ARTICLE 5
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103I.621, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. Permit. (a) Notwithstanding any department or agency rule to the contrary, the commissioner shall issue, on request by the owner of the property and payment of the permit fee, permits for the reinjection of water by a properly constructed well into the same aquifer from which the water was drawn for the operation of a groundwater thermal exchange device. (b) As a condition of the permit, an applicant must agree to allow inspection by the commissioner during regular working hours for department inspectors. (c) Not more than 200 permits may be issued for small systems having maximum capacities of 20 gallons per minute or less and that are compliant with the natural resource water-use requirements under subdivision 2. The small systems are subject to inspection twice a year. (d) Not more than 100 permits may be issued for larger systems having maximum capacities from over 20 to 50 gallons per minute and that are compliant with the natural resource water-use requirements under subdivision 2. The larger systems are subject to inspection four times a year. (e) A person issued a permit must comply with this section for the permit to be valid.

1. Notification to the commissioner at intervals specified in the permit conditions;
2. System operation and maintenance;
3. System location and construction;
4. Well location and construction;
5. Signage requirements;
6. Reports of system construction, performance, operation, and maintenance;
7. Removal of the system upon termination of use or failure;
8. Disclosure of the system at the time of property transfer;
9. Requirements to obtain approval from the commissioner prior to deviation from the approval plan and conditions;
10. Approval of the property transfer.
(10) groundwater level monitoring; and

(11) groundwater quality monitoring.

The property owner or the property owner's agent must submit to the commissioner a permit application on a form provided by the commissioner, or in a format approved by the commissioner, that provides any information necessary to protect public health and safety of the groundwater.

A permit granted under this section is not valid if a water-use permit is required for the project and is not approved by the commissioner of natural resources.

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

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103I.621, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. Water-use requirements apply. Water-use permit requirements and penalties under chapter 103F and related rules adopted and enforced by the commissioner of natural resources apply to groundwater thermal exchange permit recipients. A person who violates a provision of this section is subject to enforcement or penalties for the noncomplying activity that are available to the commissioner and the Pollution Control Agency.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 144.1501, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. Definitions. (a) For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply.

"Advanced dental therapist" means an individual who is licensed as a dental therapist under section 150A.06, and who is certified as an advanced dental therapist under section 150A.106.

"Alcohol and drug counselor" means an individual who is licensed as an alcohol and drug counselor under chapter 148F.

"Dental therapist" means an individual who is licensed as a dental therapist under section 150A.06.

"Dentist" means an individual who is licensed to practice dentistry.

"Designated rural area" means a statutory and home rule charter city or township that is outside the seven-county metropolitan area as defined in section 473.121, subdivision 2, excluding the cities of Duluth, Mankato, Moorhead, Rochester, and St. Cloud.
(g) "Emergency circumstances" means those conditions that make it impossible for the participant to fulfill the service commitment, including death, total and permanent disability, or temporary disability lasting more than two years.

(h) "Hospital nurse" means an individual who is licensed as a registered nurse and who is providing direct patient care in a nonprofit hospital setting.

(i) "Mental health professional" means an individual providing clinical services in the treatment of mental illness who is qualified in at least one of the ways specified in section 245.462, subdivision 18.

(j) "Medical resident" means an individual participating in a medical residency in family practice, internal medicine, obstetrics and gynecology, pediatrics, or psychiatry.

(k) "Midlevel practitioner" means a nurse practitioner, nurse-midwife, nurse anesthetist, advanced clinical nurse specialist, or physician assistant.

(l) "Nurse" means an individual who has completed training and received all licensing or certification necessary to perform duties as a licensed practical nurse or registered nurse.

(m) "Nurse-midwife" means a registered nurse who has graduated from a program of study designed to prepare registered nurses for advanced practice as nurse-midwives.

(n) "Nurse practitioner" means a registered nurse who has graduated from a program of study designed to prepare registered nurses for advanced practice as nurse practitioners.

(o) "Pharmacist" means an individual with a valid license issued under chapter 151.

(p) "Physician" means an individual who is licensed to practice medicine in the areas of family practice, internal medicine, obstetrics and gynecology, pediatrics, or psychiatry.

(q) "Physician assistant" means a person licensed under chapter 147A.

(r) "Public health nurse" means a registered nurse licensed in Minnesota who has obtained a registration certificate as a public health nurse from the Board of Nursing in accordance with Minnesota Rules, chapter 6316.

(s) "Qualified educational loan" means a government, commercial, or foundation loan for actual costs paid for tuition, reasonable education expenses, and reasonable living expenses related to the graduate or undergraduate education of a health care professional.

(t) "Underserved urban community" means a Minnesota urban area or population included in the list of designated primary medical care health professional shortage areas (HPSAs), medically underserved areas (MUAs), or medically underserved populations (MUPs) maintained and updated by the United States Department of Health and Human Services.
Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 144.1501, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. Creation of account. (a) A health professional education loan forgiveness program account is established. The commissioner of health shall use money from the account to establish a appropriated for health professional education loan forgiveness program in this section:

(1) for medical residents, mental health professionals, and alcohol and drug counselors agreeing to practice in designated rural areas or underserved urban communities or specializing in the area of pediatric psychiatry;

(2) for midlevel practitioners agreeing to practice in designated rural areas or to teach at least 12 credit hours, or 720 hours per year in the nursing field in a postsecondary program at the undergraduate level or the equivalent at the graduate level;

(3) for nurses who agree to practice in a Minnesota nursing home; in an intermediate care facility for persons with developmental disability; in a hospital if the hospital owns and operates a Minnesota nursing home and a minimum of 50 percent of the hours worked by the nurse is in the nursing home; in an assisted living facility as defined in section 144G.08, subdivision 7; or for a home care provider as defined in section 144A.43, subdivision 4; or agree to teach at least 12 credit hours, or 720 hours per year in the nursing field in a postsecondary program at the undergraduate level or the equivalent at the graduate level;

(4) for other health care technicians agreeing to teach at least 12 credit hours, or 720 hours per year in their designated field in a postsecondary program at the undergraduate level or the equivalent at the graduate level. The commissioner, in consultation with the Healthcare Education-Industry Partnership, shall determine the health care fields where the need is the greatest, including, but not limited to, respiratory therapy, clinical laboratory technology, radiologic technology, and surgical technology;

(5) for pharmacists, advanced dental therapists, dental therapists, and public health nurses who agree to practice in designated rural areas;

(6) for dentists agreeing to deliver at least 25 percent of the dentist's yearly patient encounters to state public program enrollees or patients receiving sliding fee schedule discounts through a formal sliding fee schedule meeting the standards established by the United States Department of Health and Human Services under Code of Federal Regulations, title 42, section 51.5303; and

(b) Appropriations made to the account for health professional education loan forgiveness in this section do not cancel and are available until expended, except that at the end of each fiscal year the unobligated balances do not cancel and are available until expended, except that at the end of each fiscal year the unobligated balances that are unexpended under this section do not cancel and are available until expended, except that at the end of each fiscal year.

Subd. 3. Appropriations. (4) for other health care technicians agreeing to teach at least 12 credit hours, or 720 hours per year in the nursing field in a postsecondary program at the undergraduate level or the equivalent at the graduate level;
biennium, any remaining balance in the account that is not committed by contract and not
needed to fulfill existing commitments shall cancel to the fund.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 144.1501, subdivision 3, is amended
to read:

Subd. 3. Eligibility. (a) To be eligible to participate in the loan forgiveness program, an
individual must:

(1) be a medical or dental resident; a licensed pharmacist; or be enrolled in a training or
education program to become a dentist, dental therapist, advanced dental therapist, mental
health professional; alcohol and drug counselor; pharmacist; public health nurse; midlevel
practitioner; registered nurse; or a licensed practical nurse. The commissioner may also
consider applications submitted by graduates in eligible professions who are licensed and
in practice; and

(2) submit an application to the commissioner of health. A nurse applying under
subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clause (7), must also include proof that the applicant is employed
as a hospital nurse.

(b) An applicant selected to participate must sign a contract to agree to serve a minimum
three-year full-time service obligation according to subdivision 2, which shall begin no later
than March 31 following completion of required training, with the exception of:

(1) a nurse, who must agree to serve a minimum two-year full-time service obligation
according to subdivision 2, which shall begin no later than March 31 following completion
of required training; and

(2) a nurse selected under subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clause (7), who must agree to
continue as a hospital nurse for a minimum two-year service obligation; and

(2) a nurse who agrees to teach according to subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clause (3),
who must sign a contract to agree to teach for a minimum of two years;

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 144.1501, subdivision 4, is amended
to read:

Subd. 4. Loan forgiveness. (a) The commissioner of health may select applicants each
year for participation in the loan forgiveness program, within the limits of available funding.
In considering applications, the commissioner shall give preference to applicants who
document diverse cultural competencies. The commissioner shall distribute available funds
for loan forgiveness proportionally among the eligible professions according to the vacancy
rate for each profession in the required geographic area, facility type, teaching area, patient
group, or specialty type specified in subdivision 2, except for hospital nurses. The
commissioner shall allocate funds for physician loan forgiveness so that 75 percent of the
funds available are used for rural physician loan forgiveness and 25 percent of the funds
available are used for underserved urban communities and pediatric psychiatry loan
forgiveness. If the commissioner does not receive enough qualified applicants each year to
use the entire allocation of funds for any eligible profession; the remaining funds may be
allocated proportionally among the other eligible professions according to the vacancy rate
for each profession in the required geographic area, patient group, or facility type specified
in subdivision 2. Applicants are responsible for securing their own qualified educational
loans. The commissioner shall select participants based on their suitability for practice
serving the required geographic area or facility type specified in subdivision 2, as indicated
by experience or training. The commissioner shall give preference to applicants closest to
completing their training. Except as specified in paragraph (b), for each year that a
participant meets the service obligation required under subdivision 3, up to a maximum of
four years; the commissioner shall make annual disbursements directly to the participant
equivalent to 15 percent of the average educational debt for indebted graduates in their
profession in the year closest to the applicant's selection for which information is available;
not to exceed the balance of the participant's qualifying educational loans. Before receiving
loan repayment disbursements and as requested, the participant must complete and return
to the commissioner a confirmation of practice form provided by the commissioner verifying
that the participant is practicing as required under subdivisions 2 and 3. The participant
must provide the commissioner with verification that the full amount of loan repayment
disbursement received by the participant has been applied toward the designated loans;
After each disbursement, verification must be received by the commissioner and approved
before the next loan repayment disbursement is made: Participants who move their practice
remain eligible for loan repayment as long as they practice as required under subdivision
2.

(b) For hospital nurses, the commissioner of health shall select applicants each year for
participation in the hospital nursing education loan forgiveness program, within limits of
available funding for hospital nurses. Before receiving the annual loan repayment
disbursement, the participant must complete and return to the commissioner a confirmation
of practice form provided by the commissioner, verifying that the participant continues to
meet the eligibility requirements under subdivision 3. The participant must provide the
commissioner with verification that the full amount of loan repayment disbursement received
by the participant has been applied toward the designated loans:

(4b) For each year that a participant who is a nurse and who has agreed to teach
according to subdivision 2 meets the teaching obligation required in subdivision 3; the
commissioner shall make annual disbursements directly to the participant equivalent to 15
percent of the average annual educational debt for indebted graduates in the nursing
profession in the year closest to the participant's selection for which information is available;
not to exceed the balance of the participant's qualifying educational loans.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 144.1501, subdivision 5, is amended to read:
commissioner shall deposit the money collected in the health care access fund to be credited to a dedicated account in the special revenue fund. The balance of the account is appropriated annually to the commissioner for the health professional education loan forgiveness program account established in subdivision 2. The commissioner shall allow waivers of all or part of the money owed the commissioner as a result of a nonfulfillment penalty if emergency circumstances prevented fulfillment of the minimum service commitment.

FOR SECTION 7, SEE ARTICLE 6, SECTION 19

Sec. 8. [144.1512] HOSPITAL NURSING EDUCATIONAL LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM.

Subdivision 1. Definitions.
(a) For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply.
(b) "Emergency circumstances" means those conditions that make it impossible for the participant to fulfill the service commitment, including death, total and permanent disability, or temporary disability lasting more than two years.
(c) "Hospital nurse" means an individual who is licensed as a registered nurse and who is providing direct patient care in a nonprofit hospital setting.
(d) "Qualified educational loan" means a government, commercial, or foundation loan for actual costs paid for tuition, reasonable education expenses, and reasonable living expenses related to the graduate or undergraduate education of a health care professional.

Subd. 2. Creation of account.
(a) A hospital nursing education loan forgiveness program account is established in the special revenue fund. The commissioner of health shall use money from the account to establish a loan forgiveness program for licensed registered nurses employed as hospital nurses by a nonprofit hospital and who provide direct care to patients at the nonprofit hospital.

(b) Money transferred to or deposited in the account does not cancel and is available until expended. The balance of the account is appropriated annually to the commissioner for the hospital nursing educational loan forgiveness program.

