## HOUSE RESEARCH

## - Bill Summary :

File Number: H.F. 234 Date: January 13, 2017

**Version:** As introduced

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**Subject:** Regulation of municipal utilities and rural electric cooperatives

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## Overview

House File 234 allows rural electric cooperatives to be exempt from regulation by the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) with respect to Minnesota's net metering law if a coop adopts its own rules to implement the law. This statute sets the rate utilities must pay to independent small renewable electricity generators; federal law requires utilities to purchase this power. The law also applies to utility customers who generate electricity for their own use via renewable energy sources, and who sell excess power to the utility. The bill also exempts municipal utilities from PUC jurisdiction with respect to resolving net metering disputes.

## **Section**

- 1 [216B.164] Subd. 5. Dispute; resolution. Exempts rural electric cooperatives from the requirement to have the Public Utilities Commission resolve disputes regarding net metering.
- 2 [216B.164] Subd. 9. Municipal electric utility. Exempts municipal utilities from the requirement to have the Public Utilities Commission resolve disputes regarding net metering.
- 216B.164. Subd. 11. Cooperative electric association. Authorizes the board of directors of a rural electric cooperative to exempt it from regulation by the Public Utilities Commission with respect to net metering, provided the board does so by resolution and adopts rules implementing the net metering statute, including rules providing a process to resolve disputes. Terminates any such disputes pending before the commission.