HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Subject: Washington County – Special tax increment financing (TIF) authority

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This bill authorizes Washington County or its Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) to establish redevelopment TIF districts in a defined area of the city of Newport. These districts can be established until the end of 2026 (i.e., for a 10-year period). The following special rules apply to these TIF districts.

- The districts are deemed to be redevelopment districts without satisfying the statutory "blight test" – i.e., the requirement that 70 percent or more of the area's parcels be occupied by buildings or other improvements and that half of the buildings be substandard.
- Increments from the districts need not be spent on correcting the problems ("blight") that justified creating the TIF district.
- The pooling and 5-year Rule do not apply the TIF districts, if the increments are spent on activities within the geographic area of the city identified in the bill.