

SENATE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
NINETIETH SESSION

S.F. No. 3643

(SENATE AUTHORS: BENSON)

DATE
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OFFICIAL STATUS
Introduction and first reading
Referred to Health and Human Services Finance and Policy

- 1.1 A bill for an act
- 1.2 relating to human services; establishing a working group to make recommendations
- 1.3 on restructuring the Department of Human Services; requiring a report.
- 1.4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:
- 1.5 Section 1. **HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT RESTRUCTURING WORKING**
- 1.6 **GROUP.**
- 1.7 Subdivision 1. **Establishment; membership.** (a) A working group to consider
- 1.8 restructuring the Department of Human Services is established.
- 1.9 (b) The working group shall include 14 members as follows:
- 1.10 (1) two members of the house of representatives, one appointed by the speaker of the
- 1.11 house and one appointed by the minority leader of the house of representatives;
- 1.12 (2) two members of the senate, one appointed by the senate majority leader and one
- 1.13 appointed by the senate minority leader;
- 1.14 (3) the legislative auditor or a designee;
- 1.15 (4) the commissioner of administration or a designee;
- 1.16 (5) two representatives from county social services agencies, appointed by the
- 1.17 commissioner of human services;
- 1.18 (6) two representatives from tribal social services agencies, appointed by the
- 1.19 commissioner of human services;

(7) two representatives from organizations that represent people served by programs administered by the Department of Human Services, appointed by the commissioner of human services; and

(8) two representatives from organizations that represent service providers that are either licensed or reimbursed by the Department of Human Services, appointed by the commissioner of human services.

(c) The appointing authorities under this subdivision must complete their appointments no later than July 1, 2018.

Subd. 2. **Duties.** The working group shall review the current structure of the Department of Human Services and programs administered by that agency and propose a restructuring of the agency to provide for better coordination and control of programs, accountability, and continuity. In making recommendations, the working group must consider:

(1) how human services agencies are structured in other states;

(2) transferring duties to other state agencies;

(3) the effect of a restructuring on clients and counties;

(4) administrative efficiencies;

(5) various analytical methods to evaluate efficiencies, including but not limited to zero-based budgeting;

(6) budget and policy priorities;

(7) program funding sources;

(8) avoiding conflicting agency roles;

(9) the extent to which the agency should provide direct services to clients;

(10) eliminating any duplication of services; and

(11) staffing issues.

Subd. 3. **Meetings.** The legislative auditor or a designee shall convene the first meeting of the working group no later than August 1, 2018. The legislative auditor or a designee shall serve as the chair of the working group. Meetings of the working group are open to the public.

Subd. 4. **Compensation.** Members of the working group shall serve without compensation or reimbursement for expenses.

3.1 Subd. 5. **Administrative support.** The Legislative Coordinating Commission shall
3.2 provide administrative support for the working group and arrange for meeting space.

3.3 Subd. 6. **Report.** By, the working group must submit a report with findings,
3.4 recommendations, and draft legislation to the chairs and ranking minority members of the
3.5 legislative committees with jurisdiction over human services policy and finance. The report
3.6 must include a discussion of the costs and benefits associated with any proposed restructuring.

3.7 Subd. 7. **Expiration.** The working group expires or the day after the working group
3.8 submits the report required under subdivision 6, whichever is earlier.

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