



## **Laws 2025, Chapter 35 – Judiciary, Public Safety, and Corrections Policy and Finance Bill (H.F. No. 2432 / S.F. No. 1417)**

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### **Article 1 Judiciary Appropriations**

This article appropriates money for the supreme court, court of appeals, district courts, Board of Civil Legal Aid, Guardian ad Litem Board, tax court, Uniform Laws Commission, Board on Judicial Standards, Board of Public Defense, Department of Human Rights, Office of Appellate Counsel and Training, Competency Attainment Board, Cannabis Expungement Board, and Secretary of State. The article includes funding for new positions in the Guardian ad Litem Board to supervise volunteers and reduces unspent appropriations from prior years.

The article authorizes the Judicial Branch to charge a fee for electronic access to certain court records and information. It also increases civil filing and motion fees by \$25. Filing fees for most civil actions increase from \$285 to \$310. Fees for dissolution of marriage increase from \$315 to \$340. Motion fees increase from \$75 to \$100.

### **Article 2 Public Safety Appropriations and Related Fiscal Policies**

This article appropriates money for the Minnesota Sentencing Guidelines Commission, Department of Public Safety, Peace Officer Standards and Training Board, Private Detective Board, Department of Corrections, Ombudsperson for Corrections, and Clemency Review Commission.

Within the appropriations to the Department of Public Safety, the article includes \$125,000 each year for supplemental nonprofit security grants. It contains appropriations from the general fund and workers compensation fund to establish a Financial Crimes and Fraud Section in the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension and a corresponding reduction to the appropriation to the Department of Commerce related to the transfer of employees from the Commerce Fraud Bureau. It directs the state fire marshal to conduct a comprehensive assessment of how firefighting services are provided in the state and make recommendations for any proposed changes. The article appropriates \$100,000 each year for a grant to an organization that provides legal representation for children in need of protection or services and children in out-of-home placement. It also appropriates \$100,000 each year for a grant to the Minnesota County Attorneys Association to be used for prosecutorial and law enforcement training.

Within the appropriation to the Peace Officer Standards and Training Board, the article appropriates \$4,942,000 each year to support and strengthen law enforcement training through the fund known as the Philando Castile Memorial Training Fund. The base for the appropriation is \$878,000 beginning in fiscal year 2028.

The article appropriates \$250,000 in fiscal year 2026 to the Office of Higher Education to provide reimbursement grants to eligible postsecondary schools certified to provide programs of professional peace officer education for providing in-service training programs on the use of force, including deadly force, by peace officers.

In addition, the article extends the deadline to use certain appropriations made in 2023 and 2024 and contains the following:

**Section 10** appropriates \$1,000,000 in fiscal year 2026 to the commissioner of corrections to conduct a management and decommissioning study related to the closure of MCF- Stillwater. The report must be submitted by September 30, 2026.

**Section 11** cancels \$1,000,000 of an appropriation made in fiscal year 2024 for asset preservation by the Department of Corrections. The cancellation must take place by June 30, 2025.

**Section 12** transfers \$7,232,000 in fiscal year 2026 from the general fund to the Minnesota victims of crime account.

**Section 13** establishes that the Department of Public Safety can use up to 10 percent of appropriations made for competitive grants under this act for administrative costs and up to five percent of the appropriations for grants to named recipients. Sunsets this authority on June 30, 2027.

**Section 15** requires the commissioner of corrections to develop a written plan that minimizes staff layoffs and identifies potential adverse impacts if the commissioner considers closing a state facility.

**Section 16** establishes the Minnesota victims of crime account in the special revenue fund. Provides that the account consists of money deposited into the account and any interest or earnings of the account. Appropriates money in the account to the commissioner of public safety to make grants to programs that provide services to victims of crime. Requires an annual report regarding money deposited into the account. Establishes an annual general fund transfer of \$878,000 into the account in fiscal year 2028 and \$879,000 each year beginning in fiscal year 2029.

**Section 17** increases civil marriage license fees by \$10. The fee increases from \$115 to \$125 or, if the parties qualify for a reduced fee after taking premarital education, from \$40 to \$50.

**Section 18** requires that \$10 from each marriage license fee be deposited in the Minnesota victims of crime account in the special revenue fund.

