

January 15, 2026

Senate Judiciary and Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee

Senator Ron Latz, Chair
3105 Minnesota Senate Bldg.
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Senator Warren Limmer, Minority Lead
2221 Minnesota Senate Bldg.
Saint Paul, MN 55155

House Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee

Representative Kelly Moller, Chair
509 State Office Building
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Representative Paul Novotny, Minority Lead
301 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Re: Annual Submission of Rulemaking Docket and Official Rulemaking Record

Dear Legislators:

Minnesota Statutes, section 14.116(a) requires that by January 15 of each year, each state agency submits its rulemaking docket maintained under section 14.366, and the official rulemaking record required under section 14.365 for any rule adopted during the preceding calendar year, to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative policy and budget committees with jurisdiction over the subject matter of the proposed rule.

Completed Rulemaking Proceedings

The department completed one rulemaking proceeding in 2025 by adopting permanent rules related to residential treatment programs for individuals who have engaged in or attempted to engage in sexually abusive or harmful behavior. This was accomplished by repealing Minnesota Rules Chapter 2965 and consolidating its provisions into Minnesota Rules Chapter 2955. This rule was adopted in October 2025 and effective October 20, 2025. The official rulemaking record for this adopted rule is provided in the attached PDF.

Active Rulemaking Proceedings

The department has two rules currently under active consideration, both of which are scheduled to be completed by the end of fiscal year 2027:

- **Chapter 2900, constructing correctional facilities.** The department is proposing to replace the current outdated chapter with a comprehensive performance-based standard that supplements the State Building Code and establishes uniform performance standards. These performance standards will standardize jail construction and serve to promote efficiency and economy, allowing jails to deliver high-quality correctional services.
- **Chapter 2911, county jails.** Since 1976, the department has had the authority to inspect adult correctional facilities, or jails, for compliance with minimum standards. But this authority and

the minimum standards haven't been substantively revised for half a century. Because of 2021 legislative changes under the transformative Hardel Sherrell Act, the department was given the ability to improve the standards of confinement in jails to ensure that all justice-involved populations are treated with basic levels of care. For the first time, the legislature mandated specific topics for the department to include in its rules, and the department is working with an advisory committee to adopt guidance on these topics.

You can find information on the department's rulemaking docket (including the recently completed rulemaking proceeding) on the department's rulemaking web page:

<https://mn.gov/doc/about/rulemaking/>.

You can also track rulemaking proceedings by using the revisor's Rule Status System:

<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/rules/status/>.

The cost to prepare this report was \$50.

If you have questions regarding this report, please contact Kelly Haff, Legislative Director, at Kelly.haff@state.mn.us.

Sincerely,

Paul Schnell
Commissioner

Cc: Legislative Reference Library