

Finance Committee
March 2nd, 2006
9:00 a.m. Room 123
Chair, Senator Richard J. Cohen

Present:

Dick Cohen, Chair
Linda Berglin
Satveer Chaudhary, Vice Chair
Steve Dille
Michelle Fischbach
Dennis Frederickson
Chris Gerlach
John Hottinger
Bob Kierlin
Sheila Kiscaden
Keith Langseth
Cal Larson
Jim Metzen
Steve Murphy
Tom Neuville
Sean Nienow
Gen Olson
Sandy Pappas
Pat Pariseau
Jane Ranum
Dallas Sams
LeRoy Stumpf
Chuck Wiger

Agenda

Senator Cohen called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

A quorum was present.

First item:

- New staff introductions.

Second Item:

- February budget forecast overview.
- The following gave testimony or answered questions on the February forecast.
Peggy Ingison, Commissioner of Finance
Jim Schowalter, Assistant Commissioner of Finance
Tom Stinson, State Economist
Paul Anton, Chief Economist, Wilder Research

Third Item:

- SF 2466 (Langseth) Senator Langseth testified on the bill.
- The following gave testimony or answered questions on SF 2466.
Tony Bennet, Ramsey County Board of Commissioners.
- Senator Langseth moved the A-1 amendment. Motion carried.
- Senator Langseth moved to pass SF 2466 as amended. Motion carried.

Fourth Item:

- SF 2653 (Rosen) Senator Rosen testified on the bill.
- Senator Frederickson moved the A-1 amendment. Motion carried.
- The following gave testimony or answered questions on the bill.

Christine Bronson,

- Senator Frederickson moved SF 2653. Motion carried.

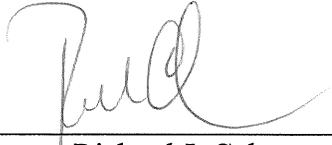
Senator Chaudhary began Chairing at 11:32 a.m.

Fifth Item:

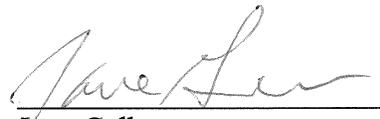
- SF 2722 (Cohen) Senator Cohen gave testimony on SF 2722.
- Senator Cohen moved the A-2 amendment. Motion carried.
- Senator Cohen moved the A-1 amendment.
- Matt Massman, Fiscal Analyst, answers a question on the amendment.
- Senator Nienow offered an amendment to the A-1 amendment.
- Senator Nienow withdrew his motion.
- Senator Cohen's motion carried, the A-1 amendment.
- Senator Cohen testified on the amended SF 2722.
- Commissioner of Finance Peggy Ingison answered questions.
- Matt Massman, Fiscal Analyst, answered questions.
- Senator Cohen moves SF 2722 as amended.
- Peter Wattson, Senate Counsel, answered a question.
- Matt Massman, Fiscal Analyst, answered a question.
- Senator Cohen moved to lay over SF 2722. Motion carried.

Senator Chaudhary adjourned the meeting at 12:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Senator Richard J. Cohen
Finance Committee Chair



Jane Gelbmann
Finance Committee Secretary

Senate Finance Committee

Chair: Richard J. Cohen

Thursday, March 2nd, 2006

Immediately following session.

Room 123, Capitol

Agenda:

February Forecast Briefing

Testimony: Peggy Ingison, Commissioner of Finance
Tom Stinson, State Economist
Paul Anton, Chief Economist, Wilder Research

S.F. 2653- Rosen: Dual eligible pharmacy costs appropriation.

S.F. 2466- Langseth: Ramsey and Anoka counties County Road J improvements appropriation.

S.F. XXXX- Cohen: Finance Reform Package.

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Immediately following session.

Room 123, Capitol

Revised Agenda:

February Forecast Briefing

Testimony: Peggy Ingison, Commissioner of Finance
Tom Stinson, State Economist
Jim Schowalter, Assistant Commissioner of Finance
Paul Anton, Chief Economist, Wilder Research

S.F. 2466- Langseth: Ramsey and Anoka counties County Road J improvements appropriation.

Testimony: Tony Bennet, Ramsey County Board of Commissioners

S.F. 2653- Rosen: Dual eligible pharmacy costs appropriation.

Testimony: Christine Bronson, State Medicare Director for the Department of Human Services.

S.F. 2722- Cohen: Finance Reform Package.