

MINNESOTA WILD RICE

DFL House-Senate

Nov. 20, 1977



**1977 Minnesota
Legislative Summary**

The 1977 Session was a flurry of activity that saw 1701 bills introduced in the House of Representatives and 1568 bills introduced in the Senate. Of these, 455 were molded into a legislative program that is a tribute to the DFL leadership in Minnesota.

This booklet contains short summaries of 180 bills that represent those that are most important or those with the most far reaching effect for the people of Minnesota.

We hope that you will find this booklet helpful in presenting the people of your district with an example of how the DFL majority in the Legislature does make a difference!

DFL House and Senate
Caucus Staff

Wild Rice Designated State Grain

* H.F. 1421 Samuelson, Jensen, Birnstihl, Fudro
S.F. 1344 Peterson, Willet, Lessard, Borden,
Johnson

Designates native "wild rice" as official state grain.
Secretary of state is to preserve and photograph a specimen.
Effective: August 1, 1977.
C. 348

(Not Printed at Government Expense)

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AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Alien Ownership of Farmland

- * H.F. 79 Anderson, B., Stanton, Biersdorf, Evans
Sherwood
S.F. 79 Menning, Willet, Olson, H., Renneke,
Hanson

Prohibits future lease or purchase of Minnesota agricultural land by a non-resident alien or by a corporation in which aliens control more than 20% interest; limited exceptions allowed. Alien landowners may retain current holdings but must file annual reports with the commissioner of Agriculture. Effective: Immediately.
C. 269

Minnesota Farmstead Cheese

- * H.F. 439 Clawson, Neisen, Peterson, Schulz
S.F. 454 Anderson, Wegener, Olson, H., Engler,
Milton

Restricts commercial use of the name "Minnesota Farmstead Cheese" to cheese produced on a Minnesota dairy farm from milk less than 48 hours old. Requires commissioner of Agriculture to inspect and license participating farms. Effective: August 1, 1977.
C. 114

Family Farm Security Amendments

- * H.F. 777 Eken, Mann, Kalis, Biersdorf, Anderson, G.
S.F. 941 Hanson, Moe, Willet, Dunn, Menning

Amends 1976 Family Farm Security Program to encourage participation of sellers and sponsoring banks: (1) a buyer may assume a seller-sponsor's mortgage; (2) loan contracts for 10 years or less may be written with unequal annual payments; (3) in case of default, seller-sponsor may repurchase land; and (4) a lender may receive up to 100% of a defaulted loan (90% guaranteed), if the land's sale produces sufficient revenue. Effective: Immediately.
C. 170

Weather Modification

- H.F. 78 Stanton, Fjoslien, Erickson, Kahn,
Anderson, B.
* S.F. 73 Nichols, Strand

Authorizes commissioner of Agriculture to conduct research, planning and evaluation of weather modification activities in Minnesota. Requires annual licensure of persons engaged in weather modification and annual permits for each operation. Prescribes \$100 permit fee and \$100 license fee. Authorizes counties to conduct and finance department-approved weather modification programs; provides for optional referendum on county-financed projects. County boards must approve all other operations within their county. Prohibits use of cloud seeding apparatus located on the ground. Violation of this act is defined as a misdemeanor. Appropriates \$75,000 for administrative expenses. Effective: county review section immediately; remainder on January 1, 1978.
C. 426

AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Second Mortgages on Drought Loans to Farmers

- * H.F. 531 Erickson, Brinkman, Johnson, Mann, Niehaus
S.F. 1115 Bernhagen, Laufenburger, Kleinbaum,
Jensen

Allows banks to take second mortgages on loans made to farmers residing in counties which have been declared federal disaster areas due to drought conditions. Effective: Immediately.
C. 103

Cooperative Leases of Agricultural Lands

- H.F. 252 Anderson, B., Jaros, Munger, Welch, Evans
* S.F. 288 Nichols

Authorizes cooperative sharecrop farming agreements between DNR and farmers for agricultural lands within state parks to accomplish such park services as grassland restoration, weed control or provision of food plots for wildlife. Prohibits agricultural use which conflicts with normal park uses. Effective: August 1, 1977.
C. 249

Public Drainage Systems

- H.F. 569 Corbid, Wenstrom, Biersdorf, Sherwood,
Kelly, W.
* S.F. 498 Hanson, Moe, Strand, Olhoff, Renneke

Transfers the administration of judicial ditches or drainage systems in existence on June 30, 1977 from the district courts to the county boards. Raises the interest rate limitation on ditch lien statements and net average rate of interest on drainage bonds to seven per cent per year. Provides that the court or county boards redetermine whether original benefits in a drainage proceeding reflect reasonable present day land values. Gives any person aggrieved by a redetermination the right to appeal. Effective: Immediately.
C. 135

Water Resources Management

- * H.F. 1236 Birnstihl, Mann, Munger, Eken, Erickson

Modifies current water resources planning by: creating a water planning board; requiring groundwater data collection by DNR and MGS; establishing a DNR training program for pumping tests and data acquisition. Changes water use priorities by placing agricultural irrigation third instead of first with domestic. Modifies DNR water use permit procedure by: involving the soil and water conservation board; requiring all agricultural irrigators to provide maps, plans and data on environmental effects; requiring irrigators in areas where inadequate groundwater data exists to include results of pumping tests on observation wells, data on geology; limits detrimental use of surface waters. During periods of critical water shortage, restricts non-essential municipal water use (e.g., lawn sprinkling). Appropriates \$1,241,000 for administration, the board and data collection. Effective: Immediately.
C. 446

AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Plastic Well Casings

- * H.F. 823 Smogard, Anderson, G., Kalis, Mann
Birnstihl
S.F. 1007 Nichols, Strand

Permits the use of plastic well casings within 18 southwestern Minnesota counties if the casings meet the specifications of the American society for testing and materials and state board of health rules (to be adopted prior to January 31, 1978) on installation and use. Effective: Immediately.
C. 398

Livestock Regulations

- * H.F. 1386 Wenzel, Suss, Mann, Kempe, R., Lemke
S.F. 1406 Wegener, Purfeerst, Dunn, Olson, H.

Redefines "livestock dealer" to include packing companies and clarifies "livestock market agency" for purposes of licensing act. Provides procedure for suspension of license; permits waiver of a hearing in contested bond cases; alters weighing and fee assessment procedures. Effective: July 1, 1977.
C. 299

Compensation for Livestock Destroyed by Endangered Species

- * H.F. 1630 Norton
S.F. 1521 Menning, Luther, Pillsbury

In addition to appropriating money to pay claims against the state, the bill establishes a program in the department of Agriculture to reimburse livestock owners up to a maximum of \$400 per animal for livestock destroyed by any animal classified as an endangered species. Animals in Minnesota currently classified as endangered include the Eastern Timber Wolf, the Peregrine Falcon and the Whooping Crane. The U.S. Department of Interior is currently considering removal of the Eastern Timber Wolf from the endangered list. Effective: July 1, 1977.
C. 450

SEE ALSO:

Business and Agricultural Loans	p. 7
Rural Medical Student Loans	p. 22
Power Line Siting	p. 25
Soil and Water Conservation	p. 28

ALCOHOL AND DRUG APPROPRIATIONS

Dram Shop Law Amendments

- * H.F. 676 Abeln, Casserly, Anderson, G., Friedrich,
Fugina
S.F. 162 McCutcheon, Bernhagen, Wegener,
Laufenburger, Kleinbaum

Limits dram shop liability to those who sell or barter liquor (exempts private hospitality) and applies comparative negligence formula (how negligent was the person who is suing, compared to the person being sued?). Comparative negligence does not apply when the person suing is the husband, wife, child, parent, guardian or other dependent of the intoxicated person. Limits recovery to \$250,000 for one person, \$500,000 for two or more persons. Changes time limit for starting such suits against sellers to one year after injury (was 3 years). Effective: July 1, 1977.
C. 390

SEE ALSO:

On Sale Liquor Licenses

p. 46

APPROPRIATIONS

Omnibus State Departments Bill

- H.F. 1595 Haugerud
* S.F. 1467 Humphrey

The state departments appropriation totals \$487.2 million, an increase of approximately \$41 million or 9% over the expenditures level for the previous biennium. Budget highlights:

Department	1976-77* Biennium	1978-79 Biennium
Administration	\$ 26.7 M	\$ 27.9 M
Agriculture	17.2 M	21.3 M
Commerce	7.8 M	9.3 M
Economic Development	3.4 M	4.2 M
Finance	7.2 M	9.5 M
Human Rights	1.3 M	1.4 M
Labor & Industry	7.7 M	9.5 M
Natural Resources	68.7 M	91.5 M
Personnel	3.9 M	4.6 M
Pollution Control	9.3 M	10.0 M
Public Safety	75.6 M	89.9 M
Public Service	5.6 M	7.1 M
Revenue	35.4 M	43.1 M
Other Departments	176.5 M	157.9 M
TOTAL	\$ 446.3 M	\$ 487.2 M

*Adjusted to include salaries.
Effective: July 1, 1977
C. 455

APPROPRIATIONS

Semi-State Appropriations

H.F. 1594 Eckstein
* S.F. 1489 Kleinbaum

Appropriates \$15.6 million for various semi-state agencies and activities. Increased by \$3.0 million over 1976-77 spending level. Major appropriations include the following:

	1976-77* Biennium	1978-79 Biennium
Minnesota Historical Society	\$ 9.6 M	\$ 10.8 M
State Arts Board	2.1 M	4.0 M

*Adjusted to include salaries.
Effective: July 1, 1977
C. 332

Omnibus Health, Welfare & Corrections Bill

H.F. 1553 Samuelson
* S.F. 1416 Lewis

Appropriates \$1.02 billion/biennium for human service needs. Provides full funding of the state's obligation for community health services, community corrections and catastrophic health insurance. Provides \$517.9M for income maintenance programs, including a 5% increase each year for all recipients, "pass-through" of federal SSI cost-of-living increases to MSA recipients, and increased state share of medical assistance and GA medical care costs. Authorizes 138 additional direct patient care positions at state hospitals and 72 new positions for state correctional institutions. Major general fund appropriations listed below:

	1976-77* Biennium	1978-79 Biennium
Welfare	\$ 644.3 M	\$ 860.5 M
Corrections	72.6 M	97.0 M
Health	23.0 M	35.6 M
Vocational Rehabilitation	6.8 M	10.3 M
Health-Related Boards		2.9 M
Corrections Ombudsman	0.3 M	0.4 M

*Adjusted to include open salary appropriation.

Closure of Hastings State Hospital

Requires Hastings State Hospital to close on May 1, 1978; appropriates \$300,000 to Ramsey, Washington, and Dakota counties for community care costs; requires interim study of future use of Oak Terrace Nursing Home.

Other "Riders" to HWC Omnibus Bill

Designates: (1) \$140,000 for a program approach to violent juvenile offenders; (2) \$778,000 for psychiatric unit at the prison; (3) \$350,000 for operating costs at Hennepin County Workhouse; (4) \$300,000 for assistance to hemophiliacs; (5) \$100,000 for planning a new secure facility at St. Peter and; (6) \$100,000 to purchase somatotropin which helps physiological growth problems in children. Authorizes use of medical assistance funds for certain home health care; requires health study of water fluoridation and extends

APPROPRIATIONS BUSINESS AND COMMERCE

Other "Riders" to HWC Omnibus Bill - Continued

municipal compliance date to July 1, 1979; requires DPW to develop a health cost containment proposal; and eliminates duplicative department of health licensure of JCAH accredited hospitals. Effective: July 1, 1977.

SEE ALSO:

Omnibus School Aids Bill	p. 18
Omnibus Education Bill	p. 21
New Prison	p. 17
Housing Finance	p. 39
Department of Transportation Appropriation	p. 60
University of Minnesota	
Nursing/Pharmacy Building	p. 36

BUSINESS AND COMMERCE

Authority of State Chartered Credit Unions

H.F. 841 Simoneau, Skoglund, Brinkman
* S.F. 572 Borden, Merriam, Penny, Sikorski, Setzepfandt

Allows the commissioner of banks to authorize state-chartered credit unions to engage in any activity open to federally-chartered credit unions only if state law or rules allow such activity. This action would allow state-chartered credit unions to participate in loans with other credit unions and to purchase and sell loans. Effective: Immediately.
C. 315

Credit Union Mergers

H.F. 298 Simoneau, Neisen, Ewald, Abeln, Anderson, G.
* S.F. 377 Laufenburger, Solon, Sikorski, Knutson Borden

Clarifies law so that not only credit union members but also persons eligible for membership in the credit union which is merged will have all membership rights in the successor credit union. Effective: June 1, 1977.
C. 16

Powers of Savings Banks

H.F. 299 Casserly, Ewald, Ellingson, Suss
* S.F. 200 Davies, Solon, Spear, Bang, Kleinbaum

Authorizes mutual savings banks to make loans in excess of \$100,000 if the principal amount of the loan does not exceed 95% of the appraised value of the mortgaged property or leasehold interest. Increases the maximum mobile home loans from \$10,000 to \$25,000; changes the maximum interest rate for mobile homes from 6% add-on interest to 12% simple interest. Permits savings banks to purchase notes, bonds and retail installment sales contracts secured by mobile home

Powers of Savings Banks - Continued

mortgages; extends the trust powers of savings banks by permitting them to act as trustees of individual retirement accounts authorized by the employee retirement income security act of 1974. Effective: August 1, 1977.

C. 5

Detached Banking Facilities (Branch Banking)

* H.F. 451 Corbid, Ewald, Wieser, George, Brinkman
S.F. 283 Kleinbaum, Solon, Brataas, Laufenburger
Borden

Increases the number of detached facilities banks allowed from one to two in order to increase the availability of banking services. Expands area in which detached facilities may be located in proximity to a bank's principal office; adds other authorized locations -- 25 miles from a bank's main office, if (1) the detached facility is in a municipality without a bank, (2) the detached facility is in a municipality of more than 10,000, or (3) the facility is in a municipality of less than 10,000 and banks in that municipality consent to such a facility. Expands functions which may be performed at detached facilities. Establishment of a detached facility subject to approval of commissioner of banking. Effective: August 1, 1977.

C. 378

Business and Agricultural Loans

H.F. 141 Suss, Corbid, Lemke, Friedrich, Brinkman
* S.F. 49 Laufenburger, Purfeerst, Borden, Frederick,
Menning

Changes the interest rate for business and agricultural loans from 5% to 4 1/2% over the local federal discount rate for 90 day commercial paper. Prohibits making such loans for the purchase of residential real estate. Effective: Immediately.

C. 303

Discriminatory Trade Practices

H.F. 285 Petrafeso, Berg, Cohen, Arlandson, Sabo
* S.F. 125 Keefe, S., Humphrey, Lewis, Spear,
Brataas

Makes it illegal to exclude any U.S. person from a business transaction because, among other things, that person has done business in a particular country or has a certain religion, ancestry or national origin. Also makes it illegal in a business transaction for a person to agree not to do business, or to certify that no business is done, with a firm that is on the blacklist of a foreign government. Provides a criminal penalty of \$50,00 fine, 5 years imprisonment or both for such practices. Effective: immediately, except that existing contracts or agreements have until December 31, 1978, to comply with law.

C. 173

Public Utility Rate Regulation

* H.F. 157 Sieben, M., Casserly, Faricy, Waldorf, Novak
S.F. 7 Luther, Sikorski, Johnson, Keefe, S.,
Chenoweth

Requires utilities to give 90 days (previously 30 days) notice to the public service board (PSB) before implementing a proposed rate change. Specifically outlines procedures for determining rate bases; requires PSB to disapprove rates which allow for certain public advertising expenses; and provides greater flexibility in time allowed to PSB for making decisions on rate increases. Also specifies procedures for rate changes by telephone companies. Effective: Immediately.

