

S.F. No. 2399 – Establishing a Department of Children, Youth, and Families

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Date: March 15, 2023

Section 1. **Children’s Cabinet.** Modifies the Children’s Cabinet to include the commissioner of children, youth, and families. Removes the Director of the Office of Strategic and Long-Range Planning as this position no longer exists.

Effective Date. Makes the section effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 2. **Definitions.** Modifies the definition of “agency” to include the Department of Children, Youth, and Families under the statute governing state and tribal government relationships.

Effective Date. Makes the section effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 3. **Departments of the state.** Modifies the list of agencies designated as departments of the state government to include the Department of Children, Youth and Families.

Effective Date. Makes the section effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 4. **Applicability.** Modifies the appointment of department heads requirement to include Children, Youth, and Families.

Effective Date. Makes the section effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 5. **Group I salary limits.** Modifies the list of positions with salary limits that cannot exceed 133 percent of the governor’s salary to include the Commissioner of children, youth, and families.

Effective Date. Makes the section effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 6. **Additional unclassified positions.** Modifies the list of appointing authorities in agencies that can designate additional unclassified positions to include Children, Youth, and Families.

Effective Date. Makes the section effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 7. **[143.01] Definitions.** Defines “commissioner” and “department for the newly created chapter 143. Defines “Commissioner” as the commissioner of children, youth, and families. Defines “Department” as the Department of Children, Youth, and Families.

Effective Date. Makes the section effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 8. **[143.02] Creation of the Department of Children, Youth, and Families.** Establishes the Department of Children, Youth, and Families. Requires the transfer and restructuring of agencies be conducted in accordance with statutory requirements for transfer of powers and restructuring. Establishes timelines for transferring personnel to the department. Provides that all transferred employees retain the same employment status, bargaining unit, civil service protection, and coverage under collective bargaining agreements that they had from before the transfer.

Effective Date. Makes the section effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 9. **[143.03] Commissioner.** Provides that the department is under the administrative control of the commissioner. Provides that the commissioner is appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. Lists the commissioner’s duties. Allows the department to have access to data of any classification held by other specified entities, and for other specified entities to have access to data of any classification held by the commissioner, to the extent not prohibited by state or federal law.

Effective Date. Makes the section effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 10. **[143.04] State and county systems.** Requires the commissioner to establish and enhance computer systems that are necessary for the efficient operation of programs. Outlines how costs may be distributed for the development, maintenance, and operation of computer systems. Allows the commissioner to enter into contractual agreements with Indian Tribes in Minnesota to participate in state-operated computer systems related to the administration and management of specified programs. Creates a state systems account for the department in the state treasury.

Effective Date. Makes the section effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 11. **[143.05] Rulemaking.** Gives the commissioner rulemaking authority. Directs the commissioner, after obtaining approval from specified state agencies, to amend rules to make confirming changes related to the transfer of responsibilities.

Effective Date. Makes the section effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 12. **Establishment of systems.** Makes conforming changes that direct the commissioner to establish and enhance computer systems needed for the operation of programs.

Effective Date. Makes the section effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 13. **State systems account created.** Makes conforming changes related to a state systems account being established in the state treasury for the department.

Effective Date. Makes the section effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 14. **Appointment of Commissioner of Children, Youth, and Families.** Directs the governor to appoint a commissioner-designee of the Department of Children, Youth, and Families. Provides that the person appointed becomes the commissioner on July 1, 2024.

Effective Date. Makes the section effective July 1, 2023.

Sec. 15. **Transfers from other agencies.** Provides timelines and procedures for the transfer of responsibilities, unexpended balances of appropriations, and operational functions to the Department of Children, Youth, and Families. Lists out the powers and duties that are transferred from the Department of Human Services to the Department of Children, Youth, and Families. Lists out the powers and duties that are transferred from the Department of Education to the Department of Children, Youth, and Families. Lists out the powers and duties that are transferred from the Department of Public Safety to the Department of Children, Youth, and Families.

Effective Date. Makes the section effective July 1, 2024.

Sec. 16. **Revisor Instruction.** Directs the revisor to work with specified state agencies and nonpartisan legislative offices to identify any changes that are necessary in statutes or rules to facilitate the transfer or fulfill the responsibilities under this act. Requires the revisor of statutes to submit to the legislature draft legislation with the statutory changes necessary to implement this act by February 1, 2024.

Effective Date. Makes the section effective July 1, 2023.

Sec. 17. **Appropriations.** Appropriates \$5,000,000 in fiscal year 2024 from the general fund to the commissioner of management and budget to support the creation of the Department of Children, Youth, and Families. Appropriates \$2,370,000 in fiscal year 2024 from the general fund to the commissioner of management and budget for the planning, research, analysis, and other efforts needed to launch the Department of Children, Youth, and Families and to transition programs to the department.

Effective Date. Makes the section effective July 1, 2023.