

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Allows the city of North Branch to increase the number of public utilities commission members from three to five. The increase is done by ordinance. The ordinance must also provide for staggered terms for the members. This bill is effective the day following local approval.

Minnesota Statutes, sections 412.331 to 412.391, govern municipal public utility commissions, and except for the increase in membership allowed in the bill, the general law continues to govern the commission.

A number of cities have been given special law authority to increase the size of their PUCs. The most recent was Melrose in 2011 and before that Nashwauk in 2008, Delano and Shakopee in 2002 (although Delano never approved the law and it did not take effect), and Grand Rapids in 1999.