C. 359

Continuing Education for Real Estate Sellers

* H.F. 40 Kelly, R., Adams, Beauchamp, Hanson,
Arlandson
S.F. 241 Spear, Solon, Stumpf, Davies, Sieloff

Requires realtors to complete approved course of study before taking real estate license examination and requires continuing education for real estate salespersons and brokers. Effective: August 1, 1977.

C. 215

Second Party Bonding for Small Businesses

* H.F. 681 Casserly, Suss, Norton, Stanton,
Anderson, G.
S.F. 555 Knoll, Lewis, Vega, Gearty, Kirchner

Establishes second party bonding as acceptable security for construction contracts under the small business procurement act, to enable more small businesses to compete for state contracts for goods and services. Effective: August 1, 1977.

C. 44

Small Business Bid and Performance Bonding for State Contracts

* H.F. 772 Casserly, Nelson, Pleasant, Anderson, G.
Norton
S.F. 691 Knoll, Lewis, Vega, Kirchner, Coleman

Allows the state to partially indemnify bonding companies issuing bid and performance bonds to small businesses eligible to bid for contracts under the small business procurement act. Designed to enable more small businesses to obtain bid and performance bonds as they compete for contracts under the state set-aside program. Effective: July 1, 1977--June 30, 1979.

C. 394

Small Business Set-Aside Program --Transportation Construction

- * H.F. 339 Casserly, Norton, Carlson, A., Arlandson, Nelson
S.F. 238 Knoll, Lewis, Vega, Gearty, Kirchner

Establishes a small business set-aside program for state transportation facility construction contracts, similar to the small business procurement act of 1975. Requires Minnesota department of transportation commissioner to set aside at least 2% of contracted construction work each year for award to small businesses. At least half of that amount must be awarded, if possible, to small businesses owned and operated by socially or economically disadvantaged persons. Effective: August 1, 1977.

C. 222

Community Development Corporations

- * H.F. 723 Berglin, Hanson, Arlandson, Norton, Anderson, D.
S.F. 675 Kleinbaum, Willet, Dunn, Keefe, S., Humphrey

Directs state planning agency to administer community development corporation (CDC) grants. Establishes eligibility requirements for grants and allows grants for CDC planning or for establishment of a business venture. (NOTE: Appropriation of \$500,000 to state planning agency for CDC grants is in the state departments appropriations bill, S.F. 1467, Sec. 19.) Effective: Immediately.

C. 391

Tourist Information

- * H.F. 170 Begich, Battaglia, Anderson, I.
S.F. 10 Johnson, Lessard, Willet, Sillers, Menning

Removes the requirement that a statutory city have a population of more than 8,000 before it could establish a bureau of information and publicity for the promotion of tourism, business and industry. Effective: Immediately.

C. 50

Cancellation of Insurance Policies

- * H.F. 1559 Scheid, Ellingson
S.F. 96 Luther, Penny, Vega, Sikorski, Gunderson

Allows persons buying health insurance policies to cancel policies within 10 days of purchase in order to give purchasers ample time to examine provisions and limitations of a policy. (Applies to individual health insurance policies, non-profit health service plan contracts, health maintenance organization subscriber contracts.) Entitles person who cancels to full refund of sum paid for policy. Also requires each policy to include conspicuous notice of purchaser's right to cancel. Policies not containing this notice can be cancelled by purchaser within one year of purchase. Effective: August 1, 1977.

C. 178

Legal Expense Insurance

- H.F. 1593 Wynia, McCollar, Haugerud, Anderson, I., Fjoslien
* S.F. 586 Dieterich, Merriam, Coleman, Johnson

Prohibits a legal expense insurance contract from including any provision that interferes with the attorney-client relationship. Also provides that the financial requirements in an insurance company's state of incorporation shall be the basis for establishing its admission to write insurance in Minnesota. Effective: August 1, 1977.

C. 195

Insurance Solicitor License Fees

- * H.F. 635 Ellingson, Abeln, Kelly, R., Wynia, Heinitz
S.F. 784 Spear, Sikorski, Davies, Tennesen, Borden

Increases insurance solicitor license fee from \$10 to \$25. Also provides that the commissioner of insurance may issue a cease and desist order for anyone who has engaged or is about to engage in, a violation of Chapter 60A. Stipulates that licensed agents or solicitors who violate any of the provisions may: have their license suspended or revoked, have a criminal complaint lodged against them, or be subject to a civil penalty up to \$300 for each violation. Effective: July 1, 1977.

C. 243

SEE ALSO:

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No Site Stadium Bill	p. 52
Labor Category	p. 42-45
Consumer Protection Category	p. 10-13

CONSUMER PROTECTIONMileage Disclosure for Title and Transfer of Motor Vehicles

- * H.F. 882 Novak, McCarron, Simoneau, Reding, Hanson
S.F. 1098 Sikorski, Luther, Staples, Nelson, Ulland

Requires owners of motor vehicles to disclose mileage registered on the odometer on applications for certificate of title and transfers of ownership. Dealers must also disclose odometer mileage on certificates of title of vehicles purchased and held for resale. Effective: July 1, 1978.

C. 105

Fees for Mobile Home Lot Rentals

- * H.F. 1208 Simoneau, Clawson, Neisen, Haugerud, Voss
S.F. 999 Tennesen, Johnson, Ashbach, Jensen, Merriam

Prohibits charging of any fee other than periodic rental payments and a reasonable set-up charge for mobile home lot or space rentals in mobile home parks. Effective: August 1, 1977.

C. 49

Mandatory Smoke Detectors

- * H.F. 41 Knickerbocker, Petrafeso, Clark, Rose
Pehler
S.F. 123 Solon, Johnson, Willet, Humphrey,
Vega

Requires that smoke detectors be installed in all apartments, hotel rooms and lodging house rooms by January 1, 1980. Requires detectors in all duplexes and houses built, remodeled or rented after January 1, 1980. Effective: Section 1, (powers of commissioner of public safety) -- August 1, 1977; Section 2 (installation of detectors) -- January 1, 1980; (Section 2, Subd. 2, promulgation of installation rules) -- August 1, 1977.
C. 333

Light Trucks -- Price Information

- * H.F. 562 Prah, Stanton, Neisen, Biersdorf

Requires manufacturers of trucks with gross weight of 9,000 lbs. or less to label truck windows with same price information required on new cars. Failure to label or removal of label before purchase is a misdemeanor. Exemption: truck models with less than 200 sales annually. Effective: applies to trucks built after December 31, 1978.
C. 385

Flame-Resistant Sleeping Bags

- H.F. 115 Corbid, Sieben, H., Laidig, Hanson
* S.F. 76 Keefe, S., Solon

Extends effective date of 1975 law requiring sleeping bags to be constructed of flame-resistant materials from January 1, 1977, to October 1, 1977. The January 1, 1977, effective date for tents is retained. Effective: August 1, 1977.
C. 13

Employment Agency Fees

- * H.F. 212 Skoglund, Enebo, Metzen, Byrne,
St. Onge
S.F. 800 Vega, Nichols, Luther, Staples,
Milton

Provides a three-day "cooling off" period within which applicants must notify an employment agency if they decide to withdraw from an agreement accepting a job placement. No fee may be charged by the agency after withdrawal. Period applies whether the applicant or the employer is responsible for payment of the fee to the agency. Effective: Immediately.
C. 220

Deficiency Judgments in Consumer Transactions

- H.F. 878 Casserly, Byrne, Sieben, H., Brandl,
Arlandson
* S.F. 147 Davies, Tennessen, Sikorski

Prohibits a seller or lender who repossesses a consumer credit purchase (involving credit of \$3,000 or less) from suing the consumer for any amount still owed. Consumer is still liable if he has wrongfully damaged the property. Alternatively allows seller/lender to sue consumer for the whole debt, thereby giving up the right to repossess. Effective: July 1, 1977.
C. 180

Damages for Withholding Security Deposits or Rent

- * H.F. 829 Reding, Beauchamp, Jaros, Kroening,
Stanton
S.F. 950 Luther, Benedict, Strand, Olson, H.,
Sikorski

Changes from 2 to 3 weeks the period in which a landlord must either return the damage deposit with interest or give the tenant written reasons for withholding all or a portion of the deposit. Provides that a tenant may recover the amount of the deposit withheld plus interest, plus a penalty equal to the total, when a landlord has failed to comply with notice requirements. Allows a landlord to sue when a tenant withholds rent. Landlords can collect that rent plus any portion of the deposit to which they are entitled. Effective: August 1, 1977.
C. 280

Venue of Actions Brought to Recover Rent Deposits

- H.F. 827 Casserly, Jaros, Scheid, Carlson, A.,
Reding
* S.F. 166 Davies, Keefe, S., Stumpf, Knutson

Clarifies the intent of the statutes covering a tenant's right to sue a landlord for withholding a deposit. An action for the recovery of a deposit on rental property may be brought in the county where the rental property is located or, at the option of the tenant, in the county of the landlord's residence. Effective: August 1, 1977.
C. 129

Life and Health Insurance Guaranty Association

- * H.F. 296 Casserly, Norton, Suss, Ewald, Brinkman
S.F. 570 Keefe, S., Solon, Sikorski, Dieterich,
Merriam

Establishes a life and health insurance guaranty association to protect life, health and annuity policyholders against the loss of benefits due to the insolvency of an insurer. The association is comprised of all life, health and annuity insurers authorized to conduct business in the state and is under the supervision of the commissioner of insurance. In order to provide benefits to policyholders of an insolvent insurer, the association is required to assess member insurers as needed but places limitations on the amount any one insurer may be assessed in any calendar year. Effective: Immediately.
C. 273

Readability of Insurance Policies

- * H.F. 1201 George, Corbid, Norton, Dean, Ellingson
S.F. 1435 Sikorski, Davies, Borden, Johnson, Luther

Requires all insurance policies to have readable cover sheets indexing major policy provisions until those policies are readable in their entirety. Further requires all auto and homeowner's insurance policies to be readable by July 1, 1979 and all life, accident and health insurance policies to be readable by July 1, 1980, as determined by the commissioner of insurance. Specifies policy format requirements and requires use of the Flesch Scale analysis readability score as a means of determining compliance with the law. Effective: Immediately.

C. 345

Interest on Unpaid Life Insurance Benefits

- * H.F. 16 Kempe, R., Kempe, A.
S.F. 468 McCutcheon, Stumpf

Requires life insurance companies to pay interest computed from the date of death until date of payment to beneficiaries on life insurance policies. Benefit payments include payments made at the time of death to (1) beneficiaries, (2) trust accounts on behalf of the beneficiary, and (3) a district court according to the rules of civil procedure. The rate of interest to be paid on unpaid life insurance benefits must be that rate of interest specified in a reinvestment clause of the policy or, in policies without reinvestment clauses, the rate of interest paid on loans made against the policy. Effective: August 1, 1977.

C. 353

Credit Life, Health and Accident Insurance

- * H.F. 530 Ellingson, Kelly, R., Abeln, Fjoslien, Wynia
S.F. 330 Luther, Sikorski, Milton, Vega

Eliminates the writing of credit life insurance in amounts exceeding the actual amount of indebtedness as the loan is repaid if the loan is repaid in equal installments. Eliminates the practice of "pyramiding" which occurs in the refinancing of a loan for which credit life insurance has been secured, i.e., eliminating the issuing of two or more credit life insurance policies for what is effectively only one loan. Requires lenders who require the purchase of credit life or accident and health insurance to inform the borrower of his right under existing law to furnish credit life coverage from another source. Effective: August 1, 1977.

C. 382

SEE ALSO:

New Home Warranties

p.39

Crime Victim Crisis Centers

- * H.F. 516 Moe, Nelson, Forsythe, Kaley, Novak
S.F. 514 Lewis, Coleman, McCutcheon, Kirchner, Ogdahl

Requires commissioner of corrections to establish at least two crime victim crisis centers by January 1, 1978. The centers are to provide services including direct crisis intervention, referral to public or private agencies, and public education. Requires evaluation of the centers within 3 years. Appropriates \$250,000. Effective: Immediately.

C. 314

Crime Victims Reparation

- * H.F. 83 Carlson, A., Clark, Esau, Samuelson, Faricy
S.F. 918 Staples, Sikorski, Spear, Schaaf Vega

Increases from \$10,000 to \$25,000 the maximum amount that crime victims reparation board can award to compensate for economic loss due to crime victim's injury or death. Allows board to reduce award to the extent that these losses are otherwise recovered (payments by offender, government, worker's compensation, disability insurance, etc.). Appropriates from general fund \$75,000 for 1978, \$75,000 for 1979. Effective: applies to claims for crimes committed or attempted on or after July 1, 1977.

C. 356

Battered Women

- H.F. 366 Kahn, Carlson, D., Corbid, Haugerud, Stanton
* S.F. 124 Lewis, Coleman, McCutcheon, Sikorski, Kirchner

Appropriates \$500,000 for establishment of four pilot programs to provide emergency shelter and support services to battered women. Two programs are to be in the metro area; one in a city outside metro area; one in a location accessible to predominantly rural population. Designates up to \$50,000 for community awareness education. Mandates data collection by commissioner of corrections and reporting by medical and law enforcement personnel. Also appropriates \$100,000 to governor's manpower office for job counseling and training services for "displaced homemakers." Effective: Immediately, except sections which authorize GA payments to shelter residents and provide for "displaced homemakers" are effective July 1, 1977.

C. 428

Venue for Child Neglect Cases; Juvenile Detention

- H.F. 1586 Nelson
* S.F. 1290 Staples, Brataas, Spear

Allows prosecution for child neglect in the county where the alleged negligence occurred, in addition to the county where the child was found or where the child lives. Also, alters juvenile detention procedures to exclude Saturdays when

Venue for Child Neglect Cases; Juvenile Detention - Con't.

determining legal lengths of stay. Allows informal reviews in place of hearings for continuations of juvenile detention unless new evidence is to be presented. Effective: August 1, 1977.
C. 330

Venue for Child Abuse Cases

H.F. 1588 Nelson
* S.F. 1291 Staples, Kirchner, Spear

Allows criminal prosecution of child abuse cases in either the county where the alleged abuse occurred or the county where the child is found. Extends the definition of "physical abuse" to include inexplicable health defects as well as physical injuries. Effective: August 1, 1977.
C. 212

Child Pornography

* H.F. 343 Nelson, Wenstrom, Arlandson, Faricy
Clark
S.F. 1012 Olhoft, Bernhagen, Menning, Staples,
Nelson

Makes it a felony to produce photographs, films or performances of minors engaged in offensive sexual conduct (as defined in law), or to own or operate a business selling such materials. Makes it a misdemeanor to be a salesperson in such a business. Effective: July 1, 1977.
C. 371

Pecuniary Gain: Misdemeanor Cutoff Adjusted

* H.F. 82 Stanton, Carlson, A., Casserly, Nelson
S.F. 189 Nichols, Keefe, S., Spear, Keefe, J.

