

**MINNESOTA HIGHLIGHTS**  
**NEWS ABOUT STATE INFORMATION RESOURCES**

by Helen Whipple, Legislative Reference Library  
July 1998

The Minnesota State Board of Education recently approved new graduation standards for Minnesota students. These standards consist of basic requirement tests and the profile of learning. Starting with the Class of 2002, public school students must receive a passing score on basic requirement tests in reading, mathematics and written composition in order to be eligible for a high school diploma. Students must also expand their skills and knowledge beyond the basic tests to fulfill the requirements of the profile of learning.

Recent Minnesota documents relating to the graduation standards include:

*High school statewide testing : 1997-1998 evaluation : report to the Legislature.*  
St. Paul, Minn. : Minnesota Dept. of Children, Families & Learning, 1998.  
MINN. DOC. NO. 98-0301.

*Discusses the concept of statewide testing. Includes recommendations for the design of the Minnesota assessment system.*

Larson, Lisa. *Profile of learning for the state's high school graduation rule.*  
St. Paul, Minn. : Research Dept., Minnesota House of Representatives, 1997.  
MINN. DOC NO. 98-0017.

*Provides a clear explanation of the profile of learning.*

Larson, Lisa. *The State's high school graduation rule.*  
St. Paul, Minn. : Research Dept., Minnesota House of Representatives, 1996.  
MINN. DOC. NO. 96-0552.

*Describes the history and status of the high school graduation rule.*

*1998 report on graduation standards.* St. Paul, Minn. : Minnesota State Board of Education : Minnesota Dept. of Children, Families & Learning, 1998.  
MINN. DOC. NO. 98-0103.

*Includes 1997 test results and the proposed rules relating to the graduation standards.*

Additional information about graduation standards can be found on the following Internet sites.

*Minnesota's graduation standards.* Minnesota Dept. of Children, Families & Learning.  
<http://children.state.mn.us/grad/gradhom.htm>

*Resources on Minnesota Legislative Issues: Graduation Rule (Minnesota).*  
Legislative Reference Library. <http://www.leg.state.mn.us/lrl/issues/grad2.htm>

**MINNESOTA HIGHLIGHTS**  
**NEWS ABOUT STATE INFORMATION RESOURCES**

by David Schmidtke, Legislative Reference Library

May 1998

Minnesota, like many states, is turning to managed care for its public health care programs. The Minnesota Department of Human Services' Prepaid Medical Assistance Program (PMAP), Prepaid General Assistance Medical Care (PGAMC), and Minnesota Senior Health Options (MSHO) are being administered as managed care programs in selected counties. MinnesotaCare, also administered by the Minnesota Department of Human Services, began converting selected groups of enrollees to managed care plans in July 1995. By January 1997, all MinnesotaCare enrollees had been converted to managed care health plans. The following is a selection of state documents regarding various aspects of these programs and managed care:

*The 1996 Minnesota HMO Profile : A Comparative Analysis of Minnesota Managed Care Enrollment, Financial and Utilization Data for Public and Private Markets.* St. Paul: Minnesota Department of Health, Health Economics Program, 1997.  
MINN. DOC. 97-0481.

Chun, Randall. *Managed Care for Persons with Disabilities.* St. Paul: Minnesota House of Representatives, Research Department, 1997.  
MINN. DOC. 97-0072

*Impact of the Alternative Payment Demonstration Project for Nursing Facility Services.* St. Paul: Minnesota Department of Human Services, Purchasing and Service Delivery, Continuing Care Strategies for the Elderly, 1997.  
MINN. DOC. 97-0126

*The Impact of Managed Care and Other Forms of Health Care for Persons with Chronic Conditions, Disability, or Terminal Illness.* St. Paul: Minnesota Health Care Commission, 1997.  
MINN. DOC. 97-0361

*Recommendations Regarding Social Service and Public Health Administrative Costs that should be Excluded from Prepaid Medical Assistance Program Capitation.* St. Paul: Minnesota Department of Human Services, Health and Continuing Care Strategies Division, 1997.  
MINN. DOC. 98-0128

*Report to the Legislature : Managed Care Rate Setting for Public Programs.* St. Paul: Minnesota Department of Human Services, 1996.  
MINN. DOC. 97-0495

**MINNESOTA HIGHLIGHTS**  
**NEWS ABOUT STATE INFORMATION RESOURCES**  
by Carol Blackburn, Legislative Reference Library  
March 1998

**Social Service Programs in Minnesota**

With federal, state, and local government agencies all involved with a variety of social service programs, it is often quite challenging to identify the various programs and to find specific information about their funding and administration. The Minnesota Department of Human Services publishes a variety of items which can help with this task:

- ♦ *Annual Performance Report: Human Services Department*. St. Paul, Minn. : State of Minnesota, Dept. of Finance, 1996. MINN. DOC. 97-0079. The mission and goals of the department and of each program division are detailed. Statistics are provided.
- ♦ *Minnesota County Human Service Cost Report for Calendar Year 1996*. St. Paul, MN : State of Minnesota, Dept. of Human Services. MINN. DOC. 97-0465. This report is published to provide information on the costs and revenue sources involved in providing human services in Minnesota counties. Detailed statistics are provided for each county and for the entire state.
- ♦ *Minnesota Family Self-sufficiency and Medical Entitlement Programs and Related Programs: Revised Projections for the F.Y. 1998-1999 Biennium : November 1997 Forecasts*. St. Paul, Minn. : State of Minnesota, Dept. of Human Services. MINN. DOC. 97-0529. Projections of costs and estimates of eligible participants are provided for each program. Actual expenditures and enrollment figures for previous fiscal years are also reported.
- ♦ *Report on Family Self-sufficiency & Medical Programs*. St. Paul, Minn. : State of Minnesota, Dept. of Human Services, Finance and Management Administration, Reports and Forecasts Division. MINN. DOC. NO. P967. This periodical, published monthly, provides caseload and payment data for fifteen programs. Statewide program totals are provided for each of the past 12 months and for preceding fiscal years.

Additional information about the Minnesota Department of Human Services and its programs can be found on their Internet site at <http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/>.

## MINNESOTA HIGHLIGHTS NEWS ABOUT STATE INFORMATION RESOURCES

by Robbie LaFleur, Legislative Reference Library  
February 1998

### Feedlots

Livestock operations in Minnesota are an important part of the state's economy. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, total cash receipts in Minnesota for livestock and livestock products were over \$4.1 billion in 1996.

While the numbers of animals has held steady or increased in the past few years, the number of operations has decreased. This trend has been especially true with hogs; in 1992 19% of all hogs were on operations having more than 2000 head, in 1996 42% of all hogs were raised on farms with more than 2000 head. While dairy cows have not become as concentrated in larger operations, the trend is similar. From 1993 to 1996 the share of farms with more than 200 head rose from 2.7% to 9%.

Large livestock feedlots have become controversial in Minnesota, as they have in several other states in the recent past. Environmental concerns include air pollution, groundwater contamination, surface water contamination, and the long-term reliability of waste containment facilities. The social and economic impacts of these large operations on rural communities have been questioned as well.

Several political leaders in Minnesota, including Governor Arne Carlson and Attorney General Hubert H. Humphrey III, have endorsed the idea of a Generic Environmental Impact Statement, a state-sponsored large-scale study to examine the environmental, economic, and social impacts of large feedlots and recommend appropriate state rules. Some politicians and environmental groups have called for a temporary moratorium on the permitting of concentrated livestock production facilities.

Minnesotans are searching for ways to promote a vital livestock industry while protecting the state's water, land, and air resources. You can follow legislation introduced on this topic in the 1998 Minnesota Legislature on the Legislative web site, under "Legislation and Bill Tracking." The key word 'feedlot' should pull up most bills; you can also try the word 'livestock.'

Listed below are several Minnesota documents which would help with background research on the feedlot issue. In addition, library staff have put together a pathfinder on the feedlot issue listing articles and relevant Internet sites. Check it out at:  
<http://www.leg.state.mn.us/lrl/issues/feedlots.htm>.

*Feedlot and Manure Management Directory*. St. Paul : Minnesota Department of Agriculture, 1995. MINN. DOC. NO. 96-0008.

*Legislative Report of the Feedlot Hydrogen Sulfide Program*. Submitted to the State of Minnesota on February 1, 1998 by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. MINN. DOC. NO. 98-0083



*Manure Management Alternatives: A Supplemental Manual.* St. Paul : Minnesota Department of Agriculture, 1995. MINN. DOC. NO. 96-0010.

*Manure Management Planning Guide for Livestock Operators.* St. Paul : Minnesota Department of Agriculture, 1995. MINN. DOC. NO. 96-0009.

*Planning and Zoning for Animal Agriculture in Minnesota : a handbook for local government.* Prepared by James Duncan and Associates in association with Iowa State University for the Minnesota Department of Agriculture. 1996. MINN. DOC. NO. 97-0222.

Taff, Steven J. *Measured Effects of Feedlots on Residential Property Values in Minnesota : a Report to the Legislature.* St. Paul, MN : Dept. of Applied Economics, University of Minnesota, 1996. (not a Minnesota document; available electronically at <http://agecon.lib.umn.edu/mn/pd96-12.pdf>)

## MINNESOTA HIGHLIGHTS NEWS ABOUT STATE INFORMATION RESOURCES

by Elizabeth Lincoln, Legislative Reference Library

December 1997

For years, Minnesota government insiders have known about a way to research proposed legislation without actually having to read it. Both the Minnesota House of Representatives and the Minnesota Senate produce summaries of the major proposed legislation as each session unfolds. Now that they are available on the Legislature's web site (<http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/hrd/bs/billsum.ssi> and <http://www.senate.leg.state.mn.us/senoffic/sc&r/billsumm/billsumm.htm>) more people have access to these helpful tools.

But even government insiders may be unaware of some of the other publications analyzing Minnesota's laws. House Research is the most prolific source of this kind of information. Examples of their reports from the last several months include:

- *The 1997 Property Tax Rebate* (MN DOC 97-0517)
- *Charitable Gambling in Minnesota* (MN DOC 97-0426)
- *Community-Based Planning Act* (MN DOC 97-0379)
- *Crime Victim Legislation in Minnesota: an Overview* (MN DOC 97-0393)
- *Domestic Abuse Laws in Minnesota* (MN DOC 97-0518)
- *Election of Regents of the University of Minnesota* (MN DOC 97-0472)
- *Housing Legislation 1997* (MN DOC 97-0360)
- *Minnesota School Finance: A Guide for Legislators* (MN DOC 97-0350)
- *The MinnesotaCare Program* (MN DOC 97-0450)
- *Minnesota's Forfeiture Laws* (MN DOC 97-0452)
- *Nuclear Waste Management and the Prairie Island Legislation* (MN DOC 97-0425)
- *Optional Forms of County Government, Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 375A* (MN DOC 97-0506)
- *Welfare Reform 1997: Related State Enactments* (MN DOC 97-0446)

But other agencies publish reports summarizing or analyzing state laws, too. Examples include:

- *A Fiscal Review of the 1997 Legislative Session*. Minnesota State Senate, Senate Counsel and Research, 1997. (MN DOC 97-0491) *Fiscal Review* summarizes the appropriations made each year. This invaluable summary of the state budget have been produced annually since 1975.
- *Minnesota Tax Handbook: A Profile of State and Local Taxes in Minnesota*. Minnesota Department of Revenue, Research Office, 1996. (MN DOC 97-0513) A brief legislative history of each tax is presented along with rates, revenue figures, and comparisons with neighboring states.

- *New Laws*. Minnesota House of Representatives Public Information Office, 1997. House Information makes reading about the new laws fun. House Information has produced this report with this name since 1991 but this report has been published under various names and by various agencies since 1953. It is available on the Legislature's web site:  
<http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/hinfo/Nulaw97.pdf>
- *Summary of Property Tax Law Changes Made in the 1997 Legislative Session*. Minnesota Department of Revenue, 1997. (MN DOC 97-0403)
- *Summary of Victim Rights Legislation: Chapter 611A and Related Statutes*. Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Crime Victim and Advisory Council, 1997. (MN DOC 97-0354)

Keep searching PALS for more reports like these.

**MINNESOTA HIGHLIGHTS**  
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by Randi Madisen, Legislative Reference Library  
September, 1997

Concern about lead poisoning has been around for a long time, but a recent spate of reports provoke another look at the issue. These reports cover both lead-safe work practices and lead abatement.

For several years, the Minnesota Department of Health has been reviewing procedures for residential remodeling activities that might disrupt lead-based paint surfaces. They have published progress reports, recommendations, and handouts for the public. The Health Department has also been involved in setting standards for lead in paint, dust, drinking water, and soil to comply with federal regulations. Lead inspectors are also regulated by the Health Department. Following is a selection of state documents that describe these continuing efforts:

**Evaluation of Minnesota's Lead Program: Report to the Legislature.** St. Paul, MN: Minnesota Department of Health, Division of Environmental Health, 1997. (97-0411)

**Lead Abatement: Facts You Should Know.** St. Paul, MN: Minnesota Department of Health Lead Program, 1994. (95-0198)

**Lead-safe Directives : Report to the Legislature and Recommendations of the Lead-Safe Directives Advisory Group.** MN: Lead-Safe Directives Advisory Group, 1996. (96-0147)

**Lead-safe Directives : Status Report to the 1995 Legislature.** Minneapolis, MN: Department of Health, Division of Environmental Health, 1995. (95-0266)

**Safely Working With Lead While Remodeling the Older Home.** St. Paul, MN: Minnesota Department of Health Lead Program, 1996. (97-0022)

You may be able to get a copy of the reports from the Department of Health Division of Environmental Health by calling (612) 215-0700. The Lead Program can be reached at (612) 215-0911.

**MINNESOTA HIGHLIGHTS**  
**NEWS ABOUT STATE INFORMATION RESOURCES**  
by Diane Power, Legislative Reference Library  
July 1997

**WETLANDS IN MINNESOTA**

Wetlands have been a subject of interest to lawmakers since Minnesota became a state. Early laws allowed drainage of the land to reclaim it for farming. More recently wetland conservation has become a priority. Wetlands and their relationship to this year's flooding have made wetland management a key issue in flood management discussions in Minnesota.

The drainage or retention of wetlands can have wide reaching effects; thus many state agencies are involved. The Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources have the most responsibility for wetland policy. Other agencies having some involvement are the Departments of Agriculture and Transportation and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

Recent state documents include:

**Administrative Manual For The Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act.** Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources, 1997. (Not a depository item. Call agency.)

*A guide to wetland management in Minnesota.*

Carlson, Elizabeth P. **Dealing With Wetlands In Minnesota.** Minnesota Dept. of Natural Resources, 1995. (95-0416).

*An early report on the process yielding the 1997 Minnesota Wetlands Conservation Plan.*

Helland, John. **Wetlands, A Brief Historical Background.** House Research, 1996. (96-0196).

*This information brief describes wetland issues and contains a chronology of state laws since 1858.*

**Minnesota Wetlands Conservation Plan.** Minnesota Dept. of Natural Resources, et al., 1997. (97-0342)

*Initial version of a policy framework for Minnesota wetlands.*

**1994 And 1995 Minnesota Wetland Reports.** Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources, 1995 and 1996. (95-0355 and 97-0201)

*A mandated report containing statistical and policy information on Minnesota wetlands.*

**Stakeholders' Roundtable On The Wetland Conservation Act.** Minnesota Dept. of Administration, 1996. (96-0090)

*A report on discussions between various persons and groups involved in wetland management.*

**Wetland Types And Definitions.** Minnesota Dept. of Natural Resources, 1996.

**Wetlands In Minnesota.** Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources, 1996.

*(Not depository items. Call agency.)*

*Two illustrated guides to wetland classification.*

## MINNESOTA HIGHLIGHTS NEWS ABOUT STATE INFORMATION RESOURCES

by Marion Matters, Legislative Reference Library  
May 1997

### Minnesota Student Survey

Beginning in 1989, the Minnesota Student Survey has been given every three years to public school students in grades 6, 9, and 12. The survey is given and analyzed by the Department of Children, Families and Learning (formerly Department of Education). School district and student participation is voluntary.

The survey evaluates students' concerns and problem behaviors across communities and over time. Personal and environmental risk factors are correlated with the emotional and behavioral problems, and special emphasis is placed on alcohol and drug use.

