

MINNESOTA STATE SENATE

Health & Human Services Finance & Policy Committee

Health and Human Services Committee
Tuesday, January 24th, 2023
8:30am Livestream YouTube

Minutes

Present: Senator Melissa H. Wiklund – Chair, Senator Alice Mann – Vice Chair, Senator Paul Utke –Minority Lead, Senator Jim Abeler, Senator Liz Boldon, Senator John Hoffman, Senator Rob Kupec, Senator Bill Lieske, Senator Kelly Morrison

Absent: No Absent Members

Chair Wiklund called the meeting to order at 8:36 am on Tuesday, January 24th, 2023, in Room 1100 of the Minnesota Senate Building. A quorum was present.

AGENDA ITEM #1: S.F. 2 (MANN): Paid family, pregnancy, bonding, and applicant's serious medical condition benefits establishment and appropriation

The first bill up on the agenda was S.F. 2, authored by Senator Mann as follows:

S.F. 2 (MANN): Paid family, pregnancy, bonding, and applicant's serious medical condition benefits establishment and appropriation

Senator Mann provided opening remarks and explained Senate File 2 to the committee.

The following individuals testified on SF 2:

- Deb Fitzpatrick, Director of Policy & Research at Children's Defense Fund Minnesota, testified in support of S.F. 2.
- Corey Anderson with Minnesota Association of Health Underwriters & NAIFA, testified in opposition to S.F. 2.
- Toni Mangskau, Private Citizen & Family Caregiver, testified in support of S.F. 2.

Member questions and discussion followed.

Senator Utke spoke to and asked a question about S.F. 2. & how many committee stops it has left.

Senator Mann spoke to S.F.2 & about the further committee stops that the bill has.

Senator Utke spoke to S.F. 2. and about the bill will affect healthcare employers providing input on the bill.

Senator Mann answered Senator Utke's question.

Senator Utke asked a question about SF 2 regarding if someone who is unemployed can apply or file a claim for PFML.

Senator Mann answered Senator Utke's question.

Deb Fitzpatrick of Children's Defense Fund Minnesota spoke to Senator Utke's question.

Senator Abeler spoke to and asked a question about S.F. 2. regarding the definition of healthcare providers that is listed in the bill.

Senator Mann answered Senator Abeler's question about what type of providers can testify to an individuals need for PFML.

Senator Abeler spoke to S.F. 2.

Senator Abeler asked a question about MFIP eligibility for those under the PMFL program.

Deb Fitzpatrick of Children's Defense Fund Minnesota spoke to Senator Abeler's question about MFIP eligibility.

Senator Abeler asked a question about S.F. 2. and whether the program will draw people into the workforce.

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Senator Mann spoke Senator Abeler's question.

Senator Morrison asked a question about S.F. 2 regarding if there is data showing that this program improves workforce recruitment and retention.

Senator Mann spoke to Senator Morrison's question.

Senator Utke spoke to S.F. 2.

Senator Abeler spoke to S.F. 2

Senator Mann moved that Senate File 2 be recommended to pass and be rereferred to the committee on State and Local Government and Veterans

Senator Utke requested a roll call vote and that the results be recorded in the journal. There being three hands raised (Senator Utke, Senator Abeler, and Senator Lieske) the results were recorded in the journal. The results were as follows:

AYES: Chair Wiklund, Vice Chair Mann, Senator Abeler, Senator Boldon, Senator Kupec, Senator Morrison

NAYS: Senator Utke, Senator Lieske

ABSENT: Senator Hoffman

On a vote of 6 AYES and 2 NAYS, **THE MOTION PREVAILED AND SENATE FILE 2 WAS PASSED AND REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND VETERANS.**

Chair Wiklund passed the gavel to Vice Chair Mann

AGENDA ITEM #2: S.F. 53 (WIKLUND) – Childcare stabilization base grants modification and appropriation; early learning scholarship eligibility modification

The second bill up on the agenda was S.F. 53, authored by Senator Wiklund as follows:

S.F. 53 (Wiklund): Childcare stabilization base grants modification and appropriation; early learning scholarship eligibility modification

Senator Wiklund offer the A3 Authors Amendment.

Senator Wiklund explained the A3 Authors Amendment.

On a voice vote, **THE MOTION PREVAILED AND THE A3 AUTHORS AMENDMENT WAS ADOPTED.**

Senator Wiklund provided opening remarks and explained Senate File 53, as amended, to the committee.

The following individuals testified on SF 53:

- Dr. Debra Messenger with All Faces and Ages Academy, testified in support of S.F. 53.
- Clare Sanford, Government Relations Chair at MN Child Care Association, testified in support of S.F. 53.
- Andre Dukes, VP of Family & Community Impact at Northern Achievements Zone, testified in support of S.F. 53

Senator Abeler spoke to S.F. 53.

Senator Wiklund provided additional comments about S.F. 53.

Senator Boldon spoke to S.F. 53.

Senator Wiklund moved that Senate File 53, as amended, be recommended to pass and be re-referred to the Committee on Education Finance.

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On a voice vote, **THE MOTION PREVAILED AND SENATE FILE 53, AS AMENDED, WAS PASSED AND REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION FINANCE.**

AGENDA ITEM #3: S.F. 14 (WIKLUND) – Childcare assistance rates modification

The third bill up on the agenda was S.F. 14, authored by Senator Wiklund as follows:

S.F. 14 (Wiklund): Childcare assistance rates modification

Senator Wiklund offers the A3 Authors Amendment.

Senator Wiklund explained the A3 Authors Amendment.

Senator Abeler spoke to S.F. 14 and asked if the intent was to make it a permanent/ongoing appropriation.

Dennis Albrecht, Senate Fiscal Analyst, answered Senator Abeler’s question.

Senator Utke spoke to S.F. 14 and asked a question about the S.F. 14 fiscal note.

On a voice vote, **THE MOTION PREVAILED AND THE A3 AMENDMENT WAS ADOPTED**

Senator Wiklund provided opening remarks and explained Senate File 14, as amended, to the committee.

The following individuals testified on S.F. 14:

- Karen and Thea Devos, Owner and Teacher at Little Learners, testified in support of S.F. 14.
- Monique Stumon, Owner and Director of School Readiness Learning Academy, testified in support of S.F. 14
- Clare Sanford, Government Relations Chair at MN Child Care Association, testified in support of S.F. 14.

Member questions and discussion Followed.

Senator Hoffman spoke to S.F. 14 and raised concerns about Title 2 of the ADA.

Senator Wiklund responded to Senator Hoffman’s concerns.

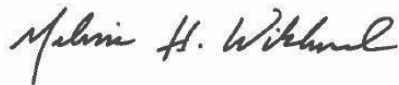
Senator Boldon spoke to S.F. 14.

Senator Wiklund provided closing comments on S.F. 14.

Senator Wiklund moved that Senate File 14, as amended, be recommended to pass and be re-referred to the Committee on Finance.

On a voice vote, **THE MOTION PREVAILED AND SENATE FILE 14, AS AMENDED, WAS PASSED AND REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:59am.



Senator Melissa H. Wiklund



Hailey Ryan, Legislative