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**Uniform Laws Commission**

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### AT A GLANCE

- Twelve Commissioners, as members of the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws (ULC), volunteer their services to draft uniform acts for adoption by the states and promote their adoption in Minnesota.
- Minnesota introduced and enacted two acts the past two years and has over 96 that are currently in statute.
- Commissioners worked with legislators and stakeholders to secure adoption of uniform acts.

### PURPOSE

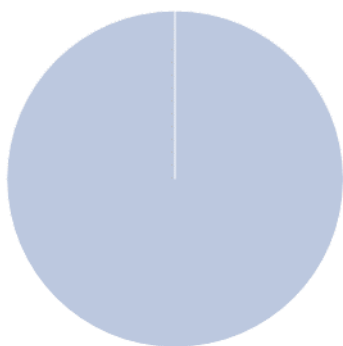
Twelve Minnesota Uniform Law Commissioners work with Commissioners from other states, the District of Columbia, U.S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico to prepare uniform acts that address complex and technical issues of commercial and other private law for introduction in their legislatures. Uniform acts establish the legal framework for economic growth, trade, and business development, criminal justice, and support the rule of law and federalism.

- Uniform acts enable states to carry out their responsibilities by providing rules and procedures that are consistent from state to state but that also reflect the diverse experience of the states, preserving the role of state law in our federal system.
- The ULC keeps state law up-to-date by addressing important and timely legal issues.
- Uniform acts promote efficiency by reducing the need for individuals and businesses to deal with different laws as they move and do business in different states.
- The ULC's work facilitates economic development and provides a legal platform for U.S. citizens and businesses when dealing with foreign citizens and entities.

### BUDGET

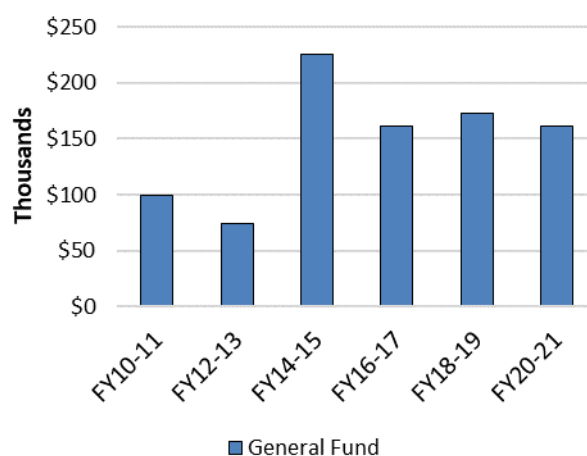
**Spending by Category  
FY 2021 Actual**

Operating  
Expenses  
100%



Source: Budget Planning & Analysis System (BPAS)

**Historical Spending**



Source: Consolidated Fund Statement

The total fiscal year (FY) 2021 budget of \$98,000 was provided by a general fund appropriation. Funding is used to pay dues to the National Commission and expenses incurred by Minnesota Commissioners attending the annual conference.

## STRATEGIES

Minnesota Uniform Law Commissioners donate hundreds of hours of their time and legal and drafting expertise every year as a public service and receive no salary or compensation for their work.

ULC's deliberative and uniquely open drafting process draws on the expertise of commissioners, but also utilizes input from legal experts, and advisors and observers representing the views of other legal organizations or interests that will be subject to the proposed laws.

Drafting committees prepare acts for debate and approval at annual meetings. Each drafting committee meets two to three weekends per year, usually for two and one-half days. Drafting an act typically takes two years. Before an act is approved and promulgated, it is read line-by-line, scrutinized and debated by the entire Uniform Law Conference at two annual meetings.

Minnesota commissioners fulfill their statutory responsibilities by participating in the development, drafting, approval and promulgation of uniform acts. Commissioners do this by (1) serving on drafting committees that prepare acts, (2) participating in the mandatory annual meeting at which proposed acts are debated, amended and approved, (3) promoting adoption by the legislature, and (4) securing support from people and organizations interested in an act such as the Minnesota State Bar Association. Minnesota commissioners have been chosen leaders of the ULC serving as presidents, chairs of the Executive, Scope and Program, and Legislative committees and members of them, chairs of drafting and study committees, and members of drafting and study committees. Commissioners also serve as liaison and attend annual meetings of the National Association of Secretaries of State and the American Bar Association. Commissioners develop a legislative agenda for each legislative session.

