

CHAPTER 10

MULTIPLE BRANCHES OR OFFICES; OBSERVANCES

10.565 Hire a Veteran Month.

PUBLIC WEB SITES AND PUBLICATIONS
10.60 Public Web sites and publications.**10.565 HIRE A VETERAN MONTH.**

The month of May is designated "Hire a Veteran Month" in honor of the more than 48,000,000 citizen soldiers who as of January 1, 2005, have served in the United States Armed Forces, of whom over 1,500,000 have been wounded and over 1,000,000 more have made the ultimate sacrifice by giving their lives for their country. Whenever called upon to defend our national security at home or abroad, these men and women serving in the United States Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, and Coast Guard have always responded immediately and effectively, placing the national interests above their own. Each year, the governor shall issue a proclamation honoring this observance, urging Minnesota state and local government departments, agencies, and boards, as well as private employers, to give fair and appropriate consideration to hiring military veterans.

History: 2005 c 22 s 1

PUBLIC WEB SITES AND PUBLICATIONS**10.60 PUBLIC WEB SITES AND PUBLICATIONS.**

Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** For purposes of this section:

(1) "political subdivision" means a county, statutory or home rule charter city, town, school district, or other municipal corporation, and the Metropolitan Council and a metropolitan or regional agency;

(2) "publication" means a document printed with public money by an elected or appointed official of a state agency or political subdivision that is intended to be distributed publicly outside of the state agency or political subdivision;

(3) "state agency" means an entity in the executive, judicial, or legislative branch of state government; and

(4) "Web site" means a site maintained on the World Wide Web that is available for unrestricted public access and that is maintained with public money by an elected or appointed official of a state agency or political subdivision.

Subd. 2. **Purpose of Web site and publications.** The purpose of a Web site and a publication must be to provide information about the duties and jurisdiction of a state agency or political subdivision or to facilitate access to public services and information related to the responsibilities or functions of the state agency or political subdivision.

Subd. 3. **Prohibitions.** (a) A Web site or publication must not include pictures or other materials that tend to attribute the Web site or publication to an individual or group of individuals instead of to a public office, state agency, or political subdivision. A publication must not include the words "with the compliments of" or contain letters of personal greeting that promote an elected or appointed official of a state agency or political subdivision.

(b) A Web site may not contain a link to a Weblog or site maintained by a candidate, a political committee, a political party or party unit, a principal campaign committee, or a state committee. Terms used in this paragraph have the meanings given them in chapter 10A, except that "candidate" also includes a candidate for an elected office of a political subdivision.

Subd. 4. **Permitted material.** (a) Material specified in this subdivision may be included on a Web site or in a publication, but only if the material complies with

subdivision 2. This subdivision is not a comprehensive list of material that may be contained on a Web site or in a publication, if the material complies with subdivision 2.

(b) A Web site or publication may include biographical information about an elected or appointed official, a single official photograph of the official, and photographs of the official performing functions related to the office. There is no limitation on photographs, Webcasts, archives of Webcasts, and audio or video files that facilitate access to information or services or inform the public about the duties and obligations of the office or that are intended to promote trade or tourism. A state Web site or publication may include photographs or information involving civic or charitable work done by the governor's spouse, provided that these activities relate to the functions of the governor's office.

(c) A Web site or publication may include press releases, proposals, policy positions, and other information directly related to the legal functions, duties, and jurisdiction of a public official or organization.

Subd. 5. **Other standards.** This section does not prohibit a state agency or political subdivision from adopting more restrictive standards for the content of a Web site or publication maintained by the agency or political subdivision.

Subd. 6. **Enforcement.** Violation of this section is not a crime and is not subject to civil penalty.

History: 2005 c 156 art 2 s 6

NOTE: This section, as added by Laws 2005, chapter 156, article 2, section 6, is effective for political subdivisions July 1, 2006. Laws 2005, chapter 156, article 2, section 6, the effective date.