

Subject Department of Administration

Authors Nelson, M.

Analyst Matt Gehring

Date February 9, 2022

Overview

This bill provides a number of miscellaneous changes to laws governing the work of the Department of Administration.

Summary

Section	Description
---------	-------------

1	Allotment and encumbrance.
---	-----------------------------------

Authorizes an agency with a project funded by a building appropriation to allow a consultant to proceed with supplemental work on the project before the money is officially encumbered. This allowance exists in current law for the work of contractors on a building project.

2	Definitions.
---	---------------------

Modifies an existing definition of the term “project” to specify certain types of work that are exempt from requirements related to the work of the state Designer Selection Board.

Work that is exempt includes demolition or decommissioning of state assets; hazardous materials abatement; repair and replacement of utility infrastructure, parking lots, and parking structures; security upgrades; building systems replacement or repair, including alterations to building interiors needed to accommodate the systems; and other asset preservation work not involving remodeling of occupied space.

3	Agencies must request designer.
---	--

Increases the cost threshold for projects requiring a designer to be selected using the Designer Selection Board process. Under current law, projects with an estimated cost greater than \$2 million or a planning project with estimated fees greater than \$200,000 must use this process. Those thresholds are increased to \$4 million and \$400,000, respectively.

Section	Description
4	<p>Higher education projects.</p> <p>Increases the cost threshold for projects requiring use of the Designer Selection Board for projects undertaken by the University of Minnesota and the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities. Under current law, projects with an estimated cost greater than \$2 million or a planning project with estimated fees greater than \$200,000 must use this process. Those thresholds are increased to \$4 million and \$400,000, respectively.</p>
5	<p>Rate of inflation.</p> <p>Establishes a process for inflationary adjustments to the cost thresholds related to use of the Designer Selection Board process, beginning in 2025 and every five years thereafter.</p>
6	<p>Office of Collaboration and Dispute Resolution.</p> <p>Codifies the Office of Collaboration and Dispute Resolution as a statutory office within the Department of Administration. This work was transferred from the Bureau of Mediation Services to the Department of Administration by a governor's reorganization order in 2019, but that order is not reflected in current law.</p>
7	<p>Emergency acquisition.</p> <p>Modifies the scope of the existing law authorizing emergency purchases to permit the commissioner of administration to approve purchases necessary for design and construction of any publicly-owned structure, among other changes.</p>
8	<p>Definitions.</p> <p>Updates a cross reference to reflect the increase in the cost threshold related to use of the Designer Selection Board process.</p>
9	<p>Administration of federal act.</p> <p>Designates the Minnesota Historical Society, rather than the Department of Administration, as the state agency to administer provisions of federal law related to historical and archaeological data and updates a reference to those laws.</p>
10	<p>Consultation.</p> <p>Updates provisions of law related to the work of the State Historic Preservation Office. Among the changes, a mediation task force that may be appointed by the governor to resolve certain types of disputes now may include an appointee who is an employee of the Minnesota Historical Society.</p>

Section	Description
11	Repealer. Repeals provisions of existing law related to the Office of Collaboration and Dispute Resolution. Those sections are recodified earlier in this bill, as an office of the Department of Administration.