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MEMORANDUM

To: Chairperson Bergquist
Members of the House Committee on Local Government

From: The Office of Revisor of Statutes

Date: February 14, 2024

Subject: HB 2493 – Requiring rural water districts to use a public bid process to award contracts for work on district facilities.

House Bill No. 2493 (HB 2493) would create a new statute requiring the board of directors of a rural water district to use a public bid process to award contracts for the construction, installation, or replacement of district facilities, water lines, pump stations or buildings. Notice seeking bids for such work must be provided at least 20 days prior to awarding the contract by publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the county where the district is located. The board must award the contract to the lowest and best bid.

HB 2493 clarifies that the public bid process does not apply to contracts for professional services, the purchase of insurance, or for any work that is necessary due to an emergency based on public health and safety.

If enacted, HB 2493 would become effective on July 1, 2024.