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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SPECIAL SESSION

H. F. No. 7

05/25/2017 Authored by Clark and Allen The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Rules and Legislative Administration

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to state government; acknowledging the fundamental injustice, cruelty,
1.3 brutality, and inhumanity suffered by certain groups in Minnesota's history;
1.4 establishing a commission to study and report recommendations to provide
1.5 appropriate remedies.

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

1.7 Section 1. COMMISSION TO STUDY REPARATION PROPOSALS FOR AFRICAN
1.8 AMERICAN AND AMERICAN INDIAN MINNESOTANS.

1.9 Subdivision 1. Legislative findings. (a) The legislature finds acts of injustice, cruelty,
1.10 brutality, and inhumanity have been suffered by African American Minnesotans in the
1.11 course of the state's history.

1.12 (b) The legislature finds acts of injustice, cruelty, brutality, inhumanity, and genocide
1.13 have been suffered by American Indian Minnesotans in the course of the state's history.

1.14 Subd. 2. Establishment of commission; purpose and duties. A commission to identify
1.15 historical findings and to study reparation proposals for African American and American
1.16 Indian Minnesotans is established.

1.17 Subd. 3. Membership; meetings. (a) The commission consists of 22 members. The
1.18 governor is the appointing authority and shall consult with the Council for Minnesotans of
1.19 African Heritage and the Indian Affairs Council in making appointments. In making
1.20 appointments under this subdivision, the appointing authority must consider an individual's
1.21 experience related to the commission's purpose and duties. Relevant experience may include,
1.22 but is not limited to, an individual's academic training, life experiences, and history of public

2.1 policy and civic engagement with the issues to be considered. Appointments must be made  
2.2 no later than July 1, 2018.

2.3 (b) The commission shall elect a chair and vice-chair and other officers as determined  
2.4 by the commission. The chair may convene meetings as necessary to conduct the duties  
2.5 required by this section. The first meeting shall be convened by the governor no later than  
2.6 August 1, 2018.

2.7 (c) Commission members shall serve until the commission's work is complete. Vacancies  
2.8 must be filled by the appointing authority for the vacant position. Members of the commission  
2.9 shall be compensated as provided in Minnesota Statutes, section 15.0575, subdivision 3.

2.10 Subd. 4. **Staff; state agency cooperation.** The Legislative Coordinating Commission  
2.11 must provide administrative staff assistance to the commission. Within the limits of available  
2.12 resources, legislative staff and state boards and agencies with relevant expertise in the subject  
2.13 matter must provide research assistance to the commission and cooperate with the  
2.14 commission's requests for information, to the extent permitted by law.

2.15 Subd. 5. **Report on recommendations; expiration.** The commission shall submit a  
2.16 report on its findings and recommendations to the governor and to the legislature no later  
2.17 than January 15, 2020. The commission expires upon submission of the report required by  
2.18 this subdivision.

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