



MINNESOTA COMMISSION ON SERVICE INNOVATION

**Strategic Plan &
Report to the
Legislature**

December 15, 2010



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Executive Summary

With the state facing multi-billion dollar budget deficits biennium after biennium and growing frustration among the public and lawmakers with the limited innovation in government, the 2010 Legislature created the Commission on Service Innovation.¹ The legislation charged the new Commission with developing a “a strategic plan to reengineer the delivery of state and local government services, including the realignment of service delivery by region and proximity, the use of new technologies, shared facilities, centralized information technologies, and other means of improving efficiency.”

As required by Minnesota Statute Section 3.9280, the Commission on Service Innovation has made findings and recommendations with this strategic plan and report. The recommendations were often developed with the philosophy of retaining the core purpose of the current institutions and programs but with the aim of removing barriers to innovation and creating incentives. Together, these recommendations will transform government and restructure its operations, especially in the “back offices” of government. Even if all these recommendations were collectively able to achieve a mere 1% reduction in the cost of government, this would generate at least \$250 million in annual savings.²

The Commission gathered and reviewed existing data related to demographic, fiscal and budget trends. The findings reveal that even after the recession ends, the state will still face daunting challenges that arise from changing demographic and economic realities, which include an aging and changing population increasingly reliant on public services such as health care and education and diminished prospects for economic and state revenue growth.

Shifts in Minnesota’s population, coupled with slower state revenue growth, increased health care costs and continued prioritization of K-12 spending all add up to create major budget challenges in the future. Assuming revenue grows 3.9% per year, health care continues to grow at 8.5% and spending on K-12 education grows by 2% per year (CPI inflation) for the next 25 years, all other segments of the budget beyond health care and K-12 will have to be reduced by 3.9% each year to avoid budget deficits. This would nearly eliminate all other areas of spending by 2035.³

The state is currently on an unsustainable track. The challenge we face is not just to balance the budget, especially the current one, but to find sustainable, long-term solutions to delivering

public services that meet our citizens' expectations for price (cost) and quality. Transformative governing, innovative delivery of services and increased efficiency are necessary in order to not only extricate our state from its current fiscal trend but also to create lasting, meaningful change.

The recommendations that should be considered by the legislature, executive branch and decision makers in other government entities are as follows:

Recommendation 1: The legislature should establish an enterprise Shared Services/ Consolidation initiative for state and local government entities. The initiative should be led through one entity and supported by financial incentives (e.g., grants and investments), tools, and expertise. (See Recommendations 7, 7.a., and 7.b.)

1.a. Government employees should participate in the implementation of the initiative as stakeholders and partners.

1.b. Resources should be provided in order to achieve initiative success.

1.c. The governing entity should study and create a general inventory of services that are appropriate for shared services and consolidation by type of government entity (e.g., school districts, counties, executive branch agencies, etc.).

Recommendation 2: State and local government administrative functions and systems should be redesigned to foster innovation by removing related barriers and providing incentives, as well as training and equipping employees. Examples of administrative functions and systems, amongst others, that should be considered for redesign are: human resources, purchasing systems, accounting systems, and auditing systems.

Recommendation 3: For purposes of fostering innovation, budgeting for state and local government should focus on delivering the best outcomes (comparable across regions and jurisdictions in the state) and the most "bang for the buck" for every dollar spent on government services. Rather than starting with last year's base budgets and then making marginal changes, the new approach should examine the whole budget, potentially using methods like Budgeting for Outcomes.

Recommendation 4: The legislature should consider permitting or creating Charter Agencies or Performance-Based Organizations in order to allow government entities to enter into a new relationship with the legislature and the state in which they are given flexibility from legal requirements in exchange for being held more accountable to measureable results.

Recommendation 5: A communications plan should be developed by the executive branch that would include a public education campaign about government services and workers. The campaign would coincide with and promote other internal attempts to maximize efficiency in government, including the Commission's findings and recommendations, to enable education and engage Minnesota citizens on the challenges the state faces.

Recommendation 6: The state's Lean program should be extended to all government entities at both the state and local levels and include Business Process Reengineering and technology to improve government efficiency. The program should be implemented through an equal partnership between management and labor. The program framework should be flexible in order to consider and incorporate new process improvement philosophies as they are developed in the future.

Recommendation 7: The legislature should establish an entity to oversee and facilitate the implementation of the Commission's recommendations, including those for Lean/BPR and Shared Services/Consolidation; to routinely identify additional opportunities for innovation among state and local government entities; and to encourage entities to implement the innovations through financial incentives such as grants (no return required) and investments (must generate return).

7.a. The legislature should provide a funding mechanism(s) and/or funding to the entity to support an innovation fund – the Return on Service Innovation (ROSI) Fund – for encouraging and enabling state and local government entities to implement the Commission's recommendations through awarding grants, making investments and/or providing other financial incentives. To the extent possible, the Fund should be a revolving fund replenished by state and local government entities that generate a return on investing in innovation or that contribute some of their savings from innovations

resulting from grants or other non-investment dollars. A small amount of the funding should be reserved for the operation of the entity itself.

7.b. The legislature should designate a single committee in both the Senate and House to oversee the governing entity and all related funding for the entity, including all funding that flows through the entity to state and local units of government.

Recommendation 8: Executive branch agencies should seek to make available all state data that are public in nature in a format(s) that can be utilized by citizens, commonly known as “data mashing,” in order to increase citizen/customer engagement with government.

Recommendation 9: Executive branch agencies should seek to improve the ease with which citizens access government services by electronic means so their accounts and user identities do not need to be recreated for each service – regardless of the program or agency involved.

Recommendation 10: In order to build demand and political support for these changes as well as to emphasize the need for citizens to become contributors or “co-producers,” the governing entity (see Recommendation 7) should create a virtual “good government user group.”

Introduction

With the state facing multi-billion dollar budget deficits biennium after biennium and growing frustration among the public and lawmakers with the limited innovation in government, the 2010 legislature created the Commission on Service Innovation.⁴ The legislation charged the new Commission with developing a “a strategic plan to reengineer the delivery of state and local government services, including the realignment of service delivery by region and proximity, the use of new technologies, shared facilities, centralized information technologies, and other means of improving efficiency.”

The Commission on Service Innovation (“CSI” or “the Commission”) was established with 19 members that represent a wide array of community interests, including leading business groups, non-profit community organizations, government employee unions, local government associations, higher education institutions and K-12 school administrators, as well as the executive branch’s State Chief Information Officer (CIO). The members are as follows:

<i>Member</i>	<i>Appointing Authority</i>
Bob Azman	Minnesota High Tech Association
Dave Bentrud	League of Minnesota Cities
Steve Cawley (proxy: Bernard Gulachek)	University of Minnesota
Steve Dahl	Minnesota Chamber of Commerce
Jeannie Fox	Minnesota Council of Nonprofits
Steve Giorgi	AFSCME Greater MN Council 65
Alok Gupta (does not speak for McKnight)	McKnight Foundation
Darrel S. Huish	Minnesota State Colleges and Universities
Peter Hutchinson	Bush Foundation
Chet Jorgenson	Minnesota Association of Professional Employees
Gopal Khanna	State Chief Information Officer
Sean Kershaw	Citizens League
Mike Kirst	Minnesota Business Partnership
Charles Kyte	Minnesota Association of School Administrators
Allen Lehrke	AFSCME Council 5
Randy Maluchnik	Association of Minnesota Counties
Paul Mattessich	Wilder Foundation
Carol Nieters	Service Employees International Union
Kent Sulem	Minnesota Association of Townships

At the first meeting, Gopal Khanna – the State Chief Information Officer – was elected lead co-chair and Mike Kirst – representing the Minnesota Business Partnership – was elected vice co-chair. Sean Kershaw of the Citizens League was designated as the Commission’s fiscal agent.

The full Commission began meeting monthly starting in July for 5½ hour meetings. The Commission will continue to meet through June 30, 2012. Advisory work groups were also formed and meet regularly as needed. These groups included the following:

- Problem Definition/Opportunity
- Visioning/Steering
- Shared Services
- Workforce/Culture
- Process Governance
- Citizen/Customer Engagement

The full Commission meetings were conducted in accordance with the Open Meeting Law, permitting public attendance. In addition, in order to enhance public involvement, the meetings were streamed live on the Internet and also recorded and archived for subsequent viewing at any time. The recordings, meeting minutes/monthly reports, presentations and other information are available on the Commission website hosted by the Legislative Coordinating Commission. The link to the website is: <http://www.commissions.leg.state.mn.us/csi/csi.html>.

