Seminar for legislators


The date: Wednesday, February 6. The time: 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. The cost: $20 for legislators and other government employees. Fee includes materials, lunch, and reception. For information call (612) 221-9438.

Seminar topics are: current issues and economic implications of groundwater use and protection in the state; legislative concerns in the monitoring of groundwater; groundwater as a renewable resource, its potential uses, and its role in future economic development in the state.

Speakers include: “Mr. Groundwater”, Dr. Jay Lehr, president of the National Waterwell Association; Calvin Alexander of the University of Minnesota; Linda Bruemmer, State Planning Agency; and Jerrold Peterson from the U of M, Duluth. All are specialists in their fields, ranging from geology, geophysics, and hydrology to economics.

Sponsors are: The Minnesota Science and Technology Resource Council and The Science Museum of Minnesota, in cooperation with the Minnesota House Research Office, the Legislative Reference Library, the State Planning Agency, and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

Business issues

On Jan. 24, members of the Commerce and Economic Development Committee had a briefing on issues they can expect to confront this session. The committee covers the areas of consumer affairs, economic development, and business regulation (including liquor laws), and housing.

Issues to expect include: updating Minnesota liquor laws; the sale of wine in grocery stores; raising the drinking age to 21; corporate takeover law; credit card interest charge; small business legislation; manufactured homes; and state housing programs, according to members of the House Research staff.

The committee meets Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10 a.m.

Tax study commission

Minnesota’s current tax system “hides more than it reveals,” says St. Paul Mayor George Latimer. Latimer chairs the governor’s 16-member Tax Study Commission, and he and other commission members gave the Tax Committee a general review of their findings and recommendations at a Jan. 24 meeting.

“This is a great opportunity for us in a bipartisan way to reform this tax policy and make it more clear, more competitive, and more fair,” said Latimer. The commission studied tax policies for the past 18 months. Its recommendations present a major overhaul of the state’s tax system.

The report calls for sharply reduced personal income taxes, extension of the sales tax to clothing and personal services, simplification of property taxes, and other changes. The committee plans several more hearings to study the report in depth.
Rep. Gordon Voss (DFL-Blaine) questioned one of the commission’s goals — distributing the tax burden according to benefits received and ability to pay — and the commission’s recommendations. Voss said expanding the sales tax would hurt those who could least afford it. Latimer said the commission findings disagreed. Its study showed an expanded sales tax would be slightly more progressive, taxing consumers on their ability to pay.

PERA

Throughout the week, the House Governmental Operations met to determine the fate of the Public Employees Retirement Association (PERA) board. On Jan. 21, Senate Committee Aide Mike Norton briefed House members on Senate findings about PERA.

Norton said the PERA acting interim director, now under suspension with pay, the former executive director, and some board members were responsible for numerous abuses and questionable practices.

On Jan. 23, Rep. Gerald Knickerbocker (IR-Hopkins) presented to the committee a proposal he said will help restore confidence in the organization among PERA retirees. Knickerbocker said, at this point, he wants to look at the issue of board reorganization and set personalities aside.

Knickerbocker’s proposal would abolish the current 15-member board, and replace it with 11 members — 5 elected, 5 appointed, and the state auditor. The Senate version of the bill calls for a 7-member appointed board.

In a Jan. 24 meeting, members discussed the board makeup and whether members should be appointed, elected, or a combination of both.

Carol Ogren, an elected minority member on PERA’s divided board, supports appointment. “I think the elective process only works when there’s an informed electorate. Under the present situation, I don’t know how you can have an informed electorate voting for members of the PERA board,” says Ogren.

The committee meets next week to hear further testimony and take up reorganization legislation.

Highways

Highway jurisdiction — the question of who owns the roads and who ought to own them is an issue as old as the century, John Williams told members of the Transportation Committee Jan. 23.

Williams, a staffer from the House Research Office, reviewed a report the Highway Study Commission put together. It covers numerous areas as highway financing, road network, and the history of the state highway systems.

The report noted that Minnesota has too many roads with inappropriate jurisdiction; it recommends the Legislature set up a jurisdiction realignment process.

In other business, the committee passed a resolution memorializing Congress to enact an Interstate Cost Estimate bill.

Agricultural trends

Members of the House Agriculture Committee tracked agricultural trends at its Jan. 23 meeting.

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Staff members from state departments, farm businesses and groups, and lending institutions warned members that Minnesota could lose 1300 farmers in the next two years if farm prices continue to drop, operating costs and land prices continue to climb and fall, farm debts go unpaid, and interest rates stay on the upswing.

Carroll Rock, Department of Agriculture, said trends show most farmers earn more income off the farm than on. He said farm income which peaked in 1973, has not kept pace with inflation in the state. Rock said interest expenses and rising farm costs take up most of the pay farmers do get.

Outlining farmland price trends, Dr. Phillip Raup, University of Minnesota, said the state has now come out of the worst inflation in land values. Land that once sold for $1310 per acre in 1981, has now dropped to below $1000 per acre.

Raup warned legislators that using a meat-axe to solve a problem (land price declines) that calls for a scalpel is going to risk doing more damage. He calls for a write-down in interest rates and debt renegotiation.

Lenders at the meeting pledged their continued support and commitment to Minnesota agriculture. Others shared their views on some of the farm issues legislators will hear this session.
Pressure on schools

For the first time since 1967, public school enrollments have increased in Minneapolis and are likely to go up throughout the state. Minnesota kindergarten enrollments are also climbing fast.

Growing numbers of children with learning problems, large numbers of student pregnancies, and a steady influx of out-of-state children with learning difficulties will continue to put increasing pressure on Minnesota's public education system.

These were some of the concerns public education groups aired at the Education Committee's meeting Jan. 23 as committees continue to gather background information on legislative issues they'll need to act on this session.

The Education Committee next meets at 8 a.m., Monday, Jan. 28.

Higher education funding

The extension of state scholarship funds to older and part-time students was one of the proposals of Dr. David Longanecker of the Higher Education Coordinating Board. Longanecker appeared before the Minnesota House Appropriations Committee Jan. 23.

Scholarship money for part-time students would go up from $600,000 to $9 million under the proposal. And Longanecker said funds would be "targeted to those who need it most" and that "we have to increase quality and define standards and let the students know early what is involved in a post-secondary education." The state plans to give out $110 million in loans and grants in 1985.

