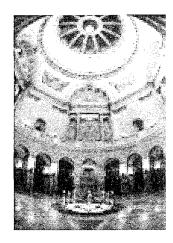
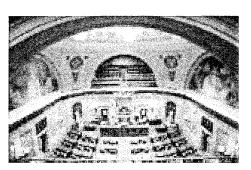
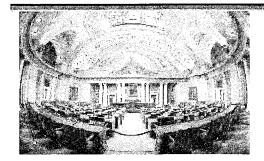


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# JOINT LEGISLATIVE SERVICES DIRECTORY







# JOINT LEGISLATIVE SERVICES DIRECTORY



# JOINT LEGISLATIVE SERVICES DIRECTORY

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## JOINT LEGISLATIVE SERVICES DIRECTORY

### **About this Directory**

The Joint Departments and Commissions of the Legislature created this directory to illustrate the services provided by the legislative commissions and joint offices. These services are available to members of both the Minnesota House of Representatives and Minnesota Senate, and state and local agencies in Minnesota, in addition to the general public.

This directory is intended to provide detailed information about the purpose of each commission and office, the main work each does, and how to access those services. Contact information for each office and commission is included, as are photographs of the key staff employed by each office.

The legislature has created a number of commissions to focus attention on specific areas of policy, such as Minnesota's environmental resources, pensions, and review of state agencies and their programs and functions. These commissions carefully examine these issues and recommend changes to existing law governing these areas. They also provide regulatory oversight to a number of state agencies and programs.

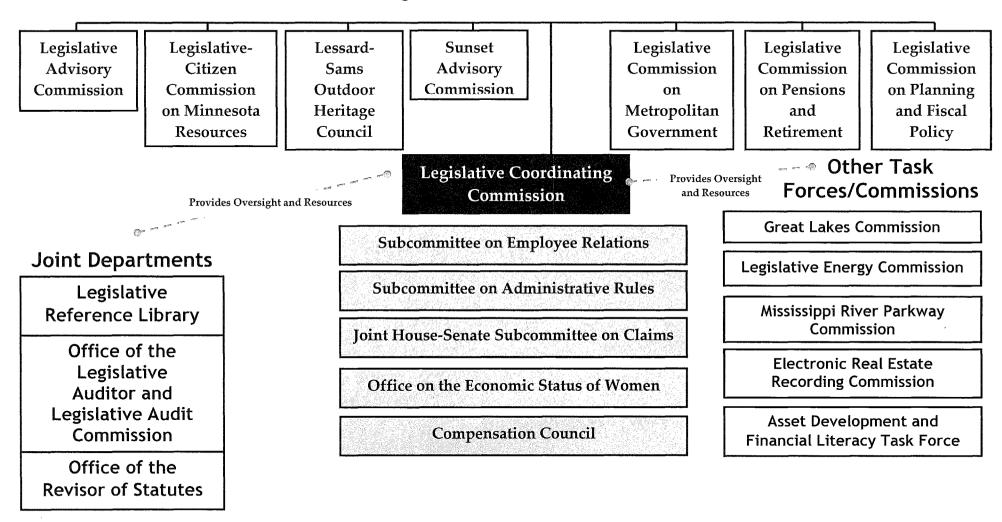
The Legislative Coordinating Commission (LCC) provides support to many of the commissions, as well as the joint offices of the Legislative Reference Library, Office of Revisor of Statutes and the Office of the Legislative Auditor. In addition, several offices and task forces benefit from the resources of the LCC.

These offices operate independently, though they work together toward the same goals-to provide coordinated services to both houses of the Legislature. The diagram on the following page illustrates generally how the offices relate to one another.

If you have any questions or suggestions about this directory, contact the Legislative Coordinating Commission at **651-296-9002** or lcc@lcc.leg.mn.

### **Joint Departments and Commissions**

### **Legislative Commissions**



Regent Candidate Advisory Council

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### **Staff Listing**Joint Legislative Services

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JOINT LEGISLATIVE SERVICES DIRECTORY

### About the Library

Library staff members handle inquiries in person, by phone, email, or instant messaging.

Legislators can contact library staff and receive materials while working from their offices, homes, or from the House or Senate Chamber. All requests are confidential, and all staff is nonpartisan.

### **Collection Highlights**

Highlights of the print and digital collection include:

### Office's Statutory Authority

"The library shall collect, index, and make available in suitable form information relative to governmental and legislative subjects which will aid members of the Legislature to perform their duties in an efficient and economical manner."

-Minnesota Statutes 3.302

Established in 1969

- Newspapers-print and electronic. The library purchases access to the full text of many regional newspapers for legislative users, including the *Star Tribune, Pioneer Press*, and *Duluth News Tribune*.
- Mandated reports. Each year the Legislature requires many one-time studies and ongoing reports, both to study issues and provide accountability for state-funded programs. The Library tracks and acquires the reports and ensures availability in electronic format to members and the general public.
  - Legislative history materials. The collection, required by the rules of the House and Senate, includes committee minutes and recordings of committee meetings and floor sessions. Staff members are experienced and knowledgeable about the often complicated process of researching legislative history.
  - o Media coverage. News resources on legislators and legislative policy issues include extensive print files from 1970-2009, and an in-house electronic news archive.
  - o Historical statistics. Biographical information and details about legislative service for every member since territorial times is found in the *Legislators Past and Present* database. The Library publishes historical lists of legislative and state government information. The Time Capsule database integrates a variety of information by legislative session.
  - Consultants' reports. LRL is mandated to receive a copy of all reports done as the result of a state contract.

### The Library Subcommittee

The Legislative Reference Library is a joint legislative agency under the Legislative Coordinating Commission. Each biennium, a Library Subcommittee made of up four legislators, two from the House and two from the Senate, is appointed.



JOINT LEGISLATIVE SERVICES DIRECTORY

### **Contacting Library Staff and Services**

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St. Paul, MN 55155

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FAX (651) 296-9731

Email refdesk@lrl.leg.mn

Web site www.leg.mn/lrl

**Hours** 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Mon. - Fri.

**Hours during** 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Mon. – Thurs.

the Legislative Session: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Fri.

