

Subject Senate Advice and Consent

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Summary

The Minnesota Constitution grants the senate the authority to confirm or reject certain appointments made by the governor. The types of appointments subject to senate confirmation cover a wide range of activities and include agency commissioners, administrative board members, notaries public, executive branch judicial officers, and others.

Officials who are appointed to a position by the governor may begin their service in that position upon the receipt of a letter of appointment by the president of the senate, even if the senate has not yet acted to confirm the appointee. In some cases, appointees have served for significant periods of time while awaiting senate action on their appointment. If the senate ultimately votes to reject the appointment, the appointee's service is terminated immediately.

This bill provides for automatic confirmation of an appointment if the senate has not acted to reject an appointment within 60 legislative days after the senate president's receipt of the appointment letter.