A crime involving \$300 or less is made a misdemeanor (current cutoff is \$100). Maximum fine for misdemeanor raised from \$300 to \$500. When court places person on probation, he is to be required (when possible) to compensate victim for loss. Effective: August 1, 1977.
C. 355

Criminal Justice Communications Network

* H.F. 1582 Novak, Moe, Tomlinson, Kahn
S.F. 759 Schaaf, Borden, McCutcheon, Sikorski,
Stokowski

Establishes a criminal justice and traffic law data network, under department of public safety, to coordinate information among criminal justice agencies (police, county attorneys, etc.). Replaces data network in bureau of criminal apprehension. Effective: July 1, 1977.
C. 424

Crime Control Planning Board

H.F. 1200 Berg, Savelkoul, Anderson, I., Nelson
* S.F. 1077 Borden, Schaaf, Sikorski, McCutcheon,
Ashbach

Establishes a crime control planning board to replace the governor's commission on crime prevention and control. The governor is to appoint a chairperson who shall also be executive director. Duties of the board include: administration of federal crime control acts; development of a comprehensive statewide plan for the improvement of law enforcement and criminal justice (submitted to the legislature for comments before final approval); distribution of money given it for law enforcement or criminal justice purposes; annual report to the governor and the legislature. The governor is to divide the state into crime control planning regions. Each region will have an advisory council appointed by regional development commissions. The board must channel planning funds to regional development commissions. Effective: August 1, 1977.
C. 260

Peace Officer Training

H.F. 730 Sieben, H., Wenzel, Moe, White,
Carlson, A.
* S.F. 411 McCutcheon, Hanson, Purfeerst, Willet,
Schaaf

Reorganizes peace officer standards and training board as 11 member body, appointed by the governor (consists of county sheriffs, peace officers, private citizens, superintendent of bureau of criminal apprehension, etc.). Board has chairman (member appointed by governor) and executive director (hired by board). Requires board to: (1) adopt rules concerning peace officer functions and training (current board can do so already, but does not have to); (2) determine whether peace officer training programs (vo-tech, community colleges, etc.), meet training standards; (3) adopt minimum conduct rules to govern performance of police functions; (4) license peace officers according to procedures of M.S., Chapter 214 (non-health related licensing boards) and; (5) provides supplementary basic training courses. Municipalities under 1,000 and peace officers hired before July 1, 1978 are exempt. Effective: July 1, 1977.
C. 433

Handgun Law

* H.F. 800 Berg, Faricy, Vanasek, Jaros, Dean
S.F. 781 McCutcheon, Coleman, Keefe, S., Ogdahl

Requires that person either have a transferee permit (valid for one year) or wait 7 days to purchase a handgun from a federally licensed dealer. The law does not apply to private transfers. During the waiting period, or when application is made for permit, a police check will be made to verify that purchaser is not prohibited under 1975 law from possessing handgun. The waiting period can be waived in whole or part by the police. Application for a permit must be made either by request at the time of a report of intent to transfer, or by application directly to the police. Denial of permit or of

Handgun Law - Continued

permission to sell can be appealed to county court. Bill also provides mandatory sentences (no probation) for crimes of violence (M.S. 609.11, subd. 1) committed while possessing a firearm or using any dangerous weapon. Allows carrying of handguns without permit while deer hunting, and clarifies rules about carrying handguns in vehicles (must be unloaded and securely packaged). Effective: August 1, 1977.
C. 349

Short-Barreled Shotguns

H.F. 1556 Brandl, Jaros, Wynia, Carlson, A., Cohen
* S.F. 766 Davies, Johnson, McCutcheon, Keefe, J.

Makes it a felony to own, possess or use a short-barreled shotgun. The following categories are exempt: law enforcement officers, wardens of penal institutions and other penal personnel for use in an official capacity, members of the armed forces while on duty and owners of designated collector's items. Effective: Immediately.
C. 255

Probation and Parole

* H.F. 728 Clark, Moe, Nelson, Laidig, Novak
S.F. 470 Lewis, McCutcheon, Sikorski, Kirchner

Authorizes sealing of criminal records after discharge from probation or parole and the conviction has been set aside; authorizes the commissioner by rule to charge adult inmates for room and board or for support of dependents. Provides counties participating in community corrections act (CCA) authority to reorganize administratively and clarifies procedure for withdrawal from the act; limits the percentage increase in charges to CCA counties for institutional use; and allows CCA probation and parole officers to detain probationers for legal action, without warrant, for up to 72 hours. Effective: August 1, 1977.
C. 392

New Prison

* H.F. 1631 Norton
S.F. 1530 Moe

Provides \$20.8 million for construction of a new high-security prison for 400 adult felons near the present Stillwater Prison; also appropriates \$100,000 for architectural plans to reduce Stillwater prison from 1,000 to 300 beds. Effective: July 1, 1977.
C. 451

Service to Juveniles

* H.F. 914 Suss, Hokanson, Sieben, H., Vanasek,
Jensen
S.F. 1112 Schmitz, Renneke

Allows juvenile court in metropolitan counties and counties which have organized into human service boards to hire probation officers; human service board to appoint separate correctional services staff. Effective: August 1, 1977.
C. 281

SEE ALSO:

Health, Welfare & Corrections
Appropriations Bill

p. 5

EDUCATIONOmnibus School Aids Bill

* H.F. 550 Eken, Johnson, Tomlinson, Esau, Berg
S.F. 481 Merriam, Hughes, Humphrey, Anderson
Sillers

Appropriates over \$1.7 billion in state support of elementary and secondary education and post-secondary vocational education -- an 11.4% increase despite a projected 4% decline in pupil units across the state. The statewide average for the state's share of local operating costs will be approximately 70% when state payments for the ag mill and homestead credits are included. Major features of the state's largest-ever appropriation include:

1. Foundation Aids: Formula allowance increased to \$1,030 per pupil unit (+7.2%) less 29 mills in 1977-78 and \$1,090 per pupil unit (+5.8%) minus 28 mills in 1978-79 plus the amount of the agricultural tax credit. A 6 year phased incorporation of the county apportionment into the foundation aid formula is begun.
2. Declining Enrollments: Declining enrollment districts are permitted to average their enrollment over 3 years or count .6 of their decline from the previous year, whichever is greater, in determining their pupil unit count.
3. State Transportation Aid: The base year is changed to 1975-76 and the new formula will use 117% of the base for 1977-78 and 127% for 1978-79. The result is almost \$24 million of additional state aid, an 18% increase.
4. Special Education Aid: Increased to cover 60% of salaries for 1977-78, up to \$11,500 per teacher, and 65% of salaries in 1978-79, up to \$12,000 per teacher. Support cost factor reduced from 10% to 5% of salaries. The inservice training program for regular teachers is expanded.
5. Community Education Aid: Continued at 50¢ per capita. However, the authorized levy is raised from \$1 to \$2 per capita or the amount certified in 1976, whichever is greater. Funding increased 18%.
6. Secondary Vocational Aid: Starting in 1978-79, funding will be on a current basis (rather than reimbursement) with state share set at 50% of salaries, necessary equipment and necessary teacher travel.

EDUCATION

7. Post-Secondary Vocational Aid:

-- Foundation aid increased to \$2,120 (+6%) in 1978-79 and \$2,240 (+5.6%) in 1979-80. Total state support increased almost 9%. In addition, \$7 million in new federal funds will supplement state support.

-- Tuition charge of \$2 per day established for all Minnesota residents beginning in 1978-79. A total of \$3.6 million is appropriated to subsidize up to 75% of the tuition of AVTI students under age 21 who can demonstrate need.

8. Adult Vocational: Starting in 1977-78, funding will be on a current basis at 75% of salaries and 50% of necessary travel. Funding increased 24% for adult vocational and 47% for veteran farmer training.

9. Capital Expenditure Equalization Aid: Districts in which a 10 mill levy fails to raise \$75 per pupil unit (\$80 in fast growth districts) will be provided the difference in state aid. Attached machinery aid for capital outlay purposes is eliminated.

10. School Lunch Act: The state will pay 4¢ for each fully paid school lunch served but shall not pay for free or reduced price lunches.

11. Educational Cooperative Service Units:

-- Each ECSU is allotted \$20,000 (\$40,000 in region 11) for the purposes of providing technical assistance to school districts for planning, evaluation and reporting under M.S. 123.742.

-- Each ECSU is allotted \$45,450/year (\$90,900 in region 11) for their operation.

12. Amends the UFARS law, including a one year delay in the 1.5 mill levy to eliminate statutory operating debt.

13. Non-Public School Task Force: Extended through May 15, 1978.

14. Early Childhood: Appropriates \$1.7 million, a 70% increase, to expand the number of pilots from 10 to 22.

15. Teacher Mobility Incentives: Appropriates \$3M for experimental programs to encourage teacher mobility through early retirement or part-time teaching. Also authorizes extended leaves of absence.

16. Experimental Pairing and District Planning:

Appropriates \$755,000 to establish a local and regional educational planning task force in every school district and ECSU in the state to establish a district plan that includes goals, priorities, alternative methods of organization. The ECSU task forces are required to review and comment on school district plans, prior to their submission to the department of education and the legislature by September 1, 1979. In addition, 10 school districts are exempted from state law requiring districts to maintain a complete elementary and secondary program, grades 1 through 12.

EDUCATION

Omnibus School Aids Bill - Continued

17. Review and Comment on School District Construction: After July 1, 1977, a bond referendum cannot be held nor bids let on the construction of an educational facility costing more than \$400,000 prior to review and comment by the commissioner of education published in local newspapers.

Comparison of State School Aids (Dollars in Millions)

	1976-77 Biennium	1978-79 Biennium
Foundation Aid	\$1,172.27	\$1,245.90
Transportation Aid	129.48	153.12
Bus Reconditioning		.41
Special Education	93.16	144.36
Special Education In-Service	.10	1.50
Special Education Deficiency		3.88
Adult Education	.92	1.19
GED Reimbursement	.12	.16
Community Education	2.80	3.30
Disadvantaged Needs Assessment in Vocational Education		.01
AVTI Tuition Subsidies		3.60
AVTI Foundation Aid	81.62	115.77
AVTI Categorical Aid	50.20	15.31
AVTI Capitol Expenditure	6.00	12.00
AVTI Debt Service	7.00	15.42
AVTI Deficiency	1.60	1.18
Adult Vocational	8.00	9.95
Vets Farmer Training	2.00	2.94
Secondary Vocational	30.00	32.20
St. Paul Career Study Center	.09	.20
Declining Valuation Aid		.56
Tax Delinquency Aid	.16	.40
Tax Delinquency Deficiency		.18
ECSU: Planning & Evaluation		.20
ECSU Grants	.49	.99
Capital Expenditure Aid		.86
Eligible Teacher	.15	.17
Emergency Aid	.60	.40
Gross Earnings	1.40	.60
Early Childhood	1.00	1.70
Teacher Mobility		3.00
School District Planning		.70
Review & Comment		.05
Misc. Aids Discontinued	1.06	
	\$1,590.22	\$1,772.30

Effective: July 1, 1977 except as noted, or for deficiencies and declining valuation aid which became effective immediately.

EDUCATION

Omnibus Education Bill

* H.F. 1510 Norton
S.F. 1452 Moe

Appropriates \$688.4M to the department of education, the HECB and the three higher education systems.

	1976-77* Biennium	1978-79 Biennium
Department of Education	\$ 33.9 M	\$ 46.6 M
University of Minnesota	317.5M	378.0 M
State Universities	117.7 M	136.0 M
Community Colleges	52.6 M	62.1 M
Higher Education Coordinating Bd.	40.5 M	62.8 M
Mayo Medical School	2.4 M	2.4 M
Nursing Scholarships	.3 M	**
	\$564.9 M	\$688.4 M

*Adjusted to include salaries.

**In HECB.

Approximately 55% of the \$123.5Million increase is due to salary increases. Another 16% results from an increase of over \$20 million in funding for student aid programs in response to the record high enrollments projected:

	1976-77 Biennium	1978-79 Biennium
Scholarships	\$ 10.7 M	\$ 16.6M
Grants	19.0 M	30.3 M
Work-Study	1.7 M	3.2 M
Private College Contract	7.2 M	9.2 M
Indian Scholarships	.80 M	1.0 M

Almost half the increase shown for the department of education is due to the transfer of the state schools for the deaf and blind into the department's budget. The remainder reflects substantially increased funding for instructional computing, management, information systems, child nutrition and public libraries. Other significant features of the bill include: (1) retention of the Indian scholarship program in the department of education, and (2) creation of a post-secondary education consortium. Effective: July 1, 1977.

C. 449

HECB Optometry/Osteopathy Placements

H.F. 210 Johnson, Fugina, Searle, Kroening,
Sieben, M.
* S.F. 615 Hughes, Willet, Knutson

Appropriates \$217,000 to the HECB to contract with schools of optometry and osteopathy in other states for the placement of up to 10 osteopathy students and up to 13 optometry students from Minnesota. Students placed in optometry/osteopathy schools must begin practice in Minnesota within 18 months after completing their academic programs or pay a penalty equal to the cost paid by HECB for their placement. Directs HECB to explore the feasibility of developing a regional system for optometric education. Effective: July 1, 1977.

C. 318

EDUCATION

Student Financial Aid: HECB

* H.F. 559 Fugina
S.F. 679 Penny, Moe, Spear, Sillers, Willet

(1) Eliminates citizenship requirement for eligibility for state scholarships and grants; (2) provides that state aid plus federal basic educational opportunity grant shall not equal more than 75% of a student's financial needs; (3) permits second-year students to apply for grants beginning in the 1978-79 school year; (4) provides that the deadline for aid applications will not be earlier than February 15; (5) increases the bonding and loan-making authority of HECB from \$90M to \$125M; (6) deletes requirement that 50% of work study funds be used for off-campus employment and permits HECB to reallocate funds among institutions; (7) establishes grant program for needy part-time students; (8) transfers the nursing scholarship program to HECB. Also provides for a broadening of the Indian scholarship program in the department of education. Effective: Immediately.

C. 384

Rural Medical Student Loans

* H.F. 1060 Kalis, Mann, Fugina, Anderson, G., Kaley
S.F. 227 Wegener, Moe, Sillers, Purfeerst, Penny

Increases the maximum loan to medical students who agree to practice in rural areas in need of doctors or osteopaths from \$5,000 to \$6,000 per year up to a maximum of \$24,000. Instructs HECB not to discriminate against students from urban areas in making loans. Effective: July 1, 1977.

C. 413

Pilot Bilingual Education Programs

H.F. 345 Stanton, Nelson, Kempe, A., Savelkoul,
Suss
* S.F. 120 McCutcheon, Vega, Spear, Ueland, Hanson

Requires state board of education to make three grants to school districts submitting proposals for pilot bilingual education programs. Programs must be transitional, three years in duration, with class instruction given in English and in the primary language of the children being served. A state wide assessment of the need for bilingual programs must be conducted by the board and reported to the legislature by September, 1979. Appropriates \$550,000. Effective: July 1, 1977.

C. 306

American Indian Language and Culture Program

H.F. 784 Berglin, Lehto, Nelson, Kahn, Clark
* S.F. 455 Spear, Ulland, Keefe, S., Lewis, Sikorski

Appropriates \$600,000 to the state board of education to fund 6 pilot American Indian language and culture programs in local school districts. Programs must be designed to make the curriculum more relevant to the needs, interests and cultural heritage of American Indian pupils. Three programs must be in urban areas, 3 on or near reservations. A statewide assessment of the need for programs of this nature will be conducted by the board and reported to the 1979 legislature. Effective: July 1, 1977.