Subd. 3. Eligibility.
(a) To be eligible to participate in the hospital nursing educational loan forgiveness program, an individual must: (1) be a hospital nurse who has been employed as a hospital nurse for at least three years; (2) submit an application to the commissioner of health; and (3) submit proof that the applicant is employed as a hospital nurse and has been so employed for at least three years.

(b) The commissioner must accept a signed work verification form from the applicant's supervisor as proof of the applicant's tenure providing direct patient care in a nonprofit hospital setting.
An applicant selected to participate in the loan forgiveness program must sign a contract to agree to continue as a hospital nurse for a minimum two-year service obligation.

Subd. 4. Loan forgiveness. (a) Within the limits of available funding, the commissioner of health shall select applicants each year for participation in the loan forgiveness program. If the total requests from eligible applicants exceeds the available funding, the commissioner shall randomly select grantees from among eligible applicants.

(b) Applicants are responsible for securing their own qualified educational loans.

c) For each year that a participant meets the service obligation required under subdivision 3, up to a maximum of four years, the commissioner shall make annual disbursements directly to the participant equivalent to 15 percent of the average educational debt for indebted graduates in their profession in the year closest to the applicant's selection for which information is available, not to exceed the balance of the participant's qualifying educational loans. Before receiving loan repayment disbursements and as requested, the participant must complete and return to the commissioner a confirmation of practice form provided by the commissioner verifying that the participant is practicing as required under subdivisions 2 and 3.

d) The participant must provide the commissioner with verification that the full amount of loan repayment disbursement received by the participant has been applied toward the designated loans. After each disbursement, verification must be received by the commissioner and approved before the next loan repayment disbursement is made.

e) Participants who move their practice remain eligible for loan repayment as long as they practice as required under subdivisions 2 and 3.

Subd. 5. Penalty for nonfulfillment. (a) If a participant does not fulfill the required minimum commitment of service according to subdivision 3, the commissioner of health shall collect from the participant the total amount paid to the participant under the loan forgiveness program. The commissioner shall deposit the money collected from the participant in the special revenue fund to be credited to the hospital nursing education loan forgiveness program account established in subdivision 2.

(b) The commissioner shall allow waivers of all or part of the money owed to the commissioner as a result of a nonfulfillment penalty if the participant is unable to fulfill the minimum service commitment due to emergency circumstances, life changes outside the applicant's control, inability to obtain required hours as a result of a scheduling decision by the hospital, or other circumstances as determined by the commissioner.

Subd. 6. Rules. The commissioner may adopt rules to implement this section.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 144.555, subdivision 1a, is amended to read:
the public, and others at least 182 days before the hospital or hospital campus voluntarily
plans to implement one of the following scheduled actions: listed in paragraph (b), unless
the controlling persons can demonstrate to the commissioner that meeting the advanced
notice requirement is not feasible and the commissioner approves a shorter advanced notice:

(b) The following scheduled actions require advanced notice under paragraph (a):

(1) cease operations;

(2) curtail operations to the extent that patients must be relocated;

(3) relocate the provision of health services to another hospital or another hospital campus; or

(4) cease offering ceasing to offer maternity care and newborn care services, intensive care unit services, inpatient mental health services, or inpatient substance use disorder treatment services.

(c) A notice required under this subdivision must comply with the requirements in subdivision 1d.

(b) (d) The commissioner shall cooperate with the controlling persons and advise them about relocating the patients:

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 144.555, subdivision 1b, is amended to read:

Subd. 1b. Public hearing. Within 45 days after receiving notice under subdivision 1a, the commissioner shall conduct a public hearing on the scheduled cessation of operations, curtailment of operations, relocation of health services, or cessation in offering health services. The commissioner must provide adequate public notice of the hearing in a time and manner determined by the commissioner. The controlling persons of the hospital or hospital campus must participate in the public hearing. The public hearing must be held at a location that is within ten miles of the hospital or hospital campus or with the commissioner’s approval as close as is practicable, and that is provided or arranged by the hospital or hospital campus. Video conferencing technology must be used to allow members of the public to view and participate in the hearing. The public hearing must include:

(1) an explanation by the controlling persons of the reasons for ceasing or curtailing operations, relocating health services, or ceasing to offer any of the listed health services;

(2) a description of the actions that controlling persons will take to ensure that residents in the hospital’s or campus’s service area have continued access to the health services being eliminated, curtailed, or relocated;

(3) an opportunity for public testimony on the scheduled cessation or curtailment of operations, relocation of health services, or cessation in offering any of the listed health services.
services, and on the hospital's or campus's plan to ensure continued access to those health
services being eliminated, curtailed, or relocated; and

(4) an opportunity for the controlling persons to respond to questions from interested
persons.

Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 144.555, is amended by adding a subdivision
to read:

Subd. 1d. Methods of providing notice; content of notice. (a) A notice required under
subdivision 1a must be provided to patients, hospital personnel, the public, local units of
government, and the commissioner of health using at least the following methods:

(1) posting a notice of the proposed cessation of operations, curtailment, relocation of
health services, or cessation in offering health services at the main public entrance of the
hospital or hospital campus;

(2) providing written notice to the commissioner of health, to the city council in the city
where the hospital or hospital campus is located, and to the county board in the county
where the hospital or hospital campus is located;

(3) providing written notice to the local health department as defined in section 145A.02,
subdivision 8b, for the community where the hospital or hospital campus is located;

(4) providing notice to the public through a written public announcement which must
be distributed to local media outlets;

(5) providing written notice to existing patients of the hospital or hospital campus; and

(6) notifying all personnel currently employed in the unit, hospital, or hospital campus
impacted by the proposed cessation, curtailment, or relocation.

(b) A notice required under subdivision 1a must include:

(1) a description of the proposed cessation of operations, curtailment, relocation of health
services, or cessation in offering health services. The description must include:

(i) the number of beds, if any, that will be eliminated, repurposed, reassigned, or otherwise
reconfigured to serve populations or patients other than those currently served;

(ii) the current number of beds in the impacted unit, hospital, or hospital campus, and
the number of beds in the impacted unit, hospital, or hospital campus after the proposed
cessation, curtailment, or relocation takes place;

(iii) the number of existing patients who will be impacted by the proposed cessation,
curtailment, or relocation;

(iv) any decrease in personnel, or relocation of personnel to a different unit, hospital, or
hospital campus, caused by the proposed cessation, curtailment, or relocation;

(3) providing written notice to the local health department as defined in section 145A.02,
subdivision 8b, for the community where the hospital or hospital campus is located;

(4) providing notice to the public through a written public announcement which must
be distributed to local media outlets;

(5) providing written notice to existing patients of the hospital or hospital campus; and

(6) notifying all personnel currently employed in the unit, hospital, or hospital campus
impacted by the proposed cessation, curtailment, or relocation.

(b) A notice required under subdivision 1a must include:

(1) a description of the proposed cessation of operations, curtailment, relocation of health
services, or cessation in offering health services. The description must include:

(i) the number of beds, if any, that will be eliminated, repurposed, reassigned, or otherwise
reconfigured to serve populations or patients other than those currently served;

(ii) the current number of beds in the impacted unit, hospital, or hospital campus, and
the number of beds in the impacted unit, hospital, or hospital campus after the proposed
cessation, curtailment, or relocation takes place;

(iii) the number of existing patients who will be impacted by the proposed cessation,
curtailment, or relocation;

(iv) any decrease in personnel, or relocation of personnel to a different unit, hospital, or
hospital campus, caused by the proposed cessation, curtailment, or relocation;
(v) a description of the health services provided by the unit, hospital, or hospital campus impacted by the proposed cessation, curtailment, or relocation; and

(vi) identification of the three nearest available health care facilities where patients may obtain the health services provided by the unit, hospital, or hospital campus impacted by the proposed cessation, curtailment, or relocation, and any potential barriers to seamlessly transition patients to receive services at one of these facilities. If the unit, hospital, or hospital campus impacted by the proposed cessation, curtailment, or relocation serves medical assistance or Medicare enrollees, the information required under this item must specify whether any of the three nearest available facilities serves medical assistance or Medicare enrollees; and

(2) a telephone number, email address, and address for each of the following, to which interested parties may offer comments on the proposed cessation, curtailment, or relocation:

(i) the hospital or hospital campus; and

(ii) the parent entity, if any, or the entity under contract, if any, that acts as the corporate administrator of the hospital or hospital campus;

Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 144.555, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 3.

(a) The controlling persons of a hospital licensed under sections 144.50 to 144.56 or a hospital campus must not sell or convey the hospital or hospital campus, offer to sell or convey the hospital or hospital campus to a person other than a local unit of government listed in this paragraph, or voluntarily cease operations of the hospital or hospital campus impacted by the proposed cessation, curtailment, or relocation; and

(b) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the commissioner must impose on the controlling persons of a hospital or hospital campus a fine of $20,000 for each failure to
take the actions required under paragraphs (a) and (b) of subdivision 2.

The controlling persons of a hospital licensed under sections 144.50 to 144.56 or a hospital campus may not discontinue or curtail services at a hospital licensed under sections 144.50 to 144.56 if the action is
consistent with the notice requirements for a single scheduled action. The commissioner is not required to issue a correction order before imposing a fine under this paragraph. Section 144.653, subdivision 8, applies to fines imposed under this paragraph.

Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 144.555, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 3. Penalties; hospitals. (a) Failure to participate in a public hearing under subdivision 1b or failure to notify the commissioner under subdivision 1c may result in issuance of a correction order under section 144.653, subdivision 5.

(b) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the commissioner must impose on the controlling persons of a hospital or hospital campus a fine of $20,000 for each failure to provide notice to an individual or entity at a location required under subdivision 1d, paragraph (a), with the fine amount imposed not to exceed $50,000 for any scheduled action requiring notice under subdivision 3a.

The commissioner is not required to issue a correction order before imposing a fine under this paragraph. Section 144.653, subdivision 8, applies to fines imposed under this paragraph.
unless the controlling persons have first made a good faith offer to sell or convey the hospital
or hospital campus to the home rule charter or statutory city, county, town, or hospital
district in which the hospital or hospital campus is located.

(b) The offer to sell or convey the hospital or hospital campus to a local unit of
government under paragraph (a) must be at a price that does not exceed the current fair
market value of the hospital or hospital campus. A party to whom an offer is made under
paragraph (a) must accept or decline the offer within 60 days of receipt. If the party to whom
the offer is made fails to respond within 60 days of receipt, the offer is deemed declined.

Sec. 15. [144.557] HOSPITAL CLOSURE REVIEW.

Subdivision 1. Hospital closure review. (a) For purposes of this section, "hospital"
means an acute care institution licensed under sections 144.50 to 144.58.

(b) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, from the effective date of this section,
unless a public interest review meeting the requirements of subdivision 2 concludes that
the intended actions in clauses (1) to (5) are not detrimental to the public's interest, a hospital
or hospital campus is prohibited from:

1. ceasing operations;
2. curtailing operations to the extent that patients must be relocated;
3. relocating the provision of health services to another hospital or another hospital
campus;
4. ceasing to offer maternity care and newborn care services, operating room services,
intensive care unit services, pediatric overnight services, inpatient mental health services,
or inpatient substance use disorder treatment services; or
5. implementing an action listed in clauses (1) to (4) for which notice was provided to
the commissioner of health and the public under section 144.555 before the effective date
of this section.

(c) Paragraph (b) does not apply:
1. if the hospital ceases operations due to insolvency of the corporation in accordance
with chapter 317A or if insolvency proceedings are commenced under chapter 60B; or
2. if the cessation in or curtailment of operations, relocation of health services, or
cessation in offering certain health services is necessary, as determined by the commissioner
of health, because of a fire, tornado, flood, storm damage, or other similar disaster;
3. Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the commissioner of health must enforce
this section using the powers and authority in section 144.653.

Subd. 2. Public interest review. (a) A hospital or hospital campus that intends to take
an action described in subdivision 1, paragraph (b), clauses (1) to (5), must submit an action

plan to the commissioner. The action plan must include information that includes an
explanation of how the intended action is not detrimental to the public’s interest.

(b) Action plans submitted under this section shall include detailed information necessary
for the commissioner to review the action plan and reach a determination. The commissioner
may request additional information from the hospital submitting an action plan under this
subdivision and from others potentially affected by the intended action that the commissioner
deems necessary to review the action plan and make a determination. If the commissioner
determines that additional information is required from the hospital submitting an action
plan under this subdivision, the commissioner shall notify the hospital of the additional
information required no more than 15 days after the initial submission of the action plan.

(c) The commissioner shall review the action plan and, within 30 calendar days of the
date on which the commissioner receives complete information, issue a determination on
whether the intended action is detrimental to the public’s interest. In making a determination,
the commissioner must consider issues including but not limited to:

(1) whether the intended action will deny timely access to care or access to services
given the number of available beds in the region. For the purposes of this clause, “available
beds” means the number of licensed acute care beds that are immediately available for use
or could be brought online within 48 hours without significant facility modifications;

(2) the operational impact of the intended action on existing acute-care hospitals in the
region; and

(3) how the intended action will affect the ability of existing hospitals in the region to
provide adequate and timely care, particularly for those health services that will be relocated
or no longer offered if the intended action is taken;

(d) Data collected, created, or maintained pursuant to this section is nonpublic data, as
defined under section 13.02, subdivision 9.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.
The commissioner of health shall approve a nursing assistant for the registry without requiring a competency evaluation if the nursing assistant is in good standing on a nursing assistant registry in another state.

