.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for tax returns due on or after January 1, 2008.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 71A.04, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Premium tax.** ~~The attorney-in-fact, in lieu of all taxes, state, county, and municipal,~~ shall file with the commissioner of revenue all returns and pay to the commissioner of revenue all amounts required under chapter 297I.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 287.22, is amended to read:

#### **287.22 EXEMPTIONS.**

The tax imposed by section 287.21 does not apply to:

(1) An executory contract for the sale of real property under which the purchaser is entitled to

or does take possession of the real property, or any assignment or cancellation of the contract;

(2) A mortgage or an amendment, assignment, extension, partial release, or satisfaction of a mortgage;

(3) A will;

(4) A plat;

(5) A lease, amendment of lease, assignment of lease, or memorandum of lease;

(6) A deed, instrument, or writing in which the United States or any agency or instrumentality thereof is the grantor, assignor, transferor, conveyer, grantee, or assignee;

(7) A deed for a cemetery lot or lots;

(8) A deed of distribution by a personal representative;

(9) A deed to or from a co-owner partitioning their undivided interest in the same piece of real property;

(10) A deed or other instrument of conveyance issued pursuant to a permanent school fund land exchange under section 92.121 and related laws;

(11) A referee's or sheriff's certificate of sale in a mortgage or lien foreclosure sale;

(12) A referee's, sheriff's, or certificate holder's certificate of redemption from a mortgage or lien foreclosure sale issued ~~to the redeeming mortgagor or lienee~~ pursuant to section 580.23 or other statute applicable to redemption by an owner of real property;

(13) A deed, instrument, or writing which grants, creates, modifies, or terminates an easement; and

(14) A decree of marriage dissolution, as defined in section 287.01, subdivision 4, or a deed or other instrument between the parties to the dissolution made pursuant to the terms of the decree.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 287.2205, is amended to read:

**287.2205 TAX-FORFEITED LAND.**

Before a state deed for tax-forfeited land may be issued, the deed tax must be paid by the purchaser of tax-forfeited land whether the purchase is the result of a public auction or private sale or a repurchase of tax-forfeited land. State agencies and local units of government that acquire tax-forfeited land by purchase or any other means are subject to this section. The deed tax is \$1.65 for a conveyance of tax-forfeited lands to a governmental subdivision for an authorized public use under section 282.01, subdivision 1a, or for redevelopment purposes under section 282.01, subdivision 1b.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 295.52, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Use tax; prescription drugs.** (a) A person that receives prescription drugs for resale or

use in Minnesota, other than from a wholesale drug distributor that is subject to tax under subdivision 3, is subject to a tax equal to the price paid to the wholesale drug distributor multiplied by the tax percentage specified in this section. Liability for the tax is incurred when prescription drugs are received or delivered in Minnesota by the person.

~~(b) A person that receives prescription drugs for use in Minnesota from a nonresident pharmacy required to be registered under section 151.19 is subject to a tax equal to the price paid by the nonresident pharmacy to the wholesale drug distributor or the price received by the nonresident pharmacy, whichever is lower, multiplied by the tax percentage specified in this section. Liability for the tax is incurred when prescription drugs are received in Minnesota by the person.~~

~~(e)~~ (b) A tax imposed under this subdivision does not apply to purchases by an individual for personal consumption.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 295.52, subdivision 4a, is amended to read:

Subd. 4a. **Tax collection.** A wholesale drug distributor with nexus in Minnesota, who is not subject to tax under subdivision 3, on all or a particular transaction ~~or a nonresident pharmacy with nexus in Minnesota,~~ is required to collect the tax imposed under subdivision 4, from the purchaser of the drugs and give the purchaser a receipt for the tax paid. The tax collected shall be remitted to the commissioner in the manner prescribed by section 295.55, subdivision 3.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 295.54, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Pharmacy refund.** A pharmacy may claim an annual refund against the total amount of tax, if any, the pharmacy owes during that calendar year under section 295.52, subdivision 2. The refund shall equal the amount paid by the pharmacy to a wholesale drug distributor subject to tax under section 295.52, subdivision 3, for legend drugs delivered by the pharmacy outside of Minnesota, multiplied by the tax percentage specified in section 295.52. If the amount of the refund exceeds the tax liability of the pharmacy under section 295.52, subdivision ~~H~~ 2, the commissioner shall provide the pharmacy with a refund equal to the excess amount. Each qualifying pharmacy must apply for the refund on the annual return as provided under section 295.55, subdivision 5. The refund must be claimed within one year of the due date of the return. Interest on refunds paid under this subdivision will begin to accrue 60 days after the date a claim for refund is filed. For purposes of this subdivision, the date a claim is filed is the due date of the return or the date of the actual claim for refund, whichever is later.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 297F.06, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Tobacco products use tax.** The tobacco products use tax does not apply to the possession, use, or storage of tobacco products ~~that~~ if (1) the tobacco products have an aggregate cost in any calendar month to the consumer of \$100 \$50 or less, and (2) the tobacco products were carried into this state by that consumer.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for the possession, use, or storage of tobacco

products on or after July 1, 2007.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 297F.25, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

**Subd. 3a. Consumer use tax; use tax return; cigarette consumer.** (a) On or before the 18th day of each calendar month, a consumer who, during the preceding calendar month, has acquired title to or possession of cigarettes for use or storage in this state, upon which the sales tax imposed by this section has not been paid, shall file a return with the commissioner showing the quantity of cigarettes so acquired or possessed. The return must be made in the form and manner prescribed by the commissioner, and must contain any other information required by the commissioner. The return must be accompanied by a remittance for the full unpaid sales tax liability shown by it.

(b) The tax imposed under paragraph (a) does not apply if (1) the consumer has acquired title to or possession of cigarettes for use or storage in this state in quantities of 200 or fewer in the month, and (2) the cigarettes were carried into this state by that consumer.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for cigarettes which a consumer has acquired title to or possession of on or after July 1, 2007.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 297I.06, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

**Subdivision 1. Insurance policies surcharge.** (a) Except as otherwise provided in subdivision 2, each licensed insurer engaged in writing policies of homeowner's insurance authorized in section 60A.06, subdivision 1, clause (1)(c), or commercial fire policies or commercial nonliability policies shall collect a surcharge equal to 0.65 percent of the gross premiums and assessments, less return premiums, on direct business received by the company, or by its agents for it, for homeowner's insurance policies, commercial fire policies, and commercial nonliability insurance policies in this state.

(b) The surcharge amount collected under paragraph (a) or subdivision 2, paragraph (b), may not be considered premium for any other purpose. The surcharge amount under paragraph (a) must be separately stated on either a billing or policy declaration or document containing similar information sent to an insured.

(c) Amounts collected by the commissioner under this section must be deposited in the fire safety account established pursuant to subdivision 3.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007, and applies to policies written or renewed on or after July 1, 2007.

Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 297I.06, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

**Subd. 2. Exemptions.** (a) This section does not apply to a farmers' mutual fire insurance company or township mutual fire insurance company in Minnesota organized under chapter 67A.

(b) An insurer described in section 297I.05, subdivisions 3 and 4, authorized to transact business in Minnesota shall elect to remit to the Department of Revenue for deposit in the fire safety account either (1) the surcharge amount collected imposed under this section subdivision 1 on all premiums subject to that surcharge, or (2) a surcharge of one-half of one percent on the gross fire premiums and assessments, less return premiums, on all direct business received by the insurer or agents of the insurer in Minnesota, in cash or otherwise, during the year.



(c) The election must be made prior to July 1, 2007, for policies written or renewed between July 1, 2007, and December 31, 2007, and by December 31 of each year for insurance for policies written or renewed in the succeeding calendar year. An insurer who elects to remit the one-half of one percent surcharge on gross fire premiums and assessments must not charge the insured the surcharge imposed under subdivision 1.

~~(e)~~ (d) For purposes of this subdivision, "gross fire premiums and assessments" includes premiums on policies covering fire risks only on automobiles, whether written or under floater form or otherwise.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** The requirement for certain insurers to make an election before July 1, 2007, is effective the day following final enactment. The rest of this section is effective July 1, 2007, and applies to insurance policies written or renewed on or after that date.

Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 297I.20, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Joint Underwriting Association offset.** An insurance company may offset against its premium tax liability to this state any amount paid for an assessment made pursuant to section 62I.06, subdivision 6, shall be deductible by the member from past or future premium taxes due the state. The offset against premium tax liability must be claimed beginning with the taxable year that the assessment is paid. To the extent that the allowable offset exceeds the tax liability, the remaining offset must be carried forward to succeeding taxable years until the entire offset has been credited against the insurance company's liability for premium tax under this chapter.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for tax returns due on or after January 1, 2008.

Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 297I.40, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **Definition of tax.** The term "tax" as used in this section means the tax imposed by section 297I.05, subdivisions 1 to 6, 11, and 12, paragraphs (a), clauses (1) to (5), (b), and ~~(e)~~ (d), without regard to the retaliatory provisions of section 297I.05, subdivision 11, and the less any offset in section 297I.20.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for tax returns due on or after January 1, 2008.

## ARTICLE 14

### DEPARTMENT MISCELLANEOUS

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16D.04, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Duties.** The commissioner shall provide services to the state and its referring agencies to collect debts owed the state referred for collection under this chapter. The commissioner is not a collection agency as defined by section 332.31, subdivision 3, and is not licensed, bonded, or regulated by the commissioner of commerce under sections 332.31 to 332.35 or 332.38 to 332.45. The commissioner is subject to section 332.37, except clause (9), (10), (12), or (19). Debts referred to the commissioner for collection under section 256.9792 may in turn be referred by the commissioner to the enterprise. An audited financial statement may not be required as a condition of debt placement with a private agency if the private agency: (1) has errors and omissions coverage under a professional liability policy in an amount of at least \$1,000,000; or (2) has a fidelity bond to cover actions of its employees, in an amount of at least \$100,000. In cases of debts referred under

section 256.9792, the provisions of this chapter and section 256.9792 apply to the extent they are not in conflict. If they are in conflict, the provisions of section 256.9792 control. For purposes of this chapter, the referring agency for such debts remains the Department of Human Services.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16D.04, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Agency participation.** (a) A referring agency ~~may, at its option,~~ must refer, by electronic means, debts to the commissioner for collection. ~~The ultimate~~ Responsibility for the debt, including the reporting of the debt to the commissioner of finance and the decision with regard to the continuing collection and uncollectibility of the debt, remains with the referring agency.

(b) Before a debt becomes 121 days past due, a referring agency may refer the debt to the commissioner for collection at any time after a debt becomes delinquent and uncontested and the debtor has no further administrative appeal of the amount of the debt. When a debt owed to a state referring agency becomes 121 days past due, the state referring agency must refer the debt to the commissioner for collection. This requirement does not apply if there is a dispute over the amount or validity of the debt, if the debt is the subject of legal action or administrative proceedings, or the agency determines that the debtor is adhering to acceptable payment arrangements. The commissioner, ~~in consultation with the commissioner of finance,~~ may provide that certain types of debt need not be referred to the commissioner for collection under this paragraph. Methods and procedures for referral must follow internal guidelines prepared by the commissioner ~~of finance.~~

(c) If the referring agency is a court, the court must furnish a debtor's Social Security number to the commissioner when the court refers the debt.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for debts referred on or after January 1, 2008.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16D.11, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Computation.** At the time a debt is referred, the amount of collection costs is equal to ~~15~~ 17 percent of the debt, ~~or 25 percent of the debt remaining unpaid if the commissioner or private collection agency has to take enforced collection action by serving a summons and complaint on or entering judgment against the debtor, or by utilizing any of the remedies authorized under section 16D.08, subdivision 2, except for the remedies in sections 270C.32 and 270C.65 or when referred by the commissioner for additional collection activity by a private collection agency.~~ If, after referral of a debt to a private collection agency, the debtor requests cancellation of collection costs under subdivision 3, the debt must be returned to the commissioner for resolution of the request.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for debts referred on or after January 1, 2008.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16D.11, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Adjustment of rate.** By June 1 of each year, the commissioner ~~of finance~~ shall determine the rate of collection costs for debts referred to the enterprise during the next fiscal year. The rate is a percentage of the debts in an amount that most nearly equals the costs of the enterprise necessary to process and collect referred debts under this chapter. In no event ~~shall the rate of collection costs when a debt is first referred exceed three-fifths of the maximum collection costs, and in no event~~ shall the rate of the maximum collection costs exceed 25 percent of the debt. Determination of the rate of collection costs under this section is not subject to the fee setting

requirements of section 16A.1285.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2008.

**Sec. 5. [270C.435] REFUNDS NOT SUBJECT TO ATTACHMENT OR GARNISHMENT.**

No amount of a tax refund or other payment payable by the commissioner to a taxpayer is assignable or subject to execution, levy, attachment, garnishment, lien foreclosure, or other legal process, except as specifically provided by law.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 270C.446, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Required and excluded tax preparers.** (a) Subject to the limitations of paragraph (b), the commissioner must publish lists of tax preparers as defined in section 289A.60, subdivision 13, paragraph (f), who have been convicted under section 289A.63 or assessed penalties in excess of \$1,000 under section 289A.60, subdivision 13, paragraph (a).

(b) For the purposes of this section, tax preparers are not subject to publication if:

(1) an administrative or court action contesting the penalty has been filed or served and is unresolved at the time when notice would be given under subdivision 3;

(2) an appeal period to contest the penalty has not expired; or

(3) the commissioner has been notified that the tax preparer is deceased.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for penalties on returns filed after December 31, 2007.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 270C.56, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Liability imposed.** A person who, either singly or jointly with others, has the control of, supervision of, or responsibility for filing returns or reports, paying taxes, or collecting or withholding and remitting taxes and who fails to do so, or a person who is liable under any other law, is liable for the payment of taxes, penalties, and interest arising under chapters 295, 296A, 297A, 297F, and 297G, or sections 290.92 and 297E.02, and, for the taxes listed in this subdivision, the applicable penalties for nonpayment under section 289A.60.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for personal liability assessments made on or after the day following final enactment.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 270C.63, subdivision 9, is amended to read:

Subd. 9. **Period of limitations.** The lien imposed by this section shall, notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, be enforceable from the time the lien arises and for ten years from the date of filing the notice of lien, which must be filed by the commissioner within five years after the date of assessment of the tax or final administrative or judicial determination of the assessment. A notice of lien filed at the Office of the Secretary of State may be transcribed to any county within ten years after the date of its filing, but the transcription does not extend the period during which the lien is enforceable. A notice of lien filed in one county may be transcribed to the secretary of state or to any other county within ten years after the date of its filing, but the transcription shall

not extend the period during which the lien is enforceable. A notice of lien may be renewed by the commissioner before the expiration of the ten-year period for an additional ten years. The taxpayer must receive written notice of the renewal.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for liens transcribed on or after the day following final enactment.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 424A.10, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **State reimbursement.** (a) ~~By February 15 of each year, the treasurer of the relief association shall apply to the commissioner of revenue~~ Each year, to be eligible for state reimbursement of the amount of supplemental benefits paid under subdivision 2 during the preceding calendar year, the relief association must apply to the commissioner of revenue by February 15. By March 15 the commissioner shall reimburse the relief association for the amount of the supplemental benefits paid to qualified recipients.

(b) The commissioner of revenue shall prescribe the form of and supporting information that must be supplied as part of the application for state reimbursement. The commissioner of revenue shall reimburse the relief association by paying the reimbursement amount to the treasurer of the municipality where the association is located. Within 30 days after receipt, the municipal treasurer shall transmit the state reimbursement to the treasurer of the association if the association has filed a financial report with the municipality. If the relief association has not filed a financial report with the municipality, the municipal treasurer shall delay transmission of the reimbursement payment to the association until the complete financial report is filed. If the association has dissolved or has been removed as a trustee of state aid, the treasurer shall deposit the money in a special account in the municipal treasury, and the money may be disbursed only for the purposes and in the manner provided in section 424A.08. When paid to the association,

~~(e)~~ the reimbursement payment must be deposited in the special fund of the relief association.

~~(d)~~ (c) A sum sufficient to make the payments is appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner of revenue.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2007, and thereafter.

## ARTICLE 15

### MISCELLANEOUS

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 3.987, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Local impact notes.** The commissioner of finance shall coordinate the development of a local impact note for any proposed legislation introduced after June 30, 1997, ~~or any rule proposed after December 31, 1999,~~ upon request of the chair or the ranking minority member of either legislative Tax Committee. Upon receipt of a request to prepare a local impact note, the commissioner must notify the authors of the proposed legislation ~~or, for an administrative rule, the head of the relevant executive agency or department,~~ that the request has been made. The local impact note must be made available to the public upon request. If the action is among the exceptions listed in section 3.988, a local impact note need not be requested nor prepared. The commissioner shall make a reasonable and timely estimate of the local fiscal impact on each type of political subdivision that would result from the proposed legislation. The commissioner of finance

may require any political subdivision or the commissioner of an administrative agency of the state to supply in a timely manner any information determined to be necessary to determine local fiscal impact. The political subdivision, its representative association, or commissioner shall convey the requested information to the commissioner of finance with a signed statement to the effect that the information is accurate and complete to the best of its ability. The political subdivision, its representative association, or commissioner, when requested, shall update its determination of local fiscal impact based on actual cost or revenue figures, improved estimates, or both. Upon completion of the note, the commissioner must provide a copy to the authors of the proposed legislation ~~or, for an administrative rule, to the head of the relevant executive agency or department.~~

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 3.988, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Miscellaneous exceptions.** A local impact note or an attachment as provided in section 3.987, subdivision 2, need not be prepared for the cost of a mandated action if the law, ~~including a rulemaking,~~ containing the mandate:

- (1) accommodates a specific local request;
- (2) results in no new local government duties;
- (3) leads to revenue losses from exemptions to taxes;
- (4) provided only clarifying or conforming, nonsubstantive charges on local government;
- (5) imposes additional net local costs that are minor (an amount less than or equal to one-half of one percent of the local revenue base as defined in section 477A.011, subdivision 27, or \$50,000, whichever is less for any single local government if the mandate does not apply statewide or less than \$1,000,000 if the mandate is statewide);
- (6) is a law or executive order enacted before July 1, 1997, or a rule initially implementing a law enacted before July 1, 1997;
- (7) implements something other than a law or executive order, such as a federal, court, or voter-approved mandate;
- (8) results in savings that equal or exceed costs;
- (9) requires the holding of elections;
- (10) ensures due process or equal protection;
- (11) provides for the notification and conduct of public meetings;
- (12) establishes the procedures for administrative and judicial review of actions taken by political subdivisions;
- (13) protects the public from malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasance by officials of political subdivisions;
- (14) relates directly to financial administration, including the levy, assessment, and collection of taxes;
- (15) relates directly to the preparation and submission of financial audits necessary to the

administration of state laws; or

(16) requires uniform standards to apply to public and private institutions without differentiation.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 3.989, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Report Compilation of local impact notes.** The commissioner of finance shall prepare by ~~September 1, 2000, and by~~ September 1 of each even-numbered year thereafter, ~~a report compilation of the costs of local mandates established after June 30, 1997~~ key impact notes requested by the legislature during the previous biennial session as provided in section 3.987. The commissioner may consult with local government representatives and legislative fiscal staff to determine which local impact notes were key.

~~The commissioner shall include the statewide total of the statement of costs of local mandates after June 30, 1997, as a notation in the state biennial budget.~~

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 3.989, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Certain political subdivisions; report.** The political subdivisions that have opted to administer class B state mandates shall report to the commissioner of finance by September 1, 1998, and by September 1 of each year thereafter, identifying each instance when revenue for a class B state mandate has fallen below 85 percent of the total cost of the program and the political subdivision intends to cease administration of the program.

The commissioner shall forward a copy of the report to the chairs of the appropriate funding committees of the senate and the house ~~for proposed inclusion of the shortfall as a line item appropriation in the state budget for the next fiscal year.~~

The political subdivision may exercise its option to cease administration only if the legislature has failed to include the shortfall as an appropriation in the state budget for the next fiscal year.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16A.103, subdivision 1a, is amended to read:

Subd. 1a. **Forecast parameters.** The forecast must assume the continuation of current laws and reasonable estimates of projected growth in the national and state economies and affected populations. Revenue must be estimated for all sources provided for in current law. Expenditures must be estimated for all obligations imposed by law and those projected to occur as a result of inflation and variables outside the control of the legislature. Expenditure estimates must not include an allowance for inflation. A general inflation estimate must not include inflation on debt service or on programs for which an inflation estimate is already included in the forecast.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16A.103, subdivision 1b, is amended to read:

Subd. 1b. **Forecast variable.** In determining the rate of inflation, the application of inflation, the amount of state bonding as it affects debt service, the calculation of investment income, and the other variables to be included in the expenditure part of the forecast, the commissioner must consult with the chairs and lead minority members of the senate ~~State Government Finance Committee~~ and the house Ways and Means Committee, and legislative fiscal staff. This consultation must occur at least three weeks before the forecast is to be released. No later than two weeks prior to the release of the forecast, the commissioner must inform the chairs and lead minority members of the senate

~~State Government~~ Finance Committee and the house Ways and Means Committee, and legislative fiscal staff of any changes in these variables from the previous forecast.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16A.103, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Local revenue.** In February and November of each year, the commissioner of revenue shall prepare and deliver to the governor and the legislature forecasts of revenue to be received by school districts as a group, counties as a group, and the group of cities and towns that have a population of more than 2,500. The forecasts must assume the continuation of current laws, projections of valuation changes in real property, and reasonable estimates of projected growth in the national and state economies and affected populations. Revenue must be estimated for property taxes, state and federal aids, local sales taxes, if any, and a single projection for all other revenue for each group of affected local governmental units. ~~As part of the February forecast, the commissioner of revenue shall report to the governor and legislature on which groups of local government units exceeded the revenue targets of the governor and legislature in the most recent biennium.~~

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16A.152, subdivision 1b, is amended to read:

Subd. 1b. **Budget reserve increase.** On July 1, ~~2003~~ 2007, the commissioner of finance shall transfer ~~\$300,000,000~~ \$150,000,000 to the budget reserve account in the general fund. ~~On July 1, 2004, the commissioner of finance shall transfer \$296,000,000 to the budget reserve account in the general fund.~~ The amounts amount necessary for this purpose ~~are~~ is appropriated from the general fund.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16A.152, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Additional revenues; priority.** (a) If on the basis of a forecast of general fund revenues and expenditures, the commissioner of finance determines that there will be a positive unrestricted budgetary general fund balance at the close of the biennium, the commissioner of finance must allocate money to the following accounts and purposes in priority order:

- (1) the cash flow account established in subdivision 1 until that account reaches \$350,000,000;
- (2) the budget reserve account established in subdivision 1a until that account reaches ~~\$653,000,000~~ \$803,000,000;
- (3) the amount necessary to increase the aid payment schedule for school district aids and credits payments in section 127A.45 to not more than 90 percent rounded to the nearest tenth of a percent without exceeding the amount available and with any remaining funds deposited in the budget reserve; and
- (4) the amount necessary to restore all or a portion of the net aid reductions under section 127A.441 and to reduce the property tax revenue recognition shift under section 123B.75, subdivision 5, paragraph (c), and Laws 2003, First Special Session chapter 9, article 5, section 34, as amended by Laws 2003, First Special Session chapter 23, section 20, by the same amount.

(b) The amounts necessary to meet the requirements of this section are appropriated from the general fund within two weeks after the forecast is released or, in the case of transfers under paragraph (a), clauses (3) and (4), as necessary to meet the appropriations schedules otherwise

established in statute.

~~(c) To the extent that a positive unrestricted budgetary general fund balance is projected, appropriations under this section must be made before section 16A.1522 takes effect.~~

~~(d)~~ The commissioner of finance shall certify the total dollar amount of the reductions under paragraph (a), clauses (3) and (4), to the commissioner of education. The commissioner of education shall increase the aid payment percentage and reduce the property tax shift percentage by these amounts and apply those reductions to the current fiscal year and thereafter.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 80A.28, subdivision 1, as amended by Laws 2007, chapter 57, article 3, section 34, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Registration or notice filing fee.** (a) There shall be a filing fee of \$100 for every application for registration or notice filing. There shall be an additional fee of one-tenth of one percent of the maximum aggregate offering price at which the securities are to be offered in this state, and the maximum combined fees shall not exceed \$300.

(b) When an application for registration is withdrawn before the effective date or a preeffective stop order is entered under section 80A.13, subdivision 1, all but the \$100 filing fee shall be returned. If an application to register securities is denied, the total of all fees received shall be retained.

(c) Where a filing is made in connection with a federal covered security under section 18(b)(2) of the Securities Act of 1933, there is a fee of \$100 for every initial filing. If the filing is made in connection with redeemable securities issued by an open end management company or unit investment trust, as defined in the Investment Company Act of 1940, there is an additional annual fee of 1/20 of one percent of the maximum aggregate offering price at which the securities are to be offered in this state during the notice filing period. The fee must be paid at the time of the initial filing and thereafter in connection with each renewal no later than July 1 of each year and must be sufficient to cover the shares the issuer expects to sell in this state over the next 12 months. If during a current notice filing the issuer determines it is likely to sell shares in excess of the shares for which fees have been paid to the commissioner, the issuer shall submit an amended notice filing to the commissioner under section 80A.122, subdivision 1, clause (3), together with a fee of 1/20 of one percent of the maximum aggregate offering price of the additional shares. Shares for which a fee has been paid, but which have not been sold at the time of expiration of the notice filing, may not be sold unless an additional fee to cover the shares has been paid to the commissioner as provided in this section and section 80A.122, subdivision 4a. If the filing is made in connection with redeemable securities issued by such a company or trust, there is no maximum fee for securities filings made according to this paragraph. If the filing is made in connection with any other federal covered security under Section 18(b)(2) of the Securities Act of 1933, there is an additional fee of one-tenth of one percent of the maximum aggregate offering price at which the securities are to be offered in this state, and the combined fees shall not exceed \$300. ~~Beginning with fiscal year 2001 and continuing each fiscal year thereafter, as of the last day of each fiscal year, the commissioner shall determine the total amount of all fees that were collected under this paragraph in connection with any filings made for that fiscal year for securities of an open end investment company on behalf of a security that is a federal covered security pursuant to section 18(b)(2) of the Securities Act of 1933. To the extent the total fees collected by the commissioner in connection with these filings exceed \$25,600,000 in a fiscal year, the commissioner shall refund, on a pro rata basis, to all persons who paid any fees for that fiscal year, the amount of fees collected~~



~~by the commissioner in excess of \$25,600,000. No individual refund is required of amounts of \$100 or less for a fiscal year.~~

Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 270A.03, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Claimant agency.** "Claimant agency" means any state agency, as defined by section 14.02, subdivision 2, the regents of the University of Minnesota, any district court of the state, any county, any statutory or home rule charter city, including a city that is presenting a claim for a municipal hospital or a public library or a municipal ambulance service, a hospital district, a private nonprofit hospital that leases its building from the county or city in which it is located, any public agency responsible for child support enforcement, any public agency responsible for the collection of court-ordered restitution, and any public agency established by general or special law that is responsible for the administration of a low-income housing program, and the Minnesota collection enterprise as defined in section 16D.02, subdivision 8, for the purpose of collecting the costs imposed under section 16D.11. A county may act as a claimant agency on behalf of an ambulance service licensed under chapter 144E if the ambulance service's primary service area is located at least in part within the county, but more than one county may not act as a claimant agency for a licensed ambulance service with respect to the same debt.

Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 270A.10, is amended to read:

#### **270A.10 PRIORITY OF CLAIMS.**

If two or more debts, in a total amount exceeding the debtor's refund, are submitted for setoff, the priority of payment shall be as follows: ~~First, any~~

~~(1) delinquent tax obligations of the debtor which are owed to the department shall be satisfied. Secondly, the refund shall be applied to;~~

~~(2) debts for child support based on the order in time in which the commissioner received the debts. Thirdly, the refund shall be applied to;~~

~~(3) payment of restitution obligations. Fourthly, the refund shall be applied to;~~

~~(4) claims brought for a hospital or an ambulance service;~~

~~(5) the remaining debts based on the order in time in which the commissioner received the debts.~~

Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 270C.03, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Powers and duties.** The commissioner shall have and exercise the following powers and duties:

(1) administer and enforce the assessment and collection of taxes;

(2) make determinations, corrections, and assessments with respect to taxes, including interest, additions to taxes, and assessable penalties;

(3) use statistical or other sampling techniques consistent with generally accepted auditing standards in examining returns or records and making assessments;

(4) investigate the tax laws of other states and countries, and formulate and submit to the legislature such legislation as the commissioner may deem expedient to prevent evasions of state

revenue laws and to secure just and equal taxation and improvement in the system of state revenue laws;

(5) consult and confer with the governor upon the subject of taxation, the administration of the laws in regard thereto, and the progress of the work of the department, and furnish the governor, from time to time, such assistance and information as the governor may require relating to tax matters;

(6) execute and administer any agreement with the secretary of the treasury or the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives in the Department of Justice of the United States or a representative of another state regarding the exchange of information and administration of the state revenue laws;

(7) require town, city, county, and other public officers to report information as to the collection of taxes received from licenses and other sources, and such other information as may be needful in the work of the commissioner, in such form as the commissioner may prescribe;

(8) authorize the use of unmarked motor vehicles to conduct seizures or criminal investigations pursuant to the commissioner's authority; ~~and~~

(9) maintain toll-free telephone access for taxpayer assistance for calls from locations within the state; and

(10) exercise other powers and authority and perform other duties required of or imposed upon the commissioner by law.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2008.

**Sec. 14. [270C.21] TAXPAYER ASSISTANCE GRANTS.**

When the commissioner awards grants to nonprofit organizations to coordinate, facilitate, encourage, and aid in the provision of taxpayer assistance services, the commissioner must provide public notice of the grants in a timely manner so that the grant process is completed and grants are awarded by October 1, in order for recipient organizations to adequately plan expenditures for the filing season. At the time the commissioner provides public notice, the commissioner must also notify nonprofit organizations that received grants in the previous biennium.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

**Sec. 15. MINNESOTA FOOTBALL STADIUM TASK FORCE.**

Subdivision 1. **Creation; purpose.** A Minnesota Football Stadium Task Force is created. The task force must evaluate the plan to redevelop the Metrodome site that includes a new multiuse stadium. The task force must analyze issues related to infrastructure, light rail transit, stadium development, and financing of the project. The task force must develop and present stadium financing options, and make a specific recommendation on a preferred finance plan.

Subd. 2. **Membership.** The subcommittee must consist of 15 members as follows:

(1) five members of the senate, including at least one member of the minority party, to be appointed by the Subcommittee on Committees of the senate Rules Committee;

(2) five members of the house of representatives, including at least one member of the minority

party, to be appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives; and

(3) five members appointed by the governor, including the chair of the Metropolitan Sports Facilities Commission, who will be the chair of the task force.

Appointments must be made by June 15, 2007.

Subd. 3. **Staff assistance.** The Metropolitan Sports Facilities Commission will provide staff assistance and other resources to support the work of the task force.

Subd. 4. **Initial meeting.** The chair of the task force must convene the first meeting of the task force no later than June 15, 2007.

Subd. 5. **Report.** The task force shall provide a report to the governor and to the chairs of the committees on taxes of the senate and the house of representatives on its findings and recommendations by February 15, 2008.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 16. **DATA UPDATE.**

The commissioner of revenue must continue to maintain, update, and make available the information required under Laws 1987, chapter 268, article 7, section 1, subdivision 6, paragraph (b). The commissioner must provide the most complete and current data available, when requested, to the chairs of the senate and house of representatives committees on taxes.

Sec. 17. **FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT.**

Notwithstanding the provisions of Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.1522, subdivision 4, the commissioner of finance shall designate any positive general fund budgetary balance on June 30, 2007, as an unrestricted balance. Money so designated shall remain available for general fund appropriations authorized in fiscal years 2008 and 2009.

Sec. 18. **APPROPRIATIONS.**

(a) \$223,000 is appropriated for fiscal year 2008 from the general fund to the commissioner of revenue to administer this act.

(b) Of this amount:

(i) \$150,000 in fiscal year 2008 is for the fiscal disparities study required under article 2; and

(ii) \$73,000 in fiscal year 2008 is for administering 1099 reporting requirements under article 4.

(c) All of these appropriations are onetime and are not added to the agency's base budget.

Sec. 19. **TAXPAYER ASSISTANCE SERVICES; APPROPRIATION.**

(a) \$75,000 in fiscal year 2008 and \$75,000 in fiscal year 2009 are appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner of revenue to make grants to one or more nonprofit organizations, qualifying under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, to coordinate, facilitate, encourage, and aid in the provision of taxpayer assistance services.

(b) "Taxpayer assistance services" means accounting and tax preparation services provided by

volunteers to low-income and disadvantaged Minnesota residents to help them file federal and state income tax returns and Minnesota property tax refund claims and may include provision of personal representation before the Department of Revenue and Internal Revenue Service.

**Sec. 20. APPROPRIATION; ST. PAUL RIVER CENTRE DEBT SERVICE COSTS.**

\$2,000,000 is appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner of employment and economic development in fiscal year 2010 for a grant to the city of St. Paul to be used to pay, redeem, or refund debt service costs incurred for the River Centre Campus.

**Sec. 21. REPEALER.**

Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16A.1522, is repealed."

Amend the title accordingly

And when so amended the bill be reported to the Senate without recommendation. Amendments adopted. Report adopted.

**Senator Pogemiller from the Committee on Rules and Administration, to which was referred**

**H.F. No. 2245:** A bill for an act relating to education; increasing the basic revenue formula allowance; modifying general education aid; amending Minnesota Statutes 2006, sections 126C.10, subdivision 2; 126C.13, subdivision 4.

Reports the same back with the recommendation that the bill be amended as follows:

Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

**"ARTICLE 1**

**GENERAL EDUCATION**

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 16A.152, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Additional revenues; priority.** (a) If on the basis of a forecast of general fund revenues and expenditures, the commissioner of finance determines that there will be a positive unrestricted budgetary general fund balance at the close of the biennium, the commissioner of finance must allocate money to the following accounts and purposes in priority order:

- (1) the cash flow account established in subdivision 1 until that account reaches \$350,000,000;
- (2) the budget reserve account established in subdivision 1a until that account reaches \$653,000,000;
- (3) the amount necessary to increase the aid payment schedule for school district aids and credits payments in section 127A.45 to not more than 90 percent rounded to the nearest tenth of a percent without exceeding the amount available and with any remaining funds deposited in the budget reserve; and
- (4) the amount necessary to restore all or a portion of the net aid reductions under section 127A.441 and to reduce the property tax revenue recognition shift under section 123B.75,

subdivision 5, paragraph ~~(e)~~ (b), and Laws 2003, First Special Session chapter 9, article 5, section 34, as amended by Laws 2003, First Special Session chapter 23, section 20, by the same amount.

(b) The amounts necessary to meet the requirements of this section are appropriated from the general fund within two weeks after the forecast is released or, in the case of transfers under paragraph (a), clauses (3) and (4), as necessary to meet the appropriations schedules otherwise established in statute.

(c) To the extent that a positive unrestricted budgetary general fund balance is projected, appropriations under this section must be made before section 16A.1522 takes effect.

(d) The commissioner of finance shall certify the total dollar amount of the reductions under paragraph (a), clauses (3) and (4), to the commissioner of education. The commissioner of education shall increase the aid payment percentage and reduce the property tax shift percentage by these amounts and apply those reductions to the current fiscal year and thereafter.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 124D.128, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Program established.** A learning year program provides instruction throughout the year on an extended year calendar, extended school day calendar, or both. A pupil may participate in the program and accelerate attainment of grade level requirements or graduation requirements. A learning year program may begin after the close of the regular school year in June. The program may be for students in one or more grade levels from kindergarten through grade 12.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 124D.128, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Commissioner designation.** (a) An area learning center designated by the state must be a site. An area learning center must provide services to students who meet the criteria in section 124D.68 and who are enrolled in:

(1) a district that is served by the center; or

(2) a charter school located within the geographic boundaries of a district that is served by the center.

(b) A school district or charter school may be approved biennially by the state to provide additional instructional programming that results in grade level acceleration. The program must be designed so that students make grade progress during the school year and graduate prior to the students' peers.

(c) To be designated, a district, charter school, or center must demonstrate to the commissioner that it will:

(1) provide a program of instruction that permits pupils to receive instruction throughout the entire year; and

(2) develop and maintain a separate record system that, for purposes of section 126C.05, permits identification of membership attributable to pupils participating in the program. The record system and identification must ensure that the program will not have the effect of increasing the total number of pupil units average daily membership attributable to an individual pupil as a result of a learning year program. The record system must include the date the pupil originally enrolled in a learning year program, the pupil's grade level, the date of each grade promotion, the average daily membership

generated in each grade level, the number of credits or standards earned, and the number needed to graduate.

~~(b)~~(d) A student who has not completed a school district's graduation requirements may continue to enroll in courses the student must complete in order to graduate until the student satisfies the district's graduation requirements or the student is 21 years old, whichever comes first.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 124D.128, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Student planning.** A district, charter school, or area learning center must inform all pupils and their parents about the learning year program and that participation in the program is optional. A continual learning plan must be developed at least annually for each pupil with the participation of the pupil, parent or guardian, teachers, and other staff; each participant must sign and date the plan. The plan must specify the learning experiences that must occur during the entire fiscal year and, are necessary for grade progression or, for secondary students, for graduation. ~~for~~ The plan must include:

(1) the pupil's learning objectives and experiences, including courses or credits the pupil plans to complete each year and, for a secondary pupil, the graduation requirements the student must complete;

(2) the assessment measurements used to evaluate a pupil's objectives;

(3) requirements for grade level or other appropriate progression; and

(4) for pupils generating more than one average daily membership in a given grade, an indication of which objectives were unmet.

