

Executive Branch Advisory Groups

This information brief provides general information on executive branch advisory groups and contains a table listing each executive branch advisory group created in statute. The table gives the citation for the statute creating each group and indicates each group's expiration date, if any.

This information brief identifies 154 executive branch advisory groups. This number includes only groups created or specifically authorized by the legislature. It does not include groups created by executive order or by action of a commissioner. The number also does not include groups that are so short-term that the legislation creating them was not codified in Minnesota Statutes.

Some of the groups created or authorized by law may not currently exist. For example, some of the groups are task forces that exist at the discretion of a commissioner. Other groups may have expired in 2003, but the enabling legislation has not yet been repealed.

Number of Groups by Subject Area

- Commerce and Economic Development – 7
- Crime and Corrections – 22
- Education – 17
- Environment and Natural Resources – 19
- Health and Human Services – 46
- Labor, Employment, and Codes – 11
- Transportation – 8
- Other – 24

General Laws Governing Advisory Groups

The legislature has enacted general rules governing advisory groups. Many of these are contained in Minnesota Statutes, section 15.059, and apply only if the law creating the advisory group refers to section 15.059.

Names of Groups

Minnesota Statutes, section 15.012, establishes naming conventions for state agencies. The legislature does not always follow these conventions when it creates new groups.

Councils: Advisory groups in which at least one-half of the members must be representatives of specified industries, occupations, or other organizations are called “councils.”

Committees: Advisory groups in which less than half of the members must be representatives of specified organizations are called “committees.”

Task Forces: Advisory groups scheduled to expire within two years of creation are called “task forces.”¹

Membership Terms

Members of advisory councils and committees serve four-year terms. The terms of half of the members expire with the term of the governor. The terms of the other half of the members expire the following year. Members of advisory task forces serve until the expiration date of the task force (up to two years after the group is created).

Removal

Members may be removed at the pleasure of the appointing authority. Appointing authorities are given special authorization to remove members who miss three consecutive meetings.

Compensation

Members of an advisory group receive compensation and expense reimbursement only if authorized by the law creating the group.

¹ The law provides authority for the governor and state agencies to appoint additional temporary groups. Minnesota Statutes, section 15.014, authorizes commissioners and state boards to create advisory task forces. A task force created under this law may have no more than 15 members. The members of no more than four task forces created in a department may be paid for their expenses. Minnesota Statutes, section 15.0593 authorizes the governor to create advisory groups of no more than 15 members. Members do not receive per diem, but may be paid for expenses. The groups created by an agency or by the governor generally expire after two years, unless re-created.

When a law authorizes compensation and expense reimbursement, it usually refers to section 15.059. That section provides that members of advisory councils and committees receive \$55 per day spent on group activity, when authorized by the group. Members of advisory task forces do not receive this \$55 per day. The provisions of section 15.059 governing expense reimbursement (as distinct from the \$55 per day payment) apply to advisory task forces as well as to councils and committees. Members are reimbursed for meals, travel, hotel, and child care expenses.

Reporting

Minnesota Statutes, section 15.0599, requires advisory groups with statewide jurisdiction to register with and report annually to the secretary of state. By July 15 each year a group must report specified information about the purposes of the group, its membership, expiration of the group, the number of meetings held, and money and staff resources devoted to the group. If a group fails to report as required, its members are not eligible for compensation or expense reimbursement until the report is filed. By October 15 each year, the secretary of state summarizes this information in a report. Information on each agency also is available on the secretary of state's web site. The 2005 report can be found at: www.sos.state.mn.us/docs/fy05_annual_report_-_final.pdf

Expiration

Section 15.059, subdivision 5, provides that advisory *councils* and *committees* expire June 30, 2003, unless a different date is specified in law. This expiration date applies whether or not the law creating the group refers to section 15.059. The legislature did not change the June 30, 2003 sunset date before or after that date. As a result, a number of groups expired on June 30, 2003.² For information on status of advisory groups after June 30, 2003, see the House Research publication *Advisory Groups: Status after June 30, 2003*. This publication is available at: www.house.leg.state.mn.us/hrd/pubs/advsgprps.pdf.