Commissioner of Education Ruth Randall's budget request was for $23 million in state funds for 1985. She also introduced to the committee the Governor's Education Plan which would ultimately return most responsibility for student curriculum and education to local districts.

Ken Keller, interim president of the University of Minnesota, presented his institution's requests, including $120 million for capital improvements. Buildings would include electrical engineering centers in Minneapolis and Duluth and an animal sciences building.

Keller said the University ranks last or near the bottom among Big Ten schools in spending on equipment, faculty, students, engineering, physical science, and computer science. He said the system "will need a 12 percent increase or $100 million in addition to the $870 million base to stand still, to simply not lose any ground, and an additional 12 percent to deal with the quality issue of the instructional problem."

DUI laws are not new

Drunken driving laws have been on Minnesota's law books since 1911. In 1957, the law included the concept of blood-alcohol concentrations and illegal levels. Four years later, the state adopted the implied-consent law. Under implied consent, arrested motorists can lose their licenses for refusing to take a chemical test for drunkenness.

In a Jan. 23 meeting of the House Crime and Family Law Committee, House Research analysts gave committee members a historical account of DUI laws, and talked about the impact recent legislation is having.

Currently, drivers with an alcohol concentration of .10 or more, or who drive under the influence of alcohol, are subject to criminal penalties, such as jail or fines, and stand a chance of losing their licenses. And, drivers who refuse chemical testing lose their licenses for a year.

House researchers say changing social attitudes about drinking and driving and the fear of getting caught are increasing public awareness on the issue. As a result, many people have changed their drinking and driving habits and influencing others to do the same.

Though DWI arrests have stayed about the same, researchers said their studies of public perceptions, professionals' observations, and statistics show the number of people drinking and driving is down.

State budget outlook

Forecasting how much revenue the state will have for the 1986-87 biennium got the attention of both the House Tax and Budget Committees during the third week of the session. Finance Commissioner Gus Donhowe presented the state's budget outlook to the legislators at Jan. 22 and 23 committee hearings.

Donhowe projects that the state will have $11 billion for the next biennium, with $500 million for a reserve, $600 million for a tax cut, and $1 billion for spending. The $11 billion for spending represents a 12.8 percent increase over last biennium.

Speaker David Jennings (IR-Truman), chair of the newly created House Budget Committee, said the committee plans to look at the state's revenue picture and what the economy is likely to do over the next couple of years, and then come to some decision as to what the state budget should be. The committee will then adopt a resolution on that budget.

Jennings said the Budget Committee and the budget resolution is a "bit of an experiment in Minnesota, but we believe it is a responsible approach... that will bring better revenue planning to the budget process."

The Budget Committee will meet next week to review the governor's proposed budget along with responses to the budget. Commissioner Donhowe said his department will release the budget on Monday, Jan. 28.

Unemployment insurance

"Workers' compensation is going to take a backseat to unemployment insurance this session," Subcommittee Chair Steve Sviggum (IR-Kenyon) said at the first meeting of the Minnesota House of Representatives Unemployment Insurance-Workers' Compensation Division.
The system could be as much as $300 million in debt by April of this year; Rep. Jim Heap (IR-Plymouth) said that although the compensation debt is seasonal, “unless something changes the system is doomed to debt.”

**Health and human services**

“Smoking related diseases are the primary cause of death in Minnesota,” announced Sister Mary Madonna Ashton, Commissioner of Health. She appeared before the Minnesota House Appropriations Committee to present an overview of her department Jan. 22. According to Ashton the three primary causes of death in the state are cancer, heart disease, and stroke.

Ashton also introduced six major issues her department plans to push for in the session:
- omnibus nonsmoking bill
- block grant funds for maternal and child health care
- community health service subsidy
- licensure of home health care
- swing bed limit and licensure
- mosquito control study and program

Commissioner Len Levine of the Human Services Department reviewed the department’s structure. “Welfare programs are designed to be short term, our programs are structured to promote independence and self-sufficiency,” he said.

The total 1984 spending for the Human Services Department was $1.9 billion, of this, the state provided $845 million.

Levine cautioned lawmakers about the economical affects of the rising number of aged in our society. Aid to nursing homes and to people over 65 make up nearly 45% of the medical assistance payments. Their numbers of older Minnesotans will continue to grow, said Levine. By the year 2010 the number of women in that age group will be up 250 percent from 1985, he said.

**Environment program**

A $603 million, ten-year program to improve the state’s $1 billion-a-year hunting and fishing industry is coming up for consideration in the House Environmental and Natural Resources Committee. That’s what Rep. John Rose (IR-Roseville), chair of the committee, told reporters at a Jan. 22 press conference where he outlined the committee’s session agenda.

Changes to the state’s hazardous waste superfund law, now under discussion in a governor’s task force, and remedies to the sewer overflow problems in the metro area are among other issues that will also go on the agenda, Rose said.

The committee will look, too, into a proposal that would mean an added six cents to the tax on leaded gas, he said.

“The potential for causing lead poisoning is of great concern for many people, particularly in the metro area. It is suspected that brain damage in children is caused by the continued use of leaded gas,” said Rose.

He said alternatives to the six-cent increase include lower taxes on unleaded gasoline, or a combination of the two options.

In addition to those four issues, Rose said other upcoming legislation may deal with trespassing laws relating to hunters and fishermen, peatlands, landfills, and recreation laws.

**Health Economics Office**

“We are becoming very aware that no matter how good our services are, unless they’re affordable and accessible to the people in the state, they have very little meaning,” says Sister Madonna Ashton, Minnesota Department of Health Commissioner.

She made her comments when she explained the recent establishment of the Health Economics Office to the Health and Human Resources Committee at its Jan. 22 meeting.

Other Health Department officials at the meeting described functions and goals of the department and answered committee members’ questions.

**State departments report**

“One of the most unique and modern maximum security facilities in the nation” is Orville Pung’s description of Minnesota’s new Oak Park Heights maximum security prison.

Pung, commissioner of Corrections, was one of three commissioners who reported on the health and well being of their departments at a Monday, Jan. 21 meeting of the full Appropriations Committee. He said that Minnesota has one of the smallest prison populations in the country and a low 20 percent rate of people who return after release (over a period of three years). It also has 30 percent of the prison population working in the prison industry.

