HOUSE RESEARCH =

Bill Summary =

DATE: February 29, 2012

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 578

Version: First engrossment

Authors: Koenen

Subject: Eminent domain/easements

Analyst: Tom Pender (651) 296-1885

This publication can be made available in alternative formats upon request. Please call 651-296-6753 (voice); or the Minnesota State Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529 (TTY) for assistance. Summaries are also available on our website at: www.house.mn/hrd.

Overview

Permits an owner of property that is subject to an easement that was acquired by condemnation through eminent domain to seek a court order for discharge of a portion of the easement that is not being used.

- Easement discharge. Current law permits an owner of real estate that is subject to an easement acquired through eminent domain to obtain a court order eliminating the easement if the easement is not being used for its original purpose. This bill would expand that concept to also permit a court order to eliminate only an unused portion of the easement on the same basis, except that an application for discharge of a partial easement is not permitted sooner than five years after the easement is granted. Exempts portions of easements acquired by a public service corporation for purposes other than those stated in the current law.
- **Discharge of portion of easement; Douglas County.** Permits the full or partial discharge of an easement existing in Douglas County that meets specified criteria as stated in the bill.