

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 380

DATE: February 17, 2005

Version: As introduced

Authors: Hilstrom and others

Subject: Establishing single member school board election districts

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Overview

Requires school districts of a certain size and location to establish separate election districts.

Section

1 Single-member school board election districts.

Subd. 1. General provisions. Requires the school boards of school districts to establish separate election districts if, in the 2002-2003 school year, the districts had between 20,000 and 25,000 pupils in average daily membership, included more than one city, included all or part of a city with at least 60,000 residents and were located entirely within one county.

Subd. 2. Election. Requires the school boards of school districts that meet the conditions under subdivision 1 to divide the school districts into single-member districts from which one board member is elected from each district.

Subd. 3. Election district boundaries. Requires each election district to be as equal in population as practicable and to be composed of compact, contiguous territories. Allows school districts to use the most recent federal decennial figures or to conduct a special census for this purpose. Requires a school board to designate each election district by number.

Section

Subd. 4. Board elections. Directs school boards to specify the election districts from which vacancies are filled until there is a board member for each election district. Requires school board candidates in subsequent elections to file an affidavit to be elected for the election district in which the candidate resides. States that a change in election district boundaries does not disqualify a board member from serving for the remainder of a term.

Makes this section immediately effective and applicable to the next and all subsequent general elections.