The Commission also sought public involvement and input through social media. To solicit feedback, the Commission made the draft versions of the strategic plan and report available on the Internet (multiple locations) and established Facebook and Twitter pages to receive comments from citizens. The links to the Facebook and Twitter pages are:

Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/edit/?id=149743018405867&sk=basic#!/pages/Saint-Paul-MN/Minnesota-Commission-on-Service-Innovation/149743018405867>

Twitter (@MNCSI):

<http://twitter.com/#!/MNCSI>

The Challenges We Face

The Commission gathered and reviewed existing data related to demographic, fiscal and budget trends. The findings reveal that even after the recession ends, the state will still face daunting challenges that arise from changing demographic and economic realities, which include an aging and changing population increasingly reliant on public services such as health care and education and diminished prospects for economic and state revenue growth.

Finding 1: Minnesota is currently experiencing a major, long-range demographic shift⁵

1.a. Minnesota's Population Growth will Slow

Minnesota's population growth will slow in the next decade. According to the State Demographic Center, Minnesota will see 4% growth over next 10 years,⁶ compared to 4.6% from 2000-2010⁷ and 6.3% from 1990-2000.⁸ Other estimates from the Minnesota Geospatial Information Office place those growth percentage rates a bit higher at 10.7% from 2000-2010 and 9.1% from 2010-2020.⁹ However, the same pattern is clear – growth rates are slowing.

1.b. Minnesota's Population is Aging

Minnesota's future population growth will be greatest for ages 60+. Specifically, from 2005-2015, the fastest growing group in Minnesota will be from ages 55 to 69.¹⁰ Baby boomers – numbering 1.5 million in Minnesota¹¹ – began to reach retirement age in 2008. In that year, Minnesota was expected to see a 30% increase in the number of workers turning age 62.¹² By 2020, 18% of Minnesotans are projected to be more than 65 years of age, compared to 12.5% in 1990.¹³ This aging population will result in population shifts and age distribution that Minnesota has never experienced. Whereas school age children have always outnumbered any other age group, the 65+ age group will exceed every population group by 2020.¹⁴

1.c. Minnesota's Suburban Areas are Growing

Suburban areas surrounding metropolitan areas have continued to grow since the 1950's. Approximately 60% of the state's population currently lives in the 11-county Twin Cities metro area.¹⁵

1.d. Minnesota is Becoming More Diverse

Minnesota's population is growing more diverse, both in number and in the percentage of persons of color. Migration continues to spur diversity in Minnesota. Most migrants are

younger and this helps to slow the aging trend in the state and also adds workers to the labor force. Overall, Minnesota's diversity leads the Midwest, with 14% of its population, but is still less than the United States as a whole, at 34%.¹⁶

1.e. Minnesota's Labor Force Growth will Reach an All Time Low in the Next 10 Years

Minnesota will experience some labor force growth from now until 2015,¹⁷ but then gains will slow. By 2020, the labor force growth will be at record lows.¹⁸ There was 1.3% annual growth rates from 1990-2005. For 2010-2015, the projection is 0.7% and for 2015-2030 the projection is 0.4%. Smaller labor force gains will continue after 2015 due to more Baby Boomers entering retirement.¹⁹

In fact, the Baby Boomers are already reaching retirement age. Minnesota saw a 30% jump in workers turning age 62 in 2008.²⁰

Based on projections for 2009-2019, for many occupations, job replacements will outnumber new job growth, particularly in the areas of Office/Administration and Production.²¹

1.f. Minnesota's Public Sector Retirements Will Nearly Triple by 2013

Of the approximately 390,000 public sector employees in 2007, fewer than 10% worked for state government.²² One-third of the public sector employees worked for local government, one-third worked in local education, and about 15% worked in higher education.²³

The aging workforce trends are visible in the public sector. In the executive branch, excluding the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities System (MNSCU), the percentage of the workforce at normal retirement age is expected to rise from 9% in 2008 to 24% in just 5 years (2013).²⁴

1.g. Minnesota's Dependency Ratio Will Grow, Creating Budget Challenges

The overall decline in labor force growth will result in an increased dependency ratio. The dependency ratio is a measure of the population that is traditionally active in the labor force compared to those who are not. Minnesota's dependency ratio is currently at a record low.²⁵ However, as the baby boomer generation reaches retirement age and Minnesota's labor force growth starts to decline, the dependency ratio will grow. This means that the "earnings of the working age population will need to be stretched further to support the state's economically

dependent population.”²⁶ As explained in Finding 2, the demographic shifts and increased dependency ratio will have serious consequences and create significant challenges for the state budget.

Finding 2: Minnesota’s State Budget Will be Challenged by Reduced Revenue and Increased Expenditures

2.a. Minnesota’s Revenue Growth Rate Will Slow Down

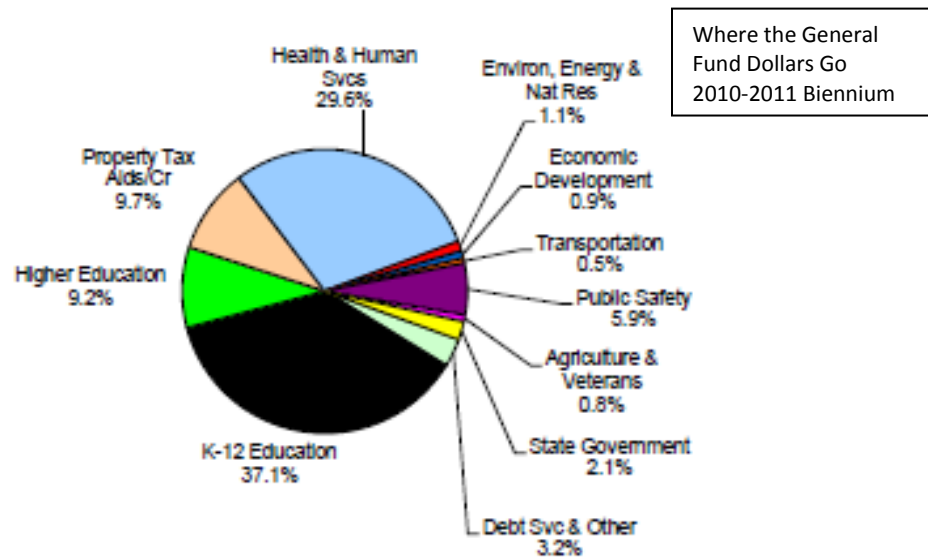
Little change is expected in the U.S. economy for 2010 and 2011.²⁷ It was just recently learned in the official November 2010 state economic forecast that the impact of the economy has worsened the revenue growth for the near term, reducing expected revenues on average \$452 million annually over the next two fiscal years (2012 and 2013) compared to previous estimates earlier in 2010.²⁸ Overall, the forecast states that, “Following the economic downturn revenue growth has recovered, but revenues left during the recession are permanently gone, and revenue growth remains well below the “v-shaped” recovery patterns following past recessions, when state revenues quickly recovered.”²⁹

In the long term, the situation is expected to worsen. Minnesota’s state tax revenue growth rate is likely to slow over the next 25 years; it is projected to decline from 6.8% in 2001 to 3.9% in 2033.³⁰

2.b. Minnesota’s Budget is Dominated by K-12 and Health Care Spending

Annual state, county and city budgets totaled more than \$25 billion in 2010.³¹ The largest piece of that pie is state spending (general fund), at \$14.8 billion; county spending came in second at \$5.9 billion and, finally, city spending at \$4.5 billion.³²

At the state level, K-12³³ education and health care related expenditures are the biggest drivers of budget spending. Thirty-seven percent of Minnesota’s biennial general fund budget – \$6.4 billion in FY2010 – is spent on K-12 education.³⁴ Thirty percent of Minnesota’s biennial general fund budget – \$4.2 billion in FY2010 – is dedicated to Health & Human Services.³⁵



Source: Minnesota Management & Budget

2.c. Health Care Expenditures Will Be Forced Higher by an Aging Population

As previously discussed, Minnesota's population is aging. Growth among the 60+ age group will be greatest in the coming decades. As a result, the next 10 years will see increased demand for health care services and ultimately, health care will emerge as a major cost driver in the budget.³⁶ Health care spending jumps after age 55.³⁷ On average, as people get older, their use of health care services increases.³⁸ For example, hospitalization rates and physician visit rates both increase after age 55 and continue to grow every ten years (age 55-65, age 65-75, etc).³⁹

2.d. K-12 Expenditures Will Grow

K-12 education expenditures represent the largest portion of state general fund spending.⁴⁰ This area of the budget is expected to remain a high priority, with necessary increases in spending. Unfortunately, as health care costs rise due to the aging population, Minnesota will not see a correlating decline in need for other essential services. Demand will increase across the board.

