

**SENATE**  
**STATE OF MINNESOTA**  
**NINETIETH SESSION**

**S.F. No. 2052**

(SENATE AUTHORS: COHEN)

DATE  
03/13/2017

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OFFICIAL STATUS  
Introduction and first reading  
Referred to State Government Finance and Policy and Elections

1.1 A bill for an act  
1.2 relating to redistricting; establishing a redistricting commission; proposing coding  
1.3 for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 2.

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

1.5 Section 1. **[2.025] REDISTRICTING COMMISSION.**

1.6 Subdivision 1. **Appointment.** By March 1 of each year ending in one, members must  
1.7 be appointed to a redistricting commission as provided in this subdivision to draw the  
1.8 boundaries of legislative and congressional districts. The commission consists of seven  
1.9 retired judges of the appellate or district courts of this state who have not served in a  
1.10 party-designated or party-endorsed position, such as legislator. The senate majority leader,  
1.11 the senate minority leader, the speaker of the house, and the minority leader of the house  
1.12 of representatives must each appoint one judge. The chief justice of the Minnesota Supreme  
1.13 Court must appoint one judge. The chief judge of the Court of Appeals must appoint one  
1.14 judge. The governor must appoint one judge. If an appointing authority fails to make an  
1.15 appointment by the deadline, the vacancy must be filled by appointment by the chief justice  
1.16 of the Minnesota Supreme Court no later than March 8 of that year. The director of the  
1.17 Legislative Coordinating Commission must convene a meeting of the seven judges no later  
1.18 than March 15 of that year. The judge appointed by the governor serves as the chair of the  
1.19 commission.

1.20 Subd. 2. **Code of conduct.** In performing their duties, the members of the commission  
1.21 must abide by the Code of Judicial Conduct and are considered judicial officers within the  
1.22 meaning of section 609.415.

2.1 Subd. 3. **Compensation and expenses.** Members of the commission must be compensated  
2.2 for their commission activity as provided in section 15.0575, subdivision 3.

2.3 Subd. 4. **Administrative support.** The Legislative Coordinating Commission must  
2.4 provide administrative support to the commission.

2.5 Subd. 5. **Plans submitted to commission.** The commission must adopt a schedule for  
2.6 interested persons to submit proposed plans to the commission and to respond to plans  
2.7 proposed by others. The commission must adopt standards to govern the format of plans  
2.8 submitted to it.

2.9 Subd. 6. **Public hearings.** The commission must hold at least three public hearings in  
2.10 different geographical regions of the state before adopting the first redistricting plans.

2.11 Subd. 7. **Adoption; deadlines.** Each final redistricting plan must be adopted by a  
2.12 two-thirds vote of all members. Once adopted, each plan must be filed with the secretary  
2.13 of state. If no plan is adopted and filed with the secretary of state by February 15 in the year  
2.14 following the year the commission convened its first meeting, the chief justice of the  
2.15 Minnesota Supreme Court must appoint a panel to adopt the redistricting plan or plans that  
2.16 were not adopted by the commission.

2.17 Subd. 8. **Expiration.** The commission expires when both legislative and congressional  
2.18 redistricting plans have been adopted.