Session hours are extended as needed



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JOINT LEGISLATIVE SERVICES DIRECTORY

### About the Legislative Auditor

The Office of the Legislative Auditor (OLA) is a professional, nonpartisan audit and evaluation office within the Legislative Branch of the Minnesota state government. The office is under the direction of the Legislative Auditor, who is appointed by the Legislative Audit Commission. The principal goal of the OLA is to provide the Legislature, agencies, and the public with audit and evaluation reports that are accurate, objective, timely, and useful. Through its reports, the office

seeks to strengthen accountability, compliance with state law, and good financial management in government.

OLA focuses primarily on state agencies and programs, but also selectively evaluates programs administered at all levels of government in Minnesota.

### History

The Office of the Legislative Auditor was created in 1973 following the recommendation of a private-sector study group called the Loan Executive Action Program (LEAP). Prior to OLA, all state agencies and local governments were audited by the Public Examiner, an appointee of the Governor. LEAP argued

### Mission of the Legislative Auditor

- Strengthen accountability, legislative oversight, and compliance with state laws.
- Support good financial management and enhance program effectiveness.

#### The Legislative Audit Commission

The Legislative Audit Commission (LAC) is a bipartisan commission with six members from the House of Representatives and six from the Senate, equally divided between the majority and minority parties. Membership is governed by *Minnesota Statutes*, Section 3.97, subd. 2.

The commission appoints the legislative auditor and selects topics for the Program Evaluation Division to review. It also periodically holds hearings to review audit and evaluation reports. The commission chair rotates every two years between the House and Senate.

that this arrangement did not ensure that audits would be (both in fact and perception) independent, nonpartisan, and "arms-length." LEAP recommended creation of an office in the Legislative Branch comparable to the Government Accountability Office (GAO), a nonpartisan congressional "watchdog" at the national level.

While LEAP recommended that all financial audit responsibility be transferred from the Public Examiner to OLA, the Legislature decided to divide audit responsibility between OLA and the State Auditor (an elected official, who had historically performed a comptroller function within the Executive Branch). In the 1973 Legislation, the Legislative Auditor was assigned responsibility to audit state governments and the State Auditor was assigned responsibility to audit local governments.



JOINT LEGISLATIVE SERVICES DIRECTORY

### Organization

OLA is under the direction of Legislative Auditor Jim Nobles, who oversees the office's Financial Audit Division and the Program Evaluation Division. First appointed in 1983, Mr. Nobles is currently serving his fifth six-year term as Legislative Auditor; he previously served as Deputy Legislative Auditor for OLA's Program Evaluation Division.

<u>Program Evaluation Division</u> The Division has a staff of 14 full-time professionals with advanced degrees in fields such as economics, law, public administration, policy analysis, and statistics. The division performs several evaluations each year on topics selected by the Legislative Audit Commission. The commission annually solicits suggestions from all legislators and typically receives more than 80 suggestions. The commission narrows the list based on the following criteria: importance, level of state control, timeliness, feasibility, and potential impact of an evaluation. Once selected, each evaluation topic is given an in-depth examination by division staff. AN OLA evaluation generally requires a team of two to three evaluators six to eight months to complete and results in a comprehensive report. While evaluation reports contain a substantial amount of background information about topics, their primary focus is on findings and recommendations.

Financial Audit Division The division has a staff of approximately 38 auditors; most are certified public accountants (CPAs) and several are also certified information systems auditors (CISAs). The division annually audits the State of Minnesota's financial statements to determine whether they have presented the state's financial activities and condition consistent with generally accepted accounting principles. To fulfill federal law, the division also annually audits a sample of federal grants to the state to determine whether the money was used in compliance with federal requirements. Once these audits are completed, the division selects approximately 20 to 25 state-funded organizations and financial functions to audit in depth, with a focus on internal controls and compliance with applicable legal requirements. Finally, the division accepts and assesses all allegations involving the possible misuse of state money and resources and conducts investigations (also referred to as "special reviews") on an "as needed" basis. Cecile Ferkul, CPA, CISA, is Deputy Legislative Auditor for the Financial Audit Division.

### Independence

Independence from inappropriate influences is a key element in the credibility of any audit office. OLA's independence is enhanced by the fact that the Legislative Auditor serves a six-year term (and may not be removed except after proof of malfeasance in a public hearing). In addition, all reports issued by OLA are based solely on the work of its professional, nonpartisan staff, and they are released publically without any prior review by any legislator, including members of the Legislative Audit Commission.



JOINT LEGISLATIVE SERVICES DIRECTORY

#### Jurisdiction

In 1973 the Minnesota Legislature divided audit jurisdiction using a simple principle: the legislative auditor would audit state government and the state auditor would audit local government. Over the years, the legislative auditor's jurisdiction has expanded and become more complex. For example, in 1975 the Legislature created the Program Evaluation Division within the office with authority to evaluate virtually any state-funded program or study any topic that affects state government.

Categorized by type of examination or review, the following is an outline of the legislative auditor's current jurisdiction:

<u>Financial Audits and "Investigations"</u> The Legislative Auditor's jurisdiction to conduct financial audits is extensive. It includes (1) all agencies, boards, commissions, and other organizations in the Executive Branch; (2) courts and other organizations in the Judicial Branch; (3) Minnesota State Colleges and Universities; (4) University of Minnesota; (5) "semi-state" agencies, such as the Minnesota Historical Society and State Fair; (6) Metropolitan Airports Commission; (7) Minnesota Sports Facilities Authority; and (8) Metropolitan Mosquito Control District. In addition, the Legislative Auditor may audit the use of state money provided under a grant or contract to any organization or individual.

<u>Program Evaluations</u> The same as noted above including any programs or activities created and/or funded by state government, including those administered by local government and private organizations.

### Authority

State law grants the Legislative Auditor strong authority. For example, the Legislative Auditor may access and review government data and documents of any classification, and when necessary, may issue subpoenas. In addition, state law requires all individuals and organizations, both public and private, that receive money from the state to cooperate with the Legislative Auditor. *Minnesota Statutes*, 3.978, subd. 2, says:

All public officials and their deputies and employees, and all corporations, firms, and individuals having business involving the receipt, disbursement, or custody of public funds shall at all times afford reasonable facilities for examinations by the legislative auditor, make returns and reports required by the legislative auditor, attend and answer under oath the legislative auditor's lawful inquiries, produce and exhibit all books, accounts, documents, data of any classification, and property that the legislative auditor may need to inspect, and in all things aid the legislative auditor in the performance of [his/her] duties.



