

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Subject: Creating the Koochiching County Economic Development Commission

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Overview

Part of the occupation taxes paid by persons, companies, and corporations in the business of mining and producing ore is appropriated to the Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board (IRRRB) for economic development loans or grants to businesses in region 3 of the state. This bill creates the Koochiching County Economic Development Commission, which would receive one-third of the funds allocated to Koochiching County by the IRRRB.

- 1 Occupation taxes to be apportioned.** Amends statute apportioning mining and ore production occupation taxes so that one-third of the Koochiching county allocation will go to the Koochiching county economic development commission, rather than the small business development center at the Rainy River community college.
- 2 Economic development commission.**
 - Subd. 1. Creation.** Lists the members of the commission and the appointing authority for each. Provides that members serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority.
 - two county commissioners, appointed by the chair of the commission;
 - two members of the International Falls city council, appointed by the mayor;
 - two residents of the county, appointed the other members of the commission;
 - one state legislator representing the county, appointed by the other members of the board.
 - Subd. 2. Duties.** Directs the commission to hire staff, establish priorities, and approve projects related to economic development in the county.
 - Subd. 3. Closed meetings; recording.** Allows the commission to hold closed meeting when discussing certain kinds of information, including: security information, trade secret information, labor relations information, and information listed under subdivision 4. Notice of the closed meeting must be given at a public meeting, and proceedings of the closed meeting must be tape recorded.

Subd. 4. Application and investigative data. Provides that business and personal financial information provided to the commission in connection with assistance given or proposed to be given, will be accessible to the subject of the data but not to the public.

3 Effective date. Effective upon local approval by the Koochiching county board.