Comparative trend data from the surveys has been reported in the following documents:

- *Minnesota Student Survey Report 1989*. MINN. DOC. No. 89-0568.
- *Reflections of Social Change: Minnesota Student Survey, 1989-1992*. MINN. DOC. NO. 92-0551.
- *Minnesota Student Survey, 1989, 1992, 1995: Perspectives on Youth*. MINN. DOC. NO. 96-0148.  
Includes comparisons of Minnesota data with national data.

Trends reported include a decrease in alcohol use, but an increase in tobacco use since 1989. A key finding in all reports is that adolescents with serious family problems and those who have been abused were much more likely than other students to use alcohol and other drugs, particularly at more harmful levels.

While these published reports give data at the state level, trend reports have also been generated at the school district level and distributed to the participating districts.

In 1991 and again during 1995 and 1996 the same survey was given to youth in alternative schools, residential treatment centers, correctional facilities, and chemical dependency treatment programs. The individual survey results, which also include comparisons with the surveys of students in public schools, are in the following documents:

- *Minnesota Student Survey, 1991: A Report on Special Populations: Alternative Schools Area Learning Centers, Corrections Detention Centers, Residential Treatment Centers*. MINN. DOC NO. 91-0685.
- *1995/1996 Minnesota Student Survey*
- *Alternative Schools and Area Learning Centers*. MINN. DOC. NO. 97-0289.
- *Chemical Dependency Treatment Programs*. MINN. DOC. NO. 97-0288.
- *Residential Behavioral Treatment Facilities*. MINN. DOC. NO. 97-0290.
- *Juvenile Correctional Facilities*. MINN. DOC. NO. 97-0287.

The adolescents in these settings report significantly higher rates of physical and sexual abuse, alcohol and drug use, and other serious family problems, compared to their peers in public schools.

Adolescents in alternative schools report positive experiences with these programs; they are three times as likely as students in traditional schools to believe their teachers are interested in them.

MINNESOTA HIGHLIGHTS  
NEWS ABOUT STATE INFORMATION RESOURCES  
by Carol Blackburn, Legislative Reference Library  
March 1997

**Public Welfare Reform**

With the passage of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, the federal government abolished the existing public welfare system and required each state to establish its own welfare program. Minnesota has been experimenting with several welfare reform projects in the past few years and it is likely that some of these will form the basis of the new system. Following is a selection of state documents that describe these continuing efforts:

**Access Child Care Program Task Force Report.** St. Paul, MN: MN Dept. of Human Services, Economic and Community Support Strategies, Self-Sufficiency Programs Division, Child Care Assistance Program, 1996. (96-0457)

Bellis, Maureen. **Welfare-to-Work: Pilot Projects in Minnesota.** St. Paul, MN: Research Dept., MN House of Representatives, 1996. (97-0005)

**First Year Progress Report / Minnesota Family Investment Program.** St. Paul, MN: MN Dept. of Human Services, 1995. (95-0500)

**Job Availability in Minnesota in 1997: Preliminary Estimates of Labor Market Conditions in Light of Welfare Reform.** St. Paul, MN: Research and Statistics Office, MN Dept. of Economic Security, 1997. (97-0101)

**A Progress Report on Project STRIDE.** St. Paul, MN: MN Dept. of Human Services : MN Dept. of Economic Security, 1996. (96-0358)

**Report to the Minnesota Legislature on Minnesota Parents' Fair Share Program.** St. Paul, MN: MN Dept. of Human Services, 1996. (96-0243)

**Work in Progress: Federal Welfare Reform in Minnesota.** St. Paul, MN: MN Planning, 1997. (97-0103)



**MINNESOTA HIGHLIGHTS**  
**NEWS ABOUT STATE INFORMATION RESOURCES**  
by Robbie LaFleur, Legislative Reference Library  
February 1997

**"A New Year Brings New Features to the Minnesota Legislature's Web Site"**

Each new year brings improvements to the Minnesota State Legislature web site. Most information has changed from the older gopher protocol to take advantage of hypertext links on the World Wide Web. From the text of a bill you can jump directly to the status information. From the bill status you can jump directly to the full text or the status of the companion bill. With the bills in web format, the old problem of printing strikes and underscores has disappeared! However, the bill searching capability is gone for the time being, much to many users' chagrin. An enhanced keyword searching capability is in the works.

The format of Minnesota Statutes is improved with easy-to-use hypertext links. After many people requested it, the option of printing a whole chapter rather than just sections has been added.

A couple of legislative committees have added pages this year. The House Education Committee and Capital Investment Committee pages include information about the committee structure, links to relevant statutes and legislation, and overviews of committee hearings.

In order to help people use the information on the web site, we've added online guides. In the Legislative and Bill Tracking section, look for "How to Follow a Bill," "How to do Legislative History," and "How to Research a Legislative Issue."

Any comments and suggestions for the web site are always welcome. We are always looking for ways to make the site as useful and user-friendly as possible. As one staff person pointed out, every session added to the web site means another year of legislative history you can research in your pajamas.

**MINNESOTA HIGHLIGHTS**  
**NEWS ABOUT STATE INFORMATION RESOURCES**  
**by Astrid Slungaard, Legislative Reference Library**  
**November 1996**

**House Information Briefs**

In preparation for the approaching legislative session the Minnesota House of Representatives Research Office has published several Information Briefs. Staff from the nonpartisan legislative research office prepared reports on topics ranging from the financing of sports facilities, property tax relief, to veterans' bonuses. The purpose of the briefs is to educate legislators and committee staff through overviews of relevant issues or summaries of current laws. Some recently published briefs are:

**Baker, Karen and Manzi, Nina. Targeting: A Property Relief Program for Qualifying Homeowners.** House Research, September 1996. (96-0445)

*This brief defines "targeting," explains how it works, and gives an overview of the additional refund program. Includes targeting refund data from 1980-1996.*

**Bellis, Maureen. Minnesota General Assistance (GA) Program.**

House Research, August 1996. (96-0472)

*A description of the Minnesota General Assistance Program with information about eligibility requirements and income limits.*

**Cleary, Jim. Gulf War Veterans' Bonus. A Proposed Minnesota Constitutional Amendment.** House Research, September 1996. (96-0446)

*Explains Gulf War veterans' bonus and proposed amendment to the state constitution.*

*(The amendment, ratified by voters in the November 1996 election, would allow the legislature to pay bonuses to Minnesotans who served in the Persian Gulf War by issuing state bonds.) Describes eligibility requirements and cost of the bonus program.*

**Dyson, Deborah. Metropolitan Transit Legislation: 1995-1996 Summary.**

House Research, October 1996. (96-0512)

*Summary of legislation enacted in 1995-1996 biennium relating to metropolitan transit. Includes service-funding data and subsidy limitations.*

**Dyson, Deborah. State and Regional Financing for Sports Facilities.**

House Research, October 1996. (96-0511)

*Provides an overview of recent legislative proposals and laws for financing sport facilities with a brief overview of the Metropolitan Sports Facilities Commission and the Minnesota Amateur Sports Commission. Provides figures for previous funding of state amateur sports facilities.*

**McKnight, Deborah. Minnesota's Child Support Law: An Overview.** House Research, Revised: June 1996. (96-0341)

*Answers questions about child support laws including setting, modifying, paying, enforcing and terminating child support. Explains role of state and federal government in these issues.*

**MINNESOTA HIGHLIGHTS**  
**NEWS ABOUT STATE INFORMATION RESOURCES**  
by Marion Matters, Legislative Reference Library  
September 1996

**Minnesota Documents Hit the Web --  
And So Does the LRL Catalog!**

These three recent Minnesota documents are all available in paper *and* (at least in part) on the World Wide Web--the first of many to come, we know.

- ◆ *Minnesota Milestones : 1996 Progress Report* (MN Planning)  
Press release (HTML): <http://www.mnplan.state.mn.us/press/mile1996.html>  
Summary (PDF, Portable Document Format): <http://www.mnplan.state.mn.us/pdf/mile96su.pdf>  
Full report (PDF): <http://www.mnplan.state.mn.us/pdf/mile96re.pdf>
- ◆ *Report Card for Minnesota Schools* (Minnesota Dept. of Children, Families, and Learning)  
Press release (HTML): <http://www.educ.state.mn.us/press.htm>  
Report (PDF): <http://www.educ.state.mn.us/card.pdf>
- ◆ *State of Minnesota Telecommuting Program* (Minnesota Dept. of Administration, Information Policy Office)  
Telecommuting Policy (part of report only):  
<http://www.state.mn.us/ebranch/admin/ipo/telecomm/telpolic.html>

Some Minnesota agency periodicals are now--or soon will be--available *only* on the Web. For example, see:

- ◆ *Minnesota Issue Watch* (MN Planning)  
<http://www.mnplan.state.mn.us/issues/iwhomepg.html>
- ◆ *Small Business Notes* (Minnesota Dept. of Trade and Economic Development)  
<http://www.dted.state.mn.us/news/sbn/sbn.html>

And thanks to the efforts of the WebPALS development team at Mankato, the Legislative Reference Library is able to offer clickable access to these, and other Internet resources, through the **WebPALS catalog**:

<http://www.pals.msus.edu/webpals/home.html>

The Legislative Library will continue to provide clickable links to current Minnesota document URL's in its catalog, but that doesn't mean we're abandoning the distribution of microfiche through the Minnesota State Document Depository System. What happens when agencies issue electronic "documents" that don't lend themselves to microfiche reproduction? We're not sure yet. Let us know what you think!

We also will be working with the WebPALS development team to initiate automatic link checking to make it easier for us to maintain the URL links for as long as the documents are provided online by the agencies.

**MINNESOTA HIGHLIGHTS**  
**NEWS ABOUT STATE INFORMATION RESOURCES**  
by Elizabeth Lincoln, Legislative Reference Library  
July 1996

Several Minnesota government agencies have begun to publish reports on the Internet. When news of these reports hit the press you won't have to wait for the fiche copy through the depository system!

Two of the agencies making their reports available on the Internet consistently provide well researched reports on issues of interest to people around the state. The Office of the Legislative Auditor began making the full text of their reports available this year. For the full text of Tax Increment Financing, Postsecondary Enrollment Options Program, Trends in State and Local Spending, and many others go to their list of publications at <http://www.auditor.leg.state.mn.us/summary.htm>.

The other agency, Minnesota Planning, has made available recent reports on crime statistics, Minnesota demographics and the Minnesota Milestones program. See the list by subject at:  
<http://www.mnplan.state.mn.us/pubs.html>.

Some agencies provide information that was difficult to get and was not part of the depository system. The Ethical Practices Board publishes their opinions and directories of campaign committees and lobbyists. These reports are updated regularly and available at <http://www.state.mn.us/ebranch/epb/>.

Many other agencies are providing both general information and formal reports electronically. The Department of Children, Families and Learning publishes reports, statistics and a directory of schools on their web site at <http://www.educ.state.mn.us/>. The Department of Revenue is another agency that has a number of reports available electronically.

When asked for a state document it's worth checking the agency web site. In addition, Legislative Reference Library staff add the URL for Internet versions of print documents to their PALS records.

Most agencies are currently publishing materials on the Internet and in paper. That may not always be the case. It remains to be seen how Internet access will affect the Minnesota state document depository system.

**MINNESOTA HIGHLIGHTS**  
**NEWS ABOUT STATE INFORMATION RESOURCES**  
by Robbie LaFleur, Legislative Reference Library  
April 1996

**Business Handbooks from the  
Department of Trade and Economic Development**

The Minnesota Department of Trade and Economic Development publishes practical business handbooks, often in collaboration with law firms or accounting firms, sometimes with help from another state agency. These handbooks are not provided through the depository library program, but would be great additions to many business collections. Almost every library could use the annually updated *Guide to Starting a Business in Minnesota*. Please call Trade and Economic Development directly for free copies of any of these recent titles:

- ♦ *Advertising Law Primer*. May 1995.
- ♦ *Doing Business in the European Union*. Second edition. March 1995.
- ♦ *An Employer's Guide to Employee Handbooks in Minnesota*. April 1994.
- ♦ *An Employer's Guide to Employee Benefits*. 1996.
- ♦ *An Employers Guide to Employee Stock Ownership Plans*. April 1994.
- ♦ *A Guide to Starting a Business in Minnesota*. Fourteenth edition. January, 1996.
- ♦ *Incorporating and Operating a Minnesota Business Corporation*. April, 1995.
- ♦ *An Introduction to Owning and Operating a Business in Minnesota for "non-English" Speaking Americans*. 1995. These guides are available in Spanish, Hmong, Cambodian, and Vietnamese.
- ♦ *A Legal Guide for the Software Developer*. Fourth edition. April, 1994.

Phone numbers for the MN Department of Trade and Economic Development:

612-296-3871  
800-657-3858 (toll-free)  
612-296-1290 (fax)

## **MINNESOTA HIGHLIGHTS NEWS ABOUT STATE INFORMATION RESOURCES**

by Randi Madisen, Legislative Reference Library  
February 1996

### **Minnesota State Legislature On the Internet**

The Minnesota State Legislature unveiled its newly designed World Wide Web site on January 19, 1996. Legislative information has been available on the Internet in a variety of forms since late 1993, but the new site utilizes the hypertext and multimedia capabilities of the World Wide Web. The goal of the Legislature's Internet service is to provide as much information as possible in a user-friendly form to increase participation in the legislative process. The current legislative web site is a joint effort of the Legislative Reference Library, the Office of the Revisor of Statutes, the Senate and the House of Representatives.

### **The Minnesota State Legislature Web Site includes:**

- ♦ Full text of House and Senate bills
- ♦ Searchable bill status
- ♦ The full text of Minnesota Statutes with keyword searching
- ♦ The full text of Minnesota Session Laws
- ♦ Daily agendas during session
- ♦ House and Senate committee schedules
- ♦ A glossary of legislative terms
- ♦ Biographies of members of the Legislature
- ♦ Legislative staff directories
- ♦ House and Senate Journals
- ♦ Information on the Legislature and the legislative process
- ♦ How to participate in the legislative process
- ♦ Press releases
- ♦ Information from several joint legislative commissions
- ♦ Legislative Reference Library catalog
- ♦ "Links to the World": other public policy and government information on the Internet

### **How to find the Minnesota State Legislature on the Web:**

Point your web browser to the URL <http://www.leg.state.mn.us>. If you only have access to gopher, try <gopher://gopher.revisor.leg.state.mn.us:70/1> to access the House and Senate Legislative Gopher.

**MINNESOTA HIGHLIGHTS**  
**NEWS ABOUT STATE INFORMATION RESOURCES**

by Diane Power, Legislative Reference Library  
November, 1995

**The Challenge of Cataloging State Documents**

Retrieval of information in government documents continues to be a pursuit that many of us have enjoyed over the years. That retrieval becomes easier when quality cataloging is done by whatever library is involved.

The cataloging librarian actually performs four tasks in doing his/her job.

1. Description of an item according to AACR2.5
2. Assigning subject headings appropriate to the content.
3. Deciding on a location within the classification scheme used by the library.
4. Determining the persons or groups responsible for the content of the item and verifying form of entry for them.

These four tasks are a daily challenge for the Technical Services staff at the Legislative Reference Library where state documents and consultant's reports arrive regularly. The item can be a beautiful book from the Minnesota Historical Society Press, a kit from the Department of Transportation, a videotape of legislative hearings, or the latest geological map from the University of Minnesota. More recently, it has been Gopher and Web sources as many agencies join the Internet. Changing formats have kept all of us reading AACR2.5 and its updates for current rules.

The topics of state documents are often on the leading edge of technology and government policy. Assigning subject headings and finding a classification number can be problematic. Often no one else has similar material. Familiarity with a topic and the willingness to ask anyone for help pays off in the best choice available at the moment.

Assigning responsibility for the content of an item received is a task handled on many levels. Did an agency do the work involved or was it the consultant? Is personal responsibility given to staff members and is it prominent enough to be used? Has there been an agency name change again and is that really the new form? Decisions must be made from the item being added, but a phone call to agencies involved can often help.

Cataloging is one of many steps along the path in accessing government information. If you have any questions about the Legislative Reference Library's part in the process, please call 296-3398.

