

House Research Act Summary

CHAPTER: 161

SESSION: 2014 Regular Session

TOPIC: Housing Finance Agency Bill to Remove Obsolete Rules and Law

Analyst: Mary Mullen

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Overview

This Act repeals obsolete and unnecessary laws and rules under the direction of the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency (MHFA) and related to the housing finance agency chapter 462A.

Article 1

Overview

Creates a sunset in 2020 for a reporting requirement for MHFA to prepare and submit a report on the results of funding related to the MARIF program, which provided safe and affordable rental housing to MFIP participants.

Article 2

Overview

Repeals a statute requiring local units of government to send MHFA and the Met Council, if the bond was located in the Twin Cities, the information about housing bonds they have issued. These local governments already have to have public hearings to issue the bonds and the MHFA does not do anything with the information once it is received.

Section**Article 3****Overview**

Repeals the housing preservation program, rent assistance for family stabilization program, community rehabilitation fund account, and employer housing contributions and matching grants in chapter 462A as the programs have all been absorbed into similar programs operated under the Economic Development and Housing Challenge Program, section 462A.33, or the Housing Trust Fund for development of affordable housing for low-income persons and families. This section also repeals cross references to those programs and rules that were developed by the agency through their rulemaking authority for programs that are no longer in use and have not been used for a number of years. The majority of the programs created are now programs that would operate through the Housing Trust Fund or Challenge Program and would use the rules established for those programs.

Article 4**Overview**

This article removes a section of statute that has a cross reference to the reports made to MHFA related to local bonds that is being repealed in Article 2.

Article 5**Overview**

This article adds a provision to existing law to allow MHFA to publish a website to the State Register where all the data relating to the state ceiling, state demographer population and rent unit estimates, and other information specified the Internal Revenue Code, including low-income housing credits, instead of publishing all the data itself. The data is currently available online and this would substitute the publication of the data itself with the publication of the website address where the data can be found.