JOINT LEGISLATIVE SERVICES DIRECTORY

### Contacting the Office of the Legislative Auditor

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JOINT LEGISLATIVE SERVICES DIRECTORY

#### About the Office of the Revisor of Statutes

The Office of the Revisor of Statutes is a legislative office that provides services to members of both houses of the Legislature, as well as all constitutional offices, and all state agencies and departments. The services of the office are nonpartisan and confidential. The office consists of attorneys, editors, computer specialists, and support personnel. Services are provided in the following four areas:

<u>Legislative</u>: The office assists members of both the House and Senate and legislative staff at virtually all stages of the legislative process from the preparation of a draft of a bill through to its presentation to the governor. The office drafts bills, amendments, resolutions, and other legislative documents. As required by statute, the office drafts bills upon request for any member of the House

or the Senate, for the governor and other constitutional officers, and for state agencies. Bill drafting services nonpartisan and confidential. In addition, the Revisor's Office prepares three types of bills to maintain quality: the "Revisor's bill" to correct technical errors in the statutes, the "correction bill" to correct errors in a given session's bills, and bills to improve the style and form of statutory chapters. The session

#### Office's Statutory Authority

"The Legislative Coordinating Commission shall appoint a qualified person to the position of revisor of statutes. The Revisor shall serve at the pleasure of the commission. The commission shall fix the Revisor's salary."

- Minnesota Statutes 3C.01

correction bill is customarily one of the final bills passed during a session. Office staff members prepare and issue a bill drafting manual containing styles and forms for drafting bills, resolutions, and amendments known as the *Minnesota Revisor's Manual with Styles and Forms*. The office maintains a bill tracking system for the Legislature, prepares all House committee reports, and prepares conference committee and comparison reports. The Revisor's Office formally engrosses bills – which involves incorporating all changes – and enrolls them – which means they are signed by the presiding officers of both houses and formally presented to the governor on behalf of the Legislature.

Administrative Rules: The office helps state agencies draft and adopt administrative rules. In addition, staff members are available to answer questions about *Minnesota Rules*, the rulemaking

#### The Revisor Subcommittee

The Office of the Revisor of Statutes is a joint legislative agency under the Legislative Coordinating Commission. Each biennium a Revisor Subcommittee made of up four legislators, two from the House and two from the Senate, is appointed.

process for state agencies, and can help with a text search of *Minnesota Rules* for specific rules information. Office staff also prepare and issue *Minnesota Rules Drafting Manual with Styles and Forms* and *Rulemaking in Minnesota: A Guide*.

<u>Publications:</u> The office compiles, edits,



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and publishes Laws of Minnesota, Minnesota Statutes, and Minnesota Rules. Laws of Minnesota contains the laws and resolutions passed each legislative session. Minnesota Statutes contains the codified general and permanent laws. Minnesota Rules contains the compiled administrative rules adopted by state agencies. A compilation of Minnesota court rules is included as a supplement to Minnesota Statutes. All of the publications contain user aids and indexes, and are the official text of the law. All publications are also available online.

<u>Legal Assistance and Liaison Duties:</u> The Revisor's Office provides counsel to the Legislative Coordinating Commission Subcommittee on Claims. The Revisor or designee serves as a commissioner to the Uniform Laws Conference, a national group working toward consistency in state statutes. In addition, the office prepares a biennial report on Minnesota court opinions related to declaring a statute unconstitutional or otherwise noting statutory deficiencies.

<u>Computer:</u> The Revisor's Office maintains hardware and develops software to support the work of the Legislature. In 2006, the office implemented XTEND, a new XML-based bill drafting and publishing system. This system is used by House, Senate and Revisor's office staff. Staff members of the Revisor's Office provide support to legislative users through training and through its helpdesk. Staff also provide network and server support for the Legislature's Internet services and provide Internet information on bills, rules, and laws.

### Contacting the Revisor's Office

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### LEGISLATIVE COORDINATING COMMISSION

JOINT LEGISLATIVE SERVICES DIRECTORY

### About the Legislative Coordinating Commission

The commission serves as the umbrella organization for legislative commissions, joint agencies, and other boards. The president of the Senate and the speaker of the House alternate annually as chair. The Legislative Coordinating Commission (LCC) establishes the complement and the compensation

of employees for joint agencies and commissions. All joint agency budgets are reviewed and approved by the commission. The commission coordinates certain activities of the House and Senate including the setting of insurance benefits.

The LCC provides fiscal and administrative support for the

#### **Commission's Statutory Authority**

"The Legislative Coordinating Commission is created to coordinate the legislative activities of the Senate and House of Representatives."

- Minnesota Statutes 3.303

Compensation Council, the Joint House/Senate Subcommittee on Claims, the Office of the Economic Status of Women, the Regent Candidate Advisory Council, the Trustee Candidate Advisory Council, the Sunset Advisory Commission, and the Subcommittee on Employee Relations. All joint legislative offices and commissions are nonpartisan.

The LCC Fiscal Services staff provides accounting and budget services for the commissions and joint agencies. LCC Information Technology staff provide geospatial information that includes mapping and related analysis for public policy issues and proposed legislation. After each census, staff provide GIS services related to redistricting. These staff also provide network and web support services to the legislative commissions.

The LCC arranges for sign language interpreting services and other disability access services for legislative hearings and meetings with members. Additionally, the LCC facilitates arrangements for visiting international and state delegations to the legislature.

Finally, the LCC maintains Minnesota's Legacy website which displays how funds from the Legacy Amendment and the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund are being utilized throughout the state.

#### LCC Members

The membership consists of the majority leader of the Senate, the president of the Senate, two senators appointed by the majority leader, the minority leader of the Senate, and one senator appointed by the minority leader; and the majority leader of the House, the speaker of the House, two representatives appointed by the speaker, the minority leader of the House, and one representative appointed by the minority leader.