**MINNESOTA HIGHLIGHTS**  
**NEWS ABOUT STATE INFORMATION RESOURCES**

by Helen Whipple, Legislative Reference Library

September 1995

On October 1, 1995, Minnesota will have a new Department of Children, Families and Learning. This new Department replaces the Department of Education and will eventually add programs from five other executive branch agencies. The Department's goal is to provide more effective services to children and families.

Minnesota has also taken other initiatives in improving government services to children and families. The State offers local communities collaborative grants to help improve services to Minnesota's children and families and a review of state rules and statutes relating to services for children with disabilities is ongoing .

The following reports provide background information on the issue of government services to children and families. Other reports will be issued before the 1996 legislative session.

Novak, Kathy. ***THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND LEARNING.*** House Research, 1995. (95-0486)

*This information brief describes the process and components involved in establishing the new Department.*

***KIDS CAN'T WAIT: ACTION FOR MINNESOTA'S CHILDREN: A REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR AND PEOPLE OF MINNESOTA.*** Action for Children Commission, 1992. (92-0218)

*This report presents a vision of what children's lives should be like and includes recommendations to help the state achieve that vision.*

***FIRST STEPS: KIDS CAN'T WAIT: 1994 PROGRESS REPORT.*** MN Planning, 1994. (94-0479).

*Progress report on the Action for Children plan.*

***CHILDREN'S CABINET: REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE.*** MN Planning, 1995. (95-0216)

*Summarizes the actions of the Children's Cabinet since it was established in 1992. The Children's Cabinet is a sub-group of the governor's Cabinet that consists of the commissioners of the various agencies with some responsibility for children's programs.*

***VOICES OF MINNESOTA YOUTH: A REPORT OF THE "LISTEN '94: KIDS CAN'T WAIT" CONFERENCE.*** MN Planning, 1994. (95-0260)

*Summarizes the issues Minnesota youth discussed at the "Listen '94" conference.*



**FAMILY SERVICES COLLABORATIVES: 1995 REPORT.** Children's Cabinet : MN Planning, 1995. (95-0404)

*Describes the projects that received grants in 1995. Family services collaborative grants are designed to foster cooperation among local government agencies.*

**LOCAL CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH COLLABORATIVES.** State Coordinating Council, 1995. (95-0329).

*This report describes the activities of the State Coordinating Council, which oversees local children's mental health integrated fund projects.*

**FINAL REPORT.** Task Force on Education for Children with Disabilities II, 1995, (95-0176).

*Final report of the Task Force, including recommended rule and statute changes.*

**MINNESOTA HIGHLIGHTS**  
**NEWS ABOUT STATE INFORMATION RESOURCES**  
by Astrid Slungaard, Legislative Reference Library  
July, 1995

Many Minnesotans were alarmed to read a February *Star Tribune* article reporting 872 weapons incidents in Minnesota schools during the 1993-1994 academic year. Fortunately, no one was harmed in over 87 percent of these incidents. Policy-makers, educators and others monitoring the growing trend of violence in our public education system will be interested in several recent reports from the Minnesota Department of Education.

The report referenced in the *Star Tribune* article, **DANGEROUS WEAPONS INCIDENT REPORT IN MINNESOTA SCHOOLS 1993-1994 SCHOOL YEAR.** (95-0396), describes the incidents of dangerous weapon use in schools. Minnesota Statute 121.207 mandates schools to submit reports of dangerous weapons on February 1 and July 1 of each year. The report provides detailed descriptions of each incident including the weapon involved, details of the circumstances including location and time, description of the offender, description of the victim, costs and action taken by the school administration.

The Minnesota Legislature appropriated 2.5 million dollars for violence prevention education in public schools for the 1993-94 academic year. The report, **VIOLENCE PREVENTION EDUCATION GRANTS IN MINNESOTA SCHOOLS 1993-1994 SCHOOL YEAR.** (95-0397), outlines the various approaches the funded schools used to carry out the mission of addressing violence prevention. Conflict resolution programs, crisis management training, community surveys, curricula and policy development were some of the methods used to accomplish this goal. The Department of Education monitors the participating districts.

**UNLEARNING VIOLENCE.** (95-0438), outlines the Minnesota Department of Education's prevention plan focusing on schools and communities. It encompasses the concepts introduced in Governor Arne Carlson's state plan, **MINNESOTA MILESTONES,** (93-0032), which addresses the issues of making a better future for schools and communities. Some of the ideas promoted in this report include developing the qualities children need to thrive, creating comprehensive prevention efforts for all learners, strengthening the school/parent/guardian educational connection, providing a positive school climate and changing social norms to emphasize acceptable ways to solve problems.

Another MDE report of interest is, **REPORT REGARDING INCIDENTS OF MISBEHAVIOR IN SCHOOLS.** (95-0398). It is the first of three reports mandated by the Minnesota Legislature in 1994 to begin collecting data on incidents of misbehavior leading to suspension or expulsion of students. Although the report does not have findings from the data collection, (they will be analyzed in subsequent reports), it contains revisions to the Minnesota Pupil Fair Dismissal Act (Minn. Stat. 127.26 to 127.29).

**MINNESOTA HIGHLIGHTS**  
**NEWS ABOUT STATE INFORMATION RESOURCES**  
by Robbie LaFleur, Legislative Reference Library  
May, 1995

**State Agency Periodicals Focusing on the Environment**

Considering the recent twenty-fifth anniversary of Earth Day, it seems an opportune time to highlight a few of the free periodicals published by state agencies on environmental topics.

Every library needs the *MINNESOTA VOLUNTEER* from the Department of Natural Resources. Articles on Minnesota's wildlife and landscape feature stunning photos. Other articles treat serious issues such as pollution in the Mississippi and septic systems affecting lake quality. Kids and adults can learn from the interesting "Young Naturalist" column in each issue (and then take a quiz!). Call 612-296-0888 to subscribe. The DNR Division of Fish and Wildlife puts out a quarterly newspaper packed with substantial articles, *FISH & WILDLIFE TODAY*, "for Minnesotans interested in fish, wildlife, and native plant conservation." The Spring 1995 issue includes "What do wildlife managers do?", "Lawn care harming lakes, says DNR ecologist," and "Fisheries moves to ecosystem approach." Call 612-297-1308 to subscribe.

The Pollution Control Agency (PCA) publishes a quarterly newsletter to discuss key environmental issues and help readers understand the agency's programs. *MINNESOTA ENVIRONMENT* features several articles on a single topic in each issue - the future of the Minnesota River, managing junked autos, and air quality regulations, to mention a few. Back issues are also available to libraries; call 612-296-6619 or 1-800-657-3864.

The Groundwater and Solid Waste Division of the PCA has been publishing a quarterly newsletter titled *SOLID WASTE BRIEFING*, with articles on solid waste rules, legislation, and activities around the state. That newsletter is being revamped, will come out more frequently, and will be titled *GROUNDWATER AND SOLID WASTE CONNECTION* to reflect the added emphasis on groundwater management and monitoring. The first issue will come out in early summer; to be put on the mailing list, call 612-297-2759 or 1-800-657-3864.

The titles noted above are all of interest to a wide audience. Some library users might also be interested in the following more specialized titles. *THE CLARIFIER* is a newsletter for communities involved in wastewater treatment (PCA Water Quality Division, call Charlotte Morrison at 612-296-7229). Twice each month the Environmental Quality Board publishes notices of projects requiring environmental review by the state in the *EQB MONITOR* (call 612-296-3985 or leave a message at 612-296-2603). The Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources publishes a quarterly newsletter, *THE CONSERVATION MENTOR* (call 612-297-5353 or 1-800-627-3529).

**MINNESOTA HIGHLIGHTS**  
**NEWS ABOUT STATE INFORMATION RESOURCES**  
by Jane Young, Legislative Reference Library  
March 1995

**House Research Reports**

The Minnesota House of Representatives established the Research Department in 1967 as a nonpartisan legislative research office serving the entire membership of the House and its committees. The department assists members and committees in collecting and analyzing information and in developing, amending and evaluating legislation. Reports from House Research provide excellent overviews of topics pending before the legislature or give historical background on state issues. Some are brief; others provide lengthy original research. Here are just a few of the interesting reports issued by House Research in 1994 and 1995.

- ♦ Chun, Randall and Thomas R. Pender. **The Basics of MinnesotaCare: A Guide for Legislators.** House Research, 1994. (95-0191)

*This guidebook provides an overview of the health care access and health care reform initiatives authorized by the MinnesotaCare Acts of 1992 through 1994.*

- ♦ Shapiro, Emily. **Crime Victim Legislation in Minnesota: An Overview.** House Research, 1994. (94-0261)

*This information brief summarizes the major features of laws enacted in Minnesota to protect the rights and interests of crime victims.*

- ♦ Shepard, Mark. **Gender Equity in Restroom Facilities.** House Research, 1994. (94-0384)

*The 1994 Legislature enacted a law that requires a specified ratio of women's to men's restroom facilities in places of public accommodation, also known as "potty parity".*

- ♦ Helland, John. **A Guide to Major State Energy Laws 1973-1993.** House Research, 1994. (94-0520)

*This guide briefly summarizes Minnesota's major energy laws over a 20 year period.*

- ♦ Urahn, Sue and Dan Stewart. **Minnesota Charter Schools: A Research Report.** House Research, 1994. (95-0067).

*A summary of the charter school movement in Minnesota.*

- ♦ Clark, Martha. **Reemployment Insurance Law: A Guide for Legislators.** House Research, 1995. (95-0239)

*Summarizes the state's reemployment insurance program, formerly known as the unemployment compensation program.*

- ♦ Williams, John. **Questions and Answers on the Off-Track Betting Amendment.** House Research, 1994. (95-0061)

*The 1994 Legislature voted to place on the November ballot a constitutional amendment to permit the legalization of off-track betting on horse racing. This information brief answers several of the most commonly raised questions about the amendment.*

- ♦ McKnight, Deborah. **Interstate Compacts.** House Research, July 1994. (94-0516)

*Provides questions and answers on one kind of mechanism -- interstate compacts -- that states use for cooperative undertakings.*

**MINNESOTA HIGHLIGHTS**  
**NEWS ABOUT STATE INFORMATION RESOURCES**

by Elizabeth Lincoln, Legislative Reference Library

January 1995

*Within Our Means: Tough Choices in Government Spending:* (95-0024) is the newly released result of an eight month study of Minnesota's future government spending. Minnesota Planning, in collaboration with the Minnesota Department of Finance, looked at current spending patterns and demographic trends. The study identifies five major forces driving government spending:

- A changing population, including more youth in school and prone to crime, and more elderly needing long-term nursing home care.
- Continuing expansion of eligibility and levels of service for major programs, such as health care, schools and colleges.
- High standards, regulations, and government mandates. (For example, tough sentencing guidelines, child care licensing, environmental regulations, etc.)
- Rising costs of public salaries and employee benefits, and of medical services purchased for dependent citizens.
- Infrastructure costs to maintain aging schools and highways and costs to expand them to meet growing suburban populations.

Without action, large future budget deficits in the biennial budget cycles ending June 1999 through June 2005 are predicted. The report outlines options and recommends actions that Minnesota governments should make to close the impending budget gap.

The "Major Sources" listed at the end of *Within Our Means* would be useful to persons interested in researching state spending and demographic trends.

Key findings from this study were published over the past year in a series of brief statistical reports. Reports in the *Line Item* series include:

Minnesota Counties Lead in Payroll and Employment Growth. (93-0354)

Minnesota's Justice Price Tag Climbed Past \$1 Billion. (94-0583)

Minnesota's State Health Spending Nearly Doubled Since 1980. (95-0021)

School Enrollment Growth to Cost \$320 Million More. (94-0559)

Welfare Migrants Add to Minnesota's Rolls. (94-0317)

**MINNESOTA HIGHLIGHTS**  
**NEWS ABOUT STATE INFORMATION RESOURCES**  
by Robbie LaFleur, Legislative Reference Library  
November, 1994

**The new and improved House and Senate Legislative Gopher!**

The Legislative branch of Minnesota government unveiled its updated Internet information service in October. Those with access to the information superhighway will be just a modem's dial away from a host of legislative information from the Minnesota House of Representatives, the Minnesota Senate, the Legislative Reference Library, the Revisor of Statutes, and several joint legislative commissions. The goal of the service is to provide as much information as possible in a user-friendly form to increase citizen participation in the legislative process.

The Internet "gopher" protocol, developed at the U of M, allows any organization to become an information provider to the world. The Minnesota Legislative Gopher makes information about the Minnesota legislative process more easily available in the Capitol area, throughout the state, and around the world.

***The new House and Senate Legislative Gopher includes:***

- ♦ Full text of House and Senate bills
- ♦ House and Senate Journals
- ♦ A glossary of legislative terms
- ♦ Biographies of members of the Legislature
- ♦ Daily agendas during session
- ♦ The full text of MINNESOTA STATUTES
- ♦ Legislative staff directories
- ♦ Information on the Legislature and the legislative process
- ♦ Press releases
- ♦ Links to other state and federal government information on the Internet
- ♦ How to participate in the legislative process

***A little history:*** Late in 1993, the Minnesota House of Representatives established a gopher containing the text of House bills, full text of MINNESOTA STATUTES, and other information about the House. The original gopher "lived" on a computer belonging to the Revisor of Statutes. Following the introduction of the House gopher, staff from the Senate and House Information Systems Departments, the Revisor of Statutes, the Library and others began discussions aimed at further development of the gopher. The 'Gopher Design Team' scouted out available information and planned the structure of how the information would be presented. House and Senate technical staff solved the thorny problems of making the computers and legislative networks work together. The new, expanded

Legislative Gopher is a joint effort of the Legislative Reference Library, the Office of the Revisor of Statutes, the Senate and the House.

**How to find the House and Senate Legislative Gopher:**

(Note: The revised and improved gopher is located at the same address as the original gopher)

***Gopher administrators:*** Point your gopher to  
URL:gopher://gopher.revisor.leg.state.mn.us:70/1. This is the root server for  
the House and Senate Legislative Gopher.

***Individuals or systems with gopher client software:*** Point your gopher client to  
gopher.revisor.leg.state.mn.us. (Port 70)

***Users without gopher client software:*** Telnet to consultant.micro.umn.edu (the  
University of Minnesota Gopher), login: gopher. *Or*, via dial access,  
612-626-2400 (also the U of M Gopher), access> consultant.micro.umn.edu,  
login: gopher. Follow this path through the menus: Other Gopher and  
Information Servers/North America/U.S./Minnesota/Minnesota Legislature.

***Users with subscriptions to commercial online services:*** Check with your service  
to see if gopher access is supported.



**MINNESOTA HIGHLIGHTS**  
**NEWS ABOUT STATE INFORMATION RESOURCES**

by Helen Whipple, Legislative Reference Library  
September 1994

Do you think the Twin Cities or Minnesota is a good place work, raise a family, and enjoy life? Or do you think the area is in an economic decline? The popular impression of the quality of life in the Twin Cities or Minnesota is that we compare favorably to other metro areas and States. But do we? And if we do, will our quality of life continue into the next century? The following government reports deal with this issue:

**A CUT ABOVE: MINNESOTA'S NATIONAL RANKINGS.** MN Planning, 1994.  
(94-0195)

*This report looks at how Minnesota ranks with the other 49 states using a collection of facts gathered from a variety of sources. Nice list of sources.*

**MINNESOTA MILESTONES: A REPORT CARD FOR THE FUTURE.**  
MN Planning, 1992. (93-0032)

*This document presents a long-range plan for Minnesota. It includes 20 broad goals and 79 milestones which measure progress. This core report should be in any collection that deals with Minnesota.*

**MINNESOTA MILESTONES: 1993 PROGRESS REPORT.** Mn Planning, 1993.  
(94-0196).

*The first progress report since the **Milestone** goals were published in 1992. The results are both positive and negative.*

**INVENTORY OF HUMAN INVESTMENT IN THE TWIN CITIES AREA.**  
**SUMMARY OF HUMAN INVESTMENT IN THE TWIN CITIES AREA.**  
**THE TWIN CITIES METRO AREA IN PERSPECTIVE.** Metropolitan  
Council, 1992.

