

1.1 Backer and Bierman from the Committee on Health Finance and Policy to which was
1.2 referred:

1.3 H. F. No. 4438, A bill for an act relating to health; changing reporting provisions for
1.4 the suicide prevention plan and 988 Lifeline; amending Minnesota Statutes 2024, sections
1.5 145.56, subdivision 5; 145.561, subdivision 2.

1.6 Reported the same back with the following amendments:

1.7 Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

1.8 "Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 144.059, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

1.9 Subd. 8. **Duties.** (a) The council shall consult with and advise the commissioner on
1.10 matters related to the establishment, maintenance, operation, and outcomes evaluation of
1.11 palliative care initiatives in the state.

1.12 (b) By February 15 of each odd-numbered year, the council shall submit to the chairs
1.13 and ranking minority members of the committees of the senate and the house of
1.14 representatives with primary jurisdiction over health care a report containing:

1.15 (1) the advisory council's assessment of the availability of palliative care in the state;

1.16 (2) the advisory council's analysis of barriers to greater access to palliative care; and

1.17 (3) recommendations for legislative action, with draft legislation to implement the
1.18 recommendations.

1.19 (c) The Department of Health shall publish the report ~~each year~~ on the department's
1.20 website.

1.21 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 145.56, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

1.22 Subd. 5. **Periodic evaluations; biennial reports.** To the extent funds are appropriated
1.23 for the purposes of this subdivision, the commissioner shall conduct periodic evaluations

of the impact of and outcomes from implementation of the state's suicide prevention plan and each of the activities specified in this section. ~~By July 1, 2002, and~~ On July 1 of each even-numbered year ~~thereafter~~, the commissioner shall report the results of these evaluations to the chairs of the policy and finance committees in the house of representatives and senate with jurisdiction over health and human services issues.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 145.561, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **988 Lifeline.** (a) The commissioner shall administer the designation of and oversight for a 988 Lifeline center or a network of 988 Lifeline centers to answer contacts from individuals accessing the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline from any jurisdiction within the state 24 hours per day, seven days per week.

(b) The designated 988 Lifeline Center must:

(1) have an active agreement with the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline program for participation in the network and the department;

(2) meet the 988 Lifeline program requirements and best practice guidelines for operational and clinical standards;

(3) provide data and reports, and participate in evaluations and related quality improvement activities as required by the 988 Lifeline program and the department;

(4) identify or adapt technology that is demonstrated to be interoperable across mobile crisis and public safety answering points used in the state for the purpose of crisis care coordination;

(5) facilitate crisis and outgoing services, including mobile crisis teams in accordance with guidelines established by the 988 Lifeline program and the department;

(6) actively collaborate and coordinate service linkages with mental health and substance use disorder treatment providers, local community mental health centers including certified community behavioral health clinics and community behavioral health centers, mobile crisis teams, and community based and hospital emergency departments;

(7) offer follow-up services to individuals accessing the 988 Lifeline Center that are consistent with guidance established by the 988 Lifeline program and the department; and

(8) meet the requirements set by the 988 Lifeline program and the department for serving at-risk and specialized populations.

(c) The commissioner shall adopt rules to allow appropriate information sharing and communication between and across crisis and emergency response systems.

(d) The commissioner, having primary oversight of suicide prevention, shall work with the 988 Lifeline program, veterans crisis line, and other SAMHSA-approved networks for the purpose of ensuring consistency of public messaging about 988 services.

(e) The commissioner shall work with representatives from 988 Lifeline Centers and public safety answering points, other public safety agencies, and the commissioner of public safety to facilitate the development of protocols and procedures for interactions between 988 and 911 services across Minnesota. Protocols and procedures shall be developed following available national standards and guidelines.

