

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 546

DATE: February 13, 2007

Version: As introduced

Authors: Hornstein and others

Subject: Privatization transportation contracts

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Overview

This bill establishes requirements for certain private contracts awarded by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT).

Section

1 **Contracts for trunk highways.** Establishes contract review and reporting requirements for certain contracts between MnDOT and a private contractor for supplies and materials related to trunk highway construction and maintenance.

Subd. 1. Privatization transportation contracts. Defines privatization transportation contracts as an agreement between the Commissioner of Transportation and a private contractor to provide supplies, materials, or work incidental to trunk highway construction or maintenance projects.

Subd. 2. Applicability. Applies the bill's requirements to any eligible private contract for \$25,000 or more.

Subd. 3. Review of contract costs. Requires the Commissioner to prepare two comprehensive estimates of trunk highway project costs: (1) if the project is done by MnDOT, and (2) if it is done by the proposed recipient of the contract. Allows the Commissioner to enter into a contract for \$250,000 or more only if:

- the contract costs are at least 10 percent below the costs if the project is

Section

done by MnDOT;

- the quality of the work and services will meet or exceed the quality if the project is done by MnDOT; and
- the contract is in the public interest.

Subd. 4. Reports. Requires the Commissioner to provide, annually by September 1, a report to the legislature listing privatization contracts and identifying project details, cost estimates, actual costs, and the Commissioner's determination on meeting contract requirements.

Subd. 5. Short title. Refers to the bill as the "Taxpayers' Transportation Accountability Act."