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State of Minnesota
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-FIFTH
SESSION

HOUSE FILE No. **1896**

March 12, 2007

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The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Public Safety and Civil Justice

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to public safety; establishing Legislative Commission on Terror and
1.3 Disaster Preparedness; appropriating money; proposing coding for new law in
1.4 Minnesota Statutes, chapter 12.

1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6 Section 1. [12.62] MINNESOTA LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION ON TERROR
1.7 AND DISASTER PREPAREDNESS.

1.8 Subdivision 1. **Creation; duties.** The Legislative Commission on Terror and
1.9 Disaster Preparedness is established to:

1.10 (1) advise the legislature on issues related to homeland security, emergency
1.11 management, man-made and natural disasters, terrorism, bioterrorism, public health
1.12 emergencies, and vulnerabilities in the public and private infrastructures;

1.13 (2) oversee the disaster preparation activities of the Department of Health,
1.14 Department of Public Safety, and any other state agency, office, commission, or board that
1.15 is within the commission's purview, and make recommendations to these organizations of
1.16 changes or additions to the organizations' disaster preparedness and risk reduction work
1.17 plans that the commission deems advisable; and

1.18 (3) make policy and finance recommendations to improve the state's public and
1.19 private capacity to prevent, respond to, and recover from man-made and natural threats to
1.20 the state.

1.21 Subd. 2. **Membership.** (a) The commission consists of:

1.22 (1) three members of the house of representatives, one of whom must be a member
1.23 of the minority party, to be appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives;

2.1 (2) three members of the senate, one of whom must be a member of the minority
 2.2 party, to be appointed by the senate majority leader;

2.3 (3) the commissioner of public safety, or a designee, as an ex-officio member;

2.4 (4) the commissioner of health, or a designee, as an ex-officio member;

2.5 (5) the attorney general, or a designee, as an ex-officio member;

2.6 (6) two members with relevant expertise, selected by the speaker of the house of
 2.7 representatives;

2.8 (7) two members with relevant expertise, selected by the senate majority leader;

2.9 (8) two citizen members, selected by the speaker of the house of representatives; and

2.10 (9) two citizen members, selected by the senate majority leader.

2.11 (b) Members serve for a term expiring at the close of each regular session of the
 2.12 legislature and until their successors are appointed. Members may be reappointed. The
 2.13 appointing authority shall fill vacancies.

2.14 (c) One member, elected by a majority of members, shall serve as the commission
 2.15 chair. The commission chair should have relevant subject matter education, training, and
 2.16 experience. The commission is authorized to elect a vice-chair and other officers as it
 2.17 deems necessary. The commission shall determine the duties of each officer.

2.18 (d) The commission chair shall convene meetings of the commission on a regular
 2.19 basis.

2.20 Subd. 3. **Compensation.** Compensation of legislative members is as provided in
 2.21 section 3.101. Compensation of the remaining members is as provided in section 15.0575.

2.22 Subd. 4. **Staff.** The commission may appoint and fix the compensation of such
 2.23 additional legal and other personnel and consultants or contract for services to supply
 2.24 necessary data as may be necessary to enable the commission to carry out its functions.

2.25 Subd. 5. **Data from state agencies; availability.** The commission may request
 2.26 information from any state officer or agency or political subdivision of the state in order to
 2.27 assist the commission in carrying out its duties and the state officer, agency, or subdivision
 2.28 must promptly furnish any data required, subject to applicable requirements or restrictions
 2.29 imposed by chapter 13 and section 15.17.

2.30 Subd. 6. **Report.** By January 15 of each year, the commission must submit a
 2.31 report that contains the commission's policy and appropriation recommendations to the
 2.32 legislature, the commissioner of health, and the commissioner of public safety.

2.33 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2007.

2.34 Sec. 2. **APPROPRIATION.**

- 3.1 \$1,800,000 is appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner of public
3.2 safety to fund the Legislative Commission on Terror and Disaster Preparedness and is
3.3 added to the department's base funding.