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State of Minnesota

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Page No. **428**

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**EIGHTY-SEVENTH SESSION**

**H. F. No. 2788**

03/12/2012 Authored by Peppin

The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Government Operations and Elections

03/19/2012 Adoption of Report: Pass as Amended and Read Second Time

1.1 A bill for an act  
1.2 relating to local government; modifying selection of commissioners of the Three  
1.3 Rivers Park District; amending Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 383B.68,  
1.4 subdivisions 1, 4, by adding a subdivision; repealing Minnesota Statutes 2010,  
1.5 section 383B.68, subdivisions 2, 3.

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

1.7 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 383B.68, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

1.8 Subdivision 1. **As provided in this section.** Notwithstanding any provision of  
1.9 sections 398.02 to 398.04, or any other law to the contrary, the Board of Park District  
1.10 Commissioners of the Three Rivers Park District shall consist of seven commissioners  
1.11 ~~appointed or~~ elected as provided in this section.

1.12 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 383B.68, is amended by adding a subdivision  
1.13 to read:

1.14 Subd. 3a. **Election of park commissioners.** (a) Seven park district commissioners  
1.15 shall be elected without party designation to represent those portions of Hennepin County  
1.16 outside of the city of Minneapolis. Elections under this subdivision must be held at the  
1.17 same time and in the same manner as elections for the office of county commissioner.

1.18 (b) The park district commissioners shall be elected from districts established  
1.19 pursuant to subdivision 4. Each park district commissioner elected under this paragraph  
1.20 must be a resident of the district represented. No more than one commissioner may be  
1.21 elected from each district. Each park district commissioner serves for a four-year term  
1.22 and until a successor is elected and qualified, except that the term of each park district  
1.23 commissioner elected at the general election held in the year of a federal census shall be  
1.24 two years and until a successor is elected and qualified. At the general election following

2.1 redistricting as required in subdivision 4, the four commissioners from odd-numbered  
2.2 districts shall be elected for four-year terms and the three commissioners from  
2.3 even-numbered districts shall be elected for two-year terms. If a vacancy occurs in the  
2.4 office of any commissioner elected pursuant to this paragraph, the Board of Park District  
2.5 Commissioners shall appoint a successor residing in that district to fill the unexpired term.

2.6 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 383B.68, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

2.7 Subd. 4. **Decennial redistricting.** After ~~September 1, 1985~~ the effective date of  
2.8 this act, and after at least 30 days' notice and public hearing, the Board of Park District  
2.9 Commissioners of the Three Rivers Park District shall divide the territory of Hennepin  
2.10 County outside the city of Minneapolis into ~~five~~ seven districts, which constitute the Three  
2.11 Rivers Park District. Each district shall be composed of contiguous territory as regular and  
2.12 compact in form as practicable and as nearly equal in population as possible, provided  
2.13 that no district shall vary in population more than ten percent from the average of all the  
2.14 districts, unless compliance with this requirement requires division of a voting precinct.  
2.15 After each federal census and by the date prescribed for redistricting of election districts  
2.16 in section 204B.135, subdivision 2, after at least 30 days' notice and public hearing, the  
2.17 Board of Park District Commissioners of the Three Rivers Park District shall redistrict the  
2.18 territory of the Three Rivers Park District into new commissioner districts as necessary  
2.19 to comply with the provisions of this subdivision. The districts established pursuant to  
2.20 this subdivision shall remain effective until new districts are established. Any person  
2.21 aggrieved by a districting plan established pursuant to this subdivision may challenge the  
2.22 plan in the same manner as a county commissioner districting plan may be challenged  
2.23 pursuant to section 375.025. The district court in reviewing any challenge to a districting  
2.24 plan under this subdivision shall proceed in the manner prescribed by section 375.025.  
2.25 Each districting plan established pursuant to this subdivision shall be filed in the office of  
2.26 the director of finance of Hennepin County or any successor office and shall be effective  
2.27 31 days after its publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the county.

2.28 Sec. 4. **REPEALER.**

2.29 Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 383B.68, subdivisions 2 and 3, are repealed.

2.30 Sec. 5. **EFFECTIVE DATE.**

2.31 Sections 1 to 4 are effective the day after the board of commissioners of the Three  
2.32 Rivers Park District and its chief clerical officer timely comply with the provisions of

- 3.1 Minnesota Statutes, section 645.021, subdivisions 2 and 3, and apply to the election of
- 3.2 park commissioners at the 2012 general election and thereafter.

**383B.68 SEVEN HENNEPIN REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS.**

Subd. 2. **Two residents appointed by county board.** Two park district commissioners shall be appointed by the Board of Commissioners of Hennepin County. An appointee must be a resident of the Three Rivers Park District in order to qualify and serve as a park district commissioner. Each park district commissioner appointed pursuant to this subdivision shall serve for a four-year term. If a vacancy occurs among the commissioners appointed pursuant to this subdivision, the Board of Commissioners of Hennepin County shall appoint a successor.

Subd. 3. **Five elected from outside Minneapolis.** Five park district commissioners shall be elected as provided in this subdivision to represent those portions of Hennepin County outside of the city of Minneapolis. One park district commissioner shall be elected without party designation from each of the districts established pursuant to subdivision 4. Elections under this subdivision shall be held at the same time and in the same manner as elections for the office of county commissioner beginning at the 1986 general election. Each park district commissioner elected pursuant to this subdivision shall be a resident of the district represented and shall serve for a term of four years and until a successor is elected and qualifies, except that the term of office of each park district commissioner elected at the general election held in the year of a federal census shall be only two years and until a successor is elected and qualifies. At the general election following redistricting as required in subdivision 4, the three commissioners from odd-numbered districts shall be elected for four-year terms and the two commissioners from even-numbered districts shall be elected for two-year terms. If a vacancy occurs in the office of any commissioner elected pursuant to this subdivision, the Board of Park District Commissioners shall appoint a successor residing in that district to fill the unexpired term.