HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Subject: Metropolitan Council

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Overview

This bill does four things:

- Establishes four-year, staggered terms for Metropolitan Council members
- Requires Metropolitan Council members to be local elected officials
- Requires the four local elected officials on the nominating committee to be appointed by local government associations instead of the governor
- Provides for the 16 council members to elect a 17th person to serve as chair, instead of the governor appointing a chair

Section

1 Terms. Provides for staggered terms of Metropolitan Council members, beginning immediately. Members from even-numbered districts would serve terms ending the first Monday in January of a year ending in the numeral "7," and members representing odd-numbered districts would serve terms ending the first Monday in January of a year ending in the numeral "5." After that, the term of each member would be four years, subject to redistricting. Effective the day following final enactment. See also section 4, the transition provision.

The language stricken on page 1, lines 11 and 12, is stricken because it duplicates language in another subdivision in the same section (see section 2). Each member would still be required to reside in his or her district and each district would have one member.

Section

2 Membership; appointment; qualifications. Requires members to also be elected city council members or mayor, or county commissioners. Provides that a seat on the Metropolitan Council becomes vacant if the member ceases to be an elected city council member, mayor, or county commissioner.

Modifies the nominating committee membership so that the three local elected officials are appointed by Metro Cities and one is a county commissioner appointed by the Association of Minnesota Counties. The other three remain appointed by the governor. Effective the day after enactment.

- **3 Chair; appointment, officers, selection; duties and compensation.** Provides for the 16 members of the council to elect a 17th person as the chair. Effective the day after enactment and provides for the term of the chair serving on that date to end.
- 4 Metropolitan Council appointments; immediate transition to staggered terms. Provides that members serving from even-numbered districts serve until the first Monday in January 2019 and those from odd-numbered districts until the first Monday in January in 2017. Effective the day after enactment.