

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 289

DATE: April 2, 2001

Version: First Engrossment

Authors: Daggett and others

Subject: Staggered Four-Year Legislative Terms

Analyst: Deborah K. McKnight, 651-296-5056

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.

Section

- 1 **Constitutional amendment.** Amends the constitution to provide four-year terms for representatives as well as senators. Requires that as nearly as possible, (1) half the members of the house and the senate are to be elected from odd-numbered districts at the first election after reapportionment to serve to two-year terms and (2) half are to be elected from even-numbered districts for four-year terms. Legislators will then continue being elected in this 2-4-4 or 4-4-2 pattern until the next redistricting.
- 2 **Transition.** Provides for operation of the constitutional amendment during the first half decade. In 2006, members from odd-numbered districts will be elected for two years, and members from even-numbered districts will be elected for four years. In 2008, members from odd-numbered districts will be elected for four years. In 2010, members from even-numbered districts will be elected for two years.
- 3 **Question.** Provides for the question to be submitted at the 2002 election. States the question: Should the constitution provide staggered four-year terms for representatives and senators beginning at the 2006 general election?