**Section 19** requires a corporation sentenced for a criminal offense to pay an assessment in addition to any fine imposed by the court. The assessment is up to \$1,000,000 for felony offenses, \$250,000 for gross misdemeanors, and \$100,000 for misdemeanors. The court must impose an assessment of at least 30% of the maximum unless the defendant makes a showing of undue hardship. Identifies the factors a court must consider when determining the amount of an assessment. Requires any money collected to be deposited in the Minnesota victims of crime account.

**Section 20** requires a person sentenced for certain criminal offenses to pay an assessment in addition to any fine imposed by the court. The assessment must be between \$500 and \$750 for a misdemeanor conviction and \$750 to \$1,000 for any other offense. Requires a waiver of the requirement for defendants who are indigent and authorizes a waiver for defendants who make a showing of hardship. Requires any money collected to be deposited in the Minnesota victims of crime account.

**Section 21** requires law enforcement agencies to register for the ATFE National Tracing Center's eTrace system, and opt-in to the system's collective data sharing feature to assist in tracing and reporting recovered or confiscated firearms. Exempts the DNR and State Patrol from the provisions of the section.

**Section 26** establishes a task force of mandatory minimum sentences to assess whether current laws and practices promote public safety and equity in sentencing. The task force must convene by August 1, 2025, meet at least monthly, and must report its findings and recommendations to the Legislature by August 15, 2026.

### **Article 3**

#### **Financial Crimes and Fraud Investigations**

This article eliminates the Commerce Fraud Bureau and moves its duties to the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA) in the Department of Public Safety. It contains conforming changes related to the transfer of duties and establishes a new Financial Crimes and Fraud Section within the BCA. The article requires agencies to report suspected fraud above a certain threshold to the new section and authorizes the referral of other information. It requires

agencies to submit annual reports to the new section and requires the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension to submit an annual report on the activities of the section.

## **Article 4**

### **Criminal Law**

**Sections 1 to 4** address the treatment of water pipe fluid in the controlled substances laws. Currently, in the first- through third-degree controlled substances possession crimes, the weight of fluid used in a water pipe may not be considered in measuring the weight of the mixture except in cases where the mixture contains four or more fluid ounces of fluid. **Sections 1 to 3** strike that language and provide that a mixture does not include fluid used in a water pipe or any amounts of controlled substances that are dissolved in the pipe's fluid. **Section 4** adds that language to the fifth-degree possession crime.

**Section 5** makes a conforming change to include the definition of "fentanyl" in the section addressing methamphetamine crimes involving children and vulnerable adults.

**Section 6** prohibits knowingly causing or permitting a child to be exposed to, have contact with, or ingest fentanyl. Creates an exception for certain manufacturers and medical professionals when acting in a professional capacity.

**Section 7** amends the fourth-degree assault crime. Makes physical assaults of fire fighters, EMS personnel, or health workers in hospital emergency room settings a gross misdemeanor. Also increases the statutory maximum for an assault against any of these individuals that results in demonstrable bodily harm from two years imprisonment/\$4k fine to three years imprisonment/\$6k fine.

**Section 8** establishes consecutive or executed sentences for a person who commits an assault against a sheriff or sheriff's deputy while the person is an inmate of a county jail or other local correctional facility. If the person is serving an executed sentence for another offense or receives an executed sentence for a charge that was pending while the person was in jail, the sentence must be executed and must be consecutive to the other sentence. If the person receives a probationary sentence for another offense, the sentence for the assault must be executed but may be concurrent to the other sentence.

**Section 9** establishes a mandatory presumptive sentence of between 77 and 108 months for a person who commits the offense of sex trafficking in the first degree and between 123 and 172 months for a person who commits an aggravated offense. Provides that the presumptive sentences apply unless the sentencing guidelines presume a longer sentence and states that sentencing a person without regard for the presumptive sentence constitutes a sentence departure.

**Section 10** amends the crime addressing damage or theft to energy transmission or telecommunications equipment to clarify that it includes broadband services and cable services equipment. Also expands the crime to include street lighting, street lighting systems, vehicle charging stations, and other similar items.

**Section 11** expands the swatting crime provision that addresses victims who are public officials or employees to include all correctional employees of state or local political subdivisions.

