

Education Finance Committee
Tuesday, March 7, 2023
8:30 AM Livestream YouTube

Minutes

Present: Senator Mary K. Kunesh - Chair, Senator Heather Gustafson - Vice Chair, Senator Steve A. Cwodzinski, Senator Robert D. Farnsworth, Senator Michael E. Kreun, Senator Eric Lucero, Senator Erin K. Maye Quade, Senator Clare Oumou Verbeten, Senator Jason Rarick, Senator Bonnie S. Westlin

Absent: No Members Absent

Senator Mary K. Kunesh called the meeting to order at 8:30 am

Senator Gustafson assumed the role of Chair.

S.F. 1881: Senator Kunesh: General education basic formula allowance increase; class size reduction money direction; appropriating money.

Testifiers

1. Greta Callahan, Kindergarten teacher, President of Minneapolis Federation of Teachers (in-person)
2. Steve Olson, World History Teacher, Chaska High School
3. Deb Henton, Executive Director of the MN Association of School Administrators (in-person)

Senator Kunesh moved that S.F. 1881, be laid over and maybe considered for omnibus bill.
- MOTION PREVAILED.

Senator Kunesh reassumed role as Chair

S.F. 449: Senator Gustafson: Comprehensive school mental health services lead positions establishment and appropriation.

Testifiers

1. Amy Jones, Chief Executive Officer for ABJ Educational Consulting

Senator Gustafson moved that S.F. 449, be laid over and maybe considered for omnibus bill.
- MOTION PREVAILED.

S.F. 1318: Senator Mann: School employee health insurance authorization; nonlicensed school personnel minimum starting salary increase; paid orientation and professional development for paraprofessionals authorization; appropriating money.

Testifiers

1. Dave Kamper, Economic Policy Institute (remote)
2. Annie Gibson, Paraprofessional, South Washington County Public Schools (in-person)
3. Sara Rapp, Cook, Hastings High School (in-person)

4. Caroline Long, Special Education Teacher, Minneapolis Public Schools, Robbinsdale School Board Member (inperson)
5. Mary Burroughs, SPHR, executive director of human resources, Bloomington Public Schools

Senator Gustafson moved that S.F. 1318, be laid over and maybe considered for omnibus bill.
- MOTION PREVAILED.

S.F. 1240: Senator Putnam: Support staff persons requirement for early childhood family education programs.

Testifiers

1. Sara McKeever, Early Childhood Family Specialist
Licensed Parent Educator (in-person)
2. Dr. Monica Potter -ECFE Supervisor for St. Paul Public Schools (in-person)

Senator Oumou Verbeten moved that S.F. 1240, be laid over and maybe considered for omnibus bill. - MOTION PREVAILED.

S.F. 1655: Senator Rarick: Average daily membership minimum hours for a disabled kindergartner pupil alignment to those other kindergarten pupils.

Testifiers

1. Adosh Unni, J.D. Director of Government Relations

Senator Rarick moved that S.F. 1655, be laid over and maybe considered for omnibus bill.
- MOTION PREVAILED.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:32 am



Senator Mary Kunesh, Chair



Sami Rajab, Legislative Assistant