

The Senate Agriculture, Veterans and Gaming Committee met on Wednesday, February 23, 2005 at 3:00 p.m. in Room 112, Capitol. The following members were present:

Vickerman, Chair  
Skoe, Vice Chair  
Day  
Dille  
Hann  
Johnson  
Koering  
Lourey  
Murphy  
Nienow  
Rest  
Sams  
Solon  
Wergin

Senator Vickerman called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m. and called on Senator Kleis for S.F. 317, a bill relating to Texas Hold 'em card game. He passed out two handouts. **"Attachment A"** – Texas Hold'em Basic Rules and **"Attachment B"** – Letter from the Stearns County Attorney, Janelle P. Kendall to Frank Ball, Alcohol and Gambling Enforcement Division.

Senator Kleis stated this bill would allow for Texas Hold'em tournament to take place with no exchange of money, and nominal prizes to be awarded to the winner.

**David Bischoff, Owner, Granite City Bowl, St. Cloud, Minnesota.** Mr. Bischoff stated it was his establishment that was raided. He stated he started the tournaments in January and ran them until March, when the Department of Public Safety – Alcohol and Gambling Enforcement Division, called and told him they were illegal. He stated the raid was a little in excess – which happened in July. Mr. Bischoff stated he lost approximately \$25,000 in lost revenue and many dollars in attorney fees.

Senator Vickerman offered the A-2 amendment. This amendment states it would be up to the local governments to issue permits, enforcing the permits, and the cost would be decided by the local unit of government.

Senator Rest asked if a city could issue a permit and then make certain conditions?

Senator Vickerman moved his amendment. **"AMENDMENT PASSED."**

Senator Lourey offered amendment A-3. This amendment stated a tournament or contest could not be conducted more than 12 days a year.

Senator Lourey withdrew his amendment.

Senator Wergin moved that S.F. 317, as amended, be passed and rereferred to State and Local Government Operations Committee. BILL PASSED.

Senator Wergin presented S.F. 783, a bill extending the interest-free status of manure digester loans, and makes them retroactive to any loan made on or after July 1, 2003.

**Jim Boerboom, Assistant Director, Minnesota Dept. of Agriculture,** testified in support.

Senator Wergin moved S.F. 783, be passed. BILL PASSED.

Senator Rest presented S.F. 759, a bill modifying the definition of raffles.

Senator Rest moved amendment SCS0759A-3. **"Amendment passed."**

**Elaine Keefe, United Way,** testified in support.

Senator Rest moved SCS0749A-1. "Amendment passed."

Senator Sams moved amendment SCS0749A-5. "Amendment passed."

Senator Rest stated there should be an effective date section for section one for the day following final enactment.

Senator Rest moved to insert effective date section.

**Amendment Passed.**

Senator Rest moved S.F. 749, as amended, be passed. BILL PASSED.

Senator Dille presented S.F. 774, a bill relating to the Animal Health Board official laboratory.

**Dr. Bill Hartmann, Board of Animal Health,** testified in support.

Senator Skoe stated this was a controversial bill four years ago. Repealer is out.

Senator Skoe moved on Page 2, line 27, delete "such"

Amendment Passed.

Senator Dille moved S.F. 774, as amended, be passed. BILL PASSED.

Senator Dille presented S.F. 773, a bill relating to cervidae regulation responsibility transfer. "See Attachment C."

**Dr. Bill Hartmann, Board of Animal Health,** stated there are currently 756 producers in Minnesota who farm cervidae. Of these, 615 have completed the registration process and 530 are in compliance. The reason for moving the statutes regulating farmed cervidae is so that civil and criminal penalties will apply to the enforcement of disease control programs.

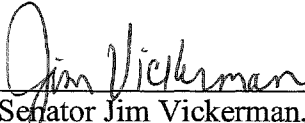
**Mike DonCarlos, DNR,** stated they totally support the initiative. He added the Department of Agriculture supports it to.

Senator Dille moved S.F. 773 be passed and rereferred to State and Local Government Operations.

Bill Passed.

Meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

This meeting was taped.

  
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Senator Jim Vickerman, Chair

  
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by/ Sandi Brown

**Senate Agriculture, Veterans and Gaming Committee**

**Wednesday, February 23, 2005**

**3:00 p.m.**

**Room 112, Capitol**

**AGENDA**

S.F. 317-Kleis: Texas hold 'em card game. - *Amended, Passed, Referred to State and Local Gov.*  
David Bischoff, Owner, Granite Bowl, St. Cloud

S.F. 783-Wergin: Extending methane digester interest free loans. - *Passed, Floor*

S.F. 759-Rest: Modifying the definition of raffles. - *Amended, Passed, Floor*

S.F. 774-Dille: Animal health board official laboratory. *Amended, Passed, Floor*  
Dr. Bill Hartmann, Board of Animal Health

S.F. 773-Dille: Cervidae regulation responsibilities transfer. *Passed, Referred to State & Local*  
Dr. Bill Hartmann, Board of Animal Health

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David Bischoff, Owner, Granite Bowl, St. Cloud

S.F. 783-Wergin: Extending methane digester interest free loans.

S.F. 759-Rest: Modifying the definition of raffles.

S.F. 774-Dille: Animal health board official laboratory.

Dr. Bill Hartmann, Board of Animal Health

S.F. 773-Dille: Cervidae regulation responsibilities transfer.

Dr. Bill Hartmann, Board of Animal Health

## Senate Committee Meeting Log

Committee Name: Ag. Vets & Gaming  
 Date: 2/23/05 Day: Wednesday Start Time: 3:10 PM

### Agenda

	Bill # (or Topic)	S.F. 317 / Kleis
	Author	
	Short Descriptor	Texas Hold'em card game Owner of Granite Bowl, St. Cloud ↳ David Bischoff
	Action(s)	
3:35		↳ Jim Vickerman's amendment (chain to Senator Rod Skoe)
		↳ chain returned to Vickerman
3:50		↳ S.F. 317 as amended sent to State & local
4:03	Bill # (or Topic)	S.F. 783
	Author	Weglin
4 6	Short Descriptor	Extending methane digester interest free Jim Borboom
	Action(s)	Passed to Floor
	Bill # (or Topic)	S.F. 759
	Author	Rest
	Short Descriptor	Modifying the definition of raffles
	Action(s)	adopted Dallas AS Amendment ↳ same AS amended.
4:23		
	Bill # (or Topic)	S.F. 774
	Author	Dille
	Short Descriptor	Dr. Bill Hartman, Board of Animal Animal Health Board Health Official Laboratory
	Action(s)	floor to general order

CONTINUED  
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