**Section 12** expands the definition of “child sexual abuse material” in the child pornography law (and thus the scope of that law) to include depictions of individuals indistinguishable from actual minors created through artificial intelligence or other computer technology that are obscene. Changes terminology.

**Section 13** provides immunity from liability under the child pornography crimes relating to the new criminalization of AI-generated materials (see **section 12**) for certain actions taken by interactive computer services and providers of information services or telecommunications services.

**Section 14** extends the statute of limitations for arson in the first degree to ten years. The current limitations period is five years. The change applies to offenses committed after the effective date and to cases where the five-year limitations period has not yet expired.

**Section 15** amends the law providing retroactive relief from accomplice liability for certain first- or second-degree murder convictions. Requires that when a court enters a new conviction for a lesser offense, the new conviction date is the same as that of the original conviction.

**Section 16** directs the Revisor to make conforming changes to reflect changes in definitions contained in **section 12**.

## **Article 5**

### **Public Safety Policy**

**Sections 1, 2, 5, 16, and 26** replace references in provisions addressing “videotapes” of child abuse victims with “recordings.”

**Section 3** requires violence prevention training to include providing information about the Department of Public Safety’s statewide anonymous threat reporting system and any local threat reporting systems.

**Section 4** defines “active shooter incident” and “active shooter threat.” Requires districts, charter schools, and cooperative units to report active shooter incidents and active shooter threats to the Minnesota Fusion Center. Specifies the contents of each report required under this section.

**Section 6** requires all local correctional facilities in the state to amend their policy on involuntarily administering medications to incarcerated persons to incorporate a process to determine if an incarcerated person has a Jarvis Order in place and, if so, to implement the order. (If a person with a mental illness does not want to take medication, the court can issue a Jarvis Order requiring them to take needed medications.)

**Section 7** requires correctional facilities licensed by the DOC to administer to confined and incarcerated persons the same medications that were prescribed to the person prior to their confinement or incarceration. Provides exceptions.

**Sections 8, 14, and 17 to 21** replace references to the term “pornographic work” in the child pornography and other related laws with “child sexual material.”

**Section 9** requires the annual report on Fusion Center activities to include the number of tips received through the Department of Public Safety’s anonymous threat reporting system, and the number of active shooter incident reports received from school districts, a summary of the reports, and the number of reports that were converted into Bureau of Criminal Apprehension case files, referred to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, or were referred to local law enforcement agencies.

**Section 10** amends the definition of “endangered” in the Minnesota missing children and endangered persons program to include persons at risk of physical injury or death because the person has been diagnosed with dementia, autism, or other listed cognitive impairments.

**Section 11** modifies the amount that the state fire marshal must charge for charter school building inspections from a designated flat fee per building to a designated fee based on square footage.

**Section 12** authorizes a county attorney to subpoena and require the production of the following records of any employer or business entity who is the subject of or has information related to a wage theft investigation: accounting and financial records, payroll records, and other records relating to wages, hours, and other conditions of employment of any employee or of work performed by independent contractors, and records of payments to contractors, and records of payments of workers’ compensation insurance. Subpoenas for these records may only be issued if probable cause exists that a crime has been committed.

**Section 13** prohibits a domestic abuse advocate from disclosing any opinion or information about a victim that the advocate acquired in the advocate’s professional capacity unless the victim consents to the disclosure. Clarifies that the privilege does not change a prosecutor’s obligation to disclose certain information to the defense if that information is in the possession or control of the prosecutor or those involved in a criminal investigation.

**Section 15** adds language back into Minnesota Statutes, chapter 611, relating to reasonable attorney fees and costs for prosecutorial appeals in criminal cases. This language was in law up until 2024 when it was mistakenly omitted during a recodification.

**Section 22** amends the permit to carry law. Requires a permit holder who has changed their legal name to notify the issuing sheriff of this within 30 days.

**Section 23** expands the situations for which a law enforcement agency may use an unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) without a search warrant to include (1) use to document evidence that is at imminent risk of destruction, (2) use over private areas with the written consent of the

occupant for training or public relations purposes, and (3) use to facilitate active searches for missing persons.

