

# MINNESOTA STATE SENATE

## HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

Health & Human Services Committee  
Tuesday, March 12th, 2024  
8:30 am 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:**

Chair Wiklund called the meeting to order at 8:36 am on Tuesday, March 12th, 2024, in Room 1100 of the Minnesota Senate Building. A quorum was present.

**AGENDA ITEM #1: Senate File 4444 (PORT): Annual adverse health event report publication continuation requirement provision, retaliation against patient care staff prohibition, and enforcement provisions**

The first item on the agenda was Senate File 4444 authored by Senator Port as follows:

**Senate File 4444 (Port):** Annual adverse health event report publication continuation requirement provision, retaliation against patient care staff prohibition, and enforcement provisions

Senator Port provided opening remarks and explained Senate File 4444 to the committee.

**The following individuals testified on Senate File 4444**

- Chris Rubesch, Elected President of the MN Nurses Association, testified in support of Senate File 4444.
- Ryan Hilmoe, registered nurse and private citizen, testified in support of Senate File 4444.

Senator Port explained the A1 Amendment.

Senator Abeler moved the A1 Amendment.

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

**Continuation of testimony for Senate File 4444:**

- Chelsea Schafter, registered nurse and private citizen, testified in support of Senate File 4444.
- Rachel Ballard, registered nurse and private citizen, testified in support of Senate File 4444.
- David Clanaugh, representing the MN Association of Professional Employees, testified in support of Senate File 4444.
- Kelly Hagen, registered nurse and Chief Nursing Officer at Rainy Lake Medical Center, testified in opposition to Senate File 4444.
- Adam Karlen, registered nurses and Chief Nursing Officer at M Health Fairview Southdale Hospital, testified in opposition to Senate File 4444.
- Ethan Vogel, legislative director for AFSCME Council 5 testified in support of Senate File 4444.
- Brad Lehto, Secretary & Treasurer for MN AFL-CIO, testified in support of Senate File 4444.
- Diana Tastad-Damer, Legislative and Political Director with UFCW Local 1189, testified in support of Senate File 4444

Member questions and discussion followed.

**Senator Abeler moved that Senate File 4444, as amended, be recommended to pass and be re-referred to the committee on Labor**

**On a voice vote, THE MOTION PREVAILED AND SENATE FILE 4444, AS AMENDED, WAS PASSED AND REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR.**

**Chair Wiklund recessed the committee at 9:33am.**

**Chair Wiklund reconvened the committee at 9:42am.**

**AGENDA ITEM #2: Senate File 4101 (MOHAMED): Nursing educational loan forgiveness program provisions modifications and appropriation**

The second item on the agenda was Senate File 4101, authored by Senator Mohamed follows:

**Senate File 4101 (Boldon):** Nursing educational loan forgiveness program provisions modifications and appropriation

Senator Mohamed provided opening remarks and explained Senate File 4101 to the committee.

Senator Kupec moved the A1 Amendment.

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

**The following individuals testified on Senate File 4101:**

- Rachel Hanneman, BSN, RN, private citizen, testified in support of Senate File 4101.
- Katie Kottenbrock, Government Affairs Specialist, testified on Senate File 4101

Member questions and discussion followed.

**Chair Wiklund laid over Senate File 4101, as amended, for possible inclusion in an omnibus bill.**

**Chair Wiklund passed the gavel to Senator Mann who assumed the role of Chair**

**AGENDA ITEM #3: Senate File 4699 (WIKLUND): Commissioner of health appropriation correction**

The third item on the agenda was Senate File 4699 authored by Senator Wiklund as follows:

**Senate File 4699 (Wiklund):** Commissioner of health appropriation correction

Senator Wiklund provided opening remarks and explained Senate File 4699 to the committee.

Member questions and discussion followed.

**Chair Mann laid over Senate File 4699 for possible inclusion in an omnibus bill.**

**AGENDA ITEM #4: Senate File 2437 (WIKLUND): Childcare assistance obsolete language removal**

The fourth item on the agenda was Senate File 2437, authored by Senator Wiklund as follows:

**Senate File 2437 (Wiklund):** Childcare assistance obsolete language removal

Senator Wiklund provided opening remarks and explained Senate File 2437 to the committee.

