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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-SEVENTH SESSION

H. F. No. 2673

03/05/2012 Authored by Hornstein

The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Government Operations and Elections

1.1 A bill for an act  
1.2 relating to metropolitan government; establishing a task force to study and make  
1.3 recommendations on metropolitan governance.

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

1.5 Section 1. **TASK FORCE ON METROPOLITAN GOVERNANCE.**

1.6 Subdivision 1. **Established.** A task force on metropolitan governance is established  
1.7 to study and make recommendations to the legislature on metropolitan governance.

1.8 Subd. 2. **Membership.** The task force consists of a chair, appointed as provided  
1.9 in subdivision 3, and 17 members, appointed as follows:

1.10 (1) four persons with interest and experience in urban and regional government,  
1.11 appointed one each by the speaker of the house of representatives, the house minority  
1.12 leader, the senate Subcommittee on Committees of the senate Committee on Rules and  
1.13 Administration, and the senate minority leader;

1.14 (2) two persons representing cities in the metropolitan area, appointed by the  
1.15 Association of Metropolitan Municipalities;

1.16 (3) two persons representing counties in the metropolitan area, appointed by the  
1.17 Association of Minnesota Counties;

1.18 (4) one person appointed by the mayor of the city of Minneapolis, and one person  
1.19 appointed by the mayor of the city of Saint Paul;

1.20 (5) one person representing townships in the metropolitan area, appointed by the  
1.21 Minnesota Association of Townships;

1.22 (6) one person representing labor, appointed by the Minnesota AFL-CIO;

1.23 (7) one person representing private business, appointed by the Itasca Group;

2.1 (8) two persons representing nonprofit and nongovernmental organizations,  
2.2 appointed by the Minnesota Environmental Partnership; and

2.3 (9) two persons representing suburban mayors in the metropolitan area, appointed  
2.4 by the Regional Council of Mayors.

2.5 Subd. 3. **Chair, other officers.** The chair of the County Transportation Improvement  
2.6 Board shall serve as chair of the task force. The task force may elect from among its  
2.7 members a vice-chair and any other officers that the task force determines would be  
2.8 necessary or convenient.

2.9 Subd. 4. **Duties.** The task force shall study and evaluate models of metropolitan  
2.10 governance to address regional planning, financing, construction or acquisition, and  
2.11 operation of infrastructure and services, including but not limited to transportation, water  
2.12 and wastewater, parks, trails, recreation facilities, and open space. Among the models the  
2.13 task force must study is a hybrid council-of-governments model.

2.14 Subd. 5. **State, metropolitan agencies must cooperate; subcommittees.** The  
2.15 Metropolitan Council and state and metropolitan agencies shall cooperate with the task  
2.16 force and provide information requested in a timely fashion. The task force may establish  
2.17 subcommittees and invite other stakeholders to participate in the task force's study and  
2.18 development of recommendations.

2.19 Subd. 6. **No compensation or expenses; grants.** Members of the task force  
2.20 shall receive no compensation or per diem for participation on the task force. The task  
2.21 force may accept grant funds from any federal, state, local, or nongovernmental source  
2.22 to support its work and offset any costs imposed on the Metropolitan Council, provided  
2.23 accepting the money does not create a conflict of interest for the task force or its members.  
2.24 The Metropolitan Council may administer any grant money given to the task force.

2.25 Subd. 7. **Administrative support, staff.** The Metropolitan Council must provide  
2.26 meeting space, administrative support, and staff support for the task force. The task force  
2.27 may hold meetings in any publicly accessible location in the metropolitan area.

2.28 Subd. 8. **Meetings.** The task force is encouraged to invite public observation and  
2.29 input into its study and deliberations. The task force must provide as much notice as  
2.30 practicable of its meetings, with the assistance of Metropolitan Council staff, and hold  
2.31 the meetings in public in locations that are publicly accessible. Chapter 13D does not  
2.32 apply to meetings of the task force but the task force must, to the extent practicable, act  
2.33 in compliance with the spirit and intent of chapter 13D.

2.34 Subd. 9. **Report.** The task force shall report its findings and recommendations to  
2.35 the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with responsibility

3.1 for or jurisdiction over the Metropolitan Council and metropolitan agencies. The report is  
3.2 due by February 1, 2013.

3.3 **EFFECTIVE DATE, EXPIRATION; APPLICATION.** This section is effective  
3.4 the day following final enactment and expires June 30, 2013. Subdivisions 5, 6, and 7 apply  
3.5 in the counties of Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott, and Washington.