Barbara Beerhalter, commissioner, Department of Economic Security, says her department, needs $330 million for fiscal year 1985. The state will provide $80 million, this includes funding of MEED, the Minnesota Emergency Employment Development program.

The department helps with the problems of the unemployed and disadvantaged in the state. And Beerhalter said, in Minnesota, the increase in the number of single parent families is the largest single cause of growth in numbers of people living below the poverty line.

Nina Rothchild, commissioner, Department of Employee Relations, announced that Minnesota has fewer public employees per population than the national average. She also said the number of minorities in the state work force and women in managerial positions in state employment has gone up.
Utility rates
Utility regulations was the topic of the first meeting of the Regulated Industries and Energy Committee Jan. 21.

Cynthia Kitlinski, chair of Public Utility Commission (PUC) and Commissioner Ray Bohn of the Department of Public Service (DPS) briefed committee members on day-to-day functions.

Kitlinski said the commission regulates the rates and practices of the state's 301 gas, electric, and telephone utility companies and reviews requests for rate increases from these companies.

After the commission reviews the request, she said DPS begins investigations to enforce the commission's order. The department, which until 1980 was part of one organization with the Utility Commission, works to protect Minnesota ratepayers from unfair rates.

Plus its regulatory duties, the department and commission govern such matters as:
• miscellaneous tariff changes
• fuel and purchased energy adjustments
• depreciation certification
• cold weather rule

The department also has a Weights and Measures Division that handles commercial weighing and measuring transactions.

Budgeting for education
At a Monday meeting, the House Education Committee re-emphasized the role of education in Minnesota.

Noting that 41% of the 1984 state budget went to education, Chair Wendell Erickson (IR-Hills) said education is the single most important function of state government.

Rep. Gloria Segal (DFL-St. Louis Park) also pledged her continuing strong support for “Minnesota's fantastic education system.”

Farm crisis rally
After their hour-long farm rally on the Capitol steps, many farmers on Jan. 21, piled into the St. Paul Armory where members of the Agriculture Committee set up microphone and podium to continue hearing public testimony on the farm crisis.

At the Armory, farmers told members that they need their help. They asked legislators to support a moratorium for agriculture, to give them a fair price for their crops, lower loan interest rates, guarantee farm operating loans, and help them restructure farm debt.

The committee will hear more about the farm crisis when it meets with the Groundswell Farm Crisis Group.

More on the farm crisis
“The people of rural America are suffering severe financial stress,” rally organizer Bobbi Polzine told an overflow crowd at the State Capitol Jan. 21. The rallying farmers, businesspeople, and supporters, an estimated 10,000 people, came to call attention to Minnesota’s troubled farm industry.

Among the group’s demands is a moratorium on farm, home, and business foreclosures, a program of guaranteed farm operating loans, and support for high enough prices on farm products to give farmers a 15 percent return on production.

Polzine says the goal of the Groundswell group, organizers of the rally, is to reclaim rural Minnesota for family farmers, independent businesspeople, and laborers, and to fight social and economic injustice.

“We’re threatened by corporate control of our nation’s food supply and economic disaster in our rural communities,” says Polzine.

Gov. Perpich and legislative leaders at the rally pledged to work with farmers for improved policies at the state and federal levels.

Perpich said he planned to appoint a panel of farm leaders, legislators, and lenders to review the group’s requests and make recommendations on farm relief to the Legislature.

After the rally, some attended a meeting of the House Agriculture Committee, while others visited the offices of state representatives and senators.
1985 Committee Assignments

AGRICULTURE
(24 members)
Wednesday, 10 am, Rm 400N
Information ................................... 296-5378
McDonald-R, Chair
Uphus-R, Vice Chair
Anderson, G-D
Frederick-R
Brinkman-D
Frederick-R
Omann-R
Kalis-D
Olson, E-D
Peterson-D
Olsen-R
Riveness-D
Piepho-R
Quist-R
Riggins-R
Rohde-R
Rukavina-D
Skoglund, Dean-Committee Secretary
Skovlin, Bob-Fiscal Analyst
Snell, Steve-Fiscal Analyst
Staff:
Dean-Committee Secretary
Director-Staff Director
Uphus-R, Dean-Committee Secretary

AGRICULTURE, TRANSPORTATION & SEMI-STATE DIVISION/
Appropriations
(10 members)
Information ................................... 296-3316
Valan-R, Chair
Seaberg-R, Vice Chair
Fjostad-R
Forsythe-R
Johnson-R
Kalis-R
Munger-D
Murphy-D
Piepho-R
Robinson-D
Staff:
Boya, Bob-Fiscal Analyst
Kuklok, Myron-Fiscal Analyst

EDUCATION DIVISION/
Appropriations
(10 members)
Information ................................... 296-5322
Haukoos-R, Chair
Boo-R, Vice Chair
Carlson, J-D
Erickson-R
Forsythe-R
Fritsch-R
Greenfield-D
Munger-D
Murphy-D
Rose-R
Ywina-D
Staff:
Jones, Mel-Fiscal Analyst
Kleven, Don-Fiscal Analyst

HUMAN SERVICES DIVISION/
Appropriations
(10 members)
Information ................................... 296-9463
Anderson, R-R, Chair
Zaffke-R, Vice Chair
Beckman-R
Carlson, J-R
Forsythe-R
Jennings, L-D
Johnson-R
Staten-D
Tjornhom-R
Vinichuk-R
Staff:
Danher, Jeanne-Fiscal Analyst
Dempsey-R
Estrada-R
Forsythe-R
Jennings-L-D
Kalin-D
McCauley-R
Morin-R
O'Connor-R
Zaffke-R

STATE DEPARTMENTS DIVISION/
Appropriations
(11 members)
Information ................................... 296-5356
DenOuden-R, Chair
Bishop-R, Vice Chair
Battaglia-D
Boerboom-R
Carlson, D-R
Cohen-D
Ellingson-D
Staff:
Kuklok, Myron-Fiscal Analyst

JOINT SENATE & HOUSE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON CLAIMS/
Appropriations
(3 members)
Valan-R, Chair
Den Ouden-R, Vice Chair
Kalis-D