The legislature has not repealed the enabling legislation for some of the groups that appear to have expired in 2003. Thus, some of the groups are listed in the table at the end of this report, even though they may no longer exist. Also, the legislature has created some groups since 2003, and those groups are not covered by the June 30, 2003 sunset date.

In some other cases, it is not clear if a group was subject to the June 30, 2003 sunset date. For example, the law provides that an advisory council or committee does not expire if it:

- (1) is an occupational licensure advisory group to a licensing board or agency;
- (2) administers and awards grants; or
- (3) is required by federal law or regulation.

It is not always clear if a group comes within one of these exceptions. Also, in 2003, 2004, or 2005 the legislature amended the statutes governing some groups. Presumably, such an

² In some cases, the legislature overrode the June 30, 2003 expiration date in section 15.059 by specifically providing a later expiration date.

amendment, session law, or appropriation referring to a group could be taken as an expression of legislative intent that the group not expire.

Section 15.059, subdivision 6, provides that if a *task force* is mandated by statute, it expires not later than two years after creation. But a person or group with mandated or discretionary authority to create a task force may create another one to continue the work of a group that expires.

Executive Branch Advisory Groups

Name	Statute	Expiration Date
Commerce and Economic Development		
Electronic Real Estate Recording Task Force	§ 507.094	June 30, 2008
Explore Minnesota Tourism Council	§ 116U.25	None
Minnesota Project Outreach Advisory Committee	§ 116O.091	June 30, 2004
Northeast Minnesota Economic Development Fund Technical Advisory Committees	§ 298.2213, subd. 5	June 30, 2003 [see § 15.059, subds. 5, 5b]
Northeast Minnesota Economic Protection Trust Fund Technical Advisory Committee	§ 298.297	June 30, 2003 [see § 15.059, subds. 5, 5b]
Real Estate Appraiser Advisory Board	§ 82B.05	None
Uniform Conveyancing Forms Advisory Task Force	§ 507.09	At the discretion of the Commissioner of Commerce
Crime and Corrections		
Automobile Theft Prevention Advisory Board	§ 65B.84, subd. 4	Possibly June 30, 2003, but the 2004 Legislature required renumbering of the section of law creating the board, suggesting the legislature may have intended the board to continue
Battered Women and Domestic Violence Advisory Council	§ 611A.34	None
Chemical Abuse and Violence Prevention Council	§ 299A.293	June 30, 2003 [see § 15.059, subds. 5, 5b]
Community-Oriented Police Grant Program	§ 299A.62	June 30, 2003 [see § 15.059, subds. 5, 5b]
Correctional Facility Site Selection Task Force	§ 243.93	At the discretion of the Commissioner of Corrections
Corrections Industries Purchasing Task Force	§ 16B.181	June 30, 2003
Crime Victim and Witness Advisory Council	§ 611A.71	June 30, 2001

Name	Statute	Expiration Date
Criminal Justice Information Systems Advisory Task Force	§ 299C.65, subd. 2	At the discretion of the criminal justice information policy group
Drug Abuse Resistance Education Advisory Committee	§ 299A.331	June 30, 2003 [see § 15.059, subds. 5, 5b]
Female Offender Task Force	§ 241.71	At the discretion of the Commissioner of Corrections
Financial Crimes Oversight Council	§ 299A.681	None
Financial Crimes Task Force	§ 299A.681	None
Gang and Drug Oversight Council	§ 299A.641	None
General Crime Victims Advisory Council	§ 611A.361	June 30, 2003
Health Care Peer Review Committee	§ 241.021	June 30, 2003 [see § 15.059, subds. 5, 5b]
Interstate Adult Offender Advisory Council	§ 243.1606	None
Interagency Task Force on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Prevention	§ 611A.202	June 30, 2005
Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee	§ 299A.72	None
Racial Profiling Advisory Committee	§ 626.9513	June 30, 2003
Sex Offender Treatment Advisory Task Force	§ 241.67, subd. 8	At the discretion of the Commissioner of Corrections
Sexual Assault Advisory Council	§ 611A.25	June 30, 2003
Weed and Seed Grant Program Committee	§ 299A.63	June 30, 2003 [see § 15.059, subds. 5, 5b]
Education		
Assessment Advisory Committee	§ 120B.365	June 30, 2014
Charter School Advisory Council	§ 124D.10, subd. 2a	June 30, 2007
Education Telecommunications Council	§ 125B.21	June 30, 2004
Higher Education Advisory Council	§ 136A.031, subd. 2	June 30, 2007
Higher Education Data Advisory Task Force	§§ 136A.121, subd. 18; 136A.1701, subd. 11	At the discretion of the director of the Office of Higher Education

