Establishes a schedule under which agency rules would be repealed unless reauthorized by another law. Authorizes the House and Senate governmental operations committees to: formally object to agency rules; petition a court for a declaratory judgment to determine the validity of a rule objected to; intervene in litigation arising from agency action relating to rules; and comment on proposed rules for which need and reasonableness is at issue.

1 **Objections to rules.** Authorizes the House and Senate governmental operations committees to formally object to an administrative rule. This objection authority is the same as the authority the Legislative Coordinating Commission (or a joint subcommittee established by the commission) has under current law. Under this objection authority, if an objection is not withdrawn, the burden is on the agency, in a court action, to establish that the rule objected to is valid.

The section also authorizes the governmental operations committees to petition a court for a declaratory judgment to determine the validity of a rule objected to by the committee, and to intervene in litigation arising from agency action relating to rules. Under current law, the Legislative Coordinating Commission has this authority (and would retain it under this bill).

2 **Need or reasonableness.** This section involves a situation in which a public hearing on proposed rules has been held, and the administrative law judge determines that the agency has not established the need for or reasonableness of the rules. The section permits the governmental operations committees to comment on the rules. Under current law the LCC has this authority.

3 **Need or reasonableness.** Similar concept to previous section, but applies when rules are proposed for adoption without a public hearing.

4 **Rules task force.** Requires a rules task force consisting of legislators and governor's appointees. The task force must make recommendations by January 15, 2001 on specified topics relating to the potential sunset of administrative rules.
Repeal of rules.

Subd. 1. Repeal. Provides that rules are repealed according to the schedule under subdivision 2, unless a law is enacted authorizing the rules to continue in effect. However, a rule imposing fees, or a rule that is required by federal law is repealed only if a law is enacted before the effective date of the repeal specifying the degree to which and the manner by which the affected agency is to implement the program supported by the fee or required by federal law. Provides that if the full house and senate have not voted on the repeal issue, rule repeal is delayed until the following year. Provides that if rule is repealed under subdivision 2, the agency may not adopt new rules on the same topic as the repealed rules, unless specifically authorized to do so by subsequent law.


Subd. 3. Effect on other law. This section does not extend the effective period of rules that are repealed at an earlier time by other law.

Subd. 4. Successor agencies. If an agency is renamed, its rules expire at the time indicated for the predecessor agency. If the duty to adopt rules on a topic is transferred from one agency to another, the rules expire at the time indicated for the successor agency.

Reports. Requires agencies to report to appropriate legislative committees before the time scheduled for repeal of rules.

Effective date. Sections 1 to 4 are effective the day following final enactment.