Subd. 5.
"Controlling person" means a business entity or entities, officer, program administrator, or director, whose responsibilities include the direction of the management or policies of a supplemental nursing services agency, the management and decision-making authority to establish or control business policy and all other policies of a supplemental nursing services agency. Controlling person also means an individual who, directly or indirectly, beneficially owns an interest in a corporation, partnership, or other business association that is a controlling person.

Subd. 7.
"Person" includes an individual, firm, corporation, partnership, limited liability company, or association.

Subd. 6.
Supplemental nursing services agency means a person engaged in the business of providing or procuring temporary employment in health care facilities for nurses, nursing assistants, nurse aides, and orderlies. Supplemental nursing services agency does not include a professional home care agency licensed under section 144A.471 that only provides staff to other home care providers.

Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 144A.70, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3.
"Person" includes an individual, firm, corporation, partnership, limited liability company, or association engaged for hire in the business of providing or procuring temporary employment in health care facilities for nurses, nursing assistants, nurse aides, and orderlies. Supplemental nursing services agency does not include a professional home care agency licensed under section 144A.471 that only provides staff to other home care providers.

Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 144A.70, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5.
"Person" includes an individual, firm, corporation, partnership, limited liability company, or association.

Subd. 6.
Supplemental nursing services agency means a person engaged in the business of providing or procuring temporary employment in health care facilities for nurses, nursing assistants, nurse aides, and orderlies. Supplemental nursing services agency does not include a professional home care agency licensed under section 144A.471 that only provides staff to other home care providers.

Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 144A.70, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

Subd. 6.
Supplemental nursing services agency means a person engaged in the business of providing or procuring temporary employment in health care facilities for nurses, nursing assistants, nurse aides, and orderlies. Supplemental nursing services agency does not include a professional home care agency licensed under section 144A.471 that only provides staff to other home care providers.

Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 144A.70, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7.
"Oversight. The commissioner is responsible for the oversight of supplemental nursing services agencies through annual, semiannual, and unannounced surveys, complaint investigations under sections 144A.51 to 144A.53, and other actions necessary to ensure compliance with sections 144A.70 to 144A.74.

Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 144A.71, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2.
Application information and fee. The commissioner shall establish forms and procedures for processing each supplemental nursing services agency registration application. An application for a supplemental nursing services agency registration must include at least the following:

Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 144A.70, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 3.
"Person" includes an individual, firm, corporation, partnership, limited liability company, or association.

Subd. 6.
Supplemental nursing services agency means a person engaged in the business of providing or procuring temporary employment in health care facilities for nurses, nursing assistants, nurse aides, and orderlies. Supplemental nursing services agency does not include an individual who, directly or indirectly, beneficially owns an interest in a corporation, partnership, or other business association that is a controlling person.

Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 144A.70, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5.
"Person" includes an individual, firm, corporation, partnership, limited liability company, or association.

Subd. 6.
Supplemental nursing services agency means a person engaged in the business of providing or procuring temporary employment in health care facilities for nurses, nursing assistants, nurse aides, and orderlies. Supplemental nursing services agency does not include an individual who, directly or indirectly, beneficially owns an interest in a corporation, partnership, or other business association that is a controlling person.

Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 144A.70, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3.
"Person" includes an individual, firm, corporation, partnership, limited liability company, or association.

Subd. 6.
Supplemental nursing services agency means a person engaged in the business of providing or procuring temporary employment in health care facilities for nurses, nursing assistants, nurse aides, and orderlies. Supplemental nursing services agency does not include an individual who, directly or indirectly, beneficially owns an interest in a corporation, partnership, or other business association that is a controlling person.

Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 144A.70, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7.
"Oversight. The commissioner is responsible for the oversight of supplemental nursing services agencies through annual, semiannual, and unannounced surveys, complaint investigations under sections 144A.51 to 144A.53, and other actions necessary to ensure compliance with sections 144A.70 to 144A.74.
the names and addresses of the owner or owners, all owners and controlling persons of the supplemental nursing services agency;

(2) if the owner is a corporation, copies of its articles of incorporation and current bylaws, together with the names and addresses of its officers and directors;

(3) satisfactory proof of compliance with section 144A.72, subdivision 1, clause (5) to (7) if the owner is a limited liability company, copies of its articles of organization and operating agreement, together with the names and addresses of its officers and directors;

(4) documentation that the supplemental nursing services agency has medical malpractice insurance to insure against the loss, damage, or expense of a claim arising out of the death or injury of any person as the result of negligence or malpractice in the provision of health care services by the supplemental nursing services agency or by any employee of the agency;

(5) documentation that the supplemental nursing services agency has an employee dishonesty bond in the amount of $10,000;

(6) documentation that the supplemental nursing services agency has insurance coverage for workers’ compensation for all nurses, nursing assistants, nurse aides, and orderlies provided or procured by the agency;

(7) documentation that the supplemental nursing services agency filed with the commissioner of revenue: (i) the name and address of the bank, savings bank, or savings association in which the supplemental nursing services agency deposits all employee income tax withholdings; and (ii) the name and address of any nurse, nursing assistant, nurse aide, or orderly whose income is derived from placement by the agency, if the agency purports the income is not subject to withholding;

(8) any other relevant information that the commissioner determines is necessary to properly evaluate an application for registration;

(9) a policy and procedure that describes how the supplemental nursing services agency’s records will be immediately available at all times to the commissioner and facility; and

(10) a nonrefundable registration fee of $2,035.

If a supplemental nursing services agency fails to provide the items in this subdivision to the department, the commissioner shall immediately suspend or refuse to issue the supplemental nursing services agency registration. The supplemental nursing services agency may appeal the commissioner’s findings according to section 144A.475, subdivisions 3a and 7, except that the hearing must be conducted by an administrative law judge within 60 calendar days of the request for hearing assignment.

May 13, 2024 10:54 AM
House Language UES4699-2
Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 144A.71, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 2. 

Subdivision 1. Authority. The fines imposed under this section are in accordance with section 144A.715, subdivision 1.

Subd. 2a. Renewal applications. An applicant for registration renewal must complete the registration application form supplied by the department. An application must be submitted at least 60 days before the expiration of the current registration.

Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 144A.72, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

(4) the supplemental nursing services agency shall carry medical malpractice insurance to insure against the loss, damage, or expense incident to a claim arising out of the death of registration.

Payment of fines.

Each violation of sections 144A.70 to 144A.74, not corrected at the time of a follow-up survey, is subject to a fine. A fine must be assessed according to the schedules established in the sections violated.

Subd. 3. Failure to correct. If, upon a subsequent follow-up survey after a fine has been imposed under subdivision 2, a violation is still not corrected, another fine shall be assessed.

The fine shall be double the amount of the previous fine.

Subd. 4. Payment of fines. Payment of fines is due 15 business days from the registrant’s receipt of notice of the fine from the department.

Sec. 22. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 144A.71, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 2. Fines. Each violation of sections 144A.70 to 144A.74, not corrected at the time of a follow-up survey, is subject to a fine. A fine must be assessed according to the schedules established in the sections violated.

Subd. 3a. Failure to correct. If, upon a subsequent follow-up survey after a fine has been imposed under subdivision 2, a violation is still not corrected, another fine shall be assessed.

The fine shall be double the amount of the previous fine.

Subd. 4a. Payment of fines. Payment of fines is due 15 business days from the registrant’s receipt of notice of the fine from the department.

Sec. 23. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 144A.72, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. Minimum criteria.

(a) The commissioner shall require that, as a condition of registration:

(1) all owners and controlling persons must complete a background study under section 144A.057 and receive a clearance or set aside of any disqualification;

(2) the supplemental nursing services agency shall document that each temporary employee provided to health care facilities currently meets the minimum licensing, training, and continuing education standards for the position in which the employee will be working and verifies competency for the position. A violation of this provision may be subject to a fine of $3,000;

(3) the supplemental nursing services agency shall comply with all pertinent requirements relating to the health and other qualifications of personnel employed in health care facilities;

(4) the supplemental nursing services agency must not restrict in any manner the employment opportunities of its employees. A violation of this provision may be subject to a fine of $3,000;

(5) the supplemental nursing services agency shall carry medical malpractice insurance to insure against the loss, damage, or expense incident to a claim arising out of the death of registration.

Payment of fines.

An applicant for registration renewal must complete the registration application form supplied by the department. An application must be submitted at least 60 days before the expiration of the current registration.

Subd. 2a. Renewal applications. An applicant for registration renewal must complete the registration application form supplied by the department. An application must be submitted at least 60 days before the expiration of the current registration.

Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 144A.715, subdivision 1.

Subdivision 1. Authority. The fines imposed under this section are in accordance with section 144A.653, subdivision 6.

Subd. 2. Fines. Each violation of sections 144A.70 to 144A.74, not corrected at the time of a follow-up survey, is subject to a fine. A fine must be assessed according to the schedules established in the sections violated.

Subd. 3. Failure to correct. If, upon a subsequent follow-up survey after a fine has been imposed under subdivision 2, a violation is still not corrected, another fine shall be assessed.

The fine shall be double the amount of the previous fine.

Subd. 4. Payment of fines. Payment of fines is due 15 business days from the registrant’s receipt of notice of the fine from the department.

Sec. 24. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 144A.72, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. Minimum criteria.

(a) The commissioner shall require that, as a condition of registration:

(1) all owners and controlling persons must complete a background study under section 144A.057 and receive a clearance or set aside of any disqualification;

(2) the supplemental nursing services agency shall document that each temporary employee provided to health care facilities currently meets the minimum licensing, training, and continuing education standards for the position in which the employee will be working and verifies competency for the position. A violation of this provision may be subject to a fine of $3,000;

(3) the supplemental nursing services agency shall comply with all pertinent requirements relating to the health and other qualifications of personnel employed in health care facilities;

(4) the supplemental nursing services agency must not restrict in any manner the employment opportunities of its employees. A violation of this provision may be subject to a fine of $3,000;

(5) the supplemental nursing services agency shall carry medical malpractice insurance to insure against the loss, damage, or expense incident to a claim arising out of the death of registration.

Payment of fines.

An applicant for registration renewal must complete the registration application form supplied by the department. An application must be submitted at least 60 days before the expiration of the current registration.

Subd. 2a. Renewal applications. An applicant for registration renewal must complete the registration application form supplied by the department. An application must be submitted at least 60 days before the expiration of the current registration.
or injury of any person as the result of negligence or malpractice in the provision of health care services by the supplemental nursing services agency or by any employee of the agency;

(5) the supplemental nursing services agency shall carry an employee dishonesty bond in the amount of $10,000;

(6) the supplemental nursing services agency shall maintain insurance coverage for workers' compensation for all nurses, nursing assistants, nurse aides, and orderlies provided or procured by the agency;

(7) the supplemental nursing services agency shall file with the commissioner of revenue:

(i) the name and address of the bank, savings bank, or savings association in which the supplemental nursing services agency deposits all employee income tax withholdings; and

(ii) the name and address of any nurse, nursing assistant, nurse aide, or orderly whose income is derived from placement by the agency, if the agency purports the income is not subject to withholding.

(8) the supplemental nursing services agency shall document that each temporary employee provided to health care facilities is an employee of the agency and is not an independent contractor; and

(9) the supplemental nursing services agency shall carry an employee dishonesty bond in the amount of $10,000;...

The commissioner shall establish a system for reporting complaints against a supplemental nursing services agency or its employees. Complaints may be made by any member of the public. Complaints against a supplemental nursing services agency shall be investigated by the commissioner of health under sections 144A.51 to 144A.53.

118.30 | 96.21 | 96.20 | 96.19 | 96.18 | 96.17 | 96.16 | 96.15 | 96.14 | 96.13 | 96.12 | 96.11 | 96.10 | 96.9 | 96.8 | 96.7 | 96.6 | 96.5 | 96.4 | 96.3 | 96.2 | 96.1

The commissioner shall establish a system for reporting complaints against a supplemental nursing services agency or its employees. Complaints may be made by any member of the public. Complaints against a supplemental nursing services agency shall be investigated by the commissioner of health under sections 144A.51 to 144A.53.
Sec. 26. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 149A.02, subdivision 10, is amended to read:

Subd. 10. Administration of medications by unlicensed personnel in nursing facilities. Notwithstanding the provisions of Minnesota Rules, part 4658.1360, subpart 2, a graduate of a foreign nursing school who has successfully completed an approved competency evaluation under the provisions of section 144A.61 is eligible to administer medications in a nursing facility upon completion of a any medication training program for unlicensed personnel offered through a postsecondary educational institution, which approved by the commissioner of health that meets the requirements specified in Minnesota Rules, part 4658.1360, subpart 2, item H, subitem (1) to (6).

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2025.

Sec. 27. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 149A.02, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. Arrangements for disposition. "Arrangements for disposition" means any action normally taken by a funeral provider in anticipation of or preparation for the entombment, burial in a cemetery, alkaline hydrolysis, or cremation, or, effective July 1, 2025, natural organic reduction of a dead human body.

