

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Subject: Provides township aid for unorganized townships or territories

Analyst: Pat Dalton

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Overview

A township aid program was established in 2013 which distributes \$10 million among the organized townships in the state. This bill expands that program by making unorganized territories (often referred to as unorganized townships) eligible for the same aid. The aid will go to the county in which the unorganized township is located. The appropriation for this program is increased by \$260,000 to help pay for the additional aid going to unorganized townships.

Section

- 1 Towns and unorganized territories (aid formula).** Adds the unorganized territories to the areas eligible for town aid. The formula for distributing the aid is still based on three factors, agricultural property, geographic size, and area population, however the limit on geographic size which is 50,000 acres for an organized town is raised to 75,000 for all the unorganized territory in a county. A technical change is made in the name of the office that provides the geographic information.
Effective for aids payable in 2016 and thereafter.
- 2 Calculations and payments.** Provides that the commissioner of revenue will pay the aid for unorganized territory to the county in which the territory is located.
- 3 Towns and unorganized territories (appropriation).** Increases the annual amount of aid that may be paid under the formula in section 1 from \$10 million to \$10.26 million.
Effective for aids payable in 2016 and thereafter.