HOUSE RESEARCH

- Bill Summary

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Authors:	Vogel
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Analyst:	Matt Gehring, 651-296-5052

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This bill provides miscellaneous changes to laws related to activities of the Department of Administration.

(1) The appointment process for the state's **Assistive Technology Advisory Council** is modified. Representatives from the State Services for the Blind, vocational rehabilitation services, the workforce investment board, and the Department of Education would all be appointed by the commissioner of administration. Currently, all appointees are chosen by the governor.

The Assistive Technology Advisory Council was created in 2004, in compliance with federal law, and provides guidance on implementing assistive technology services across state government.

(2) The Department of Administration's **Office of Equity Procurement** is codified in law. This office is charged with, among other things, promoting equity among vendors in state contracting and construction, and providing assistance to small businesses owned by underrepresented communities.

(3) An allowance is provided for **small businesses certifications** by nationally-recognized certifying organizations, if certain conditions are met. These certifications are used to determine eligibility for certain targeted small business procurement programs.

(4) Miscellaneous modifications are made to the procedures for offering **continuous improvement programs** across state agencies.