HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 1139 **DATE:** April 11, 2011
Version: First engrossment

Authors: Hancock and others

Subject: Public safety equipment acquisition for fire departments

Analyst: Deborah A. Dyson

This publication can be made available in alternative formats upon request. Please call 651-296-6753 (voice); or the Minnesota State Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529 (TTY) for assistance. Summaries are also available on our website at: www.house.mn/hrd.

This bill authorizes local governments acquiring by lease or purchase public safety equipment for fire departments to use sole-source acquisition for used equipment if there is clearly and legitimately only one source and it is best to establish the price by direct negotiation.

It also allows a local government to issue certificates of indebtedness or capital notes to acquire new or used public safety equipment by lease for a term of up to 15 years. Under current law, the maximum term for a certificate or note is 10 years and is only for purchase, not leasing. It exempts the debt from debt limits and election requirements.