*These three reports are part of the Council 's multi-year effort to develop a Human Investment Framework . The **INVENTORY** provides a description of all the ways the region invests in its people. The **SUMMARY** discusses the amount of money we invest in the region's people. **THE TWIN CITIES METRO AREA IN PERSPECTIVE** examines how the region is faring compared to other urban areas, the state and the nation.*

**TROUBLE AT THE CORE: THE TWIN CITIES UNDER STRESS.**  
Metropolitan Council, 1992.

*This report discusses the trends of deteriorating neighborhoods, deepening poverty and stalled income growth that are affecting Minneapolis and St. Paul.*

**KEEPING THE TWIN CITIES VITAL: REGIONAL STRATEGIES  
FOR CHANGE IN THE FULLY DEVELOPED AREA.** Metropolitan  
Council, 1994. (94-0161)

*This report updates **TROUBLE AT THE CORE**. It presents a portrait of how the fully developed area compares to other metro areas and presents strategies for strengthening the fully developed area.*

**MINNESOTA HIGHLIGHTS**  
**NEWS ABOUT STATE INFORMATION RESOURCES**  
**Summer Mini Edition**

by Randi Madisen, Legislative Reference Library  
July, 1994

Minnesota Planning is examining local and state government spending and revenues, both current and past. The study will identify major forces in government spending and will try to forecast what will happen in the next ten years. Findings from this study will be highlighted as the study progresses in **Line Item**, a new periodic publication from Minnesota Planning.

The first **Line Item** is entitled **Welfare Migrants Add to Minnesota's Rolls** (MN DOC 94-0317). This report is based on census data that shows that more welfare recipients moved into Minnesota than moved out between 1985 and 1990. Each **Line Item** will be available from Minnesota Planning at (612) 296-2985.

A final report from the study of government spending and revenues will be published in December 1994.

## MINNESOTA HIGHLIGHTS NEWS ABOUT STATE INFORMATION RESOURCES

by Randi Madisen, Legislative Reference Library  
May, 1994

### Performance Reports

In 1993, the Minnesota Legislature passed a law (Minnesota Laws 1993, Chapter 192, Section 40) requiring annual performance reporting for twenty agencies of state government. Each report is to contain, among other things, a statement of the mission of the agency, measures of the output of the agency, identification of populations served, and plans for using outcome information to improve state programs. The Department of Finance is responsible for developing the format and providing instructions for the preparation of the performance reports. Each agency issued draft *Annual Performance Reports* by November 1, 1993 (MN DOC 93-0620).

Every year after this, the twenty agencies will issue a performance report. The first annual performance reports from the agencies are due September 1, 1994, and will be updated no later than September 1 of each succeeding year. Measures in the reports will cover four years previous to the date issued and two years in the future, and will include previous forecasts versus actual measures.

The Program Evaluation Division of the Legislative Auditor's office is evaluating the draft reports for completeness, balance, readability, and appropriateness of measures. The legislative auditor's evaluations of performance reports will be published with dark green covers to distinguish them from other reports by the same office. Following the initial evaluation of all twenty draft performance reports, the legislative auditor will review ten of the twenty reports each year. Once appropriate measures are established, future auditor evaluations will focus more on the validity and reliability of the performance data provided by the agencies.

So far, the Legislative Reference Library has received two evaluations of the draft reports from the Office of the Legislative Auditor, *Comments On The Department Of Finance's 1993 Draft Performance Report* and *Comments On The Department Of Natural Resources' 1993 Draft Performance Report*.

These performance reports and auditor evaluations represent another step in reinventing government, providing outcome-based program measurement to permit greater agency accountability. Agencies required to participate include Corrections, Education, Employee Relations, Finance, Health, Human Rights, Human Services, Economic Security, Labor and Industry, Military Affairs, Natural Resources, Public Safety, Public Service, Revenue, Trade and Economic Development, Transportation, and Veteran's Affairs.

# **MINNESOTA HIGHLIGHTS**

## **NEWS ABOUT STATE INFORMATION RESOURCES**

by Marion Matters, Legislative Reference Library

March 1994

### **The Minnesota Legislative Reference Library and Internet Gopher**

The Minnesota Legislative Reference Library—like many government agencies, organizations, and libraries—recently has begun to distribute information from and about the library using the Internet gopher. With the Internet gopher protocol (developed at the University of Minnesota) and a direct connection to the Internet telecommunications network, any organization can easily become an “information provider” to the world. The Minnesota Legislative Reference Library, which provides services and resources unique in Minnesota, now has the opportunity to make information more easily available in the Capitol area, around the state, and beyond.

#### **What's available now?**

The library's initial offerings include:

- Descriptions of the library's programs and services (e.g., Minnesota State Document Depository System)
- Access to the library's catalog on PALS
- Guides (“pathfinders”) to research on several topics of current or continuing interest to the legislature (gambling, crime, Prairie Island, redistricting)
- Ready reference compilations of information concerning, for example, Minnesota state symbols (bird, flower, song, etc.)

In their own separate efforts, the Minnesota House of Representatives and the Office of Revisor of Statutes are also experimenting to make available the following kinds of information:

- Text of bills introduced in the House (by House file number only, not searchable)
- Text of House journals (by date only, not searchable)
- Text of Minnesota Statutes, by section number only (not searchable at this point)
- Biographies and directory information for House members (essentially the information that is in the legislative manuals, alphabetical by name)

#### **What's to come?**

The library plans to expand the offerings gradually and thoughtfully, to include additional topical research guides (e.g., Indian fishing rights, dual-track airport selection process) as well as information about researching legislative history and the history of the Minnesota legislature. Information already in electronic form is the easiest to make available immediately, but the library is committed to converting other valuable information to electronic form.

Watch this space! Things change almost daily. In a future issue we will feature new developments.

## **How to find the Minnesota Legislative Reference Library and Legislative Gopher**

***Gopher administrators:*** Point your gopher to  
URL: gopher://gopher.revisor.leg.state.mn.us:70/1. This is the root server for the Minnesota  
Legislature gopher (currently managed by the Minnesota Office of the Revisor of Statutes).

***Individuals or systems with gopher client software:*** Point your gopher client to  
gopher.revisor.leg.state.mn.us.

***Without gopher client software:*** telnet to consultant.micro.umn.edu (the University of  
Minnesota gopher), login: gopher. *Or*, via dial access, 612-626-2400 (also the University of  
Minnesota gopher), access>consultant.micro.umn.edu, login: gopher. Follow this path  
through the menus: Other Gopher and Information Servers/North  
America/U.S./Minnesota/Minnesota Legislature.

***For more information about gopher:*** dial Metroline (the Metronet bulletin board),  
612-224-8086; in the Files section, view or download gopherfaq.txt (frequently asked  
questions about gopher), gopher.txt (how to connect to the U of M gopher), goexplor.txt  
("Exploring the Power of the Internet Gopher").

**What would you like to see "on the gopher" for the Legislative Reference Library and the  
Legislature?**

Contact Randi Madisen at the Legislative Reference Library with suggestions: Telephone  
296-7857; Fax 296-9731; E-mail PALSMCL@VAX1.MANKATO.MSUS.EDU

**MINNESOTA HIGHLIGHTS**  
**NEWS ABOUT STATE INFORMATION RESOURCES**  
by Elizabeth Lincoln, Legislative Reference Library  
January, 1994

A recent Star Tribune/WCCO-TV Minnesota Poll indicates that 29 percent of Minnesotans identify crime as the most important issue facing the state, up dramatically from only two percent three years ago. Another recent survey conducted by Minnesota Planning shows that Minnesota "increasingly fears for its safety." Clearly, state residents are focused on crime.

Fear is more prevalent than the reality of crime in most Minnesotans' lives according to the Minnesota Planning report, **TROUBLING PERCEPTIONS: 1993 MINNESOTA CRIME SURVEY (94-0014)**. The survey found that while 21 percent of those surveyed feared attack in the near future, only four percent were actually attacked.

The most comprehensive source of statistical information about crime in Minnesota is **MINNESOTA CRIME INFORMATION**, published by the Minnesota Department of Public Safety (92-0405). The 1992 issue is scheduled for release in February. First compiled in 1934, it allows for comparison of crime statistics from year to year.

Other recent reports dealing with crime include:

**SERIOUS CRIME IN MINNESOTA.** Minnesota Criminal Justice Statistical Analysis Center, Minnesota Planning, 1993.

Shapiro, Emily. **CRIME VICTIM LEGISLATION IN MINNESOTA: AN OVERVIEW.** Research Department, Minnesota House of Representatives, 1993. (93-0436)

Another area of concern to Minnesotans is the increase in juvenile crime. The total number of serious crimes has increased four percent from 1980 to 1991, but the number of juveniles apprehended for serious crimes has increased ten percent in the same period. Juveniles accounted for 43 percent of the total number of arrests/apprehensions for serious crimes in 1991. Several reports discuss juvenile crime:

**ATTORNEY GENERAL'S YOUTH TASK FORCE ON JUVENILE JUSTICE: A REPORT TO HUBERT H. HUMPHREY III.** Attorney General's Youth Task Force on Juvenile Justice, 1994. (94-0029)

**FINAL REPORT.** Minnesota Supreme Court Advisory Task Force on the Juvenile Justice System, 1994. (94-0035)

**OVERVIEW OF JUVENILE CRIME IN MINNESOTA.** Minnesota Criminal Justice Statistical Analysis Center, Minnesota Planning, 1993.

Crime issues, especially juvenile crime issues, are likely to be among the central concerns of the 1994 legislative session.

**MINNESOTA HIGHLIGHTS**  
**NEWS ABOUT STATE INFORMATION RESOURCES**  
by Jane Young, Legislative Reference Library  
November, 1993

**Dual Track Airport Planning: Background Documents**

In 1989 the Legislature passed the Metropolitan Airport Planning Act. This act required the Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC) and the Metropolitan Council to consider two options for airport development in the metropolitan area simultaneously: expansion of the existing airport and construction of a new airport in or around the seven county metropolitan area.

The legislation requires MAC and other agencies to generate many reports throughout the planning process. The act establishes an advisory council designed to study the airport planning research carried out by the planning agencies and make a recommendation to the Legislature by 1996.

The Legislative Reference Library has collected the many reports generated so far by the Metropolitan Airports Commission and other agencies throughout the airport planning process. Listed below are several reports from 1993. The Library has also collected news clippings, minutes, and other materials. For a complete bibliography of airport planning related documents since 1988, contact the Library.

The Metropolitan Airports Commission has published some overview documents:

**DUAL TRACK AIRPORT PLANNING PROCESS: ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW PROCEDURES.** (8 p.) [March] 1993. TL726.4.T9 D833 1993. Includes a timeline and description of the federal and state environmental reviews.

**DUAL TRACK AIRPORT PLANNING PROCESS: NEW AIRPORT SITE SELECTION.** (16 p.) [May] 1993. TL726.4.T9 D834 1993. Includes a timeline and maps of the sites considered.

**DUAL TRACK AIRPORT PLANNING PROCESS: AVIATION ACTIVITY FORECASTS.** (12 p.) [September] 1993. TL726.4.T9 D835 1993. Includes various airport activity forecasts.

Other reports include:

**AIRPORT PLANNING.** Program Evaluation Division, Office of the Legislative Auditor, State of Minnesota, [February] 1993. TL726.4.T9 A57 1993.



**DUAL TRACK AIRPORT PLANNING PROCESS: FIRST PHASE SCOPING REPORT: COMMENTS AND RESPONSES.** Prepared for Federal Aviation Administration, Metropolitan Airports Commission. Howard Needles Tammen & Bergendoff, [March] 1993. TL726.4.D832 1993.

**DUAL TRACK AIRPORT PLANNING PROCESS: NEW AIRPORT SITE SELECTION STUDY: DRAFT ALTERNATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT.** Prepared for Metropolitan Airports Commission. Howard Needles Tammen & Bergendoff, [September] 1993. TL726.4.T9 D836 1993.

**DUAL TRACK AIRPORT PLANNING PROCESS: NEW AIRPORT SITE SELECTION STUDY: SCOPING DOCUMENT AND DRAFT SCOPING DECISION DOCUMENT.** Prepared for Metropolitan Airports Commission. Howard Needles Tammen & Bergendoff, [March] 1993. TL726.4.T9 D83 1993.

**DUAL TRACK UPDATE.** Metropolitan Airports Commission, 1992-. This is an irregularly published newsletter.

**MINUTES.** Advisory Council on Metropolitan Airport Planning, 1989-.

**MINUTES.** Governor's Task Force Dual Track Airport Planning Process, 1993-.

**MINNESOTA HIGHLIGHTS**  
**NEWS ABOUT STATE INFORMATION RESOURCES**  
by Robbie LaFleur & Marilyn Cathcart, Legislative Reference Library  
September, 1993

**Prairie Island Nuclear Waste Storage: Background Documents**

Recently, the issue of nuclear waste storage at Prairie Island Nuclear Power Plant has been in the news. Because the U.S. Department of Energy has not yet designated any suitable site to store hazardous nuclear waste, a major storage problem has developed for Northern States Power Company, which is running out of room to store highly radioactive wastes from its Prairie Island nuclear generating plant.

Currently radioactive wastes from the Prairie Island facility are stored in concrete vaults lined with stainless steel and filled with cooling water. The vaults are expected to be at capacity by early 1995. NSP sought state approval to build additional on-site dry cask storage to hold highly radioactive spent fuel rods until the federal facility is available.

In the spring of 1991 the Environmental Quality Board released and approved the **FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT; PRAIRIE ISLAND INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL STORAGE INSTALLATION** (MN DOC 91-0498). This final EIS describes the installation, eleven alternatives, and the impacts associated with the proposed project.

NSP sought permission to build the facility from the Public Utilities Commission in April, 1991, filing its **APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE-OF-NEED FOR PRAIRIE ISLAND SPENT FUEL STORAGE, DOCKET NO. E002/CN-91-19.**

Since several groups were opposed to the facility, evidentiary and public hearings were held in front of Administrative Law Judge Allan Klein in November and December, 1991. The following April Judge Klein recommended that the PUC deny or not grant the certificate of need. He stated, "The likelihood that the dry cask storage would become permanent is so great that it is appropriate to require legislative authorization if the project must go forward immediately." (**IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY FOR A CERTIFICATE OF NEED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL STORAGE FACILITY, FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATION, 6-2500-5462-2, DOCKET NO. E-002/CN-91-19.**)

Despite the recommendation of the Administrative Law Judge, the Public Utilities Commission ruled that NSP could store the radioactive waste, though the number of casks allowed was reduced from 48 to 17. This amount of storage would allow NSP to operate its two reactors until about 2003.

The Mdewkanton Dakota tribe and environmental groups opposed to the storage facility appealed the PUC decision to the MN Court of Appeals. The groups argued that the additional storage should be classified as permanent and that under the 1977 MN Radioactive Waste Management Act, NSP needed authorization from the Legislature before the PUC could rule on the matter. In February, 1993, a group of sixty-nine legislators signed a supplemental friend-of-the court brief with the Court of Appeals. **(AMICUS CURIAE BRIEF OF CERTAIN INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS OF THE MINNESOTA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE MINNESOTA SENATE.)**

The Court of Appeals ruled on May 28, 1993, that NSP does need legislative approval to construct the facility. **(PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION AGENCY FILE NO. E002/CN-91-19; IN THE MATTER OF AN APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFICATE OF NEED FOR CONSTRUCTION OF AN INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL STORAGE INSTALLATION.)** In July the MN Supreme Court refused to hear an NSP appeal, leaving the decision to the Legislature. The 1994 Legislative Session is scheduled to meet beginning February 22, 1994.

**MINNESOTA HIGHLIGHTS**  
**NEWS ABOUT STATE INFORMATION RESOURCES**  
by Robbie LaFleur, Legislative Reference Library  
July, 1993

At the Legislative Library, we try to keep track of new Minnesota state agency periodicals. While many have limited interest to readers outside state government, some informative newsletters have much wider appeal. This list describes a few recent interesting newsletters dealing with the Minnesota economy and environment.

**Auto Focus: Minnesota Vehicle Inspection Program.** Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, Air Quality Division (520 Lafayette Rd. N., St. Paul, MN 55155-4194, 612-297-7018), Quarterly.