The plan may be modified to conform to district schedule changes. The district may not modify the plan if the modification would result in delaying the student's time of graduation.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 126C.05, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Pupil unit.** Pupil units for each Minnesota resident pupil under the age of 21 or who meets the requirements of section 120A.20, subdivision 1, paragraph (c), in average daily membership enrolled in the district of residence, in another district under sections 123A.05 to 123A.08, 124D.03, 124D.06, 124D.07, 124D.08, or 124D.68; in a charter school under section 124D.10; or for whom the resident district pays tuition under section 123A.18, 123A.22, 123A.30, 123A.32, 123A.44, 123A.488, 123B.88, subdivision 4, 124D.04, 124D.05, 125A.03 to 125A.24, 125A.51, or 125A.65, shall be counted according to this subdivision.

(a) A prekindergarten pupil with a disability who is enrolled in a program approved by the commissioner and has an individual education plan is counted as the ratio of the number of hours of assessment and education service to 825 times 1.25 with a minimum average daily membership of 0.28, but not more than 1.25 pupil units.

(b) A prekindergarten pupil who is assessed but determined not to be disabled is counted as the ratio of the number of hours of assessment service to 825 times 1.25.

(c) A kindergarten pupil with a disability who is enrolled in a program approved by the commissioner is counted as the ratio of the number of hours of assessment and education services required in the fiscal year by the pupil's individual education program plan to 875, but not more

than one.

(d) A kindergarten pupil who is not included in paragraph (c) is counted as ~~.557 of a pupil unit for fiscal year 2000 and thereafter~~ 0.627 pupil units.

(e) A pupil who is in any of grades 1 to 3 is counted as 1.115 pupil units for fiscal year 2000 and thereafter.

(f) A pupil who is any of grades 4 to 6 is counted as 1.06 pupil units for fiscal year 1995 and thereafter.

(g) A pupil who is in any of grades 7 to 12 is counted as 1.3 pupil units.

(h) A pupil who is in the postsecondary enrollment options program is counted as 1.3 pupil units.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for revenue for fiscal year 2009.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 126C.10, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **General education revenue.** (a) For fiscal year 2006 and later years 2007 and 2008, the general education revenue for each district equals the sum of the district's basic revenue, extended time revenue, gifted and talented revenue, basic skills revenue, training and experience revenue, secondary sparsity revenue, elementary sparsity revenue, transportation sparsity revenue, total operating capital revenue, equity revenue, alternative teacher compensation revenue under section 122A.415, and transition revenue.

(b) For fiscal year 2009 and later, the general education revenue for each district equals the sum of the district's basic revenue, extended time revenue, gifted and talented revenue, basic skills revenue, training and experience revenue, secondary sparsity revenue, elementary sparsity revenue, transportation sparsity revenue, total operating capital revenue, equity revenue, and transition revenue.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 126C.10, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Basic revenue.** The basic revenue for each district equals the formula allowance times the adjusted marginal cost pupil units for the school year. ~~The formula allowance for fiscal year 2005 is \$4,601. The formula allowance for fiscal year 2006 is \$4,783. The formula allowance for fiscal year 2007 is \$4,974 and the formula allowance for fiscal year 2008 and subsequent years is \$4,974~~ \$5,075.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 126C.10, subdivision 2b, is amended to read:

Subd. 2b. **Gifted and talented revenue.** Gifted and talented revenue for each district equals ~~\$4 times the district's adjusted marginal cost pupil units for fiscal year 2006 and \$9 for fiscal year 2007 and later~~ that school year times \$13 for fiscal year 2008 and later. A school district must reserve gifted and talented revenue and, consistent with section 120B.15, must spend the revenue only to:

- (1) identify gifted and talented students;
- (2) provide education programs for gifted and talented students; or
- (3) provide staff development to prepare teachers to best meet the unique needs of gifted and talented students.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for revenue for fiscal year 2008.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 126C.10, subdivision 13a, is amended to read:

Subd. 13a. **Operating capital levy.** To obtain operating capital revenue for fiscal year 2007 and later, a district may levy an amount not more than the product of its operating capital revenue for the fiscal year times the lesser of one or the ratio of its adjusted net tax capacity per adjusted marginal cost pupil unit to the operating capital equalizing factor. The operating capital equalizing factor equals ~~\$22,222 for fiscal year 2006, and~~ \$10,700 for fiscal year 2007 and later.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 126C.10, subdivision 24, is amended to read:

Subd. 24. **Equity revenue.** (a) A school district qualifies for equity revenue if:

(1) the school district's adjusted marginal cost pupil unit amount of basic revenue, supplemental revenue, transition revenue, and referendum revenue is less than the value of the school district at or immediately above the 95th percentile of school districts in its equity region for those revenue categories; and

(2) the school district's administrative offices are not located in a city of the first class on July 1, 1999.

(b) Equity revenue for a qualifying district that receives referendum revenue under section 126C.17, subdivision 4, equals the product of (1) the district's adjusted marginal cost pupil units for that year; times (2) the sum of (i) \$13, plus (ii) \$75, times the school district's equity index computed under subdivision 27.

(c) Equity revenue for a qualifying district that does not receive referendum revenue under section 126C.17, subdivision 4, equals the product of the district's adjusted marginal cost pupil units for that year times \$13.

(d) A school district's equity revenue is increased by the greater of zero or an amount equal to the district's resident marginal cost pupil units times the difference between ten percent of the statewide average amount of referendum revenue per resident marginal cost pupil unit for that year and the district's referendum revenue per resident marginal cost pupil unit. A school district's revenue under this paragraph must not exceed \$100,000 for that year.

(e) A school district's equity revenue for a school district located in the metro equity region equals the amount computed in paragraphs (b), (c), and (d) multiplied by 1.25.

(f) For fiscal year 2007 and later, notwithstanding paragraph (a), clause (2), a school district that has per pupil referendum revenue below the 95th percentile qualifies for additional equity revenue equal to \$46 times its adjusted marginal cost pupil ~~unit~~ units.

(g) A district that does not qualify for revenue under paragraph (f) qualifies for equity revenue equal to ~~one-half of the per pupil allowance in paragraph (f)~~ \$46 times its adjusted marginal cost pupil units.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for revenue for fiscal year 2008.

Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 126C.10, subdivision 34, is amended to read:



Subd. 34. **Basic alternative teacher compensation aid.** (a) ~~For fiscal year 2006, the basic alternative teacher compensation aid for a school district or an intermediate school district with a plan approved under section 122A.414, subdivision 2b, equals the alternative teacher compensation revenue under section 122A.415, subdivision 1. The basic alternative teacher compensation aid for a charter school with an approved plan under section 122A.414, subdivision 2b, equals \$260 times the number of pupils enrolled in the school on October 1 of the previous school year, or on October 1 of the current fiscal year for a charter school in the first year of operation.~~

~~(b)~~ For fiscal year years 2007 and later 2008, the basic alternative teacher compensation aid for a school district with a plan approved under section 122A.414, subdivision 2b, equals 73.1 percent of the alternative teacher compensation revenue under section 122A.415, subdivision 1. The basic alternative teacher compensation aid for an intermediate school district or charter school with a plan approved under section 122A.414, subdivisions 2a and 2b, if the recipient is a charter school, equals \$260 times the number of pupils enrolled in the school on October 1 of the previous fiscal year, or on October 1 of the current fiscal year for a charter school in the first year of operation, times the ratio of the sum of the alternative teacher compensation aid and alternative teacher compensation levy for all participating school districts to the maximum alternative teacher compensation revenue for those districts under section 122A.415, subdivision 1.

~~(e)~~ ~~(b)~~ Notwithstanding paragraphs (a) and (b) and section 122A.415, subdivision 1, the state total basic alternative teacher compensation aid entitlement must not exceed \$19,329,000 ~~for fiscal year 2006~~ and \$75,636,000 for fiscal year 2007 ~~and later~~ and \$44,159,000 for fiscal year 2008. The commissioner must limit the amount of alternative teacher compensation aid approved under section 122A.415 so as not to exceed these limits.

Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 126C.10, subdivision 35, is amended to read:

Subd. 35. **Alternative teacher compensation levy.** For fiscal year years 2007 and later 2008, the alternative teacher compensation levy for a district receiving basic alternative teacher compensation aid equals the product of (1) the difference between the district's alternative teacher compensation revenue and the district's basic alternative teacher compensation aid times (2) the lesser of one or the ratio of the district's adjusted net tax capacity per adjusted pupil unit to \$5,913.

Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 126C.10, subdivision 36, is amended to read:

Subd. 36. **Alternative teacher compensation aid.** (a) For fiscal year years 2007 and later 2008, a district's alternative teacher compensation equalization aid equals the district's alternative teacher compensation revenue minus the district's basic alternative teacher compensation aid minus the district's alternative teacher compensation levy. If a district does not levy the entire amount permitted, the alternative teacher compensation equalization aid must be reduced in proportion to the actual amount levied.

(b) A district's alternative teacher compensation aid equals the sum of the district's basic alternative teacher compensation aid and the district's alternative teacher compensation equalization aid.

Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 126C.13, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **General education aid.** (a) ~~For fiscal year 2006, a district's general education aid is the sum of the following amounts:~~

~~(1) general education revenue, excluding equity revenue, total operating capital, and transition revenue;~~

~~(2) operating capital aid according to section 126C.10, subdivision 13b;~~

~~(3) equity aid according to section 126C.10, subdivision 30;~~

~~(4) transition aid according to section 126C.10, subdivision 33;~~

~~(5) shared time aid according to section 126C.01, subdivision 7;~~

~~(6) referendum aid according to section 126C.17; and~~

~~(7) online learning aid according to section 124D.096.~~

~~(b) For fiscal year years 2007 and later 2008, a district's general education aid is the sum of the following amounts:~~

(1) general education revenue, excluding equity revenue, total operating capital revenue, alternative teacher compensation revenue, and transition revenue;

(2) operating capital aid under section 126C.10, subdivision 13b;

(3) equity aid under section 126C.10, subdivision 30;

(4) alternative teacher compensation aid under section 126C.10, subdivision 36;

(5) transition aid under section 126C.10, subdivision 33;

(6) shared time aid under section 126C.01, subdivision 7;

(7) referendum aid under section 126C.17, subdivisions 7 and 7a; and

(8) online learning aid according to section 124D.096.

(b) For fiscal year 2009 and later, a district's general education aid is the sum of the following amounts:

(1) general education revenue, excluding equity revenue, total operating capital revenue, alternative teacher compensation revenue, and transition revenue;

(2) operating capital aid under section 126C.10, subdivision 13b;

(3) equity aid under section 126C.10, subdivision 30;

(4) transition aid under section 126C.10, subdivision 33;

(5) shared time aid under section 126C.01, subdivision 7;

(6) referendum aid under section 126C.17, subdivisions 7 and 7a; and

(7) online learning aid according to section 124D.096.

Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 126C.21, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **County apportionment deduction.** Each year the amount of money apportioned to a

district for that year pursuant to ~~section~~ sections 127A.34, subdivision 2, and 272.029, subdivision 6, must be deducted from the general education aid earned by that district for the same year or from aid earned from other state sources.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for revenue for fiscal year 2009.

Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 126C.21, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **Adjustment for failure to meet federal maintenance of effort.** (a) The general education aid paid to a school district or charter school that failed to meet federal special education maintenance of effort for the previous fiscal year must be reduced by the amount that must be paid to the federal government due to the shortfall.

(b) The general education aid paid to school districts that were members of a cooperative that failed to meet federal special education maintenance of effort must be reduced by the amount that must be paid to the federal government due to the shortfall. The commissioner must apportion the aid reduction amount to the member school districts based on each district's individual shortfall in maintaining effort, and on each member district's proportionate share of any shortfall in expenditures made by the cooperative. Each district's proportionate share of shortfall in expenditures made by the cooperative must be calculated using the adjusted marginal pupil units of each member school district.

(c) The amounts recovered under this subdivision shall be paid to the federal government to meet the state's obligations resulting from the district's ~~or~~, charter school's, or cooperative's failure to meet federal special education maintenance of effort.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 126C.44, is amended to read:

**126C.44 SAFE SCHOOLS LEVY.**

(a) Each district may make a levy on all taxable property located within the district for the purposes specified in this section. The maximum amount which may be levied for all costs under this section shall be equal to ~~\$27~~ \$30 multiplied by the district's adjusted marginal cost pupil units for the school year. The proceeds of the levy must be reserved and used for directly funding the following purposes or for reimbursing the cities and counties who contract with the district for the following purposes: (1) to pay the costs incurred for the salaries, benefits, and transportation costs of peace officers and sheriffs for liaison in services in the district's schools; (2) to pay the costs for a drug abuse prevention program as defined in section 609.101, subdivision 3, paragraph (e), in the elementary schools; (3) to pay the costs for a gang resistance education training curriculum in the district's schools; (4) to pay the costs for security in the district's schools and on school property; ~~or~~ (5) to pay the costs for other crime prevention, drug abuse, student and staff safety, voluntary opt-in suicide prevention tools, and violence prevention measures taken by the school district; or (6) to pay costs for licensed school counselors, licensed school nurses, licensed school social workers, licensed school psychologists, and licensed alcohol and chemical dependency counselors to help provide early responses to problems. For expenditures under clause (1), the district must initially attempt to contract for services to be provided by peace officers or sheriffs with the police department of each city or the sheriff's department of the county within the district containing the school receiving the services. If a local police department or a county sheriff's department does not wish to provide

the necessary services, the district may contract for these services with any other police or sheriff's department located entirely or partially within the school district's boundaries.

(b) A school district that is a member of an intermediate school district may include in its authority under this section the costs associated with safe schools activities authorized under paragraph (a) for intermediate school district programs. This authority must not exceed \$10 times the adjusted marginal cost pupil units of the member districts. This authority is in addition to any other authority authorized under this section. Revenue raised under this paragraph must be transferred to the intermediate school district.

(c) If a school district spends safe schools levy proceeds under paragraph (a), clause (6), the district must annually certify that its total spending on services provided by the employees listed in paragraph (a), clause (6), is not less than the sum of its expenditures for these purposes in the previous year plus the amount spent under this section.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for taxes payable in 2008.

Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 127A.441, is amended to read:

**127A.441 AID REDUCTION; LEVY REVENUE RECOGNITION CHANGE.**

Each year, the state aids payable to any school district for that fiscal year that are recognized as revenue in the school district's general and community service funds shall be adjusted by an amount equal to (1) the amount the district recognized as revenue for the prior fiscal year pursuant to section 123B.75, subdivision 5, paragraph (b) ~~or (e)~~, minus (2) the amount the district recognized as revenue for the current fiscal year pursuant to section 123B.75, subdivision 5, paragraph ~~(e)~~ (b). For purposes of making the aid adjustments under this section, the amount the district recognizes as revenue for either the prior fiscal year or the current fiscal year pursuant to section 123B.75, subdivision 5, paragraph (b) ~~or (e)~~, shall not include any amount levied pursuant to section 124D.86, subdivision 4, for school districts receiving revenue under sections 124D.86, subdivision 3, clauses (1), (2), and (3); 126C.41, subdivisions 1, 2, and 3, paragraphs (b), (c), and (d); 126C.43, subdivision 2; 126C.457; and 126C.48, subdivision 6. Payment from the permanent school fund shall not be adjusted pursuant to this section. The school district shall be notified of the amount of the adjustment made to each payment pursuant to this section.

Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 127A.47, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Alternative attendance programs.** The general education aid and special education aid for districts must be adjusted for each pupil attending a nonresident district under sections 123A.05 to 123A.08, 124D.03, 124D.06, 124D.08, and 124D.68. The adjustments must be made according to this subdivision.

(a) General education aid paid to a resident district must be reduced by an amount equal to the referendum equalization aid attributable to the pupil in the resident district.

(b) General education aid paid to a district serving a pupil in programs listed in this subdivision must be increased by an amount equal to the greater of (1) the referendum equalization aid attributable to the pupil in the nonresident district; or (2) the product of the district's open enrollment concentration index, the maximum amount of referendum revenue in the first tier, and the district's net open enrollment pupil units for that year. A district's open enrollment concentration index equals the greater of: (i) zero, or (ii) the lesser of 1.0, or the difference between the district's ratio

of open enrollment pupil units served to its resident pupil units for that year and 0.2. This clause does not apply to a school district where more than 50 percent of the open enrollment students are enrolled solely in online learning courses.

(c) If the amount of the reduction to be made from the general education aid of the resident district is greater than the amount of general education aid otherwise due the district, the excess reduction must be made from other state aids due the district.

(d) For fiscal year 2006, the district of residence must pay tuition to a district or an area learning center, operated according to paragraph (f), providing special instruction and services to a pupil with a disability, as defined in section 125A.02, or a pupil, as defined in section 125A.51, who is enrolled in a program listed in this subdivision. The tuition must be equal to (1) the actual cost of providing special instruction and services to the pupil, including a proportionate amount for special transportation and unreimbursed building lease and debt service costs for facilities used primarily for special education, minus (2) if the pupil receives special instruction and services outside the regular classroom for more than 60 percent of the school day, the amount of general education revenue and referendum aid attributable to that pupil for the portion of time the pupil receives special instruction and services outside of the regular classroom, excluding portions attributable to district and school administration, district support services, operations and maintenance, capital expenditures, and pupil transportation, minus (3) special education aid attributable to that pupil, that is received by the district providing special instruction and services. For purposes of this paragraph, general education revenue and referendum aid attributable to a pupil must be calculated using the serving district's average general education revenue and referendum aid per adjusted pupil unit.

(e) For fiscal year 2007 and later, special education aid paid to a resident district must be reduced by an amount equal to (1) the actual cost of providing special instruction and services, including special transportation and unreimbursed building lease and debt service costs for facilities used primarily for special education, for a pupil with a disability, as defined in section 125A.02, or a pupil, as defined in section 125A.51, who is enrolled in a program listed in this subdivision, minus (2) if the pupil receives special instruction and services outside the regular classroom for more than 60 percent of the school day, the amount of general education revenue and referendum aid attributable to that pupil for the portion of time the pupil receives special instruction and services outside of the regular classroom, excluding portions attributable to district and school administration, district support services, operations and maintenance, capital expenditures, and pupil transportation, minus (3) special education aid attributable to that pupil, that is received by the district providing special instruction and services. For purposes of this paragraph, general education revenue and referendum aid attributable to a pupil must be calculated using the serving district's average general education revenue and referendum aid per adjusted pupil unit. Special education aid paid to the district or cooperative providing special instruction and services for the pupil, or to the fiscal agent district for a cooperative, must be increased by the amount of the reduction in the aid paid to the resident district. If the resident district's special education aid is insufficient to make the full adjustment, the remaining adjustment shall be made to other state aids due to the district.

(f) An area learning center operated by a service cooperative, intermediate district, education district, or a joint powers cooperative may elect through the action of the constituent boards to charge the resident district tuition for pupils rather than to have the general education revenue paid to a fiscal agent school district. Except as provided in paragraph (d) or (e), the district of residence must pay tuition equal to at least 90 percent of the district average general education revenue per

pupil unit minus an amount equal to the product of the formula allowance according to section 126C.10, subdivision 2, times .0485, calculated without basic skills revenue and transportation sparsity revenue, times the number of pupil units for pupils attending the area learning center, plus the amount of compensatory revenue generated by pupils attending the area learning center.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for revenue for fiscal year 2008.

Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 127A.49, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Abatements.** Whenever by virtue of chapter 278, sections 270C.86, 375.192, or otherwise, the net tax capacity or referendum market value of any district for any taxable year is changed after the taxes for that year have been spread by the county auditor and the local tax rate as determined by the county auditor based upon the original net tax capacity is applied upon the changed net tax capacities, the county auditor shall, prior to February 1 of each year, certify to the commissioner of education the amount of any resulting net revenue loss that accrued to the district during the preceding year. Each year, the commissioner shall pay an abatement adjustment to the district in an amount calculated according to the provisions of this subdivision. This amount shall be deducted from the amount of the levy authorized by section 126C.46. The amount of the abatement adjustment must be the product of:

(1) the net revenue loss as certified by the county auditor, times

(2) the ratio of:

(i) the sum of the amounts of the district's certified levy in the third preceding year according to the following:

(A) section 123B.57, if the district received health and safety aid according to that section for the second preceding year;

(B) section 124D.20, if the district received aid for community education programs according to that section for the second preceding year;

(C) section 124D.135, subdivision 3, if the district received early childhood family education aid according to section 124D.135 for the second preceding year; ~~and~~

(D) section 126C.17, subdivision 6, if the district received referendum equalization aid according to that section for the second preceding year;

(E) section 126C.13, if the district received general education aid according to section 126C.13, subdivision 4, paragraph (b), clause (1), of that section in the second preceding year;

(F) section 126C.10, subdivision 13a, if the district received operating capital aid according to section 126C.10, subdivision 13b, in the second preceding year;

(G) section 126C.10, subdivision 29, if the district received equity aid according to section 126C.10, subdivision 30, in the second preceding year;

(H) section 126C.10, subdivision 32, if the district received transition aid according to section 126C.10, subdivision 33, in the second preceding year;

(I) section 123B.53, subdivision 5, if the district received debt service equalization aid according

to section 123B.53, subdivision 6, in the second preceding year;

(J) section 124D.22, subdivision 3, if the district received school-age care aid according to section 124D.22, subdivision 4, in the second preceding year;

(K) section 123B.591, subdivision 3, if the district received deferred maintenance aid according to section 123B.591, subdivision 4, in the second preceding year; and

(L) section 126C.10, subdivision 35, if the district received alternative teacher compensation equalization aid according to section 126C.10, subdivision 36, paragraph (a), in the second preceding year, or section 122A.415, subdivision 5, if the district received alternative compensation equalization aid according to section 122A.415, subdivision 6, in the second preceding year; to

(ii) the total amount of the district's certified levy in the third preceding December, plus or minus auditor's adjustments.

Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 127A.49, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Excess tax increment.** (a) If a return of excess tax increment is made to a district pursuant to sections 469.176, subdivision 2, and 469.177, subdivision 9, or upon decertification of a tax increment district, the school district's aid and levy limitations must be adjusted for the fiscal year in which the excess tax increment is paid under the provisions of this subdivision.

(b) An amount must be subtracted from the district's aid for the current fiscal year equal to the product of:

(1) the amount of the payment of excess tax increment to the district, times

(2) the ratio of:

(i) the sum of the amounts of the district's certified levy for the fiscal year in which the excess tax increment is paid according to the following:

(A) section 123B.57, if the district received health and safety aid according to that section for the second preceding year;

(B) section 124D.20, if the district received aid for community education programs according to that section for the second preceding year;

(C) section 124D.135, subdivision 3, if the district received early childhood family education aid according to section 124D.135 for the second preceding year; ~~and~~

(D) section 126C.17, subdivision 6, if the district received referendum equalization aid according to that section for the second preceding year;

(E) section 126C.13, if the district received general education aid according to section 126C.13, subdivision 4, paragraph (b), clause (1), of that section in the second preceding year;

(F) section 126C.10, subdivision 13a, if the district received operating capital aid according to section 126C.10, subdivision 13b, in the second preceding year;

(G) section 126C.10, subdivision 29, if the district received equity aid according to section 126C.10, subdivision 30, in the second preceding year;

(H) section 126C.10, subdivision 32, if the district received transition aid according to section 126C.10, subdivision 33, in the second preceding year;

(I) section 123B.53, subdivision 5, if the district received debt service equalization aid according to section 123B.53, subdivision 6, in the second preceding year;

(J) section 124D.22, subdivision 3, if the district received school-age care aid according to section 124D.22, subdivision 4, in the second preceding year;

(K) section 123B.591, subdivision 3, if the district received deferred maintenance aid according to section 123B.591, subdivision 4, in the second preceding year; and

(L) section 126C.10, subdivision 35, if the district received alternative teacher compensation equalization aid according to section 126C.10, subdivision 36, paragraph (a), in the second preceding year, or section 122A.415, subdivision 5, if the district received alternative compensation equalization aid according to section 122A.415, subdivision 6, in the second preceding year; to

(ii) the total amount of the district's certified levy for the fiscal year, plus or minus auditor's adjustments.

(c) An amount must be subtracted from the school district's levy limitation for the next levy certified equal to the difference between:

- (1) the amount of the distribution of excess increment; and
- (2) the amount subtracted from aid pursuant to clause (a).

If the aid and levy reductions required by this subdivision cannot be made to the aid for the fiscal year specified or to the levy specified, the reductions must be made from aid for subsequent fiscal years, and from subsequent levies. The school district must use the payment of excess tax increment to replace the aid and levy revenue reduced under this subdivision.

(d) This subdivision applies only to the total amount of excess increments received by a district for a calendar year that exceeds \$25,000.

Sec. 22. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 205A.05, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Questions.** Special elections must be held for a school district on a question on which the voters are authorized by law to pass judgment. The school board may on its own motion call a special election to vote on any matter requiring approval of the voters of a district. Upon petition of 50 or more voters of the school district or five percent of the number of voters voting at the preceding ~~regular~~ school district general election, whichever is greater, the school board shall by resolution call a special election to vote on any matter requiring approval of the voters of a district. A question is carried only with the majority in its favor required by law. The election officials for a special election are the same as for the most recent school district general election unless changed according to law. Otherwise, special elections must be conducted and the returns made in the manner provided for the school district general election. A special election may not be held during the 30 days before and the 30 days after the state primary, during the 30 days before and the 40 days after the state general election. In addition, a special election may not be held during the 20 days before and the 20 days after any regularly scheduled election of a municipality wholly or partially within the school district. Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, the time period in which a special



election must be conducted under any other law may be extended by the school board to conform with the requirements of this subdivision.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment and applies to petitions for special election submitted 30 days after that date and later.

Sec. 23. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 272.029, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 6a. **Report to commissioner of education.** The county auditor, on the first Wednesday after such settlement, shall report to the commissioner the amount distributed to each school district under subdivision 6.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2008, for settlements made during fiscal year 2009.

Sec. 24. Laws 2005, First Special Session chapter 5, article 1, section 50, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Application process.** Independent School Districts Nos. 11, Anoka-Hennepin; 279, Osseo; 281, Robbinsdale; 286, Brooklyn Center; 535, Rochester; and 833, South Washington may submit an application to the commissioner of education by August 15, 2005, for a plan to allocate compensatory revenue to school sites based on student performance. The application must include a written resolution approved by the school board that: (1) identifies the test results that will be used to assess student performance; (2) describes the method for distribution of compensatory revenue to the school sites; and (3) summarizes the evaluation procedure the district will use to determine if the redistribution of compensatory revenue improves overall student performance. The application must be submitted in the form and manner specified by the commissioner. The commissioner must notify the selected school districts by September 1, 2005 within 90 days of receipt of their application.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 25. Laws 2006, chapter 282, article 3, section 4, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Onetime energy assistance aid.** For onetime energy assistance aid under section 3:

\$ 3,495,000 ..... 2007 2006

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment and applies retroactively to fiscal year 2006.

Sec. 26. **SCHOOL FINANCE REFORM; TASK FORCE ESTABLISHED.**

Subdivision 1. **Task force established.** A School Finance Reform Task Force is established.

Subd. 2. **Task force goals.** The goals of the School Finance Reform Task Force include:

(1) creating a standard and index to ensure that the formula remains adequate over time;

(2) simplifying the remaining school formulas;

(3) analyzing categorical funding formulas, including but not limited to pupil transportation, compensatory revenue, and limited English proficiency revenue;

(4) establishing a schedule for implementation of the other new formulas; and

(5) examining the role of the regional delivery structure including the functions performed by intermediate school districts, service cooperatives, education districts, and other cooperative organizations.

Subd. 3. **Task force members.** The task force consists of nine members. Membership includes the commissioner of education, four members appointed according to the rules of the senate by the senate Committee on Rules and Administration Subcommittee on Committees, and four members appointed by the speaker of the house.

Subd. 4. **Task force recommendations.** The task force must submit a report to the education committees of the legislature by January 15, 2008, describing the formula recommendations according to the goals it has established.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 27. **LIMITATION ON NEW ALTERNATIVE COMPENSATION SCHOOL DISTRICTS, FISCAL YEARS 2008-2011.**

Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, sections 122A.413; 122A.414; 122A.415; 122A.416; and 126C.10, subdivisions 34, 35, and 36, the Department of Education must limit the participation in the alternative teacher pay program to those district sites and charter schools that received alternative compensation revenue in fiscal year 2007 or those district sites and charter schools that have an approved plan, under Minnesota Statutes, section 122A.414, by March 10, 2007, for fiscal year 2008 alternative compensation participation. This limitation applies to fiscal year 2008 through fiscal year 2011. No additional district sites or charter schools may be approved until after June 30, 2012.

Sec. 28. **FISCAL YEARS 2008 AND 2009 DECLINING PUPIL UNIT AID, RED LAKE.**

For fiscal years 2008 and 2009 only, Independent School District No. 38, Red Lake, is eligible for declining pupil unit aid equal to the greater of zero or the product of the basic formula allowance times the difference between the district's adjusted marginal cost pupil units for fiscal year 2005 and the district's adjusted marginal cost pupil units for that fiscal year times .75. Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 126C.13, the declining pupil unit aid must be included in calculating the district's general education aid.

Sec. 29. **APPROPRIATIONS.**

Subdivision 1. **Department of Education.** The sums indicated in this section are appropriated from the general fund to the Department of Education for the fiscal years designated.

Subd. 2. **General education aid.** For general education aid under Minnesota Statutes, section 126C.13, subdivision 4:

\$	<u>5,465,539,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2008</u>
\$	<u>5,467,878,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2009</u>

The 2008 appropriation includes \$531,733,000 for 2007 and \$4,933,806,000 for 2008.

The 2009 appropriation includes \$548,200,000 for 2008 and \$4,919,678,000 for 2009.

The fiscal year 2009 appropriation includes \$75,000,000 attributable to the education improvement account in the general fund.

Subd. 3. **Referendum tax base replacement aid.** For referendum tax base replacement aid under Minnesota Statutes, section 126C.17, subdivision 7a:

\$	<u>870,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2008</u>
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The 2008 appropriation includes \$870,000 for 2007 and \$0 for 2008.

Subd. 4. **Enrollment options transportation.** For transportation of pupils attending postsecondary institutions under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.09, or for transportation of pupils attending nonresident districts under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.03:

\$	<u>95,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2008</u>
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\$	<u>97,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2009</u>
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Subd. 5. **Abatement revenue.** For abatement aid under Minnesota Statutes, section 127A.49:

\$	<u>1,343,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2008</u>
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\$	<u>1,347,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2009</u>
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The 2008 appropriation includes \$76,000 for 2007 and \$1,267,000 for 2008.

The 2009 appropriation includes \$140,000 for 2008 and \$1,207,000 for 2009.

Subd. 6. **Consolidation transition.** For districts consolidating under Minnesota Statutes, section 123A.485:

\$	<u>565,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2008</u>
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\$	<u>212,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2009</u>
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The 2008 appropriation includes \$43,000 for 2007 and \$522,000 for 2008.

The 2009 appropriation includes \$57,000 for 2008 and \$155,000 for 2009.

Subd. 7. **Nonpublic pupil education aid.** For nonpublic pupil education aid under Minnesota Statutes, sections 123B.40 to 123B.43, and 123B.87:

\$	<u>16,174,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2008</u>
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\$	<u>16,435,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2009</u>
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The 2008 appropriation includes \$1,606,000 for 2007 and \$14,568,000 for 2008.

The 2009 appropriation includes \$1,618,000 for 2008 and \$14,817,000 for 2009.

Subd. 8. **Nonpublic pupil transportation.** For nonpublic pupil transportation aid under Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.92, subdivision 9:

\$	<u>21,167,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2008</u>
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\$            20,780,000    .....    2009

The 2008 appropriation includes \$2,124,000 for 2007 and \$19,043,000 for 2008.

The 2009 appropriation includes \$2,115,000 for 2008 and \$18,665,000 for 2009.

Subd. 9. **One-room schoolhouse.** For a grant to Independent School District No. 690, Warroad, to operate the Angle Inlet School:

\$            65,000    .....    2008

\$            65,000    .....    2009

Subd. 10. **Compensatory revenue pilot project.** For grants for participation in the compensatory revenue pilot program under Laws 2005, First Special Session chapter 5, article 1, section 50:

\$            2,175,000    .....    2008

\$            2,175,000    .....    2009

Of this amount, \$1,500,000 in each year is for a grant to Independent School District No. 11, Anoka-Hennepin; \$210,000 in each year is for a grant to Independent School District No. 279, Osseo; \$160,000 in each year is for a grant to Independent School District No. 281, Robbinsdale; \$75,000 in each year is for a grant to Independent School District No. 286, Brooklyn Center; \$165,000 in each year is for a grant to Independent School District No. 535, Rochester; and \$65,000 in each year is for a grant to Independent School District No. 833, South Washington.

If a grant to a specific school district is not awarded, the commissioner may increase the aid amounts to any of the remaining participating school districts.

This appropriation is part of the base budget for subsequent fiscal years.

Subd. 11. **Declining pupil unit aid; Browns Valley.** For declining pupil unit aid to Independent School District No. 801, Browns Valley:

\$            100,000    .....    2008

\$            100,000    .....    2009

This is a onetime appropriation.

Subd. 12. **Education finance study.** For a contract to hire an independent contractor to assist the education finance task force:

\$            75,000    .....    2008

This is a onetime appropriation.

Subd. 13. **Declining pupil aid, Red Lake.** For a grant to Independent School District No. 38, Red Lake, for declining pupil aid:

\$	<u>455,000</u>	.....	<u>2008</u>
\$	<u>50,000</u>	.....	<u>2009</u>

Subd. 14. **Declining pupil aid McGregor.** For declining pupil aid for Independent School District No. 4, McGregor:

\$	<u>100,000</u>	.....	<u>2008</u>
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Any balance in the first year does not cancel but is available in the second year.

Sec. 30. **REVISOR'S INSTRUCTION.**

In Minnesota Statutes, the revisor of statutes shall correct any incorrect cross-references resulting from the repeal of Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.06.

Sec. 31. **REPEALER.**

(a) Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 124D.06, is repealed.

(b) Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 126C.10, subdivisions 34, 35, and 36, are repealed for revenue for fiscal year 2009 and later.

(c) Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 124D.081, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 9, are repealed effective for revenue for fiscal year 2009.

## ARTICLE 2

### EDUCATION EXCELLENCE

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 119A.50, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 3. **Early childhood literacy programs.** (a) A research-based early childhood literacy program premised on actively involved parents, ongoing professional staff development, and high quality early literacy program standards is established to increase the literacy skills of children participating in Head Start to prepare them to be successful readers and to increase families' participation in providing early literacy experiences to their children. Program providers must:

(1) work to prepare children to be successful learners;

(2) work to close the achievement gap for at-risk children;

(3) use an integrated approach to early literacy that daily offers a literacy-rich classroom learning environment composed of books, writing materials, writing centers, labels, rhyming, and other related literacy materials and opportunities;

(4) support children's home language while helping the children master English and use multiple literacy strategies to provide a cultural bridge between home and school;

(5) use literacy mentors, ongoing literacy groups, and other teachers and staff to provide appropriate, extensive professional development opportunities in early literacy and classroom strategies for preschool teachers and other preschool staff;

(6) use ongoing data-based assessments that enable preschool teachers to understand, plan, and implement literacy strategies, activities, and curriculum that meet children's literacy needs and continuously improve children's literacy; and

(7) foster participation by parents, community stakeholders, literacy advisors, and evaluation specialists.

Program providers are encouraged to collaborate with qualified, community-based early childhood providers in implementing this program and to seek nonstate funds to supplement the program.

(b) Program providers under paragraph (a) interested in extending literacy programs to children in kindergarten through grade 3 may elect to form a partnership with an eligible organization under section 124D.38, subdivision 2, or 124D.42, subdivision 6, clause (3), schools enrolling children in kindergarten through grade 3, and other interested and qualified community-based entities to provide ongoing literacy programs that offer seamless literacy instruction focused on closing the literacy achievement gap. To close the literacy achievement gap by the end of third grade, partnership members must agree to use best efforts and practices and to work collaboratively to implement a seamless literacy model from age three to grade 3, consistent with paragraph (a). Literacy programs under this paragraph must collect and use literacy data to:

(1) evaluate children's literacy skills; and

(2) formulate specific intervention strategies to provide reading instruction to children premised on the outcomes of formative and summative assessments and research-based indicators of literacy development.

The literacy programs under this paragraph also must train teachers and other providers working with children to use the assessment outcomes under clause (2) to develop and use effective, long-term literacy coaching models that are specific to the program providers.

(c) The commissioner must collect and evaluate literacy data on children from age three to grade 3 who participate in literacy programs under this section to determine the efficacy of early literacy programs on children's success in developing the literacy skills that they need for long-term academic success and the programs' success in closing the literacy achievement gap. Annually by February 1, the commissioner must report to the education policy and finance committees of the legislature on the ongoing impact of these programs.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 120A.22, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Education records.** (a) A district, a charter school, or a nonpublic school that receives services or aid under sections 123B.40 to 123B.48 from which a student is transferring must transmit the student's educational records, within ten business days of a request, to the district, the charter school, or the nonpublic school in which the student is enrolling. Districts, charter schools, and nonpublic schools that receive services or aid under sections 123B.40 to 123B.48 must make reasonable efforts to determine the district, the charter school, or the nonpublic school in which a transferring student is next enrolling in order to comply with this subdivision.

