

Subject Emergency management

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Summary

This bill proposes a constitutional amendment for the 2022 general election ballot that would ask voters whether an emergency declared by the governor should be limited to seven days prior to legislative approval. The emergency would expire after seven days unless majorities in the House of Representatives and Senate vote to approve the governor's request to extend the emergency for up to 30 days. Legislative majorities would also be required to approve any subsequent extension requested by the governor.

If voters approve the amendment, the bill would repeal existing statutes that: authorize the governor to declare a national security emergency or peacetime emergency in certain circumstances; provide that peacetime emergencies last for five days unless extended by the Executive Council up to 30 days; authorize the legislature to terminate a peacetime emergency extending beyond 30 days; and empower the governor to exercise the emergency powers in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 12, during a declared national security emergency or peacetime emergency.