

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Subject: Human Rights Act Damages; Mortgage Fraud Penalties

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Overview

This bill modifies the cap on punitive damages that currently exists for claims brought under the Minnesota Human Rights Act. The bill also specifies that a prosecution under the new mortgage fraud criminal statute does not preclude prosecution for other criminal conduct.

Section

- 1 **Human Rights Act; Punitive Damages.** Increases the cap on punitive damages for claims of discrimination under the Minnesota Human Rights Act. In all claims of discrimination brought against a party, including political subdivisions, the cap would be raised to \$25,000.
- 2 **Mortgage Fraud.** Provides that a sentence imposed for violation of the new mortgage fraud statute does not limit the ability of the state to prosecute a person for conduct which constitutes a crime based on any other section of law.