

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Article 1

Metropolitan Council Membership

Overview

This article combines H.F. Nos. 752, 1297, and 1454.

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 8, 9, and beginning of line 10, 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.

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

Section

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 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.

Article 2

Metropolitan Council Budget

Overview

This article contains H.F. No. 9, and converts the Metropolitan Council to a state fiscal year budget from a calendar year budget and requires annual enactment of a state law approving the council's budget for its proposed budget to take effect. If no law is enacted, the previously approved budget remains in effect.

Section

- 1 **Meetings; procedures.** Requires the Legislative Commission on Metropolitan Government to meet at least once per calendar year.
- 2 **Powers; duties; Metropolitan Council levy, budget oversight.** Requires the Legislative Commission on Metropolitan Government to report to the legislature by February 1 of each year its recommendations on the Metropolitan Council's finances for the following fiscal year.
- 3 **Budget.** Directs the Metropolitan Council to prepare a proposed budget for legislative review and approval. Prohibits the council from adopting or implementing the proposed budget until a law is enacted that approves it. Provides that if no law is enacted, the council may continue operating at the same level as the previously approved budget. Provides that the council's budget year is a fiscal year instead of a calendar year.

Effective August 1, 2015, for budgets beginning in fiscal year 2018 and after.
- 4 **Metropolitan Council; transitional budget.** Provides for transition to the fiscal year.

Section

Article 3

Planning

Overview

This article contains H.F. No. 75. It is effective August 1, 2015, and applies to policies, plans, ordinances, applications, or other matters submitted to the Metropolitan Council on or after that date.

- 1** **Development guide.** States that the metropolitan development guide is advisory and local governments are not required to conform to it.
- 2** **For compatibility, conformity (council review of local plans).** Strikes the council review of local comprehensive plans for compatibility with other local governments' plans. States that the council may comment on apparent consistency of local plans with plans of the council and compatibility of a plan relative to other local government plans, but cannot require a change unless the local plan is more likely than not to have a substantial impact on or substantially depart from a metropolitan system plan. (System plans relate to regional wastewater infrastructure and transportation; regional recreational open space is stricken in section 5.)
- 3** **Local ordinances.** States that the council cannot require any changes to local ordinances.
- 4** **Council review.** Strikes the language directing the council to require revision to a local park plan if it is not consistent with the regional plan.
- 5** **Metropolitan system plans.** Strikes regional recreation open space as a metropolitan system.
- 6** **Metropolitan system statements; amendments.** Provides that the system statement sent to a local government contains information that the council recommends, not requires, be considered in the local government's review of its local plans.
- 7** **Application.**
- 8** **Revisor instruction.** Relates to repealer.
- 9** **Repealer.** Repeals the legislative findings for the Metropolitan Land Planning Act.