

**SENATE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
NINETY-THIRD SESSION**

S.F. No. 1596

(SENATE AUTHORS: SEEBERGER)

DATE
02/13/2023

D-PG

Introduction and first reading
Referred to Judiciary and Public Safety

OFFICIAL STATUS

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to corrections; authorizing the removal of the ombudsperson only for just
1.3 cause; amending Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 241.90.

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

1.5 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 241.90, is amended to read:

1.6 **241.90 OFFICE OF OMBUDSPERSON; CREATION; QUALIFICATIONS;**
1.7 **FUNCTION.**

1.8 The Office of Ombudsperson for the Department of Corrections is hereby created. The
1.9 ombudsperson shall ~~serve at the pleasure of~~ be appointed by the governor in the unclassified
1.10 service, and may be removed only for just cause. The ombudsperson shall be selected without
1.11 regard to political affiliation, and shall be a person highly competent and qualified to analyze
1.12 questions of law, administration, and public policy. No person may serve as ombudsperson
1.13 while holding any other public office. The ombudsperson for corrections shall be accountable
1.14 to the governor and shall have the authority to investigate decisions, acts, and other matters
1.15 of the Department of Corrections so as to promote the highest attainable standards of
1.16 competence, efficiency, and justice in the administration of corrections.