

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Subject: Dodge County recorder may be appointed

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Under general law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 375A, a county may make the office of recorder appointive if approved by a referendum. This law allows Dodge County to make this office an appointed position, subject to an 80 percent vote of the county board and reverse referendum. It also provides for the current officeholder to complete the term to which the officer was elected before the office is made appointive. It also requires a retention election at the first general election after the position is made an appointed position and every four years after that. If an appointee loses the retention election, the county must make another appointment effective beginning the next January 1. Finally, it includes procedures for reverting to election for this office. Effective upon local approval.

As of 2011, 25 counties have gotten special legislation to make certain offices appointed positions, and since 2001, the conditions in the special laws have all required the 80 percent board vote and provided for the reverse referendum.