

A bill for an act

relating to higher education; modifying requirements for the Board of Regents and the selection of regents; amending Minnesota Statutes 2010, sections 137.02, by adding a subdivision; 137.0245, subdivision 3.

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 137.02, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 5. **Regent contracts.** The Board of Regents must not enter into an employment contract or provide payment through a contract for services with an individual who is a member of the Board of Regents.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment for contracts entered into or renewed on or after that date.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 137.0245, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Duties.** (a) The advisory council shall:

(1) develop, in consultation with current and former regents and the administration of the University of Minnesota, a statement of the selection criteria to be applied and a description of the responsibilities and duties of a regent, and shall distribute this to potential candidates; and

(2) for each position on the board, identify and recruit qualified candidates for the Board of Regents, based on the background and experience of the candidates, their potential for discharging the responsibilities of a member of the Board of Regents, and the needs of the board. The selection criteria must not include a limitation on the number of terms an individual may serve on the Board of Regents.

(b) The selection criteria developed under paragraph (a), clause (1), must include a criterion that regents represent diversity in geography; gender; race; occupation, including business and labor; and experience.

(c) The selection criterion must include an identification of the membership needs of the board for individual skills relevant to the governance of the University of Minnesota and the needs for certain individual characteristics. Individual characteristics relate to qualities such as gender, race, and geographic location of residence.

(d) The selection criteria must exclude current employees of, or persons under contract with, the Board of Regents.

Sec. 3. **RESPONSIBILITIES OF INDIVIDUAL REGENTS.**

The Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota is requested to amend the policy on responsibilities of the board and individual regents last amended October 10, 2003, to include nonpartisan representation in the responsibility of individual members. The board should amend its current policy requiring individual members "to represent all the people of Minnesota and no particular interest, community, or constituency" to add "no particular political party" to that list.

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