Member questions and discussion followed.

Chair Wiklund moved that Senate File 2437 be recommended to pass and be referred to the Floor.

**On a voice vote, THE MOTION PREVAILED AND SENATE FILE 2437 WAS PASSED AND SENT TO THE FLOOR.**

**Chair Mann passed the gavel to Senator Wiklund who resumed the role of Chair.**

**AGENDA ITEM #5: Senate File 4382 (KUPEC): Notice and public hearings for hospital closures, curtailment of operations, relocation of services, and cessation in offering certain services requirement modifications, penalties provisions, right of first refusal before the sale of a hospital or hospital campus**

The fifth item on the agenda was Senate File 4382, authored by Senator Kupec as follows:

**Senate File 4382 (Kupec):** Notice and public hearings for hospital closures, curtailment of operations, relocation of services, and cessation in offering certain services requirement modifications, penalties provisions, right of first refusal before the sale of a hospital or hospital campus

Senator Kupec provided opening remarks and explained Senate File 4382 to the committee.

**The following individuals testified on Senate File 4382:**

- o Daniel Clute, registered nurse and private citizen, testified in support of Senate File 4382.

Senator Kupec moved the A1 Amendment.

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

**Continuation of testimony on Senate File 4382:**

- o Cassie Heide, City Administrator for the City of Fosston, testified in support of Senate File 4382.
- o Justin Stofferhan, representing the Minnesota Farmers Union, testified in support of Senate File 4382.
- o Eric Immler, representing SEIU MN and Iowa, testified in support of Senate File 4382.
- o Mary Krinkie, Vice President of Government Relations, testified in opposition to Senate File 4382.

Member questions and discussion followed.

**Chair Wiklund laid over Senate File 4382, as amended, for possible inclusion in an omnibus bill.**

**Chair Wiklund recessed the committee at 10:33am.**

**Chair Wiklund called the committee back to order at 6:07pm**

**AGENDA ITEM #6 Senate File 4474 (HOFFMAN): Asset verification system authorization clarification; tax credits, rebates and refunds exclusion from income establishment; electronic notice to human services commissioner for probate matters authorization, health care administration statutory corrections implementation**

The sixth item on the agenda was Senate File 4474, authored by Senator Hoffman as follows:

**Senate File 4474 (Hoffman):** Asset verification system authorization clarification; tax credits, rebates and refunds exclusion from income establishment; electronic notice to human services commissioner for probate matters authorization; health care administration statutory corrections implementation

Senator Hoffman moved the A1 Amendment

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

Senator Hoffman provided opening remarks and explained Senate File 4474, as amended, to the committee.

**The following individuals testified on Senate File 4474:**

- o Ann Bobst, Director of Legislative and External Affairs, Health Care Administration with MN Department of Human Services testified on Senate File 4474.

Member questions and discussion followed.

**Chair Wiklund laid over Senate File 4474, as amended, for possible inclusion in an omnibus bill.**

**AGENDA ITEM #7 Senate File 4448 (BOLDON): Department of Human Services disability services and substance use disorder services policy bill**

The seventh item on the agenda was Senate File 4448, authored by Senator Boldon as follows:

**Senate File 4448 (Boldon):** Department of Human Services disability services and substance use disorder services policy bill

Senator Boldon provided opening remarks and explained Senate File 4448 to the committee.

**The following individuals testified on Senate File 4448:**

- Kristy Graume – Director of Legislative & External Affairs for Behavioral Health, Disability Services, and Housing-Minnesota Department of Human Services, testified on Senate File 4448.

Member questions and discussion followed.

**Chair Wiklund laid over Senate File 4448 for possible inclusion in an omnibus bill.**

**AGENDA ITEM #8 Senate File 4618 (BOLDON): Department of Human Services Office of Inspector General executive bill on children's licensing issues**

The eighth item on the agenda was Senate File 4618, authored by Senator Boldon as follows:

**Senate File 4618 (Boldon):** Department of Human Services Office of Inspector General executive bill on children's licensing issues

Senator Boldon provided opening remarks and explained Senate File 4618 to the committee.

