HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary —

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Subject: Reporting of Hazardous Substances in Tobacco Products

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Overview

This bill requires tobacco product manufacturers whose products are sold in Minnesota to annually report to the commissioner of health on (1) the existence of hazardous substances, as defined in a Surgeon General's report, in the products; (2) the amounts of the substances; and (3) data to support the safety of the substances. Existing reporting requirements are repealed.

- Manufacturers to report certain hazardous substances to assist in enforcement of local ordinances. Adds § 461.175. Requires manufacturers of tobacco products to report information on hazardous substances found in their products to the commissioner of health. Directs the commissioner to provide copies of these reports to local units of government that request them.
 - **Subd. 1. Annual report required.** Requires manufacturers of tobacco products sold in Minnesota to annually report the following information to the commissioner of health, for each brand of tobacco product:
 - all hazardous substances that exist in detectable levels in the product in its unburned state, and the amount and concentration of each hazardous substance; and
 - if the product is usually burned when consumed, all hazardous substances that exist in detectable levels in the product's burned state, and the amounts and concentrations.
 - Defines "hazardous substance." If the manufacturer believes that any of these hazardous substances are safe, directs the manufacturer to provide evidence supporting the safety of the substance. Classifies the reports as public data, and requires reports to include the methods used to detect hazardous substances and the levels of detection.
 - **Subd. 2. Assistance to cities.** Directs the commissioner to provide copies of the reports on hazardous substances to any local unit of government that requests copies of them.
- **Repealer.** Repeals § 461.17. (This section was adopted in 1997 and requires manufacturers of tobacco products sold in Minnesota to provide the commissioner of health with an annual report that identifies, for each product brand, whether any of the following substances are found in the

products in detectable levels: ammonia or ammonia compounds, arsenic, cadmium, formaldehyde, and lead.)