

A bill for an act

relating to local government; providing for a public hearing and public testimony before making an appointment to fill a vacancy on a county board; amending Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 375.101, by adding a subdivision.

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 375.101, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 5. **County boards.** Before making an appointment to fill a vacancy under subdivision 3 or 4, the county board must hold a public hearing not more than 30 days after the vacancy occurs with public notice given in the same manner as for a special meeting of the county board. At the public hearing the board must invite public testimony from persons residing in the district in which the vacancy occurs relating to the qualifications of prospective appointees to fill the vacancy. Before making an appointment, the board also must notify public officials in the affected district on the appointment, including town board and city council members, and must enter into the record at the board meeting in which the appointment is made the names and addresses of the public officials notified.