According to the Minnesota Budget Trends Study Commission, past growth in K-12 spending is primarily due to legislative initiatives and not necessarily driven by demographic changes.

Future growth has historically been predicted based on an assumption of continued spending in K-12 services coupled with growth in the school-aged population. While it is true that the 60+ age group will grow faster than any other age group, there is no correlative decrease in the number of school-age children. In fact, the number of school-age children is also expected to increase in coming decades.⁴¹

Additionally, the Budget Trends Commission also has identified additional pressures that may increase costs, including a growing concentration of poverty in schools, an increase in the number of pupils with inadequate English upon enrollment, and special education costs.⁴²

Findings Conclusion

Shifts in Minnesota's population, coupled with slower state revenue growth, increased health care costs and continued prioritization of K-12 spending all add up to create major budget challenges in the future.

To help illustrate the problem the state will face over the next 25 years, the 2009 Budget Trends Study Commission offers the following scenario: Assuming revenue grows 3.9% per year, health care continues to grow at 8.5% and spending on K-12 education grows by 2% per year (CPI inflation) for the next 25 years, all other segments of the budget beyond health care and K-12 will have to be reduced by 3.9% each year to avoid budget deficits. *This would nearly eliminate all other areas of spending by 2035.*⁴³

State Economist Tom Stinson and State Demographer Tom Gillaspay predict that a "new normal" is upon us, which includes: higher interest rates, slower economic growth, an increase in the number of retirees, less consumption coupled with more saving, a more diverse population, and increased uncertainty in our personal, state and national future.⁴⁴ It is during these times of economic stress that forces for change are heightened, new opportunities are revealed and wholesale program changes can occur.⁴⁵

The state is currently on an unsustainable track. A "quick fix" through increased taxes or cuts in services are not going to solve this problem and certainly will not lead to lasting progress. Fundamental reforms and major changes in thought and action are necessary – even if this means increases in short-term expenditures.⁴⁶

Moreover, the challenge we face is not just to balance the budget, especially the current one, but to find sustainable, long-term solutions to delivering public services that meet our citizens' expectations for price (cost) and quality. Transformative governing, innovative delivery of services and increased efficiency are necessary in order to not only extricate our state from its current fiscal trend but also to create lasting, meaningful change.

Vision, Restructuring & Redesign

Minnesota's state and local governments face the problem of reconciling increasing demands for services with the diminished prospects for additional resources to support them. The difficult problems the state faces today and over the next decades are not temporary, will not solve themselves and will be very difficult to solve through traditional approaches. Reconciling increasing demands with lagging resources is the central problem facing our state and local governments and, more importantly, the people they serve. Moreover, these governments face the additional challenge of providing these services in an environment in which citizens are more mistrustful of government than they have been in decades.

Innovation in the design and delivery of public services is essential to reconciling the growing demands and limited resources. Current designs and delivery methods were developed in an era of vigorous growth in population and productivity. The pace of population growth and especially of the number of workers has slowed. In the public sector, the rate of retirements is projected to significantly rise just as the resources to replace them are projected to shrink. The future of our economy, the availability of resources to support public services, and the ability to deliver public services effectively will be increasingly dependent on growing the productivity of every worker – public, private and not for profit. The key to productivity growth is innovation.

There are numerous specific examples of innovative designs and delivery mechanisms for public services. These examples should be examined, improved, implemented and expanded if they can deliver the quantity and quality of services the public expects within the limits of our resources. The Commission has worked, and will continue to try, to identify specific innovations, or areas in need of innovation, for examination and consideration for implementation.

Some of the recommendations made by the Commission in this strategic plan and report seek to fundamentally transform government structures and systems; these particular recommendations are about "innovation" in the greatest sense because not only are they directed at increasing efficiency but they also focus on increasing the effectiveness or value of government activities. They fundamentally change not just how government does things, but what government does to better meet the expectations of those it serves.

Together, all the recommendations in this report will put the state on a course for significant transformation and operational restructuring over the next decade to become more efficient, streamlined and citizen-centric. Even if all these recommendations were collectively able to achieve a mere 1% reduction in the cost of government, this would generate at least \$250 million in annual savings.⁴⁷

Shared Services and Consolidation. The Commission believes there is an opportunity to increase the utilization of shared services and consolidation among the state, counties and other local government entities. The Commission acknowledges that many state agencies and local governments, including counties, cities and townships, have already consolidated services and now share them. The Commission seeks to build on these efforts and maximize sharing between those entities and for those services where it makes sense.

In order to implement shared services/consolidation among government entities, the Commission favors approaches that utilize incentives and “local control” on designing and implementing the programs. This type of approach was used by the Minnesota Board of Government Innovation & Cooperation (1993-2002).⁴⁸ Grants provided by the Board helped spur the consolidation of Norwood with Young America into one city, Branch with North Branch into one city, and Redwood Falls with North Redwood into one city.⁴⁹

The Commission believes shared services/consolidation should be explored in these and other service areas:

- Information Technology
 - Utility Services
 - Shared Services
 - Specialized Applications
- Fleet and Dispatch (Transportation)
- Procurement and Food Service
- Facilities and Real Property
- Developing/Providing Analytics and Reporting
- Basic Services such as: Law Enforcement, Firefighting, Snow Removal, Parks, Libraries
- Finance, Human Resources and Administration
- Specialized Knowledge Positions and Teaching/Training
- Leadership/Management Positions.

Recommendation 1: The legislature should establish an enterprise Shared Services/ Consolidation initiative for state and local government entities. The initiative should be led through one entity and supported by financial incentives (e.g., grants and investments), tools, and expertise. (See Recommendations 7, 7.a., and 7.b.)

1.a. Government employees should participate in the implementation of the initiative as stakeholders and partners.

The implementation of the initiative should use strategic sourcing. However, state and local government staff should be used and outsourcing should be limited to select specialized or otherwise unique areas.

1.b. Resources should be provided in order to achieve initiative success.

Resources for training of staff and other aspects of shared services/consolidation implementation are critical to the success of such transformative changes. Up-front funding is needed to ensure success and minimize program disruption and other risks. Funding should be provided through an innovation fund as recommended in 7.a. below.

In order to support counties, cities, townships, schools, higher education, special entities and the state in the use of shared services and consolidation, the following should be provided:

- Website that consolidates available contracts, service center offerings, tools – an information clearinghouse on shared services for Minnesota government.
- Specialized staff/entity to assist in developing ideas in these areas since many government entities lack the time or expertise to identify and define ideas.
- Specialized staff/entity to assist in evaluating options and determining an action plan. There are many contracts, technologies and options available for state and local government to utilize, evaluate ideas and develop value on investment business cases, along with implementation plans/roadmaps.
- Specialized staff/entity to assist in implementing shared services and consolidation. Reorganization, process design, technology standardization and implementation, information security, change management and training along with strong project management are needed for larger-scale efforts and often not available to units of government in today's environment.

1.c. The governing entity should study and create a general inventory of services that are appropriate for shared services and consolidation by type of government entity (e.g., school districts, counties, executive branch agencies, etc.).

Redesign the Systems and Organizations of Government. The Commission recognizes that continuous innovation requires changing the fabric or DNA of state and local government.

Currently, most public systems are governed by a design called bureaucracy. Bureaucracy was developed to solve the problem of corruption. Many believed at that time that people were not reliable and could not be trusted to behave legally and ethically, thus leading to corruption in government. To overcome this problem, bureaucracy relied on controlling the process of government as its principle design element. Today, people call this “red tape.” When bureaucracy was invented over 100 years ago it was a new idea. It has worked well to end corruption and assure fairness, as it was intended.

Now, however, we face different challenges and are in need of innovation. Bureaucratic mechanisms of control don’t encourage innovation (i.e., people in bureaucracies are rewarded for following the rules not changing them) and can actually hinder good ideas. Citizens and lawmakers, however, do not want to sacrifice honesty and fairness. The Commission believes that we need systems that assure honesty and fairness while also encouraging innovation. The following chart suggests how this can be done. The major tool to achieve this is to emphasize accountability for delivering specified results rather than accountability only for following specified procedures or rules.

