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HIGHLIGHTS

Dramshop

A bill that would place an aggregate policy limit on dramshop liability insurance got approval at a joint meeting of the Commerce and Economic Development and Financial Institutions and Insurance Committees Feb. 7.

The bill, HF265, would amend the license section of the state beverage law, and according to its author, Rep. Adolph Kvam (IR-Litchfield), is not an overhaul of the Dramshop Act that some people have been fearful of.

Kvam says the bill would merely allow for a not less than $300,000 limit on aggregate claims within one calendar year.

The bill goes next to the floor of the House.

Jobs program

“The Minnesota Emergency Economic Development (MEED) program was an ideal emergency program, but the situation is no longer considered an emergency. The governor’s budget will not fund MEED as it currently exists,” said Tom Triplett, state planning director, at a meeting of the Human Services Division of the Appropriations Committee Feb. 7.

According to Triplett, The Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) will replace a portion of the MEED program. He said, “The JTPA will channel money to employers rather than employees. Counties will be the primary delivery agents for the job search, counseling, training, and daycare programs.” Also in the $127 million program is a pilot plan to assist business startups like those in France and Belgium.

But Rep. Peter McLaughlin (DFL-Mpls) sees no reason to slash the successful MEED program. Before the same committee, he presented the highlights of his $65 million bill that would maintain funding for the current MEED program, with some changes. Program priorities would extend to include troubled farm families along with general assistance and AFDC recipients. McLaughlin’s plan would also call for more participation from the private sector — 75 percent. The current level is 60 percent, up from the initial rate of 40 percent.

State highways

Minnesota can no longer afford the highway and road system it now has, according to a Citizens’ League report, because it costs too much to maintain.

The report, which the Transportation Committee reviewed Feb. 6, says an ideal maintenance schedule for the state’s 12,000-mile trunk highway and bridge system would be to repair 675 miles per year and 90 bridges. Currently, about 550 miles of highways and 60 bridges get the repairs they need.

To keep up with growing maintenance costs, the report recommends the state reduce the trunk highway system, moving from a 12,000-mile system to one no larger than 7,000 miles, and turn low traffic highways back to local jurisdictions.
Rural banking problem

Minnesota has an agricultural crisis, but that has not created a banking crisis, says the regional director of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC). Milos Kronjevich testified on rural banking problems before the Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee on Feb. 6.

Kronjevich said 79 Minnesota banks closed last year; a greater proportion of those were agricultural banks (banks with 20 percent of their loans in agricultural real estate or operating loans). The list of FDIC problem banks is growing with the deepening agricultural problem, said the director.

"Recognizing full well that there is an ag crisis out there, the banking system in the state of Minnesota is strong," said Kronjevich. Rural banks that were the envy of the industry prior to the ag crisis are now writing off agricultural loans — something they’ve never done before. "They are going to take some lumps, but they have the capacity to do so," he said.

The delinquency rate for Farmers Home Administration (FMHA) loans has increased from 18 percent in 1982 to 28 percent in 1984, according to Russ Bjorhus, state director of FMHA. He said FMHA has not used foreclosure to deal with the delinquency problem, but has encouraged farmers to voluntarily liquidate their farms while they still have assets. He said almost 1,000 farmers have shut down their farms since 1982.

Crime victims

Criminals victimize their victims the first time and the criminal justice system victimizes them a second time, according to Paul Gustad, director of the St. Louis County Victim/Witness Assistance Program.

On Feb. 6, Gustad, a member of the governor’s Crime Victims’ Task Force, spoke to the Crime and Family Law Committee, about task force findings in hearings with crime victims and people who provide victim services.

Time and again, Gustad said, the task force heard that victims want a voice in the criminal justice system, and that services for them should be a legitimate part of the criminal justice process.

Only about two percent of victims eligible for services are aware of them, said Gustad.

At the same meeting, Attorney General Humphrey spoke in favor of a task force recommendation to create a Victim/Witness Advisory Board within the office of the Attorney General.

The Crime Victims Reparations Board, crime victims centers, and a new position of a crime victims’ ombudsman would serve under the advisory board. The ombudsman would work directly with victims.

