

MINNESOTA STATE SENATE

Health & Human Services Finance & Policy Committee

Health and Human Services Committee
Friday, March 24th, 2023
1:00pm Livestream YouTube

Minutes

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

Absent: Senator Alice Mann – Vice Chair

Chair Wklund called the meeting to order at 1:04pm on Friday, March 24th, 2023, in Capitol G-15.

AGENDA ITEM #1: SF 456 (MOHAMED): Hennepin County appropriation for persons experiencing homelessness.

The first bill up on the agenda was S.F. 456, authored by Senator Mohamed as follows:

S.F. 456 (Mohamed): Hennepin County appropriation for persons experiencing homelessness.

Senator Mohamed provided opening comments and explained Senate File 456 to the committee.

The following individuals testified on S.F. 456:

- Jeffery Lunde, Hennepin County Commissioner, District 1, testified in support of S.F. 456.
- David Hewitt, Director of Housing Stability with Hennepin County, testified in support of S.F. 456.

Member questions and discussion followed.

Chair Wklund laid over Senate File 456 for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill.

AGENDA ITEM #2: SF 2042 (KUPEC): Minnesota's schedules of controlled substances modification.

The second bill up on the agenda was S.F. 2042, authored by Senator Kupec as follows:

S.F. 2042 (Kupec): Minnesota's schedules of controlled substances modification.

Senator Kupec provided opening comments and explained Senate File 2042 to the committee.

Member questions and discussion followed.

Senator Kupec moved that Senate File 2042 be recommended to pass and be sent to the Senate Floor

On a voice vote, THE MOTION PREVAILED AND SENATE FILE 2042 WAS PASSED.

AGENDA ITEM #3: SF 2674 (Rarick): Moratorium establishment on green burials in certain locations.

The third bill up on the agenda was S.F. 2674, authored by Senator Rarick as follows:

S.F. 2674 (Rarick): Moratorium establishment on green burials in certain locations.

Senator Rarick provided opening comments and explained Senate File 2674 to the committee.

The following individuals testified on S.F. 2674:

- Mark Thell, private citizen, testified in support of S.F. 2674.
- Eric Braun, private citizen, testified in support of S.F. 2674.

Member questions and discussion followed.

Chair Wklund laid over Senate File 2674 for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill.

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AGENDA ITEM #4: SF 673 (MAYE-QUADE): Family supportive housing programs funding and appropriation.

The fourth bill up on the agenda was S.F. 673, authored by Senator Maye-Quade as follows:

S.F. 673 (Maye-Quade): Family supportive housing programs funding and appropriation

Senator Maye-Quade provided opening comments and explained Senate File 673 to the committee.

The following individuals testified on S.F. 673:

- Rev. Nancy Nord Bence, Public Policy Manager with Beacon Interfaith Collaborative testified in support of S.F. 673.
- Sarah Koschinska, Senior Director of Resident Services with Project for Pride In Living, testified in support of S.F. 673.

Member questions and discussion followed.

Chair Wiklund laid over Senate File 673 for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill.

AGENDA ITEM #5: SF 1891 (MAYE-QUADE): Cultural and ethnic minority infrastructure grant program establishment and appropriation.

The fifth bill up on the agenda was S.F. 1891, authored by Senator Maye-Quade as follows:

S.F. 1891 (Maye-Quade): Cultural and ethnic minority infrastructure grant program establishment and appropriation.

Senator Maye-Quade provided opening comments and explained Senate File 1891 to the committee.

Senator Maye-Quade offered the A1 Amendment.

Senator Boldon moved the A1 Authors Amendment.

On a voice vote, THE MOTION PREVAILED AND THE A1 AUTHORS AMENDMENT WAS ADOPTED.

The following individuals testified on S.F. 1891:

- Sue Abderholden, Executive Director of NAMI Minnesota, testified in support of S.F. 1891.
- Willie Garrett, Minnesota Association of Black Psychologists, testified in support of S.F. 1891.

Member questions and discussion followed.

Chair Wiklund laid over Senate File 1891, as amended, for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill.

AGENDA ITEM #6: SF 1279 (MAYE-QUADE): Provision modifications governing adult adoptee access to their own original birth records and other adoption-related information.

The sixth bill up on the agenda was S.F. 1279, authored by Senator Maye-Quade as follows:

S.F. 1279 (Maye-Quade): Provision modifications governing adult adoptee access to their own original birth records and other adoption-related information.

Senator Maye-Quade provided opening comments and explained Senate File 1279 to the committee.

