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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-FIRST SESSION

H. F. No. 2961

02/11/2020 Authored by West and Scott
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Government Operations

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to state government; expanding a requirement for reporting misuse of
1.3 public money or resources to the legislative auditor; amending Minnesota Statutes
1.4 2019 Supplement, section 3.971, subdivision 9.

1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2019 Supplement, section 3.971, subdivision 9, is amended
1.7 to read:

1.8 Subd. 9. **Obligation to notify the legislative auditor.** ~~The chief executive, financial,~~
1.9 ~~or information officers~~ (a) An employee of an organization subject to audit under this section
1.10 must promptly notify the legislative auditor when the ~~officer~~ employee obtains information
1.11 indicating that public money or other public resources may have been used for an unlawful
1.12 purpose, or when the ~~officer~~ employee obtains information indicating that government data
1.13 classified by chapter 13 as not public may have been accessed by or provided to a person
1.14 without lawful authorization. As necessary, the legislative auditor shall coordinate an
1.15 investigation of the allegation with appropriate law enforcement officials.

1.16 (b) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, if the legislative auditor determines during
1.17 an investigation that an employee required to report under this subdivision had knowledge
1.18 or reason to believe relevant information existed and willfully failed to notify the legislative
1.19 auditor promptly of information, the employee is subject to a penalty of two days' suspension,
1.20 without pay.

1.21 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2020, and applies to any
1.22 information an employee has knowledge of on or after that date, regardless of when the
1.23 employee first obtained that knowledge.