

# Minnesota State Senate

## Higher Education Finance and Policy Committee

Tuesday, March 22, 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 Jason Rarick, Vice-Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m. A quorum was present. Senator Rarick announced that the committee would not hear S.F. 4055 today.

**S.F. 3424: Senator Koran: Hennepin County Medical Center addiction medicine graduate medical education fellowship program appropriation.**

Senator Rarick moved the author's amendment to S.F. 3424 (see document SCS3424A-1). The **MOTION PREVAILED** and the **AMENDMENT WAS ADOPTED**.

Counsel explained the A-1 amendment to S.F. 3424.

Senator Koran, chief author of S.F. 3424, explained the bill (title as follows), as amended (see bill, A-1 amendment and handouts #1-5):

**A bill for an act relating to higher education; appropriating money for the addiction medicine graduate medical education fellowship program at Hennepin County Medical Center.**

The following provided testimony in support of S.F. 3424, as amended:

- 1) Dr. Sheila Specker, Addiction Therapist - U of M and Program Director of Addiction Medicine
- 2) Dr. Brian Graham, Addiction Medicine - Hennepin County Medical Center

Questions and comments from committee members ensued.

Following Senator Koran's closing remarks, Senator Rarick announced that S.F. 3424, as amended, would be laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus Higher Education bill.

**S.F. 4023: Senator Jasinski: University of Minnesota campus safety supplemental financing appropriation.**

Senator Jasinski, chief author of S.F. 4023, explained the bill as follows (see bill and handout #6).

**A bill for an act relating to higher education; providing supplemental financing to the University of Minnesota for campus safety; appropriating money.**

Senator Jasinski moved the author's amendment (see document #SCS4023A-1). The **MOTION PREVAILED** and the **AMENDMENT WAS ADOPTED**.

The following U of M officials presented testimony in support of S.F. 4023 as amended:

- 1) Myron Frans, Senior Vice President for Finance and Operations
- 2) Bernie Gulachek, Vice President and Chief Information Officer

Questions and comments from committee members ensued.

Following closing remarks, Senator Jasinski moved that S.F. 4023, as amended, be recommended to pass and referred to the Finance Committee. The **MOTION PREVAILED**. (See committee report.)

**S.F. 4056: Senator Rarick: Minnesota Independence College and Community appropriation for student scholarships and tuition reduction.**

Senator Goggin assumed the chair while Senator Rarick presented the next two bills.

Senator Rarick, chief author of S.F. 4056, explained the bill as follows (see bill):

A bill for an act relating to higher education; appropriating money for a grant to Minnesota Independence College and Community (MICC) for student scholarships and tuition reduction.

The following individuals presented testimony in favor of S.F. 4056:

1) Amy Gudmestad, Executive Director - MICC

(Following Ms. Gudmestad's testimony, members viewed a video of students expressing how they have been positively impacted by MICC's program for individuals with learning differences.)

2) Aaon Cardenas, MICC freshman student with autism

Questions and comments from committee members ensued.

Following Senator Rarick's closing remarks, Senator Goggin announced that S.F. 4056 would be laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus Higher Education bill.

**S.F. 4154: Senator Rarick: Permanent university fund for mineral research modification.**

Senator Rarick, chief author of S.F. 4154, explained the bill as follows (see bill summary and bill):

A bill for an act relating to higher education; modifying the permanent university fund for mineral research; amending Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 137.022, subdivision 4.

Senator Tomassoni moved to amendment S.F. 4154 (see document #SCS4154A-1).

Senator Tomassoni explained the amendment.

**The MOTION PREVAILED and the A-1 AMENDMENT WAS ADOPTED.**

The following officials with the University of MN-Duluth presented testimony in favor of S.F. 4154 as amended:

1) Lynne Williams, Chief Marketing and Public Relations Officer

2) Dr. Wendy Reed, Dean of Swenson College of Science and Engineering

Questions and comments from committee members ensued.

Following Senator Rarick's closing remarks, Senator Goggin announced that S.F. 4154, as amended, would be laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus Higher Education bill.

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The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

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Senator David J. Tomassoni, Chair

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Laura Bakk, Legislative Assistant