### LEGISLATIVE COORDINATING COMMISSION

JOINT LEGISLATIVE SERVICES DIRECTORY

### Contacting the Legislative Coordinating Commission

72 State Office Building

Location 100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd

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**FAX** (651) 297-3697

E-mail lcc@lcc.leg.mn

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### LEGISLATIVE COORDINATING COMMISSION

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### LEGISLATIVE COMPENSATION COUNCIL

JOINT LEGISLATIVE SERVICES DIRECTORY

### **About the Compensation Council**

State law has established a Compensation Council to meet in the even-numbered years to

recommend salaries of judges, constitutional officers, and legislators. The council must report its recommendations to the speaker of the House of Representatives and the president of the Senate by May 1 in each odd-numbered year.

#### **Members**

Per *Minnesota Statutes* 15A.082, the Compensation Council consists of 16

#### **Compensation Council Statutory Authority**

"A compensation council is created each evennumbered year to assist the Legislature in establishing the compensation of constitutional officers, members of the Legislature, justices of the supreme court, judges of the court of appeals and district court, and the heads of state and metropolitan agencies ..."

- Minnesota Statutes 15A.082

members: two members of the House of Representatives appointed by the speaker of the House; two members of the Senate appointed by the majority leader of the Senate; one member of the House of Representatives appointed by the minority leader of the House; one member of the Senate appointed by the minority leader of the Senate; two non-judges appointed by the chief justice of the Supreme Court; and one member from each congressional district appointed by the governor, of whom no more than four may belong to the same political party.

### Contacting the Compensation Council

72 State Office Building

**Location** 100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd

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### LEGISLATIVE COORDINATING COMMISSION - JOINT SUBCOMMITTEE ON CLAIMS

JOINT LEGISLATIVE SERVICES DIRECTORY

#### About the Joint House-Senate Subcommittee on Claims

The Joint House-Senate Subcommittee on Claims was established in 1976 to hear and make recommendations to the Legislature whether to pay claims against the state by various persons who cannot proceed against the state under the State Tort Claims Act (Minn. Stat. 3.732). The joint subcommittee also handles other claims that cannot be litigated.

The subcommittee consists of three senators and three representatives. The chair rotates between the House and Senate each meeting. The chair from each body is generally responsible to present the bill resulting from the subcommittee deliberations to the appropriate committees in the House and Senate and subsequently to the full House and Senate for final passage.

### Contacting the Joint House-Senate Subcommittee on Claims

72 State Office Building

Location 100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd

St. Paul, MN 55155

Phone (651) 296-0099

Fax (651) 297-3697

E-mail lcc@lcc.leg.mn

Web site http://www.commissions.leg.state.mn.us/claims/claims.htm

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### LEGISLATIVE COORDINATING COMMISSION OFFICE ON THE ECONOMIC STATUS OF WOMEN

JOINT LEGISLATIVE SERVICES DIRECTORY

#### About the Office on the Economic Status of Women

The Office on the Economic Status of Women (OESW) advises the Legislature and provides information and statistics on women in Minnesota. The office gathers information on population characteristics, educational attainment and enrollments, marital and parental status, household

#### Office's Statutory Authority

"The commission shall study and report to the Legislature on all matters relating to the economic status of women in Minnesota ..."

-Minnesota Statutes 3.303

characteristics, labor force status and employment characteristics, and basic information on women's legal and economic rights.

The office also provides policy assistance and research for the Legislature in subject areas related to women, children and families.

#### Information Available from OESW

- Profiles of the status of women, by county and legislative district
- Women in public office
- Minnesota data from the U.S. Census Bureau
- Women in elected office
- Historical data
- Legal rights information
- Cost-of-living adjustments for child support and spousal maintenance

### Contacting the Office on the Economic Status of Women

90 State Office Building

**Location** 100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd

St. Paul, MN 55155

**Phone** (651) 296-8590

Email oesw@oesw.leg.mn

Website http://www.oesw.leg.mn/

#### Director

This position is currently vacant.

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### LEGISLATIVE COORDINATING COMMISSION - REGENT CANDIDATE ADVISORY COUNCIL

JOINT LEGISLATIVE SERVICES DIRECTORY

### About the Regent Candidate Advisory Council

The Regent Candidate Advisory Council was established by the Legislature in 1988 to advise the

Legislature in the election of regents of the University of Minnesota. Its duties are to develop a description of the duties of regents, outline criteria to be applied in recommending candidates, and recruit, screen and recommend at least two, and not more than four, qualified candidates to the joint legislative committee for each opening on the University of Minnesota Board of Regents.

#### **Statutory Authority**

"A Regent Candidate Advisory Council is established to assist in determining criteria for, and identifying and recruiting qualified candidates, for membership on the Board of Regents and making recommendations to the joint legislative committee."

-Minnesota Statutes 137.0245

The 12-member Board of Regents is the governing body of the University of Minnesota. The Legislature, elects one regent from each of Minnesota's eight congressional districts and four from the state at-large. One of the four at-large regents must be a university student at the time of election. Regents serve without pay for six-year terms. Terms are staggered, with one-third of the board up for election every two years.

The Regent Candidate Advisory Council is composed of 24 public members appointed to six-year, staggered terms. One-half of the members are appointed by the speaker of the House, and one-half are appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration.

### Contacting the Regent Candidate Advisory Council

72 State Office Building

**Location** 100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd

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### LEGISLATIVE COORDINATING COMMISSION - SUBCOMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

JOINT LEGISLATIVE SERVICES DIRECTORY

#### About the Subcommittee on Administrative Rules

The Subcommittee on Administrative Rules Committee is established to assist the Legislative

Coordinating Commission (LCC) in its statutory mandate to review administrative rules. According to state law, the LCC shall review state agency rules as defined in section 14.02, subdivision 4, when at least two members of the LCC or at least five members of the Legislature submit a written request to review the rule. The commission may

#### Subcommittee's Statutory Authority

Upon written request of two or more of its members or five or more members of the Legislature, the Legislative Coordinating Commission shall review a state agency rule.

-Minnesota Statutes 3.305

perform this review by holding one or more commission meetings or by deferring this action to the LCC Administrative Rules Subcommittee.

