

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 762

DATE: March 1, 2007

Version: As introduced

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Subject: Regional Library Funding; Calculating Maintenance of Effort

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Overview

Minnesota's public libraries are primarily organized, funded, and operated as county or city library systems. These libraries are grouped into 12 regions within the state. The regional library system is funded partially through a state aid called "basic support grants." A regional library is not eligible for a state basic support grant unless the libraries within that system meet their maintenance of effort requirements. The current maintenance of effort requires that support for a public library must not be below the amount in the second prior year.

This bill exempts proceeds from the local option sales tax that are dedicated to extending Minneapolis and Hennepin County Library hours under Minnesota Statutes, section 473.757 (the Hennepin County Baseball Stadium Sales Tax), from the maintenance of effort calculation.

Section

- 1** **Limitation.** Exempts proceeds from the local option sales tax under Minnesota Statutes, section 473.757, subdivision 2, that are dedicated to extending Minneapolis and Hennepin County Library hours, from the maintenance of effort calculation.