HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Under general law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 375A, a county may make the offices of auditor, treasurer, auditor-treasurer, and recorder appointed positions if approved by a referendum.

This bill allows Clay County to make the offices of auditor-treasurer and recorder appointed positions, subject to an 80 percent vote of the county board and reverse referendum. It also provides for the current officeholders to complete the terms to which they were elected before the offices are made appointed positions. Finally, it includes procedures for reverting to election for the offices. Effective upon local approval.

As of 2011, 25 counties have gotten special legislation to make certain offices appointed positions, and since 2001 the conditions in the special laws have been substantially the same.

For more information on this topic, see "County Offices: Combining or Making Appointed" http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/hrd/pubs/cntyoff.pdf