Name	Statute	Expiration Date
Higher Education Services Council	§ 136A.011	Probably none
Interagency Intervention Service Systems Committee	§ 125A.023, subd. 4	None
Interagency Early Childhood Coordinating Council	§ 125A.28	June 30, 2009
Iron Range Higher Education Committee	§ 298.2214	Possibly June 30, 2003, but the law governing the council was amended in 2003, suggesting that the legislature intended the council to continue
Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped Advisory Committee	§ 134.31	None
Minnesota Resource Center Advisory Committee: Blind/Visually Impaired	§ 125A.63	June 30, 2003 [see § 15.059, subds. 5, 5b]
Minnesota Resource Center Advisory Committee: Deaf/Hard of Hearing	§ 125A.63	June 30, 2003 [see § 15.059, subds. 5, 5b]
MnSCU retirement account plan advisory committee	§ 354B.25, subd. 1a	June 30, 2003 [see §15.059, subds. 5, 5b]
Nonpublic Education Council	§ 123B.445	None
Online Learning Advisory Council	§ 124D.095	June 30, 2008
Permanent School Fund Advisory Committee	§ 127A.30	June 30, 2003 [see § 15.059, subds. 5, 5b]
Student Advisory Council	§ 136A.031, subd. 3	June 30, 2007
Environment and Natural Resources		
Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund Advisory Committee	§ 116P.06	None
Environmental Education Advisory Board	§ 115A.072, subd. 1	June 30, 2008
Environmental Innovations Council	§ 115A.12	June 30, 2009
Forest Resources Council	§ 89A.03	June 30, 2007
Forest Resources Research Advisory Committee	§ 89A.08	June 30, 2007
Game and Fish Fund Citizens Advisory Subcommittee	§ 97A.055, subd. 4b	June 30, 2010

Name	Statute	Expiration Date
Genetically Engineered Organism Advisory Committee	§ 116C.93	June 30, 2003 [see § 15.059, subds. 5, 5b]
Land Use Advisory Committee	§ 92.35	June 30, 2003 [see § 15.059, subds. 5, 5b]
Listed Metals Advisory Council	§ 115A.9651, subd. 5	June 30, 2006
Mineral Coordinating Committee	§ 93.0015	June 30, 2007
Native Plant Conservation Task Force	§ 84.964	At the discretion of the Commissioner of Natural Resources
Nuclear Waste Council	§ 116C.711	None
Power Plant Siting Advisory Task Force	§ 116C.59	At the discretion of the Environmental Quality Board
Power Plant Siting Scientific Task Force	§ 116C.59	At the discretion of the Environmental Quality Board
Small Business Air Quality Compliance Advisory Council	§ 116.99	Unclear; possibly June 30, 2003 [see § 15.059, subds. 5, 5b]
Voyageurs National Park Citizens Council	§ 84B.12	June 30, 2007
Wastewater Treatment Technical Advisory Committee	§ 115.54	June 30, 2003 [see § 15.059, subds. 5, 5b]
Water Supply Systems and Wastewater Treatment Facilities Advisory Council	§ 115.741	June 30, 2003 [see § 15.059, subds. 5, 5b]
Wells and Boring Advisory Council	§ 103I.105	None
Health and Human Services		
Acupuncture Advisory Council	§ 147B.05	June 30, 2007
Alcohol and Drug Counselor Licensing Cultural Diversity Advisory Committee	§ 148C.11, subd. 3	None
Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Advisory Council	§ 254A.04	June 30, 2008
American Indian Advisory Council on Chemical Dependency	§ 254A.035	June 30, 2008
American Indian Child Welfare Advisory Council	§ 260.835	June 30, 2008
American Indian Mental Health Advisory Council	§ 245.699	June 30, 2003 [see § 15.059, subds. 5, 5b]

