

## CHAPTER 256C

### DISABLED PERSONS

256C.261 SERVICES FOR DEAF-BLIND PERSONS.

256C.28 COMMISSION SERVING DEAF AND HARD-OF-HEARING PEOPLE.

#### 256C.261 SERVICES FOR DEAF-BLIND PERSONS.

(a) The commissioner of human services shall combine the existing biennial base level funding for deaf-blind services into a single grant program. At least 35 percent of the total funding is awarded for services and other supports to deaf-blind children and their families and at least 25 percent is awarded for services and other supports to deaf-blind adults.

The commissioner shall award grants for the purposes of:

(1) providing services and supports to individuals who are deaf-blind; and

(2) developing and providing training to counties and the network of senior citizen service providers. The purpose of the training grants is to teach counties how to use existing programs that capture federal financial participation to meet the needs of eligible deaf-blind persons and to build capacity of senior service programs to meet the needs of seniors with a dual sensory hearing and vision loss.

(b) The commissioner may make grants:

- (1) for services and training provided by organizations; and
- (2) to develop and administer consumer-directed services.

(c) Any entity that is able to satisfy the grant criteria is eligible to receive a grant under paragraph (a).

(d) Deaf-blind service providers may, but are not required to, provide intervenor services as part of the service package provided with grant funds under this section.

**History:** 2007 c 147 art 7 s 61

#### 256C.28 COMMISSION SERVING DEAF AND HARD-OF-HEARING PEOPLE.

Subdivision 1. **Membership.** The Minnesota Commission Serving Deaf and Hard-of-hearing People consists of seven members appointed at large and one member from each advisory committee established under section 256C.24, subdivision 3. At least 50 percent of the members must be deaf or deaf-blind or hard of hearing. Members shall include persons who are deaf, deaf-blind, and hard of hearing, parents of children who are deaf, deaf-blind, and hard of hearing, and representatives of county and regional human services, including representatives of private service providers. Commission members are appointed by the governor for a three-year term and shall serve no more than two consecutive terms. The commission shall select one member as chair. Notwithstanding section 15.059, the commission does not expire.

*[For text of subs 2 to 6, see M.S.2006]*

**History:** 2007 c 133 art 2 s 11