

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

This bill preserves various advisory committees in the Department of Transportation that would otherwise be subject to general sunseting law for advisory committees. It also gives local road authorities the ability to permit ten-ton axle weights on their own streets and highways without MnDOT approval.

Section

- 1** **Cost-sharing agreements with tribes.** Provides that the authorization for MnDOT to enter into agreements with Indian tribes for maintenance, design, and construction of highways on tribal lands are cost-sharing agreements.
- 2** **Electronic bids on highway contracts.** Allows MnDOT to require that all bids of \$5 million or more for trunk highway contracts be submitted electronically.
- 3** **County state-aid advisory committee.** Provides that the advisory committee for county state-aid highway rules does not expire.
- 4** **Natural preservation route advisory committee.** Repeals the requirement that requests for designation of county state-aid highways as natural preservation routes be reviewed by an advisory committee in each MnDOT construction district. (Natural preservation routes are county state-aid highways that may be built to alternative standards that recognize environmental or scenic considerations.)
- 5** **County state-aid screening board.** Provides that the county state-aid highway screening board does not expire.
- 6** **Municipal state-aid advisory committee.** Provides that the advisory committee on municipal state-aid rules does not expire.

Section

- 7** **Municipal state-aid screening board.** Provides that the municipal state-aid street screening board does not expire.
- 8** **Local weight limits.** Allows a local road authority to designate highways and streets under its jurisdiction to carry ten tons without approval by MnDOT. Under present law such designations are done by MnDOT with local approval.
- 9** **Local road improvement fund advisory committee.** Provides that the advisory committee for the local road improvement program does not expire.
- 10** **Repealer.** Repeals the law establishing the Major Transportation Projects Commission.
- 11** **Effective date.** Makes sections that prevent boards and committees from expiring, and the repeal of the Major Transportation Projects Commission, effective retroactive to July 1, 2003.