From Bureaucracy	To Innovative Government
Statute and rule directed	Mission and results directed
Hierarchy driven	Team and network driven
Control centralized	Decentralization and empowerment
Primarily accountable for conformance to rules	Primarily accountable for results
Manage costs	Manage value
Assume people cheat; control them	Assume people perform; empower them
Quality defined as adherence to standards	Quality defined as meeting or exceeding expectations of those served
Exclusive service mandate	Choice and competition
Focus on what's best for the organization	Focus on what's best for those being directly served and for citizens

Recommendation 2: State and local government administrative functions and systems should be redesigned to foster innovation by removing related barriers and providing incentives, as well as training and equipping employees. Examples of administrative functions and systems, amongst others, that should be considered for redesign are: human resources, purchasing systems, accounting systems, and auditing systems.

The Commission also believes that traditional budgeting, based on bureaucratic assumptions about control and mistrust, actually inhibits innovation. It starts with the status quo, which focuses on incremental changes. Changing the approach to budgeting, although not the requirement for a balanced budget, can promote innovation by challenging agencies to discover how to increase the value delivered from every budgeted dollar.

	CURRENT BUREAUCRATIC RULES	NEW RULES
Goal	Protect the Status Quo	Promote Innovation
Starting Point	Last year’s budget costs (the BASE)	Revenue available this year (Price of Government)
Focus of attention	What to cut Subtracting from the base	What to keep Using available revenue to buy results: Getting the most value from each dollar
If shortfall is 15% ...	100% of the focus is on the 15% to be cut	100% of the focus is on the 85% to be spent well
Budget Submission	Justification for costs	Offer to produce specific results at a specific price
Agency Incentives	Make cuts hard	Innovate to produce the most results for the money
Budget Analyst’s job	Find hidden / unnecessary costs	Find the most value - Evaluate and compare the value of alternatives
Elected official’s job	Choose what programs to cut or taxes to raise GET BLAMED	Choose results that citizens value at a price they are willing to pay
Debate	What to cut What to tax	How to get better results
Budget represents	Next year’s costs – and starting point	Performance agreements that link money to results

Recommendation 3: For purposes of fostering innovation, budgeting for state and local government should focus on delivering the best outcomes (comparable across regions and jurisdictions in the state) and the most “bang for the buck” for every dollar spent on government services. Rather than starting with last year’s base budgets and then making marginal changes, the new approach should examine the whole budget, potentially using methods like Budgeting for Outcomes.

The current government agencies were created within the context of bureaucratic design parameters. Many of the recommendations listed above are intended to support change within

those agency organizations. Another alternative would be to create new organizations using innovative design parameters.

The Commission believes government should separate policy-making/regulatory roles (tantamount to direction setting or “steering”) from service delivery/compliance roles (tantamount to operational execution or “rowing”). When they are separate, both can be done better.

Steering organizations set direction, specify results to be delivered, allocate resources and hold those who get resources accountable for delivering the specified results. Rowing organizations figure out how to deliver the results with the resources available. The separation encourages those who are rowing to find innovative solutions.⁵⁰

Separating steering from rowing works because:

- It limits micromanaging by the legislature and other policymakers while strengthening accountability
- It frees administrative leaders from much of their captivity to service-provider lobbying
- It increases flexibility to further innovation

One key to achieving this separation is through the use of performance agreements between those who steer and those who row. A performance agreement could be established between an agency and a steering organization to deliver specific results and a specific cost. This idea was used by the federal government in restructuring the Office of Federal Student Assistance as a Performance-Based Organization. This new organization produced impressive results, including customer (student) satisfaction among the best of any financial services organizations in the country, dramatic increase in staff morale, and dramatic decreases in costs and defaults.

Alternatively, existing agencies or parts of agencies could be re-chartered to provide them with increased flexibility and authority in return for increased accountability for results and a reduced budget. One example of this model is charter schools: public schools were created without many of the restrictions of traditional schools. This model has also been used in other states for state agencies that choose to participate; they are called Charter Agencies.

Recommendation 4: The legislature should consider permitting or creating Charter Agencies or Performance-Based Organizations in order to allow government entities to enter into a new relationship with the legislature and the state in which they are given flexibility from legal requirements in exchange for being held more accountable to measureable results.

Innovation in Government Workforce, Culture & Processes

The state needs to prepare and plan for the needs of major portions of our state where the dependency ratio is growing and resources are declining. Moreover, with growing needs for quality public services, the state will need to meet the challenge of having a high proportion of state employees reaching retirement age during the next few years and preserve and improve a competent workforce.

Government employees take pride in the quality of services they deliver. When given the opportunity to actively participate with key management personnel who have the authority to implement and act on innovative changes developed via labor/management teams, the Commission believes government employees will embrace changes in service delivery systems.

The Commission also believes improved services can be developed and implemented without the threat of employee layoffs or compromising the quality of services, although certain workforce flexibilities are needed. (Options for government employees to telecommute or work four 10-hour days, instead of five eight-hour days, are examples of flexibilities that should be explored, as have been done in other states like Utah.) When the parties (labor and management) can commit to a process that allows for innovation, such as the Lean and Kaizen principles successfully being utilized in other states and more recently in Minnesota, positive outcomes are attainable and proven.

Lastly, in order to maximize opportunities for innovation, the State of Minnesota will need to restore public citizens' faith in government. A recent national Pew Research Center survey revealed that by almost all indicators, the general public is less positive and more critical of government than they have been in decades.⁵¹ The Commission believes we need to improve on the "public understanding of the purpose and possibilities of government action – an approach that emphasizes problem-solving, long-term thinking, and a genuine concern for the common good."⁵²

Recommendation 5: A communications plan should be developed by the executive branch that would include a public education campaign about government services and workers. The campaign would coincide with and promote other internal attempts to maximize efficiency in government, including the Commission's findings and recommendations, to enable education and engage Minnesota citizens on the challenges

the state faces.

The Commission also believes a number of barriers in government exist that hamper innovation efforts. These barriers and challenges include the following:

Barrier Type	Specific Barrier
<p>Lack of Common Processes /Tools/ Training</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No over-arching governing body to lead/sustain an “innovations management” process across all governing levels • Cost of a common process unclear, including training and the funding source • Benefits of a common process are unclear, including who benefits from it
<p>Lack of Benefits / Metrics / Evaluation Funding</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benefits analysis lacks consistency, promotes prolonged funding debate • Misaligned incentives • Performance measures lacking—and/or not timely, broadly visible • No evidence of funding agility, i.e., funding one-time resources to implement “highest return” changes
<p>Agency “Silos”/ Overlapping-Conflicting Agendas</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Service ownership, “turf battles” • An agency belief that it alone will not make a difference, the change is for someone else to explore/implement
<p>Workforce Culture / Rewards / Fear</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employees not valued, not empowered to innovate/change • Employee perception that “must innovate” implies “currently failing,” not “good to great” • Lack of trust and rapport, successes (and failures) not visibly celebrated • Fear of change and failure • Fear of job loss, control and power • Leadership turnover leads to loss in focus, commitment
<p>Leadership Alignment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coalition (across party lines) that shows commitment to fueling innovations does not exist • Political agendas derail service innovation agenda
<p>Statutory</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Balanced state budget (2-year horizon) “constraint” • Weak “whistle-blower” legal protections • Outdated part-time legislative schedule rules • Outdated work rules and management practices

To advance process improvement, the Commission studied the Department of Administration's Enterprise Lean Program. According to the Department, Lean is a time-tested set of rules and methodologies for identifying and eliminating redundancy and loss and improving productivity and customer service. The continuing goal of Minnesota's program is to introduce, support and sustain Lean continuous improvement efforts that improve efficiency, productivity and service delivery in state government operations.

Lean originated with the Toyota Motor Company shortly after the Second World War and was initially applied in manufacturing. In Minnesota, for example, General Mills, Inc. has employed a "Continuous Improvement" Lean program over the past 10 years. The program began on all North America manufacturing plant floors and has reached administrative services performed in their Minneapolis corporate headquarters. During this time, the company has achieved significant cost savings and the program is now part of their entire workforce culture.

Lean programs clearly have reached the service industry and, more recently, reached government. Minnesota has the potential to become a national leader in Lean state government but other states such as Iowa and Ohio have also built strong Lean programs.

Lean is a set of tools that identify and reduce "loss" and "defects" within work processes – called "Kaizens" – by engaging employees to improve productivity, reliability, staff morale, and customer service. In particular, Lean helps to address activities that:

Case Examples: Lean Continuous Improvement Results

Minnesota Veterans Homes – Patient admissions process

Before: After an often lengthy admission application process, a prospective patient is placed on a waiting list. Once an open bed was identified, the admitting process usually took 7-10 days.

