

# HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

**FILE NUMBER:** H.F. 1028  
**Version:** As introduced

**DATE:** March 4, 2013

**Authors:** Loeffler and others

**Subject:** Hennepin County Soil and Water Conservation District, may be discontinued

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Permits the Hennepin County Board to petition the state Board of Water and Soil Resources (BSWR) to discontinue the Hennepin Soil and Water Conservation District and transfer powers and duties to the county board. Permits BWSR to approve the discontinuance if BWSR finds that progress toward the goals of the soil and water conservation act can be achieved by doing so. Allows the discontinuance without a referendum. Permits the county to petition BWSR to reestablish the district and allows BWSR to approve reestablishing the district without a referendum. Effective upon local approval by the county board.

The general law governing termination provides for a district board by resolution or resident owners by petition to ask for termination of the district. BWSR may hold public meetings and hearings, and there is a referendum on a petition. BWSR makes the final determination on whether to terminate or continue the district.

Soil and water conservation districts are elected bodies, with terms set in the application to establish the district that is submitted to BWSR.