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State of Minnesota
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-SIXTH
SESSION

HOUSE FILE No. 3775

April 13, 2010

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The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on State and Local Government Operations Reform,
Technology and Elections

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to state government; transferring oversight of the Metropolitan Council
1.3 to the legislature; amending Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 3.8841.

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

1.5 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 3.8841, is amended to read:

1.6 **3.8841 LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION ON METROPOLITAN**
1.7 **GOVERNMENT.**

1.8 Subdivision 1. **Established.** ~~The Legislative Commission on Metropolitan~~
1.9 ~~Government is established to~~ legislature shall oversee the Metropolitan Council's
1.10 operating and capital budgets, work program, and capital improvement program.

1.11 ~~Subd. 2. **Membership.** The commission consists of four senators appointed by the~~
1.12 ~~senate Subcommittee on Committees of the Committee on Rules and Administration, three~~
1.13 ~~senators appointed by the senate minority leader, four state representatives appointed by~~
1.14 ~~the speaker of the house, and three state representatives appointed by the house minority~~
1.15 ~~leader. All members must reside in or represent a portion of the seven-county metropolitan~~
1.16 ~~area. The appointing authorities must ensure balanced geographic representation. Each~~
1.17 ~~appointing authority must make appointments as soon as possible after the opening of the~~
1.18 ~~next regular session of the legislature in each odd-numbered year.~~

1.19 ~~Subd. 3. **Terms; vacancies.** Members of the commission serve for a two-year term~~
1.20 ~~beginning upon appointment and expiring upon appointment of a successor after the~~
1.21 ~~opening of the next regular session of the legislature in the odd-numbered year. A vacancy~~
1.22 ~~in the membership of the commission must be filled for the unexpired term in a manner~~
1.23 ~~that will preserve the representation established by this section.~~

2.1 ~~Subd. 4. **Chair.** The commission must meet as soon as practicable after members~~
 2.2 ~~are appointed in each odd-numbered year to elect its chair and other officers as it may~~
 2.3 ~~determine necessary. A chair serves a two-year term, expiring in the odd-numbered year~~
 2.4 ~~after a successor is elected. The chair must alternate biennially between the senate and the~~
 2.5 ~~house of representatives.~~

2.6 ~~Subd. 5. **Compensation.** Members serve without compensation but may be~~
 2.7 ~~reimbursed for their reasonable expenses as members of the legislature.~~

2.8 ~~Subd. 6. **Staff.** Legislative staff must provide administrative and research assistance~~
 2.9 ~~to the commission.~~

2.10 ~~Subd. 7. **Meetings; procedures.** The commission meets at the call of the chair.~~
 2.11 ~~If there is a quorum, the commission may take action by a simple majority vote of~~
 2.12 ~~commission members present.~~

2.13 ~~Subd. 8. **Powers; duties; Metropolitan Council levy, budget oversight.** The~~
 2.14 ~~commission legislature must monitor, review, and make recommendations to the~~
 2.15 ~~Metropolitan Council and to the legislature for the following calendar year on:~~

2.16 (1) the tax rate and dollar amount of the Metropolitan Council's property tax levies
 2.17 and any proposed increases in the rate or dollar amount of tax;

2.18 (2) any request for an increase in the debt of the Metropolitan Council;

2.19 (3) the overall work and role of the Metropolitan Council;

2.20 (4) the Metropolitan Council's proposed operating and capital budgets, work
 2.21 program, and capital improvement program; and

2.22 (5) the Metropolitan Council's implementation of the operating and capital budgets,
 2.23 work program, and capital improvement program.

2.24 ~~Subd. 9. **Powers; duties; Metropolitan Council appointments oversight.** The~~
 2.25 ~~commission legislature must monitor appointments to the Metropolitan Council and may~~
 2.26 ~~make recommendations on appointments to the nominating committee under section~~
 2.27 ~~473.123, subdivision 3, or to the governor before the governor makes the appointments.~~
 2.28 ~~The commission may also make recommendations to the senate before appointments are~~
 2.29 ~~presented to the senate for its advice and consent.~~