

# HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

**FILE NUMBER:** H.F. 298  
**Version:** As Introduced

**DATE:** February 6, 2013

**Authors:** Dehn

**Subject:** Public Safety; Firearms; State Preemption of Local Regulatory Authority  
Repealed in Part

**Analyst:** Jim Cleary

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### Overview

Since 1985, Minnesota has had a policy of State Preemption of Local Government authority to regulate firearms in any manner, except for the discharge of firearms within the local boundaries.

This bill would, in essence, repeal the state preemption law for firearms regulation, by authorizing an exception by which local units of government would be able to regulate firearms in instances where the local government deems there to be a “*clearly stated public safety purpose . . . and a clearly stated public safety outcome.*”

The bill would specifically authorize local control:

Section 1: to regulate *firearms, ammunition, or their respective components*;

Sec. 2 and 3: to regulate issuance of *transferee permits* pertaining to pistols and firearms defined as being semiautomatic military-style assault weapons; (where a “transferee permit” is essentially a *permit-to-purchase a pistol* by a different name and process); as well as to regulate the actual *transfer of pistols*, themselves;

Sec. 4: to regulate issuance of *permits-to-carry* a pistol or Saturday-night-special (i.e., a certain type of small, cheap, small-caliber, and low-quality pistol); and

Sec. 5: to regulate *ammunition*, including it’s component parts.