

# Minnesota Department of Education

## Division of Academic Standards and P-16 Initiatives

### REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

#### **Possible Amendment to Rules Governing Social Studies Academic Standards, Minnesota Rules, Chapter 3501.**

**Subject of Rules.** The Minnesota Department of Education requests comments on its proposed rules governing social studies academic standards. The Department is proposing amended academic standards in this content area to comply with the requirement in Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.023, subdivision 2. This statute requires that academic standards be revised on an ongoing basis. The Department is also coordinating these amended academic standards with the Common Core State Standards Initiative.

**Persons Affected.** The amendment to the rules would likely affect teachers, school district administrators, curriculum directors, students and parents.

**Statutory Authority.** Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.02, authorizes the Department to adopt rules for statewide academic standards.

**Public Comment.** Interested persons or groups may submit comments or information on these possible rules in writing until further notice is published in the State Register that the Department intends to adopt or to withdraw the rules. The Department will not publish a notice of intent to adopt the rules until more than 60 days have elapsed from the date of this request for comments. The Department has formed a Standards Review Committee selected from a group of qualified applicants. This Committee assists in drafting the proposed social studies academic standards. More information about the work of the Committee is available on the Department's academic standards webpage.

**Rules Drafts.** The Department has prepared preliminary drafts of the proposed social studies academic standards rules. The most current draft of the proposed rules is available on the Department webpage at:

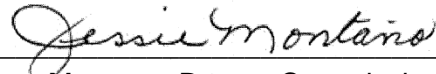
[http://education.state.mn.us/MDE/Academic\\_Excellence/Academic\\_Standards/Social\\_Studies/index.html](http://education.state.mn.us/MDE/Academic_Excellence/Academic_Standards/Social_Studies/index.html). The rule draft can also be found by following this pathway from the Department's homepage: Home: Academic Excellence: Academic Standards: Social Studies. The draft document available on the Department's website includes both the proposed social studies academic standards and the supporting academic benchmarks.

**Agency Contact Person.** Written comments, questions, requests to receive a draft of the rules when it has been prepared, and requests for more information on these possible rules should be directed to: Kerstin Forsythe Hahn at the Minnesota Department of Education, 1500 Highway 36 West, Roseville, MN 55113, phone: (651) 582-8583, fax: (651) 582-8248, and email: [kerstin.forsythe@state.mn.us](mailto:kerstin.forsythe@state.mn.us). TTY users may call the Department at (651) 582-8201.

**Alternative Format.** Upon request, this Request for Comments can be made available in an alternative format, such as large print, Braille, or cassette tape. To make such a request, please contact the agency contact person at the address or telephone number listed above.

**NOTE:** Comments received in response to this notice will not necessarily be included in the formal rulemaking record submitted to the administrative law judge if and when a proceeding to adopt rules is started. The agency is required to submit to the judge only those written comments received in response to the rules after they are proposed. If you submitted comments during the development of the rules and you want to ensure that the Administrative Law Judge reviews the comments, you should resubmit the comments after the rules are formally proposed.

Dated: 5/18/11



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Jesse Montano, Deputy Commissioner  
Department of Education