

CHAPTER 300—S.F.No. 1295

An act relating to Ramsey county; creating a Ramsey county local government cooperation and consolidation study commission; setting its duties.

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

Section 1. RAMSEY COUNTY LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES STUDY.

A Ramsey county local government services study commission is established to study cooperation between local governments, including school districts, and the possible sharing and consolidation of services, structures, and functions. The commission shall explore cooperative ventures which would be mutually beneficial to the communities involved, review and recommend ways to eliminate overlap and duplication, design programs that would improve services and reduce costs, and develop a systematic process for cooperating, restructuring, sharing, or consolidating. The commission shall report on the advantages and disadvantages of sharing, cooperating, restructuring, or consolidating, with attention to:

- (a) citizen participation in government;
- (b) efficiency and effectiveness of the provision of public service;
- (c) taxation and other public finance matters;
- (d) public employees;
- (e) structure of government;
- (f) possible public economies;
- (g) the historic identity of the community;
- (h) economic development;
- (i) social development;
- (j) environment; and
- (k) other significant factors.

The commission shall report and make recommendations to the local government units in Ramsey county before November 15, 1991. The elected councils and boards of the local government units affected by any recommendation, and the Ramsey county league of local governments and the Ramsey county charter commission, shall indicate, by resolution, their response to the commission's recommendations before January 15, 1992. The commission's recommendations and any responses shall be presented to the members of the Ramsey county legislative delegation and to the legislature before February 1, 1992. The

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commission may not adopt any recommendation without a 60 percent affirmative vote of the commission members voting on the issue.

The commission may examine consolidation, cooperation, restructuring, or sharing of any services, groups of services, or local government structures as the commission determines except that specific examination and recommendation shall be made in regard to:

- (1) the city and county health departments;
- (2) city and county attorney's functions as they relate to criminal law;
- (3) city and county libraries;
- (4) public works; and
- (5) police and sheriff communications, crime lab and investigative functions.

The commission shall be 25 residents of, or persons whose principal place of business is located in, Ramsey county selected as follows:

- (1) two members of the county board or county employees who reside in the city of St. Paul, selected by the county board;
- (2) two members of the county board or county employees who reside in the county but not in the city of St. Paul, selected by the county board;
- (3) three members selected by the St. Paul city council from among the mayor and city council members or other city employees;
- (4) three members selected jointly by the city councils and town boards of the cities and towns in the county, other than St. Paul, from among their mayors and members or their employees;
- (5) one member of the school board of independent school district No. 625 or an employee, selected by the board;
- (6) one member of the school boards of other school districts operating in Ramsey county or an employee of those districts, selected jointly by the board members of the several districts;
- (7) six members of the public who are not public employees and do not hold public office, selected by the members of the legislature who represent the city of St. Paul and the members serving under clauses (1), (3), and (5);
- (8) six members of the public who are not public employees and do not hold public office, selected by the members of the legislature who represent Ramsey county outside the city of St. Paul and the members serving under clauses (2), (4), and (6); and

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(9) a chair selected by the other members of the commission who is not an elected official or public employee and who is not one of the above members of the commission.

The commission shall be assisted by a staff committee whose members shall consist of the city managers and chief of staff from the communities within Ramsey county, the Ramsey county executive director, and professional staff of these governmental units. This committee shall provide technical assistance to the commission. The committee may request the assistance of any other public or private agency or entity.

Members of the commission and the committee shall serve without compensation other than expenses that would be reimbursed to them by the units of government which they represent. The commission may accept gifts, grants, or donations from public and private entities to assist with the costs of its work. A gift, grant, or donation is not subject to Minnesota Statutes, chapter 10A, or other law or rule regulating lobbying expenses.

Sec. 2. COOPERATION.

The commission must solicit recommendations from the Ramsey county league of local governments and the Ramsey county charter commission. By September 1, 1991, the commission must receive any recommendations from the league or charter commission. In its final report, the commission must state its conclusions with respect to the recommendations of the league and the charter commission.

Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This act takes effect the day after final enactment.

Presented to the governor May 30, 1991

Signed by the governor June 3, 1991, 9:40 a.m.

CHAPTER 301—S.F.No. 765

An act relating to transportation; clarifying parking provisions for physically disabled persons; authorizing special license plates for motorcycles; authorizing tinted windshields for medical reasons; abolishing requirement to impound vehicle registration certificates; making technical changes; amending Minnesota Statutes 1990, sections 168.021, subdivision 1; 168.041; 169.123, subdivision 5b; 169.345, subdivision 1; 169.346, subdivisions 1 and 2; 169.71, subdivision 4; 169.795; and 171.29, subdivision 3.

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1990, section 168.021, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

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