BUDGET COMMITTEE
(10 members)
Call of the Chair, Rm 454
Information ................................... 296-4361
Jennings, D-R, Chair
Dempsey-R
Erickson-R
Forsythe-R
Levi-R
Lrist-R
Norton-D
Staff:
Aarn, Karl-Committee Administrator
Greenfield-State Office Building .................................. 296-0635
Rozmanowski, Jan-Committee Secretary
463 State Office Building .................................. 296-4361

COMMERCE & ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT
(24 members)
Tue, Thur, 10 am, Rm 300N
Information ................................... 296-5991
Bennett-R, Chair
Frederick-R, Vice Chair
Anderson, R-R
Carlson, L-D
Dempsey-R
Fritsch-R
Greenfield-D
Kalin-D
Ogren-D
Piepho-R
Riveness-D
Skovlin, Steve-Fiscal Analyst
Staff:
Kneeland, Christine-Committee Administrator
Kieffner, Kathy-Committee Secretary
378 State Office Building .................................. 296-5318
379 State Office Building .................................. 296-5991
CRIME & FAMILY LAW
(22 members)
Mon, Wed, 10 am, Rm 500N
Information ........................................ 296-5994
Blatz-R, Chair ...................................... 296-5994
Marsh-R, Vice Chair
Clausnitzer-R ......................................... Rest-D
Greenfield-D .......................................... Rose-D
Harling-R ............................................. Seaberg-R
Jaros-D ................................................ Segal-D
Kelly-D ............................................... Sherman-R
Kiffmeyer-R .......................................... Stanius-R
Lieder .................................................. Staten-D
Nelson, K-D .......................................... Thordarson-R
Ozment ................................................. Valento-D
Pappas .................................................. Veilenda-D
Staff: Hustad, John-Committee Administrator
520 State Office Building ........................ 296-9468
Michels, Kit-Committee Secretary
509 State Office Building ........................ 296-5994

HIGHER EDUCATION
DIVISION/Education
(20 members)
Information .......................................... 296-4279
Piepho-R, Chair ...................................... 296-4279
Sherman-R, Vice Chair
Beard ..................................................... Omann-D
Elliot ...................................................... Otis-D
Ericsson ................................................. Price-D
Gruenes ............................................... Quinn-D
Hartle .................................................... Segal-D
Heape .................................................... Solberg-D
Kiffmeyer ............................................. Thorson-R
Levi ...................................................... Torczielinski-R
Nelson, D-D .......................................... Tunheim-D
Staff: Wolfe, Eduardo-Committee Administrator
Bakula, Cathy-Committee Secretary
565 State Office Building ........................ 296-0526

ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES
(26 members)
Tues, Thurs, 10 am, Rm 500S
Information .......................................... 296-7435
Rose-R, Chair ........................................ 296-7435
Thiede-R, Vice Chair
Backlund ................................................. McDonald-R
Battaglia .............................................. McPherson-R
Becklin ................................................ Munger-D
Bagich .................................................. Nelson-D
Carlson, D ............................................. Neuenhuswandter-D
DenOuden ............................................. Richter-R
Fjoslien ............................................... Schaefer-R
Hartlinger ............................................. Schomberg-D
Jennings .............................................. Shaver-R
Kahn ..................................................... Skoglund-D
Krueger ............................................... Vanasek-D
Long .................................................... Waltman-R
Staff: Austrian, Kim-Committee Administrator
580 State Office Building ........................ 296-7435
Nayman, Marguerite-Committee Secretary
585 State Office Building ........................ 296-6871

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS & INSURANCE
(26 members)
Wednesday, 12 noon, Rm 500S
Information .......................................... 296-5397
Kvam-R, Chair ........................................ 296-5397
Rees-R, Vice Chair
Blatz ..................................................... McKasy-R
Boo ....................................................... Metzen-D
Brinkman ............................................. Olsen, S-R
Burger ................................................... Otis-D
Carlson, L ............................................. Poppenhagen-R
Ellingson ............................................. Scheid-D
Halberg ................................................ Sherma-R
Hartle ................................................... Skoglund-D
Haukoss ............................................... Valan-R
Kiele .................................................... Voss-D
Knickerbocker ...................................... Wenzel-D
Kostrohzy ............................................ Wyma-D
Staff: Sparkoe, Garth-Committee Administrator
476 State Office Building ........................ 296-5396
Libby, Becky-Committee Secretary
479 State Office Building ........................ 296-5397

GENERAL LEGISLATION & VETERANS AFFAIRS
(20 members)
Thursday, 12 noon, Rm 400N
Information .......................................... 296-5388
Fjoslien-R, Chair ..................................... 296-5388
Shaver-R, Vice Chair
Backlund ................................................. Minne-D
Brown .................................................... Oshoff-D
Dimar .................................................... Price-D
Frederick .............................................. Quinn-D
Gudmund-R .......................................... Richter-R
Hartinger ............................................. Scheid-D
Kiffmeyer ............................................ Simonoudo-D
Kostrohzy ............................................ Thorson-R
Metzen .................................................. Uppus-R
Staff: Eng, Jennifer-Committee Administrator
472 State Office Building ........................ 296-5389
Dow, Connie-Committee Secretary
471 State Office Building ........................ 296-5388

GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS
(28 members)
Mon, Thurs, 8 am, Rm 400N
Information .......................................... 296-5379
Knickerbocker-R, Chair
Waltman-R, Vice Chair
Bennett ............................................... McDonald-D
Burger ............................................... McPherson-R
Clark ..................................................... O'Connor-D
Clausnitzer .......................................... Ozment-D
Dyke .................................................... Piper-D
Frederick .............................................. Richter-R
Frederickson ....................................... Riveres-D
Gudmund ............................................. Rodosovich-D
Hartinger ............................................. Simonoudo-D
Kelly ..................................................... Sporsh-D
Knuth ................................................... Sviggum-R
Krueger ............................................... Veilenda-D
Long .................................................... Welle-D
Staff: Spornen, Pat-Committee Administrator
432 State Office Building ........................ 296-5379
Ryan, Kathy-Committee Secretary
443 State Office Building ........................ 296-5998

