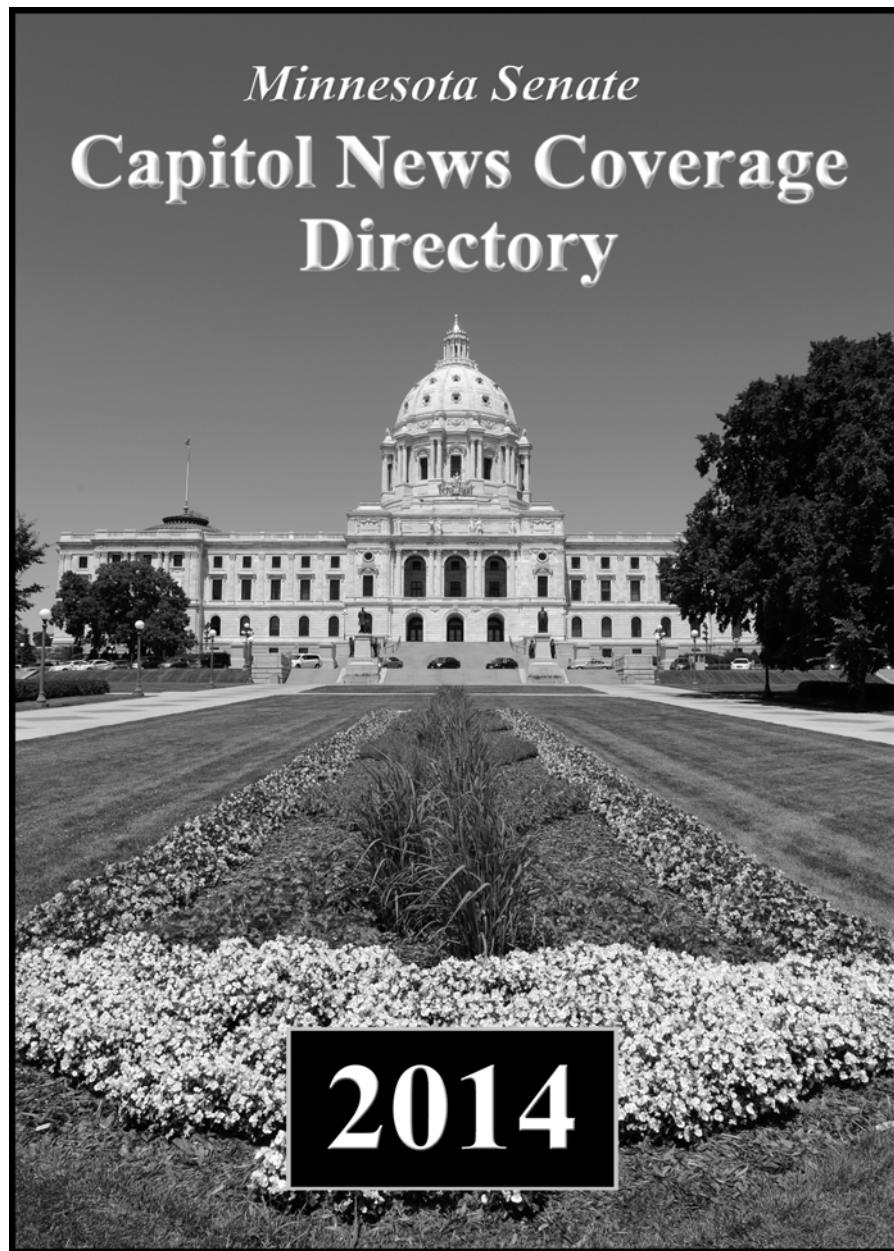


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Minnesota Senate
Capitol News Coverage
Directory 2014

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Table of Contents

Acknowledgements	2
Rule 16 - Capitol News Coverage Directory	4
Reporter Index Page	24

Capitol News Coverage Organizations

Associated Press	5
Checks and Balances	5
Forum Communications	5-6
KARE-TV 11	6
KMSPTV 9	6
KNSI AM 1450 - St. Cloud, MN	7
KSTP-TV 5	7
KTNF-AM 950	7
KTTCTV 10 - Rochester, MN	7-8
Mesabi Daily News - Virginia, MN	9
Minnesota News Network	9
Minnesota Public Radio	9-10
MinnPost	10-11
NWCT-12 News	11
Patch.com	11
Rochester Post-Bulletin	11
St. Cloud Times	12
St. Paul Capitol Report/Politics in Minnesota	12
St. Paul Pioneer Press	13-16
Star Tribune	17-19
The Free Press - Mankato, MN	19
The Uptake	19-21
True North - St. Paul, MN	22
Twin Cities Public Television	22
WCCO-TV 4	23-23