Said Humphrey, "Victims find themselves thrust into the criminal justice system. They didn’t ask to be victims. Once in that system, they often find it unresponsive, confusing and unjust."

Funding is the key to better services in a system that Task Force Chair Bill Kosiak says is already underfunded. He said funding shouldn’t necessarily come from general revenues, but mostly by way of restitution and surcharges on criminal fines from those who cause the problems.

The task force plans to make formal recommendations later this session.

Tuition reciprocity

Is tuition reciprocity fair? Should a tax-paying Minnesota resident pay substantially more than a South Dakota student to attend the same Minnesota college?

Despite its seeming unfairness, Minnesota’s reciprocity agreements are, in fact, very beneficial to the state, according to Dale Nelson of the Minnesota Department of Finance. Average tuition rates here are some of the highest in the nation which has encouraged many to attend colleges in other states, he said.

The current reciprocity agreement with neighboring states reduces the financial incentives for Minnesota students to leave the state, said Nelson, and indirectly helps all students because the state will no longer be a net exporter of student dollars.

And more tuition dollars means more resources for developing and improving education programs and facilities here at home. This preserves access and choice of opportunity for Minnesota students, he said.

Nelson spoke to the Education Committee on Feb. 6.
Farm operating loans

Members of the Agriculture Committee stepped up their activity in a two-part meeting Feb. 6, and recommended to pass HF32/ SF54* (Redalen, IR-Fountain), a bill that would target money to farmers for spring planting.

Under the bill, participating farm lenders would offer qualified farmers up to $60,000 in low-interest operating loans backed by a state guarantee of 5.5 percent.

The program would cut interest rates for farmers to 5.6 percent and cost the state about $20 million, but supporters say it’s the most feasible and effective way to target state funds to assist farmers in this time of crisis.

The bill will now go to the Appropriations Committee.

Higher education funding

Finance Commissioner Gus Donhowe explained the post-secondary schools’ part of the governor’s budget to the Education Division of Appropriations Feb. 6.

The governor’s proposal links state aid for instructional spending to a payment method called “average cost funding.” Under this plan enrollment is combined with the average cost of a program to determine the instructional funding level.

This could mean higher tuition for some students, and cut backs or elimination of some programs.

Donhowe said, above all, it will force institutions of higher education such as the University of Minnesota to make choices about goals and priorities.

Fiscal health of cities

Urban communities are fiscally better off than rural communities, according to State Auditor Arne Carlson. Carlson testified on the fiscal health of Minnesota cities before the Local Government Finance Division of the Taxes Committee on Feb. 5.

Moody’s Investors Service, a bond rating firm, downgraded the bond ratings of 17 cities, predominantly in rural Minnesota, said Carlson, while upgrading the ratings of 10 cities, largely in the metropolitan area. Carlson said the lower bond ratings increase the interest rates on bonds and other debt and can be costly to the affected communities.

“This is an indication that Wall Street is worried about the farm economy,” said the state auditor. This external factor — the farm economy was significant in the credit determinations, and beyond the control of the downgraded communities, he said.

“Our office continues to be concerned about the relatively high levels of debt of some Minnesota communities,” said Carlson. But he noted that, since 1978, “dramatic improvements” have taken place in local financial management, with most local governments modernizing their accounting systems and strengthening their fund balances.

Unemployment insurance

John Van Doorn of the Minnesota Retail Merchants Association presented his plan for unemployment insurance changes before the Workers’ Compensation/Unemployment Insurance Division of the Labor-Management Relations Committee Feb. 5.

The Van Doorn proposal would increase the number of required work weeks from 15 to 20 and raise the average weekly minimum income to $100, and extend benefits to 30 weeks. The effect would be to restrict part-timers access to the system. He would also tie the average weekly wage requirement to the federal minimum wage. This prevents the predicted minimum wage increases from making benefits too accessible.

Local and state government

Local and state government relationships were the subject of the Feb. 5 meeting of the Local and Urban Affairs Committee.

Gary Currie and Tom Todd of House Research briefed committee members on the history, status, and structure of local governments.

Currie said the basis of all government in the United States is the Jacksonian concept of the universal suffrage of mankind, and behind local governments is the idea that whoever can vote, can govern.