## RESULTS

| <i>Type of Measure</i> | <i>Name of Measure</i>   | <i>Previous</i> | <i>Current</i> | <i>Dates</i> |
|------------------------|--|-----------------|----------------|--------------|
| Result                 | <b>Acts adopted by the legislature 1892-2022.</b><br>Over 157 uniform acts have been adopted since 1892. Over 96 are currently in effect.  | N/A             | 157            | Before 2022  |
| Result                 | <b>Minnesota Commissioners secured introduction and enactment of the following Uniform Acts in 2021-2022</b><br><br>1. Uniform Recognition of Canadian Money Judgments Act.<br>2. Uniform Recognition and Enforcement of Canadian Domestic-Violence Protection Orders Act. | 6               | 2              | 2021-2022    |

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M.S. 3.251-.253 (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=3.251>) provides the legal authority for the Uniform Laws Commission.

(Dollars in Thousands)

|                                    | Actual    | Actual    | Actual    | Estimate   | Forecast Base |            | Enacted Budget |            |
|------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|---------------|------------|----------------|------------|
|                                    | FY20      | FY21      | FY22      | FY23       | FY24          | FY25       | FY24           | FY25       |
| <b><u>Expenditures by Fund</u></b> |           |           |           |            |               |            |                |            |
| 1000 - General                     | 98        | 64        | 80        | 120        | 100           | 100        | 115            | 115        |
| <b>Total</b>                       | <b>98</b> | <b>64</b> | <b>80</b> | <b>120</b> | <b>100</b>    | <b>100</b> | <b>115</b>     | <b>115</b> |
| Biennial Change                    |           |           |           | 38         |               | 0          |                | 30         |
| Biennial % Change                  |           |           |           | 24         |               | 0          |                | 15         |
| Enacted Budget Change from Base    |           |           |           |            |               |            |                | 30         |
| Enacted Budget % Change from Base  |           |           |           |            |               |            |                | 15         |

(Dollars in Thousands)

|                                   | Actual    | Actual    | Actual    | Estimate   | Forecast Base |            | Enacted Budget |            |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|---------------|------------|----------------|------------|
|                                   | FY20      | FY21      | FY22      | FY23       | FY24          | FY25       | FY24           | FY25       |
| <b>1000 - General</b>             |           |           |           |            |               |            |                |            |
| Balance Forward In                |           | 0         |           | 20         |               |            |                |            |
| Direct Appropriation              | 98        | 98        | 100       | 100        | 100           | 100        | 115            | 115        |
| Cancellations                     |           | 34        |           |            |               |            |                |            |
| Balance Forward Out               | 0         |           | 20        |            |               |            |                |            |
| <b>Expenditures</b>               | <b>98</b> | <b>64</b> | <b>80</b> | <b>120</b> | <b>100</b>    | <b>100</b> | <b>115</b>     | <b>115</b> |
| Biennial Change in Expenditures   |           |           |           | 38         |               | 0          |                | 30         |
| Biennial % Change in Expenditures |           |           |           | 24         |               | 0          |                | 15         |
| Enacted Budget Change from Base   |           |           |           |            |               |            |                | 30         |
| Enacted Budget % Change from Base |           |           |           |            |               |            |                | 15         |

(Dollars in Thousands)

|                                 | FY23       | FY24       | FY25       | Biennium<br>2024-25 |
|---------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|---------------------|
| <b>Direct</b>                   |            |            |            |                     |
| <b>Fund: 1000 - General</b>     |            |            |            |                     |
| <b>FY2023 Appropriations</b>    | <b>100</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>200</b>          |
| <b>Forecast Base</b>            | <b>100</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>200</b>          |
| <b>Change Items</b>             |            |            |            |                     |
| Maintain Current Service Levels |            | 15         | 15         | 30                  |
| <b>Total Enacted Budget</b>     | <b>100</b> | <b>115</b> | <b>115</b> | <b>230</b>          |

(Dollars in Thousands)

|  | FY23 | FY24 | FY25 | Biennium<br>2024-25 | FY26 | FY27 | Biennium<br>2026-27 |
|--|------|------|------|---------------------|------|------|---------------------|
|--|------|------|------|---------------------|------|------|---------------------|

Maintain Current Service Levels

This provision provides additional operating funds to maintain the current level of service delivery at the Uniform Laws Commission.

|                                    |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|------------------------------------|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1000 - General Fund Cost (Savings) | 0 | 15 | 15 | 30 | 15 | 15 | 30 |
| Expenditures                       | 0 | 15 | 15 | 30 | 15 | 15 | 30 |