

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 1196
Version: As introduced

DATE: March 8, 2013

Authors: Nelson

Subject: Publication, use of recognized industry trade journals

Analyst: Deborah A. Dyson

This publication can be made available in alternative formats upon request. Please call 651-296-6753 (voice); or the Minnesota State Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529 (TTY) for assistance. Summaries are also available on our website at: www.house.mn/hrd/.

Overview

This bill would allow a local government to advertise for bids in a recognized industry trade journal instead of the official newspaper for certain competitive bids.

Section

- 1 Recognized industry trade journal.** Adds to definitions in chapter of statute governing qualified newspapers, Minnesota Statutes, chapter 331A. Defines “recognized industry trade journal” as “a printed or digital publication or Web site that contains building and construction news of interest to contractors in this state, or that publishes project advertisements and bids for review by contractors or other interested bidders in its regular course of business.”
- 2 Plans and specifications, advertisement for bid.** When a local government public improvement’s estimated cost will be high enough to require sealed bids (over \$100,000), the local government must advertise for bids in the official newspaper, and in other papers as it deems advisable. If the estimated cost is more than twice the sealed bid threshold (over \$200,000), publication must be in the official newspaper and at least once in either a newspaper published in a city of the first class or a trade paper.

The bill provides that, for a project over \$100,000, the local government may advertise in a recognized industry trade journal instead of the official newspaper. For a project costing more than \$200,000, the bill strikes the description of a “trade paper” and inserts “recognized industry trade journal.”