

# Minnesota State Senate

Jobs and Economic Development Committee  
Monday, March 4, 2024  
12:30 PM, 1100 Minnesota Senate Bldg.

▲  
Print

## Minutes

Present: Senator Bobby Joe Champion - Chair, Senator Zaynab Mohamed Vice Chair, Senator Rich Draheim, Senator Heather Gustafson, Senator FOUNG Hawj, Senator Carla J. Nelson, Senator Eric R. Pratt, Senator Aric Putnam

Absent: Senator Karin Housley

Chair Senator Champion calls the hybrid Jobs and Economic Development Committee Meeting to order at 12:33pm conducted in Minnesota Senate Building room 1100 and over zoom broadcast. (BOLD IF PRESENT) Chair, Senator Champion: Present Vice Chair, Senator Mohamed: Present Ranking, Senator Draheim: Present Senator Gustafson: Present Senator Hawj: Present Senator Housley: Absent Senator Pratt: Present Senator Putnam: Present Senator Nelson: Present A quorum is present

### Call To Order

### Confirmation Hearing for DEED Commissioner Matt Varilek

Confirmation Hearing for DEED Commissioner Matt Varilek begins at 12:35pm by Matt Varilek and ends at 12:44pm.

The confirmation was halted for questioning at 12:44pm and resumed at 12:44pm

Senator Mohamed motions to recommend that DEED Commissioner, Matt Varilek be confirmed and sent to the Senate Floor at 12:44pm.

The motion prevails at 12:45pm.

Senator Mohamed moved that Confirmation Hearing for DEED Commissioner Matt Varilek, be recommended to pass and placed on the Consent Calendar. - MOTION PREVAILED.

### Explore Minnesota Program Overview

**Testifier:**  
Lauren Bennett McGinty, Executive Director, Explore MN

Explore Minnesota Program Overview begins at 12:45pm by Lauren Bennett McGinty, Executive Director, Explore MN, and ends at 01:05pm.

The overview was halted for questioning at 01:05pm and resumed at 01:08pm.

#### **Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board Program Overview**

**Testifier:**

**Al Becicka – Deputy Commissioner, IRRRB**

Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board Program Overview begins at 01:09pm by Al Becicka – Deputy Commissioner, IRRRB and ends at 1:25pm.

Questions and comments on the full Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board Program Overview begins at 1:25pm and ends at 1:28pm

---

The meeting was adjourned at 1:29pm



---

**Senator Bobby Joe Champion, Chair**



---

**Alexis Varner, Legislative Assistant**