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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-FOURTH SESSION

H. F. No. 3847

03/02/2026 Authored by Franson The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Taxes

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to taxation; local sales and use; authorizing Douglas County to impose a
1.3 local sales tax.

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

1.5 Section 1. DOUGLAS COUNTY; TAXES AUTHORIZED.

1.6 Subdivision 1. Sales and use tax authorization. Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes,
1.7 section 477A.016, or any other law or ordinance, and if approved by the voters at an election
1.8 as required under Minnesota Statutes, section 297A.99, subdivision 3, Douglas County may
1.9 impose by ordinance a sales and use tax of up to one-quarter of one percent for the purposes
1.10 specified in subdivision 2. Except as otherwise provided in this section, the provisions of
1.11 Minnesota Statutes, section 297A.99, govern the imposition, administration, collection, and
1.12 enforcement of the tax authorized under this subdivision. The tax imposed under this
1.13 subdivision is in addition to any local sales and use tax imposed under any other special
1.14 law.

1.15 Subd. 2. Use of sales and use tax revenues. The revenues derived from the tax authorized
1.16 under subdivision 1 must be used by Douglas County to pay the costs of collecting and
1.17 administering the tax and to finance up to \$18,500,000, plus associated bonding costs, for
1.18 the construction of a new library.

1.19 Subd. 3. Bonding authority. (a) Douglas County may issue bonds under Minnesota
1.20 Statutes, chapter 475, to finance all or a portion of the costs of the project authorized in
1.21 subdivision 2 and approved by voters as required under Minnesota Statutes, section 297A.99,
1.22 subdivision 3, paragraph (a). The aggregate principal amount of bonds issued under this
1.23 subdivision may not exceed \$18,500,000, plus an amount applied to the payment of the

2.1 costs of issuing the bonds. The bonds may be paid from or secured by any money available  
2.2 to the county, including the tax authorized under subdivision 1. The issuance of bonds under  
2.3 this subdivision is not subject to Minnesota Statutes, sections 275.60 and 275.61.

2.4 (b) The bonds are not included in computing any debt limitation applicable to the county.  
2.5 Any levy of taxes under Minnesota Statutes, section 475.61, to pay principal of and interest  
2.6 on the bonds is not subject to any levy limitation. A separate election to approve the bonds  
2.7 under Minnesota Statutes, section 475.58, is not required.

2.8 Subd. 4. **Termination of taxes.** Subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 297A.99,  
2.9 subdivision 12, the tax imposed under subdivision 1 expires at the earlier of (1) ten years  
2.10 after the tax is first imposed, or (2) when the county board determines that the amount  
2.11 received from the tax is sufficient to pay for the project costs authorized under subdivision  
2.12 2 if approved by voters as required under Minnesota Statutes, section 297A.99, subdivision  
2.13 3, paragraph (a), plus an amount sufficient to pay the costs related to issuance of any bonds  
2.14 authorized under subdivision 3, including interest on the bonds. Except as otherwise provided  
2.15 in Minnesota Statutes, section 297A.99, subdivision 3, paragraph (f), any money remaining  
2.16 after payment of the allowed costs due to the timing of the termination of the tax under  
2.17 Minnesota Statutes, section 297A.99, subdivision 12, must be placed in the general fund of  
2.18 the county. The tax imposed under subdivision 1 may expire at an earlier time if the county  
2.19 so determines by ordinance.

2.20 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day after the governing body of  
2.21 Douglas County and its chief clerical officer comply with Minnesota Statutes, section  
2.22 645.021, subdivisions 2 and 3.