

# Minnesota State Senate

Education Policy Committee  
Monday, March 4, 2024  
12:30 PM, 1200 Minnesota Senate Bldg.

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## Minutes

**Present:** Senator Steve A. Cwodzinski - Chair, Senator Erin K. Maye Quade Vice Chair, Senator Jim Abeler, Senator Liz Boldon, Senator Julia E. Coleman, Senator Zach Duckworth, Senator Mary K. Kunesh, Senator Alice Mann, Senator Nathan Wesenberg

**Absent:** Senator Grant Hauschild

Senator Steve A. Cwodzinski called the meeting to order at 12:30 PM on March 4th, 2024, in Room 1200 of the Minnesota Senate Building. The Committee Legislative Assistant noted the roll. A quorum was present.

**S.F. 2998: Senator Kunesh: Smudging permission in public schools.**

Senator Kunesh presented SF 2998  
The following individuals testified on S.F.2998:  
Beth Tepper, Robindale Area Schools  
Kailani Lawrence, Indigenous Peoples Task Force Youth Program  
Michael Perez, Indigenous Peoples Task Force Youth Program  
Suzanne Nash, Indigenous Peoples Task Force  
Mr. Vern Rowe, Northeast Middle School

As amended, laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill.

**S.F. 3746: Senator Kunesh: Health education academic standards in schools provision and appropriation.**

Senator Kunesh Presented the bill  
  
Senate Counsel walked through the bill

The following individuals testified on S.F.3746:  
Cynthia Bauerly, Women’s Foundation of Minnesota  
Dr. Eileen Crespo, American Academy of Pediatrics  
Hunter Beckstrom, Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault  
Darian Lofton, Cannabis Awareness Education Council for Youth

Senator Kunesh moved that S.F. 3746, as amended, recommended to pass and re-referred to the State and Local Government and Veterans Committee. - **MOTION PREVAILED.**

**S.F. 3567: Senator Cwodzinski: Pre-kindergarten through grade 12 provision modifications \*(Informational Only)\*.**

Senator Cwodzinski moved that an informational hearing be held on SF 3567 be heard. Testimony only.

The following individuals testified on S.F.3567:  
Matt Shaver, EdAllies  
Tanya Prince, Osseo School Board ISD 279

Avonna Starck, Fridley School Board, Fridley Public Schools  
Kate Lynne Snyder, Education Minnesota

Discussion only.

**S.F. 3450: Senator Gustafson: Charter school provisions modifications.**

Senator Gustafson presented SF 3450

The following individuals testified on S.F.3746:  
Joey Cienian, Minnesota Association of Charter Schools  
Dr. Brett Wedlund, Nova Classical Academy  
Dr. Meg Cavalier, St. Paul City School  
Elissa Raffa, Minnesota Online High School

Senator Cwodzinski moved that S.F. 3450, be laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill.

**The meeting was adjourned at 2:21 pm**

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**Senator Steve A. Cwodzinski, Chair**

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**Chelsea Barks, Legislative Assistant**