After: The time to fill an open bed now takes four days on average, and customer satisfaction has increased from 3.9 to 4.5 (on a 5-point scale) in less than a year. The process improvement event included all Department of Veterans Affairs parties involved in the process, including a family member of a veteran.

Department of Agriculture – Dairy and food licensing

Before: It took an average of 30 days to issue a license to a business to sell food and dairy products, after that business had successfully passed an inspection.

After: Licenses are issued immediately after passing the inspection (a 99.5 percent reduction). Furthermore, the Department of Agriculture will save approximately \$95,500 in staff time annually.

- Consume resources without creating value for the customer
- Are unpredictable in creating value
- Require more time, effort or resources than necessary
- Include defects and errors, overproduction, waiting, excess processing, motion, transportation and inventory.

Since the launch of Minnesota's Enterprise Lean Program in November 2007, 18 state agencies have held more than 160 Kaizen events, or rapid improvement events, that together have realized:

- A 66% average reduction in lead time (high of 99.7%, low of 37%)
- A 45% average reduction in task time
- Average cost avoidance of \$90,000 per event
- An estimated 80 percent implementation/sustainment level.

Although many state agencies have had Lean Kaizen events or trained some staff as Kaizen facilitators, only nine agencies have instituted a formal Continuous Process Improvement effort. The Commission believes there is great opportunity to expand this effort to additional government entities with a modest amount of further human capital

Case Examples (Continued): Lean Continuous Improvement Results

Department of Human Services – Personal Care Attendants

Personal Care Attendants (PCA) are individuals who are licensed by DHS to provide home health care services to individuals in need. There are approximately 40,000 PCAs enrolled in the program who need to be licensed annually.

Before: PCAs would wait an average of 50-plus days to be authorized to provide these services. There were typically 3,000 applications waiting to be processed at any one time.

After: PCAs are now enrolled in an average of 2-3 days, and a maximum of 400 applications wait processing at any given time. The amount of staff time required for this function was reduced by 20,000 hours per year.

Department of Transportation – Project close-out process

Before: It would often take six to eight years to close out large federal-state funded road or bridge projects, after the work was completed. During that time, any project dollars not expended were held in an encumbrance and not available for other projects (often millions of dollars).

After: Mn/DOT reduced this close-out period by a minimum of 2.5 years. This will allow millions of dollars to be reallocated to new road and bridge projects more quickly.

Pollution Control Agency – Gasoline consumption

Before: The Pollution Control Agency (PCA) set a goal to reduce the fleet energy consumption and its contribution to air pollution.

After: Using process improvement tools, in its first year of application, PCA cut fuel use by 14%, eliminated 242,000 pounds of CO₂ emissions, and saved \$113,000 in fuel costs.

investment, i.e., with an expanded Lean program training team, beyond that in place within the Department of Administration. Some of this additional labor is likely existing labor, redirected, within the state, county, city, and township levels of government.

The Commission also believes that the Lean program should be strengthened by utilizing Business Process Reengineering (BPR) processes, techniques, and tools to improve the efficiency of government processes. BPR began in the private sector to “help organizations fundamentally rethink how they do their work in order to dramatically improve customer service, cut operational costs, and become world-class competitors. A key stimulus for reengineering has been the continuing development and deployment of sophisticated information systems and networks. Leading organizations are becoming bolder in using this technology to support innovative business processes, rather than refining current ways of doing work.”⁵³

Like Lean, BPR is not limited in its use to the private sector. It can be used by government as well. The United States General Accounting Office (GAO) has advised federal government agencies on how to employ BPR.⁵⁴ According to the GAO, “achieving major levels of cost savings and performance improvement nearly always requires that agencies redesign the business processes they use to accomplish their work. Many of the largest federal agencies find themselves encumbered with structures and processes rooted in the past, aimed at the demands of earlier times, and designed before modern information and communications technology came into being. These agencies are poorly positioned to fulfill their mission and meet their strategic goals. They need to consider replacing outmoded work processes with streamlined ones that more effectively serve the needs of the American public.”⁵⁵

In summary, a Lean program may or may not identify bold transformations, i.e., transformations that require marked capital investment; BPR processes typically identify such bold transformations that more closely describe the “ideal future work process state, with zero loss or zero defects.”

Recommendation 6: The state’s Lean program should be extended to all government entities at both the state and local levels and include Business Process Reengineering and technology to improve government efficiency. The program should be implemented through an equal partnership between management and labor. The program framework should be flexible in order to consider and incorporate new process improvement philosophies as they are developed in the future.

Governing Entity & Incentives for Implementation

The Commission believes that innovation needs to be imbedded into current government processes and governance in order to ensure that innovation efforts will be ongoing and continue well after the immediate crises facing the state have been resolved. Sustaining innovation will require establishing a governing structure or entity to drive the Commission's recommendations. *Please note that this does not necessarily imply the creation of a new agency or an additional layer of government.*

In particular, the Commission believes a quasi-government entity should be identified or created and given the authority to lead and oversee the Commission's recommendations, such as the Lean/BPR and Shared Services/Consolidation. The entity should review state and local government entities on a routine rotational basis to determine if they may be appropriate for consolidation or shared services. The entity should be empowered with tools to encourage government entities to implement the recommendations, including the power to offer financial incentives such as grants/awards to participants. Any grants/awards should come with minimal regulatory or bureaucratic requirements.

Moreover, in order to improve productivity to help state and local governments increase the results they deliver for each dollar spent, there needs to be some commitment of resources – although it should return both better service results (or at least not worse) and reduce costs. The Commission believes sustaining innovation will require establishing not only a governing structure or entity but also a reliable source of funding to support the entity and innovation efforts.

The Commission believes the entity should function as an “investment bank” to support innovation through funding, tools, and expertise for government entities willing to innovate. The entity should support a “bottom up” approach to the implementation of the Commission's recommendations complemented with “top down” leadership. Innovation ultimately resides with the people within government. Government employees and unions, as stated elsewhere in this strategic plan and report, must be involved as equal partners and collaborators to ensure success. Government employees and unions should also be invited to seek support from the entity for their innovative ideas to improve government.

Recommendation 7: The legislature should establish an entity to oversee and facilitate the implementation of the Commission’s recommendations, including those for Lean/BPR and Shared Services/Consolidation; to routinely identify additional opportunities for innovation among state and local government entities; and to encourage entities to implement the innovations through financial incentives such as grants (no return required) and investments (must generate return).

The legislature should consider giving the entity the following qualities:

- Independent and Quasi-Governmental. The entity should not be attached to an existing government agency and should include on its membership representatives from the private sector and government employee unions, among others. The legislature should consider making the entity a “public corporation” that is accountable to the legislature but can also seek funding from private investors (e.g., venture capital) and other sources that the entity can use to make “investments” (i.e., must generate a return). The operation of the entity and its future should depend on its ability to generate a financial return from service innovation investments.
- Empowered to award grants, make investments and provide other financial incentives to state and local government entities so they have funding to support the implementation of the Commission’s recommendations. The entity should be given authority to establish any rules for grants and investments; the entity should be capable of conditioning “investments” on an explicit expectation of a return and consequences if not delivered. The entity should be authorized to solicit, accept and use investments from the private sector (e.g., venture capital) and other sources, as well as repay outside investors for their investment plus a financial return.
- A tireless advocate and “evangelist” for innovation and the Commission’s recommendations. It should seek to educate people about opportunities for innovation.
- A source of expertise to help guide state and local government entities on how to implement Lean/BPR, Shared Services/Consolidation, and other Commission recommendations. This may include the need for 10-20 experts (staff, outside consultants or private sector volunteers) serving the entity to assist state and local government entities.

7.a. The legislature should provide a funding mechanism(s) and/or funding to the entity to support an innovation fund – the Return on Service Innovation (ROSI) Fund – for encouraging and enabling state and local government entities to implement the Commission’s recommendations through awarding grants, making investments and/or providing other financial incentives. To the extent possible, the Fund should be a revolving fund replenished by state and local government entities that generate a return on investing in innovation or that contribute some of their savings from innovations resulting from grants or other non-investment dollars. A small amount of the funding should be reserved for the operation of the entity itself.

To support the ROSI Fund, the legislature should consider the following funding sources:

- Investments from the private sector (e.g., venture capital) and other sources that will produce – once reinvested by the entity with state and/or local government entities – both a financial return and improved service outcomes;
- Savings realized by government entities that implement the Commission’s recommendations. Savings cannot be the sole basis for supporting the ROSI Fund. A reliable stream of revenue is needed to ensure stable, consistent operations. In addition, savings may not be generated for many years, even if implementation started immediately. The Commission also believes that government entities should share in any savings;
- Authorizing the sale of bonds within constitutional boundaries and legal constraints;
- A new appropriation; and/or
- A small percentage of some or all state appropriations.

