



*Resolution
of the
Board of County Commissioners
St. Louis County, Minnesota*

Adopted on: February 28, 2006

Resolution No. 143

Offered by Commissioner: Fink

WHEREAS, on behalf of the taxpayers of St. Louis County, the St. Louis County Board of Commissioners continually seeks ways to keep the cost of county government as cost effective as possible; and

WHEREAS, the cost of St. Louis County government is significantly affected by mandates from the State of Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota State Legislature in 2005 passed legislation (M.S. 6.79) which allows local governments to file resolutions with the State Auditor which either object to particular state mandates or make recommendations for reforming particular state mandates; and

WHEREAS, the State Auditor has encouraged local governments to submit mandate reform proposals to her office and has expressed a willingness to partner with local governments in achieving those reforms;

WHEREAS, the State of Minnesota has been involved in the systematic shifting of costs to County property taxpayers for obligations which are rightly the responsibility of the State.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the St. Louis County Board of Commissioners hereby submits to the State Auditor a certified copy of this resolution and the list of mandates, along with statute citations and comments, as candidates for repeal;

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the St. Louis County Board of Commissioners requests that the State Auditor take any measures available to aid the repeal of these mandates.

Commissioner Fink moved the adoption of the Resolution and it was declared adopted upon the following vote:

Yeas - Commissioners Fink, O'Neil, Kron, Forsman, Raukar, and Chair Nelson - 6

Nays - None

Out of Room - Commissioner Sweeney - 1

STATE OF MINNESOTA

Office of County Auditor, ss.
County of St. Louis

I, **DONALD DICKLICH**, Auditor of the County of St. Louis, do hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing with the original resolution filed in my office on the 28th day of February, A.D. 2006, and that this is a true and correct copy.

WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE at Duluth, Minnesota, this 28th day of February, A.D., 2006

DONALD DICKLICH, COUNTY AUDITOR

By

Deputy Auditor/Clerk of County Board

Licensing functions – Adult & child foster care, child day care –MS 245A.16

The state is responsible for licensing and issues the actual license, or revocation of a license. The county is acting as a delegated agent only. This responsibility should be performed by state employees if it is not fully funded.

245A.16 Standards for county agencies and private agencies.

Subdivision 1. Delegation of authority to agencies.

(a) County agencies and private agencies that have been designated or licensed by the commissioner to perform licensing functions and activities under section [245A.04](#) and chapter 245C, to recommend denial of applicants under section [245A.05](#), to issue correction orders, to issue variances, and recommend a conditional license under section [245A.06](#), or to recommend suspending or revoking a license or issuing a fine under section [245A.07](#), shall comply with rules and directives of the commissioner governing those functions and with this section. The following variances are excluded from the delegation of variance authority and may be issued only by the commissioner:

(1) dual licensure of family child care and child foster care, dual licensure of child and adult foster care, and adult foster care and family child care;

(2) adult foster care maximum capacity;

(3) adult foster care minimum age requirement;

(4) child foster care maximum age requirement;

(5) variances regarding disqualified individuals except that county agencies may issue variances under section [245C.30](#) regarding disqualified individuals when the county is responsible for conducting a consolidated reconsideration according to sections [245C.25](#) and [245C.27](#), subdivision 2, clauses (a) and (b), of a county maltreatment determination and a disqualification based on serious or recurring maltreatment; and

(6) the required presence of a caregiver in the adult foster care residence during normal sleeping hours.

(b) County agencies must report:

(1) information about disqualification reconsiderations under sections [245C.25](#) and [245C.27](#), subdivision 2, clauses (a) and (b), and variances granted under paragraph (a), clause (5), to the commissioner at least monthly in a format prescribed by the commissioner; and

(2) for relative child foster care applicants and license holders, the number of relatives, as defined in section [260C.007](#), subdivision 27, and household members of relatives who are disqualified under section [245C.14](#); the disqualifying characteristics under section [245C.15](#); the number of these individuals who requested reconsideration under section [245C.21](#); the number of set-asides under section [245C.22](#); and variances under section [245C.30](#) issued. This information shall be reported to the commissioner annually by January 15 of each year in a format prescribed by the commissioner.

(c) For family day care programs, the commissioner may authorize licensing reviews every two years after a licensee has had at least one annual review.

(d) For family adult day services programs, the commissioner may authorize licensing reviews every two years after a licensee has had at least one annual review.

(e) A license issued under this section may be issued for up to two years.

Subd. 2. **Investigations.** (a) The county or private agency shall conduct timely investigations of allegations of maltreatment of children or adults in programs for which the county or private agency is the commissioner's designated representative and record a disposition of each complaint in accordance with applicable law or rule. The county or private agency shall conduct similar investigations of allegations of violations of rules governing licensure of the program.

(b) If an investigation conducted under clause (a) results in evidence that the commissioner should deny an application or suspend, revoke, or make conditional a license, the county or private agency shall make that recommendation to the commissioner within ten working days.

Subd. 3. **Recommendations to the commissioner.** The county or private agency shall not make recommendations to the commissioner regarding licensure without first conducting an inspection, study of the applicant, and evaluation pursuant to chapter 245C. The county or private agency must forward its recommendation to the commissioner regarding the appropriate licensing action within 20 working days of receipt of a completed application.

Subd. 4. **Enforcement of commissioner's orders.** The county or private agency shall enforce the commissioner's orders under sections [245A.07](#), [245A.08](#), subdivision 5, and chapter 245C, according to the instructions of the commissioner. The county attorney shall assist the county agency in the enforcement and defense of the commissioner's orders under sections [245A.07](#), [245A.08](#), and chapter 245C, according to the instructions of the commissioner, unless a conflict of interest exists between the county attorney and the commissioner. For purposes of this section, a conflict of interest means that the county attorney has a direct or shared financial interest with the license holder or has a personal relationship or family relationship with a party in the licensing action.

Subd. 5. **Instruction and technical assistance.** The commissioner shall provide instruction and technical assistance to county and private agencies that are subject to this section. County and private agencies shall cooperate with the commissioner in carrying out this section by ensuring that affected employees participate in instruction and technical assistance provided by the commissioner.

Subd. 6. **Certification by commissioner.** The commissioner shall ensure that rules are uniformly enforced throughout the state by reviewing each county and private agency for compliance with this section and other applicable laws and rules at least every four years. County agencies that comply with this section shall be certified by the commissioner. If a county agency fails to be certified by the commissioner, the commissioner shall certify a reduction of state administrative aids in an amount up to 20 percent of the county's state portion of Children and Community Services Act funding.