

Chapter 55

2025 Regular Session

Subject Various local government elections and selection procedures modified

Bill H.F. 4241/S.F. 4660

Analyst Chelsea Griffin

Date May 1, 2026

Overview

This act makes changes to elections and selection criteria for the Three Rivers Park District, Hennepin County, and Independent School District No. 535 (Rochester).

Summary

Section **Description**

- 1 Economic interest disclosure; Three Rivers Park District.**

Requires a candidate for the Three Rivers Park District Board to file a statement of economic interest with Hennepin County within 14 days of the end of the candidate filing period. Requires elected officials in the Three Rivers Park District to annually file a statement of economic interest with Hennepin County for each year the individual remains in office.
- 2 Hennepin County medical examiner; selection and term.**

Amends § 390.0065. Modifies the procedure used to select the Hennepin County medical examiner by:

 - changing the qualifications of members of the three-person Medical Examiner Board that accepts and reviews applications for the medical examiner position;
 - requiring applicants for the medical examiner position to be eligible for a Minnesota license to practice medicine, rather than eligible for appointment to the staff of Hennepin County Medical Center; and to be board-certified in forensic pathology, rather than certified or eligible for certification; and
 - requiring the Medical Examiner Board to provide the county board with a report on all applicants, rather than the seven highest ranked applicants.

Effective the day following final enactment.

Section	Description
3	<p>Independent School District No. 535; elections.</p> <p>Strikes a provision authorizing the Rochester school district to elect members at large, with candidates filing for specified seats. Requires the district to conduct elections in accordance with chapter 205A, and for school board membership to be governed by section 123B.09. Allows the district to use the procedures in section 205A.12 to alter its organization into separate election districts despite being a district in a city of the first class.</p>
4	<p>Special law.</p> <p>Declares that section 3 is a special law pursuant to the constitutional provision relating to special laws and that it applies to the Rochester school district.</p>
5	<p>Effective date.</p> <p>Provides that section 3 is effective upon approval by the governing body of the school district and applies to school district elections held after completion of the approval under section 645.021. Requires the local approval process to be completed by June 30, 2026, and to apply to the 2026 school district election.</p>



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