House Research

- Bill Summary :

File Number: H.F. 296 Date: January 25, 2017

Version: As introduced

Authors: Urdahl and others

Subject: Display of Governors' Portraits

Analyst: Matt Gehring, 651-296-5052

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This bill would require, by law, that a portrait of each Minnesota governor be publicly displayed in the capitol building. The specific locations used for display would be determined by the Minnesota Historical Society (MHS) and the Capitol Area Architectural and Planning (CAAP) Board.

MHS and the CAAP Board are the entities currently responsible for approving the design, structure, and location of monuments, memorials, and works of art in the public and ceremonial spaces within the capitol.

In 2016, the Minnesota State Capitol Preservation Commission created a subcommittee on art to consider, among other things, the display of governors' portraits within the capitol building. The subcommittee reached a consensus that the past practice of displaying the portraits should continue, but did not provide specific direction or recommendation on the number of portraits or the locations where they should be displayed.