

CHAPTER 276--S.F.No. 2268

An act relating to metropolitan transit; expanding scope of jurisdiction of Transportation Accessibility Advisory Committee; amending Minnesota Statutes 2012, sections 473.375, by adding a subdivision; 473.386, subdivision 2.

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 473.375, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 9a. **Transportation Accessibility Advisory Committee.** The council shall establish a Transportation Accessibility Advisory Committee consisting of 15 members and a chair to advise the council on the development and management of policies regarding accessibility of all aspects of fixed regular route and special transportation services for persons with disabilities. The Transportation Accessibility Advisory Committee shall also advise the council on long-range plans to meet the accessible transportation needs of the disability community. The Transportation Accessibility Advisory Committee must include elderly persons, persons with disabilities, other users of special transportation services, and representatives of appropriate agencies for elderly persons and persons with disabilities. At least half the Transportation Accessibility Advisory Committee members must be persons who are both ADA-certified and users of public transit in the metropolitan area. Two of the appointments to the Transportation Accessibility Advisory Committee must be made by the Council on Disability in consultation with the chair of the Metropolitan Council.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 473.386, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Service contracts; management; ~~transportation accessibility advisory committee.~~** (a) The council may contract for services necessary for the provision of special transportation. Transportation service provided under a contract must specify the service to be provided, the standards that must be met, and the rates for operating and providing special transportation services.

(b) The council shall establish management policies for the service and may contract with a service administrator for day-to-day administration and management of the service. Any contract must delegate to the service administrator clear authority to administer and manage the delivery of the service pursuant to council management policies and must establish performance and compliance standards for the service administrator. The council may provide directly day to day administration and management of the service and may own or lease vehicles used to provide the service.

(c) The council shall ensure that the service administrator establishes a system for registering and expeditiously responding to complaints by users, informing users of how to register complaints, and requiring providers to report on incidents that impair the safety and well-being of users or the quality of the service.

(d) The council shall report on its special transportation services as part of the program evaluation provided for in section 473.13, subdivision 1a.

(e) The council shall provide, on an annual basis, an opportunity for users and other interested persons to provide testimony to the council concerning services provided under this section.

~~(f) The council shall establish a Transportation Accessibility Advisory Committee consisting of 15 members and a chair to advise the council on management policies for the council's special transportation service. The Transportation Accessibility Advisory Committee must include elderly and disabled persons, other users of special transportation service, and representatives of appropriate agencies for elderly and disabled persons. At least half the Transportation Accessibility Advisory Committee members must be persons who are both ADA-certified and users of public transit in the metropolitan area. Two of the appointments to the Transportation Accessibility Advisory Committee shall be made by the Council on Disability in consultation with the chair of the Metropolitan Council.~~

Sec. 3. **EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Sections 1 and 2 are effective the day following final enactment.

Presented to the governor May 15, 2014

Signed by the governor May 16, 2014, 10:33 a.m.