7.b. The legislature should designate a single committee in both the Senate and House to oversee the governing entity and all related funding for the entity, including all funding that flows through the entity to state and local units of government.

Innovation in Citizen/Customer Engagement

As the citizen, society and all other institutions have evolved over the years, the roles of all the stakeholders have also substantially changed – or will likely need to substantially change. The Commission believes that government should transform to accommodate and serve these changes. More specifically, government should focus less on the delivery of services and regulation and focus more on ensuring that governance outcomes are met in many institutions and sectors. This approach has been referred to by government reform experts as more “steering” and less “rowing.”⁵⁶ Citizen expectations should focus less on good customer service from government (although the Commission also assumes this will improve under this approach) and more on viewing citizens as “producers” – partners in governance and in producing outcomes that are good for Minnesota.

Two conditions for these changes are the availability of data that provides meaningful and useful information to the public and policymakers, and the ability of citizen expectations and demands to have an influence on government. Given these conditions, the Commission recommends the following:

Recommendation 8: Executive branch agencies should seek to make available all state data that are public in nature in a format(s) that can be utilized by citizens, commonly known as “data mashing,” in order to increase citizen/customer engagement with government. As an example, raw data on water quality for particular waterways should be made accessible regardless of its location within state government so that citizens can “mash up” different data sets to produce new and better waterway information.

It should be noted that during the 2010 legislative session new laws were passed as part of the State Government Omnibus Policy Bill that require the state Office of Enterprise Technology (OET) to accomplish similar goals. The laws require OET to establish standards for making public data available to citizens in consistent formats so they can be easily accessed and used, with the ultimate goal for OET to host a website for citizens to view and download the data.⁵⁷

Throughout the legislative session, OET stated its support for the goals of the bill and continues to support them today. However, OET is working to implement the new law without any funding so the implementation will be slow and small in scale.⁵⁸ The Commission believes the 2010 law should be fully funded and the legislature should not enact any new related unfunded mandates.

Next, to engage citizens as customers, it's also necessary for government to continue the development of electronic government services or "e-government." New and existing e-government services should be linked together or capable of "talking" in order to advance "one-stop shop" interactions with government.

Recommendation 9: Executive branch agencies should seek to improve the ease with which citizens access government services by electronic means so their accounts and user identities do not need to be recreated for each service – regardless of the program or agency involved.

Recommendation 10: In order to build demand and political support for these changes as well as to emphasize the need for citizens to become contributors or "co-producers," the governing entity (see Recommendation 7) should create a virtual "good government user group." The virtual group will work to:

- Help coordinate and facilitate these types of demand-expectations and changes;
- Make best-practice information across government available to citizens and leaders in all sectors that work with the government; and
- Coordinate this work with other types of government and leadership from other sectors.

Conclusion & Next Steps

Citizens are expecting more from their government than ever before. Yet, Minnesota's state and local government are facing historic challenges. If the state accepts these challenges and acts boldly, this could be its finest hour. Marginal changes will deliver marginal results.

Transformative change is imperative.

Transformative change, however, does not mean categorical rejection of today's government. The Commission's recommendations were guided by the philosophy of retaining the core purpose of the current institutions and programs, but with the aim of removing barriers to innovation and creating incentives that will result in a new government operations model for improved service delivery, particularly in the "back offices" of government.

The recommendations will not likely deliver the "silver bullet" to solve the upcoming biennial budget deficit, but they will create a way for state and local government to "deal with" the all but inevitable budget cuts that will occur in the upcoming 2011 legislative session. Substantial savings will occur at some point, however. Even if all these recommendations were collectively able to achieve a mere 1% reduction in the cost of government, this would generate at least \$250 million in annual savings.⁵⁹

In addition to saving money, the recommendations will help reduce service costs while increasing value and quality for citizens; and ultimately, this effort is all about how government can better serve the citizens of Minnesota. The recommendations will not likely result in employee layoffs but will allow the state to realign its service delivery with the inevitable exodus of retiring government employees – and provide the roadmap to better manage human capital over the long term. Moreover, the recommendations will put the state on a course for significant transformation and operational restructuring over the next decade to become more efficient, streamlined and citizen-centric.

Implementation will be lengthy and difficult but the status quo is far worse – it's unsustainable.

The Commission has only met six times (beginning monthly in July 2010) and does not expire until June 30, 2012. The Commission believes this annual report and strategic plan is just the beginning of its work and is looking forward to the next year-and-a-half to continuing its efforts. The Commission reserves the right to make modifications to this strategic plan and report and issue supplemental recommendations.

The next steps for the Commission are to:

1. Seek public and legislative input and support for its recommendations.
2. Work with legislators, executive branch leadership and stakeholders to draft and adopt legislative language enacting its recommendations, as well as guide early implementation of approved initiatives.
3. Continue to meet regularly and start to explore specific issue areas for reform, such as K-12 education, health care and human services, and other specific issue areas.

The Commission wishes to thank all legislators,⁶⁰ Commission members, staff⁶¹ and citizens that contributed to its meetings, website and this strategic plan and report. We look forward to working with you over the next year-and-a-half to make Minnesota a better state – and a better place to live.

Appendix I: Legislation Establishing Commission

Minnesota Session Laws
2010, Regular Session

CHAPTER 392--S.F.No. 3134

An act

relating to government operations; defining certain powers of the Council on Black Minnesotans; providing for mapped data on expenditures; increasing threshold requirements for deposit of agency receipts; clarifying agency requirements for contracts over a certain amount; permitting state chief information officer to appoint a state Webmaster and develop standards for public access to electronic data; clarifying use of fees in the combined charities campaign; requiring standards for data collected under the clean water partnership program; defining jurisdiction of the Office of Enterprise Technology that impact state information systems; requiring the secretary of state to distribute copies of abstracts when town is organized; requiring a report on government efficiency and transparency; providing legislature improved access to executive branch accounting, procurement, and budget systems; establishing the commission on service innovation; appropriating money; amending Minnesota Statutes 2008, sections 3.9225, subdivision 5; 16A.275; 16B.355, subdivision 1, as added; 16C.055, subdivision 2; 16E.04, subdivision 2; 16E.05, by adding a subdivision; 43A.50, subdivision 2; 103F.755; 307.08, subdivision 5; Minnesota Statutes 2009 Supplement, sections 16C.16, subdivision 6a, as amended if enacted; 16E.02, subdivision 1; 103H.175, subdivision 2; 379.05; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapters 3; 16A; proposing coding for new law as Minnesota Statutes, chapter 116W.

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

[ARTICLE 1 IS UNRELATED TO THE COMMISSION. IT HAS BEEN OMITTED]

ARTICLE 2 GOVERNMENT REFORM

Section 1. **[3.9280] COMMISSION ON SERVICE INNOVATION.**

Subdivision 1. Establishment. The Commission on Service Innovation is established to provide the legislature with a strategic plan to reengineer the delivery of state and local government services, including the realignment of service delivery by region and proximity, the use of new technologies, shared facilities, centralized

information technologies, and other means of improving efficiency.

Subd. 2. **Membership.** (a) The commission consists of 19 members, appointed as follows:

- (1) one representative of the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce;
 - (2) one representative of the Minnesota Business Partnership;
 - (3) one representative of the McKnight Foundation;
 - (4) one representative of the Wilder Foundation;
 - (5) one representative of the Bush Foundation;
 - (6) one representative of the Minnesota Council of Nonprofits;
 - (7) one representative of the Citizens League;
 - (8) one representative of the Minnesota Association of Townships;
 - (9) one representative of the Association of Minnesota Counties;
 - (10) one representative of the League of Minnesota Cities;
 - (11) one representative of the University of Minnesota;
 - (12) one representative of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities;
 - (13) one representative of the Minnesota Association of School Administrators;
 - (14) two representatives of the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, including one from council 5 and one from council 65;
 - (15) one representative of the Minnesota Association of Professional Employees;
 - (16) one representative of the Service Employees International Union;
 - (17) one representative of the Minnesota High Tech Association; and
 - (18) the state chief information officer.
- (b) The appointments required by this section must be completed by June 30, 2010. Appointing authorities shall notify the state chief information officer when making their appointments. The members of the commission shall serve at the pleasure of the appointing authorities.

