

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

This bill makes several changes to the sex offender civil commitment process.

Section

- 1** **Civil commitment of sexual offenders.** Creates a cross-reference in the data practices chapter to section 6.
- 2** **Restriction.** Cross-reference to section 3.
- 3** **Exception.** Permits sex offenders who are being held pending resolution of a civil commitment petition to elect to stay in a DOC facility or a county correctional facility instead of in a Minnesota Sex Offender Program facility. To be eligible to stay in a DOC facility, an offender must currently be housed in such a facility. Establishes procedures for revocation of the person's election to be housed in a DOC facility. Unless revoked before, the person may only stay in a DOC facility until their sentence or conditional release term, whichever is longer, expires. In no case may an offender stay in a DOC facility more than 210 days past their sentence. To stay in a county jail, the committing county must first offer the option to the person.
- 4** **Facilities.** Authorizes the commissioner of corrections to charge counties for housing offenders under the authority granted in section 3. Obligates DHS to fund all non-confinement costs.
- 5** **County attorneys access to data.** Authorizes county attorneys, without either a court order or prior notice to the subject, to acquire data, held by the Department of Corrections

Section

or parole of probation authority for the purposes of determining whether good cause exists to petition for the civil commitment of a sex offender. The county attorney must provide notice of the request to the subject at the time the request is made.

- 6** **Financial Responsibility.** Allows for state reimbursement of the cost of holding persons in a DOC facility pending resolution of a civil commitment petition.