Blue Ribbon Commission on Health & Human Services: Executive Summary

Enacting legislation: MN Session Laws – 2019, 1st Special Session

**Chapter 9** – Special Session Health and Human Services bill
- Article 7 (Health Care), Section 46. BLUE RIBBON COMMISSION ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
- Article 14 (Appropriations)

**Chapter 12** – Special Session Revisor’s Bill
- Section 11. COMMISSIONER OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

Commission charge
To create an action plan to improve program efficiencies, produce savings, and promote better outcomes in health and human services. The statute provides at a minimum the plan shall include strategies for:

1. **Increasing administrative efficiencies and program simplification** within health and human services (includes county, tribal and state roles in delivery of health and human services)
2. **Reducing health and human services expenditures by addressing cost drivers** of state spending (including Medicaid)
   a. short term: $100 million by FY 2023 (see rider in session law)
   b. long term: undefined by statute
3. **Reducing fraud and improving program integrity** in health and human services programs
4. **Improve access** to health and human services programs to address geographic, racial, and ethnic disparities

Limitations
The legislation includes limitations for the recommendations, which includes:

1. In developing the action plan, the commission shall take into consideration the impact of its recommendations on the existing capacity of state agencies, including staffing needs, technology resources, and existing agency responsibilities; and the capacity of county and tribal partners.
2. The commission shall **not** include in the action plan recommendations that may result in loss of benefits for the individuals eligible for state health and human services public programs or exacerbate health disparities and inequities in access to health care and human services.

Timeline
- July – Aug 2019: appointments and vendors finalized
- September 2019: kick off meeting for Commission
- Request for public comment
- Sept 2019 – June 2020: Commission meetings & stakeholder/community engagement events
- **July 2020:** final draft action plan due
- **October 1, 2020:** action plan due to legislature and Governor
- October 2, 2020: Commission expires
- 2021 Legislative Session: placeholders for budget and policy proposals
- 7/1/2021 – 6/30/2023: implementation of any approved legislative proposals from action plan
- June 30, 2023: final evaluation & assumed $100,000,000 reduction of health and human services spending
17 Member commission in statute

- 4 – members are appointed by legislature
- 1 – Commissioner of DHS, Blue Ribbon Commission Co-Chair
- 1 – Commissioner of MDH, Blue Ribbon Commission Co-Chair
- 4 – Experts/leaders in health care, social services, long term care, and HHS technology/systems
- 2 – Leadership in employer and group purchaser activities (not a health plan)
- 5 – Public or private leadership, cultural responsiveness, and innovation in the area of HHS

Planned engagement

- Full commission meetings are open to the public
- Request(s) for Public Comment
- Stakeholder meetings, community events and/or focus groups
- Written comment at commission meetings and/or via public website
- Public website
- Blue Ribbon Commission list serve for announcements and updates