**Section 24** eliminates a restriction on law enforcement's use of mobile tracking devices to track stolen vehicles that are reported stolen by the owner to law enforcement. In this scenario, law enforcement would be permitted to attach a mobile tracking device to the stolen vehicle whether the vehicle is occupied or not. (Current law requires that the vehicle be occupied for law enforcement to attach a mobile tracking device to the stolen vehicle.) This exception does not apply when the stolen vehicle is on private property. Establishes reporting requirements.

**Section 25** authorizes law enforcement officers to affix a mobile tracking device on a fleeing motor vehicle without obtaining a court order. Creates restrictions on the use of this authority and establishes reporting requirements.

**Section 27** directs the Revisor to update headnote cross references in law to reflect the changes made in this article.

**Section 28** repeals certain consumer protection statutes related to matches, flame resistant tents, and related rules and penalties that predate the fire code.

## **Article 6**

### **Crime Victims Provisions**

**Section 1** adds children's advocacy centers to the definition of "victim assistance program," allowing those centers to receive a portion of criminal fines imposed following a conviction for certain assault and criminal sexual conduct offenses. Makes a technical change.

**Section 2** makes clarifying, technical, and conforming changes in the statute requiring that victims receive notice of certain rights, including information about the address confidentiality program. Authorizes certain notifications to be provided in an electronic form, updates references to the Minnesota Crime Victims Reimbursement Program, specifies that notice about the right to reimbursement must include information on how to apply, clarifies the right of victims to be notified when an offender is charged, and specifies that notice to certain victims must include specific resources. Clarifies that the notice provided when an offender is a juvenile is supplemental to other notices.

**Section 3** includes violations of orders for protection, domestic abuse no contact orders, and harassment restraining orders in the list of offenses that require prosecutors to provide victims with additional notifications if a prosecutor declines to charge the offense or dismisses the charge.

**Section 4** requires the custodial authority for an imprisoned person to make a good faith effort to notify a victim when the person has submitted a letter of apology if the victim has requested such notification. Provides that, upon request, the authority must notify the Board of Pardons, the Clemency Review Commission, or a court that the offender has submitted the letter.

**Section 5** clarifies that peace officers must orally tell certain victims about shelters and other services in addition to providing written notice. Amends the written notice that informs certain victims of the right to seek an order for protection.

**Section 6** authorizes law enforcement agencies and prosecutors to exhaust the supply of existing notices before producing materials that comply with the updated requirements relating to victim notification.

## **Article 7**

### **Correctional Provisions**

**Section 1** requires the commissioner of corrections to maintain an ample supply of opiate antagonists (Narcan) in each state correctional facility to enable staff to rapidly respond to opioid overdoses. Directs the commissioner, in consultation with the commissioner of health, to provide training to DOC employees on how to recognize the symptoms of an opioid overdose and administer opiate antagonists.

**Section 2** updates language contained in statute that requires the commissioner of corrections to have a policy to provide cultural programming services to American Indians who are either incarcerated at state correctional facilities or participating in community-based programs.

**Section 3** delays the sunset on the authority of the commissioner of corrections and counties to impose correctional supervision fees on inmates until 2029. The bill modifies the 2023 legislature's statutory timeline for phasing out correctional supervision fees, which currently establishes an August 1, 2027, sunset date.

**Sections 4 and 5** make a conforming change related to the delay on the sunset of the authority to impose correctional supervision fees contained in **section 3**.

**Sections 6, 10, and 19** make a conforming change related to Tribal supervision funding reform proposed in this article.

**Section 7** authorizes the agency to keep funding for services it provides to counties rather than distributing the funds to the county and later requesting reimbursement for the services provided to the counties.

**Section 8** makes conforming changes related to the streamlining of how the commissioner funds supervision services provided to counties.

**Section 9** authorizes the agency to keep funding for services it provides to counties rather than distributing the funds to the county and later requesting reimbursement for the services provided to the counties. Requires the commissioner to provide an annual accounting report to the counties of how supervision funds were spent.

**Section 11** authorizes the commissioner of corrections to deny an offender supervision abatement if doing so would present a risk to public safety.



**Section 12** establishes that earned incentive release credits under the Minnesota Rehabilitation and Reinvestment Act program can be revoked if the credit holder violates rules of the prison or otherwise commits a criminal act while incarcerated. Under current law, earned incentive release credits, once earned, are not revocable.

**Section 13** prohibits the commissioner from placing an offender on supervision abatement status if there is a risk to public safety to do so.

