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Uniform Laws Commission

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AT A GLANCE

- Twelve Commissioners, as members of the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws (ULC), volunteer their services to draft uniform acts for adoption by the states and promote their adoption in Minnesota
- Minnesota introduced and enacted three acts in the past two years and has over 99 that are currently in statute.
- Commissioners worked with legislators and stakeholders to secure adoption of uniform acts.

PURPOSE

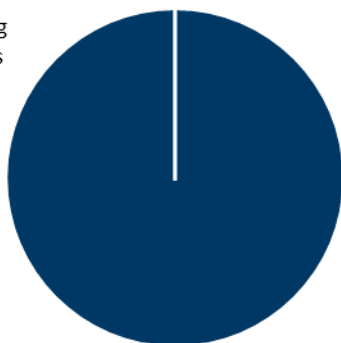
Twelve Minnesota uniform law commissioners work with commissioners from other states, the District of Columbia, U.S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico to prepare uniform acts that address complex and technical issues of commercial and other private law for introduction in their respective legislatures. Uniform acts establish the legal framework for economic growth, trade, business development, real property, family law, child support, criminal justice, and support for the rule of law and federalism.

- Uniform acts enable states to carry out their responsibilities by providing rules and procedures that are consistent from state to state, but that also reflect the diverse experience of the states, preserving the role of state law in the United States' federal system of government
- The ULC keeps state law up to date by addressing important and timely legal issues
- Uniform acts promote efficiency by reducing the need for individuals and businesses to deal with different laws as they move and do business in different states
- The ULC's work facilitates economic development and provides a legal platform for U.S. citizens and businesses when dealing with foreign citizens and entities

BUDGET

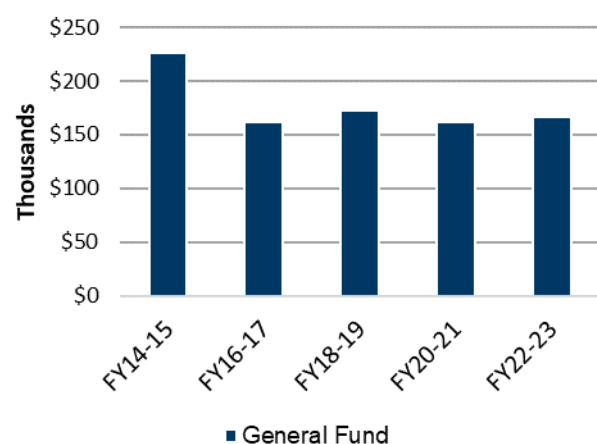
**Spending by Category
FY 2023 Actual**

Operating
Expenses
100%



Source: Budget Planning & Analysis System (BPAS)

Historical Spending



Source: Consolidated Fund Statement

The total fiscal year (FY) 2025 budget of \$115,000 was provided by a general fund appropriation. Funding is used to pay dues to the national commission and expenses incurred by Minnesota commissioners attending the annual conference.

STRATEGIES

Minnesota uniform law commissioners donate hundreds of hours of their time and legal and drafting expertise every year as a public service and receive no salary or compensation for their work.

ULC's deliberative and uniquely open drafting process draws on the expertise of commissioners, but also utilizes input from legal experts, advisors, and observers representing the views of other legal organizations or interests that will be subject to the proposed laws.

Drafting committees prepare acts for debate and approval at annual meetings. Each drafting committee meets two to three weekends per year, usually for two and one-half days. Drafting an act typically takes two years. Before an act is approved and promulgated, it is read line-by-line, scrutinized, and debated by the entire Uniform Law Conference at two annual meetings.

Minnesota commissioners fulfill their statutory responsibilities by participating in the development, drafting, approval and promulgation of uniform acts. Commissioners do this by (1) serving on drafting committees that prepare acts, (2) participating in the mandatory annual meeting at which proposed acts are debated, amended and approved, (3) promoting adoption by the legislature, and (4) securing support from people and organizations interested in an act, such as the Minnesota State Bar Association. Minnesota commissioners have been chosen to be leaders of the ULC, serving as presidents and both as chairs and members of the Executive, Scope and Program, and Legislative committees, as well as both chairs and members of drafting and study committees. Commissioners also serve as liaisons and attend annual meetings of the National Association of Secretaries of State and the American Bar Association. Finally, Commissioners develop a legislative agenda for each legislative session of the Minnesota State Legislature.

RESULTS

Measure name	Measure type	Measure data source	Historical trend	Most recent data
Acts adopted by the legislature 1892-2022	Result	MN Statutes	157 uniform acts have been adopted since 1892, with over 99 currently in effect	157 acts adopted before 2022
MN commissioners secured introduction and enactment of three uniform acts in 2023-2024	Results	MN Statutes	Three acts enacted: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Uniform Electronic Wills Act 2. Uniform Commercial Code – 2022 Amendments 3. Uniform Protection of Public Expression Act 	Enactment of three acts occurred during the 2023-2024 legislative sessions of the MN State Legislature

M.S. 3.251-.253 (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=3.251>) provides the legal authority for the Uniform Laws Commission.

(Dollars in Thousands)

	Actual FY22	Actual FY23	Actual FY24	Estimate FY25	Forecast Base		Governor's Recommendation	
					FY26	FY27	FY26	FY27

Expenditures by Fund

1000 - General	80	87	100	130	115	115	115	115
Total	80	87	100	130	115	115	115	115
Biennial Change				63		0		0
Biennial % Change				37		0		0
Governor's Change from Base								0
Governor's % Change from Base								0

Expenditures by Program

Uniform Laws Cmsn	80	87	100	130	115	115	115	115
Total	80	87	100	130	115	115	115	115

Expenditures by Category

Operating Expenses	80	87	100	130	115	115	115	115
Total	80	87	100	130	115	115	115	115

(Dollars in Thousands)

	Actual	Actual	Actual	Estimate	Forecast Base		Governor's Recommendation	
	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY27	FY26	FY27
1000 - General								
Balance Forward In		20		15				
Direct Appropriation	100	100	115	115	115	115	115	115
Cancellations		33						
Balance Forward Out	20		15					
Expenditures	80	87	100	130	115	115	115	115
Biennial Change in Expenditures				63		0		0
Biennial % Change in Expenditures				37		0		0
Governor's Change from Base								0
Governor's % Change from Base								0

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY25	FY26	FY27	Biennium 2026-27
Direct				
Fund: 1000 - General				
FY2025 Appropriations	115	115	115	230
Forecast Base	115	115	115	230
Total Governor's Recommendations	115	115	115	230