Sec. 28. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 149A.02, subdivision 16, is amended to read:

Subd. 16. Final disposition. "Final disposition" means the acts leading to and the entombment, burial in a cemetery, alkaline hydrolysis, or cremation, or, effective July 1, 2025, natural organic reduction of a dead human body.

Sec. 29. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 149A.02, subdivision 26a, is amended to read:

Subd. 26a. Inurnment. "Inurnment" means placing hydrolyzed or cremated remains in a hydrolyzed or cremated remains container suitable for placement, burial, or shipment.

Effective July 1, 2025, inurnment also includes placing naturally reduced remains in a naturally reduced remains container suitable for placement, burial, or shipment.

Sec. 30. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 149A.02, subdivision 27, is amended to read:

Subd. 27. Licensee. "Licensee" means any person or entity that has been issued a license to practice mortuary science, to operate a funeral establishment, to operate an alkaline hydrolysis facility, to operate a crematory, or, effective July 1, 2025, to operate a natural organic reduction facility by the Minnesota commissioner of health.

Sec. 31. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 149A.02, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 30b. Natural organic reduction or naturally reduce. "Natural organic reduction" or "naturally reduce" means the contained, accelerated conversion of a dead human body to soil. This subdivision is effective July 1, 2025.
Senate Language S4699-3

Article 5 Department of Health

May 13, 2024 10:54 AM

House Language UES4699-2

98.6 Sec. 29. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 149A.02, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

98.7 Subd. 30. Natural organic reduction facility. "Natural organic reduction facility" means a structure, room, or other space in a building or real property where natural organic reduction of a dead human body occurs. This subdivision is effective July 1, 2025.

98.11 Sec. 33. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 149A.02, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

98.13 Subd. 30d. Natural organic reduction vessel. "Natural organic reduction vessel" means the enclosed container in which natural organic reduction takes place. This subdivision is effective July 1, 2025.

98.15 Subd. 34. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 149A.02, subdivision 35, is amended to read:

98.18 Subd. 30c. Naturally reduced remains. "Naturally reduced remains" means the soil remains following the natural organic reduction of a dead human body and the accompanying plant material. This subdivision is effective July 1, 2025.

98.21 Sec. 35. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 149A.02, subdivision 36, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

98.23 Subd. 30f. Naturally reduced remains container. "Naturally reduced remains container" means a receptacle in which naturally reduced remains are placed. This subdivision is effective July 1, 2025.

98.26 Sec. 36. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 149A.02, subdivision 35, is amended to read:

98.29 Subd. 35. Processing. "Processing" means the removal of foreign objects, drying or cooling, and the reduction of the hydrolyzed or remains cremated remains, or, effective July 1, 2025, naturally reduced remains by mechanical means including, but not limited to, grinding, crushing, or pulverizing, to a granulated appearance appropriate for final disposition or the final reduction to naturally reduced remains.

98.31 Sec. 37. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 149A.02, subdivision 37c, is amended to read:

98.34 Subd. 37c. Scattering. "Scattering" means the authorized dispersal of hydrolyzed or remains cremated remains, or, effective July 1, 2025, naturally reduced remains in a defined area of a dedicated cemetery or in areas where no local prohibition exists provided that the hydrolyzed or, cremated, or naturally reduced remains are not distinguishable to the public, are not in a container, and that the person who has control over disposition of the hydrolyzed or, cremated, or naturally reduced remains has obtained written permission of the property owner or governing agency to scatter on the property.
Sec. 35. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 149A.03, is amended to read:

149A.03 DUTIES OF COMMISSIONER.

The commissioner shall:

1. Enforce all laws and adopt and enforce rules relating to the:
   (i) removal, preparation, transportation, arrangements for disposition, and final disposition of dead human bodies;
   (ii) licensure and professional conduct of funeral directors, morticians, interns, practicum students, and clinical students;
   (iii) licensing and operation of a funeral establishment;
   (iv) licensing and operation of an alkaline hydrolysis facility; and
   (v) licensing and operation of a crematory; and
   (vi) effective July 1, 2025, licensing and operation of a natural organic reduction facility except that the commissioner may not adopt rules relating to the activities under this item.

2. Provide copies of the requirements for licensure and permits to all applicants;

3. Administer examinations and issue licenses and permits to qualified persons and other legal entities;

4. Maintain a record of the name and location of all current licensees and interns;

5. Perform periodic compliance reviews and premise inspections of licensees;

6. Accept and investigate complaints relating to conduct governed by this chapter;

7. Maintain a record of all current preneed arrangement trust accounts;

8. Maintain a schedule of application, examination, permit, and licensure fees, initial and renewal, sufficient to cover all necessary operating expenses;

9. Educate the public about the existence and content of the laws and rules for mortuary science licensing and the removal, preparation, transportation, arrangements for disposition, and final disposition of dead human bodies to enable consumers to file complaints against licensees and others who may have violated those laws or rules;

10. Evaluate the laws, rules, and procedures regulating the practice of mortuary science in order to refine the standards for licensing and to improve the regulatory and enforcement methods used; and

11. Initiate proceedings to address and remedy deficiencies and inconsistencies in the laws, rules, or procedures governing the practice of mortuary science and the removal,
preparation, transportation, arrangements for disposition, and final disposition of dead human bodies.

Sec. 39. [149A.56] LICENSE TO OPERATE A NATURAL ORGANIC REDUCTION FACILITY.

Subdivision 1. License requirement. This section is effective July 1, 2025. Except as provided in section 149A.01, subdivision 3, no person shall maintain, manage, or operate a place or premises devoted to or used in the holding and natural organic reduction of a dead human body without possessing a valid license to operate a natural organic reduction facility issued by the commissioner of health.

Subd. 2. Requirements for natural organic reduction facility. (a) A natural organic reduction facility licensed under this section must consist of:

(1) a building or structure that complies with applicable local and state building codes, zoning laws and ordinances, and environmental standards, and that contains one or more natural organic reduction vessels for the natural organic reduction of dead human bodies;

(2) a motorized mechanical device for processing the remains in natural reduction; and

(3) an appropriate refrigerated holding facility for dead human bodies awaiting natural organic reduction.

(b) A natural organic reduction facility licensed under this section may also contain a display room for funeral goods.

Subd. 3. Application procedure; documentation; initial inspection. (a) An applicant for a license to operate a natural organic reduction facility shall submit a completed application to the commissioner. A completed application includes:

(1) a completed application form, as provided by the commissioner;

(2) proof of business form and ownership; and

(3) proof of liability insurance coverage or other financial documentation, as determined by the commissioner, that demonstrates the applicant’s ability to respond in damages for liability arising from the ownership, maintenance, management, or operation of a natural organic reduction facility.

(b) Upon receipt of the application and appropriate fee, the commissioner shall review and verify all information. Upon completion of the verification process and resolution of any deficiencies in the application information, the commissioner shall conduct an initial inspection of the premises to be licensed. After the inspection and resolution of any deficiencies found and any reinspections as may be necessary, the commissioner shall make a determination, based on all the information available, to grant or deny licensure. If the commissioner’s determination is to grant the license, the applicant shall be notified and the license shall issue and remain valid for a period prescribed on the license, but not to exceed

Sec. 36. [149A.56] LICENSE TO OPERATE A NATURAL ORGANIC REDUCTION FACILITY.

Subdivision 1. License requirement. This section is effective July 1, 2025. Except as provided in section 149A.01, subdivision 3, no person shall maintain, manage, or operate a place or premises devoted to or used in the holding and natural organic reduction of a dead human body without possessing a valid license to operate a natural organic reduction facility issued by the commissioner of health.

Subd. 2. Requirements for natural organic reduction facility. (a) A natural organic reduction facility licensed under this section must consist of:

(1) a building or structure that complies with applicable local and state building codes, zoning laws and ordinances, and environmental standards, and that contains one or more natural organic reduction vessels for the natural organic reduction of dead human bodies;

(2) a motorized mechanical device for processing naturally reduced remains, and

(3) an appropriate refrigerated holding facility for dead human bodies awaiting natural organic reduction.

(b) A natural organic reduction facility licensed under this section may also contain a display room for funeral goods.

Subd. 3. Application procedure; documentation; initial inspection. (a) An applicant for a license to operate a natural organic reduction facility shall submit a completed application to the commissioner. A completed application includes:

(1) a completed application form, as provided by the commissioner;

(2) proof of business form and ownership; and

(3) proof of liability insurance coverage or other financial documentation, as determined by the commissioner, that demonstrates the applicant’s ability to respond in damages for liability arising from the ownership, maintenance, management, or operation of a natural organic reduction facility.

(b) Upon receipt of the application and appropriate fee, the commissioner shall review and verify all information. Upon completion of the verification process and resolution of any deficiencies in the application information, the commissioner shall conduct an initial inspection of the premises to be licensed. After the inspection and resolution of any deficiencies found and any reinspections as may be necessary, the commissioner shall make a determination, based on all the information available, to grant or deny licensure. If the commissioner’s determination is to grant the license, the applicant shall be notified and the license shall issue and remain valid for a period prescribed on the license, but not to exceed
one calendar year from the date of issuance of the license. If the commissioner's determination
is to deny the license, the commissioner must notify the applicant, in writing, of the denial
and provide the specific reason for denial.

4. Nontransferability of license. A license to operate a natural organic reduction
facility is not assignable or transferable and shall not be valid for any entity other than the
one named. Each license issued to operate a natural organic reduction facility is valid only
for the location identified on the license. A 50 percent or more change in ownership or
location of the natural organic reduction facility automatically terminates the license. Separate
licenses shall be required of two or more persons or other legal entities operating from the
same location.

5. Display of license. Each license to operate a natural organic reduction facility
must be conspicuously displayed in the natural organic reduction facility at all times.
The natural organic reduction facility is able to observe and read the license.

6. Period of licensure. All licenses to operate a natural organic reduction facility
issued by the commissioner are valid for a period of one calendar year beginning on July 1
and ending on June 30, regardless of the date of issuance.

7. Reporting changes in license information. Any change of license information
must be reported to the commissioner, on forms provided by the commissioner, no later
than 30 calendar days after the change occurs. Failure to report changes is grounds for
disciplinary action.

8. Licensing information. Section 13.41 applies to data collected and maintained
by the commissioner pursuant to this section.

9. Renewal required. This section is effective July 1, 2025. All licenses
to operate a natural organic reduction facility issued by the commissioner expire on June
30 following the date of issuance of the license and must be renewed to remain valid.

Subdivision 2. Renewal procedure and documentation. (a) Licensees who wish to renew
their licenses must submit to the commissioner a completed renewal application no later
than June 30 following the date the license was issued. A completed renewal application
includes:

(1) a completed renewal application form, as provided by the commissioner; and

(2) proof of liability insurance coverage or other financial documentation, as determined
by the commissioner, that demonstrates the applicant's ability to respond in damages for
liability arising from the ownership, maintenance, management, or operation of a natural
organic reduction facility.

10. Nontransferability of license. A license to operate a natural organic reduction
facility is not assignable or transferable and shall not be valid for any entity other than the
one named. Each license issued to operate a natural organic reduction facility is valid only
for the location identified on the license. A 50 percent or more change in ownership or
location of the natural organic reduction facility automatically terminates the license. Separate
licenses shall be required of two or more persons or other legal entities operating from the
same location.

11. Display of license. Each license to operate a natural organic reduction facility
must be conspicuously displayed in the natural organic reduction facility at all times.
Conspicuous display means in a location where a member of the general public within
the natural organic reduction facility is able to observe and read the license.

12. Period of licensure. All licenses to operate a natural organic reduction facility
issued by the commissioner are valid for a period of one calendar year beginning on July 1
and ending on June 30, regardless of the date of issuance.

13. Reporting changes in license information. Any change of license information
must be reported to the commissioner, on forms provided by the commissioner, no later
than 30 calendar days after the change occurs. Failure to report changes is grounds for
disciplinary action.

14. Licensing information. Section 13.41 applies to data collected and maintained
by the commissioner pursuant to this section.

15. Renewal required. This section is effective July 1, 2025. All licenses
to operate a natural organic reduction facility issued by the commissioner expire on June
30 following the date of issuance of the license and must be renewed to remain valid.

Subdivision 2. Renewal procedure and documentation. (a) Licensees who wish to renew
their licenses must submit to the commissioner a completed renewal application no later
than June 30 following the date the license was issued. A completed renewal application
includes:

(1) a completed renewal application form, as provided by the commissioner; and

(2) proof of liability insurance coverage or other financial documentation, as determined
by the commissioner, that demonstrates the applicant's ability to respond in damages for
liability arising from the ownership, maintenance, management, or operation of a natural
organic reduction facility.
Upon receipt of the completed renewal application, the commissioner shall review and verify the information. Upon completion of the verification process and resolution of any deficiencies in the renewal application information, the commissioner shall make a determination, based on all the information available, to reissue or refuse to reissue the license. If the commissioner's determination is to reissue the license, the applicant shall be notified and the license shall issue and remain valid for a period prescribed on the license, but not to exceed one calendar year from the date of issuance of the license. If the commissioner's determination is to refuse to reissue the license, section 149A.09, subdivision 7, applies.