*The newsletter's aim is to educate the automotive repair industry about the Vehicle Inspection Program, but many of the articles and statistics are of interest to a wider audience.*

**Economic Update.** Minnesota Department of Finance (400 Centennial Building, 658 Cedar St., St. Paul, MN 55155, 612-296-5900), Quarterly.

*Each four-page newsletter give a summary of MN tax receipts, a forecast for the US and MN economy, and a table comparing actual and estimated revenues for the state.*

**Minnesota Economic Indicators.** Minnesota Department of Jobs and Training, Research and Statistics Office (390 North Robert St., St. Paul, MN 55101, 612-296-6545); Monthly.

*Tables and descriptive analysis of a range of economic indicators, including business incorporations, building permits, and retail sales. The report is intended to give a broader economic picture than just statistics on employment.*

**Minnesota Superfund Quarterly.** Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, Groundwater and Solid Waste Division (520 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155, 612-296-6605 or 800-657-3864), Quarterly.

*Each issue includes articles about hazardous waste cleanup and liability under the Superfund program, and news items about specific sites in Minnesota.*

**The Resource: Perspectives on Minnesota Waste Issues.** Minnesota Office of Waste Management (1350 Energy Lane, St. Paul, MN 55108, 612-649-5791 or 800-657-3843), Bi-monthly.

*Each several-page newsletter focuses on a particular aspect of waste management. Recent issues highlighted pollution prevention, regional waste management, the SCORE recycling program, and how kids can make a difference.*

**River Reach: News from the Minnesota River Restoration Project.** Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, Water Quality Division (520 Lafayette Rd. N., St. Paul, MN 55155, 612-297-3825), Quarterly.

*Articles focus on assessing and improving water quality. Efforts by citizen groups and the MPCA to clean up the Minnesota River are highlighted.*

**MINNESOTA HIGHLIGHTS**  
**NEWS ABOUT STATE INFORMATION RESOURCES**  
**by Randi Madisen, Legislative Reference Library**  
**May, 1993**

**Reinventing Minnesota Government**

Across the nation, politicians seem to think that the time is ripe to make government more innovative and entrepreneurial. As Governor Arne Carlson noted on the first day of the 1993 Minnesota legislative session, "Reinventing government is on everyone's plate." At least two initiatives are underway to improve Minnesota government: the Commission on Reform and Efficiency (CORE) and Minnesota Milestones.

CORE, under the Department of Administration, is a public/private sector commission formed to identify immediate cost savings and ways to reorganize state government. Created in 1991, the commission's goals are to make state government more mission driven, quality oriented, efficient, and responsive to clients. CORE has recently published recommendations for long-term actions to improve efficiency and effectiveness. The following is a complete list of CORE reports issued so far:

*Imperatives for Change: An Assessment of State Government*  
*Budgeting and Financial Management in Minnesota State Government*  
*Minnesota's Quality Initiative*  
*Human Resources Management in Minnesota State Government*  
*Electronic Data Interchange in Minnesota State Government*  
*Reforming Minnesota's Environmental Services System*  
*Reforming Minnesota's Human Services Delivery System*  
*A Minnesota Model: Recommendations for Reorganizing the Executive Branch*  
*Reforming Minnesota's Administrative Rulemaking System*  
*CORE Project Recommendations* (Summary of all project recommendations)

By the end of June, most of CORE will disband with its work complete. However, the local government aid project will continue to work and will issue one more report on the funding of local services, probably in November 1993.

Minnesota Milestones is a long-range plan for Minnesota. More than 10,000 Minnesotans participated in public meetings around the state to help determine the "milestones" or benchmarks to guide state government and track progress over the next 30 years. *Minnesota Milestones: A Report Card For the Future*, the report resulting from these meetings, contains 20 goals and 79 milestones to serve as measures of Minnesota's progress over the next 30 years. The emphasis is on results rather than efforts, which fits right back into the idea of reinventing government.

The CORE reports and Minnesota Milestones will be topics of interest in Minnesota not only this year, but for many years in the future as recommendations are implemented and goals are achieved. The CORE reports are available from the Department of Administration and the Minnesota Milestones materials are available from Minnesota Planning.

**MINNESOTA HIGHLIGHTS**  
**NEWS ABOUT STATE INFORMATION RESOURCES**  
by Elizabeth Lincoln, Legislative Reference Library  
March, 1993

Minnesota has experienced explosive growth in the gambling industry—horse racing, charitable gambling, the lottery, and Indian gaming have all expanded dramatically in the last decade. Other states have seen the same rapid expansion of the gambling industry but Minnesota is one of the leaders in the nation in the number of tribal casinos. In the early 1980's, many Minnesota Indian tribes were involved in some form of gambling allowed under federal court decisions upholding Indian sovereignty. Rapid expansion followed the passage of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act of 1988. The act provided a statutory foundation for Indian gambling operations.

Indian gambling in Minnesota is not subject to state control except under the provisions of the tribal-state compacts negotiated and agreed to by the tribe and the state. Despite the minimal involvement the state has in regulating Indian gambling operations, this major new industry has had a large effect on the state. The Lawful Gambling Control Board estimates the total volume of wagering at the state's sixteen casinos in 1992 at \$2 billion. Minnesotans' per capita gross sales for all forms of gambling is the fourth highest in the country. Gambling, and tribal gambling in particular, will continue to have a major effect on the state's economy.

There are a number of state documents that can help in answering questions on this industry. Minnesota state document fiche numbers are included.

**GAMBLING IN MINNESOTA.** Department of Gaming, State of Minnesota, 1990. (91-0011)

*This report analyzes the various forms of gambling in Minnesota and takes a look at the national picture, gambling behavior, and the social impact of gambling.*

**HIGH STAKES: GAMBLING IN MINNESOTA.** MN Planning, 1992. (92-0247)

*HIGH STAKES documents gambling trends, impacts, and issues in the state. The report also includes data on the financial and social effects of Indian gaming.*

**INDIANS, INDIAN TRIBES AND STATE GOVERNMENT.** Research Department, Minnesota House of Representatives, 1993. (93-0211)

*This House Research report covers "the major legal issues involved in the relationship between Indian tribes, Indians, and state government."*

**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ON INDIAN GAMBLING.** Research Department, Minnesota House of Representatives, 1992. (93-0091)

**REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE ON THE STATUS OF INDIAN GAMBLING IN MINNESOTA.** Submitted by Governor Arne H. Carlson, Attorney Hubert H. Humphrey III, Tribal-State Compact Negotiating Committee, 1991. (91-0715)

*In addition to an overview of Indian gambling activities in Minnesota, this report provides a thorough discussion of the federal law that forms the basis for Indian gambling. This report includes examples of the two types of compacts negotiated by the Tribal-State Compact Negotiating Committee. (The other negotiated compacts are virtually identical to the two samples provided.)*

Several useful reports that are not state documents include:

**ECONOMIC BENEFITS OF TRIBAL GAMING IN MINNESOTA.** Minnesota Indian Gaming Association, 1992.

**IMPACT: INDIAN GAMING IN THE STATE OF MINNESOTA.** Midwest Hospitality Advisors, 1992.

**MINNESOTA HIGHLIGHTS**  
**NEWS ABOUT STATE INFORMATION RESOURCES**  
by Helen Whipple, Legislative Reference Library  
January, 1993

*"If you like laws and sausages, you should  
never watch either one being made."*

- widely attributed to Otto Von Bismarck, 1st  
chancellor of the German empire

The 78th Session of the Minnesota Legislature convened January 5th, and believe it or not there are many people who will enjoy watching it. If you would like to join them but are confused about the complexity of the process, there are several legislative offices designed to assist you.

The House of Representatives Public Information Office, 175 State Office Building, 612-296-2146 (metro) or 1-800-657-3550 (outstate), offers publications on House activities and the legislative process in general. This office publishes a newsletter called "Session Weekly," which includes information on House Committee action, bill introduction, bill status and feature articles. This office also produces "Today" and "This Week," daily and weekly committee schedules with meeting times, places and agendas. The information office also makes available chamber seating charts for House and Senate members, legislators' office room numbers and legislative and staff directories. Several 24-hour recorded informational phone lines are available. House Calls, 612-296-9283, is an up-to-date schedule of committee meeting times and agendas. Committee Report, 612-297-1264, is a report on the day's committee action in the House. House TDD line is 612-296-9896.

The Chief Clerk's Office, 211 State Capitol, 612-296-2314, can also answer questions on House proceedings and give you copies of bills. This office also has copies of the House Calendar, General Orders and Consent Calendar. House Index, 211 State Capitol, 612-296-6646, can provide bill status information.

The Secretary of the Senate's Office, 231 State Capitol, 612-296-2344, can answer questions on Senate proceedings. Senate agendas, calendars and copies of bills are available from this office. Senate Information, 231 State Capitol, 612-296-0504, can provide bill status information.

The Senate Publications Office, 95 State Office Building, 612-296-0259, publishes a newsletter called "Briefly: the Senate Week in Review." It provides a weekly summary of committee and floor action and a schedule of the next week's committee meetings. The publications office also produces "Today in the Senate," a daily committee schedule. The Senate Hotline, 612-296-8088, reports committee information 24 hours daily. The Senate TDD line is 612-296-0250.

Senate Media Services Department broadcasts committee hearings and Senate floor sessions on Metro Cable Network Channel 6. The broadcasts are available from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. The Department also produces "Senate Report," a 30-minute weekly public affairs program about legislative issues and senators, which airs on broadcast and cable stations throughout Minnesota. In the Metro Area, the program is on Channel 6 at 6:30 p.m. Mondays and 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays. Happy watching!



**MINNESOTA HIGHLIGHTS**  
**NEWS ABOUT STATE INFORMATION RESOURCES**  
by Randi Madisen, Legislative Reference Library  
November, 1992

During the next legislative session, Governor Carlson and the Legislature will attempt to rectify an expected shortfall in the 1994-95 biennium budget. Where can you find more information on the shortfall and the state's financial situation? Information on Minnesota state finance can be difficult to track down, but a good grasp of the available state documents can help.

The primary document in this area is the *Proposed Biennial Budget Presented by the Governor to the Legislature*. The next edition will be published in early 1993. This multivolume work contains proposed budget figures for all state functions. Supplementing this document is the Governor's *Budget Message to the Session of the Minnesota State Legislature*, which typically contains charts and tables indicating proposed revenues, expenditures, and comparisons to earlier years. Also included in the budget documents is the *Fund Statement*, which reports the actual and estimated resources and expenditures for the General Fund and the special funds of the state. The *State of Minnesota Proposed Capital Budget* is the final budget piece, containing detailed information on specific governor's recommendations. Actual appropriations, of course, are listed in the *Laws of Minnesota*, published after each session.

Once the budget is in place, the Department of Finance publishes revenue forecasts in the *Minnesota Financial Report*, which is sometimes called the "November Forecast" or the "February Forecast." These estimates of projected revenues and expenditures provide the budget surplus or shortfall figures often quoted in the news.

Once the actual revenues have been received and the expenditures spent, the Department of Finance publishes the *Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the Year Ended June 30, ...*. This report contains financial statements that present the financial condition and results of operations for the year then ended.

HJ11. M6166

For a simpler, easy-to-understand summary of finance of the state of Minnesota, try *A Fiscal Review of the Legislative Session*, published by the Minnesota State Senate after each session. This document covers all legislative actions with a fiscal impact, but covers only appropriations, not actual spending. However, the brief summaries for each department and the statistical tables at the end make the information very understandable for the lay person.

Even with knowledge of the state documents available for tracking Minnesota finance, finding specific figures can be difficult. But at least this list of sources will provide a starting point.

Also, in 1993, the Department of Finance published something called 1994-95 Adopted Budget.



**MINNESOTA HIGHLIGHTS**  
**NEWS ABOUT STATE INFORMATION RESOURCES**  
by Pam A. Day and M. Jane Young, Legislative Reference Library  
September, 1992

**Redistricting in Minnesota**

The 1990 Federal Census has necessitated the redistricting of the state's legislative and congressional boundaries due to major population shifts over the past decade. Minnesota's Legislature is made up of 134 House and 67 Senate seats. By law, each House district is required to have an equal number of people. In order to achieve this, legislative and congressional boundary lines must be redrawn after each Census. The 1990 Census showed Minnesota's population to have grown to 4,375,099. Ideally, each Senate district should have approximately 65,300 citizens while the average House district would be half this size, or 32,650 people. Redistricting is an intensely political endeavor and never more controversial than during the 1991-1992 session. The following is a brief chronology of events leading up to the final redistricting plan.

The redistricting battle began early in January 1991 as a suit was filed in Hennepin County requesting the courts to take over redistricting from the Legislature. In June, a three-judge state panel was appointed to hear this suit. In March, another suit was filed in U.S. District Court in Minneapolis challenging any redistricting plan on the grounds it would discriminate against minorities. A three-judge federal panel was selected in April to hear this suit.

On May 18, the Legislature approved a DFL sponsored legislative plan. This plan was scheduled to become law on August 1, 1991. Gov. Arne Carlson vetoed the bill, but in August, the veto was declared invalid as he missed the constitutional deadline to veto the bill and it became law.

After Gov. Carlson decided not to appeal the veto decision, the Independent-Republicans filed suit in federal court challenging the redistricting legislation. This suit was consolidated with the suit filed in March. Meanwhile, the state court panel ruled in October that the DFL redistricting plan was unconstitutional and full of errors. The court panel decided to draw up a new plan based on the DFL plan.

In November, the state court panel ruled that its proposed redistricting plan would become effective Jan. 21, 1992, unless Gov. Carlson and the Legislature could agree on a plan. The following month federal judges, in a 2-1 decision, ordered the state panel to halt all work on redistricting since this would inhibit lawmakers from developing their own plan.

The redistricting debate was then sent to the U.S. Supreme Court. DFL interests filed an appeal of federal injunction and asked for an expedited decision before Jan. 6, 1992.

A special legislative session was called in January 1992. The Senate and House approved plans for congressional districts and corrected mistakes in the legislative redistricting map. These plans were vetoed by Gov. Carlson on Jan. 11, but the U.S. Supreme Court had ruled on January 10 to remove the federal court injunction on the state court panel plan. This allowed the state court legislative plan to become effective.

In February, the federal district court panel developed a plan and ruled that the state court plan was unlawful because it violated minority voting interests, especially in Minneapolis. The following month, Secretary of State, Joan Growe, and DFL leaders appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court to stop the federal court plan from being implemented. Supreme Court Justice

Harry Blackmun ruled in favor of the state court plan for legislative districts and for the federal court plan for the congressional district lines. Later in March, the U.S. Supreme Court agreed to hear challenges to the redistricting plans after the 1992 elections.

The redistricting process was completed, at least until after the 1992 elections. The state court plan, similar to the DFL plan, will be used in the November elections and the federal court plan will be used for congressional districts.

Useful publications on the redistricting issue are available from various state offices.

Free black and white wall maps of the legislative districts are available from:

**House Information**  
175 State Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
(612) 296-2146

**Senate Information**  
231 Capitol Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
(612) 296-0504.

**Chief Clerk of the House**  
211 Capitol Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
(612) 296-2314

These maps outline the state legislative districts as well as legislative districts for the Metro area and Minneapolis/St. Paul.

Both House and Senate Information will also advise patrons who call in of their legislative and congressional district numbers.

Compilation of maps are available from Minnesota's Bookstore as well as full color wall maps of legislative districts. Useful publications include:

1992 Congressional Districts prepared by the Legislative Coordinating Commission Subcommittee on Redistricting, 1992. (Contains 8 1/2 x 11 maps plus some reports and statistics. Cost \$3.00)

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**Contact:**

**Minnesota's Bookstore**  
Print Communications Division  
Department of Administration  
117 University Ave.  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
(612) 297-3000 or 1-800-657-3757

**MINNESOTA HIGHLIGHTS**  
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by Pam A. Day and M. Jane Young, Legislative Reference Library  
September, 1992 (revised 6/1993)

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On February 23, 1993, the U.S. Supreme Court made a final ruling on the redistricting plan for Minnesota. The U.S. Congressional district plan, drawn up by the panel of federal judges, was replaced by the plan that had been drawn up by the three state judges. This changed the boundaries substantially for the Third and Sixth Congressional Districts, but did not invalidate any of the 1992 election results. The U.S. Supreme Court allowed the state's legislative district plan to stand, dismissing a challenge by Independent-Republicans.

