

Subject Ethnic councils

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Overview

This bill would require the governor to appoint alternate members to the Minnesota Council on Latino Affairs, the Council for Minnesotans of African Heritage, and the Council on Asian-Pacific Minnesotans. If a regular member is unable to attend a meeting or perform their duties, an alternate member would fill in. The purpose of these alternates would be to ensure full participation in all council meetings and activities.

The councils would track attendance and participation of both regular and alternate members. Any regular member who misses more than half of the council's scheduled meetings within a 12-month period would be automatically replaced by an alternate member pending the governor's approval of a replacement.

Summary

Section	Description
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1	Alternate pool of members for ethnic councils.
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Requires the appointment of two alternates for each council member. Requires the alternate pool of members to serve as a reserve and ensure a quorum is present and there is active participation in council business in the absence of regular council members. Requires the governor to appoint alternates that meet the same eligibility and diversity requirement as regular members with priority for members with relevant expertise in public policy, legal affairs, social work, business, or management. Provides that alternate members are encouraged to attend all meetings as nonvoting participants, unless actively filling in for an absent member. Requires annual reporting to the legislature regarding each council's use of alternate members.

Effective date: provides that this section would be effective the day following final enactment.



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