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
(24 members)
Tues, Thurs, 10 am, Rm 500N
Information .......................................... 296-5507
Onnen-R, Chair ....................................... 296-5507
Quist-R, Vice Chair
Bee ....................................................... Kvan-R
Brand ...................................................... McEachern-D
Burger ................................................... Ozment-R
Carlson, J-R .......................................... Piper-D
Clark ..................................................... Rodosovich-D
Clausnitzer .......................................... Segal-D
Elliot ..................................................... Stanus-R
Greenfield .......................................... Syviggum-R
Gruenes .............................................. Uppus-R
Jaros ..................................................... Veilenda-D
Kiffmeyer ............................................ Welle-D
Staff: Hacker, Lois-Committee Administrator
522 State Office Building ........................ 296-5508
White, Lori-Committee Secretary
517 State Office Building ........................ 296-5507
JUDICIARY
(20 members)
Tuesday, 12 noon, Rm 300N
Information ......................... 296-5319
Halberg-R, Chair
McKasy-R, Vice Chair
Backlund-R McPherson-R
Bishop-R Omren-R
Cohen-D Pappas-D
Dempsey-R Quinn-D
Denton-D Quist-R
Ellingson-D Rees-R
Forzythe-R Rest-D
Kelly-R Schoenfield-D
Long-D Vansek-D
Staff:
Holsten, Van-Committee Administrator
361 State Office Building .................. 296-5319
Berghuis, Liz-Committee Secretary
369 State Office Building .................. 296-9286

LABOR-MANAGEMENT
RELATIONS
(22 members)
Monday, 12 noon, Rm 400S
Information ......................... 296-7026
Heap-R, Chair
Burger-R, Vice Chair
Battaglie-D Miller-R
Beard-R Murphy-D
Begich-D Poppenhagen-R
Brown-D Rest-D
Claussner-R Rice-D
Elliott-D Simonau-D
Gutknecht-R Staton-D
Harte-R Sviggum-R
Himie-R Tompkins-R
McPherson-R Zaffke-R
Staff:
Dunn, Rod-Committee Administrator
424 State Office Building .................. 296-5367
Gahon, Anna Mae-Committee Secretary
406 State Office Building .................. 296-5996

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE &
WORKERS’ COMPENSATION
DIVISION/
Labor-Management Relations
(12 members)
Information ......................... 296-5370
Sviggum-R, Chair
Gutknecht-R, Vice Chair
Beard-D Miller-R
Begich-D Poppenhagen-R
Heap-R Rest-D
Himie-R Schoenfield-D
McPherson-R Simonau-D
Staff:
Thrane, Peter-Committee Administrator
430 State Office Building .................. 296-5371
Deming, Amy-Committee Secretary
417 State Office Building .................. 296-5370

LOCAL & URBAN AFFAIRS
(30 members)
Tuesday, Thur, 12 noon, Rm 200
Information ......................... 296-5366, 296-9194
Valento-R, Chair
Becklin-R, Vice Chair
Anderson, G-D McEachern-D
Anderson, R-R McLaughlin-D
Carlson, J-R Nelson, K-D
Clark-O Ozment-R
Dempsey-R Peterson-D
Dempsey-R Piper-D
Dempsey-R Schreiber-R
Jaros-D Solberg-D
Jennings, L-D Stanis-R
Johnson-R Tjornhom-R
Knickerbocker-R Tomlinson-D
Knuth-D Tompkins-R
Lieder-D Voss-D
Staff:
Cury, Marianne-Committee Administrator
326 State Office Building .................. 296-5366
Schaller, Anne-Committee Secretary
343 State Office Building .................. 296-9194

REGULATED INDUSTRIES &
ENERGY
(22 members)
Monday, 10 am, Rm 500S
Information ......................... 296-8845
Redalen-R, Chair
Omann-R, Vice Chair
Beard-D Minne-D
Bishop-R Nelson, D-D
Carlson-R O’Connor-D
Cohen-D Olson, E-D
Gruenes-A Osthoff-D
Hartle-A Poppenhagen-R
Jacobs-D Price-D
McDonald-R Tjornhom-R
Miller-R Waltman-R
Staff:
Abrams, Ron-Committee Administrator
578 State Office Building .................. 296-5533
Brick, Marilyn-Committee Secretary
591 State Office Building .................. 296-8845

RULES & LEGISLATIVE
ADMINISTRATION
(14 members)
Call of the Chair, Rm 400S
Information ......................... 296-9467
Levi-R, Chair
Himie-R, Vice Chair
Carlson, J-R Norton-D
Franceschi-O’Donnell-D
Halberg-R Ostroff-D
Jennings, D-R Sviggum-R
Knickerbocker-R Thiede-R
McEachern-D Wyna-D
Staff:
Wilkins, Kevin-Committee Administrator
457 State Office Building .................. 296-0640
Meline, Marianne-Committee Secretary
459 State Office Building .................. 296-9467

TAXES
(31 members)
Tuesday, Thur, Friday, 8 am., Rm 500S
Information ......................... 296-5526
Schreiber-R, Chair
Pauyl-R, Vice Chair
Begich-D Norton-D
Blatz-R Olsen-D
Brandt-D Oren-R
Brinkman-D Onnen-R
Dempsey-R Osthoff-D
Dimler-R Redalen-R
Halberg-R Schreiber-R
Himle-R Scheid-D
Jacobs-D Shaver-R
Jennings, D-R Skoglund-D
Kvam-R Tomlinson-D
Mckasy-R Valente-R
Marsh-R Vansek-D
Mede-D Voss-D
Neuenschwander-D
Staff:
Celanter, Larry-Committee Administrator
530 State Office Building .................. 296-5527
Dornquist, Joyce-Committee Secretary
State Office Building .................. 296-5526

LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE
DIVISION/Taxes
(12 members)
Monday, 12 noon, Rm 400N
Information ......................... 296-5356
Dempsey-R, Chair
Dimler-R, Vice Chair
Blatz-R Schreiber-R
Marsh-R Tomlinson-D
Minne-D Vansek-D
Osthoff-D Redalen-R
Staff:
Mulder, Jim-Committee Administrator
532 State Office Building .................. 296-3641
Miller, Mary-Committee Secretary
537 State Office Building .................. 296-5356

TRANSPORTATION
(24 members)
Wednesday, 12 noon, Rm 400S
Information ......................... 296-5394
Carlson, D-R, Chair
Johnson-R, Vice Chair
Anderson, G-O Liedtke-D
Bennett-R McLaughlin-D
Boerboom-R Miller-R
Brown-D Neuenschwander-D
Dempsey-R Olson, E-D
Dimler-R Osthoff-D
Erickson-R Pappas-D
Frederickson-R Pauly-R
Freiheits-R Thiede-R
Knuth-D Tunheim-D
Knugler-D Welle-D
Staff:
Orring, George-Committee Administrator
474 State Office Building .................. 296-5398
Ehrman, Barbi-Committee Secretary
485 State Office Building .................. 296-5394
Taxes

HF119-Forsythe (IR)-Transportation Services/Insurance
HF115-Carlson, D (DFL)-Environment/Natural Resources
HF114-Knuth (DFL)-Environment/Natural Resources
HF113-Thiede (IR)-Judiciary

State investment policy; authorizing imposition of tax on deed to homestead property; petition for postponement of and contract for deed moratorium become permanent; amending statutes.