Renewal applications received after the expiration date of a license will result in the assessment of a late filing penalty. The late filing penalty must be paid before the reissuance of the license and received by the commissioner no later than 31 calendar days after the expiration date of the license.

A license to operate a natural organic reduction facility shall automatically lapse when a completed renewal application is not received by the commissioner within 31 calendar days after the expiration date of a license, or a late filing penalty assessed under subdivision 3 is not received by the commissioner within 31 calendar days after the expiration of a license.

Upon the lapse of a license, the person to whom the license was issued is no longer licensed to operate a natural organic reduction facility in Minnesota. The commissioner shall issue a cease and desist order to prevent the lapse of a license holder from operating a natural organic reduction facility in Minnesota and may pursue any additional lawful remedies as justified by the case.

The commissioner may restore a lapsed license upon receipt and review of a completed renewal application, receipt of the late filing penalty, and reinspection of the premises, provided that the receipt is made within one calendar year from the expiration date of the lapsed license and the cease and desist order issued by the commissioner has not been violated. If a lapsed license is not restored within one calendar year from the expiration date of the lapsed license, the holder of the lapsed license cannot be relicensed until the requirements in section 149A.56 are met.

Any change of license information must be reported to the commissioner, on forms provided by the commissioner, no later than 30 calendar days after the change occurs. Failure to report changes is grounds for disciplinary action.

The commissioner may restore a lapsed license upon receipt and review of a completed renewal application, receipt of the late filing penalty, and reinspection of the premises, provided that the receipt is made within one calendar year from the expiration date of the lapsed license and the cease and desist order issued by the commissioner has not been violated. If a lapsed license is not restored within one calendar year from the expiration date of the lapsed license, the holder of the lapsed license cannot be relicensed until the requirements in section 149A.56 are met.

Any change of license information must be reported to the commissioner, on forms provided by the commissioner, no later than 30 calendar days after the change occurs. Failure to report changes is grounds for disciplinary action.
Sec. 38. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 149A.65, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 6a. Natural organic reduction facilities. This subdivision is effective July 1, 2025. The initial and renewal fee for a natural organic reduction facility is $425. The late fee charge for a license renewal is $100.

Sec. 39. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 149A.70, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

A funeral establishment, alkaline hydrolysis facility, crematory, or, effective July 1, 2025, natural organic reduction facility and shall not advertise a service that is available from an unlicensed location.

Subd. 2. Business location. A funeral establishment, alkaline hydrolysis facility, crematory, or, effective July 1, 2025, natural organic reduction facility shall not do business in a location that is not licensed as a funeral establishment, alkaline hydrolysis facility, crematory, or natural organic reduction facility and shall not advertise a service that is available from an unlicensed location.

Sec. 41. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 149A.70, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. Advertising. No licensee, clinical student, practicum student, or intern shall publish or disseminate false, misleading, or deceptive advertising. False, misleading, or deceptive advertising includes, but is not limited to:

1. identifying, by using the names or pictures of, persons who are not licensed to practice mortuary science in a way that leads the public to believe that those persons will provide mortuary science services;
(2) using any name other than the names under which the funeral establishment, alkaline hydrolysis facility, or, effective July 1, 2025, natural organic reduction facility is known to or licensed by the commissioner;

(3) using a surname not directly, actively, or presently associated with a licensed funeral establishment, alkaline hydrolysis facility, or, effective July 1, 2025, natural organic reduction facility;

(4) using a founding or establishing date or total years of service not directly or continuously related to a name under which the funeral establishment, alkaline hydrolysis facility, or, effective July 1, 2025, natural organic reduction facility is currently or was previously licensed.

Any advertising or other printed material that contains the names or pictures of persons affiliated with a funeral establishment, alkaline hydrolysis facility, or, effective July 1, 2025, natural organic reduction facility shall state the position held by the persons and shall identify each person who is licensed or unlicensed under this chapter.

Sec. 45. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 149A.70, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

(a) To prevent unfair or deceptive acts or practices, no licensee, clinical student, practicum student, or intern shall offer, solicit, or accept a commission, fee, bonus, rebate, or other consideration in consideration for recommending or causing a dead human body to be disposed of by a specific body donation program, funeral establishment, alkaline hydrolysis facility, crematory, mausoleum, cemetery, or, effective July 1, 2025, natural organic reduction facility.

(b) Funeral providers must tell persons who ask by telephone about the funeral provider's offerings or prices any accurate information from the price lists described in paragraphs (c) and (d) and any other readily available information that reasonably answers the questions asked.

(c) Funeral providers must make available for viewing to people who inquire in person about the offerings or prices of funeral goods or burial site goods, separate printed or typewritten price lists using a ten-point font or larger. Each funeral provider must have a separate price list for each of the following types of goods that are sold or offered for sale:

(1) caskets;

(2) alternative containers;

(3) using a surname not directly, actively, or presently associated with a licensed funeral establishment, alkaline hydrolysis facility, or, effective July 1, 2025, natural organic reduction facility.

(4) using a founding or establishing date or total years of service not directly or continuously related to a name under which the funeral establishment, alkaline hydrolysis facility, or, effective July 1, 2025, natural organic reduction facility is currently or was previously licensed.

Any advertising or other printed material that contains the names or pictures of persons affiliated with a funeral establishment, alkaline hydrolysis facility, or, effective July 1, 2025, natural organic reduction facility shall state the position held by the persons and shall identify each person who is licensed or unlicensed under this chapter.

Sec. 42. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 149A.70, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

(a) To prevent unfair or deceptive acts or practices, no licensee, clinical student, practicum student, or intern shall offer, solicit, or accept a commission, fee, bonus, rebate, or other consideration in consideration for recommending or causing a dead human body to be disposed of by a specific body donation program, funeral establishment, alkaline hydrolysis facility, crematory, mausoleum, cemetery, or, effective July 1, 2025, natural organic reduction facility.

(b) Funeral providers must tell persons who ask by telephone about the funeral provider's offerings or prices any accurate information from the price lists described in paragraphs (c) and (d) and any other readily available information that reasonably answers the questions asked.

(c) Funeral providers must make available for viewing to people who inquire in person about the offerings or prices of funeral goods or burial site goods, separate printed or typewritten price lists using a ten-point font or larger. Each funeral provider must have a separate price list for each of the following types of goods that are sold or offered for sale:

(1) caskets;

(2) alternative containers;
(3) outer burial containers;
(4) alkaline hydrolysis containers;
(5) cremation containers;
(6) hydrolyzed remains containers;
(7) cremated remains containers;
(8) markers; and
(9) headstones;
(10) naturally reduced remains containers.

(10) naturally reduced remains containers.

(9) the name, address, and telephone number of the funeral provider's place of business; and
(8) markers; and
(7) cremated remains containers;
(6) hydrolyzed remains containers;
(5) cremation containers;
(4) alkaline hydrolysis containers;
(3) outer burial containers;

(9) headstones; and

(10) naturally reduced remains containers.

The funeral provider must offer the list upon beginning discussion of, but
in any event before showing, the specific funeral goods or burial site goods and must provide
a photocopy of the price list, for retention, if so asked by the consumer. The list must contain,
at least, the retail prices of all the specific funeral goods and burial site goods offered which
may be purchased for the price list. However, funeral providers are not required to make a specific price list
available if the funeral providers place the information required by this paragraph on the
general price list described in paragraph (e).

(e) Funeral providers must give a printed price list, for retention, to persons who inquire
in person about the funeral goods, funeral services, burial site goods, or burial site services
or prices offered by the funeral provider. The funeral provider must give the list upon
beginning discussion of either the prices of or the overall type of funeral service or disposition
or specific funeral goods, funeral services, burial site goods, or burial site services offered
by the provider. This requirement applies whether the discussion takes place in the funeral
establishment or elsewhere. However, when the deceased is removed for transportation to
the funeral establishment, an in-person request for authorization to embalm does not, by
itself, trigger the requirement to offer the general price list. If the provider, in making an
in-person request for authorization to embalm, discloses that embalming is not required by
law except in certain special cases, the provider is not required to offer the general price
list. Any other discussion during that time about prices or the selection of funeral goods,
funeral services, burial site goods, or burial site services triggers the requirement to give
the consumer a general price list. The general price list must contain the following
information:

