

A bill for an act

relating to agriculture; establishing a food safety and defense task force;
proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 28A.

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

Section 1. **[28A.21] FOOD SAFETY AND DEFENSE TASK FORCE.**

Subdivision 1. **Establishment.** The Food Safety and Defense Task Force is established to advise the commissioner and the legislature on food issues and food safety.

Subd. 2. **Membership.** (a) The Food Safety and Defense Task Force consists of:

(1) the commissioner of agriculture or the commissioner's designee;

(2) the commissioner of health or the commissioner's designee;

(3) a representative of the United States Food and Drug Administration;

(4) a representative of the United States Department of Agriculture;

(5) a representative of the Agricultural Utilization Research Institute;

(6) one member from the University of Minnesota knowledgeable in food and food safety issues; and

(7) nine members appointed by the governor who are interested in food and food safety, of whom:

(i) two persons are health or food professionals;

(ii) one person represents a statewide general farm organization;

(iii) one person represents a local food inspection agency; and

(iv) one person represents a food-oriented consumer group.

(b) Members shall serve without compensation. Members appointed by the governor shall serve four-year terms.

S.F. No. 1660, as introduced - 85th Legislative Session (2007-2008)

2.1 Subd. 3. **Organization.** (a) The task force shall meet monthly or as determined by
2.2 the chair.

2.3 (b) The members of the task force shall annually elect a chair and other officers
2.4 as the members deem necessary.

2.5 Subd. 4. **Staff.** The commissioner shall provide support staff, office space, and
2.6 administrative services for the task force.

2.7 Subd. 5. **Duties.** The task force shall:

2.8 (1) coordinate educational efforts regarding food safety;

2.9 (2) provide advice and coordination to state agencies as requested by the agencies;

2.10 (3) serve as a source of information and referral for the public, news media, and
2.11 others concerned with food safety; and

2.12 (4) make recommendations to Congress, the legislature, and others about appropriate
2.13 action to improve food safety in the state.