Taxation; authorizing imposition of tax on deed to homestead property; petition for postponement of and contract for deed moratorium become permanent; amending statutes.

Local government; setting authority to regulate firearms and related matters; amending statutes; proposing new law; repealing statutes.

HF116-Begich (DFL)-Judiciary

Local government; setting authority to regulate firearms and related matters; amending statutes; proposing new law; repealing statutes.

HF117-Battaglia (DFL)-Financial Institutions/Insurance

Town of Tofte; authorizing the establishment of a detached banking facility.

HF118-Vellenga (DFL)-Health/Human Services

Health; changing eligibility requirements for catastrophic health expense protection; including insurance premiums; appropriating money; amending statutes.

HF119-Forsythe (IR)-Transportation

Traffic regulations; requiring the use of seat belts by motor vehicle drivers and passengers; amending statutes.

HF120-Minne (DFL)-Judiciary

Real property; providing that the mortgage and contract for deed moratorium become permanent; allowing mortgageor to holders of any mortgage or contract for deed to homestead property; abolishing exclusionary provision; allowing mortgagee to petition for postponement of foreclosure sale for up to 12 months; abolishingsunsetting provision; amending statutes.

HF121-Battaglia (DFL)-Taxes

Taxation; authorizing imposition of sales tax on lodging in towns and unorganized territories; amending statutes.

HF122-Staten (DFL)-Taxes

State investment policy; requiring divestiture of investments in banks, financial institutions, and companies doing business in or with South Africa or Namibia; providing for reinvestment of proceeds from required sales in institutions or companies which invest or conduct business operations in Minnesota; amending new law.

HF123-Marsh (IR)-Rules/Legislative Administration

A resolution memorializing the United States Congress to propose an amendment to the United States Constitution to protect human life.

HF124-Thiede (IR)-General Legislation/Veterans Affairs

Minnesota Constitution; proposing an amendment; providing for the recall of elected officials.

HF125-Blatz (IR)-Judiciary

Real property; eliminating the necessity of a court order before requiring registered land surveys; authorizing the use of registered land surveys for multi level tracts; amending the provisions relating to corporate resolutions of dissolution and to instruments executed by owners whose fee title is held in trust; amending the requirements for joint tenancy clearances; amending statutes.

HF126-Blatz (IR)-Health/Human Services

Human services; extending the community work experience program; amending statutes.

HF127-Solverg (DFL)-Taxes

Taxation; exempting residential use of electricity from the sales tax; amending statutes.

HF128-Price (DFL)-Taxes

Taxation; sales and use; extending the definition of capital equipment to include replacement equipment; providing for reduced rates and exemption for sales of capital equipment; amending statutes; proposing new law.

HF129-Skoglund (DFL)-Taxes

Taxation; sales; exempting sales of child restraint systems; amending statutes.

HF130-Minne (DFL)-Taxes

Taxation; motor vehicle excise; exempting sales of certain cars; amending statutes.

HF131-DenOuden (IR)-Labor-Management Relations

Unemployment compensation; providing for refunds of erroneous contributions; amending statutes.

HF132-Jaros (DFL)- Appropriations

Claims against the state; providing for payment of a claim for workers' compensation and attorney fees; appropriating money.

HF133-Marsh (IR)-Crime/Family Law

Corrections; creating a corrections board; requiring inmates to satisfactorily participate in rehabilitative programs as a condition of accruing good time reduction in their sentences; requiring the sentencing guidelines commission to amend the disposition line on the sentencing guidelines grid and to change the severity level of certain offenses relating to controlled substances; authorizing bonds to be issued for increasing the cell capacity of correctional facilities; appropriating money; amending statutes; proposing new law.

HF134-Uphus (IR)-Agriculture

Agriculture; providing for establishment of certain fees by rule; changing certain fees and procedures; appropriating money; amending statutes; repealing statutes.

HF135-Uphus (IR)-Agriculture

Agriculture; changing requirements for certain adulterated milk or cream; providing a penalty; amending statutes.

HF136-Tunheim (DFL)-Taxes

Taxation; providing for refunds of certain gasoline taxes paid by resorts; appropriating money; amending statutes; proposing new law.

HF137-Himle (IR)-Taxes

Taxation; income; conforming to federal treatment of contributions to individual retirement plans and certain other pension plans; amending statutes.

HF138-Rose (IR)-Appropriations

Appropriations; reducing appropriations to the pollution control agency for solid waste and hazardous waste pollution control; amending statutes.

HF139-Blatz (IR)-Taxes

Taxation; income; reducing rates for individuals, estates, and trusts; amending statutes.

HF140-McEasy (IR)-Judiciary

Financial institutions; providing for deposits by minors and deposits in multi-party accounts; regulating multi-party accounts; amending statutes; proposing new law; repealing statutes.

HF141-Dempsey (IR)-Judiciary

Property; changing effective dates for provisions relating to validation of foreclosure sales; amending statutes.

HF142-Jacobs (DFL)-General Legislation/Veterans Affairs

Minnesota Constitution; proposing an amendment which prohibits lotteries.

HF143-Blatz (IR)-Regulated Industries/Energy

Utilities; providing that gas and electric utilities may not seek compensation from landlords for delinquent bills incurred through a service agreement solely with the tenant; proposing new law.

HF144-Blatz (IR)-Financial Institutions/Insurance

Insurance; health and accident; requiring coverage for scalp hair prostheses in certain circumstances; amending statutes; repealing statutes; proposing new law.