(1) the name, address, and telephone number of the funeral provider's place of business;
(2) a caption describing the list as a "general price list";
(3) outer burial containers;
(4) alkaline hydrolysis containers;
(5) cremation containers;
(6) hydrolyzed remains containers;
(7) cremated remains containers;
(8) markers; and
(9) headstones; and
(10) naturally reduced remains containers.
(3) the effective date for the price list;
(4) the retail prices, in any order, expressed either as a flat fee or as the prices per hour,
mile, or other unit of computation, and other information described as follows:
(i) forwarding of remains to another funeral establishment, together with a list of the
services provided for any quoted price;
(ii) receiving remains from another funeral establishment, together with a list of the
services provided for any quoted price;
(iii) separate prices for each alkaline hydrolysis, natural organic reduction, or cremation
offered by the funeral provider, with the price including an alternative container or alkaline
hydrolysis facility or cremation container; any alkaline hydrolysis, natural organic reduction
facility, or crematory charges, and a description of the services and container included in
the price, where applicable, and the price of alkaline hydrolysis or cremation where the
purchaser provides the container;
(iv) separate prices for each immediate burial offered by the funeral provider, including
a casket or alternative container, and a description of the services and container included
in that price, and the price of immediate burial where the purchaser provides the casket or
alternative container;
(v) transfer of remains to the funeral establishment or other location;
(vi) embalming;
(vii) other preparation of the body;
(viii) use of facilities, equipment, or staff for viewing;
(ix) use of facilities, equipment, or staff for funeral ceremony;
(x) use of facilities, equipment, or staff for memorial service;
(xi) use of equipment or staff for graveside service;
(xii) hearse or funeral coach;
(xiii) limousine; and
(xiv) separate prices for all cemetery-specific goods and services, including all goods
and services associated with interment and burial site goods and services and excluding
markers and headstones;
(5) the price range for the caskets offered by the funeral provider, together with the
statement "A complete price list will be provided at the funeral establishment or casket sale
location." or the prices of individual caskets, as disclosed in the manner described in
paragraphs (c) and (d);
(6) the price range for the alternative containers or shrouds offered by the funeral provider, together with the statement "A complete price list will be provided at the funeral establishment or alternative container sale location." or the prices of individual alternative containers, as disclosed in the manner described in paragraphs (c) and (d);​
(7) the price range for the outer burial containers offered by the funeral provider, together with the statement "A complete price list will be provided at the funeral establishment or outer burial container sale location." or the prices of individual outer burial containers, as disclosed in the manner described in paragraphs (c) and (d);​
(8) the price range for the alkaline hydrolysis container offered by the funeral provider, together with the statement "A complete price list will be provided at the funeral establishment or alkaline hydrolysis container sale location." or the prices of individual alkaline hydrolysis containers, as disclosed in the manner described in paragraphs (c) and (d);​
(9) the price range for the hydrolyzed remains container offered by the funeral provider, together with the statement "A complete price list will be provided at the funeral establishment or hydrolyzed remains container sale location." or the prices of individual hydrolyzed remains container, as disclosed in the manner described in paragraphs (c) and (d);​
(10) the price range for the cremation containers offered by the funeral provider, together with the statement "A complete price list will be provided at the funeral establishment or cremation container sale location." or the prices of individual cremation containers, as disclosed in the manner described in paragraphs (c) and (d);​
(11) the price range for the cremated remains containers offered by the funeral provider, together with the statement, "A complete price list will be provided at the funeral establishment or cremated remains container sale location," or the prices of individual cremation containers as disclosed in the manner described in paragraphs (c) and (d);​
(12) the price range for the naturally reduced remains containers offered by the funeral provider, together with the statement, "A complete price list will be provided at the funeral establishment or naturally reduced remains container sale location," or the prices of individual naturally reduced remains containers as disclosed in the manner described in paragraphs (c) and (d);​
(13) the price for the basic services of funeral provider and staff, together with a list of the principal basic services provided for any quoted price and, if the charge cannot be declined by the purchaser, the statement "This fee for our basic services will be added to the total cost of the funeral arrangements you select. (This fee is already included in our charges for alkaline hydrolysis, natural organic reduction, direct cremations, immediate burials, and forwarding or receiving remains.) If the charge cannot be declined by the purchaser, the quoted price shall include all charges for the recovery of unlocated funeral provider overhead, and funeral providers may include in the required disclosure the phrase "A complete price list will be provided at the funeral establishment or funeral provider overhead location." or the prices of individual funeral provider overhead, as disclosed in the manner described in paragraphs (c) and (d);​
(14) the price range for the alkaline hydrolysis container offered by the funeral provider, together with the statement "A complete price list will be provided at the funeral establishment or alkaline hydrolysis container sale location." or the prices of individual alkaline hydrolysis containers, as disclosed in the manner described in paragraphs (c) and (d);​
(15) the price range for the hydrolyzed remains container offered by the funeral provider, together with the statement "A complete price list will be provided at the funeral establishment or hydrolyzed remains container sale location." or the prices of individual hydrolyzed remains container, as disclosed in the manner described in paragraphs (c) and (d);​
(16) the price range for the cremation containers offered by the funeral provider, together with the statement "A complete price list will be provided at the funeral establishment or cremation container sale location." or the prices of individual cremation containers, as disclosed in the manner described in paragraphs (c) and (d);​
(17) the price range for the cremated remains containers offered by the funeral provider, together with the statement, "A complete price list will be provided at the funeral establishment or cremated remains container sale location," or the prices of individual cremation containers as disclosed in the manner described in paragraphs (c) and (d);​
(18) the price range for the naturally reduced remains containers offered by the funeral provider, together with the statement, "A complete price list will be provided at the funeral establishment or naturally reduced remains container sale location," or the prices of individual naturally reduced remains containers as disclosed in the manner described in paragraphs (c) and (d);​
(19) the price range for the alkaline hydrolysis container offered by the funeral provider, together with the statement "A complete price list will be provided at the funeral establishment or alkaline hydrolysis container sale location." or the prices of individual alkaline hydrolysis containers, as disclosed in the manner described in paragraphs (c) and (d);​
(20) the price range for the hydrolyzed remains container offered by the funeral provider, together with the statement "A complete price list will be provided at the funeral establishment or hydrolyzed remains container sale location." or the prices of individual hydrolyzed remains container, as disclosed in the manner described in paragraphs (c) and (d);​
(21) the price range for the cremation containers offered by the funeral provider, together with the statement "A complete price list will be provided at the funeral establishment or cremation container sale location." or the prices of individual cremation containers, as disclosed in the manner described in paragraphs (c) and (d);​
(22) the price range for the cremated remains containers offered by the funeral provider, together with the statement, "A complete price list will be provided at the funeral establishment or cremated remains container sale location," or the prices of individual cremation containers as disclosed in the manner described in paragraphs (c) and (d);​
(23) the price range for the naturally reduced remains containers offered by the funeral provider, together with the statement, "A complete price list will be provided at the funeral establishment or naturally reduced remains container sale location," or the prices of individual naturally reduced remains containers as disclosed in the manner described in paragraphs (c) and (d);​
(24) the price range for the alkaline hydrolysis container offered by the funeral provider, together with the statement "A complete price list will be provided at the funeral establishment or alkaline hydrolysis container sale location." or the prices of individual alkaline hydrolysis containers, as disclosed in the manner described in paragraphs (c) and (d);​
(25) the price range for the hydrolyzed remains container offered by the funeral provider, together with the statement "A complete price list will be provided at the funeral establishment or hydrolyzed remains container sale location." or the prices of individual hydrolyzed remains container, as disclosed in the manner described in paragraphs (c) and (d);​
(26) the price range for the cremation containers offered by the funeral provider, together with the statement "A complete price list will be provided at the funeral establishment or cremation container sale location." or the prices of individual cremation containers, as disclosed in the manner described in paragraphs (c) and (d);​
(27) the price range for the cremated remains containers offered by the funeral provider, together with the statement, "A complete price list will be provided at the funeral establishment or cremated remains container sale location," or the prices of individual cremation containers as disclosed in the manner described in paragraphs (c) and (d);​
(28) the price range for the naturally reduced remains containers offered by the funeral provider, together with the statement, "A complete price list will be provided at the funeral establishment or naturally reduced remains container sale location," or the prices of individual naturally reduced remains containers as disclosed in the manner described in paragraphs (c) and (d);​
(29) the price range for the alkaline hydrolysis container offered by the funeral provider, together with the statement "A complete price list will be provided at the funeral establishment or alkaline hydrolysis container sale location." or the prices of individual alkaline hydrolysis containers, as disclosed in the manner described in paragraphs (c) and (d);​
(30) the price range for the hydrolyzed remains container offered by the funeral provider, together with the statement "A complete price list will be provided at the funeral establishment or hydrolyzed remains container sale location." or the prices of individual hydrolyzed remains container, as disclosed in the manner described in paragraphs (c) and (d);​
(31) the price range for the cremation containers offered by the funeral provider, together with the statement "A complete price list will be provided at the funeral establishment or cremation container sale location." or the prices of individual cremation containers, as disclosed in the manner described in paragraphs (c) and (d);​
(32) the price range for the cremated remains containers offered by the funeral provider, together with the statement, "A complete price list will be provided at the funeral establishment or cremated remains container sale location," or the prices of individual cremation containers as disclosed in the manner described in paragraphs (c) and (d);​
(33) the price range for the naturally reduced remains containers offered by the funeral provider, together with the statement, "A complete price list will be provided at the funeral establishment or naturally reduced remains container sale location," or the prices of individual naturally reduced remains containers as disclosed in the manner described in paragraphs (c) and (d);
"and overhead" after the word "services." This services fee is the only funeral provider fee for services, facilities, or unallocated overhead permitted by this subdivision to be nondeclinable, unless otherwise required by law; the price range for the markers and headstones offered by the funeral provider, together with the statement "A complete price list will be provided at the funeral establishment or marker or headstone sale location." or the prices of individual markers and headstones, as disclosed in the manner described in paragraphs (c) and (d); and any package priced funerals offered must be listed in addition to and following the information required in paragraph (e) and must clearly state the funeral goods and services being offered, the price being charged for those goods and services, and the discounted savings.

(f) Funeral providers must give an itemized written statement, for retention, to each consumer who arranges an at-need funeral or other disposition of human remains at the conclusion of an at-need arrangement, the funeral provider is required to give the consumer a copy of the signed itemized written contract that must contain the information required in this paragraph.

(g) Upon receiving actual notice of the death of an individual with whom a funeral provider has entered a preneed funeral agreement, the funeral provider must provide a copy of all preneed funeral agreement documents to the person who controls final disposition of the human remains or to the designee of the person controlling disposition. The person controlling final disposition shall be provided with these documents at the time of the person's first in-person contact with the funeral provider, if the first contact occurs in person at a funeral establishment, alkaline hydrolysis facility, crematory, natural organic reduction facility, or other place of business of the funeral provider. If the contact occurs by other means or at another location, the documents must be provided within 24 hours of the first contact.

Sec. 47. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 149A.71, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. Casket, alternate container, alkaline hydrolysis container, naturally reduced remains container, and cremation container sales; records; required disclosures. Any

132.18 "and overhead" after the word "services." This services fee is the only funeral provider fee for services, facilities, or unallocated overhead permitted by this subdivision to be nondeclinable, unless otherwise required by law; the price range for the markers and headstones offered by the funeral provider, together with the statement "A complete price list will be provided at the funeral establishment or marker or headstone sale location." or the prices of individual markers and headstones, as disclosed in the manner described in paragraphs (c) and (d); and any package priced funerals offered must be listed in addition to and following the information required in paragraph (e) and must clearly state the funeral goods and services being offered, the price being charged for those goods and services, and the discounted savings.

(f) Funeral providers must give an itemized written statement, for retention, to each consumer who arranges an at-need funeral or other disposition of human remains at the conclusion of an at-need arrangement, the funeral provider is required to give the consumer a copy of the signed itemized written contract that must contain the information required in this paragraph.

(g) Upon receiving actual notice of the death of an individual with whom a funeral provider has entered a preneed funeral agreement, the funeral provider must provide a copy of all preneed funeral agreement documents to the person who controls final disposition of the human remains or to the designee of the person controlling disposition. The person controlling final disposition shall be provided with these documents at the time of the person's first in-person contact with the funeral provider, if the first contact occurs in person at a funeral establishment, alkaline hydrolysis facility, crematory, natural organic reduction facility, or other place of business of the funeral provider. If the contact occurs by other means or at another location, the documents must be provided within 24 hours of the first contact.
Sec. 50. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 149A.73, subdivision 1, is amended to read: In selling or offering to sell funeral goods, funeral services, burial site goods, or burial site services to the public, it is a deceptive act or practice for any funeral provider to represent that a casket is required for alkaline hydrolysis, cremations, or, effective July 1, 2025, natural organic reduction.

Subd. 3. Casket for alkaline hydrolysis, natural organic reduction, or cremation facilities. In selling or offering to sell funeral goods, funeral services, burial site goods, or burial site services to the public, it is a deceptive act or practice for a funeral provider to represent that a casket is required for alkaline hydrolysis, cremations, or, effective July 1, 2025, natural organic reduction.

Subd. 4. Deceptive acts or practices. In selling or offering to sell funeral goods, funeral services, burial site goods, or burial site services to the public, it is a deceptive act or practice for a funeral provider to represent that a casket is required for alkaline hydrolysis, cremations, or, effective July 1, 2025, natural organic reduction.

Subd. 5. Casket for alkaline hydrolysis, natural organic reduction, or cremation facilities. In selling or offering to sell funeral goods, funeral services, burial site goods, or burial site services to the public, it is a deceptive act or practice for a funeral provider to represent that a casket is required for alkaline hydrolysis, cremations, or, effective July 1, 2025, natural organic reduction.

Subd. 6. Casket for alkaline hydrolysis, natural organic reduction, or cremation facilities. In selling or offering to sell funeral goods, funeral services, burial site goods, or burial site services to the public, it is a deceptive act or practice for a funeral provider to represent that a casket is required for alkaline hydrolysis, cremations, or, effective July 1, 2025, natural organic reduction.

Subd. 7. Casket for alkaline hydrolysis, natural organic reduction, or cremation facilities. In selling or offering to sell funeral goods, funeral services, burial site goods, or burial site services to the public, it is a deceptive act or practice for a funeral provider to represent that a casket is required for alkaline hydrolysis, cremations, or, effective July 1, 2025, natural organic reduction.

Subd. 8. Casket for alkaline hydrolysis, natural organic reduction, or cremation facilities. In selling or offering to sell funeral goods, funeral services, burial site goods, or burial site services to the public, it is a deceptive act or practice for a funeral provider to represent that a casket is required for alkaline hydrolysis, cremations, or, effective July 1, 2025, natural organic reduction.

Subd. 9. Casket for alkaline hydrolysis, natural organic reduction, or cremation facilities. In selling or offering to sell funeral goods, funeral services, burial site goods, or burial site services to the public, it is a deceptive act or practice for a funeral provider to represent that a casket is required for alkaline hydrolysis, cremations, or, effective July 1, 2025, natural organic reduction.

Subd. 10. Casket for alkaline hydrolysis, natural organic reduction, or cremation facilities. In selling or offering to sell funeral goods, funeral services, burial site goods, or burial site services to the public, it is a deceptive act or practice for a funeral provider to represent that a casket is required for alkaline hydrolysis, cremations, or, effective July 1, 2025, natural organic reduction.
in certain circumstances; that a fee will be charged if a funeral is selected which requires
embalming, such as a funeral with viewing; and that no embalming fee will be charged if
the family selects a service which does not require embalming, such as direct alkaline
hydrolysis, direct cremation, immediate burial, or effective July 1, 2025, natural organic
reduction.

Sec. 52. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 149A.93, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. Disposition permit. A disposition permit is required before a body can be
buried, entombed, alkaline hydrolyzed, cremated, or effective July 1, 2025, naturally
reduced. No disposition permit shall be issued until a fact of death record has been completed
and filed with the state registrar of vital records.

Sec. 53. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 149A.94, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. Generally. Every dead human body lying within the state, except
unclaimed bodies delivered for dissection by the medical examiner, those delivered for
anatomical study pursuant to section 149A.81, subdivision 2, or lawfully carried through
the state for the purpose of disposition elsewhere; and the remains of any dead human body
after dissection or anatomical study, shall be decently buried or entombed in a public or
private cemetery, alkaline hydrolyzed, cremated, or effective July 1, 2025, naturally
reduced within a reasonable time after death. Where final disposition of a body will not be
accomplished, or effective July 1, 2025, when natural organic reduction will not be initiated,
within 72 hours following death or release of the body by a competent authority with
jurisdiction over the body, the body must be properly embalmed, refrigerated, or packed
with dry ice. A body may not be kept in refrigeration for a period exceeding six calendar
days, or packed in dry ice for a period that exceeds four calendar days, from the time of
death or release of the body from the coroner or medical examiner.

Sec. 54. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 149A.94, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. Permit required. No dead human body shall be buried, entombed, cremated,
alkaline hydrolyzed, or effective July 1, 2025, naturally reduced without a disposition
permit. The disposition permit must be filed with the person in charge of the place of final
disposition. Where a dead human body will be transported out of this state for final
disposition, the body must be accompanied by a certificate of removal.

Sec. 55. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 149A.94, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. Alkaline hydrolysis, cremation, or natural organic reduction. Inurnment
of alkaline hydrolyzed remains, cremated remains, or, effective July 1, 2025, naturally
reduced remains and release to an appropriate party is considered final disposition and no
further permits or authorizations are required for transportation, interment, entombment, or
placement of the cremated remains, except as provided in section 149A.95, subdivision 16.

in certain circumstances; that a fee will be charged if a funeral is selected which requires
embalming, such as a funeral with viewing; and that no embalming fee will be charged if
the family selects a service which does not require embalming, such as direct alkaline
hydrolysis, direct cremation, immediate burial, or effective July 1, 2025, natural organic
reduction.

