

## CHAPTER 256C

### HANDICAPPED PERSONS

256C.24 Regional service centers.

256C.28 Commission serving deaf and hard of hearing people.

**256C.24 REGIONAL SERVICE CENTERS.***[For text of subs 1 and 2, see M.S.1994]*

**Subd. 3. Advisory committee.** The commissioner of human services shall appoint an advisory committee of nine persons for each regional service area. Members shall include persons who are deaf and hard of hearing, persons who are communication-impaired, parents of children who are deaf and hard of hearing, parents of communication-impaired children, and representatives of county and regional human services, including representatives of private service providers. At least 50 percent of the members must be deaf or hard of hearing or communication-impaired. Committee members shall serve for a three-year term and shall serve no more than two consecutive terms. The commissioner of human services shall designate one member as chair. The commissioner of human services shall assign staff to serve as ex officio members of the committee. The compensation, removal of members, and filling of vacancies on the committee shall be as provided in section 15.0575.

**History:** 1995 c 190 s 14**256C.28 COMMISSION SERVING DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING PEOPLE.***[For text of subs 1 and 2, see M.S.1994]***Subd. 3. Duties.** The commission shall:

(1) advise the governor, the legislature, and the commissioners of the departments of human services, children, families, and learning, economic security, and health on the nature of the issues and disabilities confronting deaf and hard of hearing persons in Minnesota;

(2) advise the governor, the legislature, and the commissioners of the departments of human services, children, families, and learning, economic security, and health on the development of policies, programs, and services affecting deaf and hard of hearing persons, and on the use of appropriate federal and state money;

(3) create a public awareness of the special needs and potential of deaf and hard of hearing persons;

(4) provide the governor, the legislature, and the commissioners of the departments of human services, children, families, and learning, economic security, and health with a review of ongoing services, programs, and proposed legislation affecting deaf and hard of hearing persons;

(5) advise the governor, the legislature, and the commissioners of the departments of human services, children, families, and learning, economic security, and health on statutes or rules necessary to ensure that deaf and hard of hearing persons have access to benefits and services provided to individuals in Minnesota;

(6) recommend to the governor, the legislature, and the commissioners of the departments of human services, children, families, and learning, economic security, and health legislation designed to improve the economic and social conditions of deaf and hard of hearing persons in Minnesota;

(7) propose solutions to problems of deaf and hard of hearing persons in the areas of education, employment, human rights, human services, health, housing, and other related programs;

(8) recommend to the governor and the legislature any needed revisions in the state's affirmative action program and any other steps necessary to eliminate the underemployment or unemployment of deaf and hard of hearing persons in the state's work force;

(9) work with other state and federal agencies and organizations to promote economic development for deaf and hard of hearing Minnesotans; and

(10) coordinate its efforts with other state and local agencies serving deaf and hard of hearing persons.

*[For text of subs 4 to 6, see M.S.1994]*

**History:** *1Sp1995 c 3 art 16 s 13*