(b) A closed charter school must transfer the student's educational records, within ten business days of the school's closure, to the student's school district of residence where the records must be

retained unless the records are otherwise transferred under this subdivision.

(c) A school district, a charter school, or a nonpublic school that receives services or aid under sections 123B.40 to 123B.48 that transmits a student's educational records to another school district or other educational entity, charter school, or nonpublic school to which the student is transferring must include in the transmitted records information about any formal suspension, expulsion, and exclusion disciplinary action ~~taken as a result of any incident in which the student possessed or used a dangerous weapon~~ under sections 121A.40 to 121A.56. The district, the charter school, or the nonpublic school that receives services or aid under sections 123B.40 to 123B.48 must provide notice to a student and the student's parent or guardian that formal disciplinary records will be transferred as part of the student's educational record, in accordance with data practices under chapter 13 and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, United States Code, title 20, section 1232(g).

~~(e)~~ (d) Notwithstanding section 138.17, a principal or chief administrative officer must remove from a student's educational record and destroy a probable cause notice received under section 260B.171, subdivision 5, or paragraph (d), if one year has elapsed since the date of the notice and the principal or chief administrative officer has not received a disposition or court order related to the offense described in the notice. This paragraph does not apply if the student no longer attends the school when this one-year period expires.

~~(d)~~ (e) A principal or chief administrative officer who receives a probable cause notice under section 260B.171, subdivision 5, or a disposition or court order, must include a copy of that data in the student's educational records if they are transmitted to another school, unless the data are required to be destroyed under paragraph (c) or section 121A.75.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 120B.021, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Required academic standards.** The following subject areas are required for statewide accountability:

- (1) language arts;
- (2) mathematics;
- (3) science;
- (4) social studies, including history, geography, economics, and government and citizenship;
- (5) health and physical education, for which locally developed academic standards apply; and
- (6) the arts, for which statewide or locally developed academic standards apply, as determined by the school district. Public elementary and middle schools must offer at least three and require at least two of the following four arts areas: dance; music; theater; and visual arts. Public high schools must offer at least three and require at least one of the following five arts areas: media arts; dance; music; theater; and visual arts.

The commissioner must submit proposed standards in science and social studies to the legislature by February 1, 2004.

For purposes of applicable federal law, the academic standards for language arts, mathematics, and science apply to all public school students, except the very few students with extreme cognitive

or physical impairments for whom an individualized education plan team has determined that the required academic standards are inappropriate. An individualized education plan team that makes this determination must establish alternative standards.

A school district, no later than the 2007-2008 school year, must adopt graduation requirements that meet or exceed state graduation requirements established in law or rule. A school district that incorporates these state graduation requirements before the 2007-2008 school year must provide students who enter the 9th grade in or before the 2003-2004 school year the opportunity to earn a diploma based on existing locally established graduation requirements in effect when the students entered the 9th grade. District efforts to develop, implement, or improve instruction or curriculum as a result of the provisions of this section must be consistent with sections 120B.10, 120B.11, and 120B.20.

The commissioner must include the contributions of Minnesota American Indian tribes and communities as they relate to the academic standards during the review and revision of the required academic standards.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for the 2008-2009 school year and later.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 120B.022, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Elective standards.** (a) A district must establish its own standards in the following subject areas:

- (1) vocational and technical education; and
- (2) world languages.

A school district must offer courses in all elective subject areas.

(b) World languages teachers and other school staff should develop and implement world languages programs that acknowledge and reinforce the language proficiency and cultural awareness that non-English language speakers already possess, and encourage students' proficiency in multiple world languages. Programs under this paragraph must encompass indigenous American Indian languages and cultures, among other world languages and cultures. The department shall consult with postsecondary institutions in developing related professional development opportunities.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 120B.12, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Identification.** For the 2002-2003 school year and later, each school district shall identify before the end of first grade students who are at risk of not learning to read before the end of second grade. The district must use a locally adopted assessment method. The district must annually report the results of the assessment to the commissioner by June 1.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 120B.132, is amended to read:

**120B.132 RAISED ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT; ADVANCED PLACEMENT AND INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE PROGRAMS.**

Subdivision 1. **Establishment; eligibility.** A program is established to raise kindergarten through grade 12 academic achievement through increased student participation in preadvanced



placement ~~and~~, advanced placement, and international baccalaureate programs, consistent with section 120B.13. Schools and charter schools eligible to participate under this section:

(1) must have a three-year plan approved by the local school board to establish a new international baccalaureate program leading to international baccalaureate authorization, expand an existing program that leads to international baccalaureate authorization, or expand an existing authorized international baccalaureate program; or

(2) must have a three-year plan approved by the local school board to create a new or expand an existing program to implement the college board advanced placement courses and exams or preadvanced placement courses initiative; and

~~(2)~~ (3) must propose to further raise students' academic achievement by:

(i) increasing the availability of and all students' access to advanced placement or international baccalaureate courses or programs;

(ii) expanding the breadth of advanced placement or international baccalaureate courses or programs that are available to students;

(iii) increasing the number and the diversity of the students who participate in advanced placement or international baccalaureate courses or programs and succeed;

(iv) providing low-income and other disadvantaged students with increased access to advanced placement or international baccalaureate courses and programs; or

(v) increasing the number of high school students, including low-income and other disadvantaged students, who receive college credit by successfully completing advanced placement or international baccalaureate courses or programs and achieving satisfactory scores on related exams.

Subd. 2. **Application and review process; funding priority.** (a) Charter schools and school districts in which eligible schools under subdivision 1 are located may apply to the commissioner, in the form and manner the commissioner determines, for competitive funding to further raise students' academic achievement. The application must detail the specific efforts the applicant intends to undertake in further raising students' academic achievement, consistent with subdivision 1, and a proposed budget detailing the district or charter school's current and proposed expenditures for advanced placement ~~or~~, preadvanced placement, and international baccalaureate courses and programs. The proposed budget must demonstrate that the applicant's efforts will supplement but not supplant any expenditures for advanced placement and preadvanced placement courses and programs the applicant currently makes available to students support implementation of advanced placement, preadvanced placement, and international baccalaureate courses and programs. Expenditures for administration must not exceed five percent of the proposed budget. The commissioner may require an applicant to provide additional information.

(b) When reviewing applications, the commissioner must determine whether the applicant satisfied all the requirements in this subdivision and subdivision 1. The commissioner may give funding priority to an otherwise qualified applicant that demonstrates:

(1) a focus on developing or expanding preadvanced placement, advanced placement, or international baccalaureate courses and or programs or increasing students' participation in, access

to, or success with the courses or programs, including the participation, access, or success of low-income and other disadvantaged students;

(2) a compelling need for access to preadvanced placement, advanced placement, or international baccalaureate courses or programs;

(3) an effective ability to actively involve local business and community organizations in student activities that are integral to preadvanced placement, advanced placement, or international baccalaureate courses and or programs;

(4) access to additional public or nonpublic funds or in-kind contributions that are available for preadvanced placement, advanced placement, or international baccalaureate courses or programs; or

(5) an intent to implement activities that target low-income and other disadvantaged students.

Subd. 3. **Funding; permissible funding uses.** (a) The commissioner shall award grants to applicant school districts and charter schools that meet the requirements of subdivisions 1 and 2. The commissioner must award grants on an equitable geographical basis to the extent feasible and consistent with this section. Grant awards must not exceed the lesser of:

(1) \$85 times the number of pupils enrolled at the participating sites on October 1 of the previous fiscal year; or

(2) the approved supplemental expenditures based on the budget submitted under subdivision 2. For charter schools in their first year of operation, the maximum ~~grant~~ funding award must be calculated using the number of pupils enrolled on October 1 of the current fiscal year. The commissioner may adjust the maximum ~~grant~~ funding award computed using prior year data for changes in enrollment attributable to school closings, school openings, grade level reconfigurations, or school district reorganizations between the prior fiscal year and the current fiscal year.

(b) School districts and charter schools that submit an application and receive funding under this section must use the funding, consistent with the application, to:

(1) provide teacher training and instruction to more effectively serve students, including low-income and other disadvantaged students, who participate in preadvanced and placement, advanced placement, or international baccalaureate courses or programs;

(2) further develop preadvanced placement, advanced placement, or international baccalaureate courses or programs;

(3) improve the transition between grade levels to better prepare students, including low-income and other disadvantaged students, for succeeding in preadvanced placement, advanced placement, or international baccalaureate courses or programs;

(4) purchase books and supplies;

(5) pay course or program fees;

(6) increase students' participation in and success with preadvanced placement, advanced placement, or international baccalaureate courses or programs;

(7) expand students' access to preadvanced placement ~~or~~, advanced placement, or international baccalaureate courses or programs through online learning;

(8) hire appropriately licensed personnel to teach additional advanced placement or international baccalaureate courses or programs; or

(9) engage in other activity directly related to expanding students' access to, participation in, and success with preadvanced placement ~~or~~, advanced placement, or international baccalaureate courses and ~~or~~ programs, including low-income and other disadvantaged students.

Subd. 4. **Annual reports.** (a) Each school district and charter school that receives a grant under this section annually must collect demographic and other student data to demonstrate and measure the extent to which the district or charter school raised students' academic achievement under this program and must report the data to the commissioner in the form and manner the commissioner determines. The commissioner annually by February 15 must make summary data about this program available to the education policy and finance committees of the legislature.

(b) Each school district and charter school that receives a grant under this section annually must report to the commissioner, consistent with the Uniform Financial Accounting and Reporting Standards, its actual expenditures for advanced placement ~~and~~, preadvanced placement, and international baccalaureate courses and programs. The report must demonstrate that the school district or charter school has maintained its effort from other sources for advanced placement ~~and~~, preadvanced placement, and international baccalaureate courses and programs compared with the previous fiscal year, and the district or charter school has expended all grant funds, consistent with its approved budget.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment and applies to the 2007-2008 school year and later.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 120B.15, is amended to read:

**120B.15 GIFTED AND TALENTED STUDENTS PROGRAMS.**

(a) School districts may identify students, locally develop programs, provide staff development, and evaluate programs to provide gifted and talented students with challenging educational programs.

(b) School districts may adopt guidelines for assessing and identifying students for participation in gifted and talented programs. The guidelines should include the use of:

(1) multiple and objective criteria; and

(2) assessments and procedures that are valid and reliable, fair, and based on current theory and research.

(c) School districts must adopt procedures for the academic acceleration of gifted and talented students. These procedures must include how the district will:

(1) assess a student's readiness and motivation for acceleration; and

(2) match the level, complexity, and pace of the curriculum to a student to achieve the best type of academic acceleration for that student.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 120B.30, is amended to read:

**120B.30 STATEWIDE TESTING AND REPORTING SYSTEM.**

Subdivision 1. **Statewide testing.** (a) The commissioner, with advice from experts with appropriate technical qualifications and experience and stakeholders, consistent with subdivision 1a, shall include in the comprehensive assessment system, for each grade level to be tested, state-constructed tests developed from and aligned with the state's required academic standards under section 120B.021 and administered annually to all students in grades 3 through 8 and at the high school level. A state-developed test in a subject other than writing, developed after the 2002-2003 school year, must include both machine-scoreable and constructed response questions. The commissioner shall establish one or more months during which schools shall administer the tests to students each school year. For students enrolled in grade 8 before the 2005-2006 school year, only Minnesota basic skills tests in reading, mathematics, and writing shall fulfill students' basic skills testing requirements for a passing state notation. The passing scores of the state basic skills tests in reading and mathematics are the equivalent of:

~~(1) 70 percent correct for students entering grade 9 in 1996; and~~

~~(2) 75 percent correct for students entering grade 9 in 1997 and thereafter, as based on the first uniform test administration of February 1998.~~

(b) For students enrolled in grade 8 in the 2005-2006 school year and later, only the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments Second Edition (MCA-II) in reading, mathematics, and writing following options shall fulfill students' academic standard state graduation test requirements:

(1) for reading and mathematics:

(i) obtaining an achievement level equivalent to or greater than proficient as determined through a standard setting process on the Minnesota comprehensive assessments in grade 10 for reading and grade 11 for mathematics or achieving a passing score as determined through a standard setting process on the graduation-required assessment for diploma in grade 10 for reading and grade 11 for mathematics or subsequent retests;

(ii) achieving a passing score as determined through a standard setting process on the state-identified language proficiency test in reading and the mathematics test for English language learners or the graduation-required assessment for diploma equivalent of those assessments for students designated as English language learners;

(iii) achieving an individual passing score on the graduation-required assessment for diploma as determined by appropriate state guidelines for students with an individual education plan or 504 plan;

(iv) obtaining achievement level equivalent to or greater than proficient as determined through a standard setting process on the state-identified alternate assessment or assessments in grade 10 for reading and grade 11 for mathematics for students with an individual education plan; or

(v) achieving an individual passing score on the state-identified alternate assessment or assessments as determined by appropriate state guidelines for students with an individual education plan; and

(2) for writing:

(i) achieving a passing score on the graduation-required assessment for diploma;

(ii) achieving a passing score as determined through a standard setting process on the state-identified language proficiency test in writing for students designated as English language learners;

(iii) achieving an individual passing score on the graduation-required assessment for diploma as determined by appropriate state guidelines for students with an individual education plan or 504 plan; or

(iv) achieving an individual passing score on the state-identified alternate assessment or assessments as determined by appropriate state guidelines for students with an individual education plan.

~~(b)~~ (c) The ~~third~~ 3rd through 8th grade and high school level test results shall be available to districts for diagnostic purposes affecting student learning and district instruction and curriculum, and for establishing educational accountability. The commissioner must disseminate to the public the test results upon receiving those results.

~~(e)~~ (d) State tests must be constructed and aligned with state academic standards. The testing process and the order of administration shall be determined by the commissioner. The statewide results shall be aggregated at the site and district level, consistent with subdivision 1a.

~~(d)~~ (e) In addition to the testing and reporting requirements under this section, the commissioner shall include the following components in the statewide public reporting system:

(1) uniform statewide testing of all students in grades 3 through 8 and at the high school level that provides appropriate, technically sound accommodations, alternate assessments, or exemptions consistent with applicable federal law, only with parent or guardian approval, for those very few students for whom the student's individual education plan team under sections 125A.05 and 125A.06, determines that the general statewide test is inappropriate for a student is incapable of taking a statewide test, or for a limited English proficiency student under section 124D.59, subdivision 2, if the student has been in the United States for fewer than three years;

(2) educational indicators that can be aggregated and compared across school districts and across time on a statewide basis, including average daily attendance, high school graduation rates, and high school drop-out rates by age and grade level;

(3) students' scores state results on the American College Test; and

(4) state results from participation in the National Assessment of Educational Progress so that the state can benchmark its performance against the nation and other states, and, where possible, against other countries, and contribute to the national effort to monitor achievement.

~~(e) Districts must report exemptions under paragraph (d), clause (1), to the commissioner consistent with a format provided by the commissioner.~~

Subd. 1a. **Statewide and local assessments; results.** (a) The commissioner must develop reading, mathematics, and science assessments aligned with state academic standards that districts and sites must use to monitor student growth toward achieving those standards. The commissioner

must not develop statewide assessments for academic standards in social studies, health and physical education, and the arts. The commissioner must require:

(1) annual reading and mathematics assessments in grades 3 through 8 and at the high school level for the 2005-2006 school year and later; and

(2) annual science assessments in one grade in the grades 3 through 5 span, the grades 6 through 9 span, and a life sciences assessment in the grades 10 through 12 span for the 2007-2008 school year and later.

(b) The commissioner must ensure that all statewide tests administered to elementary and secondary students measure students' academic knowledge and skills and not students' values, attitudes, and beliefs.

(c) Reporting of assessment results must:

(1) provide timely, useful, and understandable information on the performance of individual students, schools, school districts, and the state;

(2) include, by ~~the 2006-2007~~ no later than the 2008-2009 school year, a value-added component ~~to~~ that is in addition to a measure for student achievement growth over time; and

(3)(i) for students enrolled in grade 8 before the 2005-2006 school year, determine whether students have met the state's basic skills requirements; and

(ii) for students enrolled in grade 8 in the 2005-2006 school year and later, determine whether students have met the state's academic standards.

(d) Consistent with applicable federal law and subdivision 1, paragraph (d), clause (1), the commissioner must include appropriate, technically sound accommodations or alternative assessments for the very few students with disabilities for whom statewide assessments are inappropriate and for students with limited English proficiency.

(e) A school, school district, and charter school must administer statewide assessments under this section, as the assessments become available, to evaluate student progress in achieving the academic standards. If a state assessment is not available, a school, school district, and charter school must determine locally if a student has met the required academic standards. A school, school district, or charter school may use a student's performance on a statewide assessment as one of multiple criteria to determine grade promotion or retention. A school, school district, or charter school may use a high school student's performance on a statewide assessment as a percentage of the student's final grade in a course, or place a student's assessment score on the student's transcript.

Subd. 2. **Department of Education assistance.** The Department of Education shall contract for professional and technical services according to competitive bidding procedures under chapter 16C for purposes of this section.

Subd. 3. **Reporting.** The commissioner shall report test data publicly and to stakeholders, including the ~~three performance baselines~~ performance achievement levels developed from students' unweighted mean test scores in each tested subject and a listing of demographic factors that strongly correlate with student performance. The commissioner shall also report data that compares performance results among school sites, school districts, Minnesota and other states, and

Minnesota and other nations. The commissioner shall disseminate to schools and school districts a more comprehensive report containing testing information that meets local needs for evaluating instruction and curriculum.

Subd. 4. **Access to tests.** The commissioner must adopt and publish a policy to provide public and parental access for review of basic skills tests, Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments, or any other such statewide test and assessment. Upon receiving a written request, the commissioner must make available to parents or guardians a copy of their student's actual ~~answer sheet~~ responses to the test questions to be reviewed by the parent.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 120B.31, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Educational accountability.** (a) The Independent Office of Educational Accountability, as authorized by Laws 1997, First Special Session chapter 4, article 5, section 28, subdivision 2, is established, and shall be funded through the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota. The office shall advise the education committees of the legislature and the commissioner of education, at least on a biennial basis, on the degree to which the statewide educational accountability and reporting system includes a comprehensive assessment framework that measures school accountability for students achieving the goals described in the state's results-oriented graduation rule. The office shall ~~consider~~ determine and annually report to the legislature whether and how effectively:

(1) the statewide system of educational accountability utilizes multiple indicators to provide valid and reliable comparative and contextual data on students, schools, districts, and the state, and if not, recommend ways to improve the accountability reporting system;

(2) the commissioner makes statistical adjustments when reporting student data over time, consistent with clause (4);

(3) the commissioner uses indicators of student achievement growth over time and a value-added assessment model that estimates the effects of the school and school district on student achievement to measure school performance, consistent with section 120B.36, subdivision 1;

(4) the commissioner makes data available on students who do not pass one or more of the state's required GRAD tests and do not receive a diploma as a consequence, and categorizes these data according to gender, race, eligibility for free or reduced lunch, and English language proficiency; and

(5) the commissioner fulfills the requirements under section 127A.095, subdivision 2.

(b) When the office reviews the statewide educational accountability and reporting system, it shall also consider:

(1) the objectivity and neutrality of the state's educational accountability system; and

(2) the impact of a testing program on school curriculum and student learning.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 120B.36, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **School performance report cards.** (a) The commissioner shall use objective

~~criteria based on levels of student performance to identify four to six designations applicable to high and low performing public schools. The objective criteria shall include report at least student academic performance, school safety, two separate student-to-teacher ratios that clearly indicate the definition of teacher consistent with sections 122A.06 and 122A.15 for purposes of determining these ratios, and staff characteristics, with a value-added growth component added by the 2006-2007 no later than the 2008-2009 school year. The report must indicate a school's adequate yearly progress status, and must not set any designations applicable to high- and low-performing schools due solely to adequate yearly progress status.~~

~~(b) The commissioner shall develop, annually update, and post on the department Web site school performance report cards. A school's designation must be clearly stated on each school performance report card.~~

~~(c) The commissioner must make available the first school designations and school performance report cards by November 2003, and during the beginning of each school year thereafter.~~

~~(d) A school or district may appeal its adequate yearly progress status in writing a designation under this section to the commissioner within 30 days of receiving the designation notice of its status. The commissioner's decision to uphold or deny an appeal is final.~~

~~(e) School performance report cards data are nonpublic data under section 13.02, subdivision 9, until not later than ten days after the appeal procedure described in paragraph (d) concludes. The department shall annually post school performance report cards to its public Web site no later than September 1.~~

~~**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment and applies to the school performance report cards for the 2006-2007 school year and later.~~

~~Sec. 11. **[121A.231] RESPONSIBLE FAMILY LIFE AND SEXUALITY EDUCATION PROGRAMS.**~~

~~Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) "Responsible family life and sexuality education" means education in grades 7 through 12 that:~~

- ~~(1) respects community values and encourages family communication;~~
  - ~~(2) develops skills in communication, decision making, and conflict resolution;~~
  - ~~(3) contributes to healthy relationships;~~
  - ~~(4) provides human development and sexuality education that is age appropriate and medically accurate;~~
  - ~~(5) includes an abstinence-first approach to delaying initiation of sexual activity that emphasizes abstinence while also including education about the use of protection and contraception; and~~
  - ~~(6) promotes individual responsibility.~~
- ~~(b) "Age appropriate" refers to topics, messages, and teaching methods suitable to particular ages or age groups of children and adolescents, based on developing cognitive, emotional, and behavioral capacity typical for the age or age group.~~



(c) "Medically accurate" means verified or supported by research conducted in compliance with scientific methods and published in peer-reviewed journals, where appropriate, and recognized as accurate and objective by professional organizations and agencies in the relevant field, such as the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the American Public Health Association, the American Academy of Pediatrics, or the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.

Subd. 2. **Curriculum requirements.** (a) A school district must offer and may independently establish policies, procedures, curriculum, and services for providing responsible family life and sexuality education that is age appropriate and medically accurate for grades 7 through 12.

(b) A school district must consult with parents or guardians of enrolled students when establishing policies, procedures, curriculum, and services under this subdivision.

Subd. 3. **Notice and parental options.** (a) It is the legislature's intent to encourage pupils to communicate with their parents or guardians about human sexuality and to respect rights of parents or guardians to supervise their children's education on these subjects.

(b) Parents or guardians may excuse their children from all or part of a responsible family life and sexuality education program.

(c) A school district must establish policies and procedures consistent with paragraph (e) and this section for providing parents or guardians reasonable notice with the following information:

(1) if the district is offering a responsible family life and sexuality education program to the parents' or guardians' child during the course of the year;

(2) how the parents or guardians may inspect the written and audio/visual educational materials used in the program and the process for inspection;

(3) if the program is presented by school district personnel or outside consultants, and if outside consultants are used, who they may be; and

(4) parents' or guardians' right to choose not to have their child participate in the program and the procedure for exercising that right.

(d) A school district must establish policies and procedures for reasonably restricting the availability of written and audio/visual educational materials from public view of students who have been excused from all or part of a responsible family life and sexuality education program at the request of a parent or guardian, consistent with paragraph (e) and this section.

(e) A school district may develop a policy for a parent, guardian, or adult student age 18 or older to review the content of the instructional materials under this section. If a school district develops a policy, it must make reasonable arrangements with school personnel for alternative instruction for those pupils whose parents or guardians object to the content of the instruction, and must not impose an academic or other penalty upon a pupil merely for arranging the alternative instruction. School personnel may evaluate and assess the quality of the pupil's work completed as part of the alternative instruction.

Subd. 4. **Assistance to school districts.** (a) The Department of Education may offer services to school districts to help them implement effective responsible family life and sexuality education programs. In making these services available the department may provide:

(1) training for teachers, parents, and community members in the development of responsible family life and sexuality education curriculum or services and in planning for monitoring and evaluation activities;

(2) resource staff persons to provide expert training, curriculum development and implementation, and evaluation services;

(3) technical assistance to promote and coordinate community, parent, and youth forums in communities identified as having high needs for responsible family life and sexuality education;

(4) technical assistance for issue management and policy development training for school boards, superintendents, principals, and administrators across the state; and

(b) Technical assistance in accordance with National Health Education Standards provided by the department to school districts may:

(1) promote instruction and use of materials that are age appropriate;

(2) provide information that is medically accurate and objective;

(3) provide instruction and promote use of materials that are respectful of marriage and commitments in relationships;

(4) provide instruction and promote use of materials that are appropriate for use with pupils and family experiences based on race, gender, sexual orientation, ethnic and cultural background, and appropriately accommodate alternative learning based on language or disability;

(5) provide instruction and promote use of materials that encourage pupils to communicate with their parents or guardians about human sexuality;

(6) provide instruction and promote use of age-appropriate materials that teach abstinence from sexual intercourse as the only certain way to prevent unintended pregnancy or sexually transmitted infections, including HIV, Chlamydia, and HPV, and provide information about the role and value of abstinence while also providing medically accurate information on other methods of preventing and reducing risk for unintended pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections;

(7) provide instruction and promote use of age-appropriate materials that are medically accurate in explaining transmission modes, risks, symptoms, and treatments for sexually transmitted infections, including HIV, Chlamydia, and HPV;

(8) provide instruction and promote use of age-appropriate materials that address varied societal views on sexuality, sexual behaviors, pregnancy, and sexually transmitted infections, including HIV, Chlamydia, and HPV, in an age-appropriate manner;

(9) provide instruction and promote use of age-appropriate materials that provide information about the effectiveness and safety of all FDA-approved methods for preventing and reducing risk for unintended pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections, including HIV, Chlamydia, and HPV;

(10) provide instruction and promote use of age-appropriate materials that provide instruction in skills for making and implementing responsible decisions about sexuality;

(11) provide instruction and promote use of age-appropriate materials that provide instruction in

skills for making and implementing responsible decisions about finding and using health services; and

(12) provide instruction and promote use of age-appropriate materials that do not teach or promote religious doctrine or bias against a religion or reflect or promote bias against any person on the basis of any category protected under the Minnesota Human Rights Act, chapter 363A.

Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 122A.20, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Grounds for revocation, suspension, or denial.** (a) The Board of Teaching or Board of School Administrators, whichever has jurisdiction over a teacher's licensure, may, on the written complaint of the school board employing a teacher, a teacher organization, or any other interested person, refuse to issue, refuse to renew, suspend, or revoke a teacher's license to teach for any of the following causes:

- (1) immoral character or conduct;
- (2) failure, without justifiable cause, to teach for the term of the teacher's contract;
- (3) gross inefficiency or willful neglect of duty;
- (4) failure to meet licensure requirements; or
- (5) fraud or misrepresentation in obtaining a license.

The written complaint must specify the nature and character of the charges.

(b) The Board of Teaching or Board of School Administrators, whichever has jurisdiction over a teacher's licensure, shall refuse to issue, refuse to renew, or automatically revoke a teacher's license to teach without the right to a hearing upon receiving a certified copy of a conviction showing that the teacher has been convicted of child abuse, as defined in section 609.185, ~~or~~ sexual abuse under section 609.342, 609.343, 609.344, 609.345, 609.3451, subdivision 3, or 617.23, subdivision 3, ~~or~~ using minors in a sexual performance under section 617.246, or possessing pornographic works involving a minor under section 617.247, or under a similar law of another state or the United States. The board shall send notice of this licensing action to the district in which the teacher is currently employed.

(c) A person whose license to teach has been revoked, not issued, or not renewed under paragraph (b), may petition the board to reconsider the licensing action if the person's conviction for child abuse or sexual abuse is reversed by a final decision of the Court of Appeals or the Supreme Court or if the person has received a pardon for the offense. The petitioner shall attach a certified copy of the appellate court's final decision or the pardon to the petition. Upon receiving the petition and its attachment, the board shall schedule and hold a disciplinary hearing on the matter under section 214.10, subdivision 2, unless the petitioner waives the right to a hearing. If the board finds that, notwithstanding the reversal of the petitioner's criminal conviction or the issuance of a pardon, the petitioner is disqualified from teaching under paragraph (a), clause (1), the board shall affirm its previous licensing action. If the board finds that the petitioner is not disqualified from teaching under paragraph (a), clause (1), it shall reverse its previous licensing action.

(d) For purposes of this subdivision, the Board of Teaching is delegated the authority to suspend or revoke coaching licenses.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 122A.415, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

**Subd. 4. Basic alternative teacher compensation aid.** (a) For fiscal year 2009 and later, the basic alternative teacher compensation aid for a school district with a plan approved under section 122A.414, subdivision 2b, equals 73.1 percent of the alternative teacher compensation revenue under subdivision 1. The basic alternative teacher compensation aid for an intermediate school district or charter school with a plan approved under section 122A.414, subdivisions 2a and 2b, if the recipient is a charter school, equals \$260 times the number of pupils enrolled in the school on October 1 of the previous fiscal year, or on October 1 of the current fiscal year for a charter school in the first year of operation, times the ratio of the sum of the alternative teacher compensation aid and alternative teacher compensation levy for all participating school districts to the maximum alternative teacher compensation revenue for those districts under subdivision 1.

(b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a) and subdivision 1, the state total basic alternative teacher compensation aid entitlement must not exceed \$43,515,000 for fiscal year 2009, \$42,953,000 for fiscal year 2010, and \$42,643,000 for fiscal year 2011 and later. The commissioner must limit the amount of alternative teacher compensation aid approved under this section so as not to exceed these limits.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for revenue for fiscal year 2009 and later.

Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 122A.415, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

**Subd. 5. Alternative teacher compensation levy.** For fiscal year 2009 and later, the alternative teacher compensation levy for a district receiving basic alternative teacher compensation aid equals the product of: (1) the difference between the district's alternative teacher compensation revenue, under subdivision 1, and the district's basic alternative teacher compensation aid, under subdivision 4; times (2) the lesser of one or the ratio of the district's adjusted net tax capacity per adjusted pupil unit to \$5,913.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for revenue for fiscal year 2009 and later.

Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 122A.415, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

**Subd. 6. Alternative teacher compensation aid.** (a) For fiscal year 2009 and later, a district's alternative teacher compensation equalization aid equals the district's alternative teacher compensation revenue, minus the district's basic alternative teacher compensation aid, minus the district's alternative teacher compensation levy. If a district does not levy the entire amount permitted under subdivision 5, the alternative teacher compensation equalization aid must be reduced in proportion to the actual amount levied.

(b) A district's alternative teacher compensation aid equals the sum of the district's basic alternative teacher compensation aid and the district's alternative teacher compensation equalization aid.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for revenue for fiscal year 2009 and later.

Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 122A.61, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 3. **Coursework and training.** A school district may use the revenue reserved under subdivision 1 for grants to the district's teachers to pay for coursework and training leading to certification as a college in the schools or concurrent enrollment teacher. In order to receive a grant, the teacher must be enrolled in a program that includes coursework and training focused on teaching a core subject.

Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 122A.72, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **Center functions.** (a) A teacher center shall perform functions according to this subdivision. The center shall assist teachers, diagnose learning needs, experiment with the use of multiple instructional approaches, assess pupil outcomes, assess staff development needs and plans, and teach school personnel about effective pedagogical approaches. The center shall develop and produce curricula and curricular materials designed to meet the educational needs of pupils being served, by applying educational research and new and improved methods, practices, and techniques. The center shall provide programs to improve the skills of teachers to meet the special educational needs of pupils. The center shall provide programs to familiarize teachers with developments in curriculum formulation and educational research, including how research can be used to improve teaching skills. The center shall facilitate sharing of resources, ideas, methods, and approaches directly related to classroom instruction and improve teachers' familiarity with current teaching materials and products for use in their classrooms. The center shall provide in-service programs.

(b) Each teacher center must provide a professional development program to train interested and highly qualified elementary, middle, and secondary teachers, selected by the employing school district, to assist other teachers in that district with mathematics and science curriculum, standards, and instruction so that all teachers have access to:

(1) high quality professional development programs in mathematics and science that address curriculum, instructional methods, alignment of standards, and performance measurements, enhance teacher and student learning, and support state mathematics and science standards; and

(2) research-based mathematics and science programs and instructional models premised on best practices that inspire teachers and students and have practical classroom application.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for the 2007-2008 school year and later.

Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 123B.02, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 24. **Membership in economic development, community, and civic organizations.** The board may authorize and pay for the membership of the school district or of any district representative designated by the board in those local economic development associations or other community or civic organizations that the board deems appropriate.

Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 123B.143, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Contract; duties.** All districts maintaining a classified secondary school must employ a superintendent who shall be an ex officio nonvoting member of the school board. The authority for selection and employment of a superintendent must be vested in the board in all cases. An individual employed by a board as a superintendent shall have an initial employment contract

for a period of time no longer than three years from the date of employment. Any subsequent employment contract must not exceed a period of three years. A board, at its discretion, may or may not renew an employment contract. A board must not, by action or inaction, extend the duration of an existing employment contract. Beginning 365 days prior to the expiration date of an existing employment contract, a board may negotiate and enter into a subsequent employment contract to take effect upon the expiration of the existing contract. A subsequent contract must be contingent upon the employee completing the terms of an existing contract. If a contract between a board and a superintendent is terminated prior to the date specified in the contract, the board may not enter into another superintendent contract with that same individual that has a term that extends beyond the date specified in the terminated contract. A board may terminate a superintendent during the term of an employment contract for any of the grounds specified in section 122A.40, subdivision 9 or 13. A superintendent shall not rely upon an employment contract with a board to assert any other continuing contract rights in the position of superintendent under section 122A.40. Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 122A.40, subdivision 10 or 11, 123A.32, 123A.75, or any other law to the contrary, no individual shall have a right to employment as a superintendent based on order of employment in any district. If two or more districts enter into an agreement for the purchase or sharing of the services of a superintendent, the contracting districts have the absolute right to select one of the individuals employed to serve as superintendent in one of the contracting districts and no individual has a right to employment as the superintendent to provide all or part of the services based on order of employment in a contracting district. The superintendent of a district shall perform the following:

(1) visit and supervise the schools in the district, report and make recommendations about their condition when advisable or on request by the board;

(2) recommend to the board employment and dismissal of teachers;

(3) superintend school grading practices and examinations for promotions;

(4) make reports required by the commissioner;

(5) by January 10, submit an annual report to the commissioner in a manner prescribed by the commissioner, in consultation with school districts, identifying the expenditures that the district requires to ensure an 80 percent student passage rate on the ~~basic standards test~~ MCA-IIs taken in the eighth grade, identifying the highest student passage rate the district expects it will be able to attain on the ~~basic standards test~~ MCA-IIs by grade 12, and the amount of expenditures that the district requires to attain the targeted student passage rate, ~~and how much the district is cross-subsidizing programs with special education, basic skills, and general education revenue;~~ and

(6) perform other duties prescribed by the board.

Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 123B.92, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Alternative attendance programs.** (a) A district that enrolls nonresident pupils in programs under sections 124D.03, 124D.06, 124D.08, 123A.05 to 123A.08, and 124D.68, must provide authorized transportation to the pupil within the attendance area for the school that the pupil attends at the same level of service that is provided to resident pupils within the attendance area. The resident district need not provide or pay for transportation between the pupil's residence and the district's border.

(b) A district may provide transportation to allow a student who attends a high-need English language learner program and who resides within the transportation attendance area of the program to continue in the program until the student completes the highest grade level offered by the program.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

**Sec. 21. [124D.091] CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT PROGRAM AID.**

Subdivision 1. **Accreditation.** To establish a uniform standard by which concurrent enrollment courses and professional development activities may be measured, postsecondary institutions are encouraged to apply for accreditation by the National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnership.

Subd. 2. **Eligibility.** A district that offers a concurrent enrollment course according to an agreement under section 124D.09, subdivision 10, is eligible to receive aid for the costs of providing postsecondary courses at the high school. Beginning in fiscal year 2011, districts only are eligible for aid if the college or university concurrent enrollment courses offered by the district are accredited by the National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnership, in the process of being accredited, or are shown by clear evidence to be of comparable standard to accredited courses.

Subd. 3. **Aid.** An eligible district shall receive \$150 per pupil enrolled in a concurrent enrollment course. The money must be used to defray the cost of delivering the course at the high school. The commissioner shall establish application procedures and deadlines for receipt of aid payments.

Sec. 22. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 124D.095, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Definitions.** For purposes of this section, the following terms have the meanings given them.

(a) "Online learning" is an interactive course or program that delivers instruction from a teacher to a student by computer; is combined with other traditional delivery methods that include frequent student assessment and may include actual teacher contact time; and meets or exceeds state academic standards.

(b) "Online learning provider" is a school district, an intermediate school district, an organization of two or more school districts operating under a joint powers agreement, or a charter school located in Minnesota that provides online learning to students.

(c) "Student" is a Minnesota resident enrolled in a school under section 120A.22, subdivision 4, in kindergarten through grade 12.

(d) "Online learning student" is a student enrolled in an online learning course or program delivered by an online provider under paragraph (b).

(e) "Enrolling district" means the school district or charter school in which a student is enrolled under section 120A.22, subdivision 4, for purposes of compulsory attendance.

(f) "Supplemental online learning" means an online course taken in place of a course period during the regular school day at a local district school.

(g) "Full-time online provider" means an enrolling school authorized by the department to deliver comprehensive public education at any or all of the elementary, middle, or high school

levels.