Name	Statute	Expiration Date
Athletic Trainers Advisory Council	§ 148.7805	None
Coordinated Service Delivery for People with Disabilities Stakeholder Committee	§ 256B.77, subd. 23	June 30, 2003
Council on Disability	§ 256.482	June 30, 2007
Council of Health Boards	§ 214.025	Likely none
Deaf and Hard of Hearing People Commission	§ 256C.28	Unclear; possibly June 30, 2003 [see § 15.059, subs. 5, 5b]
Dental Access Advisory Committee	§ 256B.55	June 30, 2007
Drug Utilization Review Board	§ 256B.0625, subd. 13a	June 30, 2003 [see § 15.059, subs. 5, 5b]
Fetal Alcohol Coordinating Board	§ 145.9266, subd. 6	January 1, 2001
Health Advisory Task Force	§ 144.011, subd. 2	At the discretion of the Commissioner of Health
Health Licensing Advisory Councils (several groups)	§ 214.13, subd. 4	Likely none
Health Professionals Services Program Advisory Committee	§ 214.32, subd. 1	June 30, 2007
Health Promotion and Wellness Advisory Task Force	§ 145.98	At the discretion of the Commissioner of Health
Hearing Instrument Dispenser Advisory Council	§ 153A.20	None
Heritable and Congenital Disorders Advisory Committee	§ 144.1215	None
ICF/MR Facility Advisory Committee	§ 252.282, subd. 4	June 30, 2003 [see § 15.059, subs. 5, 5b]
Independent Living Council	§ 268A.02, subd. 2	None
Licensed Traditional Midwifery Advisory Council	§ 147D.25	June 30, 2007
Maternal and Child Health Task Force	§ 145.881	June 30, 2007

Name	Statute	Expiration Date
Medical Assistance Drug Formulary Committee	§ 256B.0625, subd. 13c	Possibly June 30, 2003, but the law governing the committee was amended in 2003, suggesting that the legislature intended that it continue to exist
Medical Assistance Health Services Policy Committee	256B.0625, subd. 3c	At the discretion of the Commissioner of Human Services
Medical Assistance Peer Advisory Task Force	§ 256B.064, subd. 1a	At the discretion of the Commissioner of Human Services
Medical Assistance Vendor Advisory Task Force	§ 256B.27, subd. 3	At the discretion of the Commissioner of Human Services
Medical Education and Research Advisory Council	§ 62J.692, subd. 2	June 30, 2003 [see § 15.059, subs. 5, 5b]
Mental Health Advisory Council	§ 245.697	None
Mental Health Services Planning Council	§ 245.71, subd. 2	June 30, 2003 [see § 15.059, subs. 5, 5b]
Mental Retardation and Related Conditions Task Force	§ 252.31	At the discretion of the Commissioner of Human Services
Occupational Therapy Practitioners Advisory Council	§ 148.6450	None
Ombudsman Committee for Mental Health and Mental Retardation	§ 245.97, subd. 1	June 30, 2003 [see § 15.059, subs. 5, 5b]
Pharmacy Continuing Education Task Force	§ 151.13, subd. 2	At the discretion of the Board of Pharmacy
Physician Assistant Advisory Council	§ 147A.27	June 30, 2007
Plumbing Code and Examinations Advisory Council	§ 326.41	Unclear, possibly June 30, 2003 [see § 15.059, subs. 5, 5b]
Rehabilitation Advisory Council for the Blind	§ 248.10	None
Respiratory Care Practitioner Advisory Council	§ 147C.35	June 30, 2007
Rural Health Advisory Committee	§ 144.1481, subd. 1	None
Speech-Language Pathologist and Audiologist Advisory Council	§ 148.5196	None

