

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Subject: Medical malpractice statute of limitations cross-reference
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Section

- 1 Amends § 573.02, subdivision 1. In a subdivision authorizing wrongful death actions against physicians, surgeons, dentists, hospitals or sanitariums, or their employees, modifies a cross-reference to make the medical malpractice statute of limitations apply to these actions (requiring such actions to be brought within four years of the date the cause of action accrued). The section establishing a four-year statute of limitations for medical malpractice actions was passed in 1999; before 1999, medical malpractice actions were governed by the two-year statute of limitations in section 541.07, clause (1) (the cross-reference being stricken in this section). The bill makes the wrongful death limitation statute conform to the 1999 amendment to the medical malpractice limitation period.
- 2 **Effective date.** Makes section 1 effective the day following final enactment.