As the number and size of municipalities in the United States grew, said Currie, municipal functions and power grew apace. But local governing bodies across the country are “tenants at the will of the legislature.”

Tom Todd gave an overview of current regional and metro governing bodies, their functions and powers.

The Metro Council, for example, has no executive power to implement policy decisions, but works through a system of permits and licensing. All licensing power comes from the Legislature.

Although problems do arise in ironing out differences, said Todd, local and state government relations in Minnesota have been generally cooperative.

Marketing Minnesota

The Department of Energy and Economic Development (DEED) markets and promotes the state as a place to start up or expand small businesses, says Commissioner Mark Dayton.

Marketing and promotion goes on through a well-balanced communications program that includes paid media, public service radio shows on 79 Minnesota radio stations, a monthly Minnesota Magazine, and a program of public relations events, Dayton says.

Expectations are that the program will reach about 25 million business decision-makers. As a followup to it, the department has begun in-state telemarketing to reinforce and expand the message going out through paid media.
In an appearance before the Commerce and Economic Development Committee Feb. 5, Dayton said the Department has three divisions: energy, economic development, and financial management. Each division has programs to promote investment opportunities and to help Minnesota businesses and cities get information and financial and technical assistance.

He says the mission is to help improve the future of Minnesota and the lives of its citizens.

Environment

The governor's environmental priorities this year will focus on: promotion of the ethanol industry and anti-lead incentives; classification of peatlands; protection against flooding; the sewage overflow problem in the Twin Cities and building of waste water treatment facilities outside the cities; and changes to the superfund law.

That's according to Tom Triplett, state planning director, who spoke Feb. 5 to members on the House Environment and Natural Resources Committee.

A governor's task force on the superfund law agrees on municipal liability caps, causation, strict liability, and joint and several liability, says Triplett.

However, he says, the group remains divided over retroactivity provisions. Those provisions hold businesses or individuals liable for personal injuries resulting from past releases of hazardous waste.

"It's our hope," says Triplett, "that we can get rid of retroactivity in the superfund legislation. But the governor is prepared to do that only if some system is put in place for the compensation of persons injured by waste deposited prior to July 1, 1983."

In other testimony, Tom Kaltowski, executive director of the Pollution Control Agency, said the agency has pinpointed 87 hazardous waste sites in Minnesota. Clean up has begun on 30 of them.

Excise tax on beer, wine

Minnesota may have to face $10 million in claims for refunds of beer and wine excise taxes because of a 1984 U.S. Supreme Court decision. Dorothy McClung, director of legal research, Department of Revenue, told the Tax Committee about the Supreme Court case at a Feb. 5 hearing.

The Supreme Court struck down an excise tax in Hawaii that gave exemptions to the local liquor industry as an incentive for producing Hawaiian liquor or wine, said McClung. "Minnesota has similar exemptions," she said. They include a reduction in the rates for wine that comes from grapes grown in Minnesota and a credit on beer that brewers produce in the state.

Shortly after the Supreme Court ruled these exemptions unconstitutional, Johnson Brothers Wholesale Liquors filed a refund claim for almost $3 million, said McClung. That case is now pending in the state Tax Court.

McClung said the Supreme Court sent the Hawaiian case back to their courts for a determination of whether the state should refund all the taxes paid, or collect additional taxes from local producers. She said the Legislature could repeal exemptions and make sure that local producers pay the higher rate rather than collect no taxes at all.

PERA bill

The Governmental Operations Committee Feb. 4 and 5 wrapped up work on SF122, (Knickerbocker, IR-Hopkins), the bill to reorganize the board of the Public Employee Relations Association (PERA).

As it stands in the House, the bill would abolish the current 15-member board and set up a 9-member board. Three positions would stand for election, and five would serve as appointed representatives. The state auditor would also be a member.

The bill makes changes to the election process, for those who run for their positions, and provides that anyone trying to get an appointment to the board would go through an open appointments process. The Senate version calls for a seven-member board which the governor would appoint.

SF122 goes before the full House on its next step in the legislative process.

