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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETIETH SESSION

H. F. No. 275

01/17/2017 Authored by Bly
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Policy and Finance

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to climate change; creating legislative Health and Climate Resiliency
1.3 Commission to develop state strategic plan; appropriating money.

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

1.5 Section 1. **HEALTH AND CLIMATE RESILIENCY COMMISSION.**

1.6 Subdivision 1. Establishment. A Health and Climate Resiliency Commission is created.

1.7 Subd. 2. Voting membership. (a) The voting members of the commission are:

1.8 (1) the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with
1.9 jurisdiction over agriculture finance, or the chair's designee;

1.10 (2) the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with
1.11 jurisdiction over E-12 education finance, or the chair's designee;

1.12 (3) the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with
1.13 jurisdiction over health and human services finance, or the chair's designee;

1.14 (4) the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with
1.15 jurisdiction over environment and natural resource finance, or the chair's designee;

1.16 (5) the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with
1.17 jurisdiction over commerce, or the chair's designee; and

1.18 (6) the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with
1.19 jurisdiction over public safety, or the chair's designee.

2.1 (b) The voting members of the commission must select a chair and a vice-chair from
2.2 among their ranks. The chair may convene meetings as necessary to conduct the duties
2.3 prescribed by this section.

2.4 Subd. 3. **Nonvoting membership.** The nonvoting members of the commission are:

2.5 (1) the commissioner of agriculture or the commissioner's designee;

2.6 (2) the commissioner of education or the commissioner's designee;

2.7 (3) the commissioner of health or the commissioner's designee;

2.8 (4) the commissioner of natural resources or the commissioner's designee;

2.9 (5) the commissioner of the Pollution Control Agency or the commissioner's designee;

2.10 (6) the commissioner of commerce or the commissioner's designee;

2.11 (7) the director of the Department of Public Safety's Homeland Security and Emergency
2.12 Management Division;

2.13 (8) a representative of the University of Minnesota's Department of Soil, Water, and
2.14 Climate, as chosen by the dean of the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource
2.15 Sciences;

2.16 (9) a representative of the University of Minnesota's Department of Applied Economics,
2.17 as chosen by the dean of the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences;
2.18 and

2.19 (10) a representative of the state climatology office, as chosen by the commissioner of
2.20 natural resources.

2.21 Subd. 4. **Advisory committee.** (a) The voting members of the task force must appoint
2.22 an advisory committee by majority vote. Advisory committee members may represent
2.23 academic experts in issues related to public health and climate change, statewide
2.24 organizations that work on climate change issues, statewide organizations that work on
2.25 public health issues, statewide farm organizations, statewide conservation and outdoor
2.26 recreation organizations, statewide business organizations, counties, municipalities, local
2.27 water management organizations, public health officials, public and private energy providers,
2.28 insurance providers, federal agencies, and other organizations as the voting members deem
2.29 appropriate.

2.30 (b) Beyond the input received from the formal advisory committee, the commission
2.31 must encourage participation from academic experts, advocacy organizations, and members

3.1 of the public in exploring methods to address the impacts of climate change on human health
3.2 and well-being and opportunities to adapt, mitigate, and foster climate change resiliency.

3.3 Subd. 5. **Strategic plan.** (a) The commission must create a strategic plan for the state
3.4 pertaining to the impacts of climate change on the health and well-being of Minnesotans.

3.5 The strategic plan must include:

3.6 (1) measurable goals and benchmarks, including actions needed to meet the goals and
3.7 benchmarks, to prevent or mitigate the negative impacts of climate change on human health
3.8 and to seize opportunities to improve health and well-being and increase resilience, including
3.9 strategies for adaptation and mitigation; and

3.10 (2) recommendations for new policies and changes to existing policies and programs to
3.11 support the goals and benchmarks identified under clause (1), including recommended
3.12 legislation and funding levels.

3.13 (b) To develop the strategic plan, the commission must:

3.14 (1) gather, share, examine, and analyze data and information related to the impacts of
3.15 climate change on human health and well-being, including assessments of vulnerability,
3.16 risks, economic impacts, and adaptation and mitigation actions. Issues to be examined must
3.17 include the implications of climate change on:

3.18 (i) extreme events such as blizzards, droughts, fires, floods, heat waves, and tornadoes;

3.19 (ii) food and food security, including impacts on agricultural production;

3.20 (iii) vector-borne illnesses;

3.21 (iv) air pollution;

3.22 (v) water quantity and quality and resulting impacts to agriculture, domestic use, power
3.23 production, recreation, and wildlife;

3.24 (vi) energy production and use;

3.25 (vii) ecosystems, including impacts on wildlife habitat;

3.26 (viii) rural and urban communities;

3.27 (ix) mental health, including social change and migration;

3.28 (x) insurance; and

3.29 (xi) state and local public safety;

4.1 (2) determine to what extent the public is provided accurate and current information
4.2 about climate change and impacts of climate change on human health and well-being; and

4.3 (3) examine existing and emerging opportunities related to climate change, including:

4.4 (i) strategies for adaptation and mitigation that will improve the health and well-being
4.5 of the people of Minnesota;

4.6 (ii) economic opportunities, with a particular emphasis on developing and adopting new
4.7 methods and management strategies in support of the state's agricultural economy, power
4.8 generation, and beneficial uses of land and water to adapt to and mitigate the negative
4.9 impacts of climate change on human health and well-being while providing jobs and
4.10 economic security to Minnesotans; and

4.11 (iii) opportunities for public education and outreach.

4.12 Subd. 6. **Powers.** To accomplish its duties under this section, the commission may:

4.13 (1) hold one or more public hearings;

4.14 (2) request and receive information from any state or local governmental entity or
4.15 institution, including academic reports; and

4.16 (3) authorize studies and reports related to health and climate change consequences or
4.17 benefits, including economic impact studies.

4.18 Subd. 7. **Staff.** The Legislative Coordinating Commission must employ staff or contract
4.19 with consultants as necessary to enable the commission to carry out its duties and functions.

4.20 Subd. 8. **Compensation.** Voting members of the commission may receive per diem and
4.21 expense reimbursement incurred while doing the work of the commission in the manner
4.22 and amount prescribed for per diem and expense payments by the senate Committee on
4.23 Rules and Administration and the house of representatives Committee on Rules and
4.24 Legislative Administration.

4.25 Subd. 9. **Report.** No later than January 15, 2018, the commission must submit the
4.26 strategic plan required under this section to the governor and the legislature along with any
4.27 recommended legislation.

4.28 Subd. 10. **Expiration.** This section expires January 30, 2018.

4.29 Sec. 2. **APPROPRIATION.**

4.30 \$...... in fiscal year 2018 is appropriated from the general fund to the Legislative
4.31 Coordinating Commission for purposes of this act.