HF145-Dimler (IR)-Local/Urban Affairs

Property; local and metropolitan government; transportation; providing for acquisition and relocation assistance in cases of hardship to owners of homestead property located in a proposed state highway corridor; amending statutes.

HF146-Kelly (DFL)-Crime/Family Law

Liquor; providing that an individual may not purchase, possess, or consume or be given or sold various alcoholic beverages until the age of 21; providing penalties; repealing statutes.
**HF147—Sviggum (IR)—Labor-Management Relations**
Unemployment compensation; benefit requalification after voluntary quit or discharge for misconduct; amending statutes.

**HF148—Olsen, S (IR)—Taxes**
Taxation; income; allowing spousal to apportion the federal tax deduction as they elect; amending statutes.

**HF149—Quist (IR)—Regulated Industries/Energy**
Energy; repealing the prohibition on installation of decorative residential gas lamps; repealing statutes.

**HF150—Sviggum (IR)—Governmental Operations**
Retirement; guaranteeing public employees retirement benefits; proposing new law.

**HF151—Thiede (IR)—Education**
Education; prohibiting a school district from constructing the school year prior to Labor Day; amending statutes.

**HF152—McPherson (IR)—Taxes**
Taxation; sales and use; exempting capital equipment and special tooling; amending statutes; repealing statutes.

**Thursday, January 24**

**HF153—Osthoff (DFL)—General Legislation/Veterans Affairs**
Minnesota Constitution; proposing an amendment allowing the legislature to authorize lotteries operated by the state with net revenues dedicated to tax relief and lotteries operated by nonprofit organizations for charitable purposes.

**HF154—Kelly (DFL)—Taxes**
Motor vehicles; exempting purchase or use of a motor vehicle manufactured prior to 1936 from the motor vehicle excise tax; amending statutes.

**HF155—Carlson, D (IR)—Commerce/Economic Development**
Weights and measures; specifying the contents of a cord of freshly cut rough green aspen; amending statutes.

**HF156—Olsen, S (IR)—Environment/Natural Resources**
Hazardous waste; establishing a hazardous substance compensation trust account; appropriating money; proposing new law.

**HF157—Waltman (IR)—General Legislation/Veterans Affairs**
Elections; requiring that a candidate for school district office be a qualified voter; amending statutes.

**HF158—Solberg (DFL)—Local/Urban Affairs**
Taxes; increasing the amount statutory cities and towns may levy for a public cemetery; amending statutes.

**HF159—McLaughlin (DFL)—Governmental Operations**
Employment and economic development act (MEED III); giving priority to persons eligible for aid to families with dependent children and certain farm households; limiting eligibility of applicants in certain service delivery areas; increasing authorized expenditures; increasing job placements in permanent private jobs; providing for temporary non-profit jobs; proposing new law; amending statutes; repealing statutes.

**HF160—Staton (DFL)—Governmental Operations**
Affirmative action; providing for affirmative action review in state government; providing penalties; proposing new law.

**HF161—Kelly (DFL)—Financial Institutions/Insurance**
No-fault automobile insurance; clarifying legislative intent concerning stacking of insurance policies; coordinating the priority of applicability of security for payment of certain benefits; increasing residual liability benefits; increasing certain uninsured benefits; establishing tort threshold limitations on uninsured motorist coverage; amending statutes.

**HF162—Simoneau (DFL)—Regulated Industries/Energy**
Public utilities; requiring single zone for telephone service in metropolitan area; proposing new law.

**HF163—Krueger (DFL)—Rules/Legislative Administration**
A resolution memorializing the President and Congress to design the 1985 farm bill to preserve the family farm system.

**HF164—Solberg (DFL)—Taxes**
Taxation; sales and use; eliminating accelerated payment of liability; amending statutes; repealing statutes.

**HF165—Stanislus (IR)—Taxes**
Taxation; income; conforming to federal treatment of contributions to individual retirement plans and certain other pension plans; amending statutes.

**HF166—Tomlinson (DFL)—Taxes**
Finance; adopting federal taxable income for income tax purposes; simplifying income tax law; increasing the budget reserve account; amending statutes; repealing statutes.

**HF167—Olsen, S (IR)—Taxes**
Taxation; income; allowing a final deduction in 1985 for certain taxes paid in 1981 or 1982 tax year; amending statutes.

**HF168—DenOuden (IR)—Rules/Legislative Administration**
Minnesota Constitution; proposing an amendment providing that neither house of the legislature may consider appropriations until after all tax bills have been passed.

**HF169—Heap (IR)—Rules/Legislative Administration**
Legislature; reducing the number of members of the senate and house of representatives; amending statutes; repealing statutes.

**HF170—Welle (DFL)—Health/Human Services**
Health; encouraging philanthropic support of nonprofit hospitals and nursing homes; providing that funds derived from specified types of gifts or grants shall not be deducted from the operating costs of a nursing home; proposing new law.

**HF171—Krueger (DFL)—Rules/Legislative Administration**
A resolution memorializing the United States Congress to propose an amendment to the Constitution to abolish the electoral college and replace it with direct popular election of the President.

**HF172—Jaros (DFL)—Rules/Legislative Administration**
Minnesota Constitution; proposing an amendment providing for a senate of 33 members and a house of representatives of 66 members.

**HF173—Krueger (DFL)—Taxes**
Taxation; providing an exemption from sales tax for the gross receipts from sales of tangible personal property; admission charges, and sales of food, meals, or drinks at certain events sponsored by certain nonprofit organizations; amending statutes.

**HF174—Neuenschwander (DFL)—Environment/Natural Resources**
Game and fish; exempting hunters on licensed game farms in the northern portion of the state from the requirement of a pheasant stamp; amending statutes.

**HF175—Neuenschwander (DFL)—Education**
Education; prohibiting school districts from beginning the school year before Labor Day; amending statutes.

**HF176—Kvam (IR)—Taxes**
Taxation; property, changing property tax payments, settlement, and distribution dates; amending statutes.

**HF177—Valento (IR)—General Legislation/Veterans Affairs**
Veterans; directing the commissioner of veterans affairs to place a memorial to veterans of the Korean conflict in the Court of Honor; appropriating money.

**HF178—Frederick (IR)—Education**
Education; authorizing independent School District No. 79 to transfer money from the bus purchase account to the capital expenditure fund.

