

# Licensing Improvement and Simplification Act (LISA)

HF1353 / SF1626

The Department of Corrections' (DOC) proposed Licensing Improvement and Simplification Act (LISA) aims to overhaul and streamline Minnesota Statute §241.021, commonly referred to as the agency's licensing statute. Licensed facilities have voiced that the statute is confusing, and some areas are ambiguous, specifically to what applies to Rule 2960 facilities. The existing statute is overly complex, with provisions scattered across various types of facilities—adult, juvenile, state prisons, or different combinations. LISA seeks to improve clarity, remove redundancies, and update outdated references, while also ensuring the language is more accessible and understandable.

## Reorganization of Licensing Provisions

- Restructures the licensing statute into separate sections to delineate which provisions apply to adult jail facilities and to juvenile facilities.
- Moves the provisions that only apply to state prisons to other statutory sections governing the DOC.
- The goal is to remove redundancies, streamline lists of licensing requirements, and ensure provisions are logically grouped.

## Improving and Conforming Language

- Adds definitions and plain language to allow the provisions in statute to promote understanding and clarity of licensing requirements.
- Updates language in the substance use disorder treatment provision to reflect the current practice where DOC provides both inpatient and outpatient treatment to both adults and juveniles.

## Expansion of Licensing Structures for Juvenile Facilities

- Applies the licensing framework of the Hardel Sherrell Act to licensed juvenile detention centers.
- Currently, juvenile facilities face an “on/off” licensing approach. The bill will allow for conditional licensing for juvenile facilities facing significant or repeated violations, as what is policy for adult jails.

## Clarifying Death Reporting Requirements

- Close a loophole in death reporting and investigation requirements for adult facilities.
- When an incarcerated person experiences a medical event in jail and is transported to a hospital, charges can be dropped or custody transferred while they are being treated for that medical event. If they die while not in the custody of the jail, some claim no need to report the death to the DOC or investigate. This contradicts the law's intent. LISA makes clarifying changes to reflect that intent.