

2026 Local Impact Note

Requirements for Sale or Transfer of a Public Safety Vehicle House File 3356



Local Impact Summary

A Legislative Budget Office (LBO) survey was distributed to local police, fire, and EMS departments through the Minnesota Chiefs of Police Association (MCPA), the Minnesota State Fire Department Association (MSFDA), the Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC), and a mailing list provided by the Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS).

The LBO received 27 survey responses. 44 percent of respondents reported they remove all insignia and equipment specified in bill language; 56 percent partially remove or do not remove insignia and equipment. Respondents who partially or do not remove insignia and equipment estimated costs of between \$500 and \$5,000 per vehicle to comply with bill language, depending on the vehicle type and what equipment the department currently removes.

Key Points

- The LBO received 27 survey responses representing 14 police, 5 sheriff, 4 EMS, and 5 fire departments, plus one response that did not identify a service type. Eleven respondents were located in the metro area while 16 were located in greater Minnesota.
- Respondents reported selling approximately two public safety vehicles per year on average, although sales frequency varies significantly across organizations. For example, smaller organizations reported selling one vehicle approximately every seven years, and larger organizations reported selling up to ten vehicles per year.
- 44 percent of respondents reported fully removing all equipment specified in bill language prior to vehicle sale, 37 percent reported partially removing equipment, and 19 percent reported not removing equipment prior to sale.
- The majority of respondents who partially or do not remove insignia and equipment estimated costs of between \$500 and \$3,000 per vehicle to comply with bill language, depending on the vehicle type and what equipment the department currently removes. One respondent estimated \$5,000 per vehicle for fire engines or ambulances.
- Most agencies indicated removal would be performed by an external service provider.

Local Fiscal Impact

- Cities/Towns
- Counties
- School Districts

Fiscal Area Impact

- Operations
- Staffing
- Information Tech.
- Contracting
- Capital Expenditures
- Other
- Revenues

References and Data Sources

- Minnesota Legislative Budget Office, Local Impact Survey for House File 3356.
- Minnesota Legislature. House File 3356: Sale or Transfer of a Public Safety Vehicle. 94th Legislature, 2026, <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/bills/94/2026/0/HF/3356/?body=House>.

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Local Impact Note

House File 3356
2025-2026 Legislative Session
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Requirements for Sale or Transfer of a Public Safety Vehicle

Summary

This local impact note estimates potential costs that House File (HF) 3356 may impose on local units of government. The bill requires the removal of certain emergency equipment and identifying insignia from public safety vehicles prior to sale or transfer to the public, including emergency lights, sirens, amber warning lights, spotlights, grill lights, antennas, emblems, outline of emblems, and emergency vehicle equipment.

Local impact notes can be requested by the chair or the ranking minority member of either legislative Tax, Finance, or Ways and Means Committees. For the purposes of this analysis, surveyed entities included local government agencies that operate emergency vehicles, including city police departments, fire departments, and ambulance services, as well as county sheriff departments. Local impact notes are governed by Minnesota Statutes 3.986 through 3.989.

To estimate potential fiscal impacts, a Legislative Budget Office (LBO) survey was distributed to local police, fire, and EMS departments through the Minnesota Chiefs of Police Association (MCPA), the Minnesota State Fire Department Association (MSFDA), the Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC), and a mailing list provided by the Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS). The LBO received 27 survey responses representing 14 police, 5 sheriff, 4 EMS, and 5 fire departments, plus one response that did not identify a service type. Eleven respondents were located in the metro area while 16 were located in greater Minnesota. Because the number of responses represents a limited share of the more than 1,000 agencies statewide, survey results should be interpreted as illustrative of potential costs rather than a comprehensive estimate of statewide local fiscal impact.

Survey respondents reported selling an average of two public safety vehicles per year, although responses varied considerably. Some smaller organizations reported one vehicle is sold every five-to-seven years, while larger organizations reported selling up to ten vehicles annually. These differences likely reflect variation in fleet size, department type, and vehicle replacement schedules across agencies.

Survey responses indicated that many agencies already remove some or all of the emergency equipment specified in bill language prior to selling public safety vehicles. Specifically:

- 44 percent of all respondents reported fully removing the equipment specified in bill language prior to sale.
- 37 percent reported partially removing the equipment specified in bill language prior to sale.
- 19 percent reported not removing equipment prior to sale.
- A higher percentage of respondents located in greater Minnesota reported they do not remove the equipment specified in bill language prior to sale (25 percent) versus the 7-county metro area (9 percent).

Respondents indicated that removal of equipment would most commonly be performed by an external service provider. The majority of respondents who partially or do not remove insignia and equipment estimated costs of between \$500 and \$3,000 per vehicle to comply with bill language, depending on the vehicle type and what equipment the department currently removes. One respondent estimated a removal cost of \$5,000 per vehicle for fire engines or ambulances. Several respondents noted a higher cost to remove equipment from fire engines and ambulances than other vehicle types.