

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

This bill establishes the legislature's intent to provide 50 percent of the funding for a new football stadium on the University campus after the University has raised at least \$124 million from nonstate sources. This bill also provides for use restrictions, and eventual transfer, of certain University-owned land in Dakota County.

Section

- 1** **Legislative findings.** Findings relating to University football stadium. States that the purpose of this bill is to provide a firm 50 percent level of funding for a new University football stadium.
- 2** **Definitions.** Defines "commissioner," "stadium," "Board," "commission," "University land," "permitted University uses," "other permitted uses," and "prohibited uses."
- 3** **Recognition of powers.** Recognizes that the Board of Regents has all powers necessary or convenient to design, construct, equip and operate a new stadium.
- 4** **Conditions for payment to University.** Provides for an annual transfer to the University up to \$9.4 million to cover debt service on bonds to be issued to pay the state's share of the cost of the stadium. These payments will not begin until at least \$124 million has been committed to the stadium project from nonstate sources. Bonds issued to pay the state's share of the cost may not exceed \$124 million.
- 5** **No full faith and credit.** Provides that any bonds issued by the University are not public debt of the state and that the full faith and credit of the state is not pledged for their payment.
- 6** **Land protection and transfer.**

Subd. 1. As a condition of receiving the payments from the state described in section 4, the University must file with the county recorder a declaration of its perpetual covenant to limit the use of the land to the permitted uses and to proscribe the use of the land for the prohibited uses. The University and the Department of Natural Resources must endeavor to enter into either a joint powers agreement or a conservation easement to provide for the cooperative oversight of the land. This section does not impair the rights of third parties under existing agreements.

Subd. 2. The University shall offer to convey the land to the state for \$1 no later than the date of the final payment by the state under section 4. That conveyance will be subject to the perpetual right of the University to use the land for permitted University uses. The conveyance will also limit the use of the land to the other permitted uses.

Subd. 3. Provides that restrictions upon the University under subdivisions 1 and 2 and the University's obligation to transfer the property to the state are void if the state fails to make any payment under section 4.

7 **Lease termination.** Permits termination of University's lease at the Metrodome on or after completion of the new stadium.

8 **Effective date.** Effective the day following final enactment.