**The following individuals testified on Senate File 4618:**

- Ari Didion, Acting Legislative Director for the Office of Inspector General at the MN Department of Human Services, testified on Senate File 4618.

Senator Boldon moved and explained the A1 Amendment.

Member questions and discussion on the A1 Amendment followed.

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

Senator Boldon moved and explained the A2 Amendment.

Tom Johnson, Deputy Inspector General for Program Integrity at the Minnesota Department of Human Services, testified on the A2 Amendment.

Member questions and discussion on the A2 Amendment followed.

**Senator Boldon withdrew the A2 Amendment.**

Senator Boldon moved the A3 Amendment.

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

Member questions and discussion followed.

Senator Boldon moved that Senate File 4618, as amended, be recommended to pass and be re-referred to the committee on Judiciary and Public Safety

**On a voice vote, THE MOTION PREVAILED AND SENATE FILE 4618, AS AMENDED, WAS PASSED AND REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND PUBLIC SAFETY.**

**AGENDA ITEM #9 Senate File 4662 (MANN): Kickbacks prohibition in human services benefits**

The ninth item on the agenda was Senate File 4662, authored by Senator Mann as follows:

**Senate File 4662 (Mann):** Kickbacks prohibition in human services benefits

Senator Mann provided opening remarks and explained Senate File 4662 to the committee.

**The following individuals testified on Senate File 4662:**

- Ari Didion, Acting Legislative Director for the Office of Inspector General at the MN Department of Human Services, testified on Senate File 4662.

Senator Mann moved and explained the A1 Amendment.

Member questions and discussion on the A1 Amendment followed.

Tom Johnson, Deputy Inspector General for Program Integrity at the Minnesota Department of Human Services, testified on the A1 Amendment

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

Member questions and discussion followed.

Senator Mann moved that Senate File 4662, as amended, be recommended to pass and be re-referred to the committee on Judiciary and Public Safety

**On a voice vote, THE MOTION PREVAILED AND SENATE FILE 4662, AS AMENDED, WAS PASSED AND REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND PUBLIC SAFETY.**

**AGENDA ITEM #10 Senate File 4665 (MANN): Department of Human Services Office of Inspector general policy bill**

The tenth item on the agenda was Senate File 4665, authored by Senator Mann as follows:

**Senate File 4665 (Mann):** Department of Human Services Office of Inspector general policy bill

Senator Mann provided opening remarks and explained Senate File 4665 to the committee.

**The following individuals testified on Senate File 4665:**

- Ari Didion, Acting Legislative Director for the Office of Inspector General at the MN Department of Human Services, testified on Senate File 4665.

Senator Mann moved and explained the A1 Amendment.

Member questions and discussion on the A1 Amendment followed.

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

Member questions and discussion followed.

Dawn Davis, Deputy Inspector General for the Background Studies Division at the Office of Inspector General at MN Department of Human Services, testified on Senate File 4665.

Emily Kasane, Policy Analyst with the Background Studies Division at the Office of Inspector General at MN Department of Human Services testified on Senate File 4665.

Matthew Bergeron, representing the MN Alliance of Rural Addiction Treatment Programs, testified on Senate File 4665.

Senator Mann moved that Senate File 4665, as amended, be recommended to pass and be re-referred to the committee on Judiciary and Public Safety

**On a voice vote, THE MOTION PREVAILED AND SENATE FILE 4665, AS AMENDED, WAS PASSED AND REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND PUBLIC SAFETY.**

**Chair Wiklund handed over the gavel to Senator Mann who assumed the role of Chair.**

**AGENDA ITEM #11 Senate File 4572 (WIKLUND): Department of Human Services child placement and safety executive bill**

The eleventh item on the agenda was Senate File 4572, authored by Senator Wiklund as follows:

**Senate File 4572 (Wiklund):** Department of Human Services child placement and safety executive bill

Senator Wiklund moved the A1 Amendment.

