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State of Minnesota
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-SIXTH
SESSION

HOUSE FILE No. 860

February 16, 2009

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The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Higher Education and Workforce Development Finance and Policy Division

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to higher education; eliminating requirement that meetings to nominate
1.3 candidates for regent of the University of Minnesota be one week apart;
1.4 amending Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 137.0246.

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

1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 137.0246, is amended to read:

1.7 **137.0246 REGENT NOMINATION AND ELECTION.**

1.8 Subd. 2. **Regent nomination joint committee.** (a) The joint legislative committee
1.9 consists of the members of the higher education budget and policy divisions in each house
1.10 of the legislature. The chairs of the divisions from each body shall be cochairs of the
1.11 joint legislative committee. A majority of the members from each house is a quorum of
1.12 the joint committee.

1.13 (b) By February 28 of each odd-numbered year, or at a date agreed to by concurrent
1.14 resolution, the joint legislative committee shall meet to consider the advisory council's
1.15 recommendations for regent of the University of Minnesota for possible presentation to a
1.16 joint convention of the legislature.

1.17 (c) The joint committee may recommend to the joint convention candidates
1.18 recommended by the advisory council and the other candidates nominated by the joint
1.19 committee. A candidate other than those recommended by the advisory council may be
1.20 nominated for consideration by the joint committee only if the nomination receives the
1.21 support of at least three house of representatives members of the committee and two
1.22 senate members of the committee. A candidate must receive a majority vote of members
1.23 from the house of representatives and from the senate on the joint committee to be
1.24 recommended to the joint convention. The joint committee may recommend no more than

2.1 one candidate for each vacancy. In recommending nominees, the joint committee must
2.2 consider the needs of the board of regents and the balance of the board membership with
2.3 respect to gender, racial, and ethnic composition.

2.4 (d) The joint committee must meet twice, ~~approximately one week apart~~. The first
2.5 meeting is for the purpose of interviewing candidates and recommending candidates for
2.6 the joint committee to consider. The second meeting is for the purpose of voting for
2.7 candidates for recommendation to the joint convention.

2.8 Sec. 2. **EFFECTIVE DATE.**

2.9 Section 1 is effective the day following final enactment.