

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Authors: Davnie and others

Subject: Minneapolis School Board Elections

Analyst: Deborah K. McKnight, Legislative Analyst (651-296-5056)

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Overview

The bill provides that beginning in 2006, six members of the Minneapolis School Board will be elected by district and three will be elected at-large. Currently all members are elected by district.

Section

1 Minneapolis School board; by-district and at-large members.

Subd. 1. Size and type of membership. Provides that beginning in 2006, six members of the Minneapolis School Board will be elected by district and three will be elected at-large.

Subd. 2. Election district boundaries. Requires the school board to number the election districts. Provides that in 2006, 2008, and 2010 [see subd. 4, paragraph (b)] the districts will correspond to the Minneapolis park board districts. Provides that after the next census, the school board may use the park board districts or different district boundaries. Requires districts to be as equal as practicable in population and have compact, contiguous territory.

Subd. 3. Board elections. Beginning at the 2006 election, requires candidates to file for one of the district seats or state that he or she seeks an at-large seat.

Subd. 4. Transition. Provides for a board member elected in 2004 to complete the

Section

term to which she or he was elected. At the 2006 election, odd-numbered districts must alert board members; even-numbered districts will not; and two at-large members will be elected, for a total of eight. At the 2008 election, even-numbered districts must elect board members and one at-large member will be elected.

- 2** **Local approval.** The bill is effective after the school board complies with the local approval process. If that does not happen by the time filings open for the 2006 elections, the board must put on the ballot the question whether to approve section 1. In this case, the transition schedule is delayed by five years.