Horseracing

In just four months, Minnesotans will be able to play the horses at the state's first racetrack, Canterbury Downs—a project that 60 percent of the voters in the state approved in 1982.

Canterbury Downs' management team gave a progress report to the Regulated Industries and Energy Committee Feb. 4. They say they're working long days, sometimes six and seven a week, with contractors to have the track ready for racing in '85.

The $71 million project in Shakopee includes an enclosed grandstand, a one-mile lighted track, a turf track for special races, a training track, and all-season stables with dormitory facilities for 200 people.

The track will open its first season this June, racing thoroughbred horses for 78 days, Wednesday through Sunday, into mid-October. After this year, the season will open in April and close in November after 145 days of thoroughbred and harness horse racing.

Local government aid

The present local government aid formula is complicated, unfair, rewards inefficiency, and encourages spending, according to groups representing outstate, suburban, and metropolitan cities. Testifying before the Local Government Finance Division of the Taxes Committee on Feb. 4, they said the present law needs changing.
Most agreed with the League of Minnesota Cities' proposal which calls for a formula that reflects a city's need and its local revenue-raising policy. The system now focuses on past aids andlevies or levy limits.

Those speaking for the cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul disagreed with the League's recommendation for giving aid on a per capita basis. Those cities have unique demands for municipal services say their representatives. And a per capita basis does not affect this reality, they said.

The division will be hearing various proposals for changing the current formula.

Endowed chairs

Ken Keller, interim president of the University of Minnesota, presented his plan to improve the institution to the Education Division of Appropriations on Feb. 4. He says he wants the University to be one of the top five public institutions in the country. And he wants to double the number of programs that rank in the nation's upper 15 percent.

"We are next to last in the Big Ten in teacher support," he says. "To stay in the ballgame, we need to keep faculty." To do this, Keller asks for increased funding to invest in more endowed chairs (the highest academic appointment available). Currently, the University supports 22 such positions; Keller aims for between 70 and 80 over the next few years.

An endowed chair is worth $1 million or more. The money goes for research, teaching, staff support, publications, and salaries.

Funding for the chairs would come from interest on the University's permanent $56 million trust fund and from matching private contributions. Interest money now must go back to the state. The University could keep the interest only with Legislative permission.

Workers' comp claims

Workers' compensation claims dropped significantly since 1983, according to Steve Keefe, commissioner of the Department of Labor and Industry. Claims for workers in small business dropped the most, in some areas as much as 40 percent.

Keefe highlighted these facts for the Labor-Management Relations Committee Feb. 4:
- number of days disabled dropped one-third;
- average award decreased 40 percent; and
- lost time dropped from 50 to 34 days.

Keefe credits increased education and worker and employer awareness for the reduction.

Drinking age

People who support raising Minnesota's drinking age from 19 to 21, and who say the action would save lives, testified before the Criminal Justice Subcommittee of the Crime and Family Law Committee last week.

In continued hearings on Feb. 4, lawmakers heard from Michael Birkley on behalf of the Minnesota Licensed Beverage Association. He said the idea that raising the drinking age would prevent young people from getting alcohol and save lives on the highways is unfounded.

"In fact," said Birkley, "in Minnesota, the death rate for 18-year-old drivers increased fourfold during the first six months after the legal age went from 18 to 19."

Both sides say that statistics can say whatever you want them to, and that better education is necessary to promote responsible drinking. But they disagree as to whether raising the drinking age will help stop alcohol abuse.

John Palmer of the Minnesota Driver and Traffic Safety Education Association, says the bill, HF102 (Schafer, IR-Gibbon), is worth passing if it will save the four or five lives a year the Department of Public Safety says it will.

Beyond that, Palmer asked legislators to consider Minnesota's 1983 expenditure of $40 million to arrest, prosecute, and treat drunk drivers. He said, at most, the state spent $10,000 on prevention.

Some who testified expressed concern that if the 21 drinking age passes, it should become effective at the same time as surrounding states to avoid border problems.

The committee will hear the bill again next week.

COMMITTEE ACTION

AGRICULTURE

Wednesday, Feb. 6
- Farm operating loan program
  HF32/SF54* (Redalen, IR-Fountain)—recommended