The commission also has jurisdiction of rules as described in *Minnesota Statutes* 3.842 and 3.843.

### Contacting the Subcommittee on Administrative Rules

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Phone (651) 296-9002

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# LEGISLATIVE COORDINATING COMMISSION - SUBCOMMITTEE ON EMPLOYEE RELATIONS

JOINT LEGISLATIVE SERVICES DIRECTORY

### About the Subcommittee on Employee Relations

The Subcommittee on Employee Relations assists the Legislature through its review of negotiated agreements, arbitration awards, and compensation plans for employees in the Executive Branch. It

also monitors the state civil service system and makes recommendations regarding certain state and local government salaries.

#### State Employee Negotiations

The Executive Branch of the state of Minnesota employs approximately 50,000 people. About 90 percent of these employees are placed in one of 17 occupationally based bargaining units,

#### Subcommittee's Statutory Authority

"The commissioner (of Minnesota Management and Budget) shall submit to the chair of the commission any negotiated collective bargaining agreements, arbitration awards, compensation plans, or salaries for legislative approval or disapproval."

-Minnesota Statutes 3.855

which are represented by one of 11 unions. The unions negotiate collective bargaining agreements that establish the terms and conditions of employment. Traditionally, these agreements are valid for two years and coincide with the state biennium. Minnesota Management and Budget represents management and negotiates on behalf of the state with the exclusive representatives.

#### Other Salaries

The subcommittee also reviews and approves, rejects, or modifies recommendations for salaries submitted by the governor or other appointing authority under section 43A.18, subdivision 5, covering agency head positions listed in section 15A.0815.

Salaries of individuals employed by political subdivisions (excluding school district employees, medical doctors and doctors of osteopathy) are limited to 110 percent of the salary of the governor. The commissioner of employee relations may increase the salary for a position that the commissioner determines requires special expertise. Before granting such a waiver to the salary cap, the commissioner must seek advice from the subcommittee (Minn. Stat. § 43A.17, subd. 3).

#### Members

The subcommittee has 10 members: five members of the Senate, appointed by the Subcommittee on Committees of the Committee on Rules and Administration, at least one of whom must be a member of the minority; and five members of the House, three appointed by the speaker, and two appointed by the minority leader.



# LEGISLATIVE COORDINATING COMMISSION - SUBCOMMITTEE ON EMPLOYEE RELATIONS

JOINT LEGISLATIVE SERVICES DIRECTORY

### Contacting the Subcommittee on Employee Relations

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# LEGISLATIVE COORDINATING COMMISSION TRUSTEE CANDIDATE ADVISORY COUNCIL

JOINT LEGISLATIVE SERVICES DIRECTORY

## About the Trustee Candidate Advisory Council

Established by the Legislature, the Trustee Candidate Advisory Council (TCAC) is charged with developing selection criteria and a description of the responsibilities and duties of a member of the

Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Board of Trustees. The 24-member council must also identify and recruit qualified candidates for the board, and recommend to the governor at least two and not more than four candidates for each open seat on the board. The governor is not bound by these recommendations.

The Board of Trustees consists of 15 members, including three students. The

#### **Statutory Authority**

"A candidate advisory council for the Board of Trustees of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities shall assist the governor in determining criteria for, and identifying and recruiting qualified candidates for, non-student membership on the board."

-Minnesota Statutes 136F.03

12 non-student positions have six-year staggered terms. The council recruits candidates for those 12 non-student positions. One-third of those 12 members are up for appointment every two years.

## Contacting the Trustee Candidate Advisory Council

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# LEGISLATIVE ADVISORY COMMISSION

JOINT LEGISLATIVE SERVICES DIRECTORY

### **About the Legislative Advisory Commission**

The commission has authority to review and recommend approval of requests by state departments and state agencies for funding from contingent appropriations or spending of federal

funds. The commission has four permanent members: the majority leader of the Senate or a designee; the chair of the Senate Finance Committee; the speaker of the House or a designee; and the chair of the House Ways and Means Committee. Additional members sit on the commission and are determined by the funding requests being considered, i.e., the chair of the House finance

#### **Commission's Statutory Authority**

"Transfers exceeding \$10,000 may be authorized by the governor but no transfer exceeding \$10,000 may be made until the governor has consulted the Legislative Advisory Commission and it has made its recommendation on the transfer."

-Minnesota Statutes 3.30

committee to which the request pertains, and the respective chair of the Senate budget division.

The commissioner of management and budget acts as secretary of the commission and keeps a permanent record of its proceedings. The commission meets at the call of the governor or upon the call of the secretary at the request of two or more of its members.

## Contacting the Legislative Advisory Commission

Commissioner, Minnesota Management and Budget

400 Centennial Office Building

Location 658 Cedar St.,

St. Paul, MN 55155

**Phone** (651) 201-8010

Web site http://www.lcc.leg.mn/lac/

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JOINT LEGISLATIVE SERVICES DIRECTORY

### About the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources

The Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) makes funding recommendations to the Minnesota Legislature for special environment and natural resource projects, primarily from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund. These recommendations are the product of a competitive, multi-step proposal and selection process open to everyone with innovative ideas for environment and natural resources projects that can provide multiple ecological and other public benefits for Minnesota. The LCCMR has administrative oversight over all projects funded through its process.

The LCCMR developed from a program initiated in 1963. Since 1963, over \$650 million has been appropriated to more than 1,300 projects recommended by the Commission to protect and enhance Minnesota's environment and natural resources.

Formerly known as the Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCMR), in 2006 the commission was reorganized into the LCCMR, with members of the public added to its membership, in order to include citizen membership and input more directly in the decision-making process.

# Membership of the Commission

There are 17 members of the commission – five from the Senate, five from the House of Representatives and seven citizen members. They are appointed as follows:

#### 7 Citizen Members

- 5 appointed by the governor
- 1 appointed by the Senate
- 1 appointed by the House

#### 5 Senators

• The chair of the environment finance committee

#### Constitutional and Statutory Authority for Expenditures

A permanent Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund is established in the state treasury. Loans may be made of up to 5 percent of the principal of the fund for water improvements as provided by law. The assets of the fund shall be appropriated by law for the public purpose of protection, conservation, preservation, and enhancement of the state's air, water, land, fish, wildlife, and other natural resources. The amount appropriated each year of a biennium, commencing on July 1 in each odd-numbered year and ending on and including June 30 in the next odd-numbered year, maybe up to 5½ percent of the market value of the fund on June 30 one year before the start of the biennium. Not less than 40 percent of the net proceeds from any state-operated lottery must be credited to the fund until the year 2025.