Sec. 23. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 124D.095, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Authorization; notice; limitations on enrollment.** (a) ~~A student may apply to an online learning provider to enroll in online learning for full-time enrollment in an approved online learning program under section 124D.03, 124D.08 or 124D.10, or for supplemental online learning. Notwithstanding sections 124D.03, 124D.08, and 124D.10, procedures for enrolling in online learning shall be as provided in this subdivision. A student age 17 or younger must have the written consent of a parent or guardian to apply. No school district or charter school may prohibit a student from applying to enroll in online learning. An online learning provider that accepts a student under this section must, within ten days, notify the student and the enrolling district if the enrolling district is not the online learning provider. The notice must report the student's course or program and hours of instruction. In order that a student may enroll in online learning, the student and the student's parents must submit an application to the online learning provider and identify the reason for enrolling in online learning. The online learning provider that accepts a student under this section must within ten days notify the student and the enrolling district in writing if the enrolling district is not the online learning provider. The student and family must notify the online learning provider of their intent to enroll in online learning within ten days of acceptance, at which time the student and parent must sign a statement of assurance that they have reviewed the online course or program and understand the expectations of online learning enrollment. The online learning provider must notify the enrolling district of the student's enrollment in online learning in writing on a form provided by the department.~~

(b) Supplemental online learning notification to the enrolling district upon student enrollment in the online learning program will include the courses or program, credits to be awarded, the start date of online enrollment, and confirmation that the courses will meet the student's graduation plan. A student may enroll in supplemental online learning courses up to the midpoint of the enrolling district's term. The enrolling district may waive this requirement for special circumstances and upon acceptance by the online provider.

~~(b) An online learning student must notify the enrolling district at least 30 days before taking an online learning course or program if the enrolling district is not providing the online learning.~~  
 (c) An online learning provider must notify the commissioner that it is delivering online learning and report the number of online learning students it is accepting and the online learning courses and programs it is delivering.

~~(e)~~ (d) An online learning provider may limit enrollment if the provider's school board or board of directors adopts by resolution specific standards for accepting and rejecting students' applications.

~~(d)~~ (e) An enrolling district may reduce an online learning student's regular classroom instructional membership in proportion to the student's membership in online learning courses.

Sec. 24. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 124D.095, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Online learning parameters.** (a) An online learning student must receive academic credit for completing the requirements of an online learning course or program. Secondary credits granted to an online learning student must be counted toward the graduation and credit requirements of the enrolling district. An online learning provider must make available to the enrolling district the course syllabus, standard alignment, content outline, assessment requirements,



and contact information for supplemental online courses taken by students in the enrolling district. The enrolling district must apply the same graduation requirements to all students, including online learning students, and must continue to provide nonacademic services to online learning students. If a student completes an online learning course or program that meets or exceeds a graduation standard or grade progression requirement at the enrolling district, that standard or requirement is met. The enrolling district must use the same criteria for accepting online learning credits or courses as it does for accepting credits or courses for transfer students under section 124D.03, subdivision 9. The enrolling district may reduce the ~~teacher contact time~~ course schedule of an online learning student in proportion to the number of online learning courses the student takes from an online learning provider that is not the enrolling district.

(b) An online learning student may:

(1) enroll in supplemental online learning courses during a single school year ~~in a maximum of 12 semester-long courses or their equivalent delivered by an online learning provider or the enrolling district~~ to a maximum of 50 percent of the student's full schedule of courses per term. A student may exceed the supplemental online learning registration limit if the enrolling district grants permission for supplemental online learning enrollment above the limit, or if an agreement is made between the enrolling district and the online learning provider for instructional services;

(2) complete course work at a grade level that is different from the student's current grade level; and

(3) enroll in additional courses with the online learning provider under a separate agreement that includes terms for payment of any tuition or course fees.

(c) An online learning student has the same access to the computer hardware and education software available in a school as all other students in the enrolling district. An online learning provider must assist an online learning student whose family qualifies for the education tax credit under section 290.0674 to acquire computer hardware and educational software for online learning purposes.

(d) An enrolling district may offer online learning to its enrolled students. Such online learning does not generate online learning funds under this section. An enrolling district that offers online learning only to its enrolled students is not subject to the reporting requirements or review criteria under subdivision 7. A teacher with a Minnesota license must assemble and deliver instruction to enrolled students receiving online learning from an enrolling district. The delivery of instruction occurs when the student interacts with the computer or the teacher and receives ongoing assistance and assessment of learning. The instruction may include curriculum developed by persons other than a teacher with a Minnesota license.

(e) An online learning provider that is not the enrolling district is subject to the reporting requirements and review criteria under subdivision 7. A teacher with a Minnesota license must assemble and deliver instruction to online learning students. The delivery of instruction occurs when the student interacts with the computer or the teacher and receives ongoing assistance and assessment of learning. The instruction may include curriculum developed by persons other than a teacher with a Minnesota license. Unless the commissioner grants a waiver, a teacher providing online learning instruction must not instruct more than 40 students in any one online learning course or program.

(f) To enroll in more than 50 percent of the student's full schedule of courses per term in online learning, the student must qualify to exceed the supplemental online learning registration limit under paragraph (b) or apply for enrollment to an approved full-time online learning program following appropriate procedures in subdivision 3, paragraph (a). Full-time online learning students may enroll in classes at a local school per contract for instructional services between the online learning provider and the school district.

Sec. 25. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 124D.095, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Department of Education.** (a) The department must review and certify online learning providers. The online learning courses and programs must be rigorous, aligned with state academic standards, and contribute to grade progression in a single subject. Online learning providers must ~~affirm~~ demonstrate to the commissioner that online learning courses have equivalent standards or instruction, curriculum, and assessment requirements as other courses offered to enrolled students. The online learning provider must also demonstrate expectations for actual teacher contact time or other student-to-teacher communication. Once an online learning provider is approved under this paragraph, all of its online learning course offerings are eligible for payment under this section unless a course is successfully challenged by an enrolling district or the department under paragraph (b).

(b) An enrolling district may challenge the validity of a course offered by an online learning provider. The department must review such challenges based on the certification procedures under paragraph (a). The department may initiate its own review of the validity of an online learning course offered by an online learning provider.

(c) The department may collect a fee not to exceed \$250 for certifying online learning providers or \$50 per course for reviewing a challenge by an enrolling district.

(d) The department must develop, publish, and maintain a list of approved online learning providers and online learning courses and programs that it has reviewed and certified.

Sec. 26. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 124D.10, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Formation of school.** (a) A sponsor may authorize one or more licensed teachers under section 122A.18, subdivision 1, to operate a charter school subject to approval by the commissioner. A board must vote on charter school application for sponsorship no later than 90 days after receiving the application. ~~After 90 days, the applicant may apply to the commissioner. If a board elects not to sponsor a charter school, the applicant may appeal the board's decision to the commissioner who may elect to assist the applicant in finding an eligible sponsor.~~ The school must be organized and operated as a cooperative under chapter 308A or nonprofit corporation under chapter 317A and the provisions under the applicable chapter shall apply to the school except as provided in this section. Notwithstanding sections 465.717 and 465.719, a school district may create a corporation for the purpose of creating a charter school.

(b) Before the operators may form and operate a school, the sponsor must file an affidavit with the commissioner stating its intent to authorize a charter school. The affidavit must state the terms and conditions under which the sponsor would authorize a charter school and how the sponsor intends to oversee the fiscal and student performance of the charter school and to comply with the terms of the written contract between the sponsor and the charter school board of directors under subdivision 6. The commissioner must approve or disapprove the sponsor's proposed authorization within 90

days of receipt of the affidavit. Failure to obtain commissioner approval precludes a sponsor from authorizing the charter school that was the subject of the affidavit.

(c) The operators authorized to organize and operate a school, before entering into a contract or other agreement for professional or other services, goods, or facilities, must incorporate as a cooperative under chapter 308A or as a nonprofit corporation under chapter 317A and must establish a board of directors composed of at least five members until a timely election for members of the charter school board of directors is held according to the school's articles and bylaws. A charter school board of directors must be composed of at least five members. Any staff members who are employed at the school, including teachers providing instruction under a contract with a cooperative, and all parents of children enrolled in the school may participate in the election for members of the school's board of directors. Licensed teachers employed at the school, including teachers providing instruction under a contract with a cooperative, must be a majority of the members of the board of directors before the school completes its third year of operation, unless the commissioner waives the requirement for a majority of licensed teachers on the board. Board of director meetings must comply with chapter 13D.

(d) The granting or renewal of a charter by a sponsoring entity must not be conditioned upon the bargaining unit status of the employees of the school.

(e) A sponsor may authorize the operators of a charter school to expand the operation of the charter school to additional sites or to add additional grades at the school beyond those described in the sponsor's application as approved by the commissioner only after submitting a supplemental application to the commissioner in a form and manner prescribed by the commissioner. The supplemental application must provide evidence that:

- (1) the expansion of the charter school is supported by need and projected enrollment;
- (2) the charter school is fiscally sound;
- (3) the sponsor supports the expansion; and
- (4) the building of the additional site meets all health and safety requirements to be eligible for lease aid.

(f) The commissioner annually must provide timely financial management training to newly elected members of a charter school board of directors and ongoing training to other members of a charter school board of directors. Training must address ways to:

- (1) proactively assess opportunities for a charter school to maximize all available revenue sources;
- (2) establish and maintain complete, auditable records for the charter school;
- (3) establish proper filing techniques;
- (4) document formal actions of the charter school, including meetings of the charter school board of directors;
- (5) properly manage and retain charter school and student records;
- (6) comply with state and federal payroll record-keeping requirements; and

(7) address other similar factors that facilitate establishing and maintaining complete records on the charter school's operations.

Sec. 27. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 124D.10, subdivision 23a, is amended to read:

Subd. 23a. **Related party lease costs.** (a) A charter school is prohibited from entering a lease of real property with a related party as defined in ~~this subdivision 26~~, unless the lessor is a nonprofit corporation under chapter 317A or a cooperative under chapter 308A, and the lease cost is reasonable under section 124D.11, subdivision 4, clause (1).

(b) For purposes of this ~~subdivision~~ section and section 124D.11:

(1) A "related party" is an affiliate or close relative of the other party in question, an affiliate of a close relative, or a close relative of an affiliate.

(2) "Affiliate" means a person that directly, or indirectly through one or more intermediaries, controls, or is controlled by, or is under common control with, another person.

(3) "Close relative" means an individual whose relationship by blood, marriage, or adoption to another individual is no more remote than first cousin.

(4) "Person" means an individual or entity of any kind.

(5) "Control" includes the terms "controlling," "controlled by," and "under common control with" and means the possession, direct or indirect, of the power to direct or cause the direction of the management, operations, or policies of a person, whether through the ownership of voting securities, by contract, or otherwise.

(c) A lease of real property to be used for a charter school, not excluded in paragraph ~~(b)~~ (a), must contain the following statement: "This lease is subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.10, subdivision 23a."

(d) If a charter school enters into as lessee a lease with a related party and the charter school subsequently closes, the commissioner has the right to recover from the lessor any lease payments in excess of those that are reasonable under section 124D.11, subdivision 4, clause (1).

Sec. 28. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 124D.10, subdivision 24, is amended to read:

Subd. 24. **Pupil enrollment upon nonrenewal or termination of charter school contract.** If a contract is not renewed or is terminated according to subdivision 23, a pupil who attended the school, siblings of the pupil, or another pupil who resides in the same place as the pupil may enroll in the resident district or may submit an application to a nonresident district according to section 124D.03 at any time. Applications and notices required by section 124D.03 must be processed and provided in a prompt manner. The application and notice deadlines in section 124D.03 do not apply under these circumstances. The closed charter school must transfer the student's educational records within ten business days of closure to the student's school district of residence where the records must be retained or transferred under section 120A.22, subdivision 7.

Sec. 29. [124D.645] MULTIRACIAL DIVERSITY.

(a) Notwithstanding other law or rule to the contrary and in order to effectively meet students' educational needs and foster parents' meaningful participation in their children's education, a school

district may apply to the commissioner for a waiver from the requirement to maintain racial balance within a district school if the racial imbalance in that school results from:

(1) the enrollment of protected multiracial students and the proportion of enrolled multiracial students reflects the proportion of multiracial students who reside in the school attendance area or who are enrolled in the grade levels served by the district; or

(2) the enrollment of limited English proficiency students in a transition program that includes an intensive English component.

The commissioner must grant the waiver if the district in which the school is located offers the multiracial students or the limited English proficiency students, as appropriate, the option of enrolling in another school with the requisite racial balance, and the students' parents choose not to pursue that option.

(b) This section is effective for the 2006-2007 through 2010-2011 school years or until amended rules are adopted under Minnesota Rules, chapter 3535, pertaining to racial diversity, whichever comes first.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 30. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 124D.84, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Awards.** ~~The commissioner may award~~ director of the Office of Higher Education shall establish procedures for the distribution of scholarships to any Minnesota resident student who is of one-fourth or more Indian ancestry, who has applied for other existing state and federal scholarship and grant programs, and who, in the opinion of the commissioner director of the Office of Higher Education, based upon postsecondary institution recommendations, has the capabilities to benefit from further education. Scholarships must be for accredited degree programs in accredited Minnesota colleges or universities or for courses in accredited Minnesota business, technical, or vocational schools. Scholarships may also be given to students attending Minnesota colleges that are in candidacy status for obtaining full accreditation, and are eligible for and receiving federal financial aid programs. Students are also eligible for scholarships when enrolled as students in Minnesota higher education institutions that have joint programs with other accredited higher education institutions. Scholarships shall be used to defray the total cost of education including tuition, incidental fees, books, supplies, transportation, other related school costs and the cost of board and room and shall be paid directly to the college or school concerned where the student receives federal financial aid. The total cost of education includes all tuition and fees for each student enrolling in a public institution and the portion of tuition and fees for each student enrolling in a private institution that does not exceed the tuition and fees at a comparable public institution. Each student shall be awarded a scholarship based on ~~the total cost of the student's education and~~ a federal standardized need analysis after application of federal Pell money, state grant money, and other scholarships. Depending upon students' unmet needs, the Minnesota Indian scholarship program may award up to the current federal Pell grant allowable maximum student award per school year. Applicants are encouraged to apply for all other sources of financial aid.

When an Indian student satisfactorily completes the work required by a certain college or school in a school year the student is eligible for additional scholarships, if additional training is necessary to reach the student's educational and vocational objective. Scholarships may not be given to any

Indian student for more than five years of study at the undergraduate level and five years at the graduate level. Students may acquire only one degree per level and one terminal degree.

Sec. 31. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 127A.095, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **No Child Left Behind review.** (a) The legislature intends to require the Department of Education to conduct a comprehensive review of the consolidated state plan the state submitted to the federal Department of Education to implement the No Child Left Behind Act. The Minnesota Department of Education shall seek waivers under paragraph (b). If the Department of Education is unable to obtain waivers under paragraph (b), it should recommend in its report under paragraph (b) whether the state should opt out of the No Child Left Behind Act.

(b) The commissioner, by January 15, ~~2007~~ 2008, shall report to the house of representatives and senate committees having jurisdiction over kindergarten through grade 12 education policy and finance whether the department has received approval from the federal Department of Education to:

~~(1) allow the state to develop a plan for determining adequate yearly progress that uses multiple measures of student achievement that include value-added measurement of student achievement in addition to standardized test results to evaluate school and student performance participate in the growth model pilot program;~~

~~(2) exclude from sanctions a school that is classified as not having made adequate yearly progress due solely to different subgroups testing below proficient levels for at least two consecutive years;~~

~~(3) allow the state to average three years of data for the purposes of identifying a school for improvement;~~

~~(4) allow the state to use No Child Left Behind Act money to provide supplemental education services only in the academic subject area that causes a school to miss adequate yearly progress;~~

~~(5) exclude from sanctions schools that have not made adequate yearly progress due solely to a subgroup of students with disabilities not testing at a proficient level;~~

~~(6)~~ (3) identify a school as not making adequate yearly progress only after the school has missed the adequate yearly progress targets in the same subject and subgroup for two consecutive years;

~~(7) limit the score of a student within multiple subgroups to the smallest subgroup in which that student is included when calculating adequate yearly progress;~~

~~(8)~~ (4) determine when to hold schools accountable for including a student with limited English proficiency in adequate yearly progress calculations; ~~and~~

~~(9) use a fully computer-adaptive test for purposes of compliance with the No Child Left Behind Act~~

(5) allow a district not making adequate yearly progress to offer supplemental educational services as an option before offering school choice;

(6) allow a district not making adequate yearly progress to also be the supplemental educational services provider;

(7) allow the state to maintain a subgroup size to 40 for the purposes of calculating adequate

yearly progress for subgroups of students with limited English proficiency and subgroups of students with disabilities; and

(8) create flexibility to enable the state to define and identify highly qualified teachers.

Sec. 32. Laws 2005, First Special Session chapter 5, article 2, section 81, as amended by Laws 2006, chapter 263, article 2, section 20, is amended to read:

**Sec. 81. BOARD OF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS; RULEMAKING AUTHORITY.**

(a) On or before June 30, 2007 2008, the Board of School Administrators may adopt rules to reflect the changes in duties, responsibilities, and roles of school administrators under sections 121A.035, 121A.037 and 299F.30, and to make technical revisions and clarifications to Minnesota Rules, chapter 3512.

(b) Any rules the board adopts under the authority in paragraph (a) must retain the requirement in effect in calendar year 2006 governing classroom teaching experience for licensure as a principal.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

**Sec. 33. RULEMAKING REQUIRED.**

(a) Notwithstanding the time limit in Minnesota Statutes, section 14.125, the Board of Teaching must adopt the rules it was mandated to adopt under Laws 2003, chapter 129, article 1, section 10. The board must publish a notice of intent to adopt rules or a notice of hearing for rules subject to this section before January 1, 2008.

(b) The Board of Teaching may charge fees to issue new credentials and to renew credentials for paraprofessionals issued credentials under the rules adopted under this section.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

**Sec. 34. RULEMAKING AUTHORIZED; SUPPLEMENTAL EDUCATION SERVICE PROVIDERS.**

The commissioner of education must amend Minnesota Rules, part 3512.5400, consistent with the requirements under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 14, to include specifications that provide the basis for withdrawing Department of Education approval from supplemental education service providers that fail to increase students' academic proficiency for two consecutive school years. The amended rule also must clearly indicate:

(1) how the Department of Education will distinguish the effect of supplemental education from the effect of regular school instruction on students' academic performance; and

(2) whether the Department of Education will assess effectiveness of the supplemental education service providers using an absolute measure, such as percent of "proficient" students or measure individual students' growth toward proficiency over time.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

**Sec. 35. RULEMAKING AUTHORITY.**

The commissioner of education shall adopt rules for implementing and administering the

graduation-required assessment for diploma (GRAD) in reading and mathematics and in writing, consistent with Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.30, subdivision 1, and for public review of the GRAD test. The rules must specify the GRAD requirements that apply to students in unique circumstances including dual enrolled students, English language learners, foreign exchange students, home school students, open enrollment students, Minnesota postsecondary enrollment options students, shared-time students, transfer students from other states, and district-placed students and students attending school under a tuition agreement. The rules must establish the criteria for determining individualized GRAD passing scores for students with an individual education plan or a Section 504 plan and for using an alternative assessment when a student's individual education plan team decides to replace the GRAD test.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

**Sec. 36. GRANT PROGRAM TO PROMOTE PROFESSIONAL TEACHING STANDARDS.**

**Subdivision 1. Establishment.** A grant program to promote professional teaching standards through the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards is established to provide teachers with the opportunity to receive National Board for Professional Teaching Standards certification and to reward teachers who have already received this certification.

**Subd. 2. Eligibility.** An applicant for a grant must:

- (1) be a licensed teacher employed in a Minnesota public school;
- (2) have a minimum of five school years' classroom teaching experience; and
- (3) demonstrate acceptance by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards as a candidate for board certification or as a recipient of board certification.

**Subd. 3. Application process.** To obtain a grant to participate in the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards certification process or to receive a reward for already completing the board certification process, a teacher must submit an application to the commissioner of education in the form and manner established by the commissioner. The commissioner shall consult with the Board of Teaching when reviewing the applications. The commissioner shall also provide program support to assist applicants during the national board certification process.

**Subd. 4. Grant awards; proceeds.** (a) The commissioner may award grants of \$1,000 to eligible teachers accepted as candidates for the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards certification or for national board certification renewal for partial payment of the teacher's candidate application fee.

(b) The commissioner shall award grants of \$3,000 to all eligible teacher applicants who hold certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards and \$2,000 for renewal of their national board certification.

(c) The commissioner shall also award grants to eligible teachers who have received National Board for Professional Teaching Standards certification within one year prior to the date of the teacher's application for a grant to use for educational purposes, including purchasing instructional materials, equipment, or supplies, and pursuing professional development opportunities. The commissioner, under this paragraph, may award grants not to exceed \$1,000 after consulting with



interested stakeholders regarding the grant amount.

**Sec. 37. WORLD LANGUAGES PILOT PROGRAM GRANTS.**

(a) A pilot program awarding five world languages grants to interested and qualified school sites and school districts is established for fiscal year 2009 to develop and implement sustainable, high-quality model world languages programs and to enhance existing world languages programs at various grade levels for students in kindergarten through grade 12. Program participants must simultaneously support both non-English language learners in maintaining their native language while mastering English and native English speakers in learning other languages.

(b) Interested school sites and school districts must apply to the commissioner of education in the form and manner the commissioner determines. The application must indicate whether the applicant intends to develop a new world languages program or expand an existing world languages program and whether the applicant intends to offer more intensive programs or programs that are readily accessible to larger numbers of students. Applicants must agree to disseminate information about their programs to interested school sites and school districts.

(c) The commissioner must award grants to qualified applicants that satisfy the requirements in paragraphs (a) and (b). To the extent there are qualified applicants, the commissioner must award grants to qualified applicants on an equitable geographic basis to the extent feasible. The commissioner must award three grants to kindergarten through grade 8 sites, one grant to a qualified site interested in developing or enhancing a sustainable Mandarin Chinese program, and one grant to an indigenous American Indian world languages program. Grantees must expend the grant consistent with the content of their application and this section.

(d) The commissioner shall provide for an evaluation of the grantees to identify exemplary model world languages programs and the staff development needs of world languages teachers and report the findings of the evaluation to the education policy and finance committees of the legislature by February 15, 2010.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for the 2007-2008 school year.

**Sec. 38. BILINGUAL AND MULTILINGUAL CERTIFICATES; DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.**

The Department of Education, in consultation with interested stakeholders, must develop and recommend to the legislature by February 15, 2008, the standards and process for awarding bilingual and multilingual certificates to those kindergarten through grade 12 students who demonstrate and maintain a requisite level of proficiency in multiple languages.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

**Sec. 39. SCHOOL PERFORMANCE REPORT CARDS; ADVISORY GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS.**

(a) To sustain equity and excellence in education, the Independent Office of Educational Accountability under Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.31, subdivision 3, must convene and facilitate an advisory group of curriculum and measurement experts to consider and recommend how to structure school performance data and school performance report cards under Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.36, subdivision 1, to fully, fairly, and accurately report student achievement

and emphasize school excellence under Minnesota's system of educational accountability and public reporting. The advisory group at least must consider and recommend how to: evaluate student achievement using multiple measures of growth that take into account student demographic characteristics, consistent with Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.31, subdivision 4; and identify outstanding schools based on student achievement and achievement growth and using multiple performance measures that are objective and consistent with the highest standards in the field of educational measurements and accountability. The advisory group, at its discretion, may also consider and make recommendations on other related statewide accountability and reporting matters.

(b) Advisory group members under paragraph (a) include: two qualified experts in measurement in education selected by the State Council on Measurement in Education; one qualified expert in elementary curriculum and one qualified expert in secondary curriculum selected by the Minnesota Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development; three regionally diverse school district research and evaluation directors selected by the Minnesota Assessment Group; one school superintendent selected by the Minnesota Association of School Administrators; one University of Minnesota faculty selected by the dean of the College of Education and Human Development; one licensed teacher selected by Education Minnesota; two parents selected by the Minnesota Parent Teachers Association with expertise in measurement in education; and the director of evaluation and testing at the Minnesota Department of Education. Advisory group members' terms and other advisory group matters are subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 15.059, subdivision 6. The Independent Office of Educational Accountability must present the advisory group's recommendations under paragraph (a) to the education policy and finance committees of the legislature by February 15, 2008. The advisory group expires February 16, 2008.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

**Sec. 40. ADVISORY TASK FORCE ON MINNESOTA AMERICAN INDIAN TRIBES AND COMMUNITIES AND K-12 STANDARDS-BASED REFORM.**

Subdivision 1. **Duties.** An advisory task force on Minnesota American Indian tribes and communities and K-12 standards-based reform is established to examine the impact of state and federal standards-based reform on Minnesota's K-12 students, with particular attention to the impacts on American Indian students enrolled in Minnesota schools. The task force, in consultation with American Indian educators, parents, and others who advocate for American Indian children, must determine if:

- (1) state education standards and assessments are appropriate for American Indian students;
- (2) American Indian students are fairly compared;
- (3) American Indian students receive the assistance they need to achieve the state standards; and
- (4) schools receive financial and technical assistance sufficient to meet the educational needs of American Indian students.

Subd. 2. **Membership.** (a) The commissioner of education shall appoint representatives from the following organizations and agencies to the task force:

- (1) Department of Education staff experienced in working with American Indian students and programs;

- (2) Minnesota American Indian tribes and communities;
- (3) the Minnesota School Board Association;
- (4) school administrators;
- (5) Education Minnesota;
- (6) the state Board of Teaching;
- (7) the Minnesota Council on Indian Affairs;
- (8) postsecondary faculty who serve as instructors in teacher preparation programs; and
- (9) local community service providers who work with Minnesota American Indian tribes and communities.

(b) After the task force has been convened, the commissioner of education may appoint additional public members recommended by members of the task force.

Subd. 3. **Organization; compensation.** (a) The commissioner shall complete appointments to the task force, under subdivision 2, paragraph (a), by September 1, 2007. The commissioner of education or the commissioner's designee shall convene the first meeting of the task force within 30 days after the appointments are completed. The task force shall select a chair from its membership at the first meeting.

(b) Vacancies, renewal, and compensation of members are as provided in Minnesota Statutes, section 15.059, subject to the availability of appropriations.

(c) The commissioner of education must provide the task force with administrative and clerical support.

Subd. 4. **Recommendations.** By February 15, 2008, the task force must report recommendations and suggest implementing legislation to the legislative committees and divisions with jurisdiction over education policy and finance regarding the changes, if any, to the state's educational performance standards, content requirements, assessments measures, and teacher preparation programs that will enable Minnesota schools to most effectively meet the educational needs of American Indian students consistent with Minnesota Statutes, sections 124D.71 to 124D.82.

Subd. 5. **Expiration.** This section expires the day following the submission of the report required by subdivision 4.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 41. **AMERICAN INDIAN SCHOLARSHIP.**

Administration of the American Indian scholarship program under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.84, is transferred from the Department of Education to the Minnesota Office of Higher Education. The director of the Minnesota Office of Higher Education must contract with at least one knowledgeable person residing in or near the city of Bemidji to assist students with the scholarships under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.84, subdivision 1, and with other information about financial aid for which the students may be eligible.

Sec. 42. **APPROPRIATIONS.**

Subdivision 1. **Minnesota Office of Higher Education.** The sums indicated in this section are appropriated from the general fund to the Minnesota Office of Higher Education for the fiscal years designated.

Subd. 2. **American Indian scholarships.** For American Indian scholarships under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.84:

\$	<u>1,950,000</u>	.....	<u>2008</u>
\$	<u>1,950,000</u>	.....	<u>2009</u>

Of this appropriation, \$75,000 each year is for administration under section 41.

Sec. 43. **APPROPRIATIONS.**

Subdivision 1. **Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota.** The sums indicated in this section are appropriated from the general fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for the fiscal years designated.

Subd. 2. **Independent Office of Educational Accountability.** For the Independent Office of Educational Accountability under Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.31, subdivision 3:

\$	<u>200,000</u>	.....	<u>2008</u>
\$	<u>200,000</u>	.....	<u>2009</u>

This is a onetime appropriation.

Sec. 44. **APPROPRIATIONS.**

Subdivision 1. **Department.** The sums indicated in this section are appropriated from the general fund to the Department of Education for the fiscal years designated.

Subd. 2. **Charter school building lease aid.** For building lease aid under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.11, subdivision 4:

\$	<u>31,875,000</u>	.....	<u>2008</u>
\$	<u>36,193,000</u>	.....	<u>2009</u>

The 2008 appropriation includes \$2,814,000 for 2007 and \$29,061,000 for 2008.

The 2009 appropriation includes \$3,229,000 for 2008 and \$32,964,000 for 2009.

Subd. 3. **Charter school startup cost aid.** For charter school startup cost aid under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.11:

\$	<u>1,896,000</u>	.....	<u>2008</u>
\$	<u>2,161,000</u>	.....	<u>2009</u>

The 2008 appropriation includes \$241,000 for 2007 and \$1,655,000 for 2008.

The 2009 appropriation includes \$183,000 for 2008 and \$1,978,000 for 2009.

Subd. 4. **Integration aid.** For integration aid under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.86, subdivision 5:

\$	<u>61,769,000</u>	.....	<u>2008</u>
\$	<u>61,000,000</u>	.....	<u>2009</u>

The 2008 appropriation includes \$5,824,000 for 2007 and \$55,945,000 for 2008.

The 2009 appropriation includes \$6,216,000 for 2008 and \$54,784,000 for 2009.

Subd. 5. **Magnet school program grants.** For magnet school program grants:

\$	<u>750,000</u>	.....	<u>2008</u>
\$	<u>750,000</u>	.....	<u>2009</u>

These amounts may be used for magnet school programs under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.871.

Up to \$100,000 each year is available for site-based decision-making grant proposals that meet the goals outlined in section 124D.871 under Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.04, subdivision 2, paragraph (g).

Any balance in the first year does not cancel but is available in the second year.

Subd. 6. **Interdistrict desegregation or integration transportation grants.** For interdistrict desegregation or integration transportation grants under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.87:

\$	<u>9,639,000</u>	.....	<u>2008</u>
\$	<u>11,567,000</u>	.....	<u>2009</u>

Subd. 7. **Success for the future.** For American Indian success for the future grants under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.81:

\$	<u>2,137,000</u>	.....	<u>2008</u>
\$	<u>2,137,000</u>	.....	<u>2009</u>

The 2008 appropriation includes \$213,000 for 2007 and \$1,924,000 for 2008.

The 2009 appropriation includes \$213,000 for 2008 and \$1,924,000 for 2009.

Subd. 8. **American Indian teacher preparation grants.** For joint grants to assist American Indians to become teachers under Minnesota Statutes, section 122A.63:

\$	<u>190,000</u>	.....	<u>2008</u>
\$	<u>190,000</u>	.....	<u>2009</u>

Subd. 9. **Tribal contract schools.** For tribal contract school aid under Minnesota Statutes,

section 124D.83:

\$	<u>2,212,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2008</u>
\$	<u>2,380,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2009</u>

The 2008 appropriation includes \$204,000 for 2007 and \$2,008,000 for 2008.

The 2009 appropriation includes \$223,000 for 2008 and \$2,157,000 for 2009.

Subd. 10. **Early childhood programs at tribal schools.** For early childhood family education programs at tribal contract schools under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.83, subdivision 4:

\$	<u>68,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2008</u>
\$	<u>68,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2009</u>

Subd. 11. **Statewide testing and reporting system.** For the statewide testing and reporting system under Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.30:

\$	<u>10,150,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2008</u>
\$	<u>10,150,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2009</u>

Any testing contracts awarded by the commissioner using appropriations in this subdivision must include as part of that testing contract a method to vertically link testing questions across grade levels for the purposes of working towards a statewide growth model.

\$1,150,000 each year is for the value-added index assessment model.

Any balance in the first year does not cancel but is available in the second year.

Subd. 12. **Examination fees; teacher training and support programs.** (a) For students' advanced placement and international baccalaureate examination fees under Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.13, subdivision 3, and the training and related costs for teachers and other interested educators under Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.13, subdivision 1:

\$	<u>4,500,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2008</u>
\$	<u>4,500,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2009</u>

(b) The advanced placement program shall receive 75 percent of the appropriation each year and the international baccalaureate program shall receive 25 percent of the appropriation each year. The department, in consultation with representatives of the advanced placement and international baccalaureate programs selected by the Advanced Placement Advisory Council and IBMN, respectively, shall determine the amounts of the expenditures each year for examination fees and training and support programs for each program.

(c) Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.13, subdivision 1, at least \$500,000 each year is for teachers to attend subject matter summer training programs and follow-up support workshops approved by the advanced placement or international baccalaureate programs. The amount of the subsidy for each teacher attending an advanced placement or international baccalaureate summer training program or workshop shall be the same. The commissioner shall

determine the payment process and the amount of the subsidy.

(d) The commissioner shall pay all examination fees for all students of low-income families under Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.13, subdivision 3, and to the extent of available appropriations shall also pay examination fees for students sitting for an advanced placement examination, international baccalaureate examination, or both.

Any balance in the first year does not cancel but is available in the second year.

**Subd. 13. Preadvanced placement, advanced placement, international baccalaureate, and concurrent enrollment programs.** For preadvanced placement, advanced placement, international baccalaureate, and concurrent enrollment programs under Minnesota Statutes, sections 120B.132 and 124D.091:

\$	<u>2,000,000</u>	.....	<u>2008</u>
\$	<u>2,000,000</u>	.....	<u>2009</u>

Of this amount, \$700,000 each year is for concurrent enrollment program aid under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.091. If the appropriation is insufficient, the commissioner must proportionately reduce the aid payment to each district.

**Subd. 14. Collaborative urban educator.** For collaborative urban educator grants under Minnesota Statutes, section 122A.641:

\$	<u>528,000</u>	.....	<u>2008</u>
\$	<u>528,000</u>	.....	<u>2009</u>

\$210,000 each year is for the Southeast Asian teacher program at Concordia University, St. Paul; \$159,000 each year is for the collaborative urban educator program at the University of St. Thomas; and \$159,000 each year is for the Center for Excellence in Urban Teaching at Hamline University. Grant recipients must collaborate with urban and nonurban school districts.

Any balance in the first year does not cancel but is available in the second year.

**Subd. 15. Youth works program.** For funding youth works programs under Minnesota Statutes, sections 124D.37 to 124D.45:

\$	<u>900,000</u>	.....	<u>2008</u>
\$	<u>900,000</u>	.....	<u>2009</u>

A grantee organization may provide health and child care coverage to the dependents of each participant enrolled in a full-time youth works program to the extent the coverage is not otherwise available.

**Subd. 16. Early childhood literacy programs.** For early childhood literacy programs under Minnesota Statutes, section 119A.50, subdivision 3:

\$	<u>1,000,000</u>	.....	<u>2008</u>
\$	<u>1,000,000</u>	.....	<u>2009</u>

\$500,000 each year is for leveraging federal and private funding to support AmeriCorps members serving in the Minnesota Reading Corps program established by Serve Minnesota, including costs associated with the training and teaching of early literacy skills to children age three to grade 3 and the evaluation of the impact of the program under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.42, subdivision 8.

\$500,000 each year is for grants for early childhood literacy programs under Minnesota Statutes, section 119A.50, subdivision 3, paragraph (a).

Any balance in the first year does not cancel but is available in the second year.

Subd. 17. **St. Croix River Education District.** For a grant to the St. Croix River Education District:

<u>\$</u>	<u>500,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2008</u>
<u>\$</u>	<u>500,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2009</u>

These funds must be used to:

(1) deliver standardized research-based professional development in problem-solving, including response to intervention, scientifically based reading instruction, and standards-aligned instruction and assessment;

(2) provide coaching to targeted districts throughout the state;

(3) deliver large scale training throughout the state;

(4) provide ongoing technical assistance to schools;

(5) assist with implementing professional development content into higher education instructional curricula; and

(6) evaluate the effectiveness of project activities.

This is a onetime appropriation.

Subd. 18. **Student organizations.** For student organizations:

<u>\$</u>	<u>725,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2008</u>
<u>\$</u>	<u>725,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2009</u>

\$40,000 each year is for student organizations serving health occupations.

\$38,000 each year is for student organizations serving service occupations.

\$88,000 each year is for student organizations serving trade and industry occupations.

\$84,000 each year is for student organizations serving business occupations.

\$131,000 each year is for student organizations serving agriculture occupations.

\$125,000 each year is for student organizations serving family and consumer science occupations.



\$95,000 each year is for student organizations serving marketing occupations.

Any balance in the first year does not cancel but is available in the second year.

Subd. 19. **Educational Planning and Assessment System (EPAS) program.** For the Educational Planning and Assessment System (EPAS) program under Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.128:

\$	<u>829,000</u>	.....	<u>2008</u>
\$	<u>829,000</u>	.....	<u>2009</u>

Any balance in the first year does not cancel but is available in the second year.

Subd. 20. **College-level examination program (CLEP).** For the college-level examination program (CLEP) under Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.131:

\$	<u>1,650,000</u>	.....	<u>2008</u>
\$	<u>1,650,000</u>	.....	<u>2009</u>

Any balance in the first year does not cancel but is available in the second year.

Subd. 21. **World Languages grants.** For World Languages grants:

\$	<u>250,000</u>	.....	<u>2008</u>
\$	<u>250,000</u>	.....	<u>2009</u>

Any balance in the first year does not cancel but is available in the second year. This is a onetime appropriation.

Subd. 22. **Alternative teacher compensation aid.** For alternative teacher compensation aid under Minnesota Statutes, section 122A.415, subdivision 6:

\$	<u>39,164,000</u>	.....	<u>2009</u>
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The 2009 appropriation includes \$0 for fiscal year 2008 and \$39,164,000 for fiscal year 2009.

