

Finance Committee

Chair: Senator Richard J. Cohen

Tuesday, April 26, 2005

10:00 a.m.

Room 123, Capitol

PRESENT: Cohen, Chaudhary, Berglin, Dille, Frederickson, Gerlach, Hottinger, Kierlin, Kiscaden, Langseth, Larson, Metzen, Murphy, Neuville, Nienow, Olson, Ourada, Pappas, Pariseau, Ranum, Sams, Stumpf, Wiger

ABSENT: Dibble*, Fischbach

* Beginning 3/18/05, when Senator Sams is absent, Senator Dibble replaces him on the Finance Committee.

Senator Cohen called the meeting to order at 10:45A.M.

A quorum was present.

AGENDA ITEM #1: Public Safety Omnibus Budget Bill (Document SC4098-1)

- Senator Ranum testified on the Public Safety Omnibus Budget Bill (document SC4098-1).
- Tom Adkins, Director of Community Corrections in Washington County, stated he was in support of the one cent increase to the alcohol excise tax.
- Andy Erickson, Dodge-Fillmore-Olmstead Community Corrections Director, also testified in favor of the increase.
- Senator Pariseau offered the A33 amendment. Senator Cohen stated that the Committee was not yet open to amendments.
- Mr. Adkins testified in more detail about the increase in the alcohol excise tax and why he supports it.
- Senator Gerlach requested a roll call vote on the A33 amendment. Senator Cohen reminded the Committee that we were not yet taking amendments.
- Mr. Erickson testified again.
- Mr. Adkins testified in response to questions from Senator Chaudhary.
- Senator Cohen explained that the Committee would now take amendments to the bill.
- Senator Metzen offered the A35 amendment.
- Senator Gerlach then requested a roll call vote on the A35 amendment.
- Mr. Adkins testified in response to comments from Senator Neuville.
- Senator Larson called the question on the A35 amendment.
- Roll call vote on the A35:

Ayes: Frederickson, Gerlach, Kierlin, Langseth, Larson, Metzen, Nienow, Olson, Pariseau, Sams, Stumpf (11)

Nays: Cohen, Berglin, Chaudhary, Dille, Hottinger, Kiscaden, Murphy, Neuville, Pappas, Ranum, Wiger (11)

- Motion failed on an 11-11 vote. The A35 amendment was not adopted.
- Senator Ranum moved the A26 amendment.
- Matt Massman, Finance Fiscal Analyst, testified on the A26 amendment and in response to a question about fees.
- Chris Turner, Public Safety Budget Division Fiscal Analyst, testified in response to Senator Stumpf's questions about fees.
- Senator Ranum renewed her motion on the A26 amendment.
- Mr. Massman testified again.

- Luci Botzek, representing the County Recorders, testified in response to a question from Senator Neuville.
- Ms. Botzek testified again in response to questions about the A26 amendment.
- Senator Neuville moved an oral amendment to the A26 amendment:

-Page 1, lines 28-34, reinstate the stricken language and delete new language.

- Senator Neuville's motion carried.
- Mr. Massman testified in response to a question.
- Ms. Botzek testified about the previously adopted Neuville amendment.
- Senator Neuville moved to reconsider his oral amendment. Motion carried.
- Senator Neuville then withdrew his oral amendment.
- Senator Ranum renewed her motion on the A26 amendment. Motion carried.
- Senator Ranum moved the A36 amendment. Motion carried.
- Senator Ranum moved that SC4098-1 as amended be introduced as a committee bill and be referred to Taxes.
- Senator Chaudhary moved the A25 amendment.
- Ken Backhus, Public Safety Budget Division Counsel, offered an oral amendment to the A25 amendment:

-Page 5, delete lines 53-55

- Senator Chaudhary incorporated that change into the A25 amendment.
- Senator Kiscaden moved to amend the A25 amendment:

-Line 15, delete everything after "account"

-delete line 16

-reinstate lines 53-55 on page 5

- Mr. Backhus testified on the amendment.
- Mr. Wattson testified, trying to offer clarification.
- Mr. Turner testified in response to a question.
- Senator Kiscaden's motion adopted.
- Senator Dille moved to amend Senator Ranum's motion: The document will be introduced as amended, recommended to pass, and sent to Taxes except for Article 9, sections 7-10 (pages 169-171, the alcohol excise tax). Those sections will be sent on without recommendation.
- Senator Dille's motion carried.
- Senator Cohen recessed the meeting at 12:47.
- Senator Cohen reconvened the meeting at 3:35.

AGENDA ITEM #2: Environment, Agriculture, and Economic Development Omnibus Budget Bill (Document SC4100)

- Senator Bakk testified on the Environment, Agriculture, and Economic Development Omnibus Budget Bill (Document SC4100)
- Greg Knopff, Legislative Analyst for the Environment, Agriculture, and Economic Development Budget Division, testified on the A5 amendment.
- Senator Sams then moved the A5 amendment. Motion carried.
- Dan Mueller, Fiscal Analyst for the Environment, Agriculture, and Economic Development Budget Division, testified on the spreadsheets for the bill.
- Mr. Knopff testified the language of the bill.
- At the request of Senator Frederickson, Mark Holsten, Deputy Commissioner for the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), testified on the differences between Governor Pawlenty's budget and the Senate's budget for this area.
- Senator Chaudhary began chairing the meeting at 4:33.
- Dave Jensen, Fiscal Analyst for the Environment, Agriculture, and Economic Development Budget Division, testified on Article 2, the economic development portion of the bill.

-Article 2, section 34, delete the new language and reinstate the stricken language (School start times).

- Hottinger motion failed. Division. Motion carried.
- Senator Chaudhary began chairing at 6:45.
- Jamie Anderson, Department of Labor and Industry, testified in opposition to Article 2, section 105.
- Senator Sams offered support for the provision.
- Senator Kiscaden moved to delete Section 105 of Article 2. Motion failed.
- Senator Larson moved the A16 amendment.
- Senator Chaudhary testified on the A16 amendment.
- Senator Cohen testified in opposition to the A16 amendment.
- Senator Larson's motion carried. Division. 10-6, motion carried.
- Senator Wiger moved to reconsider the Hottinger oral amendment:

-Article 2, section 34, delete the new language and reinstate the stricken language (School start times).

- Motion failed. Division. Motion carried 11-8.
- Senator Kiscaden moved to lay the bill on the table. Motion failed.
- Roll call vote requested on the Hottinger motion:

Ayes: Berglin, Frederickson, Hottinger, Kierlin, Kiscaden, Neuville, Pappas, Ranum (8)

Nays: Cohen, Chaudhary, Dille, Gerlach, Langseth, Larson, Metzen, Sams, Stumpf, Wiger (10)

- Motion fails on a vote of 8-10. The Hottinger oral amendment is NOT adopted.
- Mr. Wattson explained a necessary amendment, and Senator Larson moved that amendment:

-Page 202, line 14, change "\$235" to "\$240" and "\$265" to "\$270"

-Page 202, line 19, delete "\$235" and insert "\$240"

-Page 202, line 20, delete "\$265" and insert "\$270"


- Senator Larson's motion carried.
- Senator Larson moved that SC4100 as amended be introduced as a committee bill and be recommended to pass. Motion carried.

Senator Cohen adjourned the meeting at 7:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Lisa M. Schmid
Legislative Assistant



Richard J. Cohen
Chair

Senate Finance Committee

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Agenda:

Public Safety Omnibus Budget Bill

Environment, Agriculture, and Economic Development Omnibus Budget Bill