

This Document can be made available
in alternative formats upon request

State of Minnesota
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-EIGHTH SESSION

H. F. No. 1553

03/13/2013 Authored by Persell; Erickson, R., and Urdahl

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; requiring executive agencies to take certain actions
1.3 to guide interactions with sovereign tribal nations in Minnesota; proposing
1.4 coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 1.

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

1.6 Section 1. **[1.06] STATE-TRIBAL RELATIONSHIPS.**

1.7 Subdivision 1. **Recognition.** Executive branch agencies and employees shall
1.8 recognize the unique legal relationship between the state of Minnesota and Indian tribes,
1.9 shall respect the fundamental principles that establish and maintain this relationship,
1.10 and shall accord tribal governments the same respect accorded to other governments.
1.11 Subdivisions 2 and 3 apply to executive branch agencies whose official duties have
1.12 potential to affect a tribal community or its members.

1.13 Subd. 2. **Consultation policies.** Each executive branch agency subject to this
1.14 subdivision must develop and implement tribal consultation policies to guide the agency's
1.15 work and interaction with the 11 sovereign tribal nations in Minnesota. Consultation
1.16 requires that executive branch agencies seek input from elected or appointed tribal officials
1.17 before undertaking any action or policy that will have, or is reasonably believed to have,
1.18 the potential to affect a tribal community or its members. Executive branch agencies must
1.19 consider the input generated from tribal consultation in their decision-making processes.
1.20 Each executive branch agency must designate an employee to assume responsibility for
1.21 the agency's implementation of its tribal consultation policies and to act as the principal
1.22 point of contact for tribal issues. Each agency must review its tribal consultation policies
1.23 each year and report to the governor and the legislature, in the manner specified in section
1.24 3.195, describing all action undertaken as a result of the implementation of the policies.

2.1 Copies of the annual reports shall be provided to the Indian Affairs Council, which must
2.2 make them available to Minnesota's tribal leaders.

2.3 Subd. 3. **Training.** Each executive branch agency subject to this subdivision must
2.4 train all of its employees that work with Indian people, Indian land, or tribal governments
2.5 in an effort to empower state employees with the knowledge needed to better perform
2.6 their jobs, provide greater efficiencies in state government, provide lasting solutions
2.7 to long-term problems, create partnerships on a wide variety of projects, build better
2.8 relationships with tribes, and avoid conflicts.