

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 427

DATE: February 21, 2003

Version: As introduced

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Subject: Fire state aid, definition of population

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This bill changes how population is determined for allocation of fire state aid to municipalities. Under current law, population is determined by the latest federal decennial census. The bill provides that population would be determined by the most recent census, a special census, or a population estimate by the state demographer or the metropolitan council if in the metropolitan area.

"Fire state aid" means the state aid payments to municipalities for firefighter retirement funds. One half of the initial aid amount available is allocated to municipalities based on population for the "firetown" or fire service area.

"Municipalities" means cities, towns, park districts under Minnesota Statutes chapter 398, the University of Minnesota, and an American Indian tribal government entity located within a federally recognized American Indian reservation.