

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

This bill contains various transportation-related provisions impacting local units of government. It would (1) centralize local state-aid rulemaking provisions and allow rulemaking under an exempted procedure; (2) reallocate some of the fee proceeds from two special overdimensional load permits to continue to fund local road system bridge inspections and signage; (3) require a recommendation to the Legislature on streamlining and centralizing water permits for transportation projects; and (4) make technical and clarifying changes.

- 1** **Rules; advisory committee.** Eliminates a provision on expedited rulemaking related to county state-aid highway funding, which is centralized in section 5.
- 2** **Rules have force of law.** Clarifies the status of county state-aid highway rules. Makes technical changes.
- 3** **Rules; advisory committee.** Eliminates a provision on expedited rulemaking related to municipal state-aid street funding, which is centralized in section 5.
- 4** **Rules have force of law.** Clarifies the status of municipal state-aid street rules. Makes technical changes.
- 5** **Rulemaking.** Exempts all rulemaking related to the local state-aid program from the typical rulemaking process (and from an expedited process currently allowed for some of the state-aid administrative rules), to instead follow an exempted rulemaking procedure. Key requirements for "exempt rules" include review by the Revisor of Statutes, a ruling by the Office of Administrative Hearings, and publication in the State Register.

Creates a centralized provision for Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) rulemaking authority governing county and municipal state-aid programs. Makes technical and clarifying changes.
- 6** **Fees; proceeds deposited; appropriation.** Modifies the allocation formula for fee proceeds from a special forest products hauling permit, to continue to fund an account for local bridge inspections and

weight limit postings instead of allocating the fee proceeds to the trunk highway fund. Eliminates language on the account, which is recodified in section 7.

- 7** **Bridge inspection and signing account; appropriation.** Recodifies a provision establishing an account and making a statutory appropriation from the account for local road bridge inspection and signing.
- 8** **Deposit of revenues.** Modifies the allocation formula for fee proceeds from special farm products hauling permits, to continue to fund an account for local bridge inspections and weight limit postings instead of allocating the fee proceeds to the trunk highway fund.
- 9** **Water permitting processes for transportation projects; report.** Requires recommendations to the Legislature on streamlining, through a single point of issuance system, the water permitting process for local and MnDOT transportation projects. The recommendations are due by November 15, 2012.