-- Minnesota Constitution, Article XI, Section 14

(Adopted, Nov. 8, 1988; Amended, Nov. 6, 1990 and Nov. 3, 1998)

Expenditures from the fund also governed by Minnesota Statutes 116P



JOINT LEGISLATIVE SERVICES DIRECTORY

- 2 from the majority caucus
- 2 from the minority caucus

#### 5 Representatives

- The chair of the environment finance committee
- 2 from the majority caucus
- 2 from the minority caucus

#### **Funding Sources**

At present LCCMR's funding recommendations to the Minnesota Legislature are for funding from one of four sources:

- The Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund
- Great Lakes Protection Account
- Oil overcharge funds
- The federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LAWCON)

Prior to 2003, the Minnesota Future Resources Fund also provided \$15 million in funding per biennium. This funding was repealed in 2003.

# General Information about LCCMR Projects

Currently the LCCMR makes funding recommendations on a biennial basis, with recommendations presented to the Minnesota Legislature during the legislative session for each odd-numbered year. The LCCMR process is open to all eligible environment and natural resources projects that will provide a demonstrated public benefit. Past projects have been in the areas of land and habitat protection, parks and trails, environmental education, natural resource information and planning, renewable energy, agriculture and forestry, and water resources. Past recipients include state agencies, private non-profits, academic institutions, local government units, Federal government, tribal governments, and private corporations.

Each funding cycle, a Request for Proposal (RFP) is issued for funding priorities determined by the Commission based on its six-year strategic plan and ongoing information gathering activities, including expert-led issue seminars and visits to natural resource sites around the state.

The LCCMR reviews, evaluates, and ranks all proposals submitted. A selection of the highest ranked proposals are invited to present before the LCCMR. Finally, based on the total dollars available, a subset of those proposals are chosen to recommend to the Legislature for funding. In addition to review by the Commission, proposals may also be reviewed by peer review committees or technical advisory committees.



JOINT LEGISLATIVE SERVICES DIRECTORY

The LCCMR's funding recommendations go before the Minnesota House and Senate in the form of a bill, and upon passage the bill goes the Governor to be signed into law. Funding becomes available to projects beginning July 1 of the next fiscal year.

Projects that are approved for funding are overseen by the LCCMR for the duration of their funding period. Projects must submit a work plan to be approved by the Commission, provide ongoing project updates, and deliver a final report upon project completion.

A biennial report with accomplishments of completed projects, recommendations for future funding, and the current strategic plan for the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund is submitted to the full legislature on January 15 of the odd-numbered year.



JOINT LEGISLATIVE SERVICES DIRECTORY

# Contacting the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources

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Diana Griffith Commission Assistant (651) 296-2406 diana.griffith@lccmr.leg.mn



# LESSARD-SAMS OUTDOOR HERITAGE COUNCIL

JOINT LEGISLATIVE SERVICES DIRECTORY

### About the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

The Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council was established by the Legislature with the responsibility for providing annual Outdoor Heritage Fund appropriation recommendations to the legislature. The Outdoor Heritage Fund is one of four funds created when the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment passed by the voters in the 2008 election. The council recommendations must take into consideration the Minnesota Conservation and Preservation Plan findings directly relating to restoration, protection, and enhancement of wetlands, prairies, forests, and habitat for fish, game, and wildlife, and that prevent forest fragmentation, encourage forest consolidation, and expand restored native prairie.

Article XI, Section 15 of the Minnesota Constitution creates the Outdoor Heritage Fund. The Council and Outdoor Heritage Fund statues are found in MS 2010, Chapter 97A.056. The Council operates under the Minnesota Open Meeting Law, MS 2010, Chapter 13D.

## Membership of the Council

There are 12 members of the council appointed as follows:

#### 8 Citizen Members

- 2 appointed by the Senate
- 2 appointed by the House
- 4 appointed by the governor,

#### 2 Senators

- 1 from the majority caucus
- 1 from the minority caucus, and

#### 2 Representatives

- 1 from the majority caucus
- 1 from the minority caucus

## LSOHC Projects

The LSOHC annually publically solicits for use of the funds. Based on this process the Council recommends appropriations to the legislature, funding programs consistent with Council visions and priorities. The core of the Council recommendations focuses on funding programs, rather than individual projects. In this manner, the Council seeks to have a measurable long-term impact on the environment and wildlife habitat. The types of programs funded to date include land acquisition additions for WMA, AMA and SNA; prairie, trout stream and forest restorations and conservation easements. Recipients include state agencies, private non-profits, local government



# LESSARD-SAMS OUTDOOR HERITAGE COUNCIL

#### JOINT LEGISLATIVE SERVICES DIRECTORY

units, and the federal government. In many of the programs multiple government units and non-profits work together for the betterment of the environment and wildlife habitat.

Overall an estimated \$90 plus million will be available annually for appropriation from this fund. In fiscal year 2010 through 2013, the Council has recommended and the Legislature has funded over 100 requests, totaling approximately \$330 million.

As directed by statute the Council also annually recommends an appropriation for a Conservation Partners Program, open to all conservation organizations working in Minnesota. This appropriation is granted out under an open competitive process operated by the executive branch according to the specifics of appropriations law. Grants from \$5,000 to \$400,000 are awarded to local, regional, state, and national nonprofit organizations, including government entities. The grants are for work to enhance, restore, or protect the forests, wetlands, prairies, and habitat for fish, game, or wildlife in Minnesota. To date, over 140 Conservation Partner Grants were awarded.

#### Constitutional Amendment

Outdoor heritage, clean water, parks and trails, and arts and cultural heritage; sales tax dedicated funds.

