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State of Minnesota  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
NINETIETH SESSION

H. F. No. 2905

02/20/2018 Authored by Grossell, Lohmer, Poston and Dettmer  
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Public Safety and Security Policy and Finance

1.1 A bill for an act  
1.2 relating to public safety; state government; establishing a criminal sexual conduct  
1.3 prosecution team in the Office of the Attorney General; amending Minnesota  
1.4 Statutes 2016, sections 8.01; 8.31, by adding a subdivision.

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

1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 8.01, is amended to read:

1.7 **8.01 APPEARANCE.**

1.8 (a) The attorney general shall appear for the state in all causes in the supreme and federal  
1.9 courts wherein the state is directly interested; also in all civil causes of like nature in all  
1.10 other courts of the state whenever, in the attorney general's opinion, the interests of the state  
1.11 require it. Upon request of the county attorney, the attorney general shall appear in court in  
1.12 such criminal cases as the attorney general deems proper, except as provided in paragraph

1.13 (b). Upon request of a county attorney, the attorney general may assume the duties of the  
1.14 county attorney in sexual psychopathic personality and sexually dangerous person  
1.15 commitment proceedings under chapter 253D. Whenever the governor shall so request, in  
1.16 writing, the attorney general shall prosecute any person charged with an indictable offense,  
1.17 and in all such cases may attend upon the grand jury and exercise the powers of a county  
1.18 attorney.

1.19 (b) The attorney general shall appear in court in each felony-level criminal sexual conduct  
1.20 case that a county attorney requests the attorney general's assistance pursuant to section  
1.21 8.31, subdivision 5.

2.1 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 8.31, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

2.2 Subd. 5. **Criminal sexual conduct prosecution unit.** The attorney general shall form  
2.3 a unit within the office's criminal division to prosecute criminal sexual conduct cases. The  
2.4 attorney general shall staff the unit with attorneys who have experience prosecuting  
2.5 felony-level criminal sexual conduct cases. The unit shall appear on behalf of the state in  
2.6 all felony-level criminal sexual conduct cases where a county attorney requests the attorney  
2.7 general's assistance under section 8.01. The unit shall also provide training to county attorneys  
2.8 in the best practices of criminal sexual conduct prosecutions.