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Overview

This bill modifies the governance structure of the Minnesota Sports Facilities Authority (MSFA) by, among other things, expanding the MSFA board's size to add new legislative appointees. It also requires the MSFA to negotiate a return of its stadium suites to the Minnesota Vikings, provided that limited use of the suites for marketing purposes may be allowed. A series of restrictions on suite use by MSFA board members and staff is provided.

A number of other miscellaneous changes to the MSFA board and its operating requirements are also provided.

Section

- 1 **Public data.** Clarifies the data practices classification that applies to data on persons receiving free or discounted admission, tickets, or other gifts from certain publicly-owned and operated facilities.
- 2 **Membership.** Expands and modifies the makeup of the MSFA board. Under the new structure, the board would consist of seven members: one appointed by the governor; one appointed by the mayor of Minneapolis; four members appointed by the legislature (one each by the four caucus leaders); and the legislative auditor or designee, who serves in a nonvoting capacity.

Legislative appointees to the board would serve two-year terms, and other appointees would serve four-year terms.

Section

The current makeup of the MSFA board is five members: three appointed by the governor, including the chair, and two appointed by the mayor of Minneapolis. Appointments are made for four-year terms.

- 3 Compensation.** Provides that the chair of the MSFA board must receive the same compensation as other board members. Board members are entitled to receive compensation of \$55 per day spent on board activities, in addition to certain other expense reimbursements allowed by law. Board members do not receive a salary.

Under current law the board chair's compensation package, which includes a salary, is fixed by the board itself.

- 4 Chair.** Requires the MSFA board members to elect one of its members to serve as chair, on a biennial basis.

Under current law, the governor appoints a board chair.

- 5 Executive director; employees.** Limits the compensation of the authority's executive director to no more than that provided to the governor.

This section also requires the authority to conduct an annual evaluation of the executive director, which must be reviewed and approved by the board.

- 6 Budget; report.** Requires the authority to submit its adopted budget to the commissioner of management and budget, and to the senate finance and house ways and means committees.

This section also requires the authority to post its budget, meeting minutes, policies, and procedures on its web site.

- 7 Employees; contracts for services.** Prohibits authority employees from engaging in partisan political activity as a condition of employment.

- 8 Legislative report.** Expands an existing mandatory legislative report by requiring the MSFA to include past operating and capital budgets as part of the report.

This report is due January 15 of each year.

- 9 Use of stadium suites.** Requires the MSFA to negotiate a return of all stadium suites to the primary tenant of the stadium (the Minnesota Vikings), but permits a provision to allow limited access for stadium marketing purposes.

This section also authorizes the MSFA to enter into agreements for use of game and event tickets and stadium suites. A series of conditions is placed on the use of suites including, generally, that:

- (1) Stadium suites may not be used by board members, except when participating in marketing activities arranged by the authority's marketing vendor, or when engaging in oversight of authority responsibilities.
- (2) Use of a stadium suite must be limited to those with a legitimate business purpose.
- (3) Vendors contracting with the authority for suite use must submit certain data regarding its use.

Section

(4) Staff of the MSFA may not use a suite without the express assignment of duties by the executive director, and may not receive free parking or food unless necessary to complete assigned duties.

(5) If tickets or suites are used for a purpose other than marketing or oversight, the MSFA must report that use to the legislative auditor.

- 10** **Code of conduct.** Requires the authority to comply with the state code of conduct policy adopted by the commissioner of management and budget. This policy is a supplement to an existing state law that governs ethical behavior for state employees.
- 11** **Reserves.** Requires the MSFA to transfer its financial reserves in excess of \$1 million to the commissioner of management and budget, and authorizes the commissioner to apply those reserves to debt service on stadium bonds, if the amount of the reserves exceeds necessary levels.
- 12** **Recovery.** Requires the MSFA to recover the fair market value of food, parking, tickets, and use of stadium suites that were provided prior to January 1, 2017 and which were not in the public interest.

Monthly reporting on recovery efforts to the commissioner of management and budget and to the legislature is required.