

Minnesota State Senate

Environment, Climate, and Legacy Committee
Tuesday, March 18, 2025
3:00 PM, 1150 Minnesota Senate Bldg.

Minutes

Present: Senator FOUNG HAWJ - **Chair**, Senator Jennifer A. McEwen - **Vice Chair**, Senator Steve Green, Senator Grant Hauschild, Senator John A. Hoffman, Senator Ann M. Johnson Stewart, Senator Mary K. Kunes, Senator Andrew R. Lang, Senator Nathan Wesenberg

Absent: Senator Justin D. Eichorn - **Ranking Minority Member**

Senator FOUNG HAWJ called the meeting to order at 3:08pm.

Call To Order

S.F. 911: Senator Pappas: Hmong Cultural Center of Minnesota appropriation.

The following individuals testified on S.F.0911:

- o Txongpao Lee, Executive Director, Hmong Cultural Center

Senator Hawj moved that S.F. 911, be laid over. - **MOTION ADOPTED.**

S.F. 2070: Senator Mann: Comunidades Latinas Unidas En Servicio (CLUES) appropriation.

The following individuals testified on S.F.2070:

- o Ruby Lee, President and CEO, CLUES
- o Dr. Carla Manzoni, Director of Arts and Cultural Engagement, CLUES
- o Adriana Gordillo, Artist

Senator Hawj moved that S.F. 2070, be laid over. - **MOTION ADOPTED.**

S.F. 1576: Senator Xiong: Hmong veterans of the Secret War in Laos oral histories preservation appropriation.

The following individuals testified on S.F.1576:

- o Megan Lee, Board Member, SGU Veterans and Families of USA
- o Youa Ying Vang, SGU Veterans and Families of USA

Senator Hawj moved that S.F. 1576, be laid over. - **MOTION ADOPTED.**

S.F. 2158: Senator Champion: Phyllis Wheatley Community Center appropriation.

The following individuals testified on S.F.2158:

- o Amondo Dickerson, Managing Director, Phyllis Wheatley Community Center
- o Zina Johnson, Director, Mary T. Wellcome Child Development Center

Senator Hawj moved that S.F. 2158, be laid over. - **MOTION ADOPTED.**

S.F. 2448: Senator Kunesh: Regional library systems appropriation and prior appropriations modifications.

The following individuals testified on S.F.2448:

- o Erin Smith, Director, Viking Library System (REMOTE)
- o Jody Wacker, Meinders Community Library (REMOTE)
- o Amanda Xiong, Saint Paul Public Library

Senator Kunesh moved that S.F. 2448, be laid over. - **MOTION ADOPTED.**

S.F. 2054: Senator Fateh: Somali Museum of Minnesota appropriation.

The following individuals testified on S.F.2054:

- o Osman Ali, Executive Director, Somali Museum of Minnesota

Senator Hawj moved that S.F. 2054, be laid over. - **MOTION ADOPTED.**

S.F. 1605: Senator Hawj: Minnesota Humanities Center appropriation.

The following individuals testified on S.F.1605:

- o Kevin Lindsey, CEO of Minnesota Humanities Center

Senator Hawj moved that S.F. 1605, be laid over. - **MOTION ADOPTED.**

S.F. 2113: Senator Hoffman: Public television grants appropriation.

The following individuals testified on S.F.2113:

- o Patty Mester, President, Minnesota Public Television Association
- o Randal Dietrich, Minnesota Military Museum
- o Bill Strusinski, Minnesota Public Television Association

Senator Hoffman moved that S.F. 2113, be laid over. - **MOTION ADOPTED.**

S.F. 2046: Senator Hawj: Gordan Parks celebration of life appropriation.

The following individuals testified on S.F.2046:

- o Robin Hickman-Winfield, CEO, SoulTouch Productions
- o Don Shelby, Former WCCO News Anchor & Producer

Senator Hawj moved that S.F. 2046, be laid over. - **MOTION ADOPTED.**

S.F. 2048: Senator Hawj: Southeast Asian American film festival and Hmong music festival appropriation.

The following individuals testified on S.F.2048:

- o Va-Megn Thoj, Executive Director, AEDA (Asian Economic Development Association)
- o Bee Vang, Actor/Writer

Senator Hawj moved that S.F. 2048, as amended, laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill. - **MOTION ADOPTED.**

S.F. 1708: Senator Howe: City of Little Falls Minnesota Fishing Museum and Hall of Fame appropriation.

The following individuals testified on S.F.1708:

- o Brenda Cheryl Perlowski, Minnesota State Fishing Museum and Hall of Fame
- o Gary Osberg, Minnesota State Fishing Museum and Hall of Fame

Senator Hawj moved that S.F. 1708, be laid over. - **MOTION ADOPTED.**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:18pm



Senator Fong Hawj, Chair



Maikao Vue, Legislative Assistant