**Section 14** exempts federal law enforcement officials from the licensing and background requirements for individuals who are employed as protective agents to transfer incarcerated individuals.

**Section 15** extends the commissioner's obligation to provide technical assistance to counties and Tribal Nations to instances when abbreviated supervision plans are authorized.

**Section 16** makes changes to the community supervision funding formula by requiring the felony and misdemeanor per diem rates to be multiplied by the three-year average total felony and misdemeanor populations. (Under current law the per diem rates are multiplied by the felony and misdemeanor populations as reported in the most recent probation survey.) Also, makes a conforming change related to Tribal supervision funding reform proposed in this article.

**Section 17** allows the cost of the interstate transfer unit to be shared across every county – pro-rated based on their share of the most recent probation population survey. This change is intended to equitably share the financial burden of managing interstate supervision transfers if shared fairly. (The Interstate Transfer Unit oversees transfers of supervision under the Interstate Compact for Adult Offender Supervision.)

**Section 18** clarifies and streamlines certain requirements of the community supervision funding report to the legislature and changes it from an annual to a biennial report.

**Section 20** specifies how the \$250,000 set aside for each Tribal Nation to provide community supervision and reentry services is paid out. Proposes distributing the funds in the same manner that county supervision funding is distributed. Clarifies which purposes the funds may be used for and requires an abbreviated comprehensive plan be submitted to the agency for how these funds will be used.

**Section 21** makes a conforming change.

**Section 22** revises the commissioner's obligation to review the community supervision formula from an annual requirement to a biennial duty.

**Sections 23 and 24** expand the membership of the Community Supervision Advisory Council to include members of the judicial system and aspires to more diversity in certain commissioner appointed members of the council, change a reporting deadline, and correct a statutory reference.

**Section 25** extends the Mental Health Unit (MHU) pilot program, created in 2023, until August 1, 2027. MHU allows counties to transfer individuals with serious mental illnesses who are incarcerated in local jails to the MHU at MCF-Oak Park Heights for housing and treatment. In order to broaden eligibility for transfer, amends the transfer process from consensual transfers to referrals from a licensed mental health professional.

**Section 26** repeals statutes that require MCF-Stillwater and MCF-St. Cloud to initiate civil commitment proceedings on mentally ill inmates, transfer those to be found mentally ill to the Minnesota Security Hospital, and take them back upon restoration of their mental health.

## **Article 8 Courts**

This article includes the Judicial Branch’s policy provisions and a reporting requirement for the State Board of Civil Legal Aid.

**Section 1** requires the State Board of Civil Legal Aid to provide a report each year by July 15 to the legislative committees with jurisdiction over the judiciary regarding data related to the cases, individuals, and families served by each grant recipient. A 2024 law established the State Board of Civil Legal Aid, effective July 1, 2025.

**Sections 2 and 3** allow court filings in any St. Louis County case to be accepted at any St. Louis County courthouse.

**Section 4** eliminates the statutory two-page limit on Appendix A notices for child support, spousal maintenance, custody, and parenting time, ensuring compliance with updated legal and digital accessibility requirements.

**Section 5** requires conservators to serve annual reports to individuals under conservatorship, increasing transparency and accountability.

## **Article 9 Data Practices**

This article makes changes to the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, chapter 13, and other laws governing the privacy or dissemination of information.

**Section 1** provides that a government entity may suspend an ongoing response to a public data request if, after five business days, the requesting person does not appear to inspect requested data or collect copies of requested data that the government entity has already prepared for that person.

**Section 2** removes the current private classification for data on parents. This is moved to subdivision 5 of this statute in section 3 of this article. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

**Section 3** reinserts the private classification for data on parents, with the new additional restriction that personal contact information may not be designated or treated as directory information. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

**Section 4** expands the existing “public official” exception regarding data relating to a complaint or charge against a government employee by removing the current city population thresholds for certain kinds of city employees and including Metropolitan Council members and certain Metropolitan Council employees.

**Section 5** requires a law enforcement agency, upon request, to provide unredacted copies of portable recording system data to a person entitled to a collision report. The Minnesota State Patrol is exempt from this requirement. The body camera data provided under this new law may only be used to process a claim related to the collision or as evidence in a proceeding related to the collision. A law enforcement agency may deny the request under limited circumstances.

