

This Document can be made available in alternative formats upon request

State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-FIRST SESSION

H. F. No. 2587

03/18/2019 Authored by Gomez, Mariani and Xiong, J., 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 public safety; creating a task force on Islamophobia and antisemitism;
1.3 appropriating money.

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

1.5 Section 1. TASK FORCE ON ISLAMOPHOBIA AND ANTISEMITISM.

1.6 Subdivision 1. Establishment. A task force on the consequences of Islamophobia and
1.7 antisemitism is established to analyze the impact of Islamophobia and antisemitism,
1.8 recommend actions to improve the safety of Minnesota's Muslim and Jewish communities,
1.9 increase participation by the Muslim and Jewish communities in civic life, and recommend
1.10 possible legislative action.

1.11 Subd. 2. Membership. (a) The task force shall consist of the following members:

1.12 (1) the attorney general or a designee;

1.13 (2) the commissioner of public safety or a designee;

1.14 (3) the commissioner of human rights or a designee;

1.15 (4) the chair of the house of representatives committee or division with jurisdiction over
1.16 public safety or a designee;

1.17 (5) the chair of the senate committee with jurisdiction over public safety or a designee;

1.18 (6) the Hennepin County sheriff or a designee;

1.19 (7) the mayor of the city of St. Paul or a designee;

1.20 (8) the executive director of the Muslim American Society of Minnesota or a designee;

- 2.1 (9) the executive director of the Darul Farooq Center or a designee;
- 2.2 (10) the executive director of the Islamic Association of North America or a designee;
- 2.3 (11) the executive director of the Council on American Islamic Relations - Minnesota
- 2.4 or a designee;
- 2.5 (12) a Muslim legislator selected by the speaker of the house;
- 2.6 (13) a Jewish legislator selected by the senate majority leader;
- 2.7 (14) the executive director of two Jewish community organizations;
- 2.8 (15) two rabbis;
- 2.9 (16) the chief executive officer of the Minnesota Council of Churches or a designee;
- 2.10 and
- 2.11 (17) the executive director of ISALAH or a designee.
- 2.12 (b) Unless otherwise specified, members shall be appointed by the commissioner of
- 2.13 public safety.
- 2.14 (c) Members of the task force serve without compensation.
- 2.15 (d) Members of the task force serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority or until
- 2.16 the task force expires. Vacancies shall be filled by the appointing authority consistent with
- 2.17 the qualifications of the vacating member required by this subdivision.
- 2.18 Subd. 3. **Officers; meetings.** (a) The task force shall be cochaired by the attorney general
- 2.19 and the commissioner of public safety or the attorney general's and commissioner's designees
- 2.20 and may elect other officers as necessary.
- 2.21 (b) The commissioner of public safety shall convene the first meeting of the task force
- 2.22 no later than October 1, 2019, and shall provide meeting space and administrative assistance
- 2.23 as necessary for the task force to conduct its work.
- 2.24 (c) The task force shall meet at least monthly, or upon the call of the chair. The task
- 2.25 force shall meet sufficiently enough to accomplish the tasks identified in this section. At
- 2.26 least two meetings of the task force shall be in greater Minnesota as defined in Minnesota
- 2.27 Statutes, section 116J.8738, subdivision 1, paragraph (e).
- 2.28 (d) Meetings of the task force are subject to Minnesota Statutes, chapter 13D.
- 2.29 (e) The task force expires upon submission of the report required under subdivision 5.
- 2.30 Subd. 4. **Duties.** (a) The duties of the task force shall include, at a minimum:

- 3.1 (1) reviewing reports of attacks on and harassment of Muslims and Jews in Minnesota;
 3.2 (2) reviewing reports of damage to property motivated by Islamophobia and antisemitism;
 3.3 (3) identifying community resources for Muslims and Jews;
 3.4 (4) recommending outreach programs to enhance participation in civic life by members
 3.5 of the Muslim and Jewish communities;
 3.6 (5) reviewing practices of law enforcement, city and county attorney offices, public
 3.7 defender offices, and the courts as they relate to Islamophobia and antisemitism;
 3.8 (6) recommending training for law enforcement, city and county attorney offices, public
 3.9 defender offices, and the courts;
 3.10 (7) recommending a specific campaign to bring greater attention to the problems of
 3.11 Islamophobia and antisemitism in Minnesota; and
 3.12 (8) reviewing existing Minnesota law and proposing amendments or new statutory
 3.13 provisions.

3.14 (b) At its discretion, the task force may examine other related issues consistent with this
 3.15 section.

3.16 Subd. 5. **Report.** On or before February 15, 2020, the task force shall report to the chairs
 3.17 and ranking minority members of the legislative committees and divisions with jurisdiction
 3.18 over public safety on the work of the task force. The report shall include recommendations
 3.19 for outreach programs and training and any recommended legislative action.

3.20 **Sec. 2. TASK FORCE ON ISLAMOPHOBIA AND ANTISEMITISM;**
 3.21 **APPROPRIATION.**

3.22 \$..... in fiscal year 2020 is appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner of
 3.23 public safety to implement the task force on Islamophobia and antisemitism.