

# MINNESOTA STATE SENATE

## HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

Health & Human Services Committee  
Thursday, April 4th, 2024  
8:30 am Livestream YouTube

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### 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:**

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Chair Wiklund called the meeting to order at 8:36 am on Thursday, April 4th, 2024, in Room 1100 of the Minnesota Senate Building. A quorum was present.

**AGENDA ITEM #1: Senate File 3968 (MANN): SNAP as medicine program establishment; appropriating money**

The first item on the agenda was Senate File 3968, authored by Senator Mann as follows:

**Senate File 3968 (Mann): SNAP as medicine program establishment; appropriating money**

Senator Mann moved the A1 Amendment.

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

**Senator Mann provided opening remarks and explained Senate File 3968, as amended, to the committee.**

Member questions and discussion followed.

**The following individuals testified on Senate File 3968**

- Lauren Webster, staff attorney with Legal Aid, testified in support of Senate File 3968.
- Lisa Lane, Director of Public Policy at Open Arms Minnesota, testified in support of Senate File 3968

Member questions and discussion followed.

**Chair Wiklund laid over Senate File 3968, as amended, for possible inclusion in an omnibus bill.**

**AGENDA ITEM #2: Senate File 3969 (MANN): Commissioner of human services application for a federal waiver to provide nutrition supports as a covered service under medical assistance requirement**

The second item on the agenda was Senate File 3969, authored by Senator Mann follows:

**Senate File 3969 (Mann):** Commissioner of human services application for a federal waiver to provide nutrition supports as a covered service under medical assistance requirement

Senator Mann moved the A2 Amendment.

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

Senator Mann provided opening remarks and explained Senate File 3969, as amended, to the committee.

**The following individuals testified on Senate File 3969:**

- Lisa Lane, Director of Public Policy of Minnesota, testified in support of Senate File 3969.

Member questions and discussion followed.

**Chair Wiklund laid over Senate File 3969, as amended, for possible inclusion in an omnibus bill.**

**AGENDA ITEM #3: Senate File 4058 (BOLDON): Commissioner of human services authorization to provide separate reimbursement for biological products provided in the inpatient hospital setting as part of cell or gene therapy to treat rare diseases**

The third item on the agenda was Senate File 4058 authored by Senator Boldon as follows:

**Senate File 4058 (Boldon):** Commissioner of human services authorization to provide separate reimbursement for biological products provided in the inpatient hospital setting as part of cell or gene therapy to treat rare diseases

Senator Boldon moved the A3 Amendment.

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

Senator Boldon provided opening remarks and explained Senate File 4058, as amended, to the committee.

**The following individuals testified on Senate File 4058:**

- Erica Barnes, Executive Director of the Minnesota Rare Disease Advisory Council, testified in support of Senate File 4058.
- Rae Blaylark, founder of Sickle Cell Foundation of Minnesota, testified in support of Senate File 4058.
- Danny Ackert, Director of State Government Relations with Minnesota Hospital Association, testified on Senate File 4058.

Member questions and discussion followed.

Senator Boldon provided closing comments on Senate File 4058

**Chair Wiklund laid over Senate File 4058, as amended, for possible inclusion in an omnibus bill.**

**AGENDA ITEM #4: Senate File 4843 (GRUENHAGEN): Health plan companies and county-based purchasing plans providing prescription drug coverage in the medical assistance program dispensing fee requirements establishment**

The fourth item on the agenda was Senate File 4843, authored by Senator Gruenhagen as follows:

**Senate File 4843 (Gruenhagen):** Health plan companies and county-based purchasing plans providing prescription drug coverage in the medical assistance program dispensing fee requirements establishment

Senator Mann moved the A1 Amendment.

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

Senator Gruenhagen provided opening remarks and explained Senate File 4843, as amended, to the committee.

**The following individuals testified on Senate File 4843:**

- Debra Keaveny pharmacist, owner of Keaveney Drug and founder Minnesota Independent Pharmacies, testified in support of Senate File 4843.
- John Hoeschen, owner of St. Paul Corner Drug, testified in support of Senate File 4843.

Member questions and discussion followed.

Senator Gruenhagen provided closing comments on Senate File 4843.

**Chair Wiklund laid over Senate File 4843, as amended, for possible inclusion in an omnibus bill.**

**AGENDA ITEM #5: Senate File 5123 (MANN): Commissioner of human services requirement to establish a direct pharmacy dispensing payment to improve and maintain access to pharmaceutical services**

The fifth item on the agenda was Senate File 5123, authored by Senator Mann as follows:

**Senate File 5123 (Mann):** Commissioner of human services requirement to establish a direct pharmacy dispensing payment to improve and maintain access to pharmaceutical services

Senator Mann moved the A2 Amendment.