Subd. 3. **Organization.** (a) Within two weeks after completion of the appointments under subdivision 2, the state chief information officer shall convene the first meeting of the commission. The state chief information officer shall provide meeting space for the commission. The commission shall select co-chairpersons from its appointed membership at the first meeting. Members of the legislature may attend the meetings of the commission and participate as nonvoting members of the commission.

(b) The commission shall provide notice of its meetings to the public and to interested members of the legislature. Meetings of the commission shall be open to the public. The commission shall post all reports required under this section on the Legislative Coordinating Commission Web site.

(c) The commission may solicit and receive private contributions. The commission must designate one of its members to serve as a fiscal agent for the commission. No public money may be used to provide payment of per diems or expenses for members of the commission. The commission may hire staff to assist the commission in its work. Staff hired by the commission are not state employees.

(d) The commission shall solicit and coordinate public input. The commission must use its best efforts to maximize public involvement in the work of the commission, including the use of best practices in social media. The commission may retain an expert in the use of social media to assist in public outreach and involvement.

Subd. 4. **Reporting.** (a) Beginning August 1, 2010, the commission shall publish electronic monthly reports on its progress, including a description of upcoming agenda items.

(b) By January 15 of each year, beginning in 2011, the commission shall report to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees and divisions with jurisdiction over state government policy and finance regarding its work under this section, with a strategic plan containing findings and recommendations to improve state and local government delivery of public services. The strategic plan must address:

(1) how to enhance the public involvement and input as the public uses state and local government services and public schools;

(2) how technology can be leveraged to reduce costs and enhance quality;

(3) how service innovation will conserve substantial financial resources;

(4) a transition plan and governance structure that will facilitate high-quality innovation and change in the future;

(5) how to improve public sector employee productivity;

(6) the security of individual data and government programs;

(7) data transparency and accountability;

(8) centralized and shared services; and

(9) data interoperability across jurisdictions.

The strategic plan shall also provide a process to review and modify recommendations at regular intervals in the future based on specific results measured at regular intervals.

The strategic plan shall also include any proposed legislation necessary to implement the commission's recommendations.

Subd. 5. **Expiration.** This section expires June 30, 2012.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Presented to the governor May 18, 2010

Signed by the governor May 25, 2010, 11:22 a.m.

Endnotes

- ¹ Minnesota Laws 2010, Chapter 392, Article 2. See Appendix 1.
- ² The \$250 million number is based on the \$25 billion number discussed in Finding 2.b.
- ³ *Commission Report to the Legislature*, Minnesota Budget Trends Study Commission, January 12, 2009, available at <http://www.mmb.state.mn.us/doc/budget/trends/report-09.pdf>. Please note that some budget areas funded outside of the general fund, such as transportation, would not be significantly impacted under such a scenario. For example, “Only a small percentage of what the state spends on transportation is funded through the general fund (4%). Most state transportation funding comes from the Trunk Highway Fund, which is constitutionally dedicated revenue from the state gasoline tax. A significant amount of transportation funding also comes from federal funds.” *Transportation Budget*, Minnesota Senate Budget Discussion, Minnesota Senate, Jan. 12, 2009, available at <http://www.leg.state.mn.us/docs/2009/other/091169/budgetforum.senate.mn/indexee5b.html?p=142>.
- ⁴ Minnesota Laws 2010, Chapter 392, Article 2. See Appendix 1.
- ⁵ *Commission Report to the Legislature*, Minnesota Budget Trends Study Commission, January 12, 2009, available at <http://www.mmb.state.mn.us/doc/budget/trends/report-09.pdf>.
- ⁶ *Projected Minnesota Population Trends in the “Not Yet Gazette,”* State Demographic Center, Department of Administration, available at <http://www.demography.state.mn.us/notyet/nygtrnds.html>.
- ⁷ *Id.*
- ⁸ *Id.*
- ⁹ Minnesota Geospatial Information Office, State Demographic Center, Department of Administration, available at <http://www.lmic.state.mn.us/datanetweb/php/DemProjection/prj.html>.
- ¹⁰ *Commission Report to the Legislature*, Minnesota Budget Trends Study Commission, January 12, 2009, available at <http://www.mmb.state.mn.us/doc/budget/trends/report-09.pdf>.
- ¹¹ *Demographics of an Aging Population*, Minnesota Department of Health, fall 2005, available at <http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/orhpc/pubs/healthyaging/demoage.pdf>.
- ¹² *Commission Report to the Legislature*, Minnesota Budget Trends Study Commission, January 12, 2009, available at <http://www.mmb.state.mn.us/doc/budget/trends/report-09.pdf>.
- ¹³ *Projected Minnesota Population Trends in the “Not Yet Gazette,”* State Demographic Center, Department of Administration, available at <http://www.demography.state.mn.us/notyet/nygtrnds.html>. See also, *Commission Report to the Legislature*, Minnesota Budget Trends Study Commission, January 12, 2009, available at <http://www.mmb.state.mn.us/doc/budget/trends/report-09.pdf>, which found that “Minnesota is currently experiencing a major, long range demographic shift” due to 1.4 million baby boomers beginning to retire.
- ¹⁴ *Commission Report to the Legislature*, Minnesota Budget Trends Study Commission, January 12, 2009, available at <http://www.mmb.state.mn.us/doc/budget/trends/report-09.pdf>.
- ¹⁵ *Minnesota Demographic Change and State Government Services*, Tom Gillaspay, State Demographer, Minnesota Department of Administration, December 2009, available at: <http://www.metrocouncil.org/media/DemographicsDec09.pdf>.
- ¹⁶ *Id.*, based on Percent of Population of color; Note: Population except white alone, not Hispanic, according to the 2006 Census Bureau estimate. Source: Minnesota Demographic Center.
- ¹⁷ According to Minnesota Labor Force Projections for 2005-2035, Minnesota’s labor force will grow by 9.7% between 2005-2015. Minnesota Labor Force Projections 2005-2035, Minnesota State Demographic Center, by Martha McMurray of the State Demographic Center, available at <http://www.demography.state.mn.us/documents/MinnesotaLaborForceProjections20052035.pdf>.
- ¹⁸ *Minnesota Demographic Change and State Government Services*, Tom Gillaspay, State Demographer, Minnesota Department of Administration, December 2009, available at <http://www.metrocouncil.org/media/DemographicsDec09.pdf>.
- ¹⁹ *Minnesota Demographic Change and State Government Services*, Tom Gillaspay, State Demographer, Minnesota Department of Administration, December 2009, available at <http://www.metrocouncil.org/media/DemographicsDec09.pdf>.
- ²⁰ *Minnesota and the New Normal*, Minnesota Management & Budget, Tom Stinson, State Economist and Tom Gillaspay, State Demographer, September 2010.
- ²¹ *Id.*

²² *State of Minnesota 2008 Workforce Report*, Minnesota Department of Employee Relations, March 2008.

²³ *Id.*

²⁴ *Id.*

²⁵ *Commission Report to the Legislature*, Minnesota Budget Trends Study Commission, January 12, 2009, available at <http://www.mmb.state.mn.us/doc/budget/trends/report-09.pdf>.

²⁶ *Id.*

²⁷ *July 2010 Economic Update*, Minnesota Management & Budget, July 2010, available at <http://www.mmb.state.mn.us/doc/fu/10/update-jul.pdf>.

²⁸ *November 2010 Economic Forecast*, Minnesota Management & Budget, Dec. 2, 2010, available at <http://www.mmb.state.mn.us/doc/fu/10/complete-nov10.pdf>.

²⁹ *Id.*

³⁰ *Minnesota Demographic Change and State Government Services*, Tom Gillaspay, State Demographer, Minnesota Department of Administration, December 2009 (citing the Budget Trends Commission, 2009), available at <http://www.metrocouncil.org/media/DemographicsDec09.pdf>.

³¹ *General Fund Fund Balance Analysis, 2010 Legislative Special Session 2*, Minnesota Management & Budget, Oct. 19, 2010, available at <http://www.mmb.state.mn.us/doc/budget/report-fba/oct10-detail.pdf>; *Minnesota County Budgets and Minnesota City Budgets, 2010 Summary Budget Data*, Rebecca Otto, Office of the State Auditor, State of Minnesota, available at http://www.osa.state.mn.us/Reports/gid/2010/co_Budget/coBudget_10_report.pdf and http://www.osa.state.mn.us/Reports/gid/2010/ciBudget/ciBudget_10_report.pdf.

³² *Id.*

³³ Although this report repeats the term “K-12,” the Commission prefers the term “E-12” because it recognizes the youngest of the pre-school-aged children in the state. The term “K-12” is only used to ensure consistency with the budget figures associated with the term in the source materials.