Beginning July 1, 2009, until June 30, 2034, the sales and use tax rate shall be increased by threeeighths of one percent on sales and uses taxable under the general state sales and use tax law. Receipts from the increase, plus penalties and interest and reduced by any refunds, are dedicated, for the benefit of Minnesotans, to the following funds: 33 percent of the receipts shall be deposited in the outdoor heritage fund and may be spent only to restore, protect, and enhance wetlands, prairies, forests, and habitat for fish, game, and wildlife; 33 percent of the receipts shall be deposited in the clean water fund and may be spent only to protect, enhance, and restore water quality in lakes, rivers, and streams and to protect groundwater from degradation, and at least five percent of the clean water fund must be spent only to protect drinking water sources; 14.25 percent of the receipts shall be deposited in the parks and trails fund and may be spent only to support parks and trails of regional or statewide significance; and 19.75 percent shall be deposited in the arts and cultural heritage fund and may be spent only for arts, arts education, and arts access and to preserve Minnesota's history and cultural heritage. An outdoor heritage fund, a parks and trails fund; a clean water fund and a sustainable drinking water account; and an arts and cultural heritage fund are created in the state treasury. The money dedicated under this section shall be appropriated by law. The dedicated money under this section must supplement traditional sources of funding for these purposes and may not be used as a substitute. Land acquired by fee with money deposited in the outdoor heritage fund under this section must be open to the public taking of fish and game during the open season unless otherwise provided by law. If the base of the sales and use tax is changed, the sales and use tax rate in this section may be proportionally adjusted by law to within one-thousandth of one percent in order to provide as close to the same amount of revenue as practicable for each fund as existed before the change to the sales and use tax.



# LESSARD-SAMS OUTDOOR HERITAGE COUNCIL

JOINT LEGISLATIVE SERVICES DIRECTORY

[Adopted, November 4, 2008]
-- Minnesota Constitution, Article XI, Section 15

## Contacting the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

85 State Office Building

Location 100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

St. Paul, MN 55155

Phone (651) 297-7141

**FAX** (651) 297-3697

E-mail lsohc@lsohc.leg.mn

Web site http://www.lsohc.leg.mn



William Becker Executive Director (651) 296-6397 bill.becker@lsohc.leg.mn



Heather Koop Project Analyst Manager (651) 297-7142 heather.koop@lsohc.leg.mn



Sandy Smith Commission Assistant (651) 297-7141 sandy.smith@lsohc.leg.mn

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# **SUNSET ADVISORY COMMISSION**

JOINT LEGISLATIVE SERVICES DIRECTORY

### **About the Sunset Advisory Commission**

This 12-member commission evaluates state agencies subject for review and makes recommendations to the legislature regarding its findings and whether the agency should be continued.

The commission consists of four members of the House of Representatives, four members of the Senate and four members appointed by the governor. Commission's Statutory Authority

The Sunset Advisory Commission was created by the 2011 Legislature to periodically review state agencies and make recommendations on whether the agency should continue to exist.

Minnesota Statutes 3D

### Contacting the Sunset Advisory Commission

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**Location** 100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd

St. Paul, MN 55155

Phone (651) 296-9002

Fax (651) 297-3697

E-mail lcc@lcc.leg.mn

Web site http://www.commissions.leg.state.mn.us/sunset/

Greg Hubinger
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Sally Olson Commission Assistant, LCC (651) 296-9002 sally.olson@lcc.leg.mn

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# LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION ON METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT

JOINT LEGISLATIVE SERVICES DIRECTORY

### About the Legislative Commission on Metropolitan Government

The Legislative Commission on Metropolitan Government was established to oversee the Metropolitan Council's operating and capital budgets, work program, and capital improvement program.

The membership consists of four senators appointed by the Senate majority leader, three senators appointed by the Senate minority leader, four representatives appointed by the speaker of the House, and three representatives appointed by the House minority leader. All members must reside in or represent a portion of the seven-county metropolitan area. The

#### **Commission's Statutory Authority**

"The Legislative Commission on Metropolitan Government is established to oversee the Metropolitan Council's operating and capital budgets, work program, and capital improvement program."

-Minnesota Statutes 3.8841

appointing authorities must ensure balanced geographic representation. Each appointing authority must make appointments as soon as possible after the opening of the next regular session of the Legislature in each odd-numbered year.

# Contacting the Commission on Metropolitan Government

72 State Office Building

**Location** 100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd

St. Paul, MN 55155

Phone (651) 296-9002

**FAX** (651) 297-3697

E-mail lcc@lcc.leg.mn

Web site http://www.lcc.leg.mn/lcmg/

Sally Olson Commission Assistant, LCC (651) 296-9002 sally.olson@lcc.leg.mn

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# LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION ON PENSIONS AND RETIREMENT

JOINT LEGISLATIVE SERVICES DIRECTORY

## About the Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement

The commission makes a continuing study and investigation of state public pension plans. The commission makes recommendations to the Legislature including financing of the various pension

funds and financing of accrued liabilities. The commission considers and oversees all aspects of pension planning to establish and maintain sound pension policy for all funds. All public pension legislation is reviewed by the commission before action in policy making

committees.

#### **Commission's Statutory Authority**

"The Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement is created to study and investigate public retirement systems."

-Minnesota Statutes, Section 3.85

The commission consists of seven members of the Senate and seven members of the House of Representatives (by Laws 2011, First Special Session, Chapter 10, Article 3, Section 1). Members are appointed at the commencement of each biennium.

The commission is one of almost two dozen state pension commissions nationwide. Initially established in the 1943 legislative session as an interim commission, the commission was made a permanent entity in 1967.

#### Function of the Commission

The commission performs five major functions:

Reviews and makes recommendations on pending proposed public pension legislation;

Conducts ongoing research on pension policy issues;

Provides legislative oversight for Minnesota's system of over 700 public employee pension plans;

Reviews the regular actuarial valuations and periodic experience studies of the statewide and major local public pension plans; and

Assesses the sufficiency of current public pension plan funding and recommends required modifications.

The general direction of the commission is established by the chair, who serves a two-year term and is elected by the commission membership. The chair position alternates between the House and Senate members. The commission typically meets weekly during the legislative session through the second bill hearing deadline. During the interim months between sessions, the commission meets monthly.



# LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION ON PENSIONS AND RETIREMENT

JOINT LEGISLATIVE SERVICES DIRECTORY

# Contacting the Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement

55 State Office Building

**Location** 100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd

St. Paul, MN 55155

Phone (651) 296-2750

FAX (651) 297-3697

E-mail lcpr@lcpr.leg.mn

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**Executive Director** (651) 296-2750



**Ed Burek Deputy Director** (651) 296-2750 edward.burek@lcpr.leg.mn



Lisa Diesslin **Commission Assistant** (651) 296-6806 lisa.diesslin@lcpr.leg.mn



**Peggy Orren** Secretary (651) 296-2750 peggy.orren@lcpr.leg.mn



# LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION ON PLANNING AND FISCAL POLICY

JOINT LEGISLATIVE SERVICES DIRECTORY

## About the Legislative Commission on Planning and Fiscal Policy

The commission was created to provide the Legislature with in-depth analysis of projected state revenues, expenditures, and tax expenditures. In considering these matters, the commission must gauge the Legislature's role in state expenditures and consider the long-term needs of the state, while not duplicating work done by standing committees of the House and the Senate.

#### Commission's Statutory Authority

"The commission shall provide the Legislature with research and analysis of current and projected state revenue, state expenditures, and state tax expenditures. ..."

-Minnesota Statutes 3.885

The commission consists of nine members of the senate appointed by the Subcommittee on Committees of the Committee on Rules and Administration and nine members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House. The chair alternates between a member of the Senate and a member of the House of Representatives in January of each odd-numbered Year

### Contacting the Legislative Commission on Planning and Fiscal Policy

72 State Office Building

**Location** 100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd

St. Paul, MN 55155

Phone (651) 296-9002

Fax (651) 297-3697

E-mail lcc@lcc.leg.mn

Web site http://www.commissions.leg.state.mn.us/lcpfp/lcpfp.htm

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# **GREAT LAKES COMMISSION**

#### JOINT LEGISLATIVE SERVICES DIRECTORY

#### About the Great Lakes Commission

The commission promotes development of the Great Lakes basin, plans water resource development, makes maximum possible use of navigational aids and other public works, and secures balanced use of the basin. The compact governing the commission was signed by Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin and Ontario.

#### Contacting the Great Lakes Commission

72 State Office Building

Location 100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd

St. Paul, MN 55155

Phone (651) 296-9002

Fax (651) 297-3697

E-mail lcc@lcc.leg.mn

Web site http://www.glc.org/about/states/minnesota.html

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# LEGISLATIVE ENERGY COMMISSION

JOINT LEGISLATIVE SERVICES DIRECTORY

## About the Legislative Energy Commission

The Legislative Energy Commission was created by the Minnesota Legislature in 2008, which was formerly constituted as the Electric Energy Task Force. The commission evaluates the energy policies of the state, assessing the impact on the future of the environment and the economy. The commission also monitors the state's progress in achieving goals to develop renewable sources of electric

### **Statutory Authority**

"The commission shall continuously evaluate the energy policies of this state and the degree to which they promote an environmentally and economically sustainable energy future."

- Minnesota Statutes 3.8851

energy; evaluates progress in reducing greenhouse gas emissions; reviews and recommends proposed energy legislation and takes public testimony on energy issues.

The membership of the commission consists of ten members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House and ten members of the Senate appointed by the Senate Subcommittee on Committees of the Committee on Rules and Administration.

## Contacting the Legislative Energy Commission

72 State Office Building

**Location** 100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd

St. Paul, MN 55155

Phone (651) 296-9002

FAX (651) 297-3697

**E-mail** <u>lcc@lcc.leg.mn</u>

Web site http://www.lcc.leg.mn/lec/

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# MISSISSIPPI RIVER PARKWAY COMMISSION

JOINT LEGISLATIVE SERVICES DIRECTORY

#### About the Mississippi River Parkway Commission

The commission aids in the development of a scenic parkway and highway along the Mississippi River in Minnesota, and in the promotion of economic development opportunities along the Great River Road. It works with the state and local agencies of the National Mississippi River Parkway Commission in the promotion of tourism and the enhancement of economic development in the Mississippi River Valley.

# Contacting the Mississippi River Parkway Commission

Location:

300 33rd Avenue South, Suite 101

Waite Park, MN 56387

(320) 259-8184

Website: http://www.mnmississippiriver.com/byway-news.cfm

Chris Miller **MN-MRPC** Director /Project Lead, The **Odyssey Group** (320) 259 - 8184chris@topartners.com

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# **ELECTRONIC REAL ESTATE** RECORDING COMMISSION

JOINT LEGISLATIVE SERVICES DIRECTOR

#### About the Electric Real Estate Recording Commission

The Electric Real Estate Recording Commission was established by the Legislature in 2008 to

develop and maintain uniform statewide standards for the filling of residential real estate documents in electronic formats in the State of Minnesota. The commission consists of seven voting members and one non-voting member that are appointed for either two or four year terms. Commission members serve without pay or reimbursement of expenses.

### **Statutory Authority**

An Electronic Real Estate Recording Commission is created to and adopt standards to implement sections 507.0941 (definitions) to 507.0948 (donations).

-MS 507.0945Articles 2 and 3

Various real estate recording sector organizations specified in the session law appoint six of the members of the commission. The remaining voting member is the state archivist. The non-voting member is a technical-expert, is appointed by the voting members of the commission and serves for a time period determined by the commission.

The predecessor organization of the commission was the Electronic Real Estate Recording Task Force that served from 1999 to 2008, during which time the organization was primarily administered by the Office of the Secretary of State.

## Contact the Electric Real Estate Recording Commission

72 State Office Building

Location 100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd

St. Paul, MN 55155

Phone

(651) 296-1121

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E-mail lcc@lcc.leg.mn

Diane Henry-Wangensteen Assistant Director, LCC

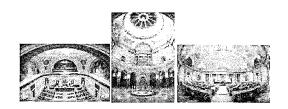
(651) 296-1121 diane.henry@lcc.leg.mn Sally Olson

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Joint Departments and Commissions Minnesota Legislature November, 2012