

CHAPTER 41D

AGRICULTURE EDUCATION LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

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41D.01 MINNESOTA AGRICULTURE EDUCATION LEADERSHIP COUNCIL.

Subdivision 1. **Establishment; membership.** (a) The Minnesota Agriculture Education Leadership Council is established. The council is composed of 17 members as follows:

- (1) the chair of the University of Minnesota agricultural education program;
 - (2) a representative of the commissioner of education;
 - (3) a representative of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities recommended by the chancellor;
 - (4) the president and the president-elect of the Minnesota Association of Agriculture Educators;
 - (5) a representative of the Future Farmers of America Foundation;
 - (6) a representative of the commissioner of agriculture;
 - (7) the dean of the College of Agriculture, Food, and Environmental Sciences at the University of Minnesota;
 - (8) a representative of the Minnesota Private Colleges Council;
 - (9) two members representing agriculture education and agriculture business appointed by the governor;
 - (10) the chair of the senate Committee on Agriculture, General Legislation and Veterans Affairs;
 - (11) the chair of the house of representatives Committee on Agriculture;
 - (12) the ranking minority member of the senate Committee on Agriculture, General Legislation and Veterans Affairs, and a member of the senate Education Committee designated by the Subcommittee on Committees of the Committee on Rules and Administration; and
 - (13) the ranking minority member of the house of representatives Agriculture Committee, and a member of the house of representatives Education Committee designated by the speaker.
- (b) An ex officio member of the council under paragraph (a), clause (1), (4), (7), (10), (11), (12), or (13), may designate a permanent or temporary replacement member representing the same constituency.

Subd. 2. **Powers and duties.** Specific powers and duties of the council are to:

- (1) develop recommendations to the legislature and the governor and provide review for agriculture education programs in Minnesota;
- (2) establish a grant program to foster and encourage the development of secondary and postsecondary agriculture education programs;
- (3) coordinate and articulate Minnesota's agriculture education policy across all programs and institutions;

- (4) identify the critical needs for agriculture educators;
- (5) serve as a link between the agribusiness sector and the agriculture education system to communicate mutual concerns, needs, and projections;
- (6) establish and maintain an increased awareness of agriculture education and its continued need to all citizens of Minnesota;
- (7) operate the Minnesota Center for Agriculture Education created in section 41D.03;
- (8) gain broad public support for agriculture education in Minnesota; and
- (9) report annually on its activities to the senate Agriculture and Rural Development Committee and the house of representatives Agriculture Committee.

Subd. 3. **Council officers; terms and compensation of appointees; staff.** (a) The chair of the senate Agriculture, General Legislation and Veterans Affairs Committee and the chair of the house of representatives Agriculture Committee, or their designees, are the cochairs of the council.

(b) The council's membership terms, compensation, filling of vacancies, and removal of members are as provided in section 15.0575.

(c) The council may employ an executive director and any other staff to carry out its functions.

Subd. 4. **Expiration.** This section expires on June 30, 2013.

History: 1997 c 183 art 3 s 2; 2001 c 6 s 1-3; 2003 c 107 s 27; 2003 c 130 s 12; 2003 c 133 art 2 s 1; 2007 c 144 art 2 s 2; 2008 c 297 art 1 s 22

41D.02 AGRICULTURE EDUCATION GRANT PROGRAM.

Subdivision 1. **Establishment.** The Minnesota Agriculture Education Leadership Council shall establish a program to provide grants under subdivisions 2 and 3 to educational institutions and other appropriate entities for secondary and postsecondary agriculture education programs.

Subd. 2. **Elementary and secondary agricultural education.** The council may provide grants for:

- (1) planning and establishment costs for elementary and secondary agriculture education programs;
- (2) new instructional and communication technologies; and
- (3) curriculum updates.

Subd. 3. **Postsecondary education.** The council may provide grants for:

- (1) new instructional and communication technologies; and
- (2) special project funding, including programming, in-service training, and support staff.

History: 1997 c 183 art 3 s 3; 1999 c 241 art 5 s 1

41D.03 MINNESOTA CENTER FOR AGRICULTURE EDUCATION.

Subdivision 1. **Governance.** The Minnesota Center for Agriculture Education is governed by the Minnesota Agriculture Education Leadership Council.

Subd. 2. **Powers and duties of council.** (a) The council has the powers necessary for the care, management, and control of the Minnesota Center for Agriculture Education and all its real and personal property. The powers shall include, but are not limited to, those listed in

this subdivision.

(b) The council may employ necessary employees, and contract for other services to ensure the efficient operation of the Center for Agriculture Education.

(c) The council may receive and award grants. The council may establish a charitable foundation and accept, in trust or otherwise, any gift, grant, bequest, or devise for educational purposes and hold, manage, invest, and dispose of them and the proceeds and income of them according to the terms and conditions of the gift, grant, bequest, or devise and its acceptance. The council shall adopt internal procedures to administer and monitor aids and grants.

(d) The council may establish or coordinate evening, continuing education, and summer programs for teachers and pupils.

(e) The council may determine the location for the Minnesota Center for Agriculture Education and any additional facilities related to the center, including the authority to lease a temporary facility.

(f) The council may enter into contracts with other public and private agencies and institutions for building maintenance services if it determines that these services could be provided more efficiently and less expensively by a contractor than by the council itself. The council may also enter into contracts with public or private agencies and institutions, school districts or combinations of school districts, or educational cooperative service units to provide supplemental educational instruction and services.

Subd. 3. **Center account.** There is established in the state treasury a center for agriculture education account in the special revenue fund. All money collected by the council, including rental income, shall be deposited in the account. Money in the account, including interest earned, is appropriated to the council for the operation of its services and programs.

Subd. 4. **Employees.** The employees hired under this subdivision and any other necessary employees hired by the council shall be employees of the University of Minnesota.

Subd. 5. **Policies.** The council may adopt administrative policies about the operation of the center.

Subd. 6. **Public postsecondary institutions; providing space.** Public postsecondary institutions shall provide space for the Minnesota Center for Agriculture Education at a reasonable cost to the center to the extent that space is available at the public postsecondary institutions.

Subd. 7. **Purchasing instructional items.** Technical educational equipment may be procured for programs of the Minnesota Center for Agriculture Education by the council either by brand designation or in accordance with standards and specifications the council may adopt, notwithstanding chapter 16C.

History: 1997 c 183 art 3 s 4; 1998 c 384 s 6; 1998 c 386 art 2 s 19

41D.04 RESOURCE, MAGNET, AND OUTREACH PROGRAMS.

Subdivision 1. **Resource and outreach.** The center shall offer resource and outreach programs and services statewide aimed at the enhancement of agriculture education opportunities for pupils in elementary and secondary school.

Subd. 2. **Center responsibilities.** The center shall:

(1) provide information and technical services to agriculture teachers, professional agriculture organizations, school districts, and the Department of Education;

(2) gather and conduct research in agriculture education;

(3) design and promote agriculture education opportunities for all Minnesota pupils in elementary and secondary schools; and

(4) serve as liaison for the Department of Education to national organizations for agriculture education.

History: *1997 c 183 art 3 s 5; 2003 c 130 s 12*