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This bill provides that a land owner or occupant who has no need for a partition fence cannot be compelled to pay for the construction or maintenance of the fence. In particular, a person would no longer be required to pay for a partition fence that their neighbor needs to restrain the neighbor's livestock. This bill would apply to partition fences built on or after August 1, 2017.

Under current law, a person is generally required to pay one-half of the cost if the owner of adjacent property desires a partition fence (Minn. Stat. § 344.03). However, in 1992 the legislature passed a special law providing that in St. Louis County a land owner or occupant with no need for a partition fence cannot be required to share in the cost (Laws of Minnesota 1992, ch. 519). This bill would repeal the St. Louis County statute because this St. Louis County standard would now apply statewide.