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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-FOURTH SESSION

H. F. No. 4241

03/12/2026

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The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Elections Finance and Government Operations

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to medical examiners; modifying the procedure to select the Hennepin
1.3 County medical examiner; amending Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 390.0065.

1.4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.5 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 390.0065, is amended to read:

1.6 **390.0065 HENNEPIN COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER; SELECTION AND**
1.7 **TERM.**

1.8 Hennepin County shall use the following procedure to select the Hennepin County
1.9 medical examiner: the Hennepin County Board shall designate three ~~licensed physicians~~
1.10 individuals who shall constitute a Medical Examiner Board. One member shall be a ~~dean~~
1.11 ~~or professor of the Department of Pathology of a Class A medical school as designated by~~
1.12 ~~the American Medical Association. Another~~ professor of pathology in the Department of
1.13 Laboratory Medicine and Pathology at the University of Minnesota. The second member
1.14 of the board shall be a ~~member of the Minnesota Society of Pathologists~~ pathologist practicing
1.15 at Hennepin Healthcare. The third member shall be ~~designated by the Hennepin County~~
1.16 ~~Medical Association from its membership~~ the director of medical examiner operations at
1.17 the Hennepin County Medical Examiner's Office. The Medical Examiner Board shall accept
1.18 applications for the position of Hennepin County medical examiner when a vacancy exists
1.19 in the office. Applications ~~therefore~~ shall be considered from doctors of medicine who are:
1.20 (1) graduates of a medical school recognized by the American Medical Association or
1.21 American Osteopathic Association; (2) members in good standing in the medical profession; and
1.22 (3) eligible for appointment to the staff of the Hennepin County Medical Center, a license
1.23 to practice medicine in Minnesota; and (4) ~~certified or eligible for certification~~ board-certified

2.1 in forensic pathology by the American Board of Pathology. The Medical Examiner Board
2.2 shall review the qualifications of the applicants ~~and shall~~, rank the applicants deemed
2.3 qualified for the position, and provide to the county board a report of the ~~seven highest~~
2.4 ~~ranked~~ applicants together with their qualifications. The county board shall appoint a county
2.5 medical examiner from those listed in the report. The term of the examiner shall continue
2.6 for four years from the date of appointment. Reappointment shall be made at least 90 days
2.7 prior to the expiration of the term. If a vacancy requires a temporary appointment, the board
2.8 of commissioners shall appoint a medical doctor on the staff of the county medical examiner's
2.9 office to assume the duties of the medical examiner until an appointment can be made in
2.10 compliance with the specified selection procedure. Actual and necessary expenses of the
2.11 Medical Examiner Board shall be paid in accordance with sections 471.38 to 471.415.

2.12 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.