C. 312

EDUCATION

School Boards -- Student Advisory Member

- * H.F. 888 Jensen, Sieben, M., Suss, Stanton, Kalis
- S.F. 1168 Knutson

Allows school boards to appoint a student advisory member with the right to participate in board meetings but not vote. Effective: August 1, 1977.
C. 106

Comparable Credit for Comparable Work at Post-Secondary Institutions

- * H.F. 129 Pehler, Cummiskey, Kroening, Patton, Peterson
- S.F. 420 Penny, Nichols, Brataas, Merriam, Sillers

Encourages post-secondary institutions to give students comparable credit for comparable academic work completed at another post-secondary institution in the state. Directs the higher education coordinating board to encourage communications between institutions, to study the transfer of credits, and to report to the legislature during January of 1978 with any recommendations. Effective: August 1, 1977.
C. 358

Educational Television Facilities for Northern Minnesota

- H.F. 717 Braun, Anderson, I., Corbid, St. Onge, Eken
- * S.F. 690 Hanson, Willet, Lessard, Peterson, Moe

Provides an appropriation of \$440,000 to the state university board providing a grant-in-aid to northern Minnesota public television, inc., to assist in constructing and equipping public educational television facilities at or near Bemidji state university. This is a one-time grant.
C. 320

Public Television

- H.F. 739 Beauchamp, Corbid, Pehler, Dean, St. Onge
- * S.F. 1395 Solon, Willet, Ulland

Appropriates \$300,000 for the state board of arts to make grants to public television stations. Amends the formula for calculating the matching funds required by public stations so that each eligible station will receive an equal amount, except that its grant may not exceed the amount of Minnesota based contributions the station received from the general public in the previous fiscal year. Creates a bi-partisan legislative commission composed of five senators and five representatives to study public broadcasting and report on its findings and recommendations by January 15, 1978. Appropriates \$25,000 to pay the commission's expenses. Effective: Immediately.
C. 445

SEE ALSO:

Health Screening for Pre-Schoolers
Teachers Retirement Fund

p.35
p.50

ELECTIONS

Elections Administration

- H.F. 18 Sherwood, Prah, St. Onge, Carlson, D.
- * S.F. 51 Menning, Nichols, Gearty, Strand, Penny

Permits a town treasurer to serve as an election judge if the municipality has only one election precinct. Prohibits meetings of school boards, county boards, municipal boards or councils, state universities, community colleges and public elementary and secondary schools between 6 pm and 8 pm on election day. Regularly scheduled classes are not prohibited. Makes changes in procedures used in distributing and tabulating ballots. Clarifies some procedures on absentee ballots. Transfers power to approve voting machines from attorney general to secretary of state. Effective: Immediately.
C. 91

Training of Election Officials

- H.F. 843 Lehto, Stoa, McDonald, Rice, Osthoff
- * S.F. 266 Keefe, S., Schaaf, Coleman, Pillsbury, Gearty

Before each statewide primary election, the secretary of state is required to conduct conferences for county auditors and distribute detailed written instructions on the administration of election laws. The secretary of state may formulate a statewide training program for election judges. County auditors are required to conduct a program of in-service training for local election officials and train all election judges. Effective: August 1, 1977.
C. 308

Accessibility of Polling Places

- H.F. 1096 Neisen, King, Reding, Simoneau, Heinitz
- * S.F. 1208 Milton, Staples, Vega, Lewis, Keefe, S.

Requires polling places to be accessible to and usable by elderly and physically handicapped persons by complying with standards listed in act. A site not meeting these standards may be used if no available site can be made accessible. Permits persons who are unable to enter a polling place to register and vote without leaving their vehicles and requires judges to provide the necessary ballots and assistance needed in marking them. Effective: August 1, 1977.
C. 88

Voter Registration and Absentee Voting

- * H.F. 789 Cummiskey, Simoneau, Reding, Beauchamp
- S.F. 519 Keefe, S., Schaaf, Johnson, Nelson

Requires that persons providing proof of residence for election day registrants have their names put on the new voters' records until auditor verifies the new voters' addresses. Requires auditor to provide election judges with "precinct finders" or maps to show them who should vote in each precinct. Requires department of public safety to provide voter registration material to persons changing their drivers license addresses. Regulates updating and use of voter registration files. Changes information required on voter registration card. Updates absentee ballot procedure. Simplifies absentee voting for hospital patients. Effective: August 1, 1977.
C. 395

ENERGY

Energy Conservation Bill

* H.F. 522 Munger, Hanson, Voss, Carlson, A.,
Beauchamp
S.F. 669 Anderson, Humphrey, Borden, Ogdahl

Requires all municipalities to adopt the state building code for new construction by July 1, 1978. Extends the life of the energy agency from December 31, 1979 to June 30, 1983. Addresses energy use by: Requiring certificates of need for smaller power plants, shorter power lines and nuclear facilities; requiring reports to the legislature on solar energy use, coal use impact, heating fuel storage inventory capacity and ethyl alcohol supplement to diesel fuel. Encourages energy conservation by: prohibiting sales of appliances with continuous pilot lights (January 1979); prohibiting sale of room air conditioners with energy efficiency ratings of less than 7.0 (January 1978), mandating energy standards for existing public buildings, requiring development of standards for outdoor display lighting, requiring individual metering in apartments constructed after January 1978, prohibiting heating commercial parking garages constructed after January 1978, requiring development of energy standards for existing residential buildings, requiring energy education programs. Appropriates \$458,000. Effective: Immediately except as noted.
C. 381

Power Line Siting

H.F. 1028 Sieben, H., Skoglund, Munger
* S.F. 896 Merriam, Olhoft, Schrom, Luther, Dunn

Modifies the 1973 power plant siting act in the areas of land use, citizen participation, EQB procedure and eminent domain as follows:

--EQB: Removes the corridor process and requires two alternative power line routes submitted by each utility; extends power plant siting timetable from 6 months to one year.

--Land Use: Width of route is increased; EQB must negotiate entry points with other states; EQB must evaluate: effects of electric field, productive agricultural land lost, use of railroad or highway rights of way, section lines, future needs in order to require multiple circuiting; gives equal priority to agriculture and wildlife areas. EQB may appoint scientific advisory committee to look at health, safety, undergrounding.

--Citizen Participation: Utility representatives are removed from citizen route and plant site advisory committees; EQB staff member will assist citizens who participate.

--Eminent Domain: Easement interests for power lines revert to owner if route not used for five years; allows landowners to request 10 annual easement payments with 8% interest on unpaid balance; allows landowner to require utility to buy any amount of contiguous land; beginning January 1, 1978 requires utilities to make annual payments in addition to the easement price depending on length of line on property.

ENERGY ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Power Line Siting - Continued

Establishes route application fee to cover EQB costs. Proceedings conducted or initiated after effective date conducted according to new law. Proceedings initiated or conducted prior to effective date remain covered by old law. Effective: Immediately.
C. 439

SEE ALSO:

Housing Finance	p.39
Appropriations for Amtrak	
Service, Railroad Rights-of-Way Study	p.61

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Plastic Milk Containers

* H.F. 45 Munger, Sabo, Skoglund, Dean, Nelson
S.F. 2 Luther, Sikorski, Ulland, Johnson

Prohibits the sale of fluid milk products other than cottage cheese, sour cream and yogurt in non-returnable, non-refillable rigid or semi-rigid containers at least 50% of which are plastic. A violation is a misdemeanor. Effective: July 1, 1978.
C. 268

Ban on Fluorocarbons

* H.F. 398 Wynia, Munger, Dean, Stoa, Osthoff
S.F. 197 Humphrey, Olhoft, Merriam

Except for refrigeration equipment, medical products (example: nasal spray), or products used to maintain electronic equipment, pressurized spray cans containing fluorocarbons may not be sold after July 1, 1979. Beginning October 31, 1977, such containers must state on the front: "Warning: Contains a chlorofluorocarbon that may harm the public health and environment by reducing ozone in the upper atmosphere." A violation is a misdemeanor. Effective: Immediately.
C. 373

Beverage Container Pull Tabs

* H.F. 524 Haugerud, Kahn, Vanasek, Stanton
S.F. 673 Willet, Peterson, Schrom, Dunn,
Benedict

Deletes the requirement that non-carbonated beverage containers (such as fruit juice) have non-detachable pull tabs. Effective: Immediately.
C. 228

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Used Motor Oil Recycling

- H.F. 347 Skoglund, Sherwood, Wynia, Jensen,
Munger
* S.F. 530 Olhoft, Strand, Willet, Dunn, Luther

Requires persons selling oil at retail to either post a notice indicating the nearest location where used motor oil may be returned for recycling or provide a collection tank at the point of sale for used motor oil. Persons violating this act are guilty of a petty misdemeanor. Effective: January 1, 1978.

C. 68

Nuclear Waste

- * H.F. 1215 Hanson, Munger, Kahn, Kempe, R.
S.F. 1133 Luther, Willet, Dunn, Olson, H., Benedict

Prohibits both the construction or operation of a radioactive waste management facility in Minnesota and the transportation of radioactive waste into Minnesota for permanent storage unless authorized by the legislature. Allows temporary storage of cardiac pacemakers, smoke detectors, research wastes, etc., for up to 12 months under state and federal law. Effective: Immediately.

C. 416

Water Pollution Control Fund

- * H.F. 1252 Stoa, Munger, Anderson, G., Sieben, M.
Evans
S.F. 1444 Setzepfandt, Peterson, Willet, Ashbach,
Nelson

Authorizes increase in PCA water pollution control bonding authority from \$84 million to \$124 million (an increase of \$40 million) to provide state match for municipal waste water treatment facility construction projects receiving federal water pollution control act funds. Municipalities not eligible for additional state grants after meeting state water quality standards. Effective: August 1, 1977.

C. 418

Feedlot Pollution Control Equipment Tax Credit

- H.F. 98 Setzepfandt, Anderson, G., Friedrich,
Gunter, Lemke
* S.F. 506 Setzepfandt, Frederick, Olson, Schrom,
Hanson

Extends the 10% tax credit for feedlot pollution control equipment until December 31, 1980. If the amount of credit is not used in the taxable year in which the equipment is purchased, the excess amount may be carried forward to the 4 taxable years following. Effective: For equipment purchased after 12/31/76.

C. 250

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION GAME AND FISH

Soil and Water Conservation

- H.F. 776 Clawson, Kalis, Lemke, Mann
Anderson, R.
* S.F. 90 Stumpf, Schrom, Willet, Dunn, Penny

Appropriates \$3 million to the state soil and water conservation board to initiate a cost-sharing program with conservation districts for reduction or prevention of soil erosion, flooding, sedimentation and agriculturally-related pollution. New duties of the board include: reviewing district plans, conducting research, developing a priority system of needy areas. Effective: Immediately.

C. 304

SEE ALSO:

Shade Tree Disease Control	p.45
Omnibus Tax Bill	
(Taconite Environmental Protection Fund)	p.58
Water Resources Management	p.2
Power Line Siting	p.25

GAME AND FISH

Eastern Timber Wolf

- * H.F. 105 Anderson, I., Braun, Fugina, Battaglia,
Carlson, D.
S.F. 83 Johnson, Lessard, Hanson, Willet, Ashbach

Resolution urging the secretary of interior to declassify the eastern timber wolf and return management and control of the wolf to the state of Minnesota. Effective: Immediately.

Violation of Game and Fish Laws

- * H.F. 188 Wieser, Sherwood, Reding, Kahn,
Biersdorf
S.F. 138 Luther, Schrom, Benedict, Peterson
Strand

Defines conviction to include failure to appear in court. Persons convicted of violating or failing to have a license may not receive big game licenses for three years or any other license for one year after the conviction date. Effective: Immediately.

C. 110

Muzzle Loading Firearms

- H.F. 250 Jensen, Patton, Sieben, M., Braun,
Biersdorf
* S.F. 760 Knutson, Dunn, Hanson, Lessard

Establishes a season and designated areas for hunting deer and bear with muzzle loading firearms as prescribed by the commissioner of DNR between September 1, and December 31. Use permitted only on public lands. Effective: Immediately.

C. 174

GAME AND FISH
GOVERNMENT AND JUDICIAL REFORM

Game and Fish

- H.F. 397 Reding, Wieser, Patton, Sherwood,
Biersdorf
* S.F. 381 Peterson, Nichols, Laufenburger, Luther,
Bernhagen

Establishes a season for taking wild turkey and designates a license fee of \$10 (resident) or \$30 (non-resident) in addition to a small game license of \$5. Allows for the taking of bobcat, fox, and fisher as determined by the commissioner of DNR. Changes the beaver trapping season from November 1 - May 31 to December 1 - April 30. Prohibits pheasant hunting between sunset and 9 am. Requires that Minnesota sportsman licenses be issued by March 1, 1978, for a fee of \$9 (if the angling license is for one person), and \$12 (if the angling license is a combination husband and wife license). Effective: Immediately. C. 310
C. 310

Migratory Waterfowl Stamp

- H.F. 666 Sieben, H., Savelkoul, Reding, Munger,
Hokanson
* S.F. 597 Merriam, Hanson, Dunn, Peterson,
Purfeerst

Requires persons between 18 and 65 intending to hunt migratory waterfowl to purchase a stamp (\$3.00/year) in addition to a small game license. Directs DNR to encourage non-hunters to purchase the stamp. Revenue collected must be used for development of wetlands, protection of waterfowl and their habitat, and acquisition of construction sites. Appropriates \$800,000 (estimated stamp revenue) for habitat improvement. Effective: Immediately.
C. 317

SEE ALSO:

Compensation for Livestock Destroyed
by Endangered Species

p. 3

GOVERNMENT AND JUDICIAL REFORM

Coterminous Appointment of Department Heads

- H.F. 612 Petrafeso, Sieben, H., Cummiskey,
Smogard, Zubay
* S.F. 109 Schaaf, Gearty, Chenoweth, Ogdahl,
Borden

Provides that the terms of department heads will end with the term of the governor. Department heads will now serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority and may be removed without cause subject to a July 1, 1987 "sunset" provision. Provides for a procedure to insure the immediate succession to office of a temporary department head and appointment of a permanent successor. Restricts related private employment of commissioners and deputies for one

GOVERNMENT AND JUDICIAL REFORM

Coterminous Appointment of Department Heads - Continued

year after leaving office. Limits each department to one deputy commissioner, unless otherwise specifically authorized by statute; sets maximum of two deputy commissioners in any event. Establishes certain requirements for executive orders, e.g., effective and expiration dates, and for advisory task forces, councils and committees created by the governor. Allows the commissioner of administration to transfer powers, duties and personnel of one department to another that has been in existence for at least one year. Transfers the policy making and administrative functions of the health board to the commissioner of health who will now be appointed by the governor rather than the board. Health board to serve in advisory capacity to the commissioner. Provides that the executive director of MHFA will be appointed by the governor rather than by the agency. Effective: Immediately.
C. 305

Unclassified Pay Raise Bill

- H.F. 689 Sieben, H., Sabo, Anderson, I., Norton,
Voss
* S.F. 483 Gearty, Ogdahl, Borden, Coleman,
Sieloff

Increases salaries of state agency heads. Highest paid agency head is now commissioner of finance at \$45,000. Establishes deputy agency head salaries at 90% of agency head's salary. Provides that salaries of local government employees shall not exceed the salary of the commissioner of finance. Reduces merit pay awards from 25% to 10% of base salary. Increases salaries of constitutional officers to: governor, \$58,000; attorney general, \$49,000; lieutenant governor, \$30,000; secretary of state, auditor and treasurer, \$30,000; deputy constitutional officers' salaries set at 90% of constitutional officer's salary. Increases salaries of state legislators to \$16,500 in 1979 and \$18,500 in 1980. Reduces per diem during session from \$48 to \$27 for outstate legislators and from \$40 to \$17 for metro legislators. Interim per diem increased from \$33 to \$48. Judicial salaries are increased to: chief justice of supreme court, \$52,000; associate justices, \$49,000; district, county and municipal court judges learned in the law, \$40,000; judges not learned in the law, \$27,000. County judges will now receive same pay as district judges. Provides for state takeover of county judges salaries. Appropriates: \$15,749,000.

