

House Research Act Summary

CHAPTER: 130

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TOPIC: Legislative Coordinating Commission

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Overview

This act amends various laws relating to the work of the Legislative Coordinating Commission (LCC). This includes laws governing legislative contracts for professional and technical services, the law governing the chair of the LCC, and laws governing ethnic councils.

Section

- 1 Requirements for all contracts.** Makes various changes in the laws governing contracts for professional or technical services entered into by entities in the legislative branch:
 - Makes the requirement that no current legislative employee is able and available to perform the services called for by the contract apply to all contracts (under current law this applies to contracts over \$5,000).
 - Strikes language referring to state agencies setting aside for small businesses 25 percent of the value of procurement for professional or technical services.
 - Strikes language requiring the contracting entity to determine that no state agency has previously done work that would be substantially duplicated under the contract, and requiring the contracting entity to have specified a method of evaluating and using the work to be performed.
 - Requires the contracting entity to determine that it will assign personnel to manage the contract.
- 2 Contracts over \$25,000.** Changes from \$5,000 to \$25,000 the threshold that determines when the requirements in this subdivision apply. Strikes language requiring the contracting entity to have reviewed a detailed work plan from the contractor, and requiring the entity to have a written plan for assignment of personnel to a monitoring and liaison function. Inserts

Section

new language requiring the entity to establish any performance measures or tools it determines are necessary to evaluate contractor performance (the prior section requires the contracting entity to assign personnel to manage all contracts, regardless of value).

- 3 Reports.** Provides that the house, the senate, and the LCC must report to the Legislative Reference Library by September 1 each year with a list of professional or technical services contracts, rather than submitting this list monthly.
- 4 Chair; LCC.** Provides that the president of the senate and the speaker of the house will alternate every two years, instead of annually, as chair of the LCC.
- 5 Constitutionally dedicated funding accountability.** Under current law, the LCC maintains a Web site with information on expenditures from legacy funds. Recipients of direct appropriations from these funds are required to submit information. This section provides that if, in addition to providing information directly to the Web site, an agency submits a formal report to the LCC, the report must be submitted electronically.
- 6 Training; ethnic council members.** Current law requires gubernatorial appointees to ethnic councils to attend orientation training within the first six months of each term. This section amends the requirement to apply only during a person's initial term.
- The ethnic councils covered by this section and the next two sections are: Minnesota Council on Latino Affairs; Council for Minnesotans of African Heritage; and Council on Asian-Pacific Minnesotans.
- 7 Executive director; staff.** Current law requires executive directors of ethnic councils to consult with the commissioner of administration and Minnesota Management and Budget (MMB) on specific administrative topics. This section strikes reference to the commissioner of MMB, so that this consultation will be with the commissioner of administration.
- Current law requires the LCC to appoint an executive director for each ethnic council. This section specifies that once appointed, each council is responsible for supervising the work of its executive director. This section requires the council chair to report to the LCC chair regarding the performance of the executive director. This section requires the ethnic council executive director to consult with the ethnic council chair prior to taking disciplinary action against council employees.
- Requires the executive director to submit the council's biennial budget request to MMB as provided in the budget laws governing executive branch agencies.
- 8 Reports.** Current law requires the funding request of each ethnic council to be approved by the LCC. This section provides that the biennial budget of each council must be submitted to the LCC.