**HF179—Johnson (IR)—Transportation**
Taxation; motor fuels; expanding definition of qualified service station for purposes of the excise tax on gasoline; amending statutes.

**HF180—McDonald (IR)—Education**
Independent School District No. 108 (Nordwood-Young America); authorizing a permanent fund transfer.

**HF181—Ogren (DFL)—Regulated Industries/Energy**
Energy; requiring legislative approval for construction of a nuclear fission electrical generating plant in Minnesota; amending statutes.

**HF182—Ogren (DFL)—Education**
Education; pupil transportation; authorizing independent School District No. 1, Atkin, to transfer moneys appropriated for bus purchases to the unappropriated fund balance account of the transportation fund; providing for local approval.

**HF183—Himle (IR)—Commerce/Economic Development**
Commerce; modifying the finance charge on certain open and credit sales; amending statutes.

**HF184—Simoneau (DFL)—Rules/Legislative Administration**
A resolution memorializing Congress to balance the federal budget.

**HF185—Redalen (IR)—Regulated Industries/Energy**
Utilities; prescribing membership on the public utility commission; amending statutes.

**HF186—Sherman (IR)—Health/Human Services**
Mental health services; authorizing interstate contracts for mental health services; proposing new law.

**HF187—Hartle (IR)—Education**
Independent School District No. 202, Dodge Center; permitting a permanent fund transfer; requiring local approval.
Monday, January 28
8:00 a.m.

8:30 a.m.

9:00 a.m.
AGRICULTURE, TRANSPORTATION & SEMI-STATES DIVISION/Appropriations, Rm. 400 S. Chr. Rep. Merlyn Vanlan. Agenda: Organizational meeting.

STATE DEPARTMENTS DIVISION/Appropriations, Rm. 300 S. Chr. Rep. Gaylin DenOuden. Agenda: Organizational meeting; overview of the Judicial physical plant.

10:00 a.m.
CRIMINAL JUSTICE SUBCOMMITTEE/Crime & Family Law, Rm. 500 S. Chr. Rep. John Hartinger. Agenda: HF102 (Schafer) relating to alcoholic beverages; increasing the age for licensing, sale, consumption, possession, and furnishing.

11:00 a.m.
REGULATED INDUSTRIES & ENERGY, Rm. 500 S. Chr. Rep. Elton Redalen. Agenda: Panel presentations from cops; investor owned utilities; regulated telephone companies. Rate case description, Dept. of Public Service.

12:00 noon

LABOR-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS, Rm. 400 S. Chr. Rep. Jim Heap. Agenda: Dept. of Employee Relations overview; Commissioner Nina Rothschild and staff; Dept. of Labor and Industry overview; Commissioner Steve Keefe.


2:00 p.m.
The House of Representatives will meet in Session.

2:30 p.m.

Tuesday, January 29
8:00 a.m.
APPROPRIATIONS, Rm. 200. Chr. Rep. Mary Forsythe. Agenda: AVTI system; Community Colleges system; State Universities system.


8:30 a.m.

10:00 a.m.


12:00 noon


LOCAL & URBAN AFFAIRS, Tour. Chr. Rep. Don Valetto. Agenda: Metro Council Orientation tour. (Bus will leave promptly at 12:00 noon from the east entrance of the State Office Building.)

12:45 p.m.

3:00 p.m.

Wednesday, January 30
8:00 a.m.

EDUCATION, Rm. 500 S. Chr. Rep. Wendell Erickson. Agenda: MN Higher Education Coordinating Board, overview and presentation of Teacher Education study.

10:00 a.m.
AGRICULTURE, Rm. 400 N. Chr. Rep. K. J. McDonald. Agenda: 1) Agricultural policy activities - State Planning Agency. 2) MN Dept. of Energy & Economic Development - programs supporting agricultural production and processing; Agricultural loan guarantee program and agricultural loans to farmers and farm lenders program. 3) HF52 (Kvam) regulation of agricultural processing facilities. 4) HFxxx Relating to the agricultural loans program administered by the Dept. of Energy & Economic Development.


TRANSPORTATION, Rm. 400 S. Chr. Rep. Doug Carlson. Agenda: Representatives from transportation-related interest groups.

1:00 p.m.

Thursday, January 31
8:00 a.m.
 Appropriations, Rm. 200. Chr. Rep. Mary Forsythe. Agenda: Dept. of Public Safety; Dept. of Transportation.

8:30 a.m.
GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS, Rm. 500 N. Chr. Rep. Jerry Knickerbocker. Agenda: Presentation by Dept. of Employee Relations Commissioner on trends in the state workforce, pay equity, labor relations overview.

10:00 a.m.
COMMERCE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, Rm. 300 N. Chr. Rep. Tony Bennett. Agenda: To be announced.
ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES, Rm. 500 S. Chr. Rep. John Rose. Agenda: Dept. of Natural Resources, overview and legislative agenda.
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES, Rm. 500 N. Chr. Rep. Tony Onnen. Agenda: Dept. of Finance presentation on entitlement programs and the state budget.

12:00 noon
GENERAL LEGISLATION & VETERANS AFFAIRS, Rm. 400 N. Chr. Rep. Dave Fjoslien. Agenda: Presentations from Bill Gregg, Commissioner, Dept. of Veterans Affairs; and Secretary of State's office re: election laws.
LOCAL & URBAN AFFAIRS, Tour. Chr. Rep. Don Valento. Agenda: League of Cities orientation tour. (Bus will leave promptly at 12:00 noon from the east entrance of the State Office Building.)

2:00 p.m.
The House of Representatives will meet in Session.

2:30 p.m.
TAXES, Rm. 200. Chr. Rep. Bill Schreiber. Agenda: MN Tax Study Commission - income tax, sales tax, and other recommendations. Presentations from Fred Bassinger, chairman, Governor Quie's tax simplification task force; representatives of the MN Society of CPAs; and the MN Bar Association's tax section.

Friday, February 1
9:00 a.m.
STATE DEPARTMENTS DIVISION/Appropriations, Rm. 300 S. Chr. Rep. Gaylin DenOuden. Agenda: Budget hearings from the Dept. of Administration.

Minnesota House of Representatives Information Office Room 9 • State Capitol • St. Paul, MN 55155
(612) 296-2146

Speaker of the House: David Jennings
Majority Leader: Connie Levi
Minority Leader: Fred C. Norton