#### **INFORMATION BRIEF**

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# **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 134 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.

## Number of Groups by Subject Area

- Commerce and Economic Development 5
- Crime and Corrections 11
- Education 15
- Environment and Natural Resources 16
- Health and Human Services 47
- Labor, Employment, and Codes 7
- Transportation 8
- Other 25

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## **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.

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## **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."

## **Membership Terms**

Section 15.059 provides that 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

Under section 15.059, 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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 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 recreated.

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 under conditions and limits that apply to state employees.

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## 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 website. The annual report can be found at: http://www.sos.state.mn.us/index.aspx?page=360.

## **Review of Advisory Groups**

By September 1 of each odd-numbered year, the Legislative Commission on Planning and Fiscal Policy must compile a list of executive branch groups created in statute. The commission may develop a schedule for review of advisory groups or may select particular groups for review. By December 31 of each odd-numbered year, the commission may make recommendations on the continuing need for certain advisory groups, and on any changes in laws governing a group that are needed to improve the groups' efficiency and effectiveness.<sup>2</sup>

Section 15.059, subdivision 6, provides that if a *task force* is mandated by statute, it expires no 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. The laws creating some other advisory groups specify expiration dates for the group.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Minn. Stat. § 3.885, subd. 11.

# **Executive Branch Advisory Groups**

Name	Statute	Expiration Date		
Commerce and Economic Development				
Douglas J. Johnson Economic Protection Trust Fund Technical Advisory Committee	§ 298.297	None		
Explore Minnesota Tourism Council	§ 116U.25	None		
Northeast Minnesota Economic Development Fund Technical Advisory Committees	§ 298.2213, subd. 5	None		
Trade Policy Advisory Council	§ 116J.9661	January 1, 2020		
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	None		
Correctional Facility Site Selection Task Force	§ 243.93	At the discretion of the commissioner of corrections		
Criminal Justice Information Systems Advisory Task Force	§ 299C.65, subd. 2	At the discretion of the criminal justice information policy group		
Financial Crimes Advisory Board	§ 299A.681	None		
Financial Crimes Task Force	§ 299A.681	None		
Interstate Adult Offender Advisory Council	§ 243.1606	None		
Interstate Compact for Juveniles Advisory Council	§ 260.515	None		
Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee	§ 299A.72	None		
Sex Offender Treatment Advisory Task Force	§ 241.67, subd. 8	At the discretion of the commissioner of corrections		
Violent Crime Coordinating Council	§ 299A.642	None		
Woman and Juvenile Female Offender Task Force	§ 241.71	At the discretion of the commissioner of corrections		

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Name	Statute	Expiration Date	
Forest Resources Research Advisory Committee	§ 89A.08	June 30, 2021	
Game and Fish Fund Citizens Advisory Subcommittee	§ 97A.055, subd. 4b	June 30, 2015	
Greater Minnesota Parks and Trails Commission	§ 85.536	None	
Mineral Coordinating Committee	§ 93.0015	June 30, 2016	
Nuclear Waste Council	§ 116C.711	None	
Off-Highway Vehicle Safety Advisory Council	§ 84.9011, subd. 4	None	
Power Plant Siting Advisory Task Force	§ 216E.08	At the discretion of the Public Utilities Commission	
Power Plant Siting Scientific Task Force	§ 216E.08	At the discretion of the Public Utilities Commission	
Small Business Air Quality Compliance Advisory Council	§ 116.99	None	
Subsurface Sewage Treatment Systems Implementation Task Force	§ 115.55, subd. 13	At the discretion of the Pollution Control Agency	
Water Supply Systems and Wastewater Treatment Facilities Advisory Council	§ 115.741	June 30, 2019	
Wells and Boring Advisory Council	§ 103I.105	None	
Health and Human Services			
Acupuncture Advisory Council	§ 147B.05	None	
Advanced Practice Nursing Advisory Council	§ 148.2841	February 2, 2022	
Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Advisory Council	§ 254A.04	June 30, 2018	
All-payer Claims Database Work Group	§ 62U.04, subd. 12	None	
American Indian Advisory Council on Chemical Dependency	§ 254A.035, subd. 2	June 30, 2018	
American Indian Child Welfare Advisory Council	§ 260.835	June 30, 2018	
Athletic Trainers Advisory Council	§ 148.7805	None	
Council of Health Boards	§ 214.025	None	

