A bill for an act

relating to state government; establishing a collaborative governance council; requiring reports; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 6.

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

Section 1. **[6.81] COLLABORATIVE GOVERNANCE COUNCIL.**

Subdivision 1. **Establishment; purpose; membership.** (a) A collaborative governance council is established to identify and remove obstacles to government collaboration at all levels of government. The council shall consist of major statewide governmental entities and nongovernmental statewide organizations with a stated interest in collaborative government. The 12-member council consists of the state auditor and one member appointed by and serving at the pleasure of each of the following:

(1) League of Minnesota Cities;

(2) Minnesota Association of Townships;

(3) Association of Minnesota Counties;

(4) Minnesota School Board Association;

(5) American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees;

(6) Education Minnesota;

(7) Service Employees International Union;

(8) a senator appointed by the majority leader of the senate;

(9) a senator appointed by the minority leader of the senate;

(10) a member of the house of representatives appointed by the speaker of the house; and

(11) a member of the house of representatives appointed by the house minority leader.

(b) Council members shall be represented by the designated appointee of each respective organization. The council shall seek input from nonmember organizations whose expertise can help inform the council's work.

(c) The state auditor shall serve as chair of the council and shall convene the first meeting by July 31, 2010. The council must meet at least quarterly.

(d) In conjunction with the state auditor's duties to recommend best practices for delivery of local government service, the state auditor shall provide staff and administrative support for the council.

(e) Members do not receive compensation or reimbursement of expenses from the council for service on the council.

Subd. 2. **Powers and duties; report.** (a) The council shall develop recommendations to the governor and the legislature designed to increase collaboration in government. These recommendations may include, but are not limited to, strategies, policies, or other actions focused on the:

(1) review of statutes, laws, and rules that slow collaboration efforts;

(2) use of collaboration to improve the delivery of governmental services;

(3) use of technology to connect entities and share information, including broadband access;

(4) modernization of financial transactions and their oversight by facilitating credit and debit card transactions, electronic funds, transfers, and electronic data interchange; and

(5) creation of model forms for joint power agreements.

(b) By February 1 of each year, the partnership shall submit a report and accompanying legislation to the governor and to the chairs and ranking members of the legislative committees and divisions with jurisdiction over state and local government policy and finance and early childhood through grade 12 education policy and finance that summarizes the council's progress in meeting its goals.

Subd. 3. **Expiration.** Notwithstanding section 15.059, subdivision 5, the council is permanent and does not expire.

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