HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Authors: Runbeck and others

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Analyst: Mark Shepard

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Section

- Notaries Public. Increases from \$1 to \$5 the maximum fees that a notary public may charge for certain services.
- **Ex-Officio Notary Public.** Under current law, certain officers (e.g. legislators, town and city clerks and recorders, and certain county officials) have the powers of a notary public. These people are known as "ex officio" notaries. This section strikes language relating to the form of official signature of ex officio notaries, because this issue is dealt with by proposed new language in the next section of this bill.
- **Specifications for notary stamps.** Provides three options for conveying expiration of a person's term on the official notarial stamp for ex officio notaries. The stamp may say:
 - 1. "My term expires ___ (with the date of expiration on the stamp in place of the blank); or
 - 2. "My term is indeterminate" (because some ex officio notaries hold appointed positions, not elective); or
 - 3. "My term expires _____ (with the date of expiration to be handwritten by the notarial official in place of the blank each time the stamp is used).

An ex officio notary who chose the third option would not need to get a new stamp each time the person was elected to a new term. A person who chose this option would need to make sure to fill in the blank with the proper date of term expiration to ensure that a document was notarized properly.