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S.F. No. 2159 – Application of environmental review statutes to regional and local comprehensive land use planning

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Section 1 (473.145) amends the Metropolitan Council statute, specifically the section of law related to the requirement to prepare and adopt a comprehensive development guide for the metropolitan area. This bill provides that the adoption of or an amendment to the comprehensive development guide, other policy plans, and metropolitan system statements does not constitute conduct that causes pollution, impairment, or destruction under the Minnesota Environmental Rights Act, nor governmental action under the environmental policy chapter of law.

This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Section 2 (473.8651) is a new section of law which provides, notwithstanding an environmental review requirement under section 116D.04 (Environmental Impact Statements), that the adoption of or an amendment to the comprehensive plan does not constitute conduct that causes pollution, impairment, or destruction under the Minnesota Environmental Rights Act.

This section is effective retroactively from March 1, 2018, and applies to the counties of Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott, and Washington.