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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-SECOND SESSION

H. F. No. 2161

03/11/2021

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The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Rules and Legislative Administration

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to state government; prohibiting closing of places of worship during an
1.3 emergency declaration; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes,
1.4 chapter 12.

1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6 Section 1. [12.281] ORDERS RELATING TO PLACES OF WORSHIP.

1.7 Subdivision 1. Definitions. (a) For purposes of this section, the terms in this subdivision
1.8 have the meanings given them.

1.9 (b) "Place of worship" means a building or grounds where religious activities are
1.10 conducted.

1.11 (c) "Public official" means any elected official or designated officer, employee or agent
1.12 of the state or political subdivision, or other public body established by law.

1.13 Subd. 2. Prohibition on closing places of worship. A government agency or public
1.14 official may not issue an order under the authority of this chapter that closes or has the effect
1.15 of closing places of worship in the state or in a geographic area of the state.