HOUSE RESEARCH =

Bill Summary =

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Subject: Establishing a Truth in Taxation Task Force

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Overview

Establishes a task force to study and make recommendations on the design and content of Truth-in-Taxation statements, with a report due on December 15, 2012.

1 Truth in Taxation Task Force.

Subdivision. 1. Established; duties. Establishes a task force to study and make recommendations on the design and content of Truth-in-Taxation (TnT) statements. The task force is charged with:

- identifying issues with differences among local governments' TnT statements and mailings
- determining what executive or legislative direction is needed to provide a more informative statement to property owners, and to provide policy makers with information that is easily comparable statewide
- considering whether statements should be uniform statewide
- considering whether statements should be able to be distributed electronically, and
- considering the most effective way to provide information to taxpayers regarding special taxing district levies.

Subd. 2. Membership; co-chairs. Provides that the chair of the Property and Local Tax Division of the House of Representatives and the chair of the Senate Committee on Taxes shall serve as co-chairs of the task force. Provides for additional task force membership as follows:

- two members each from the House and Senate Tax Committees, one from each caucus in each body
- one member appointed by the League of Minnesota Cities
- one member appointed by the Association of Minnesota Counties
- one member appointed by the Minnesota Association of Townships,
- one member appointed by the Minnesota Association of Small Cities, and

- one member appointed by the Minnesota Association of County Auditors, Treasurers and Financial Officers.
- **Subd. 3. Meetings.** Provides that task force meetings are subject to the legislative Open Meeting law and allows meetings to be conducted by electronic means under certain conditions.
- **Subd. 4. Compensation; expenses; administrative and technical assistance.** Provides that task force members serve without compensation or reimbursement for expenses. Requires the committee staff of the Property and Local Tax Division of the House of Representatives and the Senate Committee on Taxes to provide administrative assistance. Requires the Commissioner of Revenue to provide technical assistance to the task force. Requires any administrative costs of the task force to be shared equally between the House and Senate.
- **Subd. 5. Report.** Requires the task force to make a report to the legislative committees with jurisdiction over property taxes by December 15, 2012.
- **Subd. 6. Expiration.** Provides that the task force is to expire on June 30, 2013.