

STATE OF MINNESOTA IN SUPREME COURT ADM19-8002

ORDER REGARDING EXTENSION ON PROPOSED LEGAL PARAPROFESSIONAL PILOT PROJECT

We established the Legal Paraprofessional Pilot Project to evaluate the expanded use of legal paraprofessionals in Minnesota courts. This pilot project was put into effect by promulgating amendments to the Supervised Practice Rules, which were effective as of March 1, 2021, and have subsequently been amended by further court orders. *See* Order Implementing Legal Paraprofessional Pilot Project, No. ADM19-8002 (Minn. filed Sept. 29, 2020); Order Amending Rules Governing Legal Paraprofessional Pilot Project, No. ADM19-8002 (Minn. filed Dec. 9, 2021); Order Establishing Public Hearing and Promulgating Amendments to Rules Governing Legal Paraprofessional Pilot Project, No. ADM19-8002 (Minn. filed Apr. 1, 2022); Order Amending Rules Governing Legal Paraprofessional Pilot Project, No. ADM19-8002 (Minn. filed June 16, 2022); Order Amending Rules Governing Legal Paraprofessional Pilot Project, No. ADM19-8002 (Minn. filed Oct. 6, 2022).

The Standing Committee for the Legal Paraprofessional Pilot Project, which was directed to administer the pilot project, was ordered to file a final status report on the pilot project that includes recommendations for continuation, abandonment, or modification of the pilot project, or for permanent codification of the rules for the pilot project. *See* Order Establishing Public Hearing and Promulgating Amendments to Rules Governing Legal

Paraprofessional Pilot Project, No. ADM19-8002 (Minn. filed Apr. 1, 2022). On January 12,

2024, the Standing Committee filed its final status report, making numerous

recommendations, including that the pilot project be made permanent and that its scope be

expanded. Standing Comm. for Legal Paraprofessional Pilot Project, Final Report and

Recommendations to the Minnesota Supreme Court, No. ADM19-8002 (Jan. 12, 2024).

We opened a public comment period and set a public hearing to consider the Standing

Committee's report and recommendations. Order Establishing Public Comment Period and

Hearing on Legal Paraprofessional Pilot Project, No. ADM19-8002 (Minn. filed Feb. 9,

2024). In the same order, we also extended the pilot project through August 31, 2024, from

its earlier expiration date of March 31, 2024. *Id.* A public hearing was held on June 13, 2024,

and the report and recommendations are currently under advisement. In order to allow for

the court's continued consideration of the report and recommendations, the pilot project is

extended through January 1, 2025, or until otherwise ordered by the court.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the pilot project is extended through January 1,

2025, or until otherwise ordered by the court, whichever occurs first.

Dated: August 26, 2024

BY THE COURT:

Matalia E. Hessen

Natalie E. Hudson

Chief Justice

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