

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 204

DATE: February 25, 2009

Version: As introduced

Authors: Winkler and others

Subject: Removing sunset for establishing housing improvement districts without special legislation

Analyst: Karen Baker, 651-296-8959
Deborah A. Dyson, 651-296-8291

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Overview

H.F. 204 removes the sunset date for establishing housing improvement districts without special legislation. Effective July 1, 2009.

Section

1 Repealer. Repeals the sunset date for establishing housing improvement districts without special legislation. Effective July 1, 2009.

Prior to 1996, cities needed special legislation to establish an HIA. In 1996, cities were granted the authority under general law. The general law that allows HIAs to be established sunsets June 30, 2009. This bill removes the sunset. (The sunset of the general law does not affect HIAs established prior to any sunset date.)

Background: A housing improvement area (HIA) is a defined area in a city in which housing improvements in condominium or townhome complexes may be financed with the assistance of the city or the city's economic development authority (EDA) or housing and redevelopment authority (HRA). The improvements that can be made under this law are those improvements made to the common elements in the buildings or to the complex, such as roofing, siding, landscaping, roadways, and walkways. The fees imposed are reported as special assessments by the cities to the county auditor and collected through the property tax statements. Although each city with an HIA is required to submit the HIA ordinance to the Commissioner of Revenue within 30 days of its adopting, this reporting has not been done. There is no way of knowing how many of these HIAs have been established.