

**SENATE**  
**STATE OF MINNESOTA**  
**NINETIETH SESSION**

**S.F. No. 2697**

(SENATE AUTHORS: HALL, Hoffman, Tomassoni and Pratt)

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OFFICIAL STATUS  
Introduction and first reading  
Referred to Environment and Natural Resources Policy and Legacy Finance

1.1 A bill for an act  
1.2 relating to solid waste; modifying waste management provisions; amending  
1.3 Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 115A.94, subdivisions 4a, 4b, 4c, 4d, by adding  
1.4 subdivisions.

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

1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 115A.94, subdivision 4a, is amended to read:

1.7 Subd. 4a. **Committee establishment.** (a) Before implementing an ordinance, franchise,  
1.8 license, contract, or other means of organizing collection, a city or town, by resolution of  
1.9 the governing body, must establish ~~an organized~~ a solid waste collection options committee  
1.10 to identify, examine, and evaluate various methods of ~~organized~~ solid waste collection. The  
1.11 governing body shall appoint the committee members.

1.12 (b) The ~~organized~~ solid waste collection options committee is subject to chapter 13D.

1.13 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 115A.94, subdivision 4b, is amended to read:

1.14 Subd. 4b. **Committee duties.** The committee established under subdivision 4a shall:

1.15 (1) determine which methods of ~~organized~~ solid waste collection to examine, which  
1.16 must include:

1.17 (i) the existing system of collection;

1.18 ~~(ii)~~ (ii) a system in which a single collector collects solid waste from all sections of a  
1.19 city or town; and

1.20 ~~(iii)~~ (iii) a system in which multiple collectors, either singly or as members of an  
1.21 organization of collectors, collect solid waste from different sections of a city or town;

2.1 (2) establish a list of criteria on which the ~~organized~~ solid waste collection methods  
 2.2 selected for examination will be evaluated, which may include: costs to residential  
 2.3 subscribers, impacts on residential subscribers' ability to choose a provider of solid waste  
 2.4 service based on the desired level of service, costs and other factors, the impact of miles  
 2.5 driven by ~~collection vehicles~~ on city streets and alleys and the incremental impact of miles  
 2.6 driven by collection vehicles, initial and operating costs to the city of implementing the  
 2.7 ~~organized~~ solid waste collection system, providing incentives for waste reduction, impacts  
 2.8 on solid waste collectors, and other physical, economic, fiscal, social, environmental, and  
 2.9 aesthetic impacts;

2.10 (3) collect information regarding the operation and efficacy of existing methods of  
 2.11 ~~organized~~ solid waste collection in other cities and towns;

2.12 (4) seek input from, at a minimum:

2.13 (i) the governing body of the city or town;

2.14 (ii) the local official of the city or town responsible for solid waste issues;

2.15 (iii) persons currently licensed to operate solid waste collection and recycling services  
 2.16 in the city or town; and

2.17 (iv) residents of the city or town who currently pay for residential solid waste collection  
 2.18 services; and

2.19 (5) issue a report on the committee's research, findings, and any recommendations to  
 2.20 the governing body of the city or town.

2.21 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 115A.94, subdivision 4c, is amended to read:

2.22 Subd. 4c. **Governing body; implementation.** The governing body of the city or town  
 2.23 shall consider the report and recommendations of the ~~organized~~ solid waste collection  
 2.24 options committee. The governing body must provide public notice and hold at least one  
 2.25 public hearing before deciding whether to implement organized collection. Organized  
 2.26 collection may begin no sooner than six months after the effective date of the decision of  
 2.27 the governing body of the city or town to implement organized collection.

2.28 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 115A.94, subdivision 4d, is amended to read:

2.29 Subd. 4d. **Participating collectors proposal requirement.** ~~Prior to~~ Before establishing  
 2.30 a committee under subdivision 4a to consider organizing residential solid waste collection,  
 2.31 a city or town with more than one licensed collector must notify the public and all licensed

3.1 collectors in the community. The city or town must provide a ~~60-day~~ period of at least 60  
3.2 days in which meetings and negotiations shall occur exclusively between licensed collectors  
3.3 and the city or town to develop a proposal in which interested licensed collectors, as members  
3.4 of an organization of collectors, collect solid waste from designated sections of the city or  
3.5 town. The proposal shall include identified city or town priorities, including issues related  
3.6 to zone creation, traffic, safety, environmental performance, service provided, and price,  
3.7 and shall reflect existing haulers maintaining their respective market share of business as  
3.8 determined by each hauler's average customer count during the six months prior to the  
3.9 commencement of the ~~60-day~~ exclusive negotiation period. If an existing hauler opts to be  
3.10 excluded from the proposal, the city may allocate their customers proportionally based on  
3.11 market share to the participating collectors who choose to negotiate. The initial organized  
3.12 collection agreement executed under this subdivision must be for ~~a period of three to seven~~  
3.13 years. Upon execution of an agreement between the participating licensed collectors and  
3.14 city or town, the city or town shall establish organized collection through appropriate local  
3.15 controls and is not required to fulfill the requirements of subdivisions 4a, 4b, and 4c, except  
3.16 that the governing body must provide the public notification and hearing required under  
3.17 subdivision 4c.

3.18 Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 115A.94, is amended by adding a subdivision to  
3.19 read:

3.20 Subd. 4e. **Parties to meet and confer.** Before the exclusive meetings and negotiations  
3.21 under subdivision 4d, participating licensed collectors and elected officials of the city or  
3.22 town must meet and confer regarding waste collection issues, including but not limited to  
3.23 road deterioration, public safety, pricing mechanisms, and contractual considerations unique  
3.24 to organized collection.

3.25 Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 115A.94, is amended by adding a subdivision to  
3.26 read:

3.27 Subd. 4f. **Joint liability or responsibility prohibited.** An organized collection agreement  
3.28 must not obligate a participating licensed collector to bear any liability or responsibility,  
3.29 legal or otherwise, for the actions, errors, or omissions of any other participating licensed  
3.30 collector.