Overview

This bill changes the allocation of costs for additional and currently unused capacity in the metropolitan disposal system. Under the current system, the metropolitan council is to estimate the percentage of current costs for acquisition, betterment, and debt service attributable to unused system capacity, and then to deduct that amount from the costs charged to current users. That amount is charged instead to local governments for which future capacity is being reserved, proportionate to the amount of capacity reserved for them.

1 Allocation of treatment, interceptor costs. Defines the growth cost portion of facility costs to be the portion of acquisition, construction, or rehabilitation capital costs attributable to providing additional capacity for the facility. Directs the metropolitan council to determine the growth cost portion of current costs for acquisition, construction, rehabilitation, and debt service, and to deduct those costs from the current costs that are allocated among the communities using the metropolitan disposal system. Directs the council to allocate these costs through a fee structure for new connections to the system. Allows the council to recover its administrative costs for the program through the fee structure, and to adjust the fee structure to further goals and strategies related to land use or growth management.

2 Transition plan. Allows the metropolitan council to adopt an implementation plan for the transition outlined in section 1, including a phase-in of differences in charges. Allows the use of funds collected under the previous system for transition purposes and to pay the growth cost portion under the new system after December 31, 1999.

3 Construction. Exempts section 1 from the statutory provision that the repeal of any law shall not affect any rights accrued, duties imposed, penalties incurred, or proceedings incurred under the repealed law. Exempts section 1 from the statutory provision that any civil suits, actions, or proceedings commenced while the repealed law was in effect shall and may be proceeded with and concluded under the law in effect when the suit, action, or proceeding was instituted, or under new law enacted, if any.
4 **Application.** Provides that the bill applies to the seven county metropolitan area.

5 **Effective date.** Provides for the bill to be effective January 1, 2000, for the allocation of the costs concerned on or after that date.