

House Research Act Summary

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Overview

The financial crimes task force was set to expire on June 30, 2003. This act makes the task force permanent and makes other changes to the funding and structure of the task force.

- 1 Minnesota financial crimes task force.** Provides that the task force will be a single, centralized entity. Under current law, there is the potential that multiple, independent task forces could be formed. If funding is available, regional offices may be created to report to the task force commander. One regional office covers the first, second, fourth, and tenth judicial districts, which comprise the twin cities metro area plus some other close, though predominantly rural, counties. The remaining out-state judicial districts each comprise their own regional office. An advisory committee (see below) has the power to modify the boundaries of the regional offices.

Provides that federal law enforcement agencies may join the task force. If they do so, they are required to sign a memorandum of understanding, just as the local agencies do. The bill provides that federal agencies may not participate in the selection of the commander or receive funding for agents' salaries, benefits, or overtime.

Creates an advisory committee to oversee the distribution of task force funds and to select a fiscal agent. Requires local agencies that receive task force funds to provide a 20 percent match of nonstate funds. Provides that the match can come from cash, business donations, or an extensive list of in-kind contributions.

Repeals the sunset and provides that the task force does not expire according to the default provisions of Minn. Stat. § 15.059, thus establishing the task force as a permanent entity.

