

**SENATE  
STATE OF MINNESOTA  
NINETIETH SESSION**

**S.F. No. 3627**

(SENATE AUTHORS: DIBBLE)

DATE  
03/19/2018

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Introduction and first reading  
Referred to Transportation Finance and Policy

OFFICIAL STATUS

1.1 A bill for an act  
1.2 relating to public safety; requiring an assessment of the Minnesota Licensing and  
1.3 Registration System; establishing a steering committee; appropriating money;  
1.4 amending Minnesota Statutes 2017 Supplement, section 3.971, subdivision 2.

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

1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2017 Supplement, section 3.971, subdivision 2, is amended  
1.7 to read:

1.8 Subd. 2. **Staff; compensation.** (a) The legislative auditor shall establish a Financial  
1.9 Audits Division and a Program Evaluation Division to fulfill the duties prescribed in this  
1.10 section.

1.11 (b) Each division may be supervised by a deputy auditor, appointed by the legislative  
1.12 auditor, with the approval of the commission, for a term coterminous with the legislative  
1.13 auditor's term. The deputy auditors may be removed before the expiration of their terms  
1.14 only for cause. The legislative auditor and deputy auditors may each appoint a confidential  
1.15 secretary to serve at pleasure. The salaries and benefits of the legislative auditor, deputy  
1.16 auditors and confidential secretaries shall be determined by the compensation plan approved  
1.17 by the Legislative Coordinating Commission. The deputy auditors may perform and exercise  
1.18 the powers, duties and responsibilities imposed by law on the legislative auditor when  
1.19 authorized by the legislative auditor.

1.20 (c) The legislative auditor must appoint a fiscal oversight officer with duties that include  
1.21 performing the review under section 3.972, subdivision 4.

1.22 (d) The deputy auditors and the confidential secretaries serve in the unclassified civil  
1.23 service, but the fiscal oversight officer and all other employees of the legislative auditor are

2.1 in the classified civil service. Compensation for employees of the legislative auditor in the  
2.2 classified service shall be governed by a plan prepared by the legislative auditor and approved  
2.3 by the Legislative Coordinating Commission and the legislature under section 3.855,  
2.4 subdivision 3.

2.5 (e) While in office, a person appointed deputy for the Financial Audit Division must  
2.6 hold an active license as a certified public accountant.

2.7 (f) The legislative auditor must appoint an information technology auditor to actively  
2.8 monitor and report on planning, scoping, and implementation of all executive branch  
2.9 technology development projects. At a minimum, the person appointed to this position must  
2.10 have expertise in .NET coding.

2.11 Sec. 2. **MNLARS ASSESSMENTS.**

2.12 (a) The information technology auditor must conduct an assessment of the Minnesota  
2.13 Licensing and Registration System (MNLARS). At a minimum, the assessment must include:

2.14 (1) a technical assessment of MNLARS;

2.15 (2) an assessment of the feasibility of the MNLARS Project Roadmap proposed in  
2.16 January 2018;

2.17 (3) an assessment of estimated funding needs for the continued development, operations,  
2.18 and maintenance of MNLARS; and

2.19 (4) an assessment of process changes and business flows for auto dealers and deputy  
2.20 registrars.

2.21 This assessment must be provided to the MNLARS Steering Committee upon completion.

2.22 (b) The information technology auditor must develop a method to measure progress on  
2.23 the following items:

2.24 (1) plans for user acceptance testing, including metropolitan and out-state deputy registrars  
2.25 and auto dealers, to the extent testing is deemed feasible by the Minnesota Deputy Registrar's  
2.26 Association and the Minnesota Automobile Dealer's Association;

2.27 (2) plans for system stakeholder input on code releases to MNLARS;

2.28 (3) a communications plan for transparent reporting on (i) outages and slowdowns to  
2.29 system stakeholders, including how to provide timely information in a usable format, (ii)  
2.30 actions taken in response to communication, and (iii) responses from the Department of  
2.31 Public Safety and the Office of MN.IT Services;

3.1 (4) a communications plan for postrelease reporting on features and fixes to system  
 3.2 stakeholders;

3.3 (5) the project plan developed by the MNLARS Steering Committee; and

3.4 (6) a plan to create greater efficiencies and streamline the vehicle title process to reduce  
 3.5 the current backlog and to minimize any future backlogs.

3.6 (c) The information technology auditor must make quarterly reports to the MNLARS  
 3.7 Steering Committee established under section 3 regarding the project plan, whether the  
 3.8 identified deadlines and milestones are being met, and on the progress of the items identified  
 3.9 in paragraph (b).

3.10 (d) For purposes of this section, the information technology auditor is the individual  
 3.11 appointed by the legislative auditor pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 3.971, subdivision  
 3.12 2, paragraph (f).

3.13 **Sec. 3. MNLARS STEERING COMMITTEE.**

3.14 Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) For purposes of this section, the terms defined in this  
 3.15 subdivision have the meanings given.