Chapter 35 has since been amended by:

S.F. 311 (Chapter 432) -- to increase district and county court judges' salaries from \$40,000 to \$42,000, and

S.F. 1337 (Chapter 452) -- to increase local government salary limitations from finance commissioner's base salary to finance commissioner's base salary plus maximum merit award of 10% (from \$45,000 to \$49,500). Effective: July 1, 1977
C. 35

Office of Volunteer Services

- * H.F. 613 Clark, Kroening, Hokanson, Skoglund
S.F. 599 Hughes, Staples, Humphrey, Sikorski, Brataas

Establishes an office of volunteer services and a 21 member advisory committee within the governor's office to encourage and improve volunteer programs throughout the state. Appropriates \$200,000. Effective: July 1, 1977.
C. 389

Department of Economic Security

- H.F. 3 Sieben, H., Hokanson, Anderson, I., Swanson Biersdorf
* S.F. 202 Moe, Chenoweth, Penny, Kirchner, Laufenburger

Creates a new department of economic security to coordinate job training and placement services and administer unemployment compensation. Combines present departments of employment services and vocational rehabilitation; authorizes governor to transfer the governor's manpower office and CETA programs into new department by executive order. Requires new commissioner to report to select senate-house committee by January 1, 1978, specifying methods of improving current services. Appropriates \$150,000. Effective: July 1, 1977. Transfer of powers occurs when commissioner certifies that new department is operative.
C. 430

Public Access to State Offices

- H.F. 684 Pehler, Wenzel, Cummiskey, Lemke, Reding
* S.F. 499 Schmitz, Coleman, Ulland, Vega, Peterson

Requires the commissioner of administration to prepare a report by November 15, 1977, proposing methods to improve public access to state offices, particularly those which regularly receive and record documents, issue licenses or provide other services. Specifically evaluated will be the feasibility of a one-stop license center, located in the Twin Cities area away from the capitol complex. Effective: Immediately.
C. 136

Multi-County Grand Juries

- H.F. 1347 Nelson
* S.F. 1051 Borden, Schaaf, Sikorski, McCutcheon, Ashbach

Allows a district court judge to convene a multi-county grand jury, if subject matter of the grand jury inquiry concerns activities in more than one county. Effective: August 1, 1977.
C. 208

Court Reorganization

- H.F. 457 Voss, Berg, Clawson, Kroening, Pehler
* S.F. 311 Tennesen, Coleman, Sillers, Kleinbaum, Dunn

Reorganizes state's courts into 10 judicial districts, each with chief judge (elected by county and district judges) and district administrator (appointed by chief judge). Non-metro district boundaries can be changed by supreme court with approval of majority of chief judges. Allows judges to be shifted temporarily to overloaded courts (can be assigned within own district by chief judge, outside own district for short periods by chief justice of the supreme court). Amends Chapter 35 (1977), the unclassified pay bill by increasing the salary of district and county judges from \$40,000 to \$42,000. Creates Hennepin county family court (judge cannot serve consecutive terms in this court). Clarifies judges' retirement agreement system. Abolishes position of court referees. Restructures appeal procedures, (major change is creation of three judge appeal panels). Effective: sections 25 and 48 (abolishing judicial officers and referees) -- July 31, 1978; section 45 (chief judge)--day following final enactment; remainder -- July 1, 1977.
C. 432

Tax Court

- H.F. 68 Suss, Kelly, W., Savelkoul, Haugerud, Sieben, H.
* S.F. 160 Davies, Merriam, Gearty, Dieterich, Sillers

Renames the tax court of appeals the "tax court" and establishes it as a full-time, independent agency within the executive branch. The three judges appointed by the governor will serve six year terms and receive a salary equal to the base salary for district judges (\$42,000). The court will have statewide jurisdiction and will be the sole and final authority on all questions of law and fact arising under the tax laws of the state, except for appeals allowed by the law. The tax court is instructed to hold hearings across the state to reduce the inconvenience and expense to taxpayers. The appeal fee is \$10. Further establishes a small claims division of the tax court to handle taxpayer appeals in which the amount in controversy does not exceed \$2,500. The appeal fee is \$2. Appropriates \$411,500. Effective: July 1, 1977.
C. 307

Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction Act

- H.F. 24 Faricy, Sieben, M., Pleasant, Haugerud, Kahn
* S.F. 107 Hanson, Merriam, Knoll

Enacts rules and procedures for establishment of court jurisdiction in child custody cases and interstate disputes. Defines child's "home state," and extends home state jurisdiction for six months after removal of child from the state. Allows Minnesota courts to refuse to consider legal actions brought by persons who have violated another state's custody decree or wrongfully taken a child out of another state. Provides for interstate cooperation. Effective: Immediately.
C. 8

GOVERNMENT AND JUDICIAL REFORM
HANDICAPPED

SEE ALSO:

Water Resources Management p.2
Classified Employees Pay Bill p.49

HANDICAPPED

Parking for the Temporarily Handicapped

H.F. 175 Wigley, Kvam, Neisen, Kalis, Hokanson
* S.F. 43 Ueland, Engler, Staples, Gunderson,
Jensen

Allows persons who are temporarily physically handicapped to receive temporary certificates from the department of public safety which allow them to park in designated handicapped parking areas (previously limited to those permanently handicapped). Effective: Immediately.
C. 22

Parking Privileges

H.F. 798 Neisen, McEachern, Reding, Erickson,
Kostohryz
* S.F. 922 Benedict, Strand, Staples, Humphrey

Requires vehicles parking in spaces reserved for the handicapped to display the certificate or insignia issued to handicapped drivers by the department of public safety. Persons violating the law fined \$10. Effective: August 1, 1977.
C. 205

Improved Access to State Buildings

* H.F. 1631 Norton
S.F. 1530 Moe

Appropriates \$500,000 to make state buildings barrier free for the handicapped. Effective: July 1, 1977.
C. 451

Guide Dogs for the Deaf

H.F. 208 Forsythe, Clawson, Scheid, Kaley, Clark
* S.F. 223 Bang, Gearty, Lewis, Laufenberger,
Ashbach

Assures every totally or partially deaf person the right to be accompanied by a guide dog. Requires motorists to stop and give the right-of-way to any deaf person with a guide dog identified by a burnt orange collar or leash. Allows a deduction from gross income for the cost and maintenance expenses of guide dogs. Effective: Immediately.
C. 247

HANDICAPPED

Islands of Peace Park--Fridley

* H.F. 15 Simoneau, McCarron, Scheid, Ellingson,
Neisen
S.F. 100 Schaaf, Luther, Humphrey, Olson, H.

Appropriates \$150,000 to State Planning Agency to develop recreational facilities for the handicapped at Islands of Peace Park in cooperation with local governments which must raise \$50,000 and be responsible for operation and maintenance of land and facilities. Effective: July 1, 1977.
C. 352

Vinland National Center

* H.F. 917 Swanson, Sabo, Kvam, Norton,
Samuelson
S.F. 883 Milton, Kirchner, Lewis, Perpich, Coleman

Appropriates \$200,000 state match for a gift from Norway for planning and construction of Vinland National Center, a national health promotion, education and training center for handicapped citizens. Prohibits construction until certificate of need is obtained. Effective: July 1, 1977.
C. 283

Remodeling of Handicapped Employees' Residences

H.F. 1607 Murphy
* S.F. 23 Chmielewski, Olson, H., Staples, Menning,
Gunderson

Requires employers to remodel the residences of employees permanently disabled by job-related injuries, subject to a determination by the workers' compensation division of the department of labor and industry, the certification of a licensed architect and the advice of the council for the handicapped, that the injury substantially prevents the employee from functioning within the residence. If remodeling is not practical, another residence which would accommodate the disabled employee may be provided. Employees are limited to \$30,000 for each injury. Effective: Immediately.
C. 177

Purchase of products from Sheltered Workshops

* H.F. 54 Faricy, Osthoff, McDonald, Zubay
S.F. 221 Knoll, Kirchner, Knutson, Humphrey,
Lewis

Continues program for state purchase of sheltered workshop products; eliminates ceiling on types of products purchased; requires commissioner of administration to consider open market bid prices and increased costs in determining fair market prices for each product; and allows purchase price to exceed fair market price by 5%. Effective: Immediately.
C. 94

SEE ALSO:

Accessibility of Polling Places p.24
Personal Allowance p.53
Income Maintenance Eligibility p.37
Responsibility for Cost of Care for Mentally
Retarded, Epileptic & Emotionally
Handicapped Children p.38

HEALTH AND WELFARE

Human Services Amendment

- * H.F. 1052 Dahl, Hokanson, Petrafeso, Swanson,
Heinitz
S.F. 1058 Olson, H., Lewis, Knutson

Amends Minnesota human services act: changes mandatory citizen board membership to optional; lengthens operational stage from 30 days to 1 year; shortens advisory member terms from 3 to 2 years; requires community health services and community corrections representation on advisory committee; provides for funding from participating counties; requires annual state audits; requires affected state agencies be notified when local organizing efforts begin; provides for implementation grants not to exceed \$75,000; and empowers state planning agency with ongoing human services development. Effective: July 1, 1977.
C. 411

Access to Health Records

- * H.F. 462 McCollar, Carlson, L., Scheid, Berglin,
Heinitz
S.F. 460 Milton, Gunderson, Staples, Vega, Nelson

Requires health care providers to supply patients with complete and current information regarding the patient's medical condition upon request at reasonable cost. If the health care provider determines that supplying medical records to a patient would be detrimental to the physical or mental health of the patient, the provider may withhold the records from the patient or may supply the records to an appropriate third party. A patient's health record must be supplied to another health care provider at the written request of the patient. Effective: Immediately.
C. 380

Testing Laboratory Regulations

- * H.F. 980 Scheid, Carlson, L., Anderson, B., Waldorf,
Wenstrom
S.F. 1393 Vega, Staples, Sikorski, Milton

Authorizes board of health regulation of all clinical laboratories outside of hospitals except laboratories owned and operated by 5 or fewer doctors, dentists, etc., for their own patients. Law will automatically expire if federal funding goes below 45% of costs of regulation. Effective: Immediately. C. 406

Health Screening for Pre-Schoolers

- H.F. 757 Byrne, Faricy, Carlson, L., Carlson, A.
Mangan
* S.F. 743 Milton, Hughes, Kirchner, Perpich, Staples

Requires every school board to provide a voluntary health and developmental screening program for pre-kindergarten children. By FY 1979, programs to include developmental, hearing, vision, dental and nutritional assessments; health history and immunization review; and laboratory tests. Requires legislative report by February 1, 1979. School districts to receive up to \$13/child in FY 1978, up to \$23/child in FY 1979. Appropriates \$1,669,000. Effective: July 1, 1977.
C. 437

HEALTH AND WELFARE

Volunteer Ambulance Attendants

- H.F. 59 Vanasek, Anderson, G., Samuelson,
Carlson, D., Haugerud
* S.F. 80 Menning, Renneke, Purfeerst, Penny

Reimburses political subdivisions, non-profit hospitals or corporation for expenses of training volunteer ambulance attendants. Reimbursable expenses include tuition, transportation, food and lodging to a maximum of \$210 per attendant. Appropriates \$225,000, for the biennium. Effective: July 1, 1977.
C. 427

Canadian Physicians

- H.F. 144 Sherwood, St. Onge, Kalis, Niehaus,
Smogard
* S.F. 21 Wegener, Olson, H., Dunn, Sillers

Permits the state board of medical examiners to grant licenses to practice medicine in Minnesota, without examination, to physicians licensed by the licensure medical council of Canada. Effective: Immediately.
C. 7

University of Minnesota Nursing-Pharmacy Building

- * H.F. 1631 Norton
S.F. 1530 Moe

Appropriates \$13M to the university of Minnesota for the construction of a combined classroom, office and lab facility for training nurses and pharmacists. Appropriation is contingent upon receipt of \$8.2 million in federal funds. Effective: July 1, 1977.
C. 451

Child Support Collections

- * H.F. 916 Dahl, Carlson, L., Swanson, Clawson,
Niehaus
S.F. 662 Vega, Luther, Brataas, Merriam

Strengthens DPW's ability to receive or recover child support for AFDC assistance given: authorizes courts to order continuing support in addition to a one-time money judgment; authorizes welfare agencies to petition for monthly or more frequent garnishment of wages; updates uniform reciprocal enforcement of support act with other states; provides procedure for filing foreign support orders; allows welfare agencies to recommend adequate child support in divorce proceeding involving welfare recipients; and authorizes contracts between welfare agencies and county attorneys for child support and paternity actions. County courts granted concurrent jurisdiction with district courts over child support and paternity actions. Effective: August 1, 1977.
C. 282

Welfare Abuses

- * H.F. 461 Wieser, Heinitz, Swanson, Samuelson, Abeln
S.F. 101 Chmielewski, Olhoft

Strengthens welfare fraud section by prohibiting: (1) intentional concealment of information, (2) assisting an applicant or recipient in disposing of excess property, or (3) fraudulent issuance, transfer, use, or receipt of food stamps; all punishable as acts of theft. Excess public assistance received shall be recoverable. All counties must continue to offer food stamp programs. Effective: August 1, 1977.
C. 225

Income Maintenance Eligibility

- * H.F. 1051 Berglin, Clawson, Clark, Carlson, D. Dahl
S.F. 980 Milton, Keefe, S., Coleman, Sikorski, Staples

Alters eligibility criteria for AFDC, medical assistance and Minnesota supplemental aid:

--net equity in home: AFDC - \$15,000
(was \$7,500)
MA - \$25,000
(was \$15,000)
MSA - \$25,000

--Market value of one automobile (formerly not allowed): AFDC - \$1,650
MA - \$1,650
MSA - \$1,650

--real estate producing net income applicable to family needs or which the family is trying to sell at a fair price: AFDC - Allowed
MA - Allowed
MSA - Allowed

Authorizes DPW to establish a sliding scale, based on financial resources, for medical assistance recipients' contributions to care of spouse in nursing home. Extends catastrophic health expense protection to persons paying qualified nursing home expenses. Appropriates \$8,000,000. Effective: July 1, 1977.
C. 448

Work Equity Programs

- * H.F. 1498 Dahl, Birnstihl, Jensen, McEachern, Niehaus
S.F. 1465 Vega, Nelson, Chmielewski, Milton, Perpich

Establishes demonstration "work equity" training and employment programs in DPW - designated counties, to be administered by the governor's manpower office. Requires GA recipients, unless exempted, to participate. Authorizes transfer of state and local GA funds for creation of "work equity" jobs; allows "work equity" incomes to be above grant standards. Effective: August 1, 1977.
C. 301

Medical Assistance Limits

- H.F. 915 Samuelson, Swanson, McCarron, Dahl
Forsythe
* S.F. 296 Milton, Perpich, Tennesen, Kirchner, Solon

Authorizes DPW to limit types and costs of services covered by medical assistance and frequency with which similar services may be covered for recipient. Effective: August 1, 1977.
C. 185

Responsibility for Cost of Care for Mentally Retarded, Epileptic, and Emotionally Handicapped Children

- H.F. 1547 Samuelson, Swanson
* S.F. 1334 Perpich

Raises from \$60 to \$125 per month the ceiling on required parental payment toward cost of care for children in state institutions; increases from \$4,000 to \$11,000 the income level at which relatives are exempted from responsibility. Requires commissioner of DPW to determine, by rule, parental responsibility for child's cost of care in licensed, 24-hour community care facility. Payment must be based on ability to pay, up to a maximum of \$125/month. Effective: July 1, 1977.
C. 331

Liability Insurance for Foster Homes

- * H.F. 167 Swanson, Dahl, Williamson, Nelsen, B., McEachern
S.F. 1486 Staples, Brataas, Milton, Spear, Vega

Requires the department of public welfare to purchase and provide limited liability coverage for DPW licensed and department of corrections certified foster parents; appropriates \$122,000/biennium. Effective: July 1, 1977.
C. 360

SEE ALSO:

Omnibus Health, Welfare & Corrections	p.5
Appropriation Bill	p.47
Centralized Payment System	p.34
Vinland National Center	p.54
Nursing Home Regulations	p.3
Plastic Well Casings	

HOUSING

Housing Finance

* H.F. 875	Kroening, Norton, Jaros, Osthoff, Jacobs
S.F. 867	Knoll, Sikorski, Willet, Ogdahl, Humphrey

Raises debt limit of housing finance agency from \$600 million to \$900 million for funding agency home improvement loan, homeownership loan and multi-family construction loan programs. Encourages housing coops to participate in agency programs, and commits the agency to emphasize rehabilitation of existing apartment buildings.

