

# HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

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**Authors:** Hansen and others

**Subject:** Dog parks

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### Overview

**This bill establishes a regional dog park permit and appropriates funding to the Metropolitan Council for competitive matching grants to local units of government within the Metropolitan Council's geographic jurisdiction. Matched 1:2, the grants provide for the establishment, expansion, and maintenance of dog parks. State appropriations come from the parks and trails portion of the voter-approved 3/8 percent statewide sales tax increase.**

#### Section

- 1 Regional dog park permit program.** Requires the Metropolitan Council to establish and administer a regional dog park permit program within its Twin Cities metropolitan area jurisdiction. This area includes the counties of Anoka; Carver; Dakota excluding the city of Northfield; Hennepin excluding the cities of Hanover and Rockford; Ramsey; Scott excluding the city of New Prague; and Washington. A county, city or town that receives grant funding must allow a person possessing a valid regional dog park permit to use the funded park(s).
- 2 Dog park matching grant program.** Directs the Metropolitan Council to award matching funds to metropolitan counties, cities and towns for the establishment, expansion, or maintenance of dog parks. A participating local unit of government must provide \$1 of matching funds or in-kind contributions for each \$2 of state funding received. In addition, the local unit of government must post certain dog park rules and signage indicating that the park was funded by the people of Minnesota via a constitutional amendment. Requires the Metropolitan Council to rank eligible applicants according to specified criteria, convene an 11-member advisory committee, and report to the legislature by January 15, 2011.
- 3 Dog park permit and grants.** Appropriates \$1 million over the fiscal years 2010-2011 biennium from the constitutionally-dedicated parks and trails fund to the Metropolitan Council to carry out the programs in sections 1 and 2.