3.16 (b) "Committee" means the MNLARS Steering Committee established in this section.

3.17 (c) "Information technology auditor" means the individual appointed by the legislative  
 3.18 auditor pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 3.971, subdivision 2, paragraph (f).

3.19 (d) "MNLARS" means the Minnesota Licensing and Registration System.

3.20 Subd. 2. **Membership.** (a) The committee is made up of the following members:

3.21 (1) the commissioner of public safety or designee;

3.22 (2) the director of Driver and Vehicle Services in the Department of Public Safety;

3.23 (3) the commissioner of the Office of MN.IT Services or designee;

3.24 (4) the chief enterprise architect of MNLARS;

3.25 (5) the executive director of projects and initiatives in the Office of MN.IT Services;

3.26 (6) one member appointed by the Minnesota Deputy Registrar's Association;

3.27 (7) one member appointed by the Minnesota Automobile Dealer's Association;

3.28 (8) four senators, including the chair and ranking minority member of the committee  
 3.29 with jurisdiction over transportation finance, one senator appointed by the majority leader,  
 3.30 and one senator appointed by the minority leader; and

4.1 (9) four members of the house of representatives, including the chair and ranking minority  
4.2 member of the committee with jurisdiction over transportation finance, one member appointed  
4.3 by the speaker of the house, and one member appointed by the minority leader.

4.4 To the extent possible, the appointed legislative members must represent geographical  
4.5 balance throughout the state.

4.6 (b) The appointments required by this subdivision must be completed by April 15, 2018.

4.7 Subd. 3. **Duties.** The committee must oversee the ongoing administration, business  
4.8 operations, system goals, priorities, allocation of resources, major system decisions, and  
4.9 funding and expenditures for MNLARS. At a minimum, the committee must:

4.10 (1) conduct quarterly public meetings;

4.11 (2) approve a project plan with specific deadlines and milestones, including a timeline  
4.12 for resolving system defects and resolving functionality gaps, based on the MNLARS Project  
4.13 Roadmap proposed in January 2018;

4.14 (3) develop, in consultation with the information technology auditor, performance  
4.15 measures to determine if MNLARS deadlines and milestones are being met;

4.16 (4) discuss the quarterly report from the information technology auditor;

4.17 (5) take action on decisions to reduce or eliminate appropriations, as outlined in  
4.18 subdivision 4; and

4.19 (6) make recommendations on major system decisions.

4.20 Subd. 4. **Voting.** (a) For matters not related to funding, a simple majority of all members  
4.21 is required for committee action, except that at least two legislators representing different  
4.22 parties must be voting with the prevailing side.

4.23 (b) Only legislative members may vote on questions regarding funding. Six or more  
4.24 legislative members may vote to eliminate funding, reduce funding, or condition funding  
4.25 already appropriated by the legislature based on the failure to meet performance measures.

4.26 (c) Any votes taken by the committee related to funding for MNLARS are binding on  
4.27 the Department of Public Safety and the Office of MN.IT Services.

4.28 Subd. 5. **Administrative; meetings.** (a) The senate chair of the committee with  
4.29 jurisdiction over transportation finance must convene the initial meeting of the committee  
4.30 by May 1, 2018.

5.1 (b) The chairs of the house of representatives and senate committees with jurisdiction  
5.2 over transportation finance must serve as cochairs of the committee.

5.3 (c) The Legislative Coordinating Commission must provide meeting space and  
5.4 administrative services for the group.

5.5 (d) Failure to meet constitutes approval of all pending decisions before the committee.

5.6 Sec. 4. **APPROPRIATIONS.**

5.7 (a) \$10,000,000 in fiscal year 2018 is transferred from the driver and vehicle services  
5.8 operating account in the special revenue fund to the driver and vehicle services technology  
5.9 account in the special revenue fund for contracted technical staff and technical costs related  
5.10 to continued development and improvement of the Minnesota Licensing and Registration  
5.11 System. Of this amount: (1) \$7,500,000 is from the driver services operating account in the  
5.12 special revenue fund as a onetime transfer; and (2) \$2,500,000 is from the vehicle services  
5.13 operating account in the special revenue fund as a onetime transfer.

5.14 (b) \$50,000 in fiscal year 2018 and \$50,000 in fiscal year 2019 are appropriated from  
5.15 the general fund to the Legislative Coordinating Commission for the purposes of the  
5.16 MNLARS Steering Committee established in section 3.

5.17 (c) \$100,000 in fiscal year 2018 and \$250,000 in fiscal year 2019 are appropriated from  
5.18 the general fund to the Office of the Legislative Auditor for the information technology  
5.19 auditor position established in section 1.

5.20 Sec. 5. **EFFECTIVE DATE.**

5.21 Sections 1 to 4 are effective the day following final enactment.