

Minnesota State Senate

Higher Education Finance and Policy Committee

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

1:00 PM, Room G-3, Capitol

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Minutes

Present: Senator David J. Tomassoni - Chair, Senator Jason Rarick - Vice Chair, Senator Gregory D. Clausen, Senator Michael P. Goggin, Senator John R. Jasinski, Senator Aric Putnam

Absent: No Members Absent

Senator John Jasinski, in the absence of Vice-Chair, Senator Rarick, called the meeting to order at 1:07 p.m. A quorum was present.

Presentation, Center for Economic Inclusion

Isaac Russell, Director of Public Policy, and Andrea Ferstan, Vice President of Innovation, Policy and Research for the Center for Economic Inclusion, presented a power point and overview of the Center (see handout).

S.F. 3718: Senator Tomassoni: Workforce development scholarships expansion.

Senator Bakk, on behalf of Senator Tomassoni, chief author of S.F. 3718, explained the bill as follows (see bill summary and bill):

A bill for an act relating to higher education; expanding workforce development scholarships; amending Minnesota Statutes 2021 Supplement, section 136F.38, subdivision 3.

John McGuine, Vice President of the Builders Association of Minnesota (BAM), testified in favor of the bill.

Following discussion, Senator Jasinski announced that S.F. 3718 would be laid over for possible inclusion in the Higher Education omnibus bill.

S.F. 3372: Senator Tomassoni: Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis research appropriation.

Senator Bakk, on behalf of Senator Tomassoni, chief author of S.F. 3372, explained the bill as follows (see bill).

Senator Goggin moved the author's amendment (see document #SCS3372A-2). The **MOTION PREVAILED** and the **AMENDMENT WAS ADOPTED**.

Senator Tomassoni presented comments virtually following Senator Bakk's presentation.

Testifying in support of S.F. 3372, as amended, were the following:

- 1) Chris Engler, MN Gopher alum, professional athlete and ALS advocate
- 2) Kent Hrbek, MN Twins professional athlete and ALS advocate
- 3) Dr. David Walk, Professor and Division Head of Neuromuscular Disease - U of MN Medical School
- 4) Dave Smiglewski, Mayor - City of Granite Falls
- 5) Marianne Keuhn, Vice President of Care Services - ALS Association

Following Senator Bakk's closing remarks, Senator Rarick moved that S.F. 3372, as amended, be recommended to pass and re-referred to the Finance Committee. The **MOTION PREVAILED**.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:18 p.m.

Senator David J. Tomassoni, Chair

Laura Bakk, Legislative Assistant

