

House Research Act Summary

CHAPTER: 368

SESSION: 2000 Regular Session

TOPIC: Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Prevention

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Overview

This act establishes the office of director of domestic violence and sexual assault prevention as part of the office of crime victims services and establishes an interagency task force to prepare a strategic plan to prevent domestic violence and sexual assault.

1 **Director of domestic violence and sexual assault prevention.**

Subd. 1. Appointment of director. Requires the executive director of the center for crime victims services to appoint a director of domestic violence and sexual assault prevention.

Subd. 2. Director's responsibilities. Requires the director to promote prevention by:

Advocating for the rights of victims

Increasing public education and awareness about prevention of domestic violence and sexual assault

Encouraging and improving accountability at all levels of the system

Supporting prosecution and civil litigation

Initiating policy changes

Coordinating resources and promoting immediate community responses to serve victims

Building partnerships among law enforcement, prosecutors, defenders, advocates and courts

Encouraging and supporting health care providers, mental health professionals, employers, educators, clergy and the public to raise awareness and prevent domestic violence and sexual assault

Coordinating and maximizing the use of federal, state and local resources to prevent domestic violence and sexual assault

Serving as a liaison between the center for crime victims services and department of

health and overseeing how the department of health spends its sexual violence prevention federal block grant.

Subd. 3. Serve as chair of interagency task force. Requires the director to chair an interagency task force.

Subd. 4. Annual report. Requires an annual report.

2 **Interagency task force.**

Subd. 1. Membership. Establishes an interagency task force on domestic abuse and sexual assault prevention consisting of the following members

the director of domestic abuse and sexual assault prevention

the director of drug policy and violence prevention

a representative of the department of children, families and learning

a representative of the department of corrections

a representative of the department of health

a representative of the department of human services

a representative of the department of economic security

a county attorney

a judge

a city attorney

a representative of the U.S. Attorney's office

the attorney general

a representative from the Minnesota coalition for battered women

a representative from the Minnesota coalition against sexual assault

a representative from a battered women shelter

the executive director of the center for crime victim services

a peace officer.

Subd. 2 Chair, staff. Requires the director of domestic abuse and sexual assault prevention to serve as chair of the task force and provide necessary staff.

Subd. 3. Objectives. Requires the task force to promote the requisite objectives and prepare the requisite strategic plan.

Subd. 4. Strategic plan; evaluation. Requires the task force submit a strategic plan by January 15, 2001 addressing the following:

Recommendations to reduce domestic abuse and sexual assault

Recommendations to coordinate existing resources

Recommended changes to policy and law

Recommendations for increased services and resources

Requires the task force report annually evaluating the strategic plan and report on progress made to reduce domestic violence and sexual assault.

Subd. 5. SAFE council. Requires the task force cooperate and coordinate its activities with the SAFE council.

Subd. 6. Expiration and compensation. Terminates the task force June 30, 2005 and allows task force members to receive compensation and reimbursement.

3 **Duties.** Requires the sexual assault advisory council to advise the director of domestic violence and sexual assault prevention.

- 4 **Duties.** Requires the battered women advisory council to advise the director of domestic violence and sexual assault prevention.
- 5 **Initial evaluation.** Makes the first task force evaluation due January 15, 2002.
- 6 **Effective date.** Makes sections 1 to 5 effective July 1, 2000.