³⁴ *General Fund Fund Balance Analysis, 2010 Legislative Special Session 2*, Minnesota Management & Budget, Oct. 19, 2010, available at <http://www.mmb.state.mn.us/doc/budget/report-fba/oct10-detail.pdf>.

³⁵ *Id.*

³⁶ *Commission Report to the Legislature*, Minnesota Budget Trends Study Commission, January 12, 2009, available at <http://www.mmb.state.mn.us/doc/budget/trends/report-09.pdf>.

³⁷ *Minnesota Demographic Change and State Government Services*, Tom Gillaspay, State Demographer, Minnesota Department of Administration, December 2009 (citing Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, Medical Expenditure Panel Survey, data for per capita spending by age group in the Midwest, excludes spending for long-term care institutions), available at <http://www.metrocouncil.org/media/DemographicsDec09.pdf>.

³⁸ *Minnesota’s Aging Population: Implications for Health Care costs and System Capacity*, Health Economics Program, Minnesota Department of Health, August 2003.

³⁹ *Id.* See Graphs on pages 3 and 4 regarding U.S. Hospitalization Rates by Age and U.S. Physician Visit Rates by Age.

⁴⁰ *Commission Report to the Legislature*, Minnesota Budget Trends Study Commission, January 12, 2009, available at <http://www.mmb.state.mn.us/doc/budget/trends/report-09.pdf>.

⁴¹ *Id.*

⁴² *Id.*

⁴³ *Id.* Please note that some budget areas funded outside of the general fund, such as transportation, would not be significantly impacted under such a scenario. For example, “Only a small percentage of what the state spends on transportation is funded through the general fund (4%). Most state transportation funding comes from the Trunk Highway Fund, which is constitutionally dedicated revenue from the state gasoline tax. A significant amount of transportation funding also comes from federal funds.” *Transportation Budget*, Minnesota Senate Budget Discussion, Minnesota Senate, Jan. 12, 2009, available at

<http://www.leg.state.mn.us/docs/2009/other/091169/budgetforum.senate.mn/indexee5b.html?p=142>.

⁴⁴ *Minnesota and the New Normal*, Minnesota Management & Budget, Tom Stinson, State Economist and Tom Gillaspay, State Demographer, September 2010.

⁴⁵ *Id.*

⁴⁶ *Id.*

⁴⁷ The \$250 million number is based on the \$25 billion number discussed in Finding 2.b.

⁴⁸ *Board of Government Innovation and Cooperation, Financial-Related Audit*, Office of the Legislative Auditor, August 22, 2002, available at <http://www.auditor.leg.state.mn.us/fad/pdf/fad0255.pdf>.

⁴⁹ Jim Gelbmann, former Executive Director of the Board, provided this information in a direct communication.

⁵⁰ Government reform experts describe the difference between “steering” and “rowing” as follows:

“Steering--setting policy and direction--focuses on doing the right things. Rowing--service delivery and compliance operations--focuses on doing things right. Housed in separate organizations, each can concentrate on its mission.

Steering well is almost impossible if an organization’s leaders also have to focus on rowing. Peter Drucker captured this point emphatically 35 years ago, in his book *The Age of Discontinuity*:

Any attempt to combine governing with “doing” on a large scale paralyzes the decision-making capacity. Any attempt to have decision-making organs actually “do,” also means very poor “doing.” They are not focused on “doing.” They are not equipped for it. They are not fundamentally concerned with it.

Once the steering function has been separated out, it can be consolidated to assure that policy is integrated and mutually reinforcing across a government. To use the homeland security example, Congress should have created a relatively small department whose mission was to steer, but kept operational agencies like FEMA independent. The department would set outcome goals and policies, develop strategies and budgets for the operational agencies, develop performance agreements with agencies defining the results they would be expected to produce, evaluate their performance, and hold them accountable. It would continually shift resources away from low-yield strategies and agencies to high-yield strategies and agencies.

This approach may sound radical, but it is common in other countries, from Sweden to New Zealand. It has many advantages. It keeps policy makers from getting sucked into the minutiae of operations. It minimizes the kind of micromanagement that is habitual in large, hierarchical organizations. It makes accountability for performance stronger, because the steering organization can shift resources from ineffective operations to high performers. And it gives policy leaders much more flexibility to change strategies and funding levels, but gives operational managers much more flexibility to manage their agencies.

Consolidating steering and funding but not rowing creates a fundamental—radical—shift in governance. It gives leaders the power to steer more effectively while forcing service providers and compliance agencies to continually improve their efficiency and effectiveness.”

“Many models already exist for this fundamental shift. One of the first was created 60 years ago, in Pinellas County, Florida, which comprises the area around Tampa and Saint Petersburg. In 1944, Judge Lincoln C. Bogue of the Pinellas County Juvenile Court confronted a growing problem: children who clearly needed help, showing up in his courtroom time and time again.

... Seeking a solution ...the judge drafted a state law authorizing the formation of “an autonomous board of citizens,” with taxing authority, to look after child welfare. Known as the Juvenile Welfare Board, it was, according to its current leaders, “the nation’s first countywide agency utilizing dedicated property tax revenue to better the lives of children and families.”

The Juvenile Welfare Board has 11 members: the superintendent of schools, one county commissioner, one public defender, one state attorney, one juvenile court judge, and six members appointed by the governor. It spends about \$46 million a year, mostly from a dedicated property tax voted by the citizens, to improve outcomes for children. Its staff and board identify needs, prioritize them, and develop a budget for each one. The organization does no rowing itself. Instead, it finds the best providers to meet each need, funds them, and measures their success and the county’s success in addressing the needs. It funds almost 60 different providers, focusing as much as possible on prevention: neighborhood family centers and teen centers, counseling, domestic violence shelters, residential treatment services, after-

school activities, child-care centers, home monitoring, recruitment and training of substitute child-care workers, and a 24-hour resource and referral service.

... “What makes it unique is it has a measurable objective component that can be tailored to each program,” long-time JWB executive director James E. Mills told us. “This can be negotiated in the contract. That system has been picked up, and we ended up in the hosting business.”

Performance measurement leads to consequences: The best providers grow and the worst lose funding. “Last spring [2003] the board defunded 16 programs,” Mills explains. “We cleaned out some marginal performers and some duplication of effort. I think we went from about 80 to 60.” Eliminating contracts allows the board to expand high-performing programs and strategies and add new providers.” *The Price Of Government: Getting the Results We Need in an Age of Permanent Fiscal Crisis*, David Osborne and Peter Hutchinson, Basic Books, First Edition ed., pages 117-120, April 13, 2004.

⁵¹ *Distrust, Discontent, Anger and Partisan Rancor, The People and Their Government*, Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, April 18, 2010, available at <http://people-press.org/report/606/trust-in-government>.

⁵² *By, or for, the People?* (preface), Michael Lipsky.

⁵³ *Business Process Reengineering Assessment Guide*, Accounting and Information Management Division, United States General Accounting Office, Version 3, May 1997, available at <http://www.gao.gov/special.pubs/bprag/bprag.pdf>.

⁵⁴ *Id.*

⁵⁵ *Id.*

⁵⁶ *The Price Of Government: Getting the Results We Need in an Age of Permanent Fiscal Crisis*, David Osborne and Peter Hutchinson, Basic Books, First Edition ed., April 13, 2004.

⁵⁷ Minnesota Laws 2010, Chapter 392, Article 1, Sections 8, 9 and 16, Subd. 2, available at <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/laws/?id=392&year=2010&type=0>.

⁵⁸ During the legislative session, OET provided the legislature with a fiscal note describing the costs to fully and effectively implement the law. See *Fiscal Note for S2188-2A, 2009-10 Session*, completed on 03/22/10 by the Office of Enterprise Technology and Minnesota Management and Budget, available at http://www.mmb.state.mn.us/bis/fnts_leg/2009-10/S2188_2A.pdf.

⁵⁹ The \$250 million number is based on the \$25 billion number discussed in Finding 2.b.

⁶⁰ State legislators contributing to the efforts of the Commission include (in alphabetical order): Sen. Terri Bonoff, Rep. Keith Downey, Rep. Phyllis Kahn, and Sen. Ann Rest.

⁶¹ Staff contributing to the efforts of the Commission include (in alphabetical order): Kim Anderson, Stacy Becker, Jackie Duchscher, Marcia Hansen, Greg Hubinger, Sally Olson, Taylor Joseph, Dr. Jerry Mechling, Michael Muilenburg and Sara Schlauderaff.