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**REDISTRICTING IN MINNESOTA**

By Pam A. Day and M. Jane Young

Information Analysts

Legislative Reference Library

UPDATE

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The redistricting debate was then sent to the highest court in the land, the U.S. Supreme Court. DFL interests filed an appeal of the federal injunction and asked for an expedited decision before Jan. 6, 1992.

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**MINNESOTA HIGHLIGHTS**  
**NEWS ABOUT STATE INFORMATION RESOURCES**  
by Marilyn Cathcart, Legislative Reference Library  
July, 1992

The following list contains state publications which are key resources for locating information about Minnesota and Minnesota state government. No periodicals are included although many are valuable sources of data and background. (*Minnesota Highlights #1 focused on essential agency periodicals and may be obtained by request.*)

- ◆ **COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT.** Dept. of Finance, 400 Centennial Bldg., 658 Cedar St., St. Paul 55155. Annual. Filmed for depository libraries.

Contains the state's financial statements and includes revenues and expenditures, fund balances, debt and other data describing the state's financial condition.

- ◆ **ECONOMIC REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR.** Economic Resource Group. Copies may be obtained from Dan Hilber, Dept. of Jobs and Training, 390 North Robert St., St. Paul 55101. Annual. Filmed for depository libraries.

Typically, this report contains articles and data describing Minnesota's economy. One valuable feature is a series of tables containing historical economic statistics. A key resource for Minnesota economic data.

- ◆ **ENERGY DATA BOOK.** Dept. of Public Service, 790 American Center Bldg., 150 East Kellogg Blvd., St. Paul 55101. Filmed for depository libraries.

The most comprehensive source of energy information specific to Minnesota. Data include energy consumption, prices, expenditures and trends.

- ◆ **A FISCAL REVIEW OF THE ... LEGISLATURE.** Minnesota Senate, Office of Senate Counsel and Research, G-17 Capitol, St. Paul 55155. Annual. Filmed for depository libraries.

A report of actions with fiscal impacts taken during each legislative session. A key source of data on legislative appropriations. Does not document agency spending.

- ◆ **A GUIDE TO STARTING A BUSINESS IN MINNESOTA.** Dept. of Trade and Economic Development, Minnesota Small Business Assistance Office, 900 American Center Bldg., 150 East Kellogg Blvd., St. Paul 55101. Annual. Not filmed for depository libraries.

Provides information on state services targeted to small business, business licenses and permits required by the state and basic background on establishing a business such as protecting intellectual property, accounting principles and elements of a business plan.

- ◆ **MINNESOTA AGRICULTURE STATISTICS.** Dept. of Agriculture, PO Box 7068, 90 West Plato Blvd., St. Paul 55107. Annual. Filmed for depository libraries.

Basic agricultural data for Minnesota. Includes rankings and data on land values, income, exports, crops and livestock.

- ♦ **MINNESOTA CRIME INFORMATION.** Dept. of Public Safety, Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, 1246 University Ave., St. Paul 55104. Annual. Filmed for depository libraries.

This report measures criminal activity in Minnesota. Data are included on offenses, arrests, bias crimes, missing children and law enforcement employee information.

- ♦ **MINNESOTA GUIDEBOOK TO STATE AGENCY SERVICES.** Dept. of Administration. May be ordered from Minnesota's Bookstore, 117 University Ave., St. Paul 55155. Cost is \$16.90 plus \$1.10 tax. Every 4 years. Filmed for depository libraries.

An indispensable source of information on state agency missions, services, contact people, phone numbers, publications and addresses. Includes a listing of multi-member boards to which citizens may be appointed. This is a key document.

- ♦ **MINNESOTA HEALTH STATISTICS.** Dept. of Health. May be ordered from Minnesota's Bookstore, 117 University Ave., St. Paul 55155. Cost is \$9.95 plus \$.65 tax. Annual. Filmed for depository libraries.

Vital statistics for the state. Data are included for births, deaths, marriages, divorces and abortions.

- ♦ **THE MINNESOTA LEGISLATIVE MANUAL.** Office of the Secretary of State, Election Division, 180 State Office Building, St. Paul 55155. Every 2 years. Not filmed for depository libraries.

A wealth of information, containing background on the state; the constitutions of Minnesota and the U.S.; profiles of legislators, constitutional officers and agencies; elections data; county officials and much more. This is an indispensable resource.

- ♦ **MINNESOTA TAX HANDBOOK.** Dept. of Revenue, Tax Research Division, Mail Station 2230, St. Paul 55146-2230. Every 2 years; supplemented. Filmed for depository libraries.

Contains a summary of the state and local tax system in Minnesota. There is a profile of each tax and an indispensable list of major changes in Minnesota tax law. This is a clear and succinct summary of a complex topic.

- ♦ **PEOPLE AND THE PROCESS : A LEGISLATIVE STUDY GUIDE.** Minnesota House of Representatives. May be ordered from Minnesota's Bookstore, 117 University Ave., St. Paul 55155. Cost is \$12.00 including tax. Filmed for depository libraries.

Designed for social studies teachers in grades 7-12, but provides clear and concise explanations of the branches of government, how a bill becomes a law, the veto process and how the legislature works.

- ♦ **RURAL INVESTMENT GUIDE.** Dept. of Trade and Economic Development, Rural Development Board, 900 American Center Bldg., 150 East Kellogg Blvd., St. Paul 55101. Annual. Filmed for depository libraries.

An extremely useful source of information and analysis on Greater Minnesota. Data are included on population, housing, income, education, employment and the economy. Regional profiles and state agency programs affecting rural Minnesota are helpful features.

- ♦ **STATE OF MINNESOTA TELEPHONE DIRECTORY.** Dept. of Administration. May be ordered from Minnesota's Bookstore, 117 University Ave., St. Paul 55155. Cost is \$12.95 plus \$.84 tax. Annual. Not filmed for depository libraries.

Alphabetical listings of agency personnel with phone numbers and addresses, classified listings for state agencies in St. Paul, and Greater Minnesota. FAX numbers for agencies. An essential point of contact into state government.



**MINNESOTA HIGHLIGHTS**  
**NEWS ABOUT STATE INFORMATION RESOURCES**  
by Elizabeth Lincoln, Legislative Reference Library  
May, 1992

In a recent annual survey on the finances of the fifty states, *FINANCIAL WORLD* magazine ranked Minnesota number nine. A primary reason for the high ranking was "laudable ongoing efforts at program evaluation."

Much of the evaluation in state government is done by two offices. The Office of the State Auditor is primarily responsible for inspecting the finances of counties, cities, townships, and school districts. The State Auditor oversees the finances of nearly 4400 local units of government and performs over 300 audits each year. Some of the most useful publications the office issues are the annual compilations of many of the individual audits they do:

*REPORT OF THE STATE AUDITOR OF MINNESOTA ON THE REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND DEBT OF THE TOWNS IN MINNESOTA.*

*REPORT OF THE STATE AUDITOR OF MINNESOTA ON THE REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND DEBT OF THE CITIES IN MINNESOTA.*

*REPORT OF THE STATE AUDITOR OF MINNESOTA ON THE REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND DEBT OF THE COUNTIES IN MINNESOTA.* HJ 11 .M627

The Office of the Legislative Auditor is the other primary evaluating body and serves as the auditor of state government. The Legislative Auditor is in the legislative branch, rather than the executive branch of state government. The Legislative Auditor's current annual report explains, "Prior to 1973, audits were performed by a department in the executive branch. By putting the audit function in the legislative branch, the reorganization gave the state a more independent, 'arm's-length' audit function and strengthened the Legislature's capacity to oversee the executive branch."

There are two divisions in the office. The Financial Audit Division performs traditional financial audits of state departments, boards, commissions, and other agencies that receive state funding. The division is responsible for over 180 entities and completed 87 in 1991.

The Program Evaluation Division does management and policy evaluations of state-funded programs. The staff of the Program Evaluation Division suggest potential topics to study; six to eight are chosen by the Legislative Audit Commission each year. The commission is made up of 16 legislators including the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House. Each audit is a thorough evaluation of the program's efficiency and the extent to which its goals are being met. Suggestions for improvement are also included.

Some of the publications issued in 1992 include *PUBLIC DEFENDER SYSTEM, REGIONAL TRANSIT PLANNING, TRUCK SAFETY REGULATION*, and *STATE CONTRACTING FOR PROFESSIONAL, TECHNICAL SERVICES*. Other recent reports include *GREATER MINNESOTA CORPORATION: STRUCTURE AND ACCOUNTABILITY*, *TEACHER COMPENSATION*, and *SENTENCING AND CORRECTIONAL POLICIES*.

These two offices provide ongoing evaluations of the financial affairs of the state and its local governments. Copies of current reports can be obtained by calling the Office of the Legislative Auditor at 612-296-4708 and the Office of the State Auditor at 612-296-2551.

**MINNESOTA HIGHLIGHTS**  
**NEWS ABOUT STATE INFORMATION RESOURCES**  
by Marion Matters, Legislative Reference Library  
March, 1992

**Information about the History of Minnesota State and Local Government Units  
Available Online in MSUS/PALS Database**

The *Guidebook to State Agency Services* is an excellent source of information about the functions, services, and sometimes even the history of current Minnesota state government units. But what about the many agencies that have changed their names over the years, or that no longer even exist? There is now a good source for some of that information in the *Agency History Records* that are in the MSUS/PALS database, thanks to the efforts of the Minnesota Historical Society (MHS).

**What is in the records?**

In agency history records the “main entry” is the name of the agency; the “title” is *Agency history record*. There are added entries for previous agency names, and subject headings for the areas in which the agency functioned. There may be a very brief narrative history, or a rather long one (several screens). A history usually gives beginning and (if applicable) ending dates; describes the functions and activities of the agency; and documents changes of name, function, or organizational structure. Sometimes it even gives the names and dates of service for agency heads (directors or commissioners, for example).

**What histories are available?**

The histories cover many state and local government agencies—but by no means all. The staff at MHS prepare histories *only* for agencies whose documentary records have been transferred to the Minnesota State Archives, which is administered by MHS.

There are also histories for many Minnesota school districts, including some of those rural districts that maintained a single school, perhaps a one-room school, and that long ago consolidated with others.

**How are the records created and updated?**

The archivists at the Minnesota Historical Society prepared many of the online histories—or at least put them in machine-readable form—when the MHS was a participant in the Government Records Project of the Research Libraries Group. The histories were originally entered in the RLIN database, then tapeloaded into the MSUS/PALS database. When the archivists at MHS receive documentary records for governmental units not previously represented, they prepare new histories for the database. However, they may not update an old history—when an agency changes its name, for example—until the archives acquires documentary records from the agency under its new name. Thus, histories for existing agencies may not always be completely up-to-date.

## **How to find and use agency history records.**

For a list of all histories, first change to the MHS "library" (LIB MHS). Search for TI AGENCY HISTORY RECORD.

To locate the history for a particular agency, search for a couple of distinctive terms from the agency's name, plus AGENCY HISTORY.

For example:

- To find the history for the former Washington County Poor Farm, use this search:  
TE WASHINGTON POOR AGENCY HISTORY
- To find the history for the former State Athletic Commission, use this search:  
TE ATHLETIC COMMISSION AGENCY HISTORY
- To find the history for the Nopeming Sanatorium, use this search:  
TE NOPEMING SANATORIUM AGENCY HISTORY

When you display a record, be sure you use the "long" display to make sure you see the entire history. If your PALS terminal is not set for the long display, you can add "L" to the end of any display command,

for example: DI 3 L

**MINNESOTA HIGHLIGHTS**  
**NEWS ABOUT STATE INFORMATION RESOURCES**

by Robbie LaFleur, Legislative Reference Library  
January 1992

**Information on Multi-member State Agencies**

Have you ever been asked for the names of people serving on the Minnesota Academic Excellence Foundation? Or for the address of the Minnesota Hispanic Quincentennial Commission? There are over 200 multi-member state agencies; a description and the membership of each are listed in the *State Register* late each fall (the latest was November 25, 1991).

Members of state boards, councils, commissions, and committees are chosen through an open appointments process coordinated through the Secretary of State's office. When openings occur, staff in the Secretary of State's office publish vacancies in the *State Register*, send out press releases about the vacancies, and collect the applications from interested citizens. Paula Biever maintains an open appointments database which includes the current membership of all of the boards and commissions. She is happy to provide a copy of an updated listing of the members of a specific group at any time. The applications submitted for vacancies are public information, and may be viewed at the Secretary of State's office. Copies of the applications are available for \$1.00/page.

For further information on the process, the Open Appointments Act is codified in Minnesota Statutes at 15.0597. Paula Biever in the Secretary of State's Office can give you further information on the data contained in the database. She can also put you on the mailing list to receive press releases about agency vacancies; announcements come out every three weeks. Her number is 297-5845. A copy of the 1991 listing of boards and commissions membership has been reprinted by the Secretary of State's Office, along with statistics on race, gender, and political affiliation in the groups. This listing, *1991 Annual Compilation and Statistical Report: Membership on State Councils, Boards and Commissions*, is available for \$4.95 from Minnesota's Bookstore. Call 297-5845 (or toll-free from Greater Minnesota, 800-657-3757) for details on ordering.

**MINNESOTA HIGHLIGHTS**  
**NEWS ABOUT STATE INFORMATION RESOURCES**  
by the staff of the Legislative Reference Library  
October, 1991

A few basic publications from the House and Senate make it easy to learn about the Minnesota Legislature.

A new publication from the House Public Information Office called ***PEOPLE AND THE PROCESS : A LEGISLATIVE STUDY GUIDE*** was designed to be a textbook for high school students, but it provides an excellent overview of the legislative process for anyone. Topics covered include how ideas become bills, how bills become laws, and how committees work. ***PEOPLE AND THE PROCESS*** also contains the Minnesota State Government Series, covering topics ranging from state symbols to the roles of the three branches of Minnesota state government. These eight brochures are available separately.

An essential guide to the current legislature is the ***OFFICIAL DIRECTORY OF THE MINNESOTA LEGISLATURE***, more commonly known as "the red book." Published each biennium by the House Public Information Office and the Secretary of the Senate, it contains a brief biography of each legislator, lists committee and staff members, and provides a guide to all the joint legislative services and commissions.

Both the House and Senate publish weekly newsletters during the legislative session tracking key legislation. Subscriptions to ***BRIEFLY : THE MINNESOTA SENATE WEEK IN REVIEW*** and ***SESSION WEEKLY*** are available by request from Senate Publications and House Public Information Office respectively.

A number of annual publications are available to recap results of the legislative session. Each year, the House Public Information Office and Senate Publications jointly issue ***SESSION REVIEW***. Major new legislation is described in detail and summaries of all other bills are arranged by broad subject area.

Another excellent publication focuses on legislation with fiscal effect. ***A FISCAL REVIEW OF THE 1990 LEGISLATIVE SESSION*** is the most recent edition of an annual compilation of appropriations, state revenues, state aids, and federal aid in a clear format.

In addition, both House Research and Senate Counsel and Research issue numerous in-depth studies on issues before the Legislature and laws already in place.

MINNESOTA HIGHLIGHTS  
NEWS ABOUT STATE INFORMATION RESOURCES  
by the staff of the Legislative Reference Library  
July, 1991

"I'm proud to be paying taxes in the United States. The only thing  
is -- I could be just as proud for half the money." -- Arthur Godfrey

A myriad of jokes are made about taxes, but governments have been collecting them and distributing the proceeds for generations. In fact, taxes have been collected in Minnesota since 1849, even before Minnesota became a state. Our taxes are used today in much the same way that they have always been used -- to benefit the schools, to aid local governments and to fund a variety of state programs.