Sec. 49. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 149A.93, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. Alkaline hydrolysis, cremation, or natural organic reduction. Inurnment
of alkaline hydrolyzed remains, cremated remains, or, effective July 1, 2025, naturally
reduced remains and release to an appropriate party is considered final disposition and no
further permits or authorizations are required for transportation, interment, entombment, or
placement of the cremated remains, except as provided in section 149A.95, subdivision 16.
NATURAL ORGANIC REDUCTION FACILITIES AND

Subdivision 1. License required. This section is effective July 1, 2025. A dead human body may only undergo natural organic reduction in this state at a natural organic reduction facility licensed by the commissioner of health.

Subd. 2. General requirements. Any building to be used as a natural organic reduction facility must comply with all applicable local and state building codes, zoning laws and ordinances, and environmental standards. A natural organic reduction facility must have on site a natural organic reduction system approved by the commissioner and a motorized mechanical device for processing the remains in natural reduction and must have in the building a refrigerated holding facility for the retention of dead human bodies awaiting natural organic reduction. The holding facility must be secure from access by anyone except the authorized personnel of the natural organic reduction facility, preserve the dignity of the remains, and protect the health and safety of the natural organic reduction facility personnel.

Subd. 3. Aerobic reduction vessel. A natural organic reduction facility must use as a natural organic reduction vessel a contained reduction vessel that is designed to promote aerobic reduction and that minimizes odors.

Subd. 4. Any room where body is prepared. Any room where the deceased will be prepared for natural organic reduction must be properly lit and ventilated with an exhaust fan. It must be equipped with a functional sink with hot and cold running water. It must have nonporous flooring, such that a sanitary condition is provided. The walls and ceiling of the room must run from floor to ceiling and be covered with tile, or by plaster or sheetrock painted with washable paint or other appropriate material, such that a sanitary condition is provided. The doors, walls, ceiling, and windows must be constructed to prevent odors from entering any other part of the building.

Subd. 5. Access and privacy. (a) The room where a licensed mortician prepares a body must be private and must not have a general passageway through it. All windows or other openings to the outside must be treated in a manner that prevents viewing into the room where the deceased will be prepared for natural organic reduction. A viewing window for authorized family members or their designees is not a violation of this subdivision:

(b) The room must, at all times, be secure from the entrance of unauthorized persons:

(c) For purposes of this section, "authorized persons" are:

(1) licensed morticians;
(2) registered interns or students as described in section 149A.91, subdivision 6;
(3) public officials or representatives in the discharge of their official duties;
114.4 (d) trained natural organic reduction facility operators; and
114.5 (5) the person or persons with the right to control the dead human body as defined in
114.6 section 149A.80, subdivision 2, and their designees.
114.7 (d) Each door allowing ingress or egress must carry a sign that indicates that the room
114.8 is private and access is limited. All authorized persons who are present in or enter the room
114.9 while a body is being prepared for final disposition must be attired according to all applicable
114.10 state and federal regulations regarding the control of infectious disease and occupational
114.11 and workplace health and safety.
114.12 Subd. 6. Areas for vessels or naturally organic reduction operations. Any rooms or
114.13 areas where the vessels reside or where any operation takes place involving the handling
114.14 of the vessels or the remains must be ventilated with exhaust fans. The doors, walls, ceiling,
114.15 and windows shall be constructed to prevent odors from entering any other part of the
114.16 building. All windows must be treated in a manner that maintains privacy when the remains
114.17 are handled. A sanitary condition must be provided. Any area where human remains are
114.18 transferred, prepared, or processed must have nonporous flooring, and the walls and ceiling
114.19 of the rooms must run from floor to ceiling and be covered with tile, or by plaster, sheetrock,
114.20 or concrete painted with washable paint or other appropriate material, such that a sanitary
114.21 condition is provided. Access to the vessel holding area must only be granted to individuals
114.22 outlined in subdivision 5 and to authorized visitors at the discretion of the licensed facility
114.23 under the direct supervision of trained facility staff, provided that such access does not
114.24 violate subdivision 18.
114.25 Subd. 7. Equipment and supplies. The natural organic reduction facility must have a
114.26 functional emergency eye wash and quick drench shower.
114.27 Subd. 8. Sanitary conditions and permitted use. The room where the deceased will
114.28 be prepared for natural organic reduction, the area where the natural organic reduction
114.29 vessels are located or where the natural organic reduction operations are undertaken, and
114.30 all fixtures, equipment, instruments, receptacles, clothing, and other appliances or supplies
114.31 stored or used in these operations must be maintained in a clean and sanitary condition at
114.32 all times.
114.33 Subd. 9. Occupational and workplace safety. All applicable provisions of state and
114.34 federal regulations regarding exposure to workplace hazards and accidents must be followed
114.35 to protect the health and safety of all authorized persons at the natural organic reduction
114.36 facility.
114.37 Subd. 10. Unlicensed personnel. A licensed natural organic reduction facility may
114.38 employ unlicensed personnel, provided that all applicable provisions of this chapter are
114.39 followed. It is the duty of the licensed natural organic reduction facility to provide proper
114.40 training for all unlicensed personnel, and the licensed natural organic reduction facility shall
115.1 Subd. 4. Unlicensed personnel. A licensed natural organic reduction facility may employ
115.2 unlicensed personnel, provided that all applicable provisions of this chapter are followed.
115.3 It is the duty of the licensed natural organic reduction facility to provide proper training for
115.4 all unlicensed personnel, and the licensed natural organic reduction facility shall be strictly
be strictly accountable for compliance with this chapter and other applicable state and federal
regulations regarding occupational and workplace health and safety.

Subd. 11. Authorization to naturally reduce. No natural organic reduction facility
shall naturally reduce or cause to be naturally reduced any dead human body or identifiable
body part without receiving written authorization to do so from the person or persons who
have the legal right to control disposition as described in section 149A.80 or the person's
legal designee. The written authorization must include:

(1) the name of the deceased and the date of death of the deceased;
(2) a statement authorizing the natural organic reduction facility to naturally reduce the
body;
(3) the name, address, phone number, relationship to the deceased, and signature of the
person or persons with the legal right to control final disposition or a legal designee;
(4) directions for the disposition of any non-naturally reduced materials or items recovered
from the natural organic reduction vessel;
(5) acknowledgment that some of the remains will be mechanically reduced to a
granulated appearance and returned to the natural reduction vessel with the remains for final
reduction; and
(6) directions for the ultimate disposition of the naturally reduced remains.

Subd. 12. Limitation of liability. The limitations in section 149A.95, subdivision 5, apply
to natural organic reduction facilities.

Subd. 13. Acceptance of delivery of body. (a) No dead human body shall be accepted
for final disposition by natural organic reduction unless the body is:
(1) wrapped in a container, such as a pouch, that is impermeable or leak-resistant;
(2) accompanied by a disposition permit issued pursuant to section 149A.93, subdivision
3, including a photocopy of the complete death record or a signed release authorizing natural
organic reduction received from a coroner or medical examiner; and
(3) accompanied by a natural organic reduction authorization that complies with
subdivision 5;
(b) A natural organic reduction facility shall refuse to accept delivery of the dead human
body:
(1) where there is a known dispute concerning natural organic reduction of the body
delivered;
(2) where there is a known dispute concerning natural organic reduction of the body
accompanied by a disposition permit issued pursuant to section 149A.93, subdivision
3, including a photocopy of the complete death record or a signed release authorizing natural
organic reduction received from a coroner or medical examiner; and
(3) the body is accompanied by a disposition permit issued pursuant to section 149A.93,
subdivision 3, including a photocopy of the complete death record or a signed release
authorizing natural organic reduction received from a coroner or medical examiner; and
(4) the body is accompanied by a natural organic reduction authorization that complies with
subdivision 5;
(b) A natural organic reduction facility shall refuse to accept delivery of the dead human
body:
(1) where there is a known dispute concerning natural organic reduction of the body
delivered;
(2) where there is a reasonable basis for questioning any of the representations made on
the written authorization to naturally reduce; or

(3) for any other lawful reason.

(c) When a container or pouch containing a dead human body shows evidence of leaking
bodily fluid, the container or pouch and the body must be returned to the contracting funeral
establishment, or the body must be transferred to a new container or pouch by a licensed
mortician.

(d) If a dead human body is delivered to a natural organic reduction facility in a container
or pouch that is not suitable for placement in a natural organic reduction vessel, the transfer
of the body to the vessel must be performed by a licensed mortician.

Subd. 14. Bodies awaiting natural organic reduction. A dead human body must be placed in the natural organic reduction vessel to initiate the natural reduction process within 24 hours after the natural organic reduction facility accepts legal and physical custody of the body.

Subd. 15. Handling of dead human bodies. All natural organic reduction facilities shall develop, implement, and maintain an identification procedure whereby dead human bodies can be identified from the time the natural organic reduction facility accepts delivery of the body until the naturally reduced remains are released to an authorized party. After natural organic reduction, an identifying disk, tab, or other permanent label shall be placed within the naturally reduced remains container or containers before the remains are released from the natural organic reduction facility. Each identification disk, tab, or label shall have a number that shall be recorded on all paperwork regarding the decedent. This procedure shall be designed to reasonably ensure that the proper body is naturally reduced and that the remains are returned to the appropriate party. Loss of all or part of the remains or the inability to individually identify the remains is a violation of this subdivision.

Subd. 16. Natural organic reduction vessel for human remains. A licensed natural organic reduction facility shall knowingly naturally reduce only dead human bodies or human remains in a natural organic reduction vessel.

Subd. 17. Natural organic reduction vessel for human remains. A licensed natural organic reduction facility shall knowingly naturally reduce only dead human bodies or human remains in a natural organic reduction vessel.
Subd. 12. Natural organic reduction procedures; privacy. The final disposition of dead human bodies by natural organic reduction shall be done in privacy. Unless there is written authorization from the person with the legal right to control the final disposition, only authorized natural organic reduction facility personnel shall be permitted in the natural organic reduction area while any human body is awaiting placement or being placed in a natural organic reduction vessel, being removed from the vessel, or being processed for placement for final reduction. This does not prohibit an in-person laying-in ceremony to honor the deceased and the transition prior to the placement.

Subd. 13. Natural organic reduction procedures; commingling of bodies prohibited. Except with the express written permission of the person with the legal right to control the final disposition, no natural organic reduction facility shall naturally reduce more than one dead human body at the same time and in the same natural organic reduction vessel or introduce a second dead human body into same natural organic reduction vessel until reasonable efforts have been employed to remove all fragments of remains from the preceding natural organic reduction. This subdivision does not apply where commingling of human remains during natural organic reduction is otherwise provided by law. The fact that there is incidental and unavoidable residue in the natural organic reduction vessel used in a prior natural organic reduction is not a violation of this subdivision.

Subd. 14. Natural organic reduction procedures; removal from natural organic reduction vessel. Upon completion of the natural organic reduction process, reasonable efforts shall be made to remove from the natural organic reduction vessel all the recoverable remains. The remains shall be transported to the processing area, and any non-naturally reducible materials or items shall be separated from the remains and disposed of, in any lawful manner, by the natural organic reduction facility.

Subd. 15. Natural organic reduction procedures; processing naturally reduced remains. The remaining intact naturally reduced remains shall be reduced by a motorized mechanical processor to a granulated appearance. The granulated remains and the rest of the naturally reduced remains shall be returned to a natural organic reduction vessel for final reduction. The remains shall be considered a dead human body until after the final reduction.

