On January 24, 2025, the Minnesota Supreme Court held that 68 members are necessary to constitute a quorum of the House.

This document reflects proceedings that occurred before that decision was issued and are no longer active.

See Simon v. Demuth, No. A25-0066 (Minn. Jan. 24, 2025) (consolidated with Hortman et al. v. Demuth et al., No. A25-0068).

# Capital Investment and State Bonding

Chelsea Griffin, House Research Department

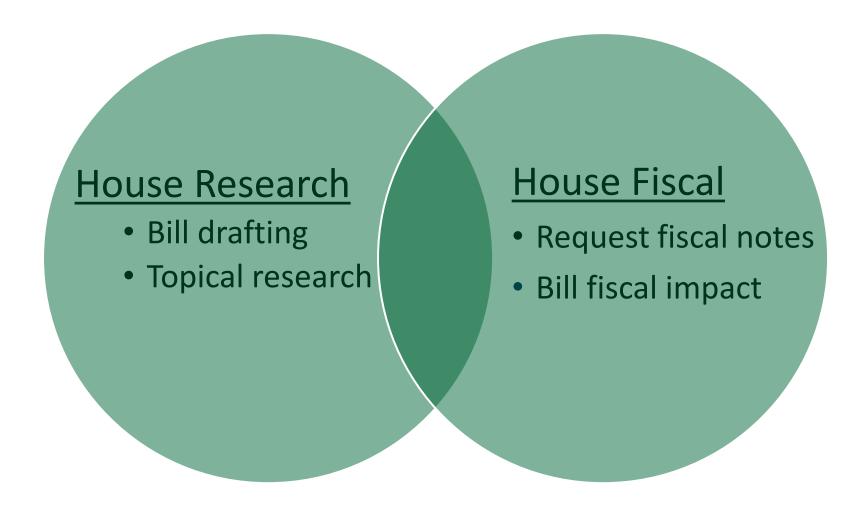
Andrew Lee, House Fiscal Analysis Department

## Role of Nonpartisan Staff

#### House Research and House Fiscal

- Serve all members and committees
- Confidential and neutral
- Subject matter expertise
- Interim work (publications, interim committees, etc.)

## Role of Nonpartisan Staff cont'd



### **Bonds Generally**



#### Government issues bonds



Investors receive payments with interest



Funds capital projects

## Categorizing Bonds

- Issuer
  - State, municipality, special district
- Purpose
  - Transportation, building, sewer
- Source of payment
  - General obligation, revenue
- Tax status
  - Taxable or tax-exempt
- Term
  - Long or short

## Authority

State Constitution

Minnesota Statutes

Federal Law

# "Full faith, credit and taxing powers"

#### ARTICLE XI APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCES

#### Sec. 4. Power to contract public debt; public debt defined.

The state may contract public debts for which its full faith, credit and taxing powers may be pledged at the times and in the manner authorized by law, but only for the purposes and subject to the conditions stated in section 5. Public debt includes any obligation payable directly in whole or in part from a tax of state wide application on any class of property, income, transaction or privilege, but does not include any obligation which is payable from revenues other than taxes.

#### Use of Bond Proceeds

#### Must be:

- For a public purpose
- Authorized in the state constitution
- Specified in law
- Mature in no more than 20 years

### Originate in House

#### ARTICLE IV LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT

Sec. 18. Revenue bills to originate in house.

All bills for raising revenue shall originate in the house of representatives, but the senate may propose and concur with the amendments as on other bills.

#### Bonds to Acquire and Better Public Land and Buildings

#### ARTICLE XI APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCES

#### Sec. 5. Public debt and works of internal improvement; purposes.

Public debt may be contracted and works of internal improvements carried on for the following purposes:

(a) to acquire and to better public land and buildings and other public improvements of a capital nature and to provide money to be appropriated or loaned to any agency or political subdivision of the state for such purposes if the law authorizing the debt is adopted by the vote of at least three-fifths of the members of each house of the legislature;

### Other GO Bond Use Examples



Trunk highways



**Forestation** 



Railroads

#### **Bond Counsel**



#### Specialized public finance lawyers



Bond counsel opinions



Kutak Rock = bond counsel

### Other Topics

Use of state bond-financed property

Reimbursement

Nonstate match requirement

## State v. Local GO Bonding

	State G.O. Bonding	Local G.O. Bonding
Referendum requirement		✓
Limit on net debt		✓
Public ownership	✓	
Purposes specified in constitution	✓	

### **Bonding Fiscal Information**

- 2023 Capital Investment Package Overview
  - Minnesota Laws 2023, Chapter 71 (GF bill)
  - Minnesota Laws 2023, Chapter 72 (GO bill)

Forecast Update

#### Resources

- MMB
  - Capital Budget: <a href="https://mn.gov/mmb/budget/capital-budget/">https://mn.gov/mmb/budget/capital-budget/</a>
  - Debt Management: <a href="https://mn.gov/mmb/debt-management/">https://mn.gov/mmb/debt-management/</a>
  - Capital Grants Manual
- Minnesota State Constitution
- Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 16A