In Minnesota, the Department of Revenue is responsible for the collection of state taxes. A logical place to begin research into Minnesota taxes would be with the publications of the Tax Research Division. Minnesota Tax Handbook is a booklet about state and local taxes, listing amounts collected, current rates and brief histories. The 1990 edition is available and contains information current through the 1990 legislative session. For information on state income tax collection, the division publishes Minnesota State Individual Income Tax. This bulletin is a summary of the Minnesota Income Tax returns filed in 1985 for the 1984 tax year. The simplification of the state income tax form resulted in a loss of data and therefore, much of the information collected in previous years is no longer available. This document, last published in 1986, has data which is useful as a point of reference. They plan to publish updated information later this year. Two other helpful documents are Annual Sales and Use Tax Report, a statistical bulletin on amounts and sources of sales tax collections, and Corporation Income Tax, an annual tabulation of business income tax collections.

The Tax Research Division publishes Property Tax Relief for Minnesotans which covers property tax credits. The last edition was 1986 with 1985 data, which they plan to update later this year. The more comprehensive source on property taxes published by the Department of Revenue comes from the Local Government Services Division, Property Taxes Levied in Minnesota. The most current volume has 1988-1989 data for cities and counties.

Finally, a monthly periodical from the Tax Research Division, Minnesota Tax Revenue and Policy Review, offers a forum for tax policy debate by reporting on current developments and issues related to state and federal tax law proposals. Recent issues have covered topics such as public opinion of state and local taxes, how the recession affects state revenues, and the impact of the 1989 gambling tax changes.

Approaching tax research can seem like a daunting task, but there are several good sources to help you navigate through the morass.

**MINNESOTA HIGHLIGHTS**  
**NEWS ABOUT STATE INFORMATION RESOURCES**  
**by the staff of the Legislative Reference Library**  
**May, 1991**

**MINNESOTA STATE DOCUMENT OF THE YEAR**

Each year at the Minnesota Library Association conference, Minnesota's librarians select a single document that represents the best of state government publishing. The award was established to focus the library community's attention on the extraordinary quality and range of information available from government sources, and to encourage both publishers and distributors to continue serving the information needs of the public.

The MLA/GODORT State Documents Committee is seeking nominations for the 1990 State Document of the Year. The primary criterion for consideration is that the document must have been published by a Minnesota state agency. The committee will examine all nominations and choose ten finalists. In selecting the finalists the committee will consider the document's usefulness to both the public and to libraries, its significance and timeliness of content, and its physical characteristics such as durability, readability and design. Conference participants will vote to select the winner. Individuals are encouraged to submit their nominations for the 1990 Document of the Year award to *MLA/GODORT, North Regional Library, 1315 Lowry Avenue North, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55411*.

The winning documents for 1988 and 1989 were both on Minnesota's endangered plants and animals, but the finalists covered a broad range of topics:

**1989 WINNER:**

**The Uncommon Ones : Minnesota's Endangered Plants and Animals.** Revised. (Minn. Doc. No. 90-0014). Nongame Wildlife and Natural Heritage Programs, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, 1989.

**1989 FINALISTS:**

**Great Lakes Transportation in Minnesota.** (Minn. Doc. No. 89-0598). Ports and Waterways Section, Minnesota Department of Transportation, 1989.

**Housing Markets in 2000 : Prototypes in the Region's Communities.** (Metropolitan Council Pub. No. 450-89-107). Metropolitan Council, 1989.

**Managing Minnesota's Fish.** (Minn. Doc. No. 89-0053). Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, 1989.

**1989-1990 Minnesota TechNet Directory : Minnesota's High Technology Industry Guide.** (Minn. Doc. No. 89-0746). Minnesota Trade Office, 1989.

**The Minnesota Tobacco-use Prevention Initiative, January 1987-December 1988 : A Report to the 1989 Legislature.** (Minn. Doc. No. 89-0590). Minnesota Department of Health, Section for Nonsmoking and Health, 1989.

**Minnesota's Hispanic Community : A Profile.** (Minn. Doc. No. 89-0472). Minnesota Spanish Speaking Affairs Council, 1989.

**Sexual Harassment : An Overview of Current Laws and Studies.** (Minn. Doc. No. 90-0298). Commission on the Economic Status of Women, 1989.

**Statewide Cost of Living Differences.** (Minn. Doc. No. 89-0054). Program Evaluation Division, Office of the Legislative Auditor, State of Minnesota, 1989.

**Way to Go! : How to Save Money and Energy with Community Transportation Projects.** (Minn. Doc. No. 90-0069). Minnesota Department of Public Service, 1990.

### **1988 WINNER:**

**Minnesota's Endangered Flora and Fauna.** / edited by Barbara Coffin and Lee Pfannmuller. University of Minnesota Press for the Natural Heritage and Nongame Wildlife Programs, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, 1988.

### **1988 FINALISTS:**

**Compare Minnesota.** (Minn. Doc. No. 88-0687). Minnesota Department of Trade and Economic Development, Policy Analysis Division, 1988.

**Energy, Minnesota's Options for the 1990's : the State Energy Policy and Conservation Report to the Legislature.** (Minn. Doc. No. 89-0601). Energy Division, Minnesota Department of Public Service, 1988.

**A Guide for Promoting Health in Minnesota : A Community Approach.** (Minn. Doc. No. 88-0228). Minnesota Department of Health, 1988.

**Homelessness in Minnesota.** (Minn. Doc. No. 88-0346). Minnesota State Planning Agency, 1988.

**Minnesota Environmental Quality : Trends in Resource Conditions & Current Issues.** (Minn. Doc. No. 88-0623). Minnesota Environmental Quality Board, 1988.

**Remodeling of University of Minnesota President's House and Office.** (Minn. Doc. No. 88-0281). Office of the Legislative Auditor, State of Minnesota, 1988.

**River Transportation Facts.** Ports and Waterways Section, Minnesota Department of Transportation, 1988.

**Sixteen Year Study of Minnesota Flash Floods.** / Earl L. Kuehnast, Donald G. Baker, James A. Zandlo. (Minn. Doc. No. 88-0118). Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Division of Waters, State Climatology Office and University of Minnesota, Soil Science Department, 1988.

**Starting a Food Business in Minnesota.** Second Edition / by Mary J. Kruger and Charles A. Schaffer. Minnesota Small Business Assistance Office, 1988.

**State Solid Waste Policy Report : A Focus on Greater Minnesota.** (Minn. Doc. No. 89-0034). Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, 1988.



**MINNESOTA HIGHLIGHTS**  
news about state information resources  
by the staff of the Legislative Reference Library

**Minnesota State Agency Periodicals, part 2**

Periodicals designed for recreational reading should be glossy, colorful and fun to read. This rules out all state agency periodicals. Right? Well, think again. Some state agency periodicals are designed for recreational reading. When Legislative Reference Library staff were asked which state agency periodicals were their favorites many of the titles mentioned were recreational fare. They included:

--**INSIDE TRACK: NEWS AND INFORMATION FOR MINNESOTA ZOO MEMBERS**, a short newsletter published for zoo members. Includes short articles about zoo animals, a calendar of special events and a list of classes offered at the zoo. Published monthly by the Minnesota Zoo.

--**MINNESOTA AGRICULTURE MAGAZINE**, a short instructional magazine on agriculture and conservation for upper elementary students. Each issue includes short articles, fun facts, photos, maps and activities. A teacher's guide accompanies each issue. Published quarterly by Minnesota Agriculture in the Classroom.

--**MINNESOTA EXPLORER**, an indispensable tool for planning those weekend get-aways. This newspaper features articles designed to promote Minnesota tourist attractions. Includes a calendar of events, arranged by city and date. Published 3 times each year by the Office of Tourism.

--**MINNESOTA VOLUNTEER**, a glossy magazine designed to promote conservation and the wise use of the state's natural resources. Contains short articles on wildlife and wildlife habitat. Includes beautiful nature photography. Published bimonthly by the Department of Natural Resources.

--**TRAIL EXPLORER**, a newspaper that features self-guided weekend tour routes for bicycling, hiking, cross-country skiing and snowmobiling. Each issue focuses on one trail and includes information about other tourist attractions in the area. Published 8 times a year by the Department of Natural Resources.



**MINNESOTA HIGHLIGHTS**  
news about state information resources  
by the staff of the Legislative Reference Library

**Minnesota State Agency Periodicals, part 1**

Many state agency periodicals serve the same function as small town newspapers. They are an attempt to provide agency staff with a sense of community. They report on who's getting married, what cars are for sale, where the next office party will be, or why the office phones aren't working. These periodicals focus on events that are internal to the agency which have little significance to the general public.

Other state agency periodicals focus on events that have external significance, such as economic trends or state policy issues. These periodicals are useful to the general public. When Legislative Reference Library staff were asked what state agency periodicals they found the most useful, the following titles were mentioned:

--**BRIEFLY: THE MINNESOTA SENATE WEEK IN REVIEW** reports on actions of the Minnesota Senate, previews upcoming meetings and lists Committee assignments. Published weekly during the legislative session by the Senate Publications Office.

--**MINNESOTA LABOR MARKET REVIEW** analyzes national, state and local economic and employment conditions. Published quarterly by the Department of Jobs and Training, Research & Statistics Office.

--**MINNESOTA TAX REVENUE & POLICY REVIEW** includes analysis of state tax collection data and economic information. Articles report on issues related to state and federal tax law proposals and summarize research by the Tax Research Division and other groups involved in analyzing tax-policy issues and impacts. Published monthly by the Department of Revenue, Tax Research Division.

--**POPULATION NOTES** follows demographic trends in Minnesota, population growth and migration around the state, family income changes, minority populations. Discusses one topic per issue. Published by the Minnesota State Demographer, State Planning Agency.

--**SESSION WEEKLY** reports on actions of the Minnesota House of Representatives, lists bill introductions and advance committee schedules. Published weekly during the legislative session by the House of Representatives Public Information Office.

--**TREND REPORTS** provides background and implications of a single emerging public policy issue each month. Recent issues that have been examined include: global warming, illegal drugs, the Minnesota service economy. Published by the State Planning Agency.



September, 1993

No. 1

## FOCUS ON THE ISSUES

### Indian Fishing and Hunting Rights

The Mille Lacs Band of Chippewa Indians has sued the State of Minnesota asserting that an 1837 treaty with the U.S. government gives them the right to hunt, fish, and gather free of state regulation on land ceded in the treaty. The MN Department of Natural Resources proposed an agreement in which the Band would withdraw their lawsuit, limit walleye harvest in Lake Mille Lacs to 24,000 pounds per year, and adhere to a Band Conservation Code. In return, the State would give the Band \$8.6 million, 7,500 acres of land, and exclusive fishing rights on 4.5% of Mille Lacs Lake. The agreement also allowed traditional spearfishing and netting practices.

The DNR and other treaty proponents argued that a negotiated settlement would be preferable to trying the case in federal court. A similar court case in Wisconsin took seventeen years to try, cost \$12 million dollars, and resulted in giving the Ojibwe bands off-reservation rights to half the fish and game in the northern part of the state. In Minnesota, a federal court victory could give the Band sole rights to as much as half the fish and game in a twelve-county region of east-central Minnesota.

During the 1993 session the Legislature narrowly defeated the negotiated settlement. The House of Representatives refused to pass the bill mainly because the agreement allowed the Band to use gill nets and spears to catch walleye. Legislators opposed to the settlement argued that the use of gill nets in Lake Mille Lacs, especially during the spawning season, would decimate the walleye population and harm tourism. Treaty proponents argued that the use of gill nets and spears would be limited and have been important components of Indian culture and religious life for over 300 years.

The U.S. District Court has scheduled a trial to settle the dispute starting in May of 1994.

#### SIGNIFICANT REPORTS:

"Control of Natural Resources in Indian Country," in Indians, Indian Tribes and State Government. Research Department, Minnesota House of Representatives, 1993. (E93.153)

Conservation Code of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians. February, 1993. (In LRL Vertical File, I12.10F) E99.C6 C667 1993

A Guide to Understanding Chippewa Treaty Rights (Minnesota Edition). Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission, 1992. (E99.C6 G85 1992 Oct.) *This contains the text of many of the treaties with the Chippewa.*

Hanaway, Don. History of the Chippewa Treaty Rights Controversy. State of Wisconsin, Department of Justice, 1989. (KFW2905.6.H85 H36)

Settlement Agreement Between the Mille Lacs Band of Chippewa Indians and the State of Minnesota Regarding Treaty Hunting, Fishing and Gathering Rights. Department of Natural Resources, 1993. (E99.C6 S48 1993) *Text of the disputed agreement.*

## **SIGNIFICANT ARTICLES:**

Anderson, Dennis. "Mille Lacs Conflict." Three-part series, St. Paul Pioneer Press, 4/4/93-4/6/93. (In LRL Vertical File, I12.10F)

Masten, Stephen B., Michelle E. Beeman, Jerilyn K. Aune, and William A Szotkowski. "Indian Treaty Hunting and Fishing Rights Disputes : The 1837 Treaty Case." The Hennepin Lawyer, September-October, 1993, p. 12-15.

Nelson, Kenneth D. "Wisconsin, Walleye, and the Supreme Law of the Land: An Overview of the Chippewa Indian Treaty Rights Dispute in Northern Wisconsin." Hamline Journal of Public Law and Policy, Vol. 11, no. 2, Fall, 1990, p. 381-416.

Price, David. "House Amends, Twice Rejects Revised Settlement." Session Weekly, May 7, 1993, p. 3-4.

## **OTHER SOURCES OF INFORMATION:**

**Check the following codes in the Newspaper Clipping File and the Vertical File:** F40.8 (Fish and Fishing - Spearfishing) and I12.10F (Indians of North America - MN - Fishing Rights).

**For additional articles, check the following Inside Issues headings:** Indian Sovereignty (pre-1993), Indian Issues (1993-), Fishing.

**For additional reports, use the following terms in the on-line catalog:** Ojibwe, Chippewa Indians, treaties, fishing.

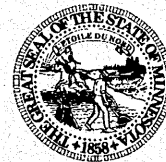
**Legislative History:** The proposed agreement was discussed at great length by the 1993 Legislature. (SF1619/HF575) It failed to pass the House. Legislative History materials are available in the Library.

### ***For further information, contact:***

Mille Lacs Band of Chippewa  
Mille Lacs Reservation Business Committee  
Star Route, Onamia, MN 56359  
Chairperson: Marjorie Anderson  
Attorney: Jim Genia  
Mille Lacs Commissioner on the Environment: Don Wedl

DNR Information Center  
500 Lafayette Road  
St. Paul, MN 55155-4040  
Phone: 612-296-6157 or 800-766-6000

The Hunting and Angling Club  
P.O. Box 3639  
Minneapolis, MN 55403  
Head of Organization: Howard Hanson. (*Bud Grant was involved with this group. This political action committee led the fight against the settlement.*)



December, 1993

No. 2

## **FOCUS ON THE ISSUES**

### **Northwest Airlines and the State of Minnesota**

Northwest Airlines, Inc. (NWA) began seeking assistance from the State of Minnesota in the early 1990s. The negotiations between this privately held company and the State of Minnesota resulted in complex and hard fought negotiations. This chronology outlines the changing relationship between NWA and the State.

- 1989 MARCH:** Gary Wilson and Al Checchi approach NWA about acquiring the company. Other investors make bids.
- 1989 JUNE 19:** NWA agrees to sell to a group of investors including Wilson, Checchi, KLM Royal Dutch Airlines, and others for \$3.65 billion.
- 1989 SEPTEMBER 28:** NWA's CEO, Steve Rothmeier and several others resign and are replaced by Checchi and his team.
- 1991 MAY:** Minnesota Governor Arne Carlson and Al Checchi announce a tentative agreement for the construction of two NWA maintenance bases in the state. Legislation passes authorizing public subsidies for NWA.
- 1991 DECEMBER 16:** The Legislative Commission on Planning and Fiscal Policy approves, by a vote of 11-7, an \$838 million financial assistance package for Northwest. The package consists of a loan of \$270 million from the Metropolitan Airports Commission and more than \$500 million in construction financing for maintenance bases in Duluth and Hibbing. The construction bonds are delayed by a lawsuit.
- 1992 MARCH:** State officials sign a \$761 million public financing package for NWA. The original \$838 million figure is reduced for a number of reasons.
- 1992 APRIL:** NWA receives the loan from the Metropolitan Airports Commission and gives half of the \$270 million to Bankers Trust, its primary lender.
- 1992 NOVEMBER:** NWA's six unions agree in principle to accept \$900 million in employee concessions over the next 3 years. NWA seeks a \$300 million loan. KLM Royal Dutch Airline, a part owner of NWA, and Bankers Trust, pledge \$100 million if other lenders will commit to the rest.
- 1992 DECEMBER 7:** NWA executives announce the final approval of a tentative \$2.2 billion restructuring plan that includes a \$250 million emergency loan, \$340 million in debt deferral, and cancellation of \$3.5 billion in orders for new aircraft. Industry experts say that cancellation of orders for new aircraft threatens the plans for construction of the maintenance bases.



