

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES BUDGET DIVISION

MINUTES

Senator Linda Berglin, Chair of the Health and Human Services Budget Division, called the fortieth meeting to order at 10:45 a.m. on Thursday, March 23, 2006, in Room 123 of the State Capitol, St. Paul Minnesota.

The secretary noted the roll.

Members Present:

Berglin, Chair
Solon, Vice Chair
Foley
Higgins
Koering
Lourey
LeClair
Rosen

A quorum was present.

Senator Higgins assumed the chair at 10:46 a.m.

The first bill on the agenda was S.F. 2725, authored and explained by Senator Berglin, as follows:

S.F. 2725 (BERGLIN): A bill for an act relating to health care; providing for MinnesotaCare outreach; creating a prescription drug discount program; expanding the benefit set for single adults; increasing the eligibility income limit for single adults; increasing the cap for inpatient hospitalization benefits for adults; modifying the definition of income for self-employed farmers; establishing a small employer option; appropriating money.

The following Proponents testified regarding S.F. 2725:

1. Jim Meffert-Nelson, Optometric Association.
2. Bill Conley, Mental Health Association.
3. Sue Stout, MN Hospital Association.
4. Bonnie Watkins, Executive Director, MN Women's Consortium and Girls Coalition of MN.
5. Dick Dirks, MN Dental Association.
6. Dr. Mike Helgeson, CEO, Apple Tree Dental.
7. Dan Haugen, Neighborhood Involvement Program.

The following Opponents testified regarding S.F. 2725:

8. Jeff Lindoo, MN Pharmacist Association, Thrifty White Pharmacy.
9. Buzz Anderson, President, MN Retailers Association.

Senate File 2725 was laid over.

Senator Berglin returned to the chair 11:30 a.m.

The second bill on the agenda was S.F. 930, authored and explained by Senator Kubly, as follows:

S.F. 930 (KUBLY): A bill for an act relating to gambling; appropriating money for compulsive gambling prevention and education.

The following Proponents testified regarding S.F. 930:

1. Lance Holthusen, Executive Director, Northstar Gambling Alliance, P.O. Box 555, Arlington, MN 55307.
2. Don Feeney, Research and Planning Director, MN State Lottery.

Senator Koering moved to amend S.F. 930 as follows:

Page 1, line 6, delete "\$150,000 in fiscal year 2006" and insert "25,000 in fiscal year 2006"

Page 1, line 15, delete "in each year of the biennium" and insert "in fiscal Year 2007"

Page 1, after line 20, insert:

"Sec. 2. **EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Section 1 is effective the day following final enactment."

Amend the title accordingly

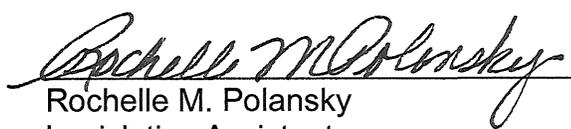
The **MOTION PREVAILED** and the amendment was adopted.

Senator Koering moved that S.F. 930, as amended, be recommended to pass to the Finance Committee. The **MOTION PREVAILED.**

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.



Senator Linda Berglin
Chair



Rochelle M. Polansky
Legislative Assistant

Health and Human Services Budget Division

Senator Linda Berglin, Chair

Thursday, March 23, 2006 -- 9:00 a.m. -- Room 123 Capitol

A G E N D A

- I. **Call to Order.**

- II. **S.F. 930 (Kubly): Compulsive gambling prevention and education.**
 - A. **Author's Presentation.**

Testimony:

 1. **Lance Holthusen, Executive Director, Northstar Gambling Alliance.**
 2. **Don Feeney, Director, Research and Planning, MN State Lottery.**

 - B. **Consideration of Amendment(s).**

 - C. **Division Action.**

- III. **S.F. 2725 (Berglin): MinnesotaCare.**
 - A. **Author's Presentation.**

Testimony (Proponents):

 1. **Sue Stout, Hospital Association (Hospital Cap).**
 2. **Dominic Sposeto, Dental Association (Buy Back Benefit Set).**
 3. **Jim Meffert-Nelson, Optometrists (Buy Back Benefit Set).**
 4. **Bill Conley, Mental Health Association (Buy Back Benefit Set).**
 5. **Bonnie Watkins, MN Women's Consortium (Small Business).**
 6. **Dan Haugen, Neighborhood Involvement Program (Small Business).**
 7. **Marcie Avner, MN Council of Non-Profits (Small Business).**
 8. **Doua Lee, Executive Director, S.E. Asian Community Council (Small Business).**

9. Christeen Stone, Senior Federation and AARP (Part D – Drugs).
10. Jeff Lindoo, MN Pharmacist Association/Thrifty White (Part D-Drugs).
11. Thom Petersen, Director, Government Relations, MN Farmers Union (Representing Farmers).

Testimony (Opponent):

Bob Vanasek, Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PHARMA) (Drug Discount Program).

- B. Consideration of Amendment(s).
- C. Division Action.

IV. S.F. 2534 (Koering): Laundry services, Brainerd Regional Treatment Center.

- A. Author's Presentation.
- B. Consideration of Amendment(s).
- C. Division Action.

V. S.F. 2672 (Lourey): Large employer health cost payments.

- A. Author's Presentation.

Testimony (Proponents):

1. Bernie Hesse, UFCW, Local 79.
2. Rick Varco, SEIU, Local 113.
3. Brad Lehto, AFL/CIO.

Testimony (Opponents):

1. Erin Sexton, MN Chamber of Commerce.
2. Beth Hartwig, MN Business Partnership.

- B. Consideration of Amendment(s).
- C. Division Action.

VI. Adjournment.

NEXT MEETING:

Health and Human Services Budget Division

Friday, March 24, 2006

9:00 a.m. – Room 123 Capitol

Agenda: All bills not completed on Thursday, March 23, 2006 and Presentation on the Governor's Budget: Department of Human Services