Appropriations:

\$21.5 million - for home improvement grants to low-income families.

\$10 million - leveraged with bond proceeds for home improvement loans.

\$7.5 million - for new homeownership assistance program, subsidizing mortgage payments and downpayments of low and moderate income families (subsidy payments decrease each year as recipient's ability to pay increases. These interest-free subsidies would be repaid by recipients before their last mortgage payment).

\$1 million - for innovative housing projects, particularly those demonstrating energy conservation.

Effective: July 1, 1977
C. 401

New Home Warranties

* H.F. 38	Sieben, M., Osthoff, Adams
S.F. 56	Sikorski, Solon, Tennesen, Keefe, S., Ogdahl

Requires builders of new homes to provide 10-year warranties against major construction defects, 2-year warranties against defects caused by faulty installation of heating, cooling, plumbing and electrical systems, and a 1-year warranty against defective materials and faulty workmanship. Also provides for certain exclusions from liability if defects occur for which the builder is not directly responsible. Provides for waivers of warranties prior to sale if certain information is attested to in a waiver instrument. Damages are limited to the amount necessary to remedy the defect or the difference between the value of the dwelling with and without the defect. Effective: For sales of new homes on or after January 1, 1978.
C. 65

HOUSING HUMAN RIGHTS

Usury Law Extension Changes

* H.F. 500	George, Adams, Dean, Beauchamp, Berkelman
S.F. 668	Borden, Kleinbaum, Knoll, Milton, Ogdahl

Extends the floating usury ceiling to July 31, 1979. Eliminates previous statutory language which tied conventional loan eligibility to federal regulations and also expands definition of "residential unit," thus removing an obstacle in conventional financing of condominiums, townhouses and second homes. Requires mortgage note forms used in Minnesota to contain some home buyer protection provisions found in federal regulations. Closes remaining loopholes in statutes so that all conventional home loans are subject to the floating ceiling. Requires all lenders making conventional loans in Minnesota to file an annual report with the banking commissioner, detailing their home loan activity. Interest on escrow changed from 3% to 4% per annum. Effective: June 1, 1977, for interest on escrow changes, immediately for all other provisions.
C. 350

SEE ALSO:

Mandatory Smoke Detectors
Duluth Housing Finance Program
Energy Conservation Bill

p.11
p.46
p.25

HUMAN RIGHTS

Age Discrimination

* H.F. 6	Enebo, Kahn, St. Onge, McCarron, Anderson, I.
S.F. 192	Spear, Dieterich, Milton, Keefe, S., Keefe, J.

Amends the human rights act to prohibit discrimination against persons over the age of 18 in education and employment except for: age restrictions uniformly applied for bonafide apprenticeship programs, bonafide seniority systems, varying insurance benefits at reasonably equivalent cost, mandatory retirement, state summer youth employment program, maximum age for entry as a peace officer or firefighter. Appropriates \$100,000 for processing complaints. Effective: July 1, 1977.
C. 351

HUMAN RIGHTS

Privacy

- * H.F. 415 Hokanson, Berglin, Stoa, Samuelson, Dean
S.F. 811 Tennesen, Merriam, Nelson

Extends expiration date of the commissioner of administration's current emergency data classification authority from June 30, 1977, to July 31, 1978. Requires commissioner of administration to act on requests for emergency classification of public data (private or confidential status) within 30 days. All emergency classifications will expire on July 31, 1978. Government agencies must now comply with requests for data from individuals immediately, when possible, or within 5 working days. Individuals asked to supply confidential or private data on themselves must now be informed of other persons or agencies which will have access to such data. Effective: immediately.
C. 375

Grandparental Visitation Rights

- * H.F. 56 Sieben, M., Sarna
S.F. 786 Sikorski, Knutson, Humphrey, Schaff

During or after divorce proceedings, allows grandparents and great-grandparents, regardless of relationship to parent granted custody, the right to petition for visitation privileges to minor, unmarried children. Also allows grandparents to petition for visiting rights to grandchildren who have lived with them for 12 months or more. Effective: immediately.
C. 238

Sex Discrimination

- * H.F. 1015 Wynia, Casserly, Jaros, Pehler, Ewald
S.F. 680 Lewis, Coleman, Spear, Keefe, J., Staples

Amends Minnesota human rights act: extends scope of prohibited sex discrimination to include discrimination on the basis of pregnancy, childbirth or disabilities related to pregnancy or childbirth. Affects all areas covered by human rights acts, including fringe benefits in employment. Employer may provide special safety consideration for pregnant women in tasks potentially hazardous to the unborn child. Provides for appeal of court decision of commissioner of human rights. Effective: immediately.
C. 403

Release of Adoption Records

- H.F. 128 Enebo, Dean, Kahn, Pehler, Carlson, A.
* S.F. 191 Spear, Dieterich, Sieloff, Sikorski, Hanson

Authorizes the release of birth information to adopted persons, age 21 or older, and establishes filing procedure through the state registrar. Requires commissioner of DPW to confidentially notify the natural parent(s), in person, of the adoptee's request. Guarantees natural parent(s) right to remain anonymous by filing an affidavit of nondisclosure. Provides court procedure if parent(s) cannot be located or are deceased. Effective: June 1, 1977.
C. 181

HUMAN RIGHTS

Marriage Law Amendments

- H.F. 1258 Cummiskey
* S.F. 977 Olson, H., Chmielewski, Penny, Ueland, Kleinbaum

Defines marriage as a civil contract between a man and a woman (formerly defined as a civil contract). Marriage documents must state names each party used before marriage and names they intend to use after marriage (formerly presumed that woman took husband's surname after marriage if not designated on application). Requires that the clerk of district court send certified copies of the marriage certificate to the marriage parties and person performing the ceremony within 10 days after receiving the certificate. Effective: August 1, 1977.
C. 441

Minnesota Identification Card

- * H.F. 176 Simoneau, Neisen, Novak, Berkelman, Skoglund
S.F. 239 Stokowski

Allows any nondriver to purchase a Minnesota I.D. card from the department of public safety (formerly called a non-qualification certificate and available only to persons over 16) for \$3.00. Establishes a fee of 50¢ for cards issued to mentally retarded persons. Effective: August 2, 1977.
C. 361

SEE ALSO:

Discriminatory Trade Practices

p.7

LABOR

Minimum Wage

- H.F. 169 Faricy, Enebo, Anderson, I., Sarna, Begich
* S.F. 226 Milton, Nelson, Solon, Vega, Keefe, S.

Increases state minimum wage for adults from \$2.10 to \$2.30 an hour; individuals under 18 years of age from \$1.89 to \$2.07 an hour. Effective: September 15, 1977.
C. 183

Workers' Compensation

- * H.F. 1004 Moe, Battaglia, Clark, Novak
S.F. 960 Keefe, S., Coleman, Ogdahl, Laufenburger, Nelson

Beginning October 1, 1977, disabled workers will continue to receive 2/3 of their weekly earnings in workers' compensation but subject to a new "flexible limit" of 100% of the statewide average weekly wage rather than the fixed dollar limit of \$135 per week plus an annual cost-of-living adjustment. The current statewide average weekly wage is \$183. Minimum benefits are increased from 20% to 50% of the statewide average weekly wage. Annual cost-of-living

Workers' Compensation - Continued

adjustments are limited to a 6% increase. Supplementary benefits paid to workers disabled for more than 104 weeks are increased from 50% to 60% of the statewide average weekly wage. The period within which notice of an injury must be given is increased from 90 to 180 days. Effective June 30, 1979, a limit is placed on workers' compensation insurance premiums of 22.5% on the portion charged for profit and expenses. A workers' compensation study commission is established to report on the current administration of the law and the procedures used to establish insurance premium rates. State legislators are included under the law. Officers of family farm corporations are excluded from the law. Effective:

Family farm provisions	January 1, 1978
Benefit increases	October 1, 1977
Insurance premium limit	June 30, 1979
Supplementary benefit increase	July 1, 1977
Annual adjustment limit	retroactive to October 1, 1975
Notice time limit and state legislators' inclusion	day following final enactment

C. 342

Unemployment Compensation

H.F. 263	Adams, Patton, Sieben, H., Osthoff, Biersdorf
* S.F. 232	Laufenberger, Coleman, Brataas, Wegener, Olhoft

Increases maximum benefit levels to 64% of state average weekly wage (AWW) in FY 1978 and 66-2/3% in FY 1979; eliminates current "fixed" ceiling of \$116 allowing maximum to "float" at 62% of AWW in FY 1977. Disqualifies individuals who voluntarily quit or are discharged for misconduct, but allows easier requalification. Increases minimum employer tax rate from .9% to 1% and increases maximum from 6% to 7.5%; employer's taxable wage base rises to \$7,000 in 1977, \$7,500 in 1978 and \$8,000 in 1979. Changes initial eligibility requirements from 18 credit weeks at \$30/week to 15 credit weeks at \$50/week. Increases penalty for fraud by claimant or employer. Tax provisions effective January 1, 1977; other provisions effective July 2, 1977.

C. 4

Unemployment Compensation Conformity Bill

* H.F. 1310	Adams, Osthoff, Sarna, Metzen, Kaley
S.F. 1422	Laufenburger

Attempts conformity with 1976 federal unemployment regulations. Extends unemployment coverage to most public employees, agricultural workers, and domestic (household) workers. Denies coverage to illegal aliens, professional athletes between seasons, and all teachers, school administrators, and most non-teaching personnel during summer if they have "reasonable assurance" of reemployment (includes Faribault state schools and non-profit nursery schools). Allows public employers choice of reimbursing fund on dollar-for-dollar basis or paying employer taxes. Allows non-charging of employers for CETA employees; removes special prohibition of political activity by department staff; and allows unemployment benefits to low-income social security recipients. Effective: most sections January 1, 1978.

C. 297

Tip Credit

* H.F. 320	Reding, Prah, Enebo, Lehto, Kroening
S.F. 297	Milton, Vega, Nelson, Keefe, S., Spear

Reduces the existing tip credit permitted employers for purposes of computing the minimum wage paid to tipped employees from 25% to 20% of the minimum wage. Changes the definition of a tipped employee to allow an employee to earn \$35 (currently \$20) per month in tips before being subject to the employer's tip credit. Mandatory tip pooling by employers is prohibited. Service charges are defined as tips under the law unless customers are clearly notified that the service charge is not the property of the employee. Effective: September 15, 1977.

C. 369

Summer Youth Employment Program

H.F. 679	Casserly, Osthoff, Norton, Anderson, D., Anderson, I.
* S.F. 625	Solon, Nelson, Humphrey, Willet, Luther

Appropriates \$6 million for summer employment for youth (14-22 years) at federal minimum wage; authorizes department of employment services to place youth in local and state public service jobs for up to 12 weeks, not exceeding 40 hours/week. Earmarks \$2 million for employment of post-secondary students (18-22 years). Effective: immediately.

C. 254

LABOR

Participation in Insurance Plans

H.F. 896 Jacobs
* S.F. 557 Merriam

Prohibits employers providing group life insurance plans from requiring employees to participate as a condition of employment unless the employer pays the full cost of the plan. Retaliation against employees refusing to contribute is prohibited. Does not apply to collectively bargained contracts providing for mandatory participation in group life insurance plans. Effective: August 1, 1977.
C. 192

Limits to Employer's Right to Invention

* H.F. 763 Fudro, Sarna, Laidig, Nelsen, M., Birnstihl
S.F. 208 Olhoff, Tennesen, Solon, Sikorski, Bang

Prohibits terms in employment agreements which require employees to surrender to their employers inventions developed on the employee's own time, with his/her own supplies and equipment, and without use of the employer's trade secrets. Effective: August 1, 1977.
C. 47

SEE ALSO:

Public Employees Category p.48-51
Remodeling Handicapped Employees' Residences p.34
No-Site Stadium Bill p.52

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Shade Tree Disease Control

H.F. 215 Berg, Norton, Sieben, M., Kvam, Kalis
* S.F. 32 Humphrey, Vega, Staples, Ogdahl, Willet

Expands current state grants program of department of agriculture to assist local governments with removal and replacement of trees lost to dutch elm disease and oak wilt.

1. Sanitation grants--up to 45% of total removal and disposal costs on public and private land.

2. Reforestation grants--not to exceed the lesser of 50% of total costs or \$40 per tree planted on public property.

3. Waste utilization facilities grants--50% of costs and available only to metro cities with populations greater than 40,000 and outstate cities with populations greater than 20,000.