- 1993 JANUARY:** The final piece of the \$2.2 billion financial restructuring plan is the concessions agreement with the unions. In return for concessions, NWA unions demand 80 percent equity in the company. More than 1000 NWA employees are laid off.
- 1993 SPRING:** Concessions discussions continue between Northwest and the various unions.
- 1993 JUNE 15:** NWA warns unions that it will file for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection within two or three weeks if contract concessions are not promptly approved.
- 1993 JULY 6:** The Air Line Pilots Association's Master Executive Council averts a NWA Chapter 11 bankruptcy filing by voting 24-1 on behalf of its members to accept concessions totalling \$365 million the first year. The other unions, lenders, and vendors must agree to the restructuring by August 1. Concessions over three years total \$886 million. In exchange for their concessions, employees get three seats on the board of directors and up to 37.5 percent ownership of the company.
- 1993 AUGUST:** The other five unions agree to the Air Line Pilots Association's concessions by August 1 and \$886 million worth of contract concessions go into effect.
- 1993 OCTOBER:** NWA announces a third-quarter profit which would be their first profitable quarter in two years.

#### **SIGNIFICANT REPORTS:**

Cost Analyses of the Northwest Airlines Heavy Maintenance and Jet Engine Repair Facilities. Minnesota Department of Trade and Economic Development, 1991. HC107.M63 P832 1991

The Economics of the Airline Industry and the Financial Condition of Northwest Airlines. Arvai Group, 1991. HF5686.A38 E36 1991

Financial Analysis Metropolitan Airport System Incorporating Financing for Northwest Airlines. KPMG Peat Marwick, 1991. HF5686.A38 F57 1991

Financial Analysis of Northwest. Price Waterhouse, 1991. HF5686.A38 F56 1991

NWA Maintenance & Repair Facilities: Report to the Legislature. State of Minnesota, Department of Finance, 1991. HF5686.A38 N67 1991

NWA Maintenance & Repair Facilities: Report to the Governor and Legislative Update. State of Minnesota, Department of Finance, 1992. HF5686.A38 N67 1992

Northwest Airlines Estimated Cost Report. Minnesota Department of Trade and Economic Development, 1992. HC107.M63 P833 1992

Northwest Airlines: Presentation to State of Minnesota. [Northwest Airlines,] 1991.  
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Schafer, Lee. "Base Instincts: Inside the NWA Deal." Corporate Report Minnesota, March 1992, p. 35-46.

Picker, Ida. "The Doomed Flight of the Northwest LBO." Institutional Investor, April 1993, p. 33-42.

Guskind, Robert. "Dead Before Arrival." National Journal, March 15, 1993, p. 1171-1175.

## OTHER SOURCES OF INFORMATION:

**Check the following codes in the Newspaper Clipping File and the Vertical File:**

C118--Northwest Airlines, Al Checchi, M68--Metropolitan Airports Commission, Northwest Airlines Organization File

**For additional articles, check the following Inside Issues headings:** Airlines

**For additional reports, use the following terms in the on-line catalog:** Northwest Airlines, Inc., Airports, Metropolitan Airports Commission

**Legislative History:** In May 1991, the Legislature passed HF1655 (Ch. 350 LAWS OF MINNESOTA 1991), which authorized the requirements for financing the construction of aircraft maintenance and repair facilities in Minnesota. Minutes and tape recordings of the House and Senate committee hearings on HF 1655 are available in Room G71.

Later the same year, the Legislative Commission on Planning and Fiscal Policy held several meetings to give final approval to the funding and construction of the maintenance facilities. Tape recordings of these meetings are also located in Room G71.





February, 1994

No. 3

## **FOCUS ON THE ISSUES**

### **Dual-Track Airport Planning Process**

In 1989 the Legislature passed the Metropolitan Airport Planning Act. This act required the Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC) and the Metropolitan Council to consider simultaneously two options for airport development in the metropolitan area: expansion of the existing airport and construction of a new airport in or around the seven county metropolitan area. The following chronology outlines the major events in the dual track planning process.

- 1987** - Citizen's League report recommends continued use and improvement of the existing airport while investigating a new major airport site.
- 1988** - Reports issued by consultants and the Metropolitan Council Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport Adequacy Study Advisory Task Force recommend the selection of a new airport site and upgrade of existing facility.
- 1989** - Metropolitan Airport Planning Act (Ch. 279, 1989) passed by legislature. Beginning of dual-track process.
- 1991** - Controversies over possible new airport sites and existing airport expansion.
- 1992** - Studies continue on possible designs for new airport, reuse of old airport, environmental impact on search areas.
- 1993** - Legislative auditor's report finds original Metropolitan Council airport adequacy projections flawed. Head of MAC fired. Final selection of site in Dakota County. Governor's Task Force on Dual Track Airport Planning Process examines process and recommends its continuation.
- 1994** - MAC chooses site for new airport between Hastings and Vermillion.
- 1996** - In January, the MAC is scheduled to prepare a comprehensive development plan and environmental analysis of the selected site. In July, the Metropolitan Council and the MAC will report on recommendations for the siting, long-range planning and development of a major airport facility in the metropolitan area.
- 1997** - The legislature is scheduled to choose between expansion of the existing airport and construction of a new airport at the selected site.

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Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport Reuse Study. Metropolitan Council, 1992.  
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Selecting a Search Area for a New Major Airport. Metropolitan Council, 1990-.  
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Twin Cities Major-Airport Planning: A Citizen's Guide. Metropolitan Airports Commission, 1990.  
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## **OTHER SOURCES OF INFORMATION**

**Check the following codes in the Newspaper Clipping File and the Vertical File:** A20.6 - Airports - Mpls. & St. Paul, M68-MAC - Minnesota Agencies - Metropolitan Airports Commission

**For additional articles, check the following Inside Issues headings:** Airports

**For additional reports, use the following terms in the on-line catalog:** Airports, Minnesota, Twin Cities Metropolitan Area, Planning, Metropolitan Airports Commission

**Legislative History:** Ch 279, Laws of Minnesota 1989

### ***For further information, contact:***

Stop Our Airport Relocation (SOAR)  
(612) 891-9241  
*Dakota County group*

South Metro Airport Action Council  
(612) 729-7625  
*Focuses on airport noise*

Metropolitan Airports Commission  
(612) 726-8100



October, 1995

No. #4

## **FOCUS ON THE ISSUES**

### **Minnesota's Graduation Rule**

A strong public education system has traditionally been a high priority of the Minnesota Legislature. During the past five years, the Legislature, the Minnesota State Board of Education and the Minnesota Department of Education (now the Department of Children, Families, and Learning) have worked to redefine education in Minnesota by developing new graduation standards. The proposed standards focus on a "results-oriented" competency in seven core areas: mathematics, reading, writing, science, geography, government, physical health and safety. This section of the standards is called the **Basic Requirements**.

The current state policy does not require Minnesota public school students to demonstrate competency in the above core areas. Rather, students are required to successfully complete a designated number of hours in courses specified by the State Board of Education. In 1993, the Minnesota Legislature passed a law that expresses its commitment to establishing a "rigorous, results-oriented graduation rule" for Minnesota students. The State Board of Education was given authority to adopt a statewide, results-oriented graduation rule to be implemented starting with students beginning ninth grade in the 1996-97 school year.

The second part of the standards, called the **Profile of Learning**, sets rigorous academic standards for all students. Under this section, students will work to acquire broader concepts and processes in 10 different areas that will enable them to continue learning in preparation for the workplace and post-secondary education settings.

Also in 1993, the Legislature appropriated \$10 million to the Department of Education for accelerated development of the State Board of Education high school graduation rule during 1994 and 1995. Part of this amount was used to assist in developing and implementing the new graduation standard at 14 pilot sites. During the 1993-94 school year, the pilot sites developed the content standards of the **Profile of Learning** and in the 1994-95 year, they developed a system of assessments for the standards that all districts in the state can use.

### **TIMELINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION**

#### **1996-1997 School Year**

Students who enter ninth grade in 1996 (graduating class of 2000) must achieve the **Basic Requirements** in reading and mathematics before graduation. During this year, schools must develop a plan to implement the **Profile of Learning**.

#### **1997-1998 School Year**

Students who enter ninth grade in 1997 (graduating class of 2001) must achieve the **Basic Requirements** in reading, mathematics, writing and science before graduation.

#### **1998-1999 School Year**

Students who enter ninth grade in 1998 (graduating class of 2002) must meet all seven of the **Basic Requirements** before graduation. During this year, schools will begin implementation of the **Profile of Learning**.

## SIGNIFICANT REPORTS:

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Manno, Bruno V. Outcome-Based Education: Has It Become More Affliction Than Cure? Center of the American Experiment, 1994. (LC 1032 .M36 1994) *Contains a well-documented chronology of the development of Minnesota's "results-oriented" graduation rule for public school students, including summaries of the various drafts of the rule.*

Nathan, Joe. Deserved, Defensible Diplomas: Lessons From High Schools with Competency-based Graduation Requirements. Center for School Change, Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, University of Minnesota, 1995. (LC1032 .N38 1995)

Preliminary Report: Projected Costs to School Districts in Minnesota Associated with Implementing Phase 1 of the Graduation Rule in 1995-96, 1996-97, and 1997-98. State of Minnesota, Department of Education, 1995. (LB1629 .M6 P74 1995)

Recommended Rule Changes in Graduation Requirements and Minimum Program Offering. State of Minnesota, Department of Education, 1988. (LB1629 .M6 R42 1988)

Report to the Legislature: Determination of Courses that Meet the High School Preparation Requirements of the Minnesota State Universities. State of Minnesota, Minnesota State University System, 1994. (LB2351.3 .M6 R45 1994)

Report to the Legislature on the Graduation Standards. State of Minnesota, State Board of Education, 1995. (LB1629 .M6 R46 1995). *Presents the most current proposals for "Basic Requirements" and "Profile of Learning" which are the main components of the standards upon which students will be assessed.*

## SIGNIFICANT ARTICLES:

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## **OTHER SOURCES OF INFORMATION:**

**Check the following codes in the Newspaper Clipping File and the Vertical File:**  
E12.69 (Outcome Based Education)

**For additional articles, check the following Inside Issues headings:**  
Education-K-12-Outcome Based.

**For additional reports, use the following terms in the on-line catalog:**  
Competency Based Education, Minnesota--Curricula, Graduation Requirements,  
Outcome Based Education, Graduation Rule.

**Legislative History:** Sections dealing with recent changes to the graduation rule can be found in 1993 HF 350 and in 1994 HF 2189. These changes have been incorporated into Minnesota Statutes 121.11, subdivision 7c. Legislative History materials are available in the Library.

*For further information, contact:*

**DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND LEARNING  
IRIS MCGINNIS, DIRECTOR OF STANDARDS  
723 CAPITOL SQUARE BUILDING  
550 CEDAR STREET  
ST. PAUL, MN. 55101  
(612) 282-5983**

**MINNESOTA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
714 CAPITOL SQUARE BUILDING  
550 CEDAR STREET  
ST. PAUL, MN. 55101  
(612) 297-1925**

**DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND LEARNING INTERNET SITE ON  
THE PROPOSED GRADUATION STANDARDS:  
<http://www.educ.state.mn.us/gradhis.htm>**





October, 1995

No. 5

## **FOCUS ON THE ISSUES**

### **Minnesota Minority Child Heritage Protection Act**

In 1983, the Minnesota Legislature passed the Minority Child Heritage Protection (Preservation) Act, the first legislative body in the country to adopt specific statutory language to clarify adoption and foster care policy regarding the placement of minority children. The Act established an order of preference for placement of minority children. Relatives were given priority, followed by adults who shared the same racial or ethnic heritage as the child.

The Minority Child Heritage Protection (Preservation) Act is the popular name of this law. The original bill (SF723) as passed can be found in its entirety in the Laws of Minnesota 1983, Chapter 278. The current law is dispersed throughout the Minnesota Statutes in Chapters 257.01, 257.025, 257.065, 257.071, 257.072, 257.0725, 257.075, 259.29, 259.53, 259.57, 259.77, 260.181, 260.191, 260.192, and 260.242. (See also the Minnesota Family Preservation Act in Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 256F.)

Changes to the original 1983 legislation had been relatively minor until the 1991 decision in the Minnesota "Baby D" case (479 NW 2d 408). Public outcry over this decision led to re-examination of the law during the 1992 and 1993 legislative sessions. The issue proved quite contentious but the result was a loosening of the law. Among other changes, the word "minority" was deleted from several references (Laws of Minnesota 1992, Chapter 557, Sec. 4-9), racial or ethnic heritage was no longer the "sole" consideration in the placement of children, and time limitations for compliance with placement preferences were established. (Laws of Minnesota 1993, Chapter 291).

It should be noted that Native American children have a special placement status since they are members of tribal nations with rights established through treaties with the United States. They are covered by the federal Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978 and the Minnesota Indian Family Preservation Act (Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 257.35-.3579) which seek to preserve Native American families. The Minnesota law was passed in 1985 (Laws of Minnesota 1985, Chapter 111).

In addition, the U.S. Congress passed the Multiethnic Placement Act in October 1994 (P.L. 103-382, Section 551). This legislation limits the ability of states to base adoption or foster care placement of children on race or ethnicity. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services published new guidelines for the states in the Federal Register on April 25, 1995.

#### **SIGNIFICANT REPORTS:**

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African American Children in Out-of-Home Placement. Committee to Examine Out-of-Home Placement of African American Children in Hennepin County, 1991. HV742.M6 A37 1991. (Required by Minnesota Statutes Chapter 3.9225, Subdivision 3 (j))

Advisory Report on Foster Care and Adoption : A Report to the Commissioner of Human Services. Minority Advisory Task Force on Foster Care and Adoption (Minnesota), 1986. HV883.M6 M57 1986. MINN. DOC. NO. 86-1020. (Required by 1983 Minnesota Laws Chapter 278 Section 16)

Children in Out-of-home Placement : a 1992 Minnesota Report. Quality Services Division, Family and Children's Services Division, Minnesota Dept. of Human Services, 1994. HV742.M6 C58 1994. MINN. DOC. NO. 95-0139. (Required by Minnesota Statutes Chapter 257.0725)

Minnesota Minority Foster and Adoptive Care, 1989. Minnesota Dept. of Human Services, 1991. HV883.M6 M572 1991. MINN. DOC. NO. 91-0329. (Required by 1989 Minnesota Laws Chapter 282 Article 1 Section 2 Subdivision 4 Paragraph 9)

#### **SIGNIFICANT ARTICLES:**

Glynn, Timothy P. "The Role of Race in Adoption Proceedings: A Constitutional Critique of the Minnesota Preference Statute." Minnesota Law Review, April 1993, pp. 925-952.

#### **OTHER SOURCES OF INFORMATION:**

**Check the following codes in the Newspaper Clipping File and the Vertical File:**

A6 - Adoption, B15 - Blacks, F64 - Foster Care, I12 - Indians of North America, M80 - Minority Groups

**For additional articles, check the following Inside Issues headings:**

Children/Youth - Adoption, Children/Youth - Foster Care, Minorities - American Indians, Minorities - Blacks

**For additional reports, use the following terms in the on-line catalog:**

Children of Minorities, Adoption, Foster Home Care, Foster Children, Child Welfare

**Legislative History:** The Minority Child Heritage Protection (Preservation) Act was discussed at great length by the 1983 Minnesota Legislature (SF723/HF776). Over the years the law has been amended several times. These amendments can be found in the history section at the end of the relevant Minnesota Statutes. Legislative History materials for recent amendments are available in the Minnesota Legislative Reference Library. Materials for the older amendments, including the original adoption of the law, are available at the Minnesota Historical Society's Research Center.