

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

In 2008, the Pollution Control Agency (PCA) adopted rules making a number of changes to subsurface sewage treatment system (SSTS) requirements. Since that time, a requirement for counties to adopt ordinances in compliance with those rules within two years has been extended twice (currently, counties have until February 4, 2014). This bill would provide additional flexibility by allowing certain rules applicable before the 2008 amendments to be used when counties adopt alternative local standards for smaller systems.

- 1** **Local standards. (a) Existing systems.** Amends § 115.55, subd. 7. Allows a local unit of government to adopt alternative local standards for new or replacement SSTS's that have a flow of 2,500 gallons per day or less as follows:
 - for systems in shoreland areas, the alternative local standards cannot be less restrictive than the rules in effect April 3, 2006;
 - for systems used in connection with food, beverage, and lodging establishments, the alternative local standards cannot be less restrictive than the rules in effect April 3, 2006, except that current standards applicable to waste strength must be met.