Name	Statute	Expiration Date
State Community Health Advisory Committee	§ 145A.10	None
Trauma Advisory Council	§ 144.608	June 30, 2015
Traumatic Brain Injury Advisory Committee	§ 256B.093, subd. 1	June 30, 2008
Wholesale Drug Distributor Advisory Task Force (meets only to discuss proposed rules)	§ 151.45	At the discretion of the Board of Pharmacy
Work and Learn Facilities for Youth Advisory Group	§ 242.56, subd. 3	June 30, 2003 [see § 15.059, subds. 5, 5b]
Labor, Employment, and Codes		
Apprenticeship Advisory Council	§ 178.02	Possibly June 30, 2003, but the law governing the council was amended in 2003, suggesting that the legislature may have intended that it continue to exist
Builders Advisory Council	§ 326.85	None
Building Code Administration Oversight Committee	§ 16B.65, subd. 5	June 30, 2003 [see § 15.059, subds. 5, 5b]
Code Enforcement Advisory Council	§ 175.008	June 30, 2003
Construction Codes Advisory Council	§ 16B.76	June 30, 2003
OSHA Advisory Council	§ 182.656	Possibly June 30, 2003, but the law governing the committee was amended in 2003, suggesting that the legislature may have intended that it continue to exist
Rehabilitation Advisory Council	§ 268A.02	None
Workers' Compensation Advisory Council	§ 175.007	None
Workers' Compensation Self-Insurers Advisory Committee	§ 79A.02	None
Workforce Development Council	§ 116L.665	When not required by federal law
Youth Employment Grants Advisory Committee	§ 116L.363	Likely none

Name	Statute	Expiration Date
Transportation		
Bicycle Advisory Committee	Laws 1984, ch. 572, § 4	Possibly June 30, 2003
City Engineer Screening Board	§ 162.13, subd. 3	June 30, 2006
Commuter Rail Corridor Advisory Committee	§ 174.86, subd. 5	None
County Engineer Screening Board	§ 162.07, subd. 5	June 30, 2006
County State-Aid Highway Advisory Committee	§ 162.02, subd. 2	None
Local Road Improvement Advisory Committee	§ 174.52, subd. 3	None
Mississippi River Parkway Commission	§ 161.1419, subd. 7	June 30, 2007
Municipal State-Aid Street System Advisory Committee	§ 162.09, subd. 2	None
Other		
Arts Board Advisory Committee	§ 129D.04, subd. 1	Possibly June 30, 2003 [see § 15.059, subds. 5, 5b]
Breeder Fund Advisory Committees (several)	§ 240.18, subd. 4	Possibly June 30, 2003 [see § 15.059, subds. 5, 5b]
Capitol Area Architectural and Planning Board Advisory Committee	§ 15B.11, subd. 2	None
Energy Advisory Task Force	§ 216C.02, subd. 1	At the discretion of the Commissioner of Commerce
Emergency Energy Assistance Advisory Council	§ 216C.265	Possibly June 30, 2003, but the 2005 legislature ordered this section of law to be recodified, perhaps suggesting an intent to extend the council
Energy Research and Education Advisory Committee	§ 216B.815	None
Fire Protection Systems Advisory Council	§ 299M.02	June 30, 2003 [see § 15.059, subds. 5, 5b]
Governor's Residence Council	§ 16B.27, subd. 3	None

Name	Statute	Expiration Date
Health Care Savings Plan Participant Advisory Committee	§ 352.98, subd. 6	June 30, 2003 [see § 15.059, subds. 5, 5b]
Human Rights Advisory Task Force	§ 363A.05, subd. 3	At the discretion of the Commissioner of Human Rights
Investment Advisory Council	§ 11A.08	None
Minnesota Employees Insurance Program Advisory Committee	§ 43A.317, subd. 4	None while program exists
Minnesota Organic Advisory Task Force	§ 31.94	June 30, 2009
Pesticide Applicator Education and Examination Review Board	§ 18B.305	June 30, 2003
Pipeline Safety Advisory Committee	§ 299J.061	June 30, 2003 [see § 15.059, subds. 5, 5b]
Public Employee Insurance Labor/Management Committee	§ 43A.316, subd. 4	None while program exists
Public Employee Long-Term Care Insurance Advisory Committee	§ 43A.318, subd. 3	June 30, 2003 [see § 15.059, subds. 5, 5b]
Public Employees' Defined Contribution Plan Advisory Committee	§ 353D.01	June 30, 2003 [see § 15.059, subds. 5, 5b]
Radio Board Advisory Committees	§ 403.40	None
Seed Potato Certification Task Force	§ 21.112	June 30, 2003
Small Business Procurement Advisory Council	§ 16C.17, subd. 2	June 30, 2003
Tax Information Sample Data Committee	§ 270C.12	None
Technology for People with Disabilities Advisory Council	§ 16B.055	June 30, 2003
Urban Indian Advisory Council	§ 3.922, subd. 8	None

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