



November 4, 2021

Via Email

Governor Walz
Via Policy Adviser
Jon Kelley
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Via Email

Michelle Weber
Executive Director
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Via Email

Representative Rob Ecklund, Chair
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Senator Eric Pratt, Chair
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Via Email

Ryan Inman
Revisor
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Re: Annual Report on Obsolete, Unnecessary, or Duplicative Rules

Dear Governor Walz, Executive Director Weber, Legislators, and Mr. Inman:

The Bureau of Mediation Services respectfully submits its annual report on obsolete, unnecessary, or duplicative rules.

The bureau started a rulemaking proceeding on October 26, 2020; as part of this proceeding, the bureau has identified obsolete rules to remove from its rule chapters. You can find information on the rulemaking proceeding from the bureau's [website \(https://mn.gov/bms/\)](https://mn.gov/bms/).

In addition to removing obsolete rules in the current rulemaking proceeding, the bureau has identified several obsolete rules in its chapter on labor-management committee grants (Minnesota Rules, chapter 5520). This chapter applies to grants under the area labor-management committee grant program (Minnesota Statutes, sections 179.81 to 179.85). The bureau no longer issues grants under this program and instead provides training to labor-management committees; until the grant program is repealed, the obsolete rules identified in this report should be corrected.

5520.0120, subpart 7

- “Office of Cooperative Labor-Management Programs” means the office within the bureau created to administer the grant program.

Explanation: This office does not exist.

5520.0200, subpart 2

- The commissioner must publish notice of fund availability in the *State Register*.

Explanation: The bureau would publish notice on its website, not in the *State Register*.

- A grant application must be submitted to the bureau by October 15 of the previous year.

Explanation: An application must be submitted by January 1.

5520.0300, subpart 1

- All grants are awarded for a 12-month period commencing January 1.

Explanation: The grant period should start with July 1 to align with the bureau’s budget.

5520.0540

- Grant recipients must consult with the Office of Cooperative Labor-Management Programs before making budget adjustments.

Explanation: The office does not exist, so grant recipients must consult with the commissioner.

5520.0560

- Each grant recipient must file detailed financial and activity reports on a quarterly basis.

Explanation: The quarterly schedule should be amended to align with the July-June fiscal year.

5520.0600

- Each grant recipient must establish and maintain a system of financial management of the grant that complies with accepted accounting practices.

Explanation: The term *accepted accounting practices* should be amended to *generally accepted accounting principles*.

- The cost to prepare this report was about \$60.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 651-539-1414 or ian.lewenstein@state.mn.us.

Sincerely,

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Cc: Chris Steller, Legislative Reference Library