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

Senator Wiklund provided opening remarks and explained Senate File 4572, as amended to the committee.

**The following individuals testified on Senate File 4572:**

- Jennifer Sommerfeld, Legislative Director with the MN Department of Human Services, testified on Senate File 4572.
- Nicholas Demm, Director of Legislation and Internal Affairs for the Department of Human Service's Child and Family Services Administration Services,

Member questions and discussion followed.

Senator Wiklund moved that Senate File 4572, as amended, be recommended to pass and be re-referred to the committee on Judiciary and Public Safety

**On a voice vote, THE MOTION PREVAILED AND SENATE FILE 4572 AS AMENDED, WAS PASSED AND REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND PUBLIC SAFETY.**

**AGENDA ITEM #12 Senate File 4777 (WIKLUND): Changing certain MNsure reporting requirements provisio**

The twelfth item on the agenda was Senate File 4777, authored by Senator Wiklund as follows:

**Senate File 4777 (Wiklund):** Changing certain MNsure reporting requirements provisio

Senator Wiklund provided opening remarks and explained Senate File 4777 to the committee.

**The following individuals testified on Senate File 4777:**

- Erika Helvick, Senior Director of Public Affairs with MNsure , testified on Senate File 4777.

Member questions and discussion followed.

**Chair Mann laid over Senate File 4777 for possible inclusion in an omnibus bill.**

**AGENDA ITEM #13 Senate File 4573 (WIKLUND): Various health related provisions modifications**

The thirteenth item on the agenda was Senate File 4573, authored by Senator Wiklund as follows:

**Senate File 4573 (Wiklund):** Various health related provisions modifications

Senator Wiklund provided opening remarks and explained Senate File 4573 to the committee.

Senator Wiklund moved the A1 Amendment

Liam Monahan, Analyst with Senate Counsel, testified on the A1 Amendment

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

Senator Wiklund moved the A2 Amendment

Lisa Thimjon, Director of Government Relations with MN Department of Health, testified on the A2 Amendment.

**On a voice vote, THE MOTION PREVAILED AND THE A2 AMENDMENT WAS ADOPTED.**

Senator Wiklund moved the A3 Amendment

Liam Monahan, Analyst with Senate Counsel, testified on the A3 Amendment.

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

**The following individuals testified on Senate File 4573:**

- Dr. Brooke Cunningham, Commissioner for the MN Department of Health, testified on Senate File 4573.

- Daphne Ponds, Executive Operations Manager for the Assisted Living Home Care Program with MN Department of Health

Member questions and discussion followed.

Senator Wiklund moved that Senate File 4573, as amended, be recommended to pass and be re-referred to the committee on Human Services

**On a voice vote, THE MOTION PREVAILED AND SENATE FILE 4573, AS AMENDED, WAS PASSED AND REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICE**

**AGENDA ITEM #14 Senate File 4860 (WIKLUND): Vital record provisions modifications**

The fourteenth item on the agenda was Senate File 4860, authored by Senator Wiklund as follows:

**Senate File 4860 (Wiklund): Vital record provisions modifications**

Senator Wiklund provided opening remarks and explained Senate File 4860, to the committee.

**The following individuals testified on Senate File 4860:**

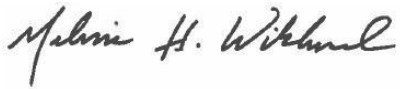
- Dr. Brooke Cunningham, Commissioner for the MN Department of Health, testified on Senate File 4860.
- Lisa Thimjon, Director of Government Relations with MN Department of Health, testified on Senate File 4860

Member questions and discussion followed.

Senator Wiklund moved that Senate File 4860 be recommended to pass and be re-referred to the committee on Judiciary and Public Safety

**On a voice vote, THE MOTION PREVAILED AND SENATE FILE 4860 WAS PASSED AND REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUDICAIKY AND PUBLIC SAFETY.**

**Chair Mann adjourned the meeting at 8:21pm.**



Senator Melissa H. Wiklund



Hailey Ryan, Legislative Assistant