Subd. 16. Natural organic reduction procedures; commingling of remains prohibited. Except with the express written permission of the person with the legal right to control the final disposition or as otherwise provided by law, no natural organic reduction facility shall mechanically process the remains of more than one body at a time in the same mechanical processor or introduce the remains of a second body into a mechanical processor until reasonable efforts have been employed to remove all fragments of remains already in the processor. The fact that there is incidental and unavoidable residue in the mechanical processor is not a violation of this subdivision.
Subd. 17. Natural organic reduction procedures; testing naturally reduced remains. A natural organic reduction facility must:

1. ensure that the material in the natural organic reduction vessel naturally reach and maintain a minimum temperature of 131 degrees Fahrenheit for a minimum of 72 consecutive hours during the process of natural organic reduction;

2. analyzing each instance of the naturally reduced remains for physical contaminants that include but are not limited to intact bone, dental fillings, and medical implants. Naturally reduced remains must have less than 0.01 mg/kg dry weight of any physical contaminants;

3. collecting material samples for analysis that are representative of each instance of natural organic reduction, using a sampling method such as that described in the U.S. Composting Council 2002 Test Methods for the Examination of Composting and Compost, Method 02.01-A through E;

4. developing and using a natural organic reduction process in which the naturally reduced remains from the process do not exceed the following limits:

   (i) for fecal coliform, less than 1,000 most probable number per gram of total solids (dry weight);

   (ii) for salmonella, less than three most probable number per four grams of total solids (dry weight);

   (iii) for arsenic, less than or equal to 11 ppm;

   (iv) for cadmium, less than or equal to 7.1 ppm;

   (v) for lead, less than or equal to 150 ppm;

   (vi) for mercury, less than or equal to 5 ppm; and

   (vii) for selenium, less than or equal to 18 ppm;

5. analyzing, using a third-party laboratory, the natural organic reduction facility's material samples of naturally reduced remains according to the following schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metals and other testing parameters</th>
<th>Limit (mg/kg dry weight), unless otherwise specified</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fecal coliform</td>
<td>Less than 1,000 most probable number per gram of total solids (dry weight)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salmonella</td>
<td>Less than 3 most probable number per 4 grams of total solids (dry weight)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arsenic</td>
<td>Less than or equal to 11 ppm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cadmium</td>
<td>Less than or equal to 7.1 ppm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lead</td>
<td>Less than or equal to 150 ppm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mercury</td>
<td>Less than or equal to 8 ppm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selenium</td>
<td>Less than or equal to 18 ppm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. develop and use a natural organic reduction process in which the naturally reduced remains from the process do not exceed the following limits:

   (i) for fecal coliform, less than 1,000 most probable number per gram of total solids (dry weight);

   (ii) for salmonella, less than three most probable number per four grams of total solids (dry weight);

   (iii) for arsenic, less than or equal to 11 ppm;

   (iv) for cadmium, less than or equal to 7.1 ppm;

   (v) for lead, less than or equal to 150 ppm;

   (vi) for mercury, less than or equal to 5 ppm; and

   (vii) for selenium, less than or equal to 18 ppm;

7. analyzing, using a third-party laboratory, the natural organic reduction facility's material samples of naturally reduced remains according to the following schedule:
the natural organic reduction facility must analyze each of the first 20 instances of naturally reduced remains for the parameters identified in clause (4); and

(ii) if any of the first 20 instances of naturally reduced remains yield results exceeding the limits identified in clause (4), the natural organic reduction facility must conduct appropriate processes to correct the levels of the chemicals identified in clause (4) and have the resultant remains tested to ensure they fall within the identified limits;

(iii) if any of the first 20 instances of naturally reduced remains yield results exceeding the limits identified in clause (4), the natural organic reduction facility must analyze each additional instance of naturally reduced remains for the parameters identified in clause (4) until a total of 20 samples, not including those from remains that were reprocessed under item (ii), have yielded results within the limits of clause (4) on initial testing;

(iv) after 20 material samples of naturally reduced remains have met the limits outlined in clause (4), the natural organic reduction facility must analyze at a minimum 25 percent of the natural organic reduction facility's monthly instances of naturally reduced remains for the parameters identified in clause (4) until 80 total material samples of naturally reduced remains have met the requirements of clause (4), not including any samples that required reprocessing to meet those requirements, and

(v) after 80 material samples of naturally reduced remains have met the limits of clause (4), the natural organic reduction facility must analyze at a minimum one instance of naturally reduced remains each month;

(6) complying with any testing requirements established by the commissioner for content parameters in addition to those specified in clause (4);

(7) not releasing any naturally reduced remains that exceed the limits identified in clause (4); and

(8) preparing, maintaining, and providing upon request by the commissioner an annual report each calendar year. The annual report must detail the natural organic reduction facility's activities during the previous calendar year and must include the following information:

(i) name and address of the natural organic reduction facility;

(ii) calendar year covered by the report;

(iii) annual quantity of naturally reduced remains;

(iv) results of any laboratory analyses of naturally reduced remains; and

(v) any additional information requested by the commissioner.

Subd. 24. Natural organic reduction procedures; use of more than one naturally reduced remains container. If the naturally reduced remains are to be separated into two or more naturally reduced remains containers according to the directives provided in the

(i) the name and address of the natural organic reduction facility;

(ii) the calendar year covered by the report;

(iii) the annual quantity of naturally reduced remains;

(iv) the results of any laboratory analyses of naturally reduced remains; and

(v) any additional information required by the commissioner.
written authorization for natural organic reduction, all of the containers shall contain duplicate
identification disks, tabs, or permanent labels and all paperwork regarding the given body
shall include a notation of the number of and disposition of each container, as provided in
the written authorization.

Subd. 23, Natural organic reduction procedures; disposition of accumulated residue
Every natural organic reduction facility shall provide for the removal and disposition
of any accumulated residue from any natural organic reduction vessel, mechanical processor,
or other equipment used in natural organic reduction. Disposition of accumulated residue
shall be by any lawful manner deemed appropriate.

Subd. 24, Natural organic reduction procedures; release of naturally reduced remains
Following completion of the natural organic reduction process, the inurned naturally
reduced remains shall be released according to the instructions given on the written
authorization for natural organic reduction. If the remains are to be shipped, they must be
securely packaged and transported by a method that has an internal tracing system available
and which provides a receipt signed by the person accepting delivery. Where there is a
dispute over release or disposition of the naturally reduced remains, a natural organic
reduction facility may deposit the naturally reduced remains in accordance with the directives
of a court of competent jurisdiction pending resolution of the dispute or retain the naturally
reduced remains until the person with the legal right to control disposition presents
satisfactory indication that the dispute is resolved. A natural organic reduction facility must
make every effort to ensure naturally reduced remains are not sold or used for commercial
purposes.

Subd. 25, Unclaimed naturally reduced remains
If, after 30 calendar days following the inurnment, the naturally reduced remains are not claimed or disposed of according to
the written authorization for natural organic reduction, the natural organic reduction facility
shall give written notice, by certified mail, to the person with the legal right to control the
final disposition or a legal designee, that the naturally reduced remains are unclaimed and
requesting further release directions. Should the naturally reduced remains be unclaimed
120 calendar days following the mailing of the written notice, the natural organic
reduction facility may return the remains to the earth respectfully in any lawful manner
deeded appropriate.

Subd. 26, Required records
Every natural organic reduction facility shall create and
maintain on its premises or other business location in Minnesota an accurate record of every
natural organic reduction provided. The record shall include all of the following information
for each natural organic reduction:
(1) the name of the person or funeral establishment delivering the body for natural
organic reduction;
(2) the name of the deceased and the identification number assigned to the body;
written authorization for natural organic reduction, all of the containers shall contain duplicate
identification disks, tabs, or permanent labels and all paperwork regarding the given body
shall include a notation of the number of and disposition of each container, as provided in
the written authorization.

Subd. 19, Natural organic reduction procedures; disposition of accumulated residue
Every natural organic reduction facility shall provide for the removal and disposition
of any accumulated residue from any natural organic reduction vessel, mechanical processor,
or other equipment used in natural organic reduction. Disposition of accumulated residue
shall be by any lawful manner deemed appropriate.

Subd. 20, Natural organic reduction procedures; release of naturally reduced remains
Following completion of the natural organic reduction process, the inurned naturally
reduced remains shall be released according to the instructions given on the written
authorization for natural organic reduction. If the remains are to be shipped, they must be
securely packaged and transported by a method that has an internal tracing system available
and which provides a receipt signed by the person accepting delivery. Where there is a
dispute over release or disposition of the naturally reduced remains, a natural organic
reduction facility may deposit the naturally reduced remains in accordance with the directives
of a court of competent jurisdiction pending resolution of the dispute or retain the naturally
reduced remains until the person with the legal right to control disposition presents
satisfactory indication that the dispute is resolved. A natural organic reduction facility must
not sell naturally reduced remains and must make every effort to not release naturally reduced
remains for sale or for use for commercial purposes.

Subd. 21, Unclaimed naturally reduced remains
If, after 30 calendar days following the inurnment, the naturally reduced remains are not claimed or disposed of according to
the written authorization for natural organic reduction, the natural organic reduction facility
shall give written notice, by certified mail, to the person with the legal right to control the
final disposition or a legal designee, that the naturally reduced remains are unclaimed and
requesting further release directions. Should the naturally reduced remains be unclaimed
120 calendar days following the mailing of the written notice, the natural organic
reduction facility may return the remains to the earth respectfully in any lawful manner
deeded appropriate.

Subd. 22, Required records
Every natural organic reduction facility shall create and
maintain on its premises or other business location in Minnesota an accurate record of every
natural organic reduction provided. The record shall include all of the following information
for each natural organic reduction:
(1) the name of the person or funeral establishment delivering the body for natural
organic reduction;
(2) the name of the deceased and the identification number assigned to the body;
121.20 (3) the date of acceptance of delivery;
121.21 (4) the names of the operator of the natural organic reduction process and mechanical
121.22 processor operator;
121.23 (5) the times and dates that the body was placed in and removed from the natural organic
121.24 reduction vessel;
121.25 (6) the time and date that processing and inurnment of the naturally reduced remains
121.26 was completed;
121.27 (7) the date, time, and manner of release of the naturally reduced remains;
121.28 (8) the name and address of the person who signed the authorization for natural organic
121.29 reduction;
121.30 (9) all supporting documentation, including any transit or disposition permits, a photocopy
121.31 of the death record, and the authorization for natural organic reduction; and
121.32 (10) the type of natural organic reduction vessel.
121.33 Subd. 23. Retention of records. Records required under subdivision 22 shall be
121.34 maintained for a period of three calendar years after the release of the naturally reduced
121.35 remains. Following this period and subject to any other laws requiring retention of records,
121.36 the natural organic reduction facility may then place the records in storage or reduce them
121.37 to microfilm, a digital format, or any other method that can produce an accurate reproduction
121.38 of the original record, for retention for a period of ten calendar years from the date of release
121.39 of the naturally reduced remains. At the end of this period and subject to any other laws
121.40 requiring retention of records, the natural organic reduction facility may destroy the records
121.41 by shredding, incineration, or any other manner that protects the privacy of the individuals
121.42 identified.

122.1 Subd. 29. Retention of records. Records required under subdivision 21 shall be
122.2 maintained for a period of three calendar years after the release of the naturally reduced
122.3 remains. Following this period and subject to any other laws requiring retention of records,
122.4 the natural organic reduction facility may then place the records in storage or reduce them
122.5 to microfilm, a digital format, or any other method that can produce an accurate reproduction
122.6 of the original record, for retention for a period of ten calendar years from the date of release
122.7 of the naturally reduced remains. At the end of this period and subject to any other laws
122.8 requiring retention of records, the natural organic reduction facility may destroy the records
122.9 by shredding, incineration, or any other manner that protects the privacy of the individuals
122.10 identified.

122.11 Sec. 57. STILLBIRTH PREVENTION THROUGH TRACKING FETAL
122.12 MOVEMENT PILOT PROGRAM.
122.13 Subdivision 1. Grant. The commissioner of health shall issue a grant to a grant recipient
122.14 to support a stillbirth prevention through tracking fetal movement pilot program and to
122.15 provide evidence of the efficacy of tracking fetal movements in preventing stillbirths in
122.16 Minnesota. The pilot program shall operate in fiscal years 2025, 2026, and 2027.
122.17 Subd. 2. Use of grant funds. The grant recipient must use grant funds:
122.18 (1) for activities to ensure that expectant parents in Minnesota receive information about
122.19 the importance of tracking fetal movement in the third trimester of pregnancy, by providing
122.20 evidence-based information to organizations that include but are not limited to community
organizations, hospitals, birth centers, maternal health providers, and higher education
institutions that educate maternal health providers;

(2) to provide maternal health providers and expectant parents in Minnesota with access
to free, evidence-based educational materials on fetal movement tracking, including
brochures, posters, reminder cards, continuing education materials, and digital resources;

(3) to assist in raising awareness with health care providers about:

(i) the availability of free fetal movement tracking education for providers through an
initial education campaign;

(ii) the importance of tracking fetal movement in the third trimester of pregnancy by
offering at least three to five webinars and conferences per year; and

(iii) the importance of tracking fetal movement in the third trimester of pregnancy through
provider participation in a public relations campaign; and

(4) to assist in raising public awareness about the availability of free fetal movement
tracking resources through social media marketing and traditional marketing throughout
Minnesota.

Subd. 3. Data-sharing and monitoring. (a) During the operation of the pilot program,
the grant recipient shall provide the following information to the commissioner on at least
a quarterly basis:

(1) the number of educational materials distributed under the pilot program, broken
down by zip code and the type of facility or organization that ordered the materials, including
hospitals, birth centers, maternal health clinics, WIC clinics, and community organizations;

(2) the number of fetal movement tracking application downloads that may be attributed
to the pilot program, broken down by zip code;

(3) the reach of and engagement with marketing materials provided under the pilot
program; and

(4) provider attendance and participation in awareness-raising events under the pilot
program, such as webinars and conferences;

(b) Each year during the pilot program and at the conclusion of the pilot program, the
grant recipient shall provide the commissioner with an annual report that includes information
on how the pilot program has affected:

(1) fetal death rates in Minnesota;

(2) fetal death rates in Minnesota among American Indian; Black; Hispanic; and Asian
Pacific Islander populations; and

(3) fetal death rates by region in Minnesota:
Subd. 4. Reports. The commissioner must submit to the legislative committees with jurisdiction over public health an interim report and a final report on the operation of the pilot program. The interim report must be submitted by December 1, 2025, and the final report must be submitted by December 1, 2027. Each report must at least describe the pilot program's operations and provide information, to the extent available, on the effectiveness of the pilot program in preventing stillbirths in Minnesota, including lessons learned in implementing the pilot program and recommendations for future action.