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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-THIRD SESSION

H. F. No. 5184

04/02/2024 Authored by Engen, Perryman, Zeleznikar, Skraba, Anderson, P. E., and others
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 proposing an amendment to the Minnesota Constitution by adding a section to
1.3 article XI; prohibiting state spending in excess of inflation and population growth.

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

1.5 Section 1. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED.

1.6 An amendment to the Minnesota Constitution is proposed to the people. If the amendment
1.7 is adopted, a section shall be added to article XI, to read:

1.8 Sec. 16. The maximum biennial percentage change in state spending must not exceed
1.9 inflation plus the percentage change in state population. State spending shall be determined
1.10 as all expenditures and reserve increases, excluding: federal funds; excess revenue refunded
1.11 to taxpayers; reserve transfers or expenditures; expenditures approved by the people after
1.12 2024; and expenditures of gifts or court-ordered damage awards. Inflation shall be determined
1.13 as the total percentage change in the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer
1.14 Price Index for Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington for all urban consumers and all items,
1.15 or its successor index, for the previous two calendar years. The percentage change in state
1.16 population shall be determined as the total percentage change for the previous two calendar
1.17 years according to federal estimates and adjusted every decade to match the federal census.

1.18 Any excess revenue must be returned to taxpayers in the form of property tax refund or
1.19 permanent tax rate reductions. The legislature may exceed the spending limitation for one
1.20 biennium by a vote of 60 percent or more in each body.

2.1 Sec. 2. SUBMISSION TO VOTERS.

2.2 The proposed amendment must be submitted to the people at the 2024 general election.

2.3 The question submitted must be:

2.4 "Shall the Minnesota Constitution be amended to prohibit state spending increases in
2.5 excess of inflation and population growth?"

2.6 Yes

2.7 No "