4. Continues state grants to local governments for subsidies to private property owners for tree removal.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Shade Tree Disease Control - Continued

Continues special assessment authority for tree removal. Authorizes special levies for tax years 1976 and 1977. Permits commissioner of agriculture to establish experimental disease control programs. Directs DNR to remove diseased trees on state-owned lands within 1,000 feet of municipalities with control programs. Appropriation:

Department of Agriculture:

Sanitation Grants	\$ 21,650,000
Reforestation Grants	4,400,000
Wood Utilization Facilities Grants	550,000
Public Information	225,000
Experimental Programs	400,000
Administration	300,000

University of Minnesota

Research	100,000
Training	250,000

DNR

Tree Removal	625,000
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Total	\$ 28,500,000
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Effective: January 1, 1977

C. 90

Additional On-Sale Liquor Licenses

* H.F. 90 Kempe, A., Metzen
S.F. 496 McCutcheon, Vega

Previous law permits voters to authorize by referendum the issuance of "on-sale" liquor licenses in addition to those specifically granted cities by law. New law permits cities to designate a specific number of additional "on-sale" licenses on a referendum ballot or place an unspecified question on a referendum ballot. This option permits voters to authorize the issuance of a single additional license rather than authorizing an unlimited number of additional licenses. Effective: Immediately.
C. 239

Duluth Housing Finance Program

H.F. 988 Jaros, Lehto, Berkelman, Munger
* S.F. 827 Ulland, Solon

Authorizes Duluth to establish by ordinance a housing finance program for persons of low and moderate income and authorizes Duluth city council to sell up to \$6 million in revenue bonds to finance the program. Effective: upon approval of the Duluth city council and upon compliance with Minnesota statutes, section 645.021.
C. 142

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Centralized Payment System

- * H.F. 856 Clawson, Swanson, Dahl, Carlson, L.,
Samuelson
S.F. 1335 Perpich

Authorizes centralized disbursement of AFDC payments, emergency assistance payments to needy families and food stamps. As statewide system becomes operable in any geographic area, individual county disbursement systems shall be superseded on date to be designated by commissioner of DPW. Effective: August 1, 1977.
C. 400

Land Use Planning

- * H.F. 698 McDonald, Suss
S.F. 628 Schmitz, Dunn

Deadline for compliance of county official controls, e.g., ordinances, maps, building codes, etc., with state law relative to the enforcement of county comprehensive land use plans extended from August 1, 1977, to August 1, 1978. Effective: August 1, 1977.
C. 197

Municipal Contracts

- * H.F. 368 Kalis, Fudro, Reding, Forsythe, Lemke
S.F. 218 Laufenburger, Wegener, Purfeerst,
Chmielewski

Amends uniform municipal contract law by increasing dollar limitations applying to contracting procedures required to be used by political subdivisions when purchasing goods and services:

<u>Contracting Procedures</u>	<u>Limitations Under Former Law</u>	<u>Limit. Under Ch. 182 (1977)</u>
Solicitation of sealed bids; public notice requirements	\$ 5,000 and above	\$ 10,000 and above
Direct negotiation with contractor	\$ 1,000 to \$ 5,000	\$ 5,000 to \$ 10,000
Quotation	Under \$ 1,000	Under \$ 5,000

Effective: Immediately.
C. 182

LOCAL GOVERNMENT PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

Municipalities--Reverse Repurchase Agreements

- * H.F. 1066 McEachern
S.F. 1023 Wegener, Ueland, Menning

Authorizes municipalities to enter into reverse repurchase agreements with financial institutions, enabling municipalities to raise funds quickly by selling securities while retaining the right to repurchase the securities at a future date. Reverse repurchase agreements are not included within the net debt limitation of the municipality. Effective: Immediately.
C. 259

SEE ALSO:

Energy Conservation Bill	p.25
Bridge Bonding	p.61
Department of Transportation Appropriations	p.60
Bloomington Ferry Bridge	p.61
Bicycle Registration	p.62
Como Park Zoo	p.52
Parks and Recreation Bonding	p.53
Recreation Sites Along Canoe and Boating Routes	p.52
"911" Emergency Telephone Service	p.51
Omnibus Tax Bill (Local Government Aids)	p.57
Public Drainage Systems	p.2
Water Pollution Control Fund	p.27

PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

Omnibus Retirement Bill

- * H.F. 1042 Patton, Moe, Beauchamp, Hanson, Reding
S.F. 181 Stokowski, Ogdahl, Strand, Peterson,
Renneke

Delays until July 1, 1978, the 15% per year increase limitation on the highest 5 successive years of average salary used to calculate retirement benefits. Adds a retired member to the Minnesota state retirement system (MSRS) and the teachers retirement association (TRA) boards of trustees. Provides that members of the public employees retirement association (PERA) board of trustees shall be elected from three regional election districts. Allows PERA annuitants over mandatory retirement age to be employed as substitute employees up to a maximum annual salary of \$3,000. Requires the St. Paul teachers retirement fund association to coordinate with social security--effective July 1, 1978. Delays 1 year (until July 1, 1978) the coordination of the Minneapolis teachers retirement fund association with social security to conform with the coordination of the St. Paul teachers retirement fund association. Effective: July 1, 1977.
C. 429

PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

Classified Employees Pay Bill

H.F. 1408	Pehler, Sieben, H., Beauchamp, Patton, Knickerbocker
* S.F. 1337	Nelson, Chenoweth, McCutcheon, Ogdahl, Borden

Authorizes the commissioner of personnel to implement labor agreements negotiated by the state negotiator's office and various state employee unions. Provides salary increases for the biennium for all classified state employees:

Schedule A	4%
Schedule B	4%
Schedule C	one step progression

In addition, a cost-of-living increase paid in a lump sum twice over the biennium calculated as follows: 1¢ per hour for every .4 of a percent increase in the consumer price index. Provides for dental insurance coverage for state employees and increases the portion of dependent health insurance premium paid by state from \$30 to \$45 effective July 1, 1977, and the full premium effective July 1, 1978. Payment of additional premium increases after July 1, 1979, must be renegotiated. Amends chapter 35 (1977), the unclassified pay bill, to increase the limit on local government employee salaries from finance commissioner's base salary (\$45,000) to finance commissioner's base salary plus maximum merit pay award (\$49,500). Effective: July 1, 1977.
C. 452

PELRA--Supervisory and Confidential Employees

* H.F. 805	Byrne, Mangan, Kroening, Metzen, Jacobs
S.F. 1311	Keefe, S., Laufenburger

Prohibits bargaining units of supervisory or confidential (those having access to employer's personnel information) employees from participating in joint negotiations with bargaining units representing other employees. However, permits supervisory and confidential employee units to be represented by the same organization representing non-supervisory or non-confidential employees. Substantially different labor negotiation and arbitration procedures apply to supervisory, confidential and essential employees under PELRA, than apply to all other public employees. Effective: August 1, 1977.
C. 119

PELRA--Selection of Arbitrators

* H.F. 921	St. Onge, McEachern, Carlson, L., McCarron, Jacobs
S.F. 962	Purfeerst, Keefe, S., Laufenburger

Changes procedure by which arbitrators are selected to resolve public labor negotiations disputes by permitting the selection of a single arbitrator instead of a three-member panel on the request of management or the union. Currently, a single arbitrator may be selected only when both parties mutually agree. Per diem allowances paid to arbitrators are increased from \$100 to \$180. Clarifies that per diem and expense payments made to a single arbitrator shall be shared equally by both parties similar to the practice applicable to three-member arbitration panels. Effective: August 1, 1977.
C. 284

PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

Teachers Retirement Fund

H.F. 126	Moe, Patton, Wigley
* S.F. 472	Stokowski, Johnson, Ogdahl, Lessard

Increases the state contribution to the teachers retirement association (TRA) and the teacher retirement funds in first-class cities by one-half of one percent of total payroll. Total cost to state is approximately \$10 million. Effective: July 1, 1977.
C. 313

Pensions--Monthly Payment Checks

* H.F. 611	Reding, Moe, Beauchamp, Biersdorf, Patton
S.F. 635	Stokowski, Strand, Peterson, Renneke

All retirees of major funds will now receive their checks during the first week of the month rather than at the end of the month. As a result, retirees will receive a "thirteenth check" on December 1st of this year to accomplish the shift in monthly payments. In addition, pre-1973 retirees, disabilitants, and surviving spouses will receive a one-time lump sum benefit check on November 30th of this year (\$250 for coordinated members, \$225 for basic members). The cost of the "thirteenth" check is insignificant. The lump sum benefit check will cost approximately \$4 million which will be financed by excess reserves of the Minnesota adjustable fixed benefit fund. Effective: June 30, 1977.
C. 388

Pensions--Post Retirement Benefit Increases

* H.F. 460	Patton, Moe, Beauchamp, Biersdorf, Reding
S.F. 634	Strand, Renneke, Peterson, Stokowski

Changes the scheduled payment of benefit increases for all retirees of the major pension funds from January 1, 1979, to January 1, 1978, the payments to be financed by excess reserves of the Minnesota adjustable fixed benefit fund and to be permanent increases. The actual amount of the increase, which is dependent on the amount of reserves available, will be determined after July 1, 1977, but is expected to be close to 4%. Also makes other technical amendments to the Minnesota adjustable fixed benefit fund law. Effective: Immediately.
C. 274

Payments of Grievance Awards

* H.F. 902	Sieben, M., Jaros, St. Onge, Biersdorf, Murphy
S.F. 731	Keefe, S., Sikorski, Ueland

Directs the commissioner of finance to make payments to state employees resulting from the resolution of grievances under law or collective bargaining agreements. Previously, the commissioner did not have the authority to make payments to state employees for time not actually worked, e.g., back-pay for a reinstated employee. Effective: Immediately.
C. 340

PUBLIC EMPLOYEES
PUBLIC SAFETY

Minneapolis Municipal Retirement Fund

* H.F. 848 Patton, Moe, Beauchamp, Reding, Sabo

Beginning July 1, 1978, all new members of the Minneapolis municipal retirement fund will be coordinated members (covered by Social Security) similar to PERA and TRA coverage. This permits the gradual phasing out of the present Minneapolis municipal retirement fund. Effective: July 1, 1978.
C. 399

PUBLIC SAFETY

"911" Emergency Telephone Service

H.F. 385 Hanson, Jude, Sieben, M., Pehler, Reding
* S.F. 448 Keefe, S., McCutcheon, Braatas, Schmitz, Borden

Requires counties to establish emergency telephone service to connect callers with police, firefighters, medical and other emergency services by simply dialing the digits "911". Emergency phone service available from pay phones without charge. System must be available in metro area counties by December 15, 1982, and in other counties by December 15, 1986. Appropriates \$272,033 to department of administration. Effective: July 1, 1977.
C. 311

Repeal of Mandatory Helmet Law

* H.F. 382 Cummiskey, Vanasek, Cohen
S.F. 271 Kirchner, Schmitz, Ueland, Benedict, Vega

Repeals mandatory helmet law for motorcyclists except those under 18 or with learner's permits. Prohibits non-helmeted motorcyclists from suing for head injuries which could have been prevented by wearing a helmet. Applies noise regulations to motorcycles after December 31, 1978. Effective: Immediately.
C. 17

Stopping for Distressed Motorists

* H.F. 103 Forsythe, Clark, Osthoff, Sarna, Esau
S.F. 521 Bang, Setzepfandt, Frederick, Lewis, Schaaf

Allows a person to lawfully stop or park his or her motor vehicle to aid a distressed motorist unless: the person assisting parks or stops in an unsafe manner, violates a traffic law, fails to leave if so directed by a peace officer or the motorist is already being aided. Effective: Immediately.
C. 167

Car Accident Reports

H.F. 472 Anderson, B., Welch, Berkelman, Fudro, Rose
* S.F. 108 Lewis, Laufenburger, Gearty

Increases to \$300 the amount of total property damage in a motor vehicle accident requiring a written report to the commissioner of public safety. Effective: August 1, 1977.
C. 53

RECREATION

No-Site Stadium Bill

H.F. 771 Patton, Sabo, Knickerbocker, Voss
Jacobs
* S.F. 895 Keefe, S., Merriam, Johnson, Coleman
Ogdahl

Establishes the metropolitan sports facilities commission to select a site and design for a new or remodeled sports stadium in the Twin Cities metropolitan area. Requires commission, by August 1, 1977, to select for further consideration no more than three stadium locations in the metro area; also requires final determination of site and design on December 1, 1978. Authorizes metro council to sell and issue revenue bonds in an amount limited to: \$55 million for a new covered multi-purpose stadium; \$42 million for new uncovered multi-purpose stadium; \$37.5 million for new football/soccer stadium and remodeled baseball stadium; or \$25 million for remodeling met stadium as a multi-purpose facility. Also requires metropolitan council to impose a 2% on-sale liquor tax in 7-county metro area on August 1, 1977. Effective: Immediately.
C. 89

Como Park Zoo

H.F. 927 Wynia, Sarna, Rose, Hanson, Faricy
* S.F. 695 Stumpf, Chenoweth, Lewis, Ashbach, Coleman

Authorizes the metropolitan council to issue \$2,300,000 in general obligation bonds in order to make grants to the city of St. Paul for repairs and improvements at the Como Park Zoo. Requires the St. Paul city council to submit all work plans to the metro council for approval prior to the release of grant funds. Provides that at least \$1,400,000 of any state funds reappropriated to the metro council for recreation open space be designated for the Como Park Zoo. Effective: Immediately.
C. 436

Recreation Sites Along Canoe and Boating Routes

* H.F. 445 Stoa, Kostohryz, Patton, Searle, Vanasek
S.F. 1477 Luther, Willet, Dunn, Peterson, Hanson

Authorizes the DNR to cooperate with units of local government, organizations or individuals to acquire, develop and maintain campsites, rest areas and other sites along canoe and boating routes. Clarifies procedures for acquiring parcels larger than 20 acres. Effective: August 1, 1977.
C. 224

RECREATION
SENIOR CITIZENS

Parks and Recreation Bonding

- * H.F. 1300 Casserly, Munger, Kahn, Pehler,
Searles
S.F. 1360 Anderson, Willet, Schaaf, Strand,
Kirchner

Authorizes \$61,500,000 in state bonds:

--\$2,600,000 local trail and athletic court grants (metro and non-metro) administered by state planning agency.

--\$2,500,000 acquisition and development of parks and trails in non-metro SMSA's administered by state planning agency.

--\$25,300,000 DNR acquisition of state parks, trails, forests, fishing management lands, wildlife management areas, rivers, canoe and boat routes, scenic and natural areas; DNR development of corridor trails and trails on DNR land.

--\$27,300,000 metro council acquisition and development of metro recreational space, corridor trails; develop trails within metro parks.

--\$3,800,000 DOT bicycle trail grants for trails along state roads and trails along local roads (metro and non-metro).

Establishes DNR trail registry. Effective: August 1, 1977.
C. 421

SEE ALSO:

Cooperative Lease of Agricultural Lands p.2
Bicycle Registration p.62

SENIOR CITIZENS

Personal Allowance

- * H.F. 206 King, Berglin, Carlson, L., Carlson, D.,
Welch
S.F. 458 Keefe, S., Sikorski, Lewis, Renneke,
Milton

Increases the minimum personal allowance from \$25 to \$30 a month for individuals receiving medical assistance while residing in any skilled nursing home or intermediate care facility including recipients of SSI. Forbids a care facility to comingle the personal allowance with facility funds and authorizes DPW to conduct surprise audits to determine if funds are misused. Effective: August 1, 1977.
C. 271

SENIOR CITIZENS
TAXES

Nursing Home Regulations

- H.F. 1050 Swanson, Petrafeso, Abeln, Dahl, Searle
* S.F. 899 Milton, Vega

Requires DOH to establish rules waiving required hours of nursing care for some intermediate care residents. Requires DPW reimbursement to nursing homes for cost of nursing care in excess of DWP limits if required by DOH. Clarifies reinspection of homes with violations. Delays the required nursing assistant program until January 1, 1979, and requires a report from DOH regarding appropriate organization, funding and administration of the program. Requires DPW audit of nursing home cost reports at least every 3 years. Allows depreciation for construction or expansion of governmentally owned nursing homes. Allows proprietary nursing homes to be reimbursed for interest on capital indebtedness up to 12%. Increases the investment allowance 1% each year a nursing home is owned by the same person. Places burden of proof on nursing home to show that non-patient care costs should be reimbursed. Requires DPW rules on such reimbursement. Prohibits nursing homes from raising the differential between private rates and medical assistance rates in effect on April 13, 1976. Effective: August 1, 1977.
C. 326

SEE ALSO:

Income Maintenance Eligibility	p.37
Omnibus Retirement Bill	p.48
Teacher's Retirement Fund	p.50
Pensions-Monthly Payment Checks	p.50
Pensions-Post Retirement Benefit	
Increases	p.50
Minneapolis Municipal Retirement Fund	p.51
Omnibus Tax Bill	
(Property Tax Refund)	p.55
Accessibility of Polling Places	p.24

TAXES

Omnibus Tax Bill

- * H.F. 1475 Kelly, W., Anderson, I., Vanasek, Sabo

Provides \$220M worth of tax relief, substantially simplifies income tax filing for many Minnesotans and raises income taxes on high-income individuals and the taconite industry. Major provisions include:

Omnibus Tax Bill - Continued

Property Tax Relief (\$65 Million)1. Property Tax Refund (NOTE: New name for circuit breaker.)