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

Senator Mann provided opening remarks and explained Senate File 5123, as amended, to the committee.

**The following individuals testified on Senate File 5123:**

- John Hoeshen, owner of St. Paul Corner Drug, testified in support of Senate File 5123.
- Steve Simonson, pharmacist and managing partner with Goodrich Pharmacy & representative of the Minnesota Pharmacy alliance, testified in support of Senate File 5123.
- Ann Bobst, Director of Legislative and External Affairs, HealthCare Administration with the Minnesota Department of Human Services testified on Senate File 5123.

Member questions and discussion followed.

**Chair Wiklund laid over Senate File 5123, as amended, for possible inclusion in an omnibus bill.**

**AGENDA ITEM #6: Senate File 5159 (MANN): Manufacturers and wholesale distributors prohibition from limiting pharmacy access to 340B drugs**

The sixth item on the agenda was Senate File 5159, authored by Senator Mann as follows:

**Senate File 5159 (Mann):** Manufacturers and wholesale distributors prohibition from limiting pharmacy access to 340B drugs

Senator Mann moved the A1 Amendment.

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

Senator Mann provided opening remarks and explained Senate File 5159, as amended, to the committee.

**The following individuals testified on Senate File 5159:**

- Kenzie Homen, Vice President of integrated care with Essentia Health, testified in support of Senate File 5159.
- Rochelle Westlund, Director of Public Policy Minnesota Association of Community Health Centers, testified in support of Senate File 5159.
- Chris Jacobson, CEO Johnson Memorial Health Services, testified in support of Senate File 5159.
- Katelin Lucariello, Deputy Vice President for state policy with Pharma, testified in opposition to Senate File 5159.

Member questions and discussion followed.

Senator Mann moved that Senate File 5159, as amended, be recommended to pass and be re-referred to the committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection.

**On a voice vote, THE MOTION PREVAILED AND SENATE FILE 5159 WAS PASSED AND REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION.**

**AGENDA ITEM #7: Senate File 4185 (GUSTAFSON): Minnesota food bank program established and appropriation**

The seventh item on the agenda was Senate File 4185, authored by Senator Gustafson as follows:

**Senate File 4185 (Gustafson):** Minnesota food bank program established and appropriation

Senator Abeler moved the A1 Amendment.

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

Senator Gustafson provided opening remarks and explained Senate File 4185, as amended, to the committee.

**The following individuals testified on Senate File 4185:**

- Sarah Moberg, Chief Operating Officer for Second Harvest Heartland, testified in support of Senate File 4185.
- Lisa Williams, private citizen, testified in support of Senate File 4185.

Member questions and discussion followed.

**Chair Wiklund laid over Senate File 4185, 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 #8: Senate File 5082 (WIKLUND): Human services forecast adjustments and appropriation**

The eighth item on the agenda was Senate File 5082, authored by Senator Wiklund as follows:

**Senate File 5082 (Wiklund):** Human services forecast adjustments and appropriation

Senator Wiklund provided opening remarks and explained Senate File 5082 to the committee.

Member questions and discussion followed.

Senator Wiklund moved that Senate File 5082 be recommended to pass and be referred to the committee on Finance.

**On a voice vote, THE MOTION PREVAILED AND SENATE FILE 5082 WAS PASSED AND REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.**

**AGENDA ITEM #9: Senate File 5133 (WIKLUND): Human services forecast adjustments**

The ninth item on the agenda was Senate File 5133, authored by Senator Wiklund as follows:

**Senate File 5133 (Wiklund):** Human services forecast adjustments

Senator Wiklund provided opening remarks and explained Senate File 5133 to the committee.

**The following individuals testified on Senate File 5133:**

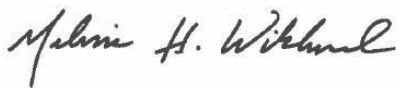
- Nathaniel Olson, private citizen, testified on Senate File 5133.

Member questions and discussion followed.

Senator Wiklund moved that Senate File 5133 be recommended to pass and be referred to the committee on Finance.

**On a voice vote, THE MOTION PREVAILED AND SENATE FILE 5133 WAS PASSED AND REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.**

**Chair Mann adjourned the meeting at 10:38am.**



Senator Melissa H. Wiklund



Hailey Ryan, Legislative Assistant

