

# HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

**FILE NUMBER:** H.F. 2455  
**Version:** First engrossment

**DATE:** April 3, 2014

**Authors:** Hilstrom

**Subject:** Court reporters

**Analyst:** Rebecca Pirius, 651.296.5044

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/](http://www.house.mn/hrd/).

---

### Overview

This bill amends provisions relating to court reporters, including bond requirements, salary setting, transcript charges, fee schedules, electronic recording, and disclosure and reporting requirements.

#### Section

- 1 Appointment, duties, bond.** Strikes requirement for court reporter to provide a bond upon appointment.
- 2 Official record.** Makes changes to statute requiring stenographic record of court proceedings. Amends language to require court reporters to “capture” a verbatim record that would also include electronic recordings.
- 3 Electronic recording of court proceedings.** Recodifies and amends procedures relating to electronic recordings of court proceedings. Requires a court reporter to operate recording equipment, unless a stenographer is requested or court reporter is unavailable. Maintains current law regarding malfunction of equipment and expedited child support hearings (see section 8 repealer of section 484.72).
- 4 Reporters’ salaries and expenses.** Provides that court reporters’ salaries and reimbursed expenses are set by agreement of the court reporter collective bargaining representative and state court administration.
- 5 Charge for transcript.** Strikes language setting the ceiling amount for transcript fees. Provides that the judicial council (rather than the chief judge in each district) may establish new transcript fee ceilings biennially.
- 6 Disclosure; court reporter requirements.** Requiring disclosure of court reporter’s fee

**Section**

schedule in notice of deposition. Expanding requirements that apply to freelance court reporters to also apply to “court reporting firms.”

**7 Remedies.** Clarifies that a party may notify the court of a violation of the disclosure provisions in subd. 2, para. (a) (see sec. 6), and upon the court’s determination of a violation, sanctions may be imposed, including civil contempt, costs, and attorneys’ fees.

**8 Repealer.** Repeals: Section 486.055 - annual reporting requirement for court reporters – accounting of transcript fees charged in the calendar year.

Section 484.72 – electronic recordings of court proceedings. (See sec. 3.)