The following individuals testified on S.F. 1279:

- Gregory Luce, Attorney with the Adoptee Right Law Center, testified in support of S.F. 1279
- Jacqueline Steele, Concerned United Birthparents, testified in support of S.F. 1279
- Penny Needham with the Minnesota Coalition for Adoption Reform, testified in support of S.F. 1279.

Member questions and discussion followed.

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Chair Wiklund laid over Senate File 1279 for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill.

AGENDA ITEM #7: SF 2813 (XIONG): Catholic Charities of St. Paul and Minneapolis appropriation for its operation of the homeless elders program.

The seventh bill up on the agenda was S.F. 2813, authored by Senator Xiong as follows:

S.F. 2813 (Xiong): Catholic Charities of St. Paul and Minneapolis appropriation for its operation of the homeless elders program.

Senator Xiong provided opening comments and explained Senate File 2813 to the committee.

The following individuals testified on S.F. 2813:

- Melea Blanchard, Program Supervisor for Homeless Elders Program with Catholic Charities, testified in support of S.F. 2813.
- Carol Atkinson-Sullivan, Homeless Elder Service recipient, testified in support of S.F. 2813.

Member questions and discussion followed.

Chair Wiklund laid over Senate File 2813 for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill.

AGENDA ITEM #8: SF 460 (LANG): Reimbursement requirements modification for ambulance service volunteer education costs.

The eighth bill up on the agenda was S.F. 460, authored by Senator Lang as follows:

S.F. 460 (Lang): Reimbursement requirements modification for ambulance service volunteer education costs.

Senator Lang provided opening comments and explained Senate File 460 to the committee.

The following individuals testified on S.F. 460:

- Buck McAlpin, Minnesota Ambulance Association, testified in support of S.F. 460.

Member questions and discussion followed.

Chair Wiklund laid over Senate File 460 for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill.

AGENDA ITEM #9: SF 2033 (MARTY): Ramsey County families experiencing homelessness appropriation.

The ninth bill up on the agenda was S.F. 2033, authored by Senator Marty as follows:

S.F. 2033 (Marty): Ramsey County families experiencing homelessness appropriation.

Senator Marty provided opening comments and explained Senate File 2033 to the committee.

The following individuals testified on S.F. 2033:

- Jamie Tincher, St. Paul, Deputy Mayor, testified in support of S.F. 2033.
- Trista MatasCastillo, Chair, Ramsey County Board of Commissioner, testified in support of S.F. 2033
- Randi Ilyse Roth, Executive Director of Interfaith Action of Greater St. Paul, testified in support of S.F. 2033

Member questions and discussion followed.

Chair Wiklund laid over Senate File 2033 for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill.

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AGENDA ITEM #10: SF 2699 (HAUSCHILD): Commissioner of health requirement to provide a grant to a network of federally qualified health centers to support the development of electronic health records.

The tenth bill up on the agenda was S.F. 2699, authored by Senator Hauschild as follows:

S.F. 2699 (Hauschild): Commissioner of health requirement to provide a grant to a network of federally qualified health centers to support the development of electronic health records.

Senator Hauschild provided opening comments and explained Senate File 2699 to the committee.

The following individuals testified on S.F. 2699:

- Jonathan Watson, CEO of Minnesota Association of Community Health Centers, testified in support of S.F. 2699.
- Kate Surbaugh, CEO of Sawtooth Mountain Clinic, testified in support of S.F. 2699.
- Twila Brase, Co-Founder Citizen Council for Health Freedom, testified in opposition of S.F. 2699

Member questions and discussion followed.

Chair Wiklund laid over Senate File 2699 for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill.

AGENDA ITEM #11: SF 2700 (HAUSCHILD): Grant provision for a federally qualified health centers apprenticeship program.

The eleventh bill up on the agenda was S.F. 2700, authored by Senator Hauschild as follows:

S.F. 2700 (Hauschild): Grant provision for a federally qualified health centers apprenticeship program.

Senator Hauschild provided opening comments and explained Senate File 2700 to the committee.

The following individuals testified on S.F. 2700:

- Kate Surbaugh, CEO of Sawtooth Mountain Clinic, testified in support of S.F. 2700.
- Esteffany Ayala, Medical Assistant Apprenticeship Graduate at Cook Clinic, testified in support of S.F. 2700.

Member questions and discussion followed.

Chair Wiklund laid over Senate File 2700 for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill.