**Section 6** makes a conforming change inserting a cross-reference to the new statute created in section 13 of this article. This section is effective January 1, 2026.

**Section 7** prohibits a person from adding or disseminating an individual’s identifying information or contact information to a patient registry without the individual’s consent. The attorney general may enforce this section, except the private attorney general remedies do not apply. A government entity that violated this section is subject to the penalties and remedies under chapter 13. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

**Section 8** permits the director of the Office of Emergency Medical Services to share the following data with the Washington/Baltimore High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area’s Overdose Detection Mapping Application Program (ODMAP): data that identifies where and when an overdose incident happens, fatality status, suspected drug type, naloxone administration, and first responder type.

**Section 9** exempts video that does not document actions and circumstances surrounding the officer-involved death from a current law requiring the superintendent of the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension to publish inactive investigative data for officer-involved death investigations on their website.

**Section 10** makes clarifying and conforming changes related to the new section of law created in section 13 of this article. This section also adds the current and retired judges and current employees of the Department of Human Services Appeals to the current law definition of “judicial official.” This section is effective January 1, 2026.

**Section 11** makes conforming changes related to the new section of law created in section 13 of this article. This section also exempts the display of property addresses on certain real estate and mapping platforms from laws governing the privacy of judicial official data. This section is effective January 1, 2026.

**Section 12** makes a conforming change inserting a cross-reference to the new statute created in section 13 of this article. This section is effective January 1, 2026.

**Section 13** establishes requirements for the treatment of the personal information of judicial officials contained in real property records. This section is effective January 1, 2026.

**Subdivision 1** defines terms. For purposes of this section, judicial official does not include employees of the judicial branch or the administrative courts, and does not include judges in the Department of Human Services Appeals Division.

**Subdivision 2** classifies personal information of judicial officials contained in real property records as private data on individuals. The penalties and remedies under chapter 13 apply only if the judicial official has provided a real property notice to the government entity. If the subject of the data is a spouse, domestic partner, or adult child of the judicial official who does not reside with the judicial official, the person must provide information confirming their relationship to the judicial official.

**Subdivision 3** requires a judicial official to provide a real property notice to the county recorder in the county where the property is located and the Office of the Secretary of State. To affect other real property records, the judicial official must provide the notice to the responsible authority for the government entity that maintains the records.

**Subdivision 4** prohibits a government entity from disclosing a judicial official's personal information without their consent, except pursuant to a court order, for the purpose of administering assessments and taxation laws, or as provided in subdivision 5. The county recorder must establish recording procedures that comply with this section. A county recorder or other government entity must process the real property notice within 60 days, unless exigent circumstances exist. The disclosure prohibitions apply until the judicial official terminates the real property notice, the notice is terminated pursuant to a court order, the judicial official no longer holds a record interest in the identified real property, or the judicial official no longer qualifies as a judicial official.

**Subdivision 5** provides that, pursuant to a court order or with the judicial official's consent, unredacted property records may be provided to certain licensed professionals, a mortgage loan originator, a real estate broker, or certain buyers or sellers of real property. A person who receives unredacted property information must establish procedures to safeguard the data from further disclosure.

**Subdivision 6** permits a county or other government entity to charge a service fee up to \$75 for the notice, consent, and requests required or permitted under this section.

## **Article 10**

### **Mortgage Foreclosures**

This article modifies laws governing mortgage foreclosures.

**Section 1** makes clarifying changes to a current law that provides that a lien is created when a person with an interest in the land pays delinquent taxes that should have been paid by the owner or other party. This section clarifies that the person who pays the delinquent taxes must

have a legal or equitable interest in the land and must provide a sworn statement and a copy of the payment receipt, and that the lien is created from the date of recording of the sworn statement.

**Section 2** permits a mortgagee to postpone a foreclosure in a foreclosure by action using the same process as a sale is postponed in a foreclosure that does not go through the court.

**Section 3** permits a homeowner or the person responsible for the mortgage to postpone a foreclosure sale in a foreclosure by action in the same way it would be done in a foreclosure that does not go through the court.

