INTRODUCTION TO THE REVISOR’S BILL

Minnesota Statutes, section 3C.04, directs the Revisor of Statutes to prepare and submit bills to the legislature that clarify and correct the statutes. The bill before you is one such bill. It is produced by our office annually and is known as the Revisor’s bill. In accordance with Joint Rule 2.01, it is accompanied by a memorandum of explanation which details each of the corrections being made in the bill.

In addition to making a variety of technical changes to statutes and laws, such as correcting erroneous references and removing obsolete language, the Revisor’s bill is also used to resolve conflicts published in Minnesota Statutes.¹

Most corrections in the bill are found by our office during the process of editing Minnesota Statutes and the Laws of Minnesota for publication. Corrections are also brought to our attention by other legislative staff, state agencies, and members of the State Bar.

The Revisor’s bill goes through a rigorous screening before its introduction to make sure that none of the corrections contained in the bill make substantive changes or are controversial in the legislature. In addition to a process of internal review, the bill is also shared with the offices of House Research and Senate Counsel. We also consult with state agencies, legislative commissions, and other interested parties to ensure the accuracy of corrections and make certain that there is no controversy.

¹ The Revisor publishes all of the general and permanent law in Minnesota Statutes, including amendments to the law enacted during each legislative session. Sometimes it’s necessary to annotate a statute when there are separate legislative enactments to the same statute that can’t be reconciled. The most common example of this is a statute that is both repealed and amended in the same legislative session. Our office follows standard editorial conventions to report what has been enacted in Minnesota Statutes. In the Revisor’s bill, we bring these cases to the attention of the legislature to resolve the conflict, thereby allowing us to remove the annotation.