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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-THIRD SESSION

H. F. No. 4904

03/13/2024 Authored by Greenman and Hemmingsen-Jaeger The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on State and Local Government Finance and Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to local government; authorizing statutory cities to create wards for the
1.3 election of city council members; amending Minnesota Statutes 2022, section
1.4 412.02, subdivision 6, by adding a subdivision.

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

1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 412.02, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

1.7 Subd. 6. Council increased or reduced. The council may by ordinance adopted at least
1.8 60 days before the next regular city election submit to the voters of the city the question of
1.9 whether the city council should be increased or reduced to seven or five members. The
1.10 ordinance shall include a schedule of elections and terms and ward boundary changes, if
1.11 applicable, to accomplish the change. The proposal shall be voted on at the next city general
1.12 election and, if approved by a majority of those voting on the question, go into effect in
1.13 accordance with the schedule and ward boundary changes, if applicable.

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

1.15 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 412.02, is amended by adding a subdivision to
1.16 read:

1.17 Subd. 7. Wards. A city may by ordinance provide for the election of city council
1.18 members by ward. The ordinance must designate the boundaries of the wards. The ordinance
1.19 must also state whether the city will otherwise operate as a statutory standard plan city or
1.20 statutory optional plan city, subject to voter approval as may be required under this chapter.

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