

S.F. No. 360 – Office of New Americans creation

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S.F. 360 creates an Office of New Americans within the Department of Employment and Economic Development.

Section 1. **Office of New Americans.** [116J.4231] Subdivision 1. **Office established; purpose.** Creates an Office of New Americans within the Department of Employment and Economic Development, run by an executive director appointed by the governor, to serve immigrants and refugees in Minnesota by assisting with access to economic and workforce development programs and services and providing interstate coordination of those efforts across state agencies.

Subdivision 2. **Duties.** As part of the duties of the office, specifies that the office shall implement a statewide strategy to support immigrant and refugee integration, convene stakeholders, and promulgate rules.

Subdivision 3. **Reporting.** Requires an annual report on the office’s activities to the legislature beginning on January 15, 2025.

Subdivision 4. **Interdepartmental Coordinating Council on Immigrant and Refugee Affairs.** Establishes an interdepartmental Coordinating Council on Immigrant and Refugee Affairs to advise the Office of New Americans, composed of representatives from all relevant agencies.

Subdivision 5. **No right of action.** Clarifies that this section creates no right of action.

Subdivision 6. **Grants.** Allows the office to apply for grants to carry out its duties.