

# House Research Act Summary

**CHAPTER:** 204

**SESSION:** 2008 Regular Session

**TOPIC:** Transfer of DOER duties

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## Overview

In 2007, the legislature enacted a law abolishing the Department of Employee Relations (DOER) and transferring its duties to other state agencies (primarily the Department of Finance). The 2007 law (Laws 2007, Chapter 148, article 2, section 80) required the transfer to be completed by June 1, 2008. This bill makes statutory changes codifying the transfer required by the 2007 law. These sections are primarily technical, given the changes already required in 2007.

### Section

- 1 **Departments of the state.** Strikes DOER from a list of state departments.
- 2 **Departments.** Strikes DOER from a list of state departments.
- 3 **Agency head salaries.** Strikes the commissioner of employee relations from a list of agency head salaries.
- 4 **Commissioner of finance; reference to new duties.** Amends laws governing duties of the commissioner of finance to refer to powers and duties in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 43A that formerly were assigned to DOER.
- 5 **Commissioner of administration; reference to new duties.** Amends laws governing duties of the commissioner of administration to refer to duties relating to state employee workers' compensation claims, which were assigned to the commissioner in the 2007 law.
- 6 **Productivity loan committee.** Strikes reference to the DOER commissioner.
- 7 **Workers compensation; state employees.** Strikes reference in chapter 43A to authority to settle workers' compensation claims, because chapter 43A now refers to the commissioner of finance, and this duty has been assigned to the commissioner of administration.
- 8 **Executive direction.** Allows the commissioner to appoint one deputy with principal responsibility for employee relations.
- 9 **Civil service projects.** Strikes reference to the commissioner of employee relations. The

- remaining reference to the “commissioner” will mean the commissioner of finance.
- 10 **Hazard identification.** Strikes reference to the commissioner of employee relations. The remaining reference to the “commissioner” will mean the commissioner of finance.
- 11 **Personnel bureau.** Strikes reference to a personnel bureau in DOER. Such a “bureau” will not exist in the Department of Finance (and has not existed as a “bureau” for some time in DOER).
- 12 **Comparability adjustments.** Strikes reference to consulting with the commissioner of DOER.
- 13 **Labor relations bureau.** Strikes reference to a labor relations bureau in DOER. Such a “bureau” will not exist in the Department of Finance (and has not existed as a “bureau” for some time in DOER).
- 14 **Labor relations bureau.** Strikes reference to a labor relations bureau in DOER. Such a “bureau” will not exist in the Department of Finance (and has not existed as a “bureau” for some time in DOER).
- 15 **Unclassified positions.** Strikes reference to DOER.
- 16 **Vacation leave.** Strikes reference to the commissioner of employee relations. The remaining reference to the “commissioner” will mean the commissioner of finance.
- 17 **Health/dental.** Substitutes reference to commissioner of finance for a reference to the commissioner of DOER.
- 18 **Notice.** Strikes references to DOER commissioner.
- 19 **Procedures.** Strikes reference to DOER, leaving the commissioner of finance as the responsible commissioner.
- 20 **Contracts to contain statement of benefits.** Strikes reference to the commissioner of employee relations. The remaining reference to the “commissioner” will mean the commissioner of finance.
- 21 **Employee insurance trust fund.** Strikes reference to the commissioner of employee relations. The remaining reference to the “commissioner” will mean the commissioner of finance.
- 22 **Administration; insurance.** Strikes reference to the commissioner of employee relations. The remaining reference to the “commissioner” will mean the commissioner of finance.
- 23 **Drug purchasing program.** Strikes reference to the commissioner of employee relations. The remaining reference to the “commissioner” will mean the commissioner of finance.
- 24 **Pretax expense accounts.** Strikes reference to the commissioner of employee relations. The remaining reference to the “commissioner” will mean the commissioner of finance.
- 25 **Definitions; combined charities.** Strikes reference to the commissioner of employee relations. The remaining reference to the “commissioner” will mean the commissioner of finance.
- 26 **Registration; combined charities.** Strikes reference to the commissioner of employee relations. The remaining reference to the “commissioner” will mean the commissioner of finance. Strikes reference to DOER providing an annual notice to Finance.
- 27 **Time reporting; MnSCU.** In a law governing the MnSCU board, strikes a reference to the commissioner of DOER.
- 28 **Defense of claim; workers compensation.** Consistent with the 2007 transfer of duties, provides for the commissioner of administration, rather than DOER, to defend claims against the state for workers compensation.
- 29 **Duties of attorney general; workers compensation.** Strikes reference to DOER and inserts reference to commissioner of administration in the workers compensation law.
- 30 **Medical examination; workers compensation.** Strikes reference to DOER and inserts reference to commissioner of administration in the workers compensation law.
- 31 **Legal and clerical help; workers compensation.** Strikes reference to DOER and inserts

reference to commissioner of administration in the workers compensation law.

32 **Investigation of injuries; workers compensation.** Strikes references to DOER and inserts references to commissioner of administration in the workers compensation law.

33 **Contract with insurance carriers; workers compensation.** Strikes reference to DOER and inserts reference to commissioner of administration in the workers compensation law.

34 **Payment to state employees; workers compensation.** Strikes reference to DOER and inserts reference to commissioner of administration in the workers compensation law.

35 **Compensation payments upon warrant; workers compensation.** Strikes reference to DOER and inserts reference to commissioner of administration in the workers compensation law.

36 **Cost of administering; workers compensation.** Strikes reference to DOER and inserts reference to commissioner of administration in the workers compensation law.

37 **State departments; workers compensation.** Strikes reference to DOER and inserts reference to commissioner of administration in the workers compensation law.

38 **Alternative cost allocation; workers compensation.** Strikes reference to DOER and inserts reference to commissioner of administration in the workers compensation law.

39 **Loans.** Strikes reference to DOER and inserts reference to commissioner of administration in the workers compensation law.

40 **PERA board.** In law governing duties of the board of the Public Employees Retirement Association, strikes a reference to rules and policies of DOER

41 **Projection valuation; public pensions.** In a law governing valuation of public pension plans, strikes a reference to consulting with the commissioner of DOER.

42 **Revisor instruction.** Instructs the Revisor to change specified statutory and rule references so they refer to the commissioner or department of finance, instead of the commissioner or department of employee relations.

43 **Repealer.**

- 43A.03: Creation of DOER; appointment of DOER commissioner; organization of DOER into bureaus; deputy commissioners of DOER; confidential secretary for DOER commissioner.
- 176.5401: A 1987 law transferring state workers comp claims unit and administration of peace officers benefit fund from DOLI to DOER.