

MINNESOTA STATE SENATE

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

Health & Human Services Committee
Tuesday, March 18th, 2025
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 Mark Koran, Senator Rob Kupec, Senator Bill Lieske Senator Lindsey Port

Absent:

Chair Wiklund called the meeting to order at 8:36 on Tuesday, March 18th, 2025, in Room 1100 of the Minnesota Senate Building. A quorum was present.

AGENDA ITEM #1: Senate File 1494 (Miller): Revision requirement of tests to be administered for determining the presence of a heritable or congenital disorder

The first item on the agenda was Senate File 1494 authored by Senator Miller as follows:

Senate File 1494 (Miller): Revision requirement of tests to be administered for determining the presence of a heritable or congenital disorder

Senator Miller provided opening remarks and explained Senate File 1494 to the committee.

The following individuals testified on Senate File 1494

- Dr. Julie Eisengart, MD, Pediatric Neuropsychologist, Associate Professor, and Director of the Neurodevelopmental Program in Rare Disease at the University of Minnesota, testified in support of Senate File 1494.
- Jennifer Braun, Nurse Practitioner and Clinical Director with the Clinical Trial Office at the Children's Masonic Hospital, testified in support of Senate File 1494.
- Shanna Quimby, private citizen, testified in support of Senate File 1494.
- Nick Quimby, private citizen, testified in support of Senate File 1494.

Committee members' questions and discussion followed.

Chair Wiklund laid over Senate File 1494 for possible inclusion in an omnibus bill.

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

AGENDA ITEM #2: Senate File 2322 (Wiklund): Minnesota Health Care Workforce Advisory Council establishment

The second item on the agenda was Senate File 2322, authored by Senator Wiklund as follows:

Senate File 2322 (Wiklund): Minnesota Health Care Workforce Advisory Council establishment

Senator Wiklund provided opening remarks and explained Senate File 2322 to the committee.

The following individuals testified on Senate File 2322:

- Dr. Shailendra Prasad, Associate Vice President for Rural Health and Professor of Family Medicine at the University of Minnesota, testified in support of Senate File 2322.
- Tricia Todd, Director of the Pre-Health Student Resource Center at the University of Minnesota, testified of Senate

- File 2322.
- Valerie DeFor, Executive Director of the Minnesota State Health Force Center of Excellence, testified in support of Senate File 2322.

Committee members' questions and discussion followed.

Senator Wiklund provided closing comments on Senate File 2322

Senator Wiklund moved that Senate File 2322 be recommended to pass and be re-referred to the Committee on State and Local Government.

On a voice vote, THE MOTION PREVAILED AND SENATE FILE 2322 WAS PASSED AND REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

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

AGENDA ITEM #3: Senate File 2152 (Mann): Commissioner of Human Services establishment of a directed pharmacy dispensing payment to improve and maintain access to pharmaceutical services; appropriating money

The third item on the agenda was Senate File 2152, authored by Senator Mann as follows:

Senate File 2152 (Mann): Commissioner of Human Services establishment of a directed pharmacy dispensing payment to improve and maintain access to pharmaceutical services; appropriating money

Senator Mann provided opening remarks and explained Senate File 2152 to the committee.

The following individuals testified on Senate File 2152:

- Jessica Astrup Ekhert, Pharmacist and Owner of Astrup Companies Sterling Pharmacies, testified in support of Senate File 2152.
- Andrew Russel, Co-Owner of Elko New Market Family Pharmacy and member of Minnesota Independent Pharmacists, testified in support of Senate File 2152.
- Hildie Hoeschen, RN, Creative Director at St. Paul Corner Drug, testified in support of Senate File 2152.

Committee members' questions and discussion followed.

Senator Mann provided closing comments on Senate File 2152.

Chair Wiklund laid over Senate File 2152 over for possible inclusion in an omnibus bill.

AGENDA ITEM #4: Senate File 1574 (Mann): Commissioner of human services selection of a state pharmacy benefit manager through procurement requirement provision, commissioner of human services entrance into a master contract with the state pharmacy benefit manager requirement provision, and program authority and eligibility requirements specification provision

The fourth item on the agenda was Senate File 1574, authored by Senator Mann as follows:

Senate File 1574 (Mann): Commissioner of human services selection of a state pharmacy benefit manager through procurement requirement provision, commissioner of human services entrance into a master contract with the state pharmacy benefit manager requirement provision, and program authority and eligibility requirements specification provision

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 1574, as amended, to the committee.

The following individuals testified on Senate File 1574:

- John Hoeschen, owner of St. Paul Corner Drug, testified in support of Senate File 1574.

Committee Members' questions and discussion followed.

Chair Wiklund laid over Senate File 1574, as amended, for possible inclusion in an omnibus bill.

AGENDA ITEM #5: Senate File 2413 (Mann): Hospital assessment requirement provision and hospitals in the medical assistance program directed payments requirement provision

The fifth item on the agenda was Senate File 2413, authored by Senator Mann as follows:

Senate File 2413 (Mann): Hospital assessment requirement provision and hospitals in the medical assistance program directed payments requirement provision

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 2413, as amended, to the committee.

The following individuals testified on Senate File 2413:

- Rick Breuer, CEO of Community Memorial Hospital, testified in support of Senate File 2413.
- Trevor Sawalish, CEO North Memorial Health, testified in support of Senate File 2413
- Chelsea Olson, Legislative and Health Policy Manager with the Minnesota Council of Health Plans, testified in opposition of Senat File 2413.

Committee members' questions and discussion followed.

Dan Pollock with Lockridge Grindal Nauen assisted Senator Mann with answering members' questions on Senate File 2413.

Senator Mann moved that Senate File 2413, as amended, be recommended to pass and be re-referred to the Committee on Taxes

On a voice vote, THE MOTION PREVAILED AND SENATE FILE 2413, AS AMENDED, WAS PASSED AND REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON TAXES.

Chair Wiklund adjourned the meeting at 10:25am