AGENDA ITEM #12: SF 1839 (DIBBLE): Safe harbor shelter and housing grant program creation

The twelfth bill up on the agenda was S.F. 1839, authored by Senator Dibble as follows:

S.F. 1839 (Dibble): Safe harbor shelter and housing grant program creation

Senator Dibble provided opening comments and explained Senate File 1839 to the committee.

The following individuals testified on S.F. 1839:

- Beth Holger, CEO of The Link, testified in support of S.F. 1839
- Melanie Young, participant of The Link, testified in support of S.F. 1839

Member questions and discussion followed.

Chair Wiklund laid over Senate File 1839 for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill.

AGENDA ITEM #13: SF 2520 (MORRISON): Tobacco use prevention account establishment and appropriation

The thirteenth bill up on the agenda was S.F. 2520, authored by Senator Morrison as follows:

S.F. 2520 (Morrison): Tobacco use prevention account establishment and appropriation

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Senator Morrison provided opening comments and explained Senate File 2520 to the committee.

Member questions and discussion followed.

Chair Wiklund laid over Senate File 2520 for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill.

AGENDA ITEM #14: SF 2053 (BOLDON): Olmsted County appropriation for persons experiencing homelessness.

The fourteenth bill up on the agenda was S.F. 2053, authored by Senator Boldon as follows:

S.F. 2053 (Boldon): Olmsted County appropriation for persons experiencing homelessness.

Senator Boldon moved and explained the A1 Authors Amendment.

On a voice vote, THE MOTION PREVAILED AND THE A1 AUTHORS AMENDMENT WAS ADOPTED.

Senator Boldon provided opening comments and explained Senate File 2053, as amended, to the committee.

The following individuals testified on S.F. 2053:

- Dave Dunn, Olmstead County Housing Director, testified in support of S.F. 2053.

Member questions and discussion followed.

Chair Wiklund laid over Senate File 2053, as amended, for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill.

Chair Wiklund passed the gavel to Senator Boldon

AGENDA ITEM #15: SF 1679 (WIKLUND): Programs expansion and establishment to address the health and human services workforce shortage.

The fifteenth bill up on the agenda was S.F. 1679, authored by Senator Wiklund as follows:

S.F. 1679 (Wiklund): Programs expansion and establishment to address the health and human services workforce shortage.

Senator Wiklund provided opening comments and explained Senate File 1679 to the committee.

The following individuals testified on S.F. 1679:

- Sue Abderholden, Executive Director of NAMI Minnesota, testified in support of S.F. 1679.
- Phoua Yang, Vice President of Community Mental Health and Wellness at the Wilder Foundation, testified in support of SF. 1679.
- Dr. Amanda Schlesinger, Child Psychiatrist at the University of Minnesota Medical School, testified in support of S.F. 1679.

Member questions and discussion followed.

Chair Boldon laid over Senate File 1679 for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill.

Chair Boldon handed the gavel back to Senator Wiklund.

AGENDA ITEM #16: SF 2821 (SEEBERGER): Grants establishment for medical resource communication centers.

The sixteenth bill up on the agenda was S.F. 2821 authored by Senator Seeberger as follows:

S.F. 2821 (Seeberger): Grants establishment for medical resource communication centers.

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Senator Seeberger provided opening comments and explained Senate File 2821 to the committee.

The following individuals testified on S.F. 2821:

- Dr. Haley Taromina, EMS & Emergency Medicine Physician at Regions Hospital, testified in support of S.F. 2821.
- Dr. Nick Simpson Chief Medical Director Hennepin EMS with Hennepin Healthcare, testified in support of S.F. 2821.
- Dylan Ferguson, Executive Director of Minnesota Emergency Medical Services Regulatory Board, testified on S.F. 2821.

Member questions and discussion followed.

Chair Wiklund laid over Senate File 2821 for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill.

AGENDA ITEM #17: SF 1017 (SEEBERGER): Emergency Medical Services Regulatory Board appropriation for grants to regional emergency medical services programs.

The seventeenth bill up on the agenda was S.F. 1017 authored by Senator Seeberger as follows:

S.F. 1017 (Seeberger): Emergency Medical Services Regulatory Board appropriation for grants to regional emergency medical services programs.

Senator Seeberger provided opening comments and explained Senate File 1017 to the committee.

The following individuals testified on S.F. 1017:

- Jill Rohret, Executive Director of Metropolitan Emergency Services Board, testified in support of S.F. 1017.
- Tom Vanderwal, with Greater Northwest EMS testified in support of S.F. 1017.

Member questions and discussion followed.

Chair Wiklund laid over Senate File 1017 for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill.



Senator Melissa H. Wiklund



Hailey Ryan, Legislative Assistant