

# HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

**FILE NUMBER:** H.F. 906

**DATE:** March 14, 2011

**Version:** As introduced

**Authors:** Rukavina and others

**Subject:** Trunk Highway 53 alternative route

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This bill directs the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) to designate one of two specific options as the alternative route for realigning a stretch of Trunk Highway 53 near Virginia. The designation must occur by March 15, 2015, with construction on the new route to begin by June 1, 2015.

The alternative route is prompted by a 1960 agreement that provided MnDOT with an easement to establish a trunk highway through land owned by mining companies. Under that agreement, the mining companies can terminate the easement (with time built in to allow for MnDOT to establish a new trunk highway route), and notice has been given to MnDOT. A February 2011 preliminary analysis of highway realignment options identified several possible new routes, including the two specified in the bill.