**Section 4** provides for the use of surplus money after a sheriff's sale on a foreclosure and allows the money to be held and used for the redemption of the property or paid to a junior creditor. This section requires the sheriff to notify the owner if there is a surplus after the sheriff's sale and provide the owner with information about redemption and surplus. The owner may submit a written request to the sheriff to have the amount from the sheriff's sale applied to the redemption amount. If a surplus is less than \$100, the sheriff may pay the amount to the owner. If there are competing claims or any claim is not meritorious, the sheriff may petition the court to address the claims.

**Section 5** makes a technical change to the headnote.

**Section 6** extends the time creditors have to redeem a mortgage from seven days to 14 days after a mortgagor's redemption period ends. This section also sets a default interest rate of six percent if no rate is stated on the certificate of sale and the creditor's affidavit. If the sheriff determines there is a dispute or question of validity, the sheriff may accept the amount required to redeem without executing a certificate of redemption and file an action with the court to address the issue. A creditor may also commence an action to address the issue. This section is effective for redemptions occurring after January 1, 2026.

**Section 7** makes clarifying changes to the process for creditors to redeem. This section is effective for redemptions occurring after January 1, 2026.

**Section 8** clarifies terms that must be included in a certificate of redemption and extends the time to record the certificate from four days to one week after the redemption. This section is effective for redemptions occurring after January 1, 2026.

**Section 9** clarifies that a dispute regarding redemption rights or the rights to any surplus may be brought in an action under chapter 580 and clarifies how to provide a deposit for that action. This section is effective for redemptions occurring after January 1, 2026.

**Section 10** clarifies that the postponement of foreclosure sale statutes that apply to nonjudicial foreclosure also apply to judicial foreclosures.

**Section 11** clarifies the interest rate by setting a default interest rate of six percent if no rate is stated on the certificate of sale. This section is effective for affidavits filed with the sheriff after January 1, 2026.

**Section 12** clarifies that the date of payment of each allowable costs must be provided on the affidavit. This section is effective for affidavits filed with the sheriff after January 1, 2026.

**Section 13** provides that if a servicer is required to halt a foreclosure sale upon receipt of a loss mitigation application, the servicer may cancel or postpone the sale, but must not conduct the sale unless 60 days have passed since the servicer's final determination that the mortgagor is not eligible for a loss mitigation option, the mortgagor fails to accept a loss mitigation offer, or the mortgagor declines a loss mitigation offer.

## **Article 11**

### **Civil Law**

This article modifies laws governing civil marriage, the Statewide Office of Appellate Counsel and Training, the Minnesota Competency Attainment Board, the rights of a person subject to guardianship, and civil remedies.

**Section 1** removes the requirement that the local registrar report specific personal information relating to marriage certificates to the state registrar. Instead, the local registrar must report only the number of certificates of marriage registered in a format and with the frequency determined by the state registrar.

**Section 2** clarifies that the Statewide Office of Appellate Counsel and Training is an agency in the executive branch.

**Section 3** requires the governor to designate the initial chair of the board.

**Section 4** replaces the requirement that assistant appellate counsel be paid on a schedule comparable to county attorneys and treats those employees like employees in other agencies. This section specifies that attorneys who are not identified as being in a management position are in the classified service and treats those employees like employees in other agencies.

**Section 5** requires the Guardian Ad Litem Board to submit a report to the legislative committees with jurisdiction over judiciary finance identifying the number of: board staff; children served by guardians ad litem in court cases, including the number of Native American children in certain cases; court reports filed by guardians ad litem; cases assigned; hours worked; complaints regarding guardians ad litem submitted to the board; investigations performed by the board; and complaints that resulted in discipline. This section requires that the information not include data on individuals, but requires that the data be disaggregated by paid staff versus volunteers.

**Sections 6 and 25** require any person who wants to officiate a civil marriage to register as a civil marriage officiant and removes all other requirements or references to individuals who are currently authorized to perform civil marriages, including judges and licensed or ordained ministers of any religious denominations.

**Section 7** no longer requires parties applying for a marriage license to provide the sex of each party but requires the parties to provide their dates of birth. This section also clarifies that a previously married party is only required to provide their name from their most recent marriage.

**Section 8** permits local registrars to examine parties upon oath remotely or accept verified statements and civil marriage license applications by mail, facsimile, or electronic filing.

**Section 9** makes conforming changes.

**Section 10** makes clarifying changes.

**Section 11** permits a person to request an amendment of an error in a marriage record directly with the local registrar by providing an affidavit and supporting documentation.

