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State of Minnesota
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
NINETIETH SESSION

H. F. No. 3094

02/26/2018 Authored by Lohmer, Loon, Bennett, Erickson, Loonan and others
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Government Operations and Elections Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to education; elections; requiring certain information to be available in
1.3 the polling place for school district bond referendums; amending the ballot language
1.4 required for school district bond referendums; amending Minnesota Statutes 2016,
1.5 sections 126C.55, by adding a subdivision; 205A.07, subdivision 2; 475.58,
1.6 subdivision 4; Minnesota Statutes 2017 Supplement, section 475.59, subdivision
1.7 1.

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

1.9 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 126C.55, is amended by adding a subdivision
1.10 to read:

1.11 Subd. 1a. State payment eligibility. To be eligible for state payment under this section,
1.12 a debt obligation for a project requiring review and comment under section 123B.71 must
1.13 only be spent:

1.14 (1) for the entirety of purposes stated in the ballot language; or

1.15 (2) to pay, redeem, or defease obligations and interest, penalties, premiums, and costs
1.16 of issuance of the obligations.

1.17 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 205A.07, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

1.18 Subd. 2. **Sample ballot, posting.** (a) For every school district primary, general, or special
1.19 election, the school district clerk shall at least four days before the primary, general, or
1.20 special election, post a sample ballot in the administrative offices of the school district for
1.21 public inspection, and shall post a sample ballot in each polling place on election day.

1.22 (b) For a school district general or special election to issue bonds to finance a capital
1.23 project requiring review and comment under section 123B.71, the summary of the

2.1 commissioner's review and comment and supplemental information required under section
 2.2 123B.71, subdivision 12, paragraph (a), shall be posted in the same manner as the sample
 2.3 ballot under paragraph (a).

2.4 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for elections held on or after August 1,
 2.5 2018.

2.6 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 475.58, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

2.7 Subd. 4. **Proper use of bond proceeds.** The proceeds of obligations issued after approval
 2.8 of the electors under this section may only be spent: (1) for the entirety of purposes stated
 2.9 in the ballot language; or (2) to pay, redeem, or defease obligations and interest, penalties,
 2.10 premiums, and costs of issuance of the obligations. The proceeds may not be spent for a
 2.11 different purpose or for an expansion or contraction of the original purpose without the
 2.12 approval by a majority of the electors voting on the question of changing, contracting, or
 2.13 expanding the purpose of the obligations.

2.14 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2017 Supplement, section 475.59, subdivision 1, is amended
 2.15 to read:

2.16 Subdivision 1. **Generally; notice.** (a) When the governing body of a municipality resolves
 2.17 to issue bonds for any purpose requiring the approval of the electors, it shall provide for
 2.18 submission of the proposition of their issuance at a general or special election or town or
 2.19 school district meeting. Notice of such election or meeting shall be given in the manner
 2.20 required by law and shall state the maximum amount and the purpose of the proposed issue.

2.21 (b) In any school district, the school board or board of education may, according to its
 2.22 judgment and discretion, submit as a single ballot question or as two or more separate
 2.23 questions in the notice of election and ballots the proposition of their issuance for any one
 2.24 or more of the following, stated conjunctively or in the alternative: acquisition or enlargement
 2.25 of sites, acquisition, betterment, erection, furnishing, equipping of one or more new
 2.26 schoolhouses, remodeling, repairing, improving, adding to, betterment, furnishing, equipping
 2.27 of one or more existing schoolhouses. The ballot question or questions submitted by a school
 2.28 board must state the name of the plan or plans being proposed by the district as submitted
 2.29 to the commissioner of education for review and comment under section 123B.71.

2.30 (c) In any city, town, or county, the governing body may, according to its judgment and
 2.31 discretion, submit as a single ballot question or as two or more separate questions in the
 2.32 notice of election and ballots the proposition of their issuance, stated conjunctively or in

3.1 the alternative, for the acquisition, construction, or improvement of any facilities at one or
3.2 more locations.

3.3 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective for elections held on or after August 1,
3.4 2018.