

# HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

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**Authors:** Opatz and others

**Subject:** Stearns, Benton, and Sherburne Counties, process to change boundaries

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### Overview

The city of St. Cloud is in three counties. To bring to the voters at a general election the question of whether to move the county boundaries to include all of St. Cloud within Stearns County, this bill authorizes the county boards to start the process by board resolution. Under general law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 370, the process is begun by petition of voters. Under the state constitution, the boundary cannot be changed without voter approval.

#### Section

- 1 Stearns, Benton Counties; resolution to begin process for change of boundaries.**  
Permits these two county boards to adopt a resolution to begin the process of bringing to a vote the question of whether to move the boundary between the two counties, to include in Stearns County the part of the city that is in Benton County. Under general law, the process is started by petition of voters. The boundary does not change unless it is approved by the voters at a general election. The authority for the county boards to adopt the resolutions to begin the process is effective the day after enactment.
- 2 Stearns, Sherburne Counties; resolution to begin process for change of boundaries.**  
The same as section 1, this section permits the county boards to adopt a resolution to begin the process of bringing to a vote the question of whether to move the boundary between the two counties, to include in Stearns County the part of the city that is in Sherburne county. Under general law, the process is started by petition of voters. The boundary does not change unless it is approved by the voters at a general election. The authority for the county boards to adopt the resolutions to begin the process is effective the day after enactment.