

MOTION TO AMEND ORDINANCE 25-027-O

BY COUNCILORS AWAL AND DELUCA:

We move to amend Ordinance 25-027-0 as follows (amendments are ~~strike-outs~~ and underlines in red):

The city of Duluth does ordain:

Section 1. That Section 29C-4 of Chapter 29C of the Duluth City Code be amended by adding new subdivisions as follows:

Sec. 29C-4. Same--Terms of office, qualifications, compensation.

(a) The nine persons first appointed and approved for membership on the commission shall be appointed for the following terms: three persons shall be appointed for three years, three persons shall be appointed for a term of two years; three persons shall be appointed for a term of one year. Thereafter, any person appointed to the commission shall be appointed for a term of three years. Any member or former member may be reappointed for up to two full terms. The commission members should broadly represent the city's diverse population, with consideration of race, religion, ethnicity, heritage, national origin, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, veteran status, socioeconomic status, geographic location within the city, housing status and age. Members shall ~~serve~~service without compensation.

(b) The commission may establish committees to address specific concerns consistent with the commission's purpose. Committees may include, but are not limited to, those related to:

(1) persons who are nonbinary, queer, trans, two spirit, lesbian, gay, bisexual, or asexual;

(2) persons with disabilities;

(3) Indigenous peoples; and

(4) the African Heritage community.

(c) The commission shall appoint members to any committee established by the commission. Committee appointments will be for three years and any member may be reappointed for up to two full terms. Each committee may have up to nine members and will elect a chair from among its members. Committee chairs shall serve as voting members of the human rights commission with each committee chair having one vote. A majority of the members of each committee shall be residents of Duluth.

(d) The committees shall have the following duties:

(1) To advise the mayor and city council through the commission about issues concerning services, policies, procedures, and facilities that are of concern to their communities;

(2) To increase public understanding and acceptance of their communities;

(3) To provide consultation, research and information to the commission and the Human Rights and Equity Officer on issues that impact their communities;

(4) To recommend, through the commission, city council legislation that empowers and promotes their communities; and

(5) To assist the commission in fostering programs that will increase their community involvement in all aspects of community affairs.

(e) On or before June 30, 2026, each existing protected class advisory commission shall meet quorum and hold a vote on whether to incorporate into the Duluth Human Rights Commission as a committee.

(f) If any protected class advisory commission fails to meet quorum and hold a vote on or

before June 30, 2026, that commission shall automatically be incorporated into the Duluth Human Rights Commission as a committee.

(g) On or before June 30, 2026, if any protected class advisory commission meets quorum and holds a vote not to incorporate into the Duluth Human Rights Commission as a committee, that commission will not be automatically incorporated into the Duluth Human Rights Commission as a committee.

(h) The Human Rights and Equity Officer, in coordination with the Duluth Human Rights Commission, shall oversee this transition process to ensure continuity of representation and alignment with the purposes of this Chapter.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: The purpose of this motion to amend ordinance 25-027-0 is to clarify the process and timeline for protected class commissions to decide whether to incorporate into the Duluth Human Rights Commission as a committee. Under this motion to amend, the existing commissions will have until June 30, 2026, to meet quorum and decide by a vote whether they wish to incorporate into the Human Rights Commission. If they vote yes, then they will be so incorporated. If they vote no, they will not be so incorporated. For any commission that is unable to meet quorum by June 30, 2026, that commission shall be incorporated into the Human Rights Commission as a committee in order to obtain an effective and unified platform for their voice to be heard.