-- Provides increased relief to taxpayers with less than \$12,000 income and to those who receive the maximum credit under the current system. Establishes a higher maximum of \$800 plus state refund of 35% of the "excess" property taxes under a new "coinsurance" feature. For example, if your property taxes are \$1,000 and you receive the maximum \$325 homestead credit and the maximum \$150 circuit breaker credit, you are entitled to an additional credit of \$184 as follows:

Property Tax	\$ 1,000
Homestead credit	325
	675
Circuit Breaker Refund	150
Excess Property Tax	525
Additional Refund, 35% of excess	184
	\$ 341

Therefore, you would only pay \$341 of your property tax bill and the state would pay \$659.

--Senior citizens freeze abolished, but senior citizens and disabled eligible for refund of 50% of their "excess" property tax with the maximum gradually reduced for incomes over \$19,999.

--For renters, the percentage of rent constituting property taxes increased from 20% to 22%.

--People who purchased homes in 1975 were retroactively made eligible for a full circuit breaker refund for that year.

2. Assessment Classification Change (\$27 Million)

--Reduced the assessment classification ratios for taxes payable in 1978 and thereafter on ag homestead (3b), non- ag homestead (3c), ag non-homestead and seasonal residential, and blind, paraplegic veterans and disabled homestead (3cc). Increased homestead base value on 3cc property from \$24,000 to \$28,000. While the impact will vary from place to place, the overall effect will be to reduce or eliminate increases in assessed value of these classes of property.

3. Miscellaneous Changes

--Local levy for schools reduced from 29 to 28 mills on taxes payable in 1978 and to 27 mills in 1979 (\$16.7M).

--Agricultural credit increased from 12 mills to 15 mills on homesteaded agricultural land for taxes payable in 1978 and ag homestead increased from 120 to 160 acres for taxes payable in 1979 - (\$3.5).

--Attached machinery aids to counties, towns and cities increased by 25% (\$2M - 1978).

--State share of AFDC costs increased from 50% to 60% (\$11M) - (12/31/77).

--In determining adjusted assessed value of ag lands beginning in 1977, its value will be the average of "market value" and the income that could be derived from its free market rental rate capitalized at a rate of 9%.

Income Tax Relief

1. Personal and dependent credits increased from \$21 to \$30, and all claimants given full year credit (\$41M). (Tax years after 12/31/77.)

2. Dependent care credit established based upon 50% of the federal credit but limited to \$150 per dependent and \$300 maximum. Credit gradually reduced for incomes over \$12,000 (\$8M). (Tax years after 12/31/76.)

Income Tax Simplification

1. A new short form will be developed using tax tables reflecting standard deduction and incorporating personal and dependent credit for persons with less than \$20,000 income. Almost half the taxpayers are expected to use the shorter, simpler form. An estimated 37,000 low-income people will be exempt from filing income tax returns because of the larger personal credits. (Tax years after 12/31/77.)

2. Claimants no longer need to calculate fractional part of year for personal or dependent credit. (Tax years after 12/31/77.)

3. Deductions allowed for some "nuisance" taxes -- mortgage registry, real estate transfer, federal telephone and federal transportation taxes are eliminated. (Tax years after 12/31/77.)

4. Income and losses derived from sources outside Minnesota, as well as income from resident estate and trusts, are included in arriving at Minnesota net income. A credit is provided for taxes paid to other states for such income. A deduction is allowed for out-of-state losses, but not to exceed the amount of income derived from out-of-state sources. (Tax years after 12/31/77.)

5. Deduction for casualty losses amended to conform to federal law. (Tax years after 12/31/76.)

Income Tax Increases

1. Individual income tax rates are increased on taxable income in upper brackets effective for tax years after 12/31/77:

\$20,000-\$25,000	15%
\$25,000-\$35,000	16%
\$35,000-\$50,000	17%
over \$50,000	18%

(Note: Current rate is 15% on taxable income over \$20,000.)

2. The exclusion of the first \$3,000 in military pay earned in Minnesota and the additional \$2,000 of military pay earned outside the state is eliminated. (Tax years after 12/31/77.)

3. The amount of public pension which may be excluded from gross income is limited to \$7,200 per year and that amount is reduced by social security or railroad retirement benefits plus any earned income. However, because of increase in personal credits, some portion of any income above the exclusion level will in effect also be excluded from state taxes depending upon individual circumstances. For example, a single individual under age 65 (assuming no reductions for social security, etc.) would in effect have an \$8,700 exclusion. A married couple both over age 65 would, in effect, have a \$10,600 exclusion. Employee contributions on which taxes were paid at the time of contribution will not be taxed as they are received. (NOTE: the federal government already taxes public pensions.) (Tax years after 12/31/77.)

4. A minimum tax on preference income is established at 40% of the similar federal tax paid. "Preference" items include such things as income taxed at capital gain rates or accelerated depreciation on real property or leased personal property, stock options and various other tax breaks. (Note: Estimated to affect only 300 people.) (Tax years after 12/31/76.)

Business Tax Relief (\$5 million)

--The employer's excise tax exemption is increased from \$100,000 to \$250,000 thus eliminating the tax for approximately 93% of Minnesota's businesses. (For wages paid after 12/31/77.)

Local Government Aids

1. State aid to local governments increased from current \$45 per capita to \$52 (+15%) in calendar 1978 and \$59 (+13%) in calendar 1979 (\$40M).

2. Aid distribution formula modified to assist communities whose population has changed since 1970.

3. A number of special levies are eliminated but the amounts levied are folded into the levy limit base for levy year 1977 and thereafter. A new special levy is created to meet the requirements of laws relating to elimination of the unfunded liability of public pensions.

Omnibus Tax Bill - ContinuedLocal Government Aids

4. Cities or towns with levy limit base below 80% of the county average for cities and towns can be adjusted up to 80% of that average, subject to approval by the levy limit review board.

5. The basis in calculating the 6% growth factor is changed from the levy limit base per capita to the levy limit base.

6. Certain local governments at their maximum levy amount are allowed a permanent adjustment in their levy limit base not to exceed 10% and subject to a reverse referendum.

Taconite Taxes

1. The taconite railroad gross earnings tax currently paid in lieu of corporate income taxes will be paid to the general fund after 12/31/77. Local governments are grandfathered in at the amount received from the railroad gross earnings in 1977.

2. Taconite Homestead Credit will apply to 160 (currently 80) acres of ag land, and is increased by 10% for taxes payable in 1978 with a \$15/year automatic increase in the maximum beginning with taxes payable in 1979.

3. Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation Board enlarged (immediately) and its funding modified. (12/31/77)

4. Tailings tax of 10¢ per ton of tailings produced after 6/30/77 and not deposited in an approved on-land site.

5. Water Filtration Fund established with \$1,750,000 appropriation.

6. Production tax (in lieu of property taxes) on ore produced after 12/31/76, is increased from 80¢ to \$1.25/ton and indexed to the price of steel. Distribution after 12/31/77 increased to all recipients and the remainder of the tax (less grandfather provisions and distribution to the department of revenue for administering the tax) distributed between the following two funds.

7. Taconite Environmental Protection Fund

--Created to study environmental problems, provide funds for reclamation, restoration and reforestation of minelands, for local economic development projects, and to monitor health problems related to the mineral industry.

--Administered by the IRRRB subject to review by the legislative advisory commission and approval by the governor.

TAXES

8. Northeast Minnesota Economic Protection Fund

--Created as a long-term insurance fund for when the mineral industry declines, creating economic dislocation in the area. Funds plus interest and dividends earned cannot be used before January 1, 2002, and then only upon declaration by the governor and appropriation by the legislature, for use only in taconite and iron ore areas.

Effective: Immediately unless otherwise indicated in text.
C. 423

Update of State Law to Conform to Internal Revenue Code

*	H.F. 437 S.F. 513	Kelly, W. Olhoft, Merriam, Dieterich, Peterson, Sillers
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Updates Minnesota laws on individual's estates and trusts to conform to the federal reform act of 1976. Major provisions include: (1) New definition of federal adjusted income including the increase in the investment credit from 7% to 10% and the 1977 amendments to federal law permitting a business deduction for an in-home licensed day care center. Use of home for business purposes or rental of vacation home restricted. (2) Exclusion from taxable income of up to \$100 a week of sick pay (replaced by) an exclusion of up to \$5,200/year for persons under age 65 who are permanently and totally disabled but with a dollar for dollar reduction for income in excess of \$15,000. (3) Tax free rollovers allowed when employee retirement plans are terminated, effective for distributions made after 7/3/74. (4) Update of provisions regarding number and type of shareholders in small businesses. (5) Extension of non-recognition period on gain or loss from sale or exchange of a residence from 1 year to 18 months. (6) Ten-year averaging permitted on lump sum distributions from pensions or annuities, effective for taxable years after 12/31/75. Effective: Except as noted, for taxable years after December 31, 1976.
C. 376

Income Tax Withholding for Members of the Armed Forces

*	H.F. 229 S. F. 1057	Dean, Schulz, Jaros, George, Biersdorf Sieloff
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Allows the commissioner of revenue to enter into an agreement with the secretary of the United States treasury to have state taxes withheld for Minnesota residents serving in the armed forces. Effective: Immediately.
C. 111

TAXES TRANSPORTATION

Sales Tax on Telephone Service

*	H.F. 223 S.F. 1238	Anderson, G., Vanasek, Peterson, Scheid Gunter Strand, Nichols, Sikorski, Penny, Gunderson
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Defines state tax paid on telephone service as a sales tax not subject to the federal telephone tax. Effective: December 31, 1977.
C. 363

Duluth Sales Tax

*	H.F. 999 S.F. 830	Jaros, Lehto, Berkelman, Munger Solon, Ulland
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Authorizes city of Duluth to impose a 1% sales tax on on-sale food and drink, in addition to the 1% general sales tax currently imposed. Proceeds from the additional tax shall only be used to provide revenues for facilities or agencies operated by the city. Further requires the city of report to the legislature by January 1979 on the future of the spirit mountain project. Effective upon approval by the Duluth city council and shall expire July 1, 1979.
C. 438

SEE ALSO:

Feedlot Pollution Control Equipment	p.27
Tax Credit	p.52
No-Site Stadium Bill	

TRANSPORTATION

Department of Transportation Appropriation/Public Transit Funding

*	H.F. 1610	Norton
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\$885 Million in appropriations include:

Trunk Highway Development	\$ 313.2 M
County State-Aid Roads	162.0 M
Municipal State-Aid Roads	50.1 M
Public Transit Assistance	38.4 M
Rail Service Improvement Program	3.0 M
Bicycle Trail Program	1.0 M

Requires study of means to effectively enforce motor vehicle noise limits. Establishes a public transit subsidy program for public and private transit systems throughout the state; creates a performance funding mechanism to provide state aid to the Twin Cities metropolitan transit commission (MTC); provides for research and evaluation of transportation management generally as well as technical assistance for transportation programs and projects; establishes paratransit

TRANSPORTATION

Department of Transportation Appropriation/Public Transit Funding

service demonstration grant program, and provides funding for on-going paratransit services; eliminates 50¢ transit fare ceiling in Twin Cities metro area but maintains 30¢ base fare; authorizes Twin Cities MTC to spend funds for St. Paul downtown people mover study, provided the metro council independently evaluates the study. Effective: Immediately for section relating to St. Paul downtown people mover; July 1, 1977, for all other provisions.
C. 454

Bridge Bonding

* H.F. 733 Lemke, Patton, Anderson, D., Jensen, Birnstihl
S.F. 738 Laufenburger, Kleinbaum, Purfeerst, Schmitz, Engler

Authorizes sale and issuance of \$50 million in trunk highway bonds for construction and reconstruction of bridges on the state trunk highway system. Also authorizes sale and issuance of \$50 million in state transportation bonds for grants to political subdivisions for construction and reconstruction of bridges, to be allocated in the following manner:

County Highway Systems	\$27,000,000
Municipal Street Systems	\$ 8,000,000
Township Road Systems	\$15,000,000

Effective: July 1, 1977.
C. 277

Bloomington Ferry Bridge

* H.F. 930 Suss, Abeln, Pleasant, Jensen, Fudro
S.F. 785 Kirchner, Schmitz, Knutson, Purfeerst, Bang

Directs Hennepin and Scott counties to reconstruct the Bloomington Ferry Bridge for temporary service in order to relieve traffic congestion in I-35W where it crosses the Minnesota river. Effective: Immediately.
C. 232

Appropriations for Amtrak Service, Railroad Rights-of-Way Study

H.F. 963 Munger, Norton, Fugina, Carlson, D., Faricy
* S.F. 1034 Solon, Moe, Anderson, Hughes

Appropriates \$255,000 to the DOT commissioner for continuation of Amtrak rail service between the Twin Cities and Duluth until July 1, 1977, and \$69,051 for Amtrak operations deficits. Also, appropriates \$15,000 to the state planning agency for study of the use of railroad rights-of-way as corridors for power transmission lines, pipelines, and other public uses. Effective: Immediately.
C. 87

TRANSPORTATION

Truck Weight Limits

H.F. 660 Johnson, Lemke, Savelkoul, Kalis, Eckstein
* S.F. 270 Laufenburger, Purfeerst, Frederick, Schaaf, Engler

Increases overall gross weight limitations from 73,280 pounds to 80,000 pounds for trucks on highways designated by commissioner of transportation. Sets other weight limitations of 10,000 pounds per wheel, 20,000 pounds per axle, or tandem weight of 34,000 pounds. Application of new weight limits on routes other than interstate or trunk highways requires approval of local unit of government involved. Also adds \$36/ton registration tax for trucks in excess of 81,000 pounds and provides for optional 5-year semitrailer fee. Effective: Generally, November 14, 1977; also November 15, 1978, for semitrailer fee.
C. 248

Motor Vehicle Registration Fees

H.F. 869 Osthoff, Birnstihl, Kalis, Wenzel
* S.F. 932 Menning, Knutson, Kleinbaum, Wegener, Olson, H.

Increases the filing fee for application for motor vehicle registration to \$1.50 effective August 1, 1977, and \$1.75 effective January 1, 1979 (was \$.50 for mailed application, \$1.00 for all other applications). Reduces the fee for duplicate plates if the fee exceeds the annual tax. Effective: August 1, 1977.
C. 327

Bicycle Registration

* H.F. 380 Kahn, Dean, Williamson, McCarron, Pehler

Amends bicycle registration law to allow deputy registrars of motor vehicles to charge 50¢ fee for registering bicycles. Delays public safety commissioner's report to legislature on mandatory statewide bicycle registration until January 15, 1978. Effective: Immediately.
C. 41

Motorized Bicycles

* H.F. 33 Kahn, Laidig, Hokanson, Pehler, McEachern
S.F. 884 Kirchner

Beginning November 15, 1977, motorized bicycles will be classified as motor vehicles and must be registered for \$3.00 yearly. Establishes motorized bicycle operator permit. Effective: Immediately.
C. 214

SEE ALSO:

Repeal of Mandatory Helmet Law

p.51

VETERANS

Veterans Representatives in Employment Offices

	H.F. 906	Jacobs, Kostohryz, McDonald, Savelkoul, Rice
*	S.F. 930	Chmielewski, Olson, H., Sieloff, Gearty, Dunn

Requires commissioner of employment services to assign a veteran to each employment service office based on a demonstrated need for the service. Position of veterans' representative must be filled by a department employee who is a veteran as defined by statute. Effective: August 1, 1977.
C. 151

Veteran's Preference

*	H.F. 301	Kostohryz, Waldorf, McDonald, McCarron Jacobs
	S.F. 219	Laufenburger, Chmielewski, Olhoft

Amends existing law to limit veteran's preference under state civil service to those persons entering the military service prior to December 31, 1976. Effective: August 1, 1977.
C. 40

