

## S.F. No. 386 – Commission creation to redesign the official state flag and the official state seal – 1<sup>st</sup> Engrossment

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**SF 386** establishes a commission to adopt a new design for the Great Seal of the state and for the state flag, and makes statutory changes to reference the new design, phase out the use of the materials printed with the current design, and repeal certain provisions regarding the flag.

**Section 1 [Official seal]** is a conforming change, to reference a new statute section that identifies a new Great Seal.

**Section 2 [Official seal; May 11, 2024, and thereafter]** makes the design certified in a report of a new commission the new Great Seal of the State, effective May 11, 2024.

**Section 3 [Additional effects; size]** removes constraints on the design of the Great Seal and makes conforming changes. Eliminates a prohibition on enlarging, reducing, or embossing the seal for use in unofficial acts.

**Section 4 [State's duties]** requires phasing out use of expendable materials with the current Great Seal by January 1, 2025.

**Section 5 [Adoption]** adopts the design of the flag certified in a report by the new State Emblems Redesign Commission as the new state flag, effective May 11, 2024.

**Section 6 [State Emblems Redesign Commission]** creates a commission to develop and adopt a new design for the official state flag and official state seal by January 1, 2024.

**Subdivision 1 [Establishment]** establishes the new commission and states its purpose.

**Subd. 2 [Membership; meetings]** specifies the membership of the commission. Requires appointments to be made by August 1, 2023. Requires members to elect a chair and vice-chair. Requires the governor's appointee to convene the commission's first meeting.

Requires a majority vote of the commission to make a decision. Requires the Historical Society to provide office space and administrative support.

**Subd. 3 [Meetings]** makes meetings of the commission subject to the open meeting law.

**Subd. 4 [Duties; form and style of recommended state emblems]** requires the commission to develop and adopt a new design for the official state seal and a new design for the official state flag. Requires the designs to accurately and respectfully reflect the state's shared history, resources, and diverse cultural communities. Precludes elements that reflect only a single community or person. Authorizes the commission to use voluntary assistance from vexillologists or others with technical or artistic skill in flag construction or design, or the design of official seals. Requires the commission to solicit public feedback.

**Subd. 5 [Report]** requires the commission to report on adopted designs by January 1, 2024, with a description of the symbols and other meanings incorporated in the design. The commission expires on submission of its report.

**Section 7. [Repealer]** repeals the description of the current emblem, effective May 11, 2024. Repeals designation of an official state flag. Repeals a description of a proper procedure for folding a state flag for presentation or display.