

**SENATE**  
**STATE OF MINNESOTA**  
**EIGHTY-NINTH SESSION**

**S.F. No. 2986**

(SENATE AUTHORS: SCALZE, Osmek, Dahle, Weber and Anderson)

DATE	D-PG	OFFICIAL STATUS
03/21/2016	5150	Introduction and first reading Referred to State and Local Government
03/31/2016	5390a 5423	Comm report: To pass as amended Second reading
04/27/2016	6500a 6500	Special Order: Amended Third reading Passed

1.1 A bill for an act  
 1.2 relating to local government; authorizing cities to exempt land less than 20  
 1.3 acres from the fence-viewing process; authorizing cities to adopt fence policies;  
 1.4 amending Minnesota Statutes 2014, sections 344.011; 344.20.

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

1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 344.011, is amended to read:

1.7 **344.011 EXEMPTION.**

1.8 A home rule charter or statutory city council or town board may, by resolution,  
 1.9 exempt adjoining owners or occupants from this chapter when their land considered  
 1.10 together is less than 20 acres.

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

1.12 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 344.20, is amended to read:

1.13 **344.20 CITY OR TOWN OPTION.**

1.14 (a) If eight or more landowners in a home rule charter or statutory city or town  
 1.15 petition the ~~town board~~ governing body for a vote on a partition fence policy, the ~~town~~  
 1.16 ~~board~~ governing body may adopt its own policy and procedures for dealing with partition  
 1.17 fences, including enforcement procedures. When a town board adopts a partition fence  
 1.18 policy, the policy must be approved by the electors of the town at an annual or special  
 1.19 town meeting, in which case this chapter does not apply in that town.

1.20 (b) This chapter applies to any partition fence lying on the boundary between a ~~town~~  
 1.21 ~~which~~ political subdivision that has adopted its own partition fence policy and any other

2.1 political subdivision unless the other political subdivision ~~is a town which~~ has adopted a  
2.2 similar policy.

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