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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-FOURTH SESSION

H. F. No. 3346

05/18/2025

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The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Higher Education Finance and Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to higher education; establishing a campus closure and consolidation
1.3 commission; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 136F.

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

1.5 Section 1. **[136F.185] CAMPUS CLOSURE AND CONSOLIDATION COMMISSION.**

1.6 Subdivision 1. **Establishment.** The Campus Closure and Consolidation Commission is
1.7 created to evaluate all postsecondary campuses governed by the Board of Trustees of the
1.8 Minnesota State Colleges and Universities and make recommendations to the legislature
1.9 on which campuses should be closed or consolidated.

1.10 Subd. 2. **Membership.** (a) The commission consists of eight individuals appointed by
1.11 the governor. The governor shall consider geographic and population balance between the
1.12 metropolitan area and greater Minnesota in making the appointments under this section.
1.13 The governor must make the appointments under this section on or before August 1, 2025.

1.14 (b) The chancellor of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities or the chancellor's
1.15 delegate, is an ex officio, nonvoting member of the commission.

1.16 (c) Members of the commission must be knowledgeable in one or more of the following
1.17 areas:

1.18 (1) postsecondary education;

1.19 (2) demographic research;

1.20 (3) capital construction, maintenance, or improvements; or

1.21 (4) public finance.

2.1 (d) No elected public official or current Minnesota State Colleges and Universities
2.2 employee may be appointed to the commission under this section.

2.3 (e) Members of the commission serve until the expiration of the commission. Members
2.4 may be removed or replaced at the pleasure of the governor.

2.5 Subd. 3. **Chair; other officers.** The commission must elect from among its
2.6 governor-appointed members a chair and vice-chair and any other officers that the
2.7 commission determines would be necessary or convenient.

2.8 Subd. 4. **Duties.** (a) The commission must complete a review of all postsecondary
2.9 campuses governed by the Board of Trustees of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities
2.10 and base its recommendations for campus closure or consolidation on the following factors:

2.11 (1) operating costs, including but not limited to costs associated with physical plant,
2.12 heating, water, and management of the campus facilities;

2.13 (2) capital maintenance, renovation, replacement, and renewal expenses;

2.14 (3) student enrollment trends;

2.15 (4) student job placement rates;

2.16 (5) student graduation rates; and

2.17 (6) the prestige, reputation, and certification of offered academic programs.

2.18 (b) The commission must seek input on the impact of campus closures or consolidations
2.19 from the collective bargaining units to which faculty and staff of the Minnesota State Colleges
2.20 and Universities are assigned.

2.21 Subd. 5. **Open meeting law.** The commission is subject to the requirements under chapter
2.22 13D, and may use interactive technology in accordance with section 13D.015.

2.23 Subd. 6. **Compensation.** Member compensation and reimbursement for expenses are
2.24 governed by section 15.059, subdivision 3.

2.25 Subd. 7. **Administrative support.** The commissioner of administration must provide
2.26 meeting space, administrative support, and staff support for the commission.

2.27 Subd. 8. **Report; governor approval.** (a) The commission must submit a report on or
2.28 before December 1, 2026, to the governor. The report must include the following:

2.29 (1) a list of campuses recommended to be closed or consolidated;

2.30 (2) the reasoning for the recommendations;

3.1 (3) draft legislation implementing the recommendations;

3.2 (4) an estimate of the cost to repurpose facilities on closed campuses for public or private
3.3 use, including the cost of defeasing state general obligation bonds associated with the
3.4 facilities; and

3.5 (5) any other information the commission deems relevant.

3.6 (b) The governor must approve or disapprove the recommendations in the report under
3.7 this subdivision in their entirety on or before December 31, 2026. If the governor approves
3.8 the recommendations, the governor must include the draft legislation implementing the
3.9 recommendations of the commission as part of the biennial budget. If the governor
3.10 disapproves the recommendations, the governor must provide the reasons for disapproval
3.11 in writing to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with
3.12 jurisdiction over higher education policy and finance and capital investment.

3.13 (c) A copy of the report under this subdivision must be sent to the chairs and ranking
3.14 minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over higher education
3.15 policy and finance and capital investment with its recommendations. If the governor approves
3.16 the recommendations, the legislative committees with jurisdiction over higher education
3.17 policy and finance and capital investment must hold at least one public hearing on the
3.18 legislation implementing the recommendations of the commission during the next regular
3.19 legislative session following the submission of the report to the governor.

3.20 Subd. 9. **Sunset.** This section expires on October 1, 2026.

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