**Section 12** modifies the definition of “custodian” for purposes of the law governing orders for protection from any person (other than the petitioner or respondent) who is under a legal obligation to care for a minor child or who is caring for a minor child to a person (other than the petitioner or respondent) who has physical or legal custody as the mother of a child, a person who has court ordered custody or parenting time, or who has physical or legal custody with the consent of a custodial parent.

**Sections 13 and 15** modify a guardian’s ability to restrict communication and visitation for a person subject to guardianship. Under current law, a guardian may not restrict the right to communication and visitation for a person subject to guardianship unless the guardian has good cause to believe that the restriction is necessary because the interaction poses a risk of significant physical, psychological, or financial harm to the person subject to guardianship, and there is no other means to avoid such significant harm. These sections require the guardian to show that the interaction poses a *substantial* risk of significant harm, and require the guardian to first seek limited restrictions whenever possible. For all restrictions, the guardian must notify the court, the person subject to guardianship and their attorney, and the person subject to the restriction within 48 hours of imposing the restriction. The notice must include a description of the restriction and any limited restrictions attempted.

**Section 14** requires the court to make a finding that the petitioner made good faith efforts to provide notice to the respondent or respondent’s lawyer before appointing an emergency guardian without notice to the respondent or respondent’s lawyer. This section also provides that the mere fact that the respondent is a patient in a hospital or resident of a facility is not alone sufficient to support a risk of substantial harm to the respondent’s health, safety, or welfare.

**Section 16** creates an order for protection against financial exploitation of a vulnerable adult (“order”) and imposes enhanceable criminal penalties for violations of an order. The petition for an order may be filed in the county where the petitioner, respondent, or vulnerable adult resides. The filing fees are waived for both parties to the order. The court must hold a hearing within 14 days of receiving the petition unless a temporary ex parte order is issued. Service must be made in the same manner as service for orders for protection under section 518B.01. This section also requires service upon the vulnerable adult if the petitioner is not the

vulnerable adult. If service on the respondent is not possible as provided under section 518B.01, the petitioner may serve the respondent using the same method used to contact the vulnerable adult and provide the court with the reasons why service was not possible under section 518B.01. Unless previously filed, the petitioner must file a maltreatment report within 24 hours of filing a petition under this section. The court may consider all relevant factors, including whether there have been other protective orders issued, any history of financial exploitation, the vulnerable adult's capacity to make decisions, the vulnerable adult's susceptibility to undue influence, and the respondent's criminal history. The court may issue an order if the vulnerable adult is or is in imminent danger of becoming a victim of financial exploitation, there is a likelihood of irreparable harm and nonavailability of an adequate remedy, the threatened injury to the vulnerable adult outweighs the possible harm to the respondent, and an order protects the vulnerable adult's financial security. This section provides specific relief that the court may grant, including prohibiting direct or indirect contact, freezing the vulnerable adult's assets, and providing necessary directives to law enforcement. This section is effective January 1, 2026.

**Section 17** makes a conforming change related to the clarification that forensic navigators monitor individuals charged or convicted of an offense, but do not supervise those individuals.

**Section 18** clarifies that forensic navigators monitor individuals charged with or convicted of an offense, but do not supervise those individuals. This section specifies that forensic navigators are not authorized to conduct searches, seize property or persons, or impose sanctions.

**Section 19** makes a conforming change related to the clarification that forensic navigators monitor individuals charged or convicted of an offense, but do not supervise those individuals.

**Section 20** removes references to forensic navigators supervising individuals charged with or convicted of a crime and specifies that the court can direct forensic navigators to monitor those individuals.

**Section 21** makes conforming changes related to the clarification that forensic navigators monitor individuals charged or convicted of an offense, but do not supervise those individuals.

**Section 22** removes the requirement that one member of the Competency Attainment Board have prior experience working as a forensic navigator.

**Section 23** removes the requirement that the Competency Attainment Board provide or contract for enough competency attainment services to meet the needs of defendants in each judicial district and directs the board to use available resources to provide those services.

**Section 24** directs the state court administrator, instead of the Competency Attainment Board, to identify certain information needed to evaluate the program and removes the requirement that the data include whether a forensic navigator was assigned to a case.



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