Name	Statute	Expiration Date
Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Minnesotans Commission	§ 256C.28	None
Development and Implementation Council for Community First Services and Support	§ 256B.85, subd.	None
Diagnostic Codes List Advisory Committees	§ 245.487, subd. 7	None
Drug Utilization Review Board	§ 256B.0625, subd. 13i	None
E-Health Advisory Committee	§ 62J.495, subd. 2	June 30, 2015
Health Care Homes Advisory Committee	§ 256B.0751, subd.	None
Health Care Peer Review Committee	§ 241.021, subd. 4b	None
Health Licensing Advisory Councils (several groups)	§ 214.13, subd. 4	None
Health Professionals Services Program Advisory Committee	§ 214.32, subd. 1	None
Hearing Instrument Dispenser Advisory Council	§ 153A.20	None
Heritable and Congenital Disorders Advisory Committee	§ 144.1255	None
Home Care Provider Advisory Council	§ 144A.4799	None
Human Services Performance Council	§ 402A.16	None
Independent Living Council	§ 268A.02, subd. 2	None
Laboratory Assessor Selection Committee	§ 144.98, subd. 10	June 30, 2018
Licensed Traditional Midwifery Advisory Council	§ 147D.25	None
Maternal and Child Health Task Force	§ 145.8811	June 30, 2015
Medical Assistance Drug Formulary Committee	§ 256B.0625, subd. 13c	June 30, 2018
Medical Assistance Health Services Policy Committee	256B.0625, subd. 3c	None
Medical Cannabis Therapeutic Research Task Force	§ 152.36	None
Mental Health Advisory Council	§ 245.697	None
Minnesota Insurance Marketplace advisory committees	§ 62V.04, subd. 13	None

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Name	Statute	Expiration Date
No. 1 Control Distriction Additional Control Distriction Control Di	0.000 0.00 1.1.0	-
Minnesota State Rehabilitation Advisory Council	§ 268A.02, subd. 2	None
OSHA Advisory Council	§ 182.656	None
Workers' Compensation Advisory Council	§ 175.007	None
Workers' Compensation Self-Insurers Advisory Committee	§ 79A.02	None
Workforce Development Council	§ 116L.665	When there is no federal funding
Transportation		
City Engineer Screening Board	§ 162.13, subd. 3	None
Commuter Rail Corridor Advisory Committee	§ 174.86, subd. 5	None
Council on Transportation Access	§ 174.285	None
County Engineer Screening Board	§ 162.07, subd. 5	None
County and Municipal State-Aid Advisory Committee	§ 162.152	None
Local Road Improvement Advisory Committee	§ 174.52, subd. 3	None
Mississippi River Parkway Commission	§ 161.1419	June 30, 2016
Nonmotorized Transportation Advisory Committee	§ 174.37	June 30, 2018
Other		
Arts Board Advisory Committee	§ 129D.04, subd. 1	For a term of no more than four years
Assistive Technology Advisory Council	§ 16B.055, subd. 1	None
Breeder Fund Advisory Committees	§ 240.18, subd. 4	None
Capitol Area Architectural and Planning Board Advisory Committee	§ 15B.11, subd. 2	None
Capitol Area Security Advisory Committee	§ 299E.04	June 30, 2022
Combative Sports Advisory Council	§ 341.221	None
Council on Local Results and Innovation	§ 6.90	January 1, 2020
E-Government Advisory Council	§ 16E.071	January 2017

Name	Statute	Expiration Date
Emergency Energy Assistance Advisory Council	§ 216C.265, subd.	None
Fire Service Advisory Committee	§ 299F.012, subd.	None
Food Safety and Defense Task Force	§ 28A.21	June 30, 2017
Geospatial Information Advisory Council	§ 16E.30, subd. 8	None
Governor's Residence Council	§ 16B.27, subd. 3	None
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 Organic Advisory Task Force	§ 31.94	June 30, 2016
NextGen Energy Board	§ 41A.105	June 30, 2015
Noxious Weed Advisory Committee	§ 18.91	None
Pay-for-Performance Oversight Committee	§ 16A.94	None
State Capitol Preservation Commission	§ 15B.32	None
Statewide Radio Board advisory groups	§ 403.40, subd. 2	None
Tax Information Sample Data Committee	§ 270C.12	None
Technology Advisory Committee	§ 16E.036	None
Urban Indian Advisory Board	§ 3.922, subd. 8	None
Voluntary Statewide Lump-Sum Volunteer Firefighter Retirement Plan Advisory Board	§ 353G.03	None

For more information about the executive branch, visit the state government area of our website, www.house.mn/hrd/.