

**File Number:** H.F. 3273  
**Version:** First engrossment

**Date:** March 23, 2018

**Authors:** Albright

**Subject:** Metropolitan Council governance

**Analyst:** Deborah A. Dyson

This publication can be made available in alternative formats upon request. Please call 651-296-6753 (voice); or the Minnesota State Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529 (TTY) for assistance. Summaries are also available on our website at: [www.house.mn/hrd/](http://www.house.mn/hrd/).

## Overview

This bill changes the size and structure of the Metropolitan Council to consist of 28 members, most of whom would serve staggered terms and would be local elected officials. The council would also include the commissioner of transportation and appointees representing transportation interests.

### Section

- 1 Powers; duties; Metropolitan Council appointments oversight.** Conforming amendment.  
Effective August 1, 2018
- 2 Group II salary limits.** Conforming amendment. Strikes the council chair from the salary limits. The chair's salary is specified in section 3 of the bill.  
Effective January 1, 2019.
- 3 Metropolitan Council.**
  - Subd. 1. Creation; membership.** Increases the council membership from 17 to 28 members. Specifies membership and states that serving on the council is compatible with serving as a local elected official.
  - Subd. 2. Terms.** Provides for staggered, four-year terms of council members appointed from council districts by the municipal committees, members appointed by the counties, and members appointed by the mayors of Minneapolis and St. Paul. Provides that a council seat is vacant if the local elected official ceases to be a local

**Section**

elected official. Members appointed by the commissioner of transportation serve at the pleasure of the commissioner.

**Subd. 2b. Municipal committee in each council district.** Requires each metropolitan area city to appoint a member to the municipal committee for the council district, which then appoints a local elected official to the council. Effective the day after enactment.

**Subd. 3. Compensation.** Sets compensation of council members other than the chair and the commissioner of transportation (or the commissioner's designee) at \$20,000 plus expenses (same as council members' compensation currently). Sets the chair's compensation at \$40,000 per year plus expenses. Provides that the compensation is in addition to compensation paid as a local elected official.

Strikes the provisions relating to the current appointment process.

**Subd. 3a. Redistricting.** Conforming amendment.

**Subd. 3e. District boundaries.** No change.

**Subd. 4. Chair; appointment, officers, selection; duties and compensation.** Provides for the council chair to be selected by and from among the council members, and to serve at the council's pleasure. Strikes senate confirmation.

**Subd. 8. General counsel.** No change.

**Subd. 9. Authority to vote; quorum; votes required for action.** Provides that the local elected officials may vote on all matters before the council. Provides that the commissioner of transportation and the members appointed by the commissioner may vote only on metropolitan planning organization matters. A quorum is a majority of the members permitted to vote on a matter and if a quorum is present, the council may act on a majority vote of the members present except that a vote on a levy or on a system plan or plan amendment requires 60 percent.

Effective January 1, 2019, except that subdivision 1, paragraph (c), which limits the jurisdiction of the council to the seven counties, and subdivision 2b, which establishes the municipal committees, are effective the day after enactment.

- 4 **Development guide; transportation.** Conforming amendment. Effective January 1, 2019.
- 5 **Transportation planning.** Eliminates the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB). Effective January 1, 2019.
- 6 **Repealer.** Repeals the 1994 law setting council member and chair compensation. Effective January 1, 2019.