Senate Rule 16
CREDENTIALS FOR NEWS COVERAGE

16. Credentials for News Coverage

16.1 (a) *The Secretary of the Senate shall provide a reasonable number of spaces on the Senate floor and in the Senate gallery for individuals and organizations with credentials and passes issued under this rule. The Sergeant at Arms may not issue credentials or day passes under this rule to political organizations. For the purposes of this rule, "political organization" means an organization owned or controlled by a registered lobbyist, a political party, or any party organization.*

(b) *Due to the limited space available for organizations or individuals providing news coverage of the Senate, the Senate finds that there is a compelling public interest in limiting credentials issued under this rule to organizations or individuals who demonstrate that they provide regular news coverage of the legislature. For session credentials, an organization or individual must submit an application to the Sergeant at Arms. The Sergeant at Arms must review the application and approve or reject it within 14 days after receipt. Upon the request of the Sergeant at Arms, an applicant for credentials must provide evidence of the applicant's activities in providing regular news coverage of the legislature. Evidence of regular news coverage must include examples of news coverage of legislative matters produced by the applicant. The examples must include written, video, or audio coverage written or recorded in the past year, and a description of how they were publicly distributed. Any opinion expressed in the examples is not subject to review under this rule at any time.*

(c) *If an application is rejected, the Sergeant at Arms must state the reason for the rejection in writing and notify the applicant, the Secretary of the Senate, the Majority Leader, and the Minority Leader in writing.*

(d) *An appeal of a denial of credentials must be made in writing to the Secretary of the Senate, the Senate Majority Leader, and the Senate Minority Leader. The Committee on Rules and Administration shall review and decide the appeal within 14 days after receiving a letter of appeal.*

16.2 *The Sergeant at Arms may grant day passes upon the request of a member or upon the request of an individual or organization who has not applied for credentials and who is not prohibited from receiving credentials under Rule 16.1, paragraph (a).*

16.3 *The Secretary shall compile and distribute to the public a directory of individuals and organizations who have been issued credentials under Rule 16.1 to provide news coverage from the Senate floor. The directory must include each individual's picture and organization and a brief biography.*

16.4 *The Secretary must issue each individual or organization with credentials an identification badge showing the individual's name and organization. The individual must wear the badge when in the Senate Chamber.*

adopted April 12, 2013

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WCCO-TV 4

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❖ [Minnesota Senate 2014 Capitol News Coverage Directory](#)

Autey, John	13	Nelson, Kathryn	9
Bakst, Brian	5	Nelson, Tim	9
Barnett, Jason	19	Nord, James	11
Belden, Doug	13	Ochsner, Dan	7
Berg, Mitchell	22	Orrick, Dave	15
Bierschbach, Briana	10	O'Connor, Debra	15
Birkey, Andy	20	Perry, Steve	12
Blotz, Timothy	6	Pieri, Jean	15
Brewer, John Allen	13	Pina, Philip	15
Brooks, Jennifer	17	Pinson, Ginger	16
Carlson, Heather J.	11	Pugmire, Tim	9
Chhoun, Dymanh	7	Ragsdale, Jim	18
Coleman, Nick	20	Regan, Sheila	21
Condon, Patrick	17	Renslo, Alexandra	11
Croman, John	6	Salisbury, Bill	16
Cronin, Mike	5	Santori, James P.	19
Davis, Don	5	Scheck, Tom	10
Garvin, Ben	13	Schoemer, Mike	11
Gillette, David N.	22	Sibley, Charles R.	8
Goodrich, Nicole	8	Simons, Abby	18
Grow, Doug	10	Snowbeck, Christopher	16
Harris, Marlys J.	10	Sommerhauser, Mark	12
Hart, Aethan	6	Sorem, Bill	21
Hauser, Tom	7	Stassen-Berger, Rachel	18
Helgeson, Baird	17	Stubbe, Glen	18
Henara, Allison	20	Sturdevant, Lori	19
Johnson, Matthew R.	20	Sturgeon, Courtney	8
Kegges, Jonathan	8	Takushi, C. Scott	16
Kessler, Pat	23	Telljohn, Andrew	6
Klemz, Aaron	7	Towle, Shawn	5
LaRose-Chiglo, Sherri	14	Trotman, Scott	22
Lahammer, Mary	22	Tsong-Taatarii, Richard	19
Lee-Kron, Hlee	21	Werner, Bill	9
Lopez, Patricia	17		
Magan, Christopher	14		
Marshall, Richard	14		
McIntee, Michael	21		
Mosedale, Mike	12		
Mullen, Mike	12		
Murphy, Brian	14		