Subd. 23. **National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.** (a) For professional teacher licensure:

\$	<u>250,000</u>	.....	<u>2008</u>
\$	<u>250,000</u>	.....	<u>2009</u>

(b) \$63,000 of this amount is for grants of \$1,000 each to eligible teachers accepted as candidates for National Board for Professional Teaching Standards certification according to Minnesota Statutes, section 122A.73, subdivision 4, paragraph (a). The grant award shall be made to the national board.

(c) \$125,000 of this amount is for grants of \$2,000 each to eligible teachers according to Minnesota Statutes, section 122A.73, subdivision 4, paragraph (b).

(d) \$62,000 of this amount is for grants of up to \$1,000 each to eligible teachers who have received National Board for Professional Teaching Standards certification according to Minnesota Statutes, section 122A.73, subdivision 4, paragraph (c).

(e) Any balance in the first year does not cancel but is available in the second year.

(f) This is a onetime appropriation.

Subd. 24. **Mathematics and science; teacher centers.** For teacher centers for mathematics and science teacher development:

\$	<u>1,500,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2008</u>
\$	<u>1,500,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2009</u>

Any balance in the first year does not cancel but is available in the second year.

This is a onetime appropriation.

Sec. 45. **REVISOR'S INSTRUCTION.**

(a) The revisor of statutes shall renumber Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.84 to section 136A.126, correct cross-references, and make other necessary corrections to implement section 41.

(b) In Minnesota Statutes, the revisor of statutes shall codify Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.10, subdivision 23a, paragraph (b), as Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.10, subdivision 26.

Sec. 46. **REPEALER.**

Minnesota Statutes 2006, sections 120B.233; 121A.23; and 124D.62, are repealed.

### ARTICLE 3

#### SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 123B.92, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** For purposes of this section and section 125A.76, the terms defined in this subdivision have the meanings given to them.

(a) "Actual expenditure per pupil transported in the regular and excess transportation categories" means the quotient obtained by dividing:

(1) the sum of:

(i) all expenditures for transportation in the regular category, as defined in paragraph (b), clause (1), and the excess category, as defined in paragraph (b), clause (2), plus

(ii) an amount equal to one year's depreciation on the district's school bus fleet and mobile units computed on a straight line basis at the rate of 15 percent per year for districts operating a program under section 124D.128 for grades 1 to 12 for all students in the district and 12-1/2 percent per year for other districts of the cost of the fleet, plus

(iii) an amount equal to one year's depreciation on the district's type three school buses, as defined in section 169.01, subdivision 6, clause (5), which must be used a majority of the time for pupil

transportation purposes, computed on a straight line basis at the rate of 20 percent per year of the cost of the type three school buses by:

(2) the number of pupils eligible for transportation in the regular category, as defined in paragraph (b), clause (1), and the excess category, as defined in paragraph (b), clause (2).

(b) "Transportation category" means a category of transportation service provided to pupils as follows:

(1) Regular transportation is:

(i) transportation to and from school during the regular school year for resident elementary pupils residing one mile or more from the public or nonpublic school they attend, and resident secondary pupils residing two miles or more from the public or nonpublic school they attend, excluding desegregation transportation and noon kindergarten transportation; but with respect to transportation of pupils to and from nonpublic schools, only to the extent permitted by sections 123B.84 to 123B.87;

(ii) transportation of resident pupils to and from language immersion programs;

(iii) transportation of a pupil who is a custodial parent and that pupil's child between the pupil's home and the child care provider and between the provider and the school, if the home and provider are within the attendance area of the school;

(iv) transportation to and from or board and lodging in another district, of resident pupils of a district without a secondary school; and

(v) transportation to and from school during the regular school year required under subdivision 3 for nonresident elementary pupils when the distance from the attendance area border to the public school is one mile or more, and for nonresident secondary pupils when the distance from the attendance area border to the public school is two miles or more, excluding desegregation transportation and noon kindergarten transportation.

For the purposes of this paragraph, a district may designate a licensed day care facility, school day care facility, respite care facility, the residence of a relative, or the residence of a person chosen by the pupil's parent or guardian as the home of a pupil for part or all of the day, if requested by the pupil's parent or guardian, and if that facility or residence is within the attendance area of the school the pupil attends.

(2) Excess transportation is:

(i) transportation to and from school during the regular school year for resident secondary pupils residing at least one mile but less than two miles from the public or nonpublic school they attend, and transportation to and from school for resident pupils residing less than one mile from school who are transported because of extraordinary traffic, drug, or crime hazards; and

(ii) transportation to and from school during the regular school year required under subdivision 3 for nonresident secondary pupils when the distance from the attendance area border to the school is at least one mile but less than two miles from the public school they attend, and for nonresident pupils when the distance from the attendance area border to the school is less than one mile from the school and who are transported because of extraordinary traffic, drug, or crime hazards.

(3) Desegregation transportation is transportation within and outside of the district during the regular school year of pupils to and from schools located outside their normal attendance areas under a plan for desegregation mandated by the commissioner or under court order.

(4) "Transportation services for pupils with disabilities" is:

(i) transportation of pupils with disabilities who cannot be transported on a regular school bus between home or a respite care facility and school;

(ii) necessary transportation of pupils with disabilities from home or from school to other buildings, including centers such as developmental achievement centers, hospitals, and treatment centers where special instruction or services required by sections 125A.03 to 125A.24, 125A.26 to 125A.48, and 125A.65 are provided, within or outside the district where services are provided;

(iii) necessary transportation for resident pupils with disabilities required by sections 125A.12, and 125A.26 to 125A.48;

(iv) board and lodging for pupils with disabilities in a district maintaining special classes;

(v) transportation from one educational facility to another within the district for resident pupils enrolled on a shared-time basis in educational programs, and necessary transportation required by sections 125A.18, and 125A.26 to 125A.48, for resident pupils with disabilities who are provided special instruction and services on a shared-time basis or if resident pupils are not transported, the costs of necessary travel between public and private schools or neutral instructional sites by essential personnel employed by the district's program for children with a disability;

(vi) transportation for resident pupils with disabilities to and from board and lodging facilities when the pupil is boarded and lodged for educational purposes; and

(vii) services described in clauses (i) to (vi), when provided for pupils with disabilities in conjunction with a summer instructional program that relates to the pupil's individual education plan or in conjunction with a learning year program established under section 124D.128.

For purposes of computing special education ~~base revenue~~ initial aid under section 125A.76, subdivision 2, the cost of providing transportation for children with disabilities includes (A) the additional cost of transporting a homeless student from a temporary nonshelter home in another district to the school of origin, or a formerly homeless student from a permanent home in another district to the school of origin but only through the end of the academic year; and (B) depreciation on district-owned school buses purchased after July 1, 2005, and used primarily for transportation of pupils with disabilities, calculated according to paragraph (a), clauses (ii) and (iii). Depreciation costs included in the disabled transportation category must be excluded in calculating the actual expenditure per pupil transported in the regular and excess transportation categories according to paragraph (a).

(5) "Nonpublic nonregular transportation" is:

(i) transportation from one educational facility to another within the district for resident pupils enrolled on a shared-time basis in educational programs, excluding transportation for nonpublic pupils with disabilities under clause (4);

(ii) transportation within district boundaries between a nonpublic school and a public school or a

neutral site for nonpublic school pupils who are provided pupil support services pursuant to section 123B.44; and

(iii) late transportation home from school or between schools within a district for nonpublic school pupils involved in after-school activities.

(c) "Mobile unit" means a vehicle or trailer designed to provide facilities for educational programs and services, including diagnostic testing, guidance and counseling services, and health services. A mobile unit located off nonpublic school premises is a neutral site as defined in section 123B.41, subdivision 13.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for revenue for fiscal year 2008.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 124D.454, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Definitions.** For the purposes of this section, the definitions in this subdivision apply.

~~(a) "Base year" means the second fiscal year preceding the fiscal year for which aid will be paid.~~

~~(b)~~ (b) "Basic revenue" has the meaning given it in section 126C.10, subdivision 2. For the purposes of computing basic revenue pursuant to this section, each child with a disability shall be counted as prescribed in section 126C.05, subdivision 1.

~~(c) "Average daily membership" has the meaning given it in section 126C.05.~~

~~(d) "Program growth factor" means 1.00 for fiscal year 1998 and later.~~

~~(e) "Aid percentage factor" means 100 percent for fiscal year 2000 and later.~~

~~(f)~~ (b) "Essential personnel" means a licensed teacher, licensed support services staff person, paraprofessional providing direct services to students, or licensed personnel under subdivision 12. This definition is not intended to change or modify the definition of essential employee in chapter 179A.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for revenue for fiscal year 2008.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 124D.454, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Base revenue Initial aid.** (a) The transition-disabled program ~~base revenue~~ initial aid equals the sum of the following amounts computed using ~~base~~ current year data:

(1) 68 percent of the salary of each essential licensed person or approved paraprofessional who provides direct instructional services to students employed during that fiscal year for services rendered in that district's transition program for children with a disability;

(2) 47 percent of the costs of necessary equipment for transition programs for children with a disability;

(3) 47 percent of the costs of necessary travel between instructional sites by transition program teachers of children with a disability but not including travel to and from local, regional, district, state, or national career and technical student organization meetings;

(4) 47 percent of the costs of necessary supplies for transition programs for children with a disability but not to exceed an average of \$47 in any one school year for each child with a disability

receiving these services;

(5) for transition programs for children with disabilities provided by a contract approved by the commissioner with public, private, or voluntary agencies other than a Minnesota school district or cooperative center, in place of programs provided by the district, 52 percent of the difference between the amount of the contract and the basic revenue of the district for that pupil for the fraction of the school day the pupil receives services under the contract;

(6) for transition programs for children with disabilities provided by a contract approved by the commissioner with public, private, or voluntary agencies other than a Minnesota school district or cooperative center, that are supplementary to a full educational program provided by the school district, 52 percent of the amount of the contract; and

(7) for a contract approved by the commissioner with another Minnesota school district or cooperative center for vocational evaluation services for children with a disability for children that are not yet enrolled in grade 12, 52 percent of the amount of the contract.

~~(b) If requested by a school district for transition programs during the base year for less than the full school year, the commissioner may adjust the base revenue to reflect the expenditures that would have occurred during the base year had the program been operated for the full year.~~

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for revenue for fiscal year 2008.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 125A.11, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Nonresident tuition rate; other costs.** (a) For fiscal year 2006, when a school district provides instruction and services outside the district of residence, board and lodging, and any tuition to be paid, shall be paid by the district of residence. The tuition rate to be charged for any child with a disability, excluding a pupil for whom tuition is calculated according to section 127A.47, subdivision 7, paragraph (d), must be the sum of (1) the actual cost of providing special instruction and services to the child including a proportionate amount for special transportation and unreimbursed building lease and debt service costs for facilities used primarily for special education, plus (2) the amount of general education revenue and referendum aid attributable to the pupil, minus (3) the amount of special education aid for children with a disability received on behalf of that child, minus (4) if the pupil receives special instruction and services outside the regular classroom for more than 60 percent of the school day, the amount of general education revenue and referendum aid, excluding portions attributable to district and school administration, district support services, operations and maintenance, capital expenditures, and pupil transportation, attributable to that pupil for the portion of time the pupil receives special instruction and services outside of the regular classroom. If the boards involved do not agree upon the tuition rate, either board may apply to the commissioner to fix the rate. Notwithstanding chapter 14, the commissioner must then set a date for a hearing or request a written statement from each board, giving each board at least ten days' notice, and after the hearing or review of the written statements the commissioner must make an order fixing the tuition rate, which is binding on both school districts. General education revenue and referendum equalization aid attributable to a pupil must be calculated using the resident district's average general education revenue and referendum revenue equalization aid per adjusted pupil unit.

(b) For fiscal year 2007 and later, when a school district provides special instruction and services for a pupil with a disability as defined in section 125A.02 outside the district of residence, excluding a pupil for whom an adjustment to special education aid is calculated according to

section 127A.47, subdivision 7, paragraph (e), special education aid paid to the resident district must be reduced by an amount equal to (1) the actual cost of providing special instruction and services to the pupil, including a proportionate amount for special transportation and unreimbursed building lease and debt service costs for facilities used primarily for special education, plus (2) the amount of general education revenue and referendum equalization aid attributable to that pupil, calculated using the resident district's average general education revenue and referendum equalization aid per adjusted pupil unit excluding basic skills revenue, elementary sparsity revenue and secondary sparsity revenue, minus (3) the amount of special education aid for children with a disability received on behalf of that child, minus (4) if the pupil receives special instruction and services outside the regular classroom for more than 60 percent of the school day, the amount of general education revenue and referendum equalization aid, excluding portions attributable to district and school administration, district support services, operations and maintenance, capital expenditures, and pupil transportation, attributable to that pupil for the portion of time the pupil receives special instruction and services outside of the regular classroom, ~~general education revenue and referendum aid attributable to a pupil must be~~ calculated using the resident district's average general education revenue and referendum equalization aid per adjusted pupil unit excluding basic skills revenue, elementary sparsity revenue and secondary sparsity revenue and the serving district's basic skills revenue, elementary sparsity revenue and secondary sparsity revenue per adjusted pupil unit. Notwithstanding clauses (1) and (4), for pupils served by a cooperative unit without a fiscal agent school district, the general education revenue and referendum equalization aid attributable to a pupil must be calculated using the resident district's average general education revenue and referendum equalization aid excluding elementary sparsity revenue and secondary sparsity revenue. Special education aid paid to the district or cooperative providing special instruction and services for the pupil must be increased by the amount of the reduction in the aid paid to the resident district. Amounts paid to cooperatives under this subdivision and section 127A.47, subdivision 7, shall be recognized and reported as revenues and expenditures on the resident school district's books of account under sections 123B.75 and 123B.76. If the resident district's special education aid is insufficient to make the full adjustment, the remaining adjustment shall be made to other state aid due to the district.

(c) Notwithstanding paragraphs (a) and (b) and section 127A.47, subdivision 7, paragraphs (d) and (e), a charter school where more than 30 percent of enrolled students receive special education and related services, a site approved under section 125A.515, an intermediate district, a special education cooperative, or a school district that served as the applicant agency for a group of school districts for federal special education aids for fiscal year 2006 may apply to the commissioner for authority to charge the resident district an additional amount to recover any remaining unreimbursed costs of serving pupils with a disability. The application must include a description of the costs and the calculations used to determine the unreimbursed portion to be charged to the resident district. Amounts approved by the commissioner under this paragraph must be included in the tuition billings or aid adjustments under paragraph (a) or (b), or section 127A.47, subdivision 7, paragraph (d) or (e), as applicable.

(d) For purposes of this subdivision and section 127A.47, subdivision 7, paragraphs (d) and (e), "general education revenue and referendum equalization aid" means the sum of the general education revenue according to section 126C.10, subdivision 1, excluding alternative teacher compensation revenue, plus the referendum equalization aid according to section 126C.17, subdivision 7, as adjusted according to section 127A.47, subdivision 7, paragraphs (a) to (c).

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 125A.13, is amended to read:

**125A.13 SCHOOL OF PARENTS' CHOICE.**

(a) Nothing in this chapter must be construed as preventing parents of a child with a disability from sending the child to a school of their choice, if they so elect, subject to admission standards and policies adopted according to sections 125A.62 to 125A.64 and 125A.66 to 125A.73, and all other provisions of chapters 120A to 129C.

(b) The parent of a student with a disability not yet enrolled in kindergarten and not open enrolled in a nonresident district may request that the resident district enter into a tuition agreement with the nonresident district if:

(1) the child is enrolled in a Head Start program or a licensed child care setting in the nonresident district; and

(2) the child can be served in the same setting as other children in the nonresident district with the same level of disability.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 125A.14, is amended to read:

**125A.14 ~~SUMMER PROGRAMS~~ EXTENDED SCHOOL YEAR.**

A district may provide ~~summer programs~~ extended school year services for children with a disability living within the district and nonresident children temporarily placed in the district pursuant to section 125A.15 or 125A.16. Prior to March 31 or 30 days after the child with a disability is placed in the district, whichever is later, the providing district shall give notice to the district of residence of any nonresident children temporarily placed in the district pursuant to section 125A.15 or 125A.16, of its intention to provide these programs. Notwithstanding any contrary provisions in sections 125A.15 and 125A.16, the district providing the special instruction and services must apply for special education aid for the ~~summer program~~ extended school year services. The unreimbursed actual cost of providing the program for nonresident children with a disability, including the cost of board and lodging, may be billed to the district of the child's residence and must be paid by the resident district. Transportation costs must be paid by the district responsible for providing transportation pursuant to section 125A.15 or 125A.16 and transportation aid must be paid to that district.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 125A.63, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 5. **Statewide hearing loss early education intervention coordinator.** (a) The coordinator shall:

(1) collaborate with the early hearing detection and intervention coordinator for the Department of Health, the director of the Department of Education Resource Center for Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing, and the Department of Health Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Advisory Council;

(2) coordinate and support Department of Education early hearing detection and intervention teams;



(3) leverage resources by serving as a liaison between interagency early intervention committees; part C coordinators from the Departments of Education, Health, and Human Services; Department of Education regional low-incidence facilitators; service coordinators from school districts; Minnesota children with special health needs in the Department of Health; public health nurses; child find; Department of Human Services Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Services Division; and others as appropriate;

(4) identify, support, and promote culturally appropriate and evidence-based early intervention practices for infants with hearing loss, and provide training, outreach, and use of technology to increase consistency in statewide service provision;

(5) identify culturally appropriate specialized reliable and valid instruments to assess and track the progress of children with hearing loss and promote their use;

(6) ensure that early childhood providers, parents, and members of the individual family service and intervention plan are provided with child progress data resulting from specialized assessments;

(7) educate early childhood providers and teachers of the deaf and hard-of-hearing to use developmental data from specialized assessments to plan and adjust individual family service plans; and

(8) make recommendations that would improve educational outcomes to the early hearing detection and intervention committee, the commissioners of education and health, the Minnesota Commission Serving Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing People, and the advisory council of the Minnesota Department of Education Resource Center for the Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing.

(b) The Department of Education must provide aggregate data regarding outcomes of deaf and hard-of-hearing children who receive early intervention services within the state in accordance with the state performance plan.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 125A.75, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Travel aid.** The state must pay each district one-half of the sum actually expended by a district, based on mileage, for necessary travel of essential personnel providing home-based or community-based services to children with a disability under age five and their families.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 125A.75, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Program and aid approval.** Before June 1 of each year, each district providing special instruction and services to children with a disability, including children eligible for Part C, as defined in section 125A.02, subdivision 1, and section 125A.27, subdivision 8, must submit to the commissioner an application for approval of these programs and their budgets for the next fiscal year. The application must include an enumeration of the costs proposed as eligible for state aid pursuant to this section and of the estimated number and grade level of children with a disability in the district who will receive special instruction and services ~~during the regular school year and in summer school programs~~ during the next fiscal year. The application must also include any other information deemed necessary by the commissioner for the calculation of state aid and for the evaluation of the necessity of the program, the necessity of the personnel to be employed in the program, for determining the amount which the program will receive from grants from federal funds, or special grants from other state sources, and the program's compliance with the rules and standards of the Department of Education. The commissioner shall review each application

to determine whether the program and the personnel to be employed in the program are actually necessary and essential to meet the district's obligation to provide special instruction and services to children with a disability pursuant to sections 125A.03 to 125A.24, 125A.259 to 125A.48, and 125A.65. The commissioner shall not approve aid pursuant to this section for any program or for the salary of any personnel determined to be unnecessary or unessential on the basis of this review. The commissioner may withhold all or any portion of the aid for programs which receive grants from federal funds, or special grants from other state sources. By August 31 the commissioner shall approve, disapprove, or modify each application, and notify each applying district of the action and of the estimated amount of aid for the programs. The commissioner shall provide procedures for districts to submit additional applications for program and budget approval during the fiscal year, for programs needed to meet any substantial changes in the needs of children with a disability in the district. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 127A.42, the commissioner may modify or withdraw the program or aid approval and withhold aid pursuant to this section without proceeding according to section 127A.42 at any time the commissioner determines that the program does not comply with rules of the Department of Education or that any facts concerning the program or its budget differ from the facts in the district's approved application.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for revenue for fiscal year 2008.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 125A.75, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 9. **Litigation costs; annual report.** (a) By November 30 of each year, a school district must annually report the district's special education litigation costs, including attorney fees and costs of due process hearings, to the commissioner of education, consistent with the Uniform Financial Accounting and Reporting Standards.

(b) By January 15 of each year, the commissioner shall report school district special education litigation costs to the house of representatives and the senate committees having jurisdiction over kindergarten through grade 12 education finance.

Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 125A.76, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** For the purposes of this section, the definitions in this subdivision apply.

~~(a) "Base year" for fiscal year 1998 and later fiscal years means the second fiscal year preceding the fiscal year for which aid will be paid.~~

~~(b) "Basic revenue" has the meaning given it in section 126C.10, subdivision 2. For the purposes of computing basic revenue pursuant to this section, each child with a disability shall be counted as prescribed in section 126C.05, subdivision 1.~~

~~(c) (b) "Essential personnel" means teachers, cultural liaisons, related services, and support services staff providing direct services to students. Essential personnel may also include special education paraprofessionals or clericals providing support to teachers and students by preparing paperwork and making arrangements related to special education compliance requirements, including parent meetings and individual education plans.~~

~~(d) (c) "Average daily membership" has the meaning given it in section 126C.05.~~

~~(e) (d) "Program growth factor" means 1.046 for fiscal year 2003, and 1.0 for fiscal year 2004~~

2012 and later.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for revenue for fiscal year 2008.

Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 125A.76, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Special education base revenue initial aid.** ~~(a)~~ The special education ~~base revenue~~ initial aid equals the sum of the following amounts computed using base current year data:

(1) 68 percent of the salary of each essential person employed in the district's program for children with a disability during the fiscal year, whether the person is employed by one or more districts or a Minnesota correctional facility operating on a fee-for-service basis;

(2) for the Minnesota State Academy for the Deaf or the Minnesota State Academy for the Blind, 68 percent of the salary of each instructional aide assigned to a child attending the academy, if that aide is required by the child's individual education plan;

(3) for special instruction and services provided to any pupil by contracting with public, private, or voluntary agencies other than school districts, in place of special instruction and services provided by the district, 52 percent of the difference between the amount of the contract and ~~the amount of the basic revenue, as defined in section 126C.10, subdivision 2, special education aid, and any other aid earned on behalf of the child~~ the general education revenue, excluding basic skills revenue and alternative teacher compensation revenue, and referendum equalization aid attributable to a pupil, calculated using the resident district's average general education revenue and referendum equalization aid per adjusted pupil unit for the fraction of the school day the pupil receives services under the contract. This includes children who are residents of the state, receive services under this subdivision and subdivision 1, and are placed in a care and treatment facility by court action in a state that does not have a reciprocity agreement with the commissioner under section 125A.155 as provided for in section 125A.79, subdivision 8;

(4) for special instruction and services provided to any pupil by contracting for services with public, private, or voluntary agencies other than school districts, that are supplementary to a full educational program provided by the school district, 52 percent of the amount of the contract for that pupil;

(5) for supplies and equipment purchased or rented for use in the instruction of children with a disability, an amount equal to 47 percent of the sum actually expended by the district, or a Minnesota correctional facility operating on a fee-for-service basis, but not to exceed an average of \$47 in any one school year for each child with a disability receiving instruction;

(6) for fiscal years 1997 and later, special education base revenue shall include amounts under clauses (1) to (5) for special education summer programs provided during the base year for that fiscal year; ~~and~~

~~(7) for fiscal years 1999 and later, the cost of providing transportation services for children with disabilities under section 123B.92, subdivision 1, paragraph (b), clause (4); and~~

(8) the district's transition-disabled program initial aid according to section 124D.454, subdivision 3.

The department shall establish procedures through the uniform financial accounting and

reporting system to identify and track all revenues generated from third-party billings as special education revenue at the school district level; include revenue generated from third-party billings as special education revenue in the annual cross-subsidy report; and exclude third-party revenue from calculation of excess cost aid to the districts.

~~(b) If requested by a school district operating a special education program during the base year for less than the full fiscal year, or a school district in which is located a Minnesota correctional facility operating on a fee-for-service basis for less than the full fiscal year, the commissioner may adjust the base revenue to reflect the expenditures that would have occurred during the base year had the program been operated for the full fiscal year.~~

~~(c) Notwithstanding paragraphs (a) and (b), the portion of a school district's base revenue attributable to a Minnesota correctional facility operating on a fee-for-service basis during the facility's first year of operating on a fee-for-service basis shall be computed using current year data.~~

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for revenue for fiscal year 2008.

Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 125A.76, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **State total special education aid.** ~~The state total special education aid for fiscal year 2004 equals \$530,642,000. The state total special education aid for fiscal year 2005 equals \$529,164,000~~ \$529,247,000 for fiscal year 2007, \$709,698,000 for fiscal year 2008, \$742,334,000 for fiscal year 2009, \$778,780,000 for fiscal year 2010, and \$817,167,000 for fiscal year 2011. The state total special education aid for later fiscal years equals:

- (1) the state total special education aid for the preceding fiscal year; times
- (2) the program growth factor; times
- (3) the greater of one, or the ratio of the state total average daily membership for the current fiscal year to the state total average daily membership for the preceding fiscal year.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for revenue for fiscal year 2008.

Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 125A.76, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **School district special education aid.** ~~(a) A school district's special education aid for fiscal year 2000 2008 and later equals the state total special education aid, minus the amount determined under paragraphs (b) and (c), times the ratio of the district's adjusted initial special education base revenue aid to the state total adjusted initial special education base revenue aid. If the commissioner of education modifies its rules for special education in a manner that increases a district's special education obligations or service requirements, the commissioner shall annually increase each district's special education aid by the amount necessary to compensate for the increased service requirements. The additional aid equals the cost in the current year attributable to rule changes not reflected in the computation of special education base revenue, multiplied by the appropriate percentages from subdivision 2.~~

~~(b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), if the special education base revenue for a district equals zero, the special education aid equals the amount computed according to subdivision 2 using current year data.~~

~~(c) Notwithstanding paragraphs (a) and (b), if the special education base revenue for a district~~

~~is greater than zero, and the base year amount for the district under subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clause (7), equals zero, the special education aid equals the sum of the amount computed according to paragraph (a), plus the amount computed according to subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clause (7), using current year data.~~

~~(d) A charter school under section 124D.10 shall generate state special education aid based on current year expenditures for its first four years of operation and only in its fifth and later years shall paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) apply.~~

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for revenue for fiscal year 2008.

Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 125A.76, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

**Subd. 8. Special education forecast maintenance of effort.** (a) If, on the basis of a forecast of general fund revenues and expenditures under section 16A.103, the state's expenditures for special education and related services for children with disabilities from nonfederal sources for a fiscal year, including special education aid under section 125A.76; special education excess cost aid under section 125A.76, subdivision 7; travel for home-based services under section 125A.75, subdivision 1; aid for students with disabilities under section 125A.75, subdivision 3; court-placed special education under section 125A.79, subdivision 4; out-of-state tuition under section 125A.79, subdivision 8; and direct expenditures by state agencies are projected to be less than the amount required to meet federal special education maintenance of effort, the additional amount required to meet federal special education maintenance of effort is added to the state total special education aid in section 125A.76, subdivision 4.

(b) If, on the basis of a forecast of general fund revenues and expenditures under section 16A.103, expenditures in the programs in paragraph (a) are projected to be greater than previously forecast for an enacted budget, and an addition to state total special education aid has been made under paragraph (a), the state total special education aid must be reduced by the lesser of the amount of the expenditure increase or the amount previously added to state total special education aid in section 125A.76, subdivision 4.

(c) For the purpose of this section, "previously forecast for an enacted budget" means the allocation of funding for these programs in the most recent forecast of general fund revenues and expenditures or the act appropriating money for these programs, whichever occurred most recently. It does not include planning estimates for a future biennium.

(d) If the amount of special education aid is adjusted in accordance with this subdivision, the commissioner of education shall notify the chairs of the legislative committees having jurisdiction over kindergarten through grade 12 education regarding the amount of the adjustment and provide an explanation of the federal maintenance of effort requirements.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for fiscal year 2008.

Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 125A.78, is amended to read:

**125A.78 ALTERNATIVE DELIVERY BASE REVENUE INITIAL AID ADJUSTMENT.**

**Subdivision 1. Eligibility.** A district is eligible for an alternative delivery ~~base revenue~~ initial aid adjustment if the commissioner has approved the application of the district according to section 125A.50.

Subd. 2. ~~Base revenue~~ **Initial aid adjustment.** For the ~~third~~ fiscal year after approval of a district's application, and thereafter, the special education ~~base revenue~~ initial aid under section 125A.76, subdivision 1, must be computed based on activities defined as reimbursable under Department of Education rules for special education and nonspecial education students, and additional activities as detailed and approved by the commissioner.

Subd. 3. **Use of revenue.** Revenue under section 125A.76 shall be used to implement the approved program.

Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 125A.79, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** For the purposes of this section, the definitions in this subdivision apply.

(a) "Unreimbursed special education cost" means the sum of the following:

(1) expenditures for teachers' salaries, contracted services, supplies, equipment, and transportation services eligible for revenue under section 125A.76; plus

(2) expenditures for tuition bills received under sections 125A.03 to 125A.24 and 125A.65 for services eligible for revenue under section 125A.76, subdivision 2; minus

(3) revenue for teachers' salaries, contracted services, supplies, and equipment, and transportation services under section 125A.76; minus

(4) tuition receipts under sections 125A.03 to 125A.24 and 125A.65 for services eligible for revenue under section 125A.76, subdivision 2.

(b) "General revenue" means the sum of the general education revenue according to section 126C.10, subdivision 1, excluding alternative teacher compensation revenue, plus the total qualifying referendum revenue specified in paragraph (e) minus transportation sparsity revenue minus total operating capital revenue.

(c) "Average daily membership" has the meaning given it in section 126C.05.

(d) "Program growth factor" means 1.02 for fiscal year ~~2003~~, and 1.0 for fiscal year ~~2004~~ 2012 and later.

(e) "Total qualifying referendum revenue" means two-thirds of the district's total referendum revenue as adjusted according to section 127A.47, subdivision 7, paragraphs (a) to (c), for fiscal year 2006, one-third of the district's total referendum revenue for fiscal year 2007, and none of the district's total referendum revenue for fiscal year 2008 and later.

Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 125A.79, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **Initial excess cost aid.** For fiscal years ~~2002~~ 2008 and later, a district's initial excess cost aid equals the ~~greatest~~ greater of:

(1) 75 percent of the difference between (i) the district's unreimbursed special education cost and (ii) 4.36 percent of the district's general revenue; or

(2) ~~70 percent of the difference between (i) the increase in the district's unreimbursed special education cost between the base year as defined in section 125A.76, subdivision 1, and the current~~

year and (ii) 1.6 percent of the district's general revenue; or

(3) zero.

Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 125A.79, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

**Subd. 6. State total special education excess cost aid.** The state total special education excess cost aid for fiscal year 2005 equals \$91,811,000 \$104,700,000 for fiscal year 2007, \$122,586,000 for fiscal year 2008, \$125,302,000 for fiscal year 2009, \$125,477,000 for fiscal year 2010, and \$125,858,000 for fiscal year 2011. ~~The state total special education excess cost aid equals \$103,600,000 for fiscal year 2006 and \$104,700,000 for fiscal year 2007.~~ The state total special education excess cost aid for ~~fiscal year 2008~~ and later fiscal years equals:

- (1) the state total special education excess cost aid for the preceding fiscal year; times
- (2) the program growth factor; times
- (3) the greater of one, or the ratio of the state total average daily membership for the current fiscal year to the state total average daily membership for the preceding fiscal year.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for revenue for fiscal year 2008.

Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 125A.79, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

**Subd. 8. Out-of-state tuition.** For children who are residents of the state, receive services under section 125A.76, subdivisions 1 and 2, and are placed in a care and treatment facility by court action in a state that does not have a reciprocity agreement with the commissioner under section 125A.155, the resident school district shall submit the balance of the tuition bills, minus ~~the amount of the basic revenue, as defined by section 126C.10, subdivision 2, of the district for the child and the general education revenue, excluding basic skills revenue and alternative teacher compensation revenue, and referendum equalization aid attributable to the pupil, calculated using the resident district's average general education revenue and referendum equalization aid per adjusted pupil unit minus the special education aid, and any other aid earned on behalf of the child~~ contracted services initial revenue attributable to the pupil.

Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 127A.47, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

**Subd. 7. Alternative attendance programs.** The general education aid and special education aid for districts must be adjusted for each pupil attending a nonresident district under sections 123A.05 to 123A.08, 124D.03, 124D.06, 124D.08, and 124D.68. The adjustments must be made according to this subdivision.

(a) General education aid paid to a resident district must be reduced by an amount equal to the referendum equalization aid attributable to the pupil in the resident district.

(b) General education aid paid to a district serving a pupil in programs listed in this subdivision must be increased by an amount equal to the referendum equalization aid attributable to the pupil in the nonresident district.

(c) If the amount of the reduction to be made from the general education aid of the resident district is greater than the amount of general education aid otherwise due the district, the excess reduction must be made from other state aids due the district.

(d) For fiscal year 2006, the district of residence must pay tuition to a district or an area learning center, operated according to paragraph (f), providing special instruction and services to a pupil with a disability, as defined in section 125A.02, or a pupil, as defined in section 125A.51, who is enrolled in a program listed in this subdivision. The tuition must be equal to (1) the actual cost of providing special instruction and services to the pupil, including a proportionate amount for special transportation and unreimbursed building lease and debt service costs for facilities used primarily for special education, minus (2) if the pupil receives special instruction and services outside the regular classroom for more than 60 percent of the school day, the amount of general education revenue and referendum equalization aid attributable to that pupil for the portion of time the pupil receives special instruction and services outside of the regular classroom, excluding portions attributable to district and school administration, district support services, operations and maintenance, capital expenditures, and pupil transportation, minus (3) special education aid attributable to that pupil, that is received by the district providing special instruction and services. For purposes of this paragraph, general education revenue and referendum equalization aid attributable to a pupil must be calculated using the serving district's average general education revenue and referendum equalization aid per adjusted pupil unit.

(e) For fiscal year 2007 and later, special education aid paid to a resident district must be reduced by an amount equal to (1) the actual cost of providing special instruction and services, including special transportation and unreimbursed building lease and debt service costs for facilities used primarily for special education, for a pupil with a disability, as defined in section 125A.02, or a pupil, as defined in section 125A.51, who is enrolled in a program listed in this subdivision, minus (2) if the pupil receives special instruction and services outside the regular classroom for more than 60 percent of the school day, the amount of general education revenue and referendum equalization aid attributable to that pupil for the portion of time the pupil receives special instruction and services outside of the regular classroom, excluding portions attributable to district and school administration, district support services, operations and maintenance, capital expenditures, and pupil transportation, minus (3) special education aid attributable to that pupil, that is received by the district providing special instruction and services. For purposes of this paragraph, general education revenue and referendum equalization aid attributable to a pupil must be calculated using the serving district's average general education revenue and referendum equalization aid per adjusted pupil unit. Special education aid paid to the district or cooperative providing special instruction and services for the pupil, or to the fiscal agent district for a cooperative, must be increased by the amount of the reduction in the aid paid to the resident district. If the resident district's special education aid is insufficient to make the full adjustment, the remaining adjustment shall be made to other state aids due to the district.

(f) An area learning center operated by a service cooperative, intermediate district, education district, or a joint powers cooperative may elect through the action of the constituent boards to charge the resident district tuition for pupils rather than to have the general education revenue paid to a fiscal agent school district. Except as provided in paragraph (d) or (e), the district of residence must pay tuition equal to at least 90 percent of the district average general education revenue per pupil unit minus an amount equal to the product of the formula allowance according to section 126C.10, subdivision 2, times .0485, calculated without basic skills revenue and transportation sparsity revenue, times the number of pupil units for pupils attending the area learning center, plus the amount of compensatory revenue generated by pupils attending the area learning center.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.



Sec. 22. Laws 2006, chapter 263, article 3, section 15, is amended to read:

**Sec. 15. SPECIAL EDUCATION TUITION BILLING FOR FISCAL YEARS 2006 AND, 2007, AND 2008.**

(a) Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, sections 125A.11, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), and 127A.47, subdivision 7, paragraph (d), for fiscal year 2006 an intermediate district, special education cooperative, or school district that served as an applicant agency for a group of school districts for federal special education aids for fiscal year 2006 is not subject to the uniform special education tuition billing calculations, but may instead continue to bill the resident school districts for the actual unreimbursed costs of serving pupils with a disability as determined by the intermediate district, special education cooperative, or school district.

(b) Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 125A.11, subdivision 1, paragraph (c), for fiscal year 2007 only, an applicant district agency exempted from the uniform special education tuition billing calculations for fiscal year 2006 under paragraph (a) may apply to the commissioner for a waiver an exemption from the uniform special education tuition calculations and aid adjustments under Minnesota Statutes, sections 125A.11, subdivision 1, paragraph (b), and 127A.47, subdivision 7, paragraph (e). The commissioner must grant the waiver exemption within 30 days of receiving the following information from the intermediate district, special education cooperative, or school district:

(1) a detailed description of the applicant district's methodology for calculating special education tuition for fiscal years 2006 and 2007, as required by the applicant district to recover the full cost of serving pupils with a disability;

(2) sufficient data to determine the total amount of special education tuition actually charged for each student with a disability, as required by the applicant district to recover the full cost of serving pupils with a disability in fiscal year 2006; and

(3) sufficient data to determine the amount that would have been charged for each student for fiscal year 2006 using the uniform tuition billing methodology according to Minnesota Statutes, sections 125A.11, subdivision 1, or 127A.47, subdivision 7, as applicable.

