28A.21 FOOD SAFETY AND DEFENSE TASK FORCE.

Subdivision 1. **Establishment.** The Food Safety and Defense Task Force is established to advise the commissioner and the legislature on food issues and food safety.

- Subd. 2. **Membership.** (a) The Food Safety and Defense Task Force consists of:
- (1) the commissioner of agriculture or the commissioner's designee;
- (2) the commissioner of health or the commissioner's designee;
- (3) a representative of the United States Food and Drug Administration;
- (4) a representative of the United States Department of Agriculture;
- (5) a representative of the Agricultural Utilization Research Institute;
- (6) one member of the Minnesota Grocers Association;
- (7) one member from the University of Minnesota knowledgeable in food and food safety issues; and
- (8) nine members appointed by the governor who are interested in food and food safety, of whom:
- (i) two persons are health or food professionals;
- (ii) one person represents a statewide general farm organization;
- (iii) one person represents a local food inspection agency;
- (iv) one person represents a food-oriented consumer group; and
- (v) one person represents a Minnesota-based manufacturer of microbial detection equipment and remediation products.
- (b) Members shall serve without compensation. Members appointed by the governor shall serve four-year terms.
- Subd. 3. **Organization.** (a) The commissioner or the commissioner's designee shall convene the first meeting of the task force.
 - (b) The task force shall meet monthly or as determined by the chair.
- (c) The members of the task force shall annually elect a chair and other officers as the members deem necessary.
- Subd. 4. **Staff.** The commissioner shall provide support staff, office space, and administrative services for the task force.
 - Subd 5 **Duties.** The task force shall:
 - (1) coordinate educational efforts regarding food safety and defense;
 - (2) provide advice and coordination to state agencies as requested by the agencies;
- (3) serve as a source of information and referral for the public, news media, and others concerned with food safety and defense; and

- (4) make recommendations to Congress, the legislative committees with jurisdiction over agriculture finance and policy, the legislature, and others about appropriate action to improve food safety and defense in the state.
 - Subd. 6. Expiration. This section expires June 30, 2027.

History: 2007 c 45 art 1 s 39; 2009 c 94 art 1 s 78; 2012 c 244 art 2 s 7; 2014 c 286 art 8 s 4; 2017 c 88 art 2 s 54