

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

This bill provides relief to Yellow Medicine and Chippewa counties which suffered damage from tornadoes on July 25, 2000. The bill appropriates money for disaster assistance and tax abatements. The bill also allows the waiver of state agency service fees and solid waste management taxes, as well as market value exclusions on certain property tax assessments, and gives local governments a 90 day extension for filing financial reports. Sections related to declining pupil aid were removed from the bill by the K-12 finance committee for possible inclusion in the K-12 finance bill.

Section

- 1 **Appropriations; eligibility.** Provides that areas damaged by tornado in Yellow Medicine and Chippewa counties on July 25, 2000, and included in a Presidential Declaration of Major Disaster, DR1333, are eligible to receive disaster relief funds appropriated in the bill. Itemizes the appropriations by agency.
- 2 **Public Safety.** Appropriates \$226,104 to the commissioner of public safety, \$206,104 to provide matching funds for local applicants for disaster assistance funds, and \$20,000 to the Granite Falls municipal hospital for a digital paging system.
- 3 **Trade and Economic Development.** Appropriates \$1,761,398 to the commissioner of trade and economic development: \$400,000 to Project Turnabout for capital expenditures; \$1,305,000 for a grant to the city of Granite Falls for local infrastructure replacement or repair; and \$56,398 for grants to local governments for lost interest earnings.
- 4 **Revenue.** Appropriates \$200,000 to the commissioner of revenue to provide reimbursements for tax abatements granted under section 7 of the bill.
- 5 **Temporary waiver of fees.** Allows state agencies to waive fees for fiscal year 2001 for agency services within Yellow Medicine and Chippewa counties. Requires the agency to report on suspended fees to the legislative committees that oversee the agency's policy and budget affairs.

- 6 **Solid waste management tax waiver.** Allows the commissioner of revenue to waive for one year solid waste management taxes that would otherwise be paid to dispose of construction debris from the July 25, 2000 tornado.
- 7 **Property tax abatement; property damaged by tornado.** Permits city councils to request tax abatements for taxes payable in 2000 and 2001 from county boards in Yellow Medicine and Chippewa counties for properties containing a structure or structures that have lost over 50 percent of their estimated market value due to wind damage.
- 8 **Valuation exclusion for improvements to certain business property.** Allows class 3a property eligible for the preferred class rate on the market value up to \$150,000 to qualify for a value exclusion of up to \$50,000 on improvements for five years for assessment purposes if the building was damaged in the July 25, 2000 tornadoes. After five years, 20 percent of the value of the improvements would be added back in each of the subsequent assessment years.
- 9 **Delay of financial report filing; disaster areas.** Gives a 90 day extension for filing financial reports to cities and towns located in whole or in part within Yellow Medicine or Chippewa counties.
- 10 **Effective date.** Effective the day following final enactment, except as otherwise provided.