(c) Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 125A.11, subdivision 1, paragraph (c), for fiscal year 2008 only, an agency granted an exemption from the uniform special education tuition billing calculations and aid adjustments for fiscal year 2007 under paragraph (b) may apply to the commissioner for a one-year extension of the exemption granted under paragraph (b). The commissioner must grant the extension within 30 days of receiving the request.

(d) Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 125A.11, subdivisions 1, paragraphs (a) and (b), and section 127A.47, subdivision 7, paragraphs (d) and (e), for fiscal year 2007 only, a school district or charter school not eligible for a waiver under Minnesota Statutes, section 125A.11, subdivision 1, paragraph (d), may apply to the commissioner for authority to charge the resident district an additional amount to recover any remaining unreimbursed costs of serving pupils with a disability. The application must include a description of the costs and the calculations used to determine the unreimbursed portion to be charged to the resident district. Amounts approved by the commissioner under this paragraph must be included in the tuition billings or aid adjustments under paragraph (a) or (b), or Minnesota Statutes, section 127A.47, subdivision 7, paragraph (d) or (e), as applicable.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

**Sec. 23. TASK FORCE TO COMPARE FEDERAL AND STATE SPECIAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS.**

**Subdivision 1. Establishment; duties.** A task force is established to recommend which state laws and rules that exceed or expand upon minimum federal special education requirements for providing special education programs and services to eligible students should be amended to conform with minimum federal requirements. The commissioner of the Bureau of Mediation Services under Minnesota Statutes, section 179.02, after consulting with interested stakeholders, shall appoint a ten-member task force composed of equal numbers of providers, advocates, regulators, consumers of special education services, lawyers who practice in the field of special education and represent either parents or school districts, special education teachers, and school officials. The commissioner must convene the task force by August 1, 2007, which shall meet regularly and shall review the January 25, 2006, report prepared by the Minnesota Department of Education Office of Compliance and Assistance and other relevant studies and resources analyzing differences between federal and state special education requirements. The terms and compensation of task force members are governed by Minnesota Statutes, section 15.059, subdivision 6.

**Subd. 2. Report.** The task force must submit to the education policy and finance committees of the legislature by February 15, 2008, a report that identifies and clearly and concisely explains each provision in state law or rule that exceeds or expands upon a minimum federal requirement contained in law or regulation for providing special education programs and services to eligible students. The report also must recommend which state provisions that exceed or expand upon a minimum federal requirement may be amended to conform with minimum federal requirements. The task force expires when it submits its report to the legislature.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

**Sec. 24. APPROPRIATIONS.**

**Subdivision 1. Department of Education.** The sums indicated in this section are appropriated from the general fund to the Department of Education for the fiscal years designated.

**Subd. 2. Special education; regular.** For special education aid under Minnesota Statutes, section 125A.75:

\$	<u>691,653,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2008</u>
\$	<u>739,070,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2009</u>

The 2008 appropriation includes \$52,965,000 for 2007 and \$638,688,000 for 2008.

The 2009 appropriation includes \$70,965,000 for 2008 and \$668,105,000 for 2009.

**Subd. 3. Aid for children with disabilities.** For aid under Minnesota Statutes, section 125A.75, subdivision 3, for children with disabilities placed in residential facilities within the district boundaries for whom no district of residence can be determined:

\$	<u>1,538,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2008</u>
\$	<u>1,729,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2009</u>

If the appropriation for either year is insufficient, the appropriation for the other year is available.

Subd. 4. **Travel for home-based services.** For aid for teacher travel for home-based services under Minnesota Statutes, section 125A.75, subdivision 1:

\$	<u>254,000</u>	.....	<u>2008</u>
\$	<u>284,000</u>	.....	<u>2009</u>

The 2008 appropriation includes \$22,000 for 2007 and \$232,000 for 2008.

The 2009 appropriation includes \$25,000 for 2008 and \$259,000 for 2009.

Subd. 5. **Special education; excess costs.** For excess cost aid under Minnesota Statutes, section 125A.79, subdivision 7:

\$	<u>116,612,000</u>	.....	<u>2008</u>
\$	<u>124,395,000</u>	.....	<u>2009</u>

The 2008 appropriation includes \$34,969,000 for 2007 and \$81,643,000 for 2008.

The 2009 appropriation includes \$40,943,000 for 2008 and \$83,452,000 for 2009.

Subd. 6. **Transition for disabled students.** For aid for transition programs for children with disabilities under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.454:

\$	<u>879,000</u>	.....	<u>2008</u>
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The 2008 appropriation includes \$879,000 for 2007 and \$0 for 2008.

Subd. 7. **Court-placed special education revenue.** For reimbursing serving school districts for unreimbursed eligible expenditures attributable to children placed in the serving school district by court action under Minnesota Statutes, section 125A.79, subdivision 4:

\$	<u>72,000</u>	.....	<u>2008</u>
\$	<u>74,000</u>	.....	<u>2009</u>

Subd. 8. **Special education out-of-state tuition.** For special education out-of-state tuition according to Minnesota Statutes, section 125A.79, subdivision 8:

\$	<u>250,000</u>	.....	<u>2008</u>
\$	<u>250,000</u>	.....	<u>2009</u>

Sec. 25. **REPEALER.**

(a) Minnesota Statutes 2006, sections 125A.10; and 125A.75, subdivision 6, are repealed.

(b) Minnesota Statutes 2006, sections 124D.454, subdivisions 4, 5, 6, and 7; and 125A.76, subdivision 3, are repealed effective for revenue for fiscal year 2008.

#### **ARTICLE 4**

**FACILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY**

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 123A.44, is amended to read:

**123A.44 CITATION.**

Sections 123A.441 to 123A.446 may be cited as the "Cooperative ~~Secondary~~ Facilities Grant Act."

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 123A.441, is amended to read:

**123A.441 POLICY AND PURPOSE.**

Because of the rates of decline in school-aged population, population shifts and economic changes that the state has experienced in recent years and anticipates in future years, and because in some instances local districts have not, and will not be able to provide the required construction funds through local property taxes, the purpose of the cooperative ~~secondary~~ facilities grant program is to provide an incentive to encourage cooperation in making available to all ~~secondary~~ students those educational programs, services and facilities that are most efficiently and effectively provided by a cooperative effort of ~~several~~ school districts. The policy and purpose of sections 123A.442 to 123A.446 is to use the credit of the state, to a limited degree, to provide grants to cooperating groups of districts to improve and expand the educational opportunities and facilities available to their ~~secondary~~ students.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 123A.442, is amended to read:

**123A.442 APPROVAL AUTHORITY; APPLICATION FORMS.**

Subdivision 1. **Approval by commissioner.** To the extent money is available, the commissioner may approve projects from applications submitted under section 123A.443. The grant money must be used only to acquire, construct, remodel or improve the building or site of a cooperative ~~secondary~~ facility under contracts to be entered into within 15 months after the date on which each grant is awarded.

Subd. 2. **Cooperation and combination.** Districts that have not already consolidated and receive a cooperative ~~secondary~~ facilities grant after May 1, 1991, shall:

(1) submit a consolidation plan as set forth in under section ~~123A.36~~ 123A.48 for approval by the State Board of Education before December 31, 1999, or Department of Education after December 30, 1999; and

(2) hold a referendum on the question of ~~combination~~ consolidation no later than four years after a grant is awarded under subdivision 1.

The districts are eligible for ~~cooperation and combination~~ consolidation revenue under section ~~123A.39, subdivision 3~~ 123A.485.

Subd. 3. **Consolidated districts.** A school district that has consolidated with another school district since July 1, 1980, is eligible for a cooperative facilities grant.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 123A.443, is amended to read:

**123A.443 GRANT APPLICATION PROCESS.**

Subdivision 1. **Qualification.** Any group of districts or a consolidated district that meets the criteria required under subdivision 2 may apply for an incentive grant for construction of a new ~~secondary~~ facility or for remodeling and improving an existing ~~secondary~~ facility. A grant for new construction must not exceed the lesser of ~~\$5,000,000~~ \$20,000,000 or 75 percent of the approved construction costs of a cooperative ~~secondary~~ education facility. A grant for remodeling and improving an existing facility must not exceed ~~\$200,000~~ the lesser of \$10,000,000, or 75 percent of the approved remodeling costs.

Subd. 2. **Review by commissioner.** (a) A group of districts or a consolidated district that submits an application for a grant must submit a proposal to the commissioner for review and comment under section 123B.71. The commissioner shall prepare a review and comment on the proposed facility by July 1 of an odd-numbered year, regardless of the amount of the capital expenditure required to acquire, construct, remodel or improve the ~~secondary~~ facility. The commissioner shall not approve an application for an incentive grant for any ~~secondary~~ facility unless the facility receives a favorable review and comment under section 123B.71 and the following criteria are met:

(1) the applicant is a consolidated district or a minimum of two or more districts, with kindergarten to grade 12 enrollments in each district of no more than 1,200 pupils, enter that have entered into a joint powers agreement;

(2) for a group of districts, a joint powers board representing all participating districts is established under section 471.59 to govern the cooperative secondary facility;

~~(3) the planned secondary facility will result in the joint powers district meeting the requirements of Minnesota Rules, parts 3500.2010 and 3500.2110;~~

~~(4) at least 198 pupils would be served in grades 10 to 12, 264 pupils would be served in grades 9 to 12, or 396 pupils would be served in grades 7 to 12;~~

~~(5) (3) for a group of districts, no more than one superintendent is employed by the joint powers board as a result of the cooperative secondary facility agreement;~~

~~(6) (4) a statement of need is submitted, that may include reasons why the current secondary facilities are inadequate, unsafe or inaccessible to persons with disabilities;~~

~~(7) (5) an educational plan is prepared, that includes input from both community and professional staff;~~

~~(8) (6) for a group of districts, a combined seniority list for all participating districts is developed by the joint powers board;~~

~~(9) (7) for a group of districts, an education program is developed that provides for more learning opportunities and course offerings, including the offering of advanced placement courses, for students than is currently available in any single member district;~~

~~(10) (8) a plan is developed for providing instruction of any resident students in other districts~~

when distance to the ~~secondary~~ education facility makes attendance at the facility unreasonably difficult or impractical; and

~~(11)~~ (9) for a secondary facility, the joint powers board established under clause (2) discusses with technical colleges located in the area how vocational education space in the cooperative ~~secondary~~ facility could be jointly used for secondary and postsecondary purposes.

(b) To the extent possible, the joint powers board is encouraged to provide for severance pay or for early retirement incentives under section 122A.48, for any teacher or administrator, as defined under section 122A.40, subdivision 1, who is placed on unrequested leave as a result of the cooperative ~~secondary~~ facility agreement.

(c) For the purpose of paragraph (a), clause ~~(8)~~ (6), each district must be considered to have started school each year on the same date.

(d) The districts may develop a plan that provides for the location of social service, health, and other programs serving pupils and community residents within the cooperative ~~secondary~~ facility. The commissioner shall consider this plan when preparing a review and comment on the proposed facility.

(e) The districts must schedule and conduct a meeting on library services. The school districts, in cooperation with the regional public library system and its appropriate member libraries, must discuss the possibility of including jointly operated library services at the cooperative ~~secondary~~ facility.

(f) The board of a district that has reorganized under section 123A.37 or 123A.48 and that is applying for a grant for remodeling or improving an existing facility may act in the place of a joint powers board to meet the criteria of this subdivision.

**Subd. 3. Reorganizing districts.** A district that is a member of a joint powers board established under subdivision 2 and that is planning to reorganize under section 123A.45, 123A.46, or 123A.48 must notify the joint powers board one year in advance of the effective date of the reorganization. Notwithstanding section 471.59 or any other law to the contrary, the board of a district that reorganizes under section 123A.45, 123A.46, or 123A.48 may appoint representatives to the joint powers board who will serve on the joint powers board for two years after the effective date of the reorganization if authorized in the agreement establishing the joint powers board to govern the cooperative ~~secondary~~ facility. These representatives shall have the same powers as representatives of any other school district under the joint powers agreement.

**Subd. 4. District procedures.** A joint powers board of a ~~secondary~~ district established under subdivision 2 or a school board of a reorganized district that intends to apply for a grant must adopt a resolution stating the proposed costs of the project, the purpose for which the costs are to be incurred, and an estimate of the dates when the facilities for which the grant is requested will be contracted for and completed. Applications for the state grants must be accompanied by (a) a copy of the resolution, (b) a certificate by the clerk and treasurer of the joint powers board showing the current outstanding indebtedness of each member district, and (c) a certificate by the county auditor of each county in which a portion of the joint powers district lies showing the information in the auditor's official records that is required to be used in computing the debt limit of the district under section 475.53, subdivision 4. The clerk's and treasurer's certificate must show, as to each outstanding bond issue of each member district, the amount originally issued, the purpose for which issued, the date of issue,

the amount remaining unpaid as of the date of the resolution, and the interest rates and due dates and amounts of principal thereon. Applications and necessary data must be in the form prescribed by the commissioner ~~and the rules of the State Board of Education before December 31, 1999, and after December 30, 1999, in the form prescribed by the commissioner.~~ Applications must be received by the commissioner by September 1 of an odd-numbered year. When an application is received, the commissioner shall obtain from the commissioner of revenue, and from the Public Utilities Commission when required, the information in their official records that is required to be used in computing the debt limit of the joint powers district under section 475.53, subdivision 4.

Subd. 5. **Award of grants.** By November 1 of the odd-numbered year, the commissioner shall examine and consider all applications for grants, and if any district is found not qualified, the commissioner shall promptly notify that board.

A grant award is subject to verification by the district as specified in subdivision 8. A grant award for a new facility must not be made until the site of the ~~secondary~~ facility has been determined. A grant award to remodel or improve an existing facility must not be made until the districts have reorganized. If the total amount of the approved applications exceeds the amount that is or can be made available, the commissioner shall first award grants to districts that will close at least one existing school building, and then, to the extent funds remain, allot the available amount equally between the any other approved applicant districts. The commissioner shall promptly certify to each qualified district the amount, if any, of the grant awarded to it.

Subd. 6. **Collocation grant.** A group of districts that receives a grant for a new facility under subdivision 4 is also eligible to receive an additional grant in the amount of \$1,000,000. To receive the additional grant, the group of districts must develop a plan under subdivision 2, paragraph (d), that provides for the location of a significant number of noneducational student and community service programs within the cooperative ~~secondary~~ facility.

Subd. 7. **Referendum; bond issue.** Within 180 days after being awarded a grant for a new facility under subdivision 5, the joint powers board must submit the question of authorizing the borrowing of funds for the ~~secondary~~ facility to the voters of the joint powers district at a special election, which may be held in conjunction with the ~~annual~~ general election of the school board members of the member districts. The question submitted must state the total amount of funding needed from all sources. A majority of those voting in the affirmative on the question is sufficient to authorize the joint powers board to accept the grant and to issue the bonds on public sale ~~in accordance with~~ according to chapter 475. The clerk of the joint powers board must certify the vote of the bond election to the commissioner. If the question is approved by the voters, the commissioner shall notify the approved applicant districts that the grant amount certified under subdivision 5 is available and appropriated for payment under this subdivision. If a majority of those voting on the question do not vote in the affirmative, the grant must be canceled.

Subd. 8. **Contract.** Each grant must be evidenced by a contract between the board and the state acting through the commissioner. The contract obligates the state to pay to the board an amount computed according to subdivision 5, and according to a schedule, and terms and conditions acceptable to the commissioner of finance.

Subd. 9. **Consolidation.** A group of districts that operates a cooperative ~~secondary~~ facility that was acquired, constructed, remodeled, or improved under this section and implements consolidation proceedings according to section 123A.48, may propose a temporary school board structure in the

petition or resolution required under section 123A.48, subdivision 2. The districts may propose the number of existing school board members of each district to become members of the board of the consolidated district and a method to gradually reduce the membership to six or seven. The proposal must be approved, disapproved, or modified by the state board of education commissioner. The election requirements of section 123A.48, subdivision 20, do not apply to a proposal approved by the state board. Elections conducted after the effective date of the consolidation are subject to the Minnesota Election Law.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 123B.53, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) For purposes of this section, the eligible debt service revenue of a district is defined as follows:

(1) the amount needed to produce between five and six percent in excess of the amount needed to meet when due the principal and interest payments on the obligations of the district for eligible projects according to subdivision 2, including the amounts necessary for repayment of energy loans according to section 216C.37 or sections 298.292 to 298.298, debt service loans and capital loans, lease purchase payments under section 126C.40, subdivision 2, alternative facilities levies under section 123B.59, subdivision 5, paragraph (a), minus

(2) the amount of debt service excess levy reduction for that school year calculated according to the procedure established by the commissioner.

(b) The obligations in this paragraph are excluded from eligible debt service revenue:

(1) obligations under section 123B.61;

(2) the part of debt service principal and interest paid from the taconite environmental protection fund or Douglas J. Johnson economic protection trust;

(3) obligations issued under Laws 1991, chapter 265, article 5, section 18, as amended by Laws 1992, chapter 499, article 5, section 24; and

(4) obligations under section 123B.62.

(c) For purposes of this section, if a preexisting school district reorganized under sections 123A.35 to 123A.43, 123A.46, and 123A.48 is solely responsible for retirement of the preexisting district's bonded indebtedness, capital loans or debt service loans, debt service equalization aid must be computed separately for each of the preexisting districts.

(d) For purposes of this section, the adjusted net tax capacity determined according to section 127A.48 shall be adjusted to include ~~a portion of the tax capacity of property generally exempted from ad valorem taxes under section 272.02, subdivisions~~ subdivision 64 and 65, equal to the product of that tax capacity times the ratio of the eligible debt service revenue attributed to general obligation bonds to the total eligible debt service revenue of the district.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 123B.54, is amended to read:

**123B.54 DEBT SERVICE APPROPRIATION.**



(a) ~~\$21,624,000~~ \$14,813,000 in fiscal year 2008 ~~and \$20,403,000, \$11,124,000~~ in fiscal year 2009, \$8,866,000 in fiscal year 2010, and \$6,631,000 in fiscal year 2011 and later are appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner of education for payment of debt service equalization aid under section 123B.53.

(b) The appropriations in paragraph (a) must be reduced by the amount of any money specifically appropriated for the same purpose in any year from any state fund.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for revenue for fiscal year 2009.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 123B.57, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Health and safety revenue.** A district's health and safety revenue for a fiscal year equals the district's alternative facilities levy under section 123B.59, subdivision 5, paragraph (b), plus the greater of zero or:

(1) the sum of (a) the total approved cost of the district's hazardous substance plan for fiscal years 1985 through 1989, plus (b) the total approved cost of the district's health and safety program for fiscal year 1990 through the fiscal year to which the levy is attributable, excluding expenditures funded with bonds issued under section 123B.59 or 123B.62, or chapter 475; certificates of indebtedness or capital notes under section 123B.61; levies under section 123B.58, 123B.59, 123B.63, or 126C.40, subdivision 1 or 6; and other federal, state, or local revenues, minus

(2) the sum of (a) the district's total hazardous substance aid and levy for fiscal years 1985 through 1989 under sections 124.245 and 275.125, subdivision 11c, plus (b) the district's health and safety revenue under this subdivision, for years before the fiscal year to which the levy is attributable.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for revenue for fiscal year 2009.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 123B.63, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Capital project levy referendum.** A district may levy the local tax rate approved by a majority of the electors voting on the question to provide funds for an approved project. The election must take place no more than five years before the estimated date of commencement of the project. The referendum must be held on a date set by the board. A referendum for a project not receiving a positive review and comment by the commissioner under section 123B.71 must be approved by at least 60 percent of the voters at the election. The referendum may be called by the school board and may be held:

(1) separately, before an election for the issuance of obligations for the project under chapter 475; or

(2) in conjunction with an election for the issuance of obligations for the project under chapter 475; or

(3) notwithstanding section 475.59, as a conjunctive question authorizing both the capital project levy and the issuance of obligations for the project under chapter 475. Any obligations authorized for a project may be issued within five years of the date of the election.

The ballot must provide a general description of the proposed project, state the estimated total cost of the project, state whether the project has received a positive or negative review and comment from the commissioner, state the maximum amount of the capital project levy as a percentage of

net tax capacity, state the amount that will be raised by that local tax rate in the first year it is to be levied, and state the maximum number of years that the levy authorization will apply.

The ballot must contain a textual portion with the information required in this section and a question stating substantially the following:

"Shall the capital project levy proposed by the board of ..... School District No. .... be approved?"

If approved, the amount provided by the approved local tax rate applied to the net tax capacity for the year preceding the year the levy is certified may be certified for the number of years, not to exceed ten, approved.

In the event a conjunctive question proposes to authorize both the capital project levy and the issuance of obligations for the project, appropriate language authorizing the issuance of obligations must also be included in the question.

The district must notify the commissioner of the results of the referendum.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007, for elections conducted on or after that day.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 128D.11, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **No election.** Subject to the provisions of subdivisions 7 to 10, the school district may also by a two-thirds majority vote of all the members of its board of education and without any election by the voters of the district, issue and sell in each calendar year general obligation bonds of the district in an amount not to exceed 5-1/10 per cent of the net tax capacity of the taxable property in the district (plus, for calendar years 1990 to 2003, an amount not to exceed \$7,500,000, and for calendar years 2004 to ~~2008~~ 2016 an amount not to exceed \$15,000,000; with an additional provision that any amount of bonds so authorized for sale in a specific year and not sold can be carried forward and sold in the year immediately following).

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 272.02, subdivision 64, is amended to read:

Subd. 64. **Job opportunity building zone property.** (a) Improvements to real property, and personal property, classified under section 273.13, subdivision 24, and located within a job opportunity building zone, designated under section 469.314, are exempt from ad valorem taxes levied under chapter 275.

(b) Improvements to real property, and tangible personal property, of an agricultural production facility located within an agricultural processing facility zone, designated under section 469.314, is exempt from ad valorem taxes levied under chapter 275.

(c) For property to qualify for exemption under paragraph (a), the occupant must be a qualified business, as defined in section 469.310.

(d) The exemption applies beginning for the first assessment year after designation of the job opportunity building zone by the commissioner of employment and economic development. The exemption applies to each assessment year that begins during the duration of the job opportunity

building zone. To be exempt, the property must be occupied by July 1 of the assessment year by a qualified business that has signed the business subsidy agreement and relocation agreement, if required, by July 1 of the assessment year. This exemption does not apply to:

(1) the levy under section 475.61 or similar levy provisions under any other law to pay general obligation bonds; or

(2) a levy under section 126C.17, if the levy was approved by the voters before the designation of the job opportunity building zone other school district levies included in the debt service levy of the district under section 123B.55.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for taxes payable in 2008.

**Sec. 11. SCHOOL TECHNOLOGY AID.**

School technology aid equals \$150 times the district's adjusted marginal cost pupil units for fiscal year 2009. This aid must only be used for the purposes of Minnesota Statutes, section 126C.10, subdivision 14.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

**Sec. 12. BONDING AUTHORIZATION.**

To provide funds for the acquisition or betterment of school facilities, Independent School District No. 625, St. Paul, may by two-thirds majority vote of all the members of the board of directors issue general obligation bonds in one or more series for calendar years 2008 through 2016, as provided in this section. The aggregate principal amount of any bonds issued under this section for each calendar year must not exceed \$15,000,000. Issuance of the bonds is not subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 475.58 or 475.59. The bonds must otherwise be issued as provided in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 475. The authority to issue bonds under this section is in addition to any bonding authority authorized by Minnesota Statutes, chapter 123B, or other law. The amount of bonding authority authorized under this section must be disregarded in calculating the bonding limit of Minnesota Statutes, chapter 123B, or any other law other than Minnesota Statutes, section 475.53, subdivision 4.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

**Sec. 13. TAX LEVY FOR DEBT SERVICE.**

To pay the principal of and interest on bonds issued under section 2, Independent School District No. 625, St. Paul, must levy a tax annually in an amount sufficient under Minnesota Statutes, section 475.61, subdivisions 1 and 3, to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds. The tax authorized under this section is in addition to the taxes authorized to be levied under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 123B, 124D, or 126C, or other law.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

**Sec. 14. ADMINISTRATIVE LEASE LEVY; SPRING LAKE PARK.**

Notwithstanding the instructional purposes limitation of Minnesota Statutes, section 126C.40, subdivision 1, Independent School District No. 16, Spring Lake Park, may lease administrative space under Minnesota Statutes, section 126C.40, subdivision 1, if the district can demonstrate to

the satisfaction of the commissioner of education that the administrative space is less expensive than instruction space that the district would otherwise lease. A school district may not levy under this section for more than five years. The commissioner must deny this levy authority unless the district passes a resolution stating its intent to lease instructional space under Minnesota Statutes, section 126C.40, subdivision 1, if the commissioner does not grant authority under this section. The resolution must also certify that a lease of administrative space under this section is less expensive than the district's proposed instructional lease. Levy authority under this section shall not exceed the total levy authority under Minnesota Statutes, section 126C.40, subdivision 1, paragraph (e).

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective beginning with revenue for taxes payable in 2008.

Sec. 15. **HEALTH AND SAFETY REVENUE; CLEARBROOK-GONVICK.**

Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.57, Independent School District No. 2311, Clearbrook-Gonvick, may use health and safety revenue for the demolition of the Gonvick school building. The district must recognize the revenue under this section in fiscal year 2008.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for taxes payable in 2008.

Sec. 16. **APPROPRIATIONS.**

Subdivision 1. **Department of Education.** The sums indicated in this section are appropriated from the general fund to the Department of Education for the fiscal years designated.

Subd. 2. **Health and safety revenue.** For health and safety aid according to Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.57, subdivision 5:

\$	<u>190,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2008</u>
\$	<u>179,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2009</u>

The 2008 appropriation includes \$20,000 for 2007 and \$170,000 for 2008.

The 2009 appropriation includes \$18,000 for 2008 and \$161,000 for 2009.

Subd. 3. **Debt service equalization.** For debt service aid according to Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.53, subdivision 6:

\$	<u>14,812,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2008</u>
\$	<u>11,124,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2009</u>

The 2008 appropriation includes \$1,767,000 for 2007 and \$13,045,000 for 2008.

The 2009 appropriation includes \$1,450,000 for 2008 and \$9,674,000 for 2009.

Subd. 4. **Alternative facilities bonding aid.** For alternative facilities bonding aid, according to Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.59, subdivision 1:

\$	<u>19,287,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2008</u>
\$	<u>19,287,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2009</u>

The 2008 appropriation includes \$1,928,000 for 2007 and \$17,359,000 for 2008.

The 2009 appropriation includes \$1,928,000 for 2008 and \$17,359,000 for 2009.

Subd. 5. **Equity in telecommunications access.** For equity in telecommunications access:

\$	<u>7,622,000</u>	.....	<u>2008</u>
\$	<u>8,743,000</u>	.....	<u>2009</u>

If the appropriation amount is insufficient, the commissioner shall reduce the reimbursement rate in Minnesota Statutes, section 125B.26, subdivisions 4 and 5, and the revenue for fiscal years 2008 and 2009 shall be prorated.

Any balance in the first year does not cancel but is available in the second year.

The base appropriation for fiscal year 2010 and later is \$3,750,000.

Subd. 6. **Deferred maintenance aid.** For deferred maintenance aid, according to Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.591, subdivision 4:

\$	<u>3,290,000</u>	.....	<u>2008</u>
\$	<u>2,667,000</u>	.....	<u>2009</u>

The 2008 appropriation includes \$0 for 2007 and \$3,290,000 for 2008.

The 2009 appropriation includes \$365,000 for 2008 and \$2,302,000 for 2009.

Subd. 7. **Rocori school district.** For Rocori, Independent School District No. 750, for Project Serv:

\$	<u>53,000</u>	.....	<u>2008</u>
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Subd. 8. **School technology grants.** For school technology grants under section 11:

\$	<u>150,000,000</u>	.....	<u>2009</u>
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This is a onetime appropriation.

Subd. 9. **Eden Valley-Watkins; environmental remediation.** For a grant to Independent School District No. 463, Eden Valley-Watkins, to recover the amount actually spent on environmental remediation efforts related to the cleanup of a mercury spill.

\$	<u>126,000</u>	.....	<u>2008</u>
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## ARTICLE 5

### NUTRITION AND ACCOUNTING

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 123B.10, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Budgets; form of notification.** (a) Every board must publish revenue and expenditure budgets for the current year and the actual revenues, expenditures, fund balances for the prior year and projected fund balances for the current year in a form prescribed by the

commissioner within one week of the acceptance of the final audit by the board, or November 30, whichever is earlier. The forms prescribed must be designed so that year to year comparisons of revenue, expenditures and fund balances can be made. ~~These budgets, reports of revenue, expenditures and fund balances must be published in a qualified newspaper of general circulation in the district or on the district's official Web site. If published on the district's official Web site, the district must also publish an announcement in a qualified newspaper of general circulation in the district that includes the Internet address where the information has been posted.~~

(b) A school board annually must notify the public of its revenue, expenditures, fund balances, and other relevant budget information. The board must include the budget information required by this section in the materials provided as a part of its truth in taxation hearing, post the materials in a conspicuous place on the district's official Web site, including a link to the district's school report card on the Department of Education's Web site, and publish the information in a qualified newspaper of general circulation in the district.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 123B.77, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Budget approval.** Prior to July 1 of each year, the board of each district must approve and adopt its revenue and expenditure budgets for the next school year. The budget document so adopted must be considered an expenditure-authorizing or appropriations document. No funds shall be expended by any board or district for any purpose in any school year prior to the adoption of the budget document which authorizes that expenditure, or prior to an amendment to the budget document by the board to authorize the expenditure. Expenditures of funds in violation of this subdivision shall be considered unlawful expenditures. ~~Prior to the appropriation of revenue for the next school year in the initial budget, the board shall inform the principal or other responsible administrative authority of each site of the amount of general education and referendum revenue that the Department of Education estimates will be generated by the pupils in attendance at each site. For purposes of this subdivision, a district may adjust the department's estimates for school building openings, school building closings, changes in attendance area boundaries, or other changes in programs or student demographics not reflected in the department's calculations. A district must report to the department any adjustments it makes according to this subdivision in the department's estimates of compensatory revenue generated by the pupils in attendance at each site, and the department must use the adjusted compensatory revenue estimates in preparing the report required under section 123B.76, subdivision 3, paragraph (c).~~

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 123B.79, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

Subd. 8. **Account transfer for reorganizing districts.** A district that has reorganized according to sections 123A.35 to 123A.43, 123A.46, or 123A.48, or has conducted a successful referendum on the question of combination under section 123A.37, subdivision 2, or consolidation under section 123A.48, subdivision 15, or has been assigned an identification number by the commissioner under section 123A.48, subdivision 16, may make permanent transfers between any of the funds or accounts in the newly created or enlarged district with the exception of the debt redemption fund, food service fund, and health and safety account of the capital expenditure fund. Fund transfers under this section may be made for up to one year prior to the effective date of combination or consolidation by the consolidating boards and during the year following the effective date of reorganization by the consolidated board. The newly formed board of the combined district may adopt a resolution on or before August 30 of the year of the reorganization authorizing a transfer among accounts or funds of the previous independent school districts which transfer or transfers

shall be reported in the affected districts' audited financial statements for the year immediately preceding the consolidation.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 123B.79, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 9. **Elimination of reserve accounts.** A school board shall eliminate all reserve accounts established in the school district's general fund under Minnesota Statutes before July 1, 2006, for which no specific authority remains in statute as of June 30, 2007. Any balance in the district's reserved for bus purchases account as of June 30, 2007, shall be transferred to the reserved account for operating capital in the school district's general fund. Any balance in other reserved accounts established in the school district's general fund under Minnesota Statutes before July 1, 2006, for which no specific authority remains in statute as of June 30, 2007, shall be transferred to the school district's unreserved general fund balance. A school board may, upon adoption of a resolution by the school board, establish a designated account for any program for which a reserved account has been eliminated.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective June 30, 2007.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 124D.111, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **School lunch aid computation.** Each school year, the state must pay participants in the national school lunch program the amount of ~~10.5~~ 12 cents for each full paid, reduced, and free student lunch served to students.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 126C.15, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Building allocation.** (a) A district must allocate its compensatory revenue to each school building in the district where the children who have generated the revenue are served unless the school district has received permission under section 50 to allocate compensatory revenue according to student performance measures developed by the school board.

(b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), a district may allocate up to five percent of the amount of compensatory revenue that the district receives to school sites according to a plan adopted by the school board.

(c) For the purposes of this section and section 126C.05, subdivision 3, "building" means education site as defined in section 123B.04, subdivision 1.

(d) If the pupil is served at a site other than one owned and operated by the district, the revenue shall be paid to the district and used for services for pupils who generate the revenue.

(e) A district with school building openings, school building closings, changes in attendance area boundaries, or other changes in programs or student demographics between the prior year and the current year may reallocate compensatory revenue among sites to reflect these changes. A district must report to the department any adjustments it makes according to this paragraph and the department must use the adjusted compensatory revenue allocations in preparing the report required under section 123B.76, subdivision 3, paragraph (c).

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 126C.41, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 6. **Levy authority for unfunded severance and retirement costs.** (a) A school district qualifies for eligibility under this section if the district:

- (1) participated in the cooperative secondary facilities program;
  - (2) consolidated with at least two other school districts; and
  - (3) has unfunded severance or retirement costs.
- (b) An eligible school district may annually levy up to \$150,000 for unfunded severance or retirement costs. This levy authority expires after taxes payable in 2017.
- (c) A school district that levies under this section must reserve the proceeds of the levy and spend those amounts only for unfunded severance or retirement costs.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for taxes payable in 2008.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 126C.48, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Notice to commissioner; forms.** By October 7 of each year each district must notify the commissioner of the proposed levies in compliance with the levy limitations of this chapter and chapters 120B, 122A, 123A, 123B, 124D, 125A, 127A, and 136D. A school district that has reached an agreement with its home county auditor to extend the date of certification of its proposed levy under section 275.065, subdivision 1, must submit its notice of proposed levies to the commissioner no later than October 10 of each year. By January 7 of each year each district must notify the commissioner of the final levies certified. The commissioner shall prescribe the form of these notifications and may request any additional information necessary to compute certified levy amounts.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 275.065, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Proposed levy.** (a) Notwithstanding any law or charter to the contrary, on or before September 15, each taxing authority, other than a school district, shall adopt a proposed budget and shall certify to the county auditor the proposed or, in the case of a town, the final property tax levy for taxes payable in the following year.

(b) On or before September 30, each school district that has not mutually agreed with its home county to extend this date shall certify to the county auditor the proposed property tax levy for taxes payable in the following year. Each school district that has agreed with its home county to delay the certification of its proposed property tax levy must certify its proposed property tax levy for the following year no later than October 7. The school district shall certify the proposed levy as:

(1) a specific dollar amount by school district fund, broken down between voter-approved and non-voter-approved levies and between referendum market value and tax capacity levies; or

(2) the maximum levy limitation certified by the commissioner of education according to section 126C.48, subdivision 1.

(c) If the board of estimate and taxation or any similar board that establishes maximum tax levies for taxing jurisdictions within a first class city certifies the maximum property tax levies for funds under its jurisdiction by charter to the county auditor by September 15, the city shall be deemed to have certified its levies for those taxing jurisdictions.

(d) For purposes of this section, "taxing authority" includes all home rule and statutory cities, towns, counties, school districts, and special taxing districts as defined in section 275.066.



Intermediate school districts that levy a tax under chapter 124 or 136D, joint powers boards established under sections 123A.44 to 123A.446, and Common School Districts No. 323, Franconia, and No. 815, Prinsburg, are also special taxing districts for purposes of this section.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 275.065, subdivision 1a, is amended to read:

Subd. 1a. **Overlapping jurisdictions.** In the case of a taxing authority lying in two or more counties, the home county auditor shall certify the proposed levy and the proposed local tax rate to the other county auditor by October 5, unless the home county has agreed to delay the certification of its proposed property tax levy, in which case the home county auditor shall certify the proposed levy and the proposed local tax rate to the other county auditor by October 10. The home county auditor must estimate the levy or rate in preparing the notices required in subdivision 3, if the other county has not certified the appropriate information. If requested by the home county auditor, the other county auditor must furnish an estimate to the home county auditor.

**Sec. 11. PLAINVIEW-ELGIN-MILLVILLE; CONSOLIDATED DISTRICT FUND BALANCE CALCULATIONS.**

Subdivision 1. **Fiscal year 2007 replacement aid.** Independent School District No. 2899, Plainview-Elgin-Millville, is eligible for replacement aid to offset its excess fund balance penalty for fiscal year 2007.

Subd. 2. **Fiscal years 2008 and 2009.** Upon receipt of appropriate documentation from Independent School District No. 2899, Plainview-Elgin-Millville, the Department of Education must adjust the district's three-year adjusted average fund balances required under Minnesota Statutes, sections 124D.135, 124D.16 and 124D.20. The department shall adjust the fiscal year 2006 account balances reported by former Independent School Districts Nos. 806, Elgin-Millville, and 810, Plainview, to reflect any permanent account of fund transfers made under Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.79.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

**Sec. 12. FUND TRANSFER.**

Subdivision 1. **Brainerd.** Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.79 or 123B.80, on June 30, 2007, Independent School District No. 181, Brainerd, may permanently transfer up to \$750,000 from its reserved for operating capital account to its undesignated general fund balance without making a levy reduction.

Subd. 2. **Campbell-Tintah.** Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.79 or 123B.80, on June 30, 2007, Independent School District No. 852, Campbell-Tintah, may permanently transfer up to \$100,000 from its reserved for operating capital account to its undesignated general fund without making a levy reduction.

Subd. 3. **Comfrey.** Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.79 or 123B.80, on June 30, 2007, Independent School District No. 81, Comfrey, may permanently transfer up to \$250,000 from its reserved for operating capital account to its undesignated general fund balance without making a levy reduction.

Subd. 4. **Floodwood.** Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.79 or 123B.80, on June 30, 2007, Independent School District No. 698, Floodwood, may transfer up to \$227,000 from its

reserved for disabled accessibility account to its undesignated general fund balance without making a levy reduction.

Subd. 5. **International Falls.** Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.79 or 123B.80, on June 30, 2007, Independent School District No. 361, International Falls, may permanently transfer up to \$100,000 from its reserved for operating capital account to its undesignated general fund balance without making a levy reduction.

Subd. 6. **Jackson County Central.** Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.79 or 123B.80, on June 30, 2007, Independent School District No. 2895, Jackson County Central, may permanently transfer up to \$300,000 from its reserved for operating capital account to its undesignated general fund balance without making a levy reduction.

Subd. 7. **Red Rock Central.** Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.79 or 123B.80, on June 30, 2007, Independent School District No. 2884, Red Rock Central, may permanently transfer up to \$81,000 from its reserved for disabled accessibility account to its undesignated general fund balance without making a levy reduction.

Subd. 8. **Windom.** Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.79 or 123B.80, on June 30, 2007, Independent School District No. 177, Windom, may transfer up to \$50,000 from its reserved for operating capital account to its undesignated general fund balance without making a levy reduction.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 13. **APPROPRIATIONS.**

Subdivision 1. **Department of Education.** The sums indicated in this section are appropriated from the general fund to the Department of Education for the fiscal years designated.

Subd. 2. **School lunch.** For school lunch aid according to Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.111, and Code of Federal Regulations, title 7, section 210.17:

\$	<u>12,022,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2008</u>
\$	<u>12,166,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2009</u>

Subd. 3. **Traditional school breakfast; kindergarten milk.** For traditional school breakfast aid and kindergarten milk under Minnesota Statutes, sections 124D.1158 and 124D.118:

\$	<u>5,460,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2008</u>
\$	<u>5,695,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2009</u>

Subd. 4. **Summer food service replacement aid.** For summer food service replacement aid under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.119:

\$	<u>150,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2008</u>
\$	<u>150,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2009</u>

Subd. 5. **Plainview-Elgin-Millville fund balance replacement aid.** For fund balance replacement aid for Independent School District No. 2899, Plainview-Elgin-Millville:

\$            17,000    .....    2008

This is a onetime appropriation.

**Sec. 14. REPEALER.**

Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 123B.749, is repealed.

**ARTICLE 6**

**LIBRARIES**

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 134.31, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 4a. **Services to the blind and physically handicapped.** The Minnesota Department of Education shall provide specialized services to the blind and physically handicapped through the Minnesota Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped under a cooperative plan with the National Library Services for the Blind and Physically Handicapped of the Library of Congress.

**Sec. 2. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION; LIBRARY APPROPRIATIONS.**

Subdivision 1. **Department of Education.** The sums indicated in this section are appropriated from the general fund to the Department of Education for the fiscal years designated.

Subd. 2. **Basic system support.** For basic system support grants under Minnesota Statutes, section 134.355:

\$            9,182,000    .....    2008

\$            13,138,000    .....    2009

The 2008 appropriation includes \$857,000 for 2007 and \$8,325,000 for 2008.

The 2009 appropriation includes \$925,000 for 2008 and \$12,213,000 for 2009.

Subd. 3. **Multicounty, multitype library systems.** For grants under Minnesota Statutes, sections 134.353 and 134.354, to multicounty, multitype library systems:

\$            1,260,000    .....    2008

\$            1,300,000    .....    2009

The 2008 appropriation includes \$90,000 for 2007 and \$1,170,000 for 2008.

The 2009 appropriation includes \$130,000 for 2008 and \$1,170,000 for 2009.

Subd. 4. **Electronic library for Minnesota.** For statewide licenses to online databases selected in cooperation with the Minnesota Office of Higher Education for school media centers, public libraries, state government agency libraries, and public or private college or university libraries:

\$            900,000        .....    2008

\$            900,000        .....    2009

Any balance in the first year does not cancel but is available in the second year.

Subd. 5. **Regional library telecommunications aid.** For regional library telecommunications aid under Minnesota Statutes, section 134.355:

\$	<u>2,190,000</u>	.....	<u>2008</u>
\$	<u>2,300,000</u>	.....	<u>2009</u>

The 2008 appropriation includes \$120,000 for 2007 and \$2,070,000 for 2008.

The 2009 appropriation includes \$230,000 for 2008 and \$2,070,000 for 2009.

Subd. 6. **Hennepin County and Minneapolis library systems merger.** For costs attributable to the library system merger:

\$	<u>4,500,000</u>	.....	<u>2008</u>
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If the Hennepin County and Minneapolis city library systems do not merge, any unexpended balance remaining in this appropriation must be allocated to increase the fiscal year 2008 entitlement for Basic System Support Grants under Minnesota Statutes, section 134.355.

This appropriation is available through June 30, 2009.

This is a onetime appropriation.

## ARTICLE 7

### STATE AGENCIES

#### Section 1. [127A.065] CROSS-SUBSIDY REPORT.

By January 10, the commissioner of education shall submit an annual report to the legislative committees having jurisdiction over kindergarten through grade 12 education on the amount each district is cross-subsidizing special education costs with general education revenue.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 517.08, subdivision 1c, is amended to read:

Subd. 1c. **Disposition of license fee.** (a) Of the marriage license fee collected pursuant to subdivision 1b, paragraph (a), \$15 must be retained by the county. The local registrar must pay \$85 to the commissioner of finance to be deposited as follows:

- (1) \$50 in the general fund;
- (2) \$3 in the state government special revenue fund to be appropriated to the commissioner of ~~education~~ public safety for parenting time centers under section 119A.37;
- (3) \$2 in the special revenue fund to be appropriated to the commissioner of health for developing and implementing the MN ENABL program under section 145.9255;
- (4) \$25 in the special revenue fund is appropriated to the commissioner of employment and economic development for the displaced homemaker program under section 116L.96; and
- (5) \$5 in the special revenue fund is appropriated to the commissioner of human services for the

Minnesota Healthy Marriage and Responsible Fatherhood Initiative under section 256.742.

(b) Of the \$30 fee under subdivision 1b, paragraph (b), \$15 must be retained by the county. The local registrar must pay \$15 to the commissioner of finance to be deposited as follows:

(1) \$5 as provided in paragraph (a), clauses (2) and (3); and

(2) \$10 in the special revenue fund is appropriated to the commissioner of employment and economic development for the displaced homemaker program under section 116L.96.

(c) The increase in the marriage license fee under paragraph (a) provided for in Laws 2004, chapter 273, and disbursement of the increase in that fee to the special fund for the Minnesota Healthy Marriage and Responsible Fatherhood Initiative under paragraph (a), clause (5), is contingent upon the receipt of federal funding under United States Code, title 42, section 1315, for purposes of the initiative.

**Sec. 3. RULEMAKING AUTHORITY; CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION.**

The commissioner of education shall adopt rules under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 14, for the administration of career and technical education programs for grades 7 through 12 under Minnesota Statutes, sections 124D.452, 124D.4531, and 124D.454, to ensure that the career and technical levy and programs can be administered to serve students under the current state and local organizational structures.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

**Sec. 4. APPROPRIATIONS; DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.**

Subdivision 1. **Department of Education.** Unless otherwise indicated, the sums indicated in this section are appropriated from the general fund to the Department of Education for the fiscal years designated.

Subd. 2. **Department.** (a) For the Department of Education:

\$	<u>22,169,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2008</u>
\$	<u>22,653,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2009</u>

Any balance in the first year does not cancel but is available in the second year.

(b) \$7,000 in fiscal year 2008 is for GRAD test rulemaking.

(c) \$7,000 in fiscal year 2008 is for rulemaking under section 3.

(d) \$40,000 each year is for an early hearing loss intervention coordinator under Minnesota Statutes, section 125A.63, subdivision 5.

(e) \$260,000 each year is for the Minnesota Children's Museum.

(f) \$41,000 each year is for the Minnesota Academy of Science.

(g) \$619,000 in fiscal year 2008 and \$632,000 in fiscal year 2009 are for the Board of Teaching.

(h) \$163,000 in fiscal year 2008 and \$171,000 in fiscal year 2009 are for the Board of School

Administrators.

(i) \$50,000 each year is for the Duluth Children's Museum.

(j) The expenditures of federal grants and aids as shown in the biennial budget document and its supplements are approved and appropriated and shall be spent as indicated.

(k) None of the amounts appropriated under this subdivision may be used for Minnesota's Washington, D.C., office.

**Sec. 5. APPROPRIATIONS; MINNESOTA STATE ACADEMIES.**

The sums indicated in this section are appropriated from the general fund to the Minnesota State Academies for the Deaf and the Blind for the fiscal years designated:

\$	<u>11,603,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2008</u>
\$	<u>11,730,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2009</u>

Any balance in the first year does not cancel but is available in the second year.

**Sec. 6. APPROPRIATIONS; PERPICH CENTER FOR ARTS EDUCATION.**

The sums indicated in this section are appropriated from the general fund to the Perpich Center for Arts Education for the fiscal years designated:

\$	<u>6,929,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2008</u>
\$	<u>7,090,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2009</u>

Any balance in the first year does not cancel but is available in the second year.

**Sec. 7. APPROPRIATIONS; DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY.**

The sums indicated in this section are appropriated from the state government special revenue fund to the Department of Public Safety for the fiscal years designated to fund parenting time centers as described in Minnesota Statutes, section 119A.37:

\$	<u>96,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2008</u>
\$	<u>96,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2009</u>

**ARTICLE 8**

**PUPIL TRANSPORTATION STANDARDS**

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 123B.88, subdivision 12, is amended to read:

Subd. 12. **Early childhood family education participants.** Districts may provide bus transportation along ~~regular~~ school bus routes when space is available for participants in early childhood family education programs and school readiness programs if these services do not result in an increase in the district's expenditures for transportation. The costs allocated to these

services, as determined by generally accepted accounting principles, shall be considered part of the authorized cost for ~~regular~~ transportation for the purposes of section 123B.92.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment and applies for fiscal year 2007 and later.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 123B.90, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Student training.** (a) Each district must provide public school pupils enrolled in kindergarten through grade 10 with age-appropriate school bus safety training, as described in this section, of the following concepts:

- (1) transportation by school bus is a privilege and not a right;
- (2) district policies for student conduct and school bus safety;
- (3) appropriate conduct while on the school bus;
- (4) the danger zones surrounding a school bus;
- (5) procedures for safely boarding and leaving a school bus;
- (6) procedures for safe street or road crossing; and
- (7) school bus evacuation.

(b) Each nonpublic school located within the district must provide all nonpublic school pupils enrolled in kindergarten through grade 10 who are transported by school bus at public expense and attend school within the district's boundaries with training as required in paragraph (a).

(c) Students enrolled in kindergarten through grade 6 who are transported by school bus and are enrolled during the first or second week of school must receive the school bus safety training competencies by the end of the third week of school. Students enrolled in grades 7 through 10 who are transported by school bus and are enrolled during the first or second week of school and have not previously received school bus safety training must receive the training or receive bus safety instructional materials by the end of the sixth week of school. Students taking driver's training instructional classes ~~and other students in grades 9 and 10~~ must receive training in the laws and proper procedures when operating a motor vehicle in the vicinity of a school bus as required by section 169.446, subdivisions 2 and 3. Students enrolled in kindergarten through grade 10 who enroll in a school after the second week of school and are transported by school bus and have not received training in their previous school district shall undergo school bus safety training or receive bus safety instructional materials within four weeks of the first day of attendance. Upon request of the superintendent of schools, the school transportation safety director in each district must certify to the superintendent of schools annually that all students transported by school bus within the district have received the school bus safety training according to this section. Upon request of the superintendent of the school district where the nonpublic school is located, the principal or other chief administrator of each nonpublic school must certify annually to the school transportation safety director of the district in which the school is located that the school's students transported by school bus at public expense have received training according to this section.

(d) A district and a nonpublic school with students transported by school bus at public expense may provide kindergarten pupils with bus safety training before the first day of school.

(e) A district and a nonpublic school with students transported by school bus at public expense may also provide student safety education for bicycling and pedestrian safety, for students enrolled in kindergarten through grade 5.

(f) A district and a nonpublic school with students transported by school bus at public expense must make reasonable accommodations for the school bus safety training of pupils known to speak English as a second language and pupils with disabilities.

(g) The district and a nonpublic school with students transported by school bus at public expense must provide students enrolled in kindergarten through grade 3 school bus safety training twice during the school year.

(h) A district and a nonpublic school with students transported by school bus at public expense must conduct a school bus evacuation drill at least once during the school year.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 169.01, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 92. **Cellular phone.** "Cellular phone" means a cellular, analog, wireless, or digital telephone capable of sending or receiving telephone or text messages without an access line for service.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 169.443, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 9. **Personal cellular phone call prohibition.** A school bus driver may not operate a school bus while communicating over, or otherwise operating, a cellular phone for personal reasons, whether hand-held or hands free, when the vehicle is in motion.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 169.447, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Driver seat belt.** New School buses and Head Start buses ~~manufactured after December 31, 1994,~~ must be equipped with driver seat belts and seat belt assemblies of the type described in section 169.685, subdivision 3. School bus drivers and Head Start bus drivers must use these seat belts.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 169.4501, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **National standards adopted.** Except as provided in sections 169.4502 and 169.4503, the construction, design, equipment, and color of types A, B, C, ~~and D~~ and multifunctional school activity bus school buses used for the transportation of school children shall meet the requirements of the "bus chassis standards" and "bus body standards" in the 2000 2005 edition of the "National School Transportation Specifications and Procedures" adopted by the National Conference Congress on School Transportation. Except as provided in section 169.4504, the construction, design, and equipment of types A, B, C, ~~and D~~ and multifunctional school activity bus school buses used for the transportation of students with disabilities also shall meet the requirements of the "specially equipped school bus standards" in the 2000 2005 National School Transportation Specifications and Procedures. The "bus chassis standards," "bus body standards,"



and "specially equipped school bus standards" sections of the ~~2000~~ 2005 edition of the "National School Transportation Specifications and Procedures" are incorporated by reference in this chapter.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2008.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 169.4501, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Applicability.** (a) The standards adopted in this section and sections 169.4502 and 169.4503, govern the construction, design, equipment, and color of school buses used for the transportation of school children, when owned or leased and operated by a school or privately owned or leased and operated under a contract with a school. Each school, its officers and employees, and each person employed under the contract is subject to these standards.

(b) The standards apply to school buses manufactured after ~~October 31, 2004~~ December 31, 2007. Buses complying with the standards when manufactured need not comply with standards established later except as specifically provided for by law.

(c) A school bus manufactured on or before ~~October 31, 2004~~ December 31, 2007, must conform to the Minnesota standards in effect on the date the vehicle was manufactured except as specifically provided for in law.

(d) A new bus body may be remounted on a used chassis provided that the remounted vehicle meets state and federal standards for new buses which are current at the time of the remounting. Permission must be obtained from the commissioner of public safety before the remounting is done. A used bus body may not be remounted on a new or used chassis.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2008.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 169.4502, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **Electrical system; battery.** (a) The storage battery, as established by the manufacturer's rating, must be of sufficient capacity to care for starting, lighting, signal devices, heating, and other electrical equipment. In a bus with a gas-powered chassis, the battery or batteries must provide a minimum of 800 cold cranking amperes. In a bus with a diesel-powered chassis, the battery or batteries must provide a minimum of 1050 cold cranking amperes.

(b) In a type B bus with a gross vehicle weight rating of 15,000 pounds or more, and type C and D buses, the battery shall be temporarily mounted on the chassis frame. The final location of the battery and the appropriate cable lengths in these buses must comply with the SBMI design objectives booklet.

(c) All batteries shall be mounted according to chassis manufacturers' recommendations.

(d) In a type C bus, other than are powered by diesel fuel, a battery providing at least 550 cold cranking amperes may be installed in the engine compartment only if used in combination with a generator or alternator of at least ~~120~~ 130 amperes.

(e) A bus with a gross vehicle weight rating of 15,000 pounds or less may be equipped with a battery to provide a minimum of 550 cold cranking amperes only if used in combination with an alternator of at least ~~80~~ 130 amperes. This paragraph does not apply to those buses with wheelchair lifts or diesel engines.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2008.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 169.4503, subdivision 13, is amended to read:

Subd. 13. **Identification.** (a) Each bus shall, in the beltline, identify the school district serviced, or company name, or owner of the bus. Numbers necessary for identification must appear on the sides and rear of the bus. Symbols or letters may be used on the outside of the bus near the entrance door for student identification. A manufacturer's nameplate or logo may be placed on the bus.

(b) Effective December 31, 1994, all type A, B, C, and D buses sold must display lettering "Unlawful to pass when red lights are flashing" on the rear of the bus. The lettering shall be in two-inch black letters on school bus yellow background. This message shall be displayed directly below the upper window of the rear door. On rear engine buses, it shall be centered at approximately the same location. Only signs and lettering approved or required by state law may be displayed.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2008.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 169.4503, subdivision 20, is amended to read:

Subd. 20. **Seat and crash barriers.** (a) All restraining barriers and passenger seats shall be covered with a material that has fire retardant or fire block characteristics.

(b) All seats must have a minimum cushion depth of 15 inches and a seat back height of at least 20 inches above the seating reference point.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2008.

Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 171.02, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Driver's license classifications, endorsements, exemptions.** (a) Drivers' licenses are classified according to the types of vehicles that may be driven by the holder of each type or class of license. The commissioner may, as appropriate, subdivide the classes listed in this subdivision and issue licenses classified accordingly.

(b) Except as provided in paragraph (c), clauses (1) and (2), and subdivision 2a, no class of license is valid to operate a motorcycle, school bus, tank vehicle, double-trailer or triple-trailer combination, vehicle transporting hazardous materials, or bus, unless so endorsed. There are four general classes of licenses as described in paragraphs (c) through (f).

(c) Class D drivers' licenses are valid for:

(1) operating all farm trucks if the farm truck is:

(i) controlled and operated by a farmer, including operation by an immediate family member or an employee of the farmer;

(ii) used to transport agricultural products, farm machinery, or farm supplies, including hazardous materials, to or from a farm;

(iii) not used in the operations of a common or contract motor carrier as governed by Code of Federal Regulations, title 49, part 365; and

(iv) used within 150 miles of the farm;

(2) notwithstanding paragraph (b), operating an authorized emergency vehicle, as defined in section 169.01, subdivision 5, whether or not in excess of 26,000 pounds gross vehicle weight;

(3) operating a recreational vehicle as defined in section 168.011, subdivision 25, that is operated for personal use;

(4) operating all single-unit vehicles except vehicles with a gross vehicle weight of more than 26,000 pounds, vehicles designed to carry more than 15 passengers including the driver, and vehicles that carry hazardous materials;

(5) notwithstanding paragraph (d), operating a type A school bus or a multifunctional school activity bus without a school bus endorsement if:

(i) the bus has a gross vehicle weight of 10,000 pounds or less;

(ii) the bus is designed to transport 15 or fewer passengers, including the driver; and

(iii) the requirements of subdivision 2a are satisfied, as determined by the commissioner;

(6) operating any vehicle or combination of vehicles when operated by a licensed peace officer while on duty; and

(7) towing vehicles if:

(i) the towed vehicles have a gross vehicle weight of 10,000 pounds or less; or

(ii) the towed vehicles have a gross vehicle weight of more than 10,000 pounds and the combination of vehicles has a gross vehicle weight of 26,000 pounds or less.

(d) Class C drivers' licenses are valid for:

(1) operating class D motor vehicles;

(2) with a hazardous materials endorsement, transporting hazardous materials in class D vehicles; and

(3) with a school bus endorsement, operating school buses designed to transport 15 or fewer passengers, including the driver.

(e) Class B drivers' licenses are valid for:

(1) operating all class C motor vehicles, class D motor vehicles, and all other single-unit motor vehicles including, with a passenger endorsement, buses; and

(2) towing only vehicles with a gross vehicle weight of 10,000 pounds or less.

(f) Class A drivers' licenses are valid for operating any vehicle or combination of vehicles.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2008.

Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 171.02, subdivision 2a, is amended to read:

Subd. 2a. **Exception for certain school bus drivers.** Notwithstanding subdivision 2, paragraph (c), the holder of a class D driver's license, without a school bus endorsement, may operate a type A school bus described in subdivision 2, paragraph (b), under the following conditions:

(a) The operator is an employee of the entity that owns, leases, or contracts for the school bus and is not solely hired to provide transportation services under this subdivision.

(b) The operator drives the school bus only from points of origin to points of destination, not including home-to-school trips to pick up or drop off students.

(c) The operator is prohibited from using the eight-light system. Violation of this paragraph is a misdemeanor.

(d) The operator's employer has adopted and implemented a policy that provides for annual training and certification of the operator in:

(1) safe operation of the type of school bus the operator will be driving;

(2) understanding student behavior, including issues relating to students with disabilities;

(3) encouraging orderly conduct of students on the bus and handling incidents of misconduct appropriately;

(4) knowing and understanding relevant laws, rules of the road, and local school bus safety policies;

(5) handling emergency situations; and

(6) safe loading and unloading of students.

(e) A background check or background investigation of the operator has been conducted that meets the requirements under section 122A.18, subdivision 8, or 123B.03 for teachers; section 144.057 or chapter 245C for day care employees; or section 171.321, subdivision 3, for all other persons operating a type A school bus under this subdivision.

(f) Operators shall submit to a physical examination as required by section 171.321, subdivision 2.

(g) The operator's driver's license is verified annually by the entity that owns, leases, or contracts for the school bus.

(h) A person who sustains a conviction, as defined under section 609.02, of violating section 169A.25, 169A.26, 169A.27, 169A.31, 169A.51, or 169A.52, or a similar statute or ordinance of another state is precluded from operating a school bus for five years from the date of conviction.

(i) A person who has ever been convicted of a disqualifying offense as defined in section 171.3215, subdivision 1, paragraph (c), may not operate a school bus under this subdivision.

(j) A person who sustains a conviction, as defined under section 609.02, of a fourth moving offense in violation of chapter 169 is precluded from operating a school bus for one year from the date of the last conviction.

(k) Students riding the school bus must have training required under section 123B.90, subdivision 2.

(l) An operator must be trained in the proper use of child safety restraints as set forth in the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's "Guideline for the Safe Transportation of

Pre-school Age Children in School Buses," if child safety restraints are used by the passengers.

(m) Annual certification of the requirements listed in this subdivision must be maintained under separate file at the business location for each operator licensed under this subdivision and subdivision 2, paragraph (b), clause (5). The business manager, school board, governing body of a nonpublic school, or any other entity that owns, leases, or contracts for the school bus operating under this subdivision is responsible for maintaining these files for inspection.

(n) The school bus must bear a current certificate of inspection issued under section 169.451.

(o) The word "School" on the front and rear of the bus must be covered by a sign that reads "Activities" when the bus is being operated under authority of this subdivision.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2008.

Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 171.321, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Training.** (a) No person shall drive a class A, B, C, or D school bus when transporting school children to or from school or upon a school-related trip or activity without having demonstrated sufficient skills and knowledge to transport students in a safe and legal manner.

(b) A bus driver must have training or experience that allows the driver to meet at least the following competencies:

- (1) safely operate the type of school bus the driver will be driving;
- (2) understand student behavior, including issues relating to students with disabilities;
- (3) encourage orderly conduct of students on the bus and handle incidents of misconduct appropriately;
- (4) know and understand relevant laws, rules of the road, and local school bus safety policies;
- (5) handle emergency situations; and
- (6) safely load and unload students.

(c) The commissioner of public safety shall develop a comprehensive model school bus driver training program and model assessments for school bus driver training competencies, which are not subject to chapter 14. A school district, nonpublic school, or private contractor may use alternative assessments for bus driver training competencies with the approval of the commissioner of public safety. A driver may receive at least eight hours of school bus in-service training any year, as an alternative to being assessed for bus driver competencies after the initial year of being assessed for bus driver competencies. The employer shall keep the assessment or a record of the in-service training for the current period available for inspection by representatives of the commissioner.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007.

Sec. 14. **RULES REVISED: COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC SAFETY.**

Subdivision 1. Rules revised under the good cause exemption. The commissioner of public safety must amend and adopt the revisions to the rules listed in subdivisions 2 to 8 under the good cause exemption to the rulemaking process under Minnesota Statutes, section 14.388, subdivision

1, clause (3).

Subd. 2. **Minnesota Rules, part 7470.0500.** The commissioner of public safety must amend Minnesota Rules, part 7470.0500, by replacing two obsolete references to the Department of Children, Families, and Learning, with a reference to the Department of Public Safety and removing references to specifically repealed rules.

Subd. 3. **Minnesota Rules, part 7470.0700.** The commissioner of public safety must amend Minnesota Rules, part 7470.0700, as follows:

(1) for the points assigned to school bus equipment defects, strike the reference to "orange" school buses and include a new school bus color exemption for multifunctional school activity buses; and

(2) replace the references to type I and type II school buses with type A, B, C, or D school buses.

Subd. 4. **Minnesota Rules, part 7470.1000.** The commissioner of public safety must amend Minnesota Rules, part 7470.1000, to:

(1) include multifunctional school activity buses in the headnote;

(2) update subpart 1 to include multifunctional school activity buses as a type of school bus listed after bus types A, B, C, and D;

(3) modify subpart 2 to clarify that the prohibition against loading or unloading while adjacent to a turn lane applies only when it is a right-hand turn lane and does not prohibit a bus from loading or unloading at the side of the road when there is a center turn lane; and

(3) expand the exception that allows service dogs on school buses to include all companion animals.

Subd. 5. **Minnesota Rules, part 7470.1100.** The commissioner of public safety must amend Minnesota Rules, part 7470.1100, to include multifunctional school activity buses in the headnote and amend subpart 1 to include multifunctional school activity buses as a type of school bus listed after bus types A, B, C, and D. The commissioner must also amend item B of this part to require drivers to use prewarning flashing signals, flashing red signals, and stop signals arms on buses that are equipped with those signals.

Subd. 6. **Minnesota Rules, part 7470.1400.** The commissioner of public safety must amend Minnesota Rules, part 7470.1400, to clarify that the operating rules in parts 7470.1000 to 7470.1500 apply to buses that are leased and rented as well as to school buses that are owned by a school district, a nonpublic school, or a private operator under contract to a school district or nonpublic school.

Subd. 7. **Minnesota Rules, part 7470.1500.** The commissioner of public safety must amend Minnesota Rules, part 7470.1500, to:

(1) clarify that the prohibition against loading or unloading while adjacent to a turn lane applies only when it is a right-hand turn lane and does not prohibit a bus from loading or unloading at the side of the road when there is a center turn lane; and

(2) delete item H because it is obsolete.

Subd. 8. **Minnesota Rules, part 7470.1700.** The commissioner of public safety must amend Minnesota Rules, part 7470.1700, subpart 2, to:

(1) clarify that the bus driver and the bus aide must have access to emergency health care information for the students with disabilities transported on the bus; and

(2) add an item E that allows the health information to be maintained either in a hard copy on the vehicle or immediately accessible through a two-way communications system.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 15. **REPEALER.**

Minnesota Statutes 2006, sections 169.4502, subdivision 15; and 169.4503, subdivisions 17, 18, and 26, are repealed.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2008.

## ARTICLE 9

### EARLY CHILDHOOD AND ADULT PROGRAMS

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 119A.52, is amended to read:

#### **119A.52 DISTRIBUTION OF APPROPRIATION.**

(a) The commissioner of education must distribute money appropriated for that purpose to federally designated Head Start programs to expand services and to serve additional low-income children. Migrant and Indian reservation programs must be initially allocated money based on the programs' share of federal funds. The remaining money must be initially allocated to the remaining local agencies based equally on the agencies' share of federal funds and on the proportion of eligible children in the agencies' service area who are not currently being served. A Head Start grantee program must be funded at a per child rate equal to its contracted, federally funded base level at the start of the fiscal year. In allocating funds under this paragraph, the commissioner of education must assure that each Head Start program in existence in 1993 is allocated no less funding in any fiscal year than was allocated to that program in fiscal year 1993. Before paying money to the programs, the commissioner must notify each program of its initial allocation, how the money must be used, and the number of low-income children to be served with the allocation based upon the federally funded per child rate. Each program must present a plan under section 119A.535. For any grantee program that cannot utilize its full allocation at the beginning of the fiscal year, the commissioner must reduce the allocation proportionately. Money available after the initial allocations are reduced must be redistributed to eligible grantees programs.

(b) The commissioner must develop procedures to make payments to programs based upon the number of children reported to be enrolled during the required time period of program operations. Enrollment is defined by federal Head Start regulations. The procedures must include a reporting schedule, corrective action plan requirements, and financial consequences to be imposed on programs that do not meet full enrollment after the period of corrective action. Programs reporting chronic underenrollment, as defined by the commissioner, will have their subsequent program year allocation reduced proportionately. Funds made available by prorating payments and allocations to programs with reported underenrollment will be made available to the extent funds exist to fully

enrolled Head Start programs through a form and manner prescribed by the department.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 119A.535, is amended to read:

**119A.535 APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS.**

Eligible Head Start organizations must submit a plan to the department for approval on a form and in the manner prescribed by the commissioner. The plan must include:

- (1) the ~~estimated~~ number of low-income children and families the program will be able to serve;
- (2) a description of the program design and service delivery area which meets the needs of and encourages access by low-income working families;
- (3) a program design that ensures fair and equitable access to Head Start services for all populations and parts of the service area;
- (4) a plan for ~~coordinating services to maximize assistance for child care costs available to families under chapter 119B~~ providing Head Start services in conjunction with full-day child care programs to minimize child transitions, increase program intensity and duration, and improve child and family outcomes as required in section 119A.5411; and
- (5) identification of regular Head Start, early Head Start, full-day services identified in section 119A.5411, and innovative services based upon demonstrated needs to be provided.

Sec. 3. **119A.5411 FULL-DAY REQUIREMENTS.**

The following phase-in of full-day services in Head Start programs or licensed child care as defined in chapter 245A is required:

- (1) by fiscal year 2009, a minimum of 25 percent of the total state-funded enrollment throughout the state must be provided in full-day services;
- (2) by fiscal year 2011, a minimum of 40 percent of the total state-funded enrollment throughout the state must be provided in full-day services; and
- (3) by fiscal year 2013, a minimum of 50 percent of the total state-funded enrollment throughout the state must be provided in full-day services.

Head Start programs may provide full-day services as part of their own program model or through agreements with licensed full-day child care programs. If licensed child care providers do not exist in a geographic area, choose not to participate, cannot meet the federal Head Start performance standards after sufficient opportunity, or a Head Start program is unable to establish the full-day services as a part of their own program model, the Head Start program may request exemption from the commissioner.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 121A.17, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **Developmental screening program information.** The board must inform each resident family with a child eligible to participate in the developmental screening program about the availability of the program and the state's requirement that a child receive a developmental screening or provide health records indicating that the child received a comparable developmental screening from a public or private health care organization or individual health care provider not



later than 30 days after the first day of attending kindergarten in a public school. A school district must inform all resident families with eligible children under age seven that their children may receive a developmental screening conducted either by the school district or by a public or private health care organization or individual health care provider and that the screening is not required if a statement signed by the child's parent or guardian is submitted to the administrator or other person having general control and supervision of the school that the child has not been screened.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 124D.13, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Establishment; purpose.** A district that provides a community education program under sections 124D.18 and 124D.19 may establish an early childhood family education program. Two or more districts, each of which provides a community education program, may cooperate to jointly provide an early childhood family education program. The purpose of the early childhood family education program is to provide parenting education to support children's learning and development.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 124D.13, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Program characteristics requirements.** (a) Early childhood family education programs are programs for children in the period of life from birth to kindergarten, for the parents and other relatives of these children, and for expectant parents. To the extent that funds are insufficient to provide programs for all children, early childhood family education programs should emphasize programming for a child from birth to age three and encourage parents and other relatives to involve four- and five-year-old children in school readiness programs, and other public and nonpublic early learning programs. A district may not limit participation to school district residents. Early childhood family education programs may include the following must provide:

(1) programs to educate parents and other relatives about the physical, mental, and emotional development of children and to enhance the skills of parents and other relatives in providing for their children's learning and development;

~~(2) programs to enhance the skills of parents and other relatives in providing for their children's learning and development~~ structured learning activities requiring interaction between children and their parents or relatives;

~~(3) structured learning experiences activities for children and parents and other relatives that promote children's development and positive interaction with peers, which are held while parents or relatives attend parent education classes;~~

~~(4) activities designed to detect children's physical, mental, emotional, or behavioral problems that may cause learning problems;~~

~~(5) activities and materials designed to encourage self-esteem, skills, and behavior that prevent sexual and other interpersonal violence;~~

~~(6) educational materials which may be borrowed for home use;~~

~~(7)~~ (4) information on related community resources;

~~(8) programs to prevent~~ (5) information, materials, and activities that support the safety of children, including prevention of child abuse and neglect; and

~~(9) other programs or activities to improve the health, development, and school readiness of children; or~~

~~(10) activities designed to maximize development during infancy.~~

(6) a community outreach plan to ensure participation by families who reflect the racial, cultural, and economic diversity of the school district.

The programs must include learning experiences for children, parents, and other relatives that promote children's early literacy skills. The programs program must not include activities for children that do not require substantial involvement of the children's parents or other relatives. The programs program must be reviewed periodically to assure the instruction and materials are not racially, culturally, or sexually biased. The programs must encourage parents to be aware of practices that may affect equitable development of children.

(b) For the purposes of this section, "relative" or "relatives" means noncustodial grandparents or other persons related to a child by blood, marriage, adoption, or foster placement, excluding parents.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 124D.13, subdivision 11, is amended to read:

Subd. 11. **Teachers.** A school board must employ necessary qualified teachers licensed in early childhood or parent education for its early childhood family education programs.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 124D.13, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 13. **Plan and program data submission requirements.** (a) An early childhood family education program must submit a biennial plan addressing the requirements of subdivision 2 for approval by the commissioner. The plan must also describe how the program provides parenting education and ensures participation of families representative of the school district. A school district must submit the plan for approval by the commissioner in the form and manner prescribed by the commissioner. One-half of districts, as determined by the commissioner, must first submit a biennial plan by April 1, 2009, and the remaining districts must first submit a plan by April 1, 2010.

(b) Districts receiving early childhood family education revenue under section 124D.135 must submit annual program data to the department by July 15 in the form and manner prescribed by the commissioner.

(c) Beginning with levies for fiscal year 2011, a school district must submit its annual program data to the department before it may certify a levy under section 124D.135. Districts selected by the commissioner to submit a biennial plan by April 1, 2009, must also have an approved plan on file with the commissioner before certifying a levy under section 124D.135 for fiscal year 2011. Beginning with levies for fiscal year 2012, all districts must submit annual program data and have an approved biennial plan on file with the commissioner before certifying a levy under section 124D.135.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 124D.135, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Revenue.** The revenue for early childhood family education programs for a school district equals \$112 for fiscal year 2007 and \$120 for fiscal year 2008 and later, times the greater of:

(1) 150; or

(2) the number of people under five years of age residing in the district on October 1 of the previous school year.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for revenue for fiscal year 2008.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 124D.135, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Early childhood family education levy.** ~~For fiscal year 2001 to obtain early childhood family education revenue, a district may levy an amount equal to the tax rate of .5282 percent times the adjusted tax capacity of the district for the year preceding the year the levy is certified. Beginning with levies for fiscal year 2002,~~ By September 30 of each year, the commissioner shall establish a tax rate for early childhood family education revenue that raises \$21,027,000 ~~for fiscal year 2002 and \$22,135,000 in each fiscal year 2003 and each subsequent year.~~ If the amount of the early childhood family education levy would exceed the early childhood family education revenue, the early childhood family education levy must equal the early childhood family education revenue. Beginning with levies for fiscal year 2011, a district may not certify an early childhood family education levy unless it has met the annual program data reporting and biennial plan requirements under section 124D.13, subdivision 13.

Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 124D.135, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **Use of revenue restricted.** (a) Early childhood family education revenue may be used only for early childhood family education programs.

(b) Not more than five percent of early childhood family education revenue, as defined in subdivision 7, may be used to administer early childhood family education programs.

(c) An early childhood family education program may use up to ten percent of its early childhood family education revenue as defined in subdivision 1, including revenue from participant fees, for equipment that is used in the early childhood family education program. This revenue may only be used for the following purposes:

(1) to purchase or lease computers and related materials; and

(2) to purchase or lease equipment for instruction for participating children and their families.

If a district anticipates an unusual circumstance requiring its early childhood family education program capital expenditures to exceed the ten percent limitation, prior approval to exceed the limit must be obtained in writing from the commissioner.

Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 124D.135, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

Subd. 6. **Home visiting levy.** A district that is eligible to levy for early childhood family education under subdivision 3 and that enters into a collaborative agreement to provide education services and social services to families with young children may levy an amount equal to \$1.60 times the number of people under five years of age residing in the district on September 1 of the last school year. Levy revenue under this subdivision must not be included as revenue under subdivision 1. The revenue must be used for home visiting programs under section 124D.13, subdivision 4.

Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 124D.15, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Program requirements.** A school readiness program provider must:

(1) assess each child's cognitive skills when the child enters and again before the child leaves the program to inform program planning and promote kindergarten readiness;

(2) provide comprehensive program content based on early childhood research and professional practice that is focused on children's cognitive skills and development and prepares children for the transition to kindergarten, including early literacy skills;

(3) arrange for early childhood screening and appropriate referral;

(4) involve parents in program planning and decision making;

(5) coordinate with relevant community-based services; and

(6) cooperate with adult basic education programs and other adult literacy programs.

**Sec. 14. [124D.2211] AFTER-SCHOOL COMMUNITY LEARNING PROGRAMS.**

Subdivision 1. **Establishment.** A competitive statewide after-school community learning grant program is established to provide grants to community or nonprofit organizations, political subdivisions, for-profit or nonprofit child care centers, or school-based programs that serve youth after school or during nonschool hours. The commissioner shall develop criteria for after-school community learning programs.

Subd. 2. **Program outcomes.** The expected outcomes of the after-school community learning programs are to increase:

(1) school connectedness of participants;

(2) academic achievement of participating students in one or more core academic areas;

(3) the capacity of participants to become productive adults; and

(4) prevent truancy from school and prevent juvenile crime.

Subd. 3. **Grants.** An applicant shall submit an after-school community learning program proposal to the commissioner. The submitted plan must include:

(1) collaboration with and leverage of existing community resources that have demonstrated effectiveness;

(2) outreach to children and youth; and

(3) involvement of local governments, including park and recreation boards or schools, unless no government agency is appropriate.

Proposals will be reviewed and approved by the commissioner.

Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 124D.531, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **State total adult basic education aid.** (a) The state total adult basic education aid for fiscal year 2005 is \$36,509,000. The state total adult basic education aid for fiscal year 2006 equals \$36,587,000 plus any amount that is not paid for during the previous fiscal year, as a result of adjustments under subdivision 4, paragraph (a), or section 124D.52, subdivision 3. The state total adult basic education aid for fiscal year 2007 equals \$37,673,000 plus any amount that is not

paid for during the previous fiscal year, as a result of adjustments under subdivision 4, paragraph (a), or section 124D.52, subdivision 3. The state total adult basic education aid for fiscal year 2008 equals \$40,650,000, plus any amount that is not paid during the previous fiscal year as a result of adjustments under subdivision 4, paragraph (a), or section 124D.52, subdivision 3. The state total adult basic education aid for later fiscal years equals:

(1) the state total adult basic education aid for the preceding fiscal year plus any amount that is not paid for during the previous fiscal year, as a result of adjustments under subdivision 4, paragraph (a), or section 124D.52, subdivision 3; times

(2) the lesser of:

(i) 1.03; or

(ii) the greater of 1.00 or the ratio of the state total contact hours in the first prior program year to the state total contact hours in the second prior program year.

Beginning in fiscal year 2002, two percent of the state total adult basic education aid must be set aside for adult basic education supplemental service grants under section 124D.522.

(b) The state total adult basic education aid, excluding basic population aid, equals the difference between the amount computed in paragraph (a), and the state total basic population aid under subdivision 2.

Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 124D.531, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Adult basic education program aid limit.** (a) Notwithstanding subdivisions 2 and 3, the total adult basic education aid for a program per prior year contact hour must not exceed ~~\$21~~ \$22 per prior year contact hour computed under subdivision 3, clause (2).

~~(b) For fiscal year 2004, the aid for a program under subdivision 3, clause (2), adjusted for changes in program membership, must not exceed the aid for that program under subdivision 3, clause (2), for fiscal year 2003 by more than the greater of eight percent or \$10,000.~~

~~(c) For fiscal year 2005, the aid for a program under subdivision 3, clause (2), adjusted for changes in program membership, must not exceed the sum of the aid for that program under subdivision 3, clause (2), and Laws 2003, First Special Session chapter 9, article 9, section 8, paragraph (a), for the preceding fiscal year by more than the greater of eight percent or \$10,000.~~

~~(d) (b) For fiscal year 2006 and later fiscal year 2007, the aid for a program under subdivision 3, clause (2), adjusted for changes in program membership, must not exceed the aid for that program under subdivision 3, clause (2), for the first preceding fiscal year by more than the greater of eight percent or \$10,000.~~

(c) For fiscal year 2008 and later, the aid for a program under subdivision 3, clause (2), adjusted for changes in program membership, must not exceed the aid for that program under subdivision 3, clause (2), for the first preceding fiscal year by more than the greater of 11 percent or \$14,000.

~~(e) (d)~~ Adult basic education aid is payable to a program for unreimbursed costs occurring in the program year as defined in section 124D.52, subdivision 3.

~~(f) (e)~~ Any adult basic education aid that is not paid to a program because of the program aid

limitation under paragraph (a) must be added to the state total adult basic education aid for the next fiscal year under subdivision 1. Any adult basic education aid that is not paid to a program because of the program aid limitations under paragraph (b), or (c), or (d), must be reallocated among programs by adjusting the rate per contact hour under subdivision 3, clause (2).

**Sec. 17. APPROPRIATION.**

**Subdivision 1. Department of Education.** The sums indicated in this section are appropriated from the general fund to the Department of Education for the fiscal years designated.

**Subd. 2. Early childhood family education aid.** For early childhood family education aid under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.135:

\$	<u>21,106,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2008</u>
\$	<u>21,888,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2009</u>

The 2008 appropriation includes \$1,796,000 for 2007 and \$19,310,000 for 2008.

The 2009 appropriation includes \$2,145,000 for 2008 and \$19,743,000 for 2009.

**Subd. 3. School readiness.** For revenue for school readiness programs under Minnesota Statutes, sections 124D.15 and 124D.16:

\$	<u>9,995,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2008</u>
\$	<u>10,095,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2009</u>

The 2008 appropriation includes \$909,000 for 2007 and \$9,086,000 for 2008.

The 2009 appropriation includes \$1,009,000 for 2008 and \$9,086,000 for 2009.

**Subd. 4. Minnesota Learning Resource Center.** For a grant to A Chance to Grow/New Visions for the Minnesota Learning Resource Center's comprehensive training program for education professionals charged with helping children acquire learning readiness skills:

\$	<u>75,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2008</u>
\$	<u>75,000</u>	<u>.....</u>	<u>2009</u>

Any balance in the first year does not cancel but is available in the second year.

The Minnesota Learning Resource Center shall issue a report by January 15, 2009, to the committees of the house of representatives and senate responsible for early childhood programs. The report shall describe the conduct of the training provided to the A Chance to Grow/New Visions program, and any findings or lessons learned that might prove useful to the training of education professionals or the improvement of learning readiness services for children from such training.

This is a onetime appropriation.

**Subd. 5. Health and developmental screening aid.** For health and developmental screening aid under Minnesota Statutes, sections 121A.17 and 121A.19:

\$	<u>3,159,000</u>	.....	<u>2008</u>
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\$	<u>3,330,000</u>	.....	<u>2009</u>
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The 2008 appropriation includes \$288,000 for 2007 and \$2,871,000 for 2008.

The 2009 appropriation includes \$319,000 for 2008 and \$3,011,000 for 2009.

Subd. 6. **Educate parents partnership.** For the educate parents partnership under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.129:

\$	<u>50,000</u>	.....	<u>2008</u>
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\$	<u>50,000</u>	.....	<u>2009</u>
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Subd. 7. **Kindergarten entrance assessment initiative and intervention program.** For the kindergarten entrance assessment initiative and intervention program under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.162:

\$	<u>584,000</u>	.....	<u>2008</u>
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\$	<u>776,000</u>	.....	<u>2009</u>
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Subd. 8. **Head Start programs.** For Head Start programs under Minnesota Statutes, section 119A.52:

\$	<u>20,100,000</u>	.....	<u>2008</u>
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\$	<u>20,100,000</u>	.....	<u>2009</u>
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Of these amounts, up to 10 percent of the funds allocated to local Head Start programs annually may be used for innovative services designed either to target Head Start resources to particular at-risk groups of children or to provide services in addition to those currently allowable under federal Head Start regulations. Head Start programs must submit a plan for innovative services as part of the application process described under Minnesota Statutes, section 119A.535.

Any balance in the first year does not cancel but is available in the second year.

Subd. 9. **Community education aid.** For community education aid under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.20:

\$	<u>1,307,000</u>	.....	<u>2008</u>
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\$	<u>816,000</u>	.....	<u>2009</u>
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The 2008 appropriation includes \$195,000 for 2007 and \$1,112,000 for 2008.

The 2009 appropriation includes \$123,000 for 2008 and \$693,000 for 2009.

Subd. 10. **Adults with disabilities program aid.** For adults with disabilities programs under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.56:

\$	<u>881,000</u>	.....	<u>2008</u>
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\$            900,000    .....    2009

The 2008 appropriation includes \$71,000 for 2007 and \$810,000 for 2008.

The 2009 appropriation includes \$90,000 for 2008 and \$810,000 for 2009.

School districts operating existing adults with disabilities programs that are not fully funded shall receive full funding for the program beginning in fiscal year 2008 before the commissioner awards grants to other districts.

Subd. 11. **Hearing-impaired adults.** For programs for hearing-impaired adults under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.57:

\$            70,000    .....    2008

\$            70,000    .....    2009

Subd. 12. **School-age care revenue.** For extended day aid under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.22:

\$            1,000    .....    2008

\$            1,000    .....    2009

The 2008 appropriation includes \$0 for 2007 and \$1,000 for 2008.

The 2009 appropriation includes \$0 for 2008 and \$1,000 for 2009.

Subd. 13. **After-school community learning grants.** For after-school community learning grants:

\$            2,775,000    .....    2008

\$            2,600,000    .....    2009

The commissioner may hire one full-time equivalent staff person to administer the statewide after-school community learning grant program.

This is a onetime appropriation.

Subd. 14. **Adult basic education aid.** For adult basic education aid under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.531:

\$            40,347,000    .....    2008

\$            41,745,000    .....    2009

The 2008 appropriation includes \$3,759,000 for 2007 and \$36,588,000 for 2008.

The 2009 appropriation includes \$4,065,000 for 2008 and \$37,680,000 for 2009.

Subd. 15. **GED test fees.** For GED test fees under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.55:

\$            300,000    .....    2008



\$            200,000    .....    2009

\$100,000 in fiscal year 2008 is for GED test fees for homeless persons.

Any balance in the first year does not cancel but is available in the second year.

Subd. 16. **Adult literacy grants for recent immigrants.** For adult literacy grants for recent immigrants to Minnesota under Laws 2006, chapter 282, article 2, section 26:

\$            1,250,000    .....    2008

**Sec. 18. APPROPRIATIONS; DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH.**

Subdivision 1. **Department of Health.** The sums indicated in this section are appropriated from the general fund to the Department of Health for the fiscal years designated.

Subd. 2. **Lead hazard reduction.** For lead hazard reduction under Minnesota Statutes, section 144.9512:

\$            100,000    .....    2008

\$            100,000    .....    2009

**Sec. 19. REPEALER.**

Minnesota Statutes 2006, sections 124D.175; and 124D.531, subdivision 5, are repealed.

**ARTICLE 10**

**EDUCATION FORECAST ADJUSTMENTS**

**A. GENERAL EDUCATION**

Section 1. Laws 2005, First Special Session chapter 5, article 1, section 54, subdivision 2, as amended by Laws 2006, chapter 282, article 3, section 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2 **General education aid** For general education aid under Minnesota Statutes, section 126C.13, subdivision 4:

\$ 5,819,153,000                    .....            2006

\$ 5,472,238,000  
5,453,693,000                    .....            2007

The 2006 appropriation includes \$787,978,000 for 2005 and \$5,031,175,000 for 2006.

The 2007 appropriation includes ~~\$513,848,000~~ \$518,218,000 for 2006 and ~~\$4,958,390,000~~ \$4,935,475,000 for 2007.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 2. Laws 2005, First Special Session chapter 5, article 1, section 54, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Enrollment options transportation.** For transportation of pupils attending

postsecondary institutions under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.09, or for transportation of pupils attending nonresident districts under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.03:

\$ 55,000	.....	2006
\$ <del>55,000</del>		
<u>93,000</u>	.....	2007

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 3. Laws 2005, First Special Session chapter 5, article 1, section 54, subdivision 5, as amended by Laws 2006, chapter 282, article 7, section 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **Abatement revenue.** For abatement aid under Minnesota Statutes, section 127A.49:

\$ 909,000	.....	2006
\$ <del>1,026,000</del>		
<u>765,000</u>	.....	2007

The 2006 appropriation includes \$187,000 for 2005 and \$722,000 for 2006.

The 2007 appropriation includes \$80,000 for 2006 and ~~\$946,000~~ \$685,000 for 2007.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 4. Laws 2005, First Special Session chapter 5, article 1, section 54, subdivision 6, as amended by Laws 2006, chapter 282, article 7, section 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 6. **Consolidation transition.** For districts consolidating under Minnesota Statutes, section 123A.485:

\$ <del>527,000</del>		
<u>388,000</u>	.....	2007

The 2007 appropriation includes \$0 for 2006 and ~~\$527,000~~ \$388,000 for 2007.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 5. Laws 2005, First Special Session chapter 5, article 1, section 54, subdivision 7, as amended by Laws 2006, chapter 282, article 7, section 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Nonpublic pupil education aid.** For nonpublic pupil education aid under Minnesota Statutes, sections 123B.87 and 123B.40 to 123B.43:

\$ 15,458,000	.....	2006
\$ <del>15,991,000</del>		
<u>15,972,000</u>	.....	2007

The 2006 appropriation includes \$1,864,000 for 2005 and \$13,594,000 for 2006.

The 2007 appropriation includes \$1,510,000 for 2006 and ~~\$14,481,000~~ \$14,462,000 for 2007.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 6. Laws 2005, First Special Session chapter 5, article 1, section 54, subdivision 8, as amended by Laws 2006, chapter 282, article 7, section 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 8. **Nonpublic pupil transportation.** For nonpublic pupil transportation aid under Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.92, subdivision 9:

\$ 21,371,000	.....	2006
\$ <del>20,843,000</del>		
<u>21,133,000</u>	.....	2007

The 2006 appropriation includes \$3,274,000 for 2005 and \$18,097,000 for 2006.

The 2007 appropriation includes \$2,010,000 for 2006 and ~~\$18,833,000~~ \$19,123,000 for 2007.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

## B. EDUCATION EXCELLENCE

Sec. 7. Laws 2005, First Special Session chapter 5, article 2, section 84, subdivision 2, as amended by Laws 2006, chapter 282, article 7, section 6, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Charter school building lease aid.** For building lease aid under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.11, subdivision 4:

\$ 25,331,000	.....	2006
\$ <del>27,806,000</del>		
<u>27,795,000</u>	.....	2007

The 2006 appropriation includes \$3,173,000 for 2005 and \$22,158,000 for 2006.

The 2007 appropriation includes \$2,462,000 for 2006 and ~~\$25,344,000~~ \$25,333,000 for 2007.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 8. Laws 2005, First Special Session chapter 5, article 2, section 84, subdivision 3, as amended by Laws 2006, chapter 282, article 7, section 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Charter school startup aid.** For charter school startup cost aid under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.11:

\$ 1,291,000	.....	2006
\$ <del>2,347,000</del>		
<u>2,316,000</u>	.....	2007

The 2006 appropriation includes \$0 for 2005 and \$1,291,000 for 2006.

The 2007 appropriation includes \$143,000 for 2006 and ~~\$2,204,000~~ \$2,173,000 for 2007.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 9. Laws 2005, First Special Session chapter 5, article 2, section 84, subdivision 4, as amended by Laws 2006, chapter 282, article 7, section 8, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Integration aid.** For integration aid under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.86, subdivision 5:

\$ 59,404,000	.....	2006
\$ <del>58,405,000</del>		
<u>58,075,000</u>	.....	2007

The 2006 appropriation includes \$8,545,000 for 2005 and \$50,859,000 for 2006.

The 2007 appropriation includes \$5,650,000 for 2006 and ~~\$52,755,000~~ \$52,425,000 for 2007.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 10. Laws 2005, First Special Session chapter 5, article 2, section 84, subdivision 6, as amended by Laws 2006, chapter 282, article 7, section 9, is amended to read:

Subd. 6. **Interdistrict desegregation or integration transportation grants.** For interdistrict desegregation or integration transportation grants under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.87:

\$ 6,032,000	.....	2006
\$ <del>10,134,000</del>		
<u>8,169,000</u>	.....	2007

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 11. Laws 2005, First Special Session chapter 5, article 2, section 84, subdivision 10, as amended by Laws 2006, chapter 282, article 7, section 11, is amended to read:

Subd. 10. **Tribal contract schools.** For tribal contract school aid under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.83:

\$ 2,338,000	.....	2006
\$ <del>2,357,000</del>		
<u>2,060,000</u>	.....	2007

The 2006 appropriation includes \$348,000 for 2005 and \$1,990,000 for 2006.

The 2007 appropriation includes \$221,000 for 2006 and ~~\$2,136,000~~ \$1,839,000 for 2007.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

### C. SPECIAL EDUCATION

Sec. 12. Laws 2005, First Special Session chapter 5, article 3, section 18, subdivision 2, as amended by Laws 2006, chapter 282, article 7, section 12, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Special education; regular.** For special education aid under Minnesota Statutes, section 125A.75:

\$ 559,485,000	.....	2006
528,106,000		
\$ <u>529,257,000</u>	.....	2007

The 2006 appropriation includes \$83,078,000 for 2005 and \$476,407,000 for 2006.

The 2007 appropriation includes \$52,934,000 for 2006 and ~~\$475,172,000~~ \$476,323,000 for 2007.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 13. Laws 2005, First Special Session chapter 5, article 3, section 18, subdivision 3, as amended by Laws 2006, chapter 282, article 7, section 13, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Aid for children with disabilities.** For aid under Minnesota Statutes, section 125A.75, subdivision 3, for children with disabilities placed in residential facilities within the district boundaries for whom no district of residence can be determined:

\$ 1,527,000	.....	2006
\$ 1,624,000		
<u>1,410,000</u>	.....	2007

If the appropriation for either year is insufficient, the appropriation for the other year is available.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 14. Laws 2005, First Special Session chapter 5, article 3, section 18, subdivision 4, as amended by Laws 2006, chapter 282, article 7, section 14, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Travel for home-based services.** For aid for teacher travel for home-based services under Minnesota Statutes, section 125A.75, subdivision 1:

\$ 198,000	.....	2006
\$ 195,000		
<u>224,000</u>	.....	2007

The 2006 appropriation includes \$28,000 for 2005 and \$170,000 for 2006.

The 2007 appropriation includes \$18,000 for 2006 and ~~\$177,000~~ \$206,000 for 2007.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 15. Laws 2005, First Special Session chapter 5, article 3, section 18, subdivision 6, as amended by Laws 2006, chapter 282, article 7, section 16, is amended to read:

Subd. 6. **Transition for disabled students.** For aid for transition programs for children with

disabilities under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.454:

\$ 9,300,000	.....	2006
\$ 8,781,000		
<u>8,800,000</u>	.....	2007

The 2006 appropriation includes \$1,380,000 for 2005 and \$7,920,000 for 2006.

The 2007 appropriation includes \$880,000 for 2006 and ~~\$7,901,000~~ \$7,920,000 for 2007.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

#### D. FACILITIES

Sec. 16. Laws 2005, First Special Session chapter 5, article 4, section 25, subdivision 2, as amended by Laws 2006, chapter 282, article 7, section 18, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Health and safety revenue.** For health and safety aid according to Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.57, subdivision 5:

\$ 823,000	.....	2006
\$ 352,000		
<u>249,000</u>	.....	2007

The 2006 appropriation includes \$211,000 for 2005 and \$612,000 for 2006.

The 2007 appropriation includes \$68,000 for 2006 and ~~\$284,000~~ \$181,000 for 2007.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 17. Laws 2005, First Special Session chapter 5, article 4, section 25, subdivision 3, as amended by Laws 2006, chapter 282, article 5, section 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Debt service equalization.** For debt service aid according to Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.53, subdivision 6:

\$ 27,206,000	.....	2006
\$ 18,410,000		
<u>18,395,000</u>	.....	2007

The 2006 appropriation includes \$4,654,000 for 2005 and \$22,552,000 for 2006.

The 2007 appropriation includes \$2,504,000 for 2006 and ~~\$15,906,000~~ \$15,891,000 for 2007.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

#### E. NUTRITION

Sec. 18. Laws 2005, First Special Session chapter 5, article 5, section 17, subdivision 3, as amended by Laws 2006, chapter 282, article 7, section 20, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Traditional school breakfast; kindergarten milk.** For traditional school breakfast aid and kindergarten milk under Minnesota Statutes, sections 124D.1158 and 124D.118:

\$ 4,856,000	.....	2006
\$ 5,044,000		
<u>5,175,000</u>	.....	2007

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

#### F. EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Sec. 19. Laws 2005, First Special Session chapter 5, article 7, section 20, subdivision 2, as amended by Laws 2006, chapter 282, article 7, section 24, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **School readiness.** For revenue for school readiness programs under Minnesota Statutes, sections 124D.15 and 124D.16:

\$ 9,528,000	.....	2006
\$ 9,020,000		
<u>9,087,000</u>	.....	2007

The 2006 appropriation includes \$1,415,000 for 2005 and \$8,113,000 for 2006.

The 2007 appropriation includes \$901,000 for 2006 and ~~\$8,119,000~~ \$8,186,000 for 2007.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 20. Laws 2005, First Special Session chapter 5, article 7, section 20, subdivision 3, as amended by Laws 2006, chapter 282, article 2, section 24, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Early childhood family education aid.** For early childhood family education aid under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.135:

\$ 15,105,000	.....	2006
\$ 17,792,000		
<u>17,639,000</u>	.....	2007

The 2006 appropriation includes \$1,859,000 for 2005 and \$13,246,000 for 2006.

The 2007 appropriation includes \$1,471,000 for 2006 and ~~\$16,321,000~~ \$16,168,000 for 2007.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 21. Laws 2005, First Special Session chapter 5, article 7, section 20, subdivision 4, as amended by Laws 2006, chapter 282, article 2, section 25, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Health and developmental screening aid.** For health and developmental screening aid under Minnesota Statutes, sections 121A.17 and 121A.19:

\$ 3,000,000	.....	2006
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\$ 2,997,000		
<u>2,880,000</u>	.....	2007

The 2006 appropriation includes \$417,000 for 2005 and \$2,583,000 for 2006

The 2007 appropriation includes \$287,000 for 2006 and ~~\$2,710,000~~ \$2,593,000 for 2007.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 22. Laws 2006, chapter 282, article 2, section 28, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Early childhood Part C.** For the expansion of early childhood Part C services:

\$ 400,000		
<u>-0-</u>	.....	2007

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

#### G. PREVENTION

Sec. 23. Laws 2005, First Special Session chapter 5, article 8, section 8, subdivision 2, as amended by Laws 2006, chapter 282, article 7, section 25, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Community education aid.** For community education aid under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.20:

\$ 2,043,000	.....	2006
\$ 1,949,000		
<u>1,942,000</u>	.....	2007

The 2006 appropriation includes \$385,000 for 2005 and \$1,658,000 for 2006.

The 2007 appropriation includes \$184,000 for 2006 and ~~\$1,765,000~~ \$1,758,000 for 2007.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 24. Laws 2005, First Special Session chapter 5, article 8, section 8, subdivision 5, as amended by Laws 2006, chapter 282, article 7, section 27, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **School-age care revenue.** For extended day aid under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.22:

\$ 17,000	.....	2006
\$ 4,000		
<u>6,000</u>	.....	2007

The 2006 appropriation includes \$4,000 for 2005 and \$13,000 for 2006.

The 2007 appropriation includes \$1,000 for 2006 and ~~\$3,000~~ \$5,000 for 2007.



**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

#### H. SELF-SUFFICIENCY AND LIFELONG LEARNING

Sec. 25. Laws 2005, First Special Session chapter 5, article 9, section 4, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Adult basic education aid.** For adult basic education aid under Minnesota Statutes:

\$ 36,518,000	.....	2006
\$ 36,540,000		
<u>37,486,000</u>	.....	2007

The 2006 appropriation includes \$5,707,000 for 2005 and \$30,811,000 for 2006.

The 2007 appropriation includes ~~\$5,737,000~~ \$3,654,000 for 2006 and ~~\$30,803,000~~ \$33,832,000 for 2007.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

### ARTICLE 11

#### TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 122A.628, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Revenue.** A school district that is selected to participate in the schools mentoring schools program under this section may utilize its professional compensation revenue under section ~~122A.4142~~ 122A.414, subdivision 4, to pay regional training sites for staff development and training services.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 123A.73, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

Subd. 8. **Taxable property.** As of the effective date of a consolidation of districts or the dissolution of a district and its attachment to one or more existing districts pursuant to chapter 123A, ~~and subject to the conditions of section 126C.42, subdivision 1,~~ all the taxable property which is in the newly created or enlarged district and which was previously taxable for the payment of any statutory operating debt theretofore incurred by any preexisting district of which the taxable property was a part prior to the consolidation or dissolution and attachment shall remain taxable for the payment of that debt and shall not become taxable for the payment of any statutory operating debt theretofore incurred by any preexisting district of which the taxable property was not a part prior to the consolidation or dissolution and attachment. The amount of statutory operating debt attributable to that taxable property and to the newly created or enlarged district in which it is located, and the amount of a preexisting district's reserved fund balance reserve account for purposes of statutory operating debt reduction attributable to the newly created or enlarged district, shall be apportioned according to the proportion which the adjusted net tax capacity of that part of the preexisting district bears to the total adjusted net tax capacity of the entire preexisting district at the time of the consolidation or dissolution and attachment. This apportionment shall be made by the county auditor and shall be incorporated as an annex to the order of the commissioner dividing the assets and liabilities of the component districts. As used in this section, "statutory operating debt" shall have the meaning given it in section 123B.81.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 123B.79, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

Subd. 6. **Account transfer for statutory operating debt.** On June 30 of each year, a district may make a permanent transfer from the general fund account entitled "net unreserved general fund balance since statutory operating debt" to the account entitled "reserved fund balance reserve account for purposes of statutory operating debt reduction." The amount of the transfer is limited to ~~the lesser of (a) the net unreserved general fund balance, or (b) the sum of the remaining statutory operating debt levies authorized for all future years according to section 126C.42, subdivision 1.~~ If the net unreserved general fund balance is less than zero, the district may not make a transfer.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 123B.81, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Statutory operating debt.** If the amount of the operating debt is more than 2-1/2 percent of the most recent fiscal year's expenditure amount for the funds considered under subdivision 1, the net negative undesignated fund balance is defined as "statutory operating debt" for the purposes of this section and ~~sections~~ section 123B.83 and 126C.42, subdivision 1.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 123B.81, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Debt elimination.** If an audit or other verification procedure conducted pursuant to subdivision 3 determines that a statutory operating debt exists, a district must follow the procedures set forth in this section 126C.42, subdivision 1, to eliminate this statutory operating debt.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 123B.81, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Applicability.** This section ~~and the provisions of section 126C.42, subdivision 1, are~~ is applicable only to common, independent, and special school districts and districts formed pursuant to Laws 1967, chapter 822, as amended, and Laws 1969, chapters 775 and 1060, as amended. This section ~~and the provisions of section 126C.42, subdivision 1, do~~ does not apply to Independent School District No. 625.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 123B.83, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Net unreserved general fund balances.** A school district must limit its expenditures so that its net unreserved general fund balance does not constitute statutory operating debt ~~as defined in section 126C.42 under section 123B.81.~~

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 124D.34, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Foundation staff.** The commissioner of education shall appoint the executive director of the foundation from three candidates nominated and submitted by the foundation board of directors and, as necessary, other staff who shall perform duties and have responsibilities solely related to the foundation. The employees appointed are not state employees under chapter 43A, but are covered under section 3.736. The employees may participate in the state health and state insurance plans for employees in unclassified service. The employees shall be supervised by the executive director.

The commissioner shall appoint ~~from the Office of Lifework Development~~ from the division in the department responsible for career and technical education. a liaison to the foundation board

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 124D.65, subdivision 11, is amended to read:

Subd. 11. **Allocations from cooperative units.** For the purposes of this section ~~and section 125A.77~~, pupils of limited English proficiency enrolled in a cooperative or intermediate school district unit shall be counted by the school district of residence, and the cooperative unit shall allocate its approved expenditures for limited English proficiency programs among participating school districts. Limited English proficiency aid for services provided by a cooperative or intermediate school district shall be paid to the participating school districts.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 125A.39, is amended to read:

**125A.39 LOCAL INTERAGENCY AGREEMENTS.**

School boards and the county board may enter into agreements to cooperatively serve and provide funding for children with disabilities, under age five, and their families within a specified geographic area.

The local interagency agreement must address, at a minimum, the following issues:

(1) responsibilities of local agencies on local interagency early intervention committees (IEIC's), consistent with section 125A.38;

(2) assignment of financial responsibility for early intervention services;

(3) methods to resolve intraagency and interagency disputes;

(4) identification of current resources and recommendations about the allocation of additional state and federal early intervention funds under the auspices of United States Code, title 20, section 1471 et seq. (Part C, Public Law ~~102-119~~ 108-446) and United States Code, title 20, section 631, et seq. (Chapter I, Public Law 89-313);

(5) data collection; and

(6) other components of the local early intervention system consistent with Public Law 102-119.

Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 125A.42, is amended to read:

**125A.42 PROCEDURAL SAFEGUARDS; PARENT AND CHILD RIGHTS.**

(a) This section applies to local school and county boards for children from birth through age two who are eligible for Part H C, Public Law ~~102-119~~ 108-446, and their families. This section must be consistent with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, United States Code, title 20, sections 1471 to 1485 (Part H C, Public Law ~~102-119~~ 108-446), regulations adopted under United States Code, title 20, sections 1471 to 1485, and sections 125A.259 to 125A.48.

(b) A parent has the right to:

(1) inspect and review early intervention records;

(2) prior written notice of a proposed action in the parents' native language unless it is clearly not feasible to do so;

(3) give consent to any proposed action;

(4) selectively accept or decline any early intervention service; and

(5) resolve issues regarding the identification, evaluation, or placement of the child, or the provision of appropriate early intervention services to the child and the child's family through an impartial due process hearing pursuant to section 125A.46.

(c) The eligible child has the right to have a surrogate parent appointed by a school district as required by section 125A.07.

Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 125A.44, is amended to read:

**125A.44 COMPLAINT PROCEDURE.**

(a) An individual or organization may file a written signed complaint with the commissioner of the state lead agency alleging that one or more requirements of the Code of Federal Regulations, title 34, part 303, is not being met. The complaint must include:

(1) a statement that the state has violated the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, United States Code, title 20, section 1471 et seq. (Part C, Public Law ~~102-119~~ 108-446) or Code of Federal Regulations, title 34, section 303; and

(2) the facts on which the complaint is based.

(b) The commissioner of the state lead agency shall receive and coordinate with other state agencies the review and resolution of a complaint within 60 calendar days according to the state interagency agreement required under section 125A.48. The development and disposition of corrective action orders for nonschool agencies shall be determined by the State Agency Committee (SAC). Failure to comply with corrective orders may result in fiscal actions or other measures.

Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 125A.45, is amended to read:

**125A.45 INTERAGENCY DISPUTE PROCEDURE.**

(a) A dispute between a school board and a county board that is responsible for implementing the provisions of section 125A.29 regarding early identification, child and family assessment, service coordination, and IFSP development and implementation must be resolved according to this subdivision when the dispute involves services provided to children and families eligible under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, United States Code, title 20, section 1471 et seq. (Part C, Public Law ~~102-119~~ 108-446).

(b) A dispute occurs when the school board and county board are unable to agree as to who is responsible to coordinate, provide, pay for, or facilitate payment for services from public and private sources.

(c) Written and signed disputes must be filed with the local primary agency.

(d) The local primary agency must attempt to resolve the matter with the involved school board and county board and may request mediation from the commissioner of the state lead agency for this purpose.

(e) When interagency disputes have not been resolved within 30 calendar days, the local primary agency must request the commissioner of the state lead agency to review the matter with the commissioners of health and human services and make a decision. The commissioner must provide a consistent process for reviewing those procedures. The commissioners' decision is

binding subject to the right of an aggrieved party to appeal to the state Court of Appeals.

(f) The local primary agency must ensure that eligible children and their families receive early intervention services during resolution of a dispute. While a local dispute is pending, the local primary agency must either assign financial responsibility to an agency or pay for the service from the early intervention account under section 125A.35. If in resolving the dispute, it is determined that the assignment of financial responsibility was inappropriate, the responsibility for payment must be reassigned to the appropriate agency and the responsible agency must make arrangements for reimbursing any expenditures incurred by the agency originally assigned financial responsibility.

Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 125B.15, is amended to read:

**125B.15 INTERNET ACCESS FOR STUDENTS.**

(a) Recognizing the difference between school libraries, school computer labs, and school media centers, which serve unique educational purposes, and public libraries, which are designed for public inquiry, all computers at a school site with access to the Internet available for student use must be equipped to restrict, including by use of available software filtering technology or other effective methods, all student access to material that is reasonably believed to be obscene or child pornography or material harmful to minors under federal or state law.

(b) A school site is not required to purchase filtering technology if the school site would incur more than incidental expense in making the purchase.

(c) A school district receiving technology revenue under section ~~125B.25~~ 125B.26 must prohibit, including through use of available software filtering technology or other effective methods, adult access to material that under federal or state law is reasonably believed to be obscene or child pornography.

(d) A school district, its agents or employees, are immune from liability for failure to comply with this section if they have made a good faith effort to comply with the requirements of this section.

(e) "School site" means an education site as defined in section 123B.04, subdivision 1, or charter school under section 124D.10.

Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 126C.01, subdivision 9, is amended to read:

Subd. 9. **Training and experience index.** "Training and experience index" means a measure of a district's teacher training and experience relative to the education and experience of teachers in the state. The measure must be determined pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 1996, section 126C.11.

Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 126C.05, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Pupil unit.** Pupil units for each Minnesota resident pupil under the age of 21 or who meets the requirements of section 120A.20, subdivision 1, paragraph (c), in average daily membership enrolled in the district of residence, in another district under sections 123A.05 to 123A.08, 124D.03, 124D.06, ~~124D.07~~, 124D.08, or 124D.68; in a charter school under section 124D.10; or for whom the resident district pays tuition under section 123A.18, 123A.22, 123A.30, 123A.32, 123A.44, 123A.488, 123B.88, subdivision 4, 124D.04, 124D.05, 125A.03 to 125A.24, 125A.51, or 125A.65, shall be counted according to this subdivision.

(a) A prekindergarten pupil with a disability who is enrolled in a program approved by the

commissioner and has an individual education plan is counted as the ratio of the number of hours of assessment and education service to 825 times 1.25 with a minimum average daily membership of 0.28, but not more than 1.25 pupil units.

(b) A prekindergarten pupil who is assessed but determined not to be disabled is counted as the ratio of the number of hours of assessment service to 825 times 1.25.

(c) A kindergarten pupil with a disability who is enrolled in a program approved by the commissioner is counted as the ratio of the number of hours of assessment and education services required in the fiscal year by the pupil's individual education program plan to 875, but not more than one.

(d) A kindergarten pupil who is not included in paragraph (c) is counted as .557 of a pupil unit for fiscal year 2000 and thereafter.

(e) A pupil who is in any of grades 1 to 3 is counted as 1.115 pupil units for fiscal year 2000 and thereafter.

(f) A pupil who is any of grades 4 to 6 is counted as 1.06 pupil units for fiscal year 1995 and thereafter.

(g) A pupil who is in any of grades 7 to 12 is counted as 1.3 pupil units.

(h) A pupil who is in the postsecondary enrollment options program is counted as 1.3 pupil units.

Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 126C.48, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Reporting.** For each tax settlement, the county auditor shall report to each school district by fund, the district tax settlement revenue defined in section 123B.75, subdivision 5, paragraph (a), and the amount levied pursuant to section ~~126C.42, subdivision 1,~~ on the form specified in section 276.10. The county auditor shall send to the district a copy of the spread levy report specified in section 275.124.

Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 134.355, subdivision 9, is amended to read:

Subd. 9. **Telecommunications aid.** An application for regional library telecommunications aid must, at a minimum, contain information to document the following:

(1) the connections are adequate and employ an open network architecture that will ensure interconnectivity and interoperability with school districts, postsecondary education, or other governmental agencies;

(2) that the connection is established through the most cost-effective means and that the regional library has explored and coordinated connections through school districts, postsecondary education, or other governmental agencies;

(3) that the regional library system has filed an e-rate application; and

(4) other information, as determined by the commissioner of ~~children, families, and learning education~~, to ensure that connections are coordinated, efficient, and cost-effective, take advantage of discounts, and meet applicable state standards.

The library system may include costs associated with cooperative arrangements with

postsecondary institutions, school districts, and other governmental agencies.

Sec. 19. **REPEALER.**

Minnesota Statutes 2006, sections 123A.22, subdivision 11; and 123B.81, subdivision 8, are repealed."

Amend the title accordingly

And when so amended the bill be reported to the Senate without recommendation. Amendments adopted. Report adopted.

**SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILLS**

H.F. Nos. 2268 and 2245 were read the second time.

**MEMBERS EXCUSED**

Senator Stumpf was excused from the Session of today. Senator Vandever was excused from the Session of today from 1:00 to 1:25 p.m. Senators Bakk and Skoe were excused from the Session of today from 1:00 to 2:50 p.m. Senator Marty was excused from the Session of today from 2:20 to 2:50 p.m. Senator Ortman was excused from the Session of today at 2:30 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Senator Pogemiller moved that the Senate do now adjourn until 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, May 16, 2007. The motion prevailed.

Patrick E. Flahaven, Secretary of the Senate





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