

House Research Act Summary

CHAPTER: 250

SESSION: 2004 Regular Session

TOPIC: Limits on closure of municipal airports

Date: May 21, 2004

Analyst: John Williams, 651-296-5045

This publication can be made available in alternative formats upon request. Please call 651-296-6753 (voice); or the Minnesota State Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529 (TTY) for assistance. Summaries are also available on our website at: www.house.mn/hrd.

1 Requirement for closure of municipal airport. Sets out requirements that must be met before a municipal airport may be closed.

Subd. 1. Definition. Defines municipal airport to include airports owned by a city, county, town, or joint powers board, excluding airports operated by the Metropolitan Airports Commission.

Subd. 2. Notice of intent. Requires the owner of a municipal airport to notify the commissioner of transportation of its intent to close an airport, before or immediately on cessation of operations at the airport.

Subd. 3. Preservation of airport property. Prohibits a municipality from abandoning, significantly altering, demolishing, or conveying airport property within 180 days of receipt by the department of the notice under subdivision 2. Requires assessment by the commissioner of transportation of a civil penalty of \$1,000 per day on a municipality violating this prohibition, for deposit in the state airports fund.

Subd. 4. Notice and hearing. Requires the owner of a municipal airport to schedule a public hearing within 90 days of giving notice to the department under subdivision 3. Requires the owner to provide public notice at least 30 days before the hearing. Requires the municipality at the hearing to present information on the closing.

Subd. 5. Impact evaluation. Requires the commissioner of transportation to prepare before the hearing a written evaluation of the impact of the closing on the airport system. Requires the commissioner to make the evaluation available to the municipality and the public before the hearing.