(f) The commissioner shall provide ~~an annual~~ a biennial public report on 988 Lifeline usage by July 1 of each even-numbered year, including data on answer rates, abandoned calls, and referrals to 911 emergency response. The biennial report may be included as a section within the state suicide prevention report required under section 145.56.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 145.882, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 9. **Contracting and procurement.** The commissioner is exempt from the contract term limits in chapter 16C for issuance of benefits under the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) through an electronic benefit transfer (EBT) system and related services and contracts. These contracts may have an initial term of up to five years, with extensions not to exceed a ten-year total contract duration.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 145.882, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 10. **Management information systems; contracting and procurement.** WIC is exempt from the contract term limits in chapter 16C for the management information systems used for issuance of supplemental nutrition benefits and the WIC EBT systems used for processing the redemptions of supplemental nutrition benefits. These contracts may have an initial term of up to five years, with extensions not to exceed a ten-year total contract duration.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 145A.04, subdivision 15, is amended to read:

Subd. 15. **State and local advisory committees.** (a) A state community health services advisory committee is established to advise, consult with, and make recommendations to the commissioner on the development, maintenance, funding, and evaluation of local and Tribal public health services. Each community health board may appoint a member to serve

on the committee. Each of Minnesota's federally recognized Tribal Nations may appoint a member to serve on the committee. The committee must meet at least quarterly, and special meetings may be called by the committee chair or a majority of the members. A Tribal Nation may elect to participate at any time. Members or their alternates may be reimbursed for travel and other necessary expenses while engaged in their official duties.

(b) Notwithstanding section 15.059, the State Community Health Services Advisory Committee does not expire.

(c) The city boards or county boards that have established or are members of a community health board may appoint a community health advisory committee to advise, consult with, and make recommendations to the community health board on the duties under subdivision 1a.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 148.517, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Applicability.** An applicant who applies for licensure as a speech-language pathologist or audiologist by reciprocity must meet the requirements of subdivisions 2 and 3. An applicant for licensure as an audiologist by reciprocity must pass the practical test required under section 148.515, subdivision 6.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 148.517, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Current credentials required.** An applicant applying for licensure by reciprocity must provide evidence to the commissioner that the applicant holds a current and unrestricted credential for the practice of speech-language pathology or audiology in another jurisdiction that has requirements equivalent to or higher than those in effect for determining whether an applicant in this state is qualified to be licensed as a speech-language pathologist or audiologist. An applicant who provides sufficient evidence need not meet the requirements of section 148.515, except for section 148.515, subdivision 6, for applicants for licensure as an audiologist, provided that the applicant otherwise meets all other requirements of section 148.514.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 148.5191, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Renewal deadline.** Each license, including a temporary license provided under section 148.5161, must state an expiration date. An application for licensure renewal must be received by the Department of Health ~~or postmarked~~ at least 30 days before the expiration date. ~~If the postmark is illegible, the application shall be considered timely if received at least 21 days before the expiration date.~~

5.1 When the commissioner establishes the renewal schedule for an applicant, licensee, or
5.2 temporary licensee, if the period before the expiration date is less than two years, the fee
5.3 shall be prorated.

5.4 Sec. 10. REPEALER.

5.5 Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 144.9821, is repealed."

5.6 Delete the title and insert:

5.7 "A bill for an act
5.8 relating to health; changing certain reporting provisions; specifying contract term
5.9 limits for WIC; clarifying members to serve on the state community health services
5.10 advisory committee; modifying certain speech-language pathologist and audiologist
5.11 licensing requirements; amending Minnesota Statutes 2024, sections 144.059,
5.12 subdivision 8; 145.56, subdivision 5; 145.561, subdivision 2; 145.882, by adding
5.13 subdivisions; 145A.04, subdivision 15; 148.517, subdivisions 1, 2; 148.5191,
5.14 subdivision 4; repealing Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 144.9821."

5.15 With the recommendation that when so amended the bill be placed on the General
5.16 Register.

5.17 This Committee action taken March 23, 2026

5.18, Co-Chair

5.19, Co-Chair