

State of Minnesota

H. F. No. **553**

1.1 A bill for an act

1.2 relating to education; regulating disposition of schoolhouses and sites following

1.3 schoolhouse closings; amending Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 123B.51,

1.4 subdivision 1, by adding a subdivision.

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

1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 123B.51, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

1.7 Subdivision 1. **Sites.** According to section 126C.40, subdivision 1, or 465.71, when

1.8 funds are available, the board may locate and acquire necessary sites of schoolhouses or

1.9 enlargements, or additions to existing schoolhouse sites by lease, purchase or condemnation

1.10 under the power of eminent domain; it may erect schoolhouses on the sites; it may erect or

1.11 purchase garages for district-owned school buses. When property is taken by eminent domain

1.12 by authority of this subdivision when needed by the district for such purposes, the fact that

1.13 the property has been acquired by the owner under the power of eminent domain or is already

1.14 devoted to public use, shall not prevent its acquisition by the district. Subject to subdivision

1.15 5b, the board may sell or exchange schoolhouses or sites, and execute deeds of conveyance

1.16 thereof.

1.17 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

1.18 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 123B.51, is amended by adding a subdivision to

1.19 read:

1.20 **Subd. 5b. Municipality; priority to purchase.** A board that makes a final decision to

1.21 close and dispose of a schoolhouse or site must offer to sell and convey the schoolhouse or

1.22 site to the municipality in which the property is located. The price for the property must be

2.1 determined by an appraiser selected by the board. The municipality must be given first  
2.2 priority to purchase the property. If the municipality does not purchase the property after a  
2.3 reasonable opportunity, the board may sell or exchange the schoolhouse or site as provided  
2.4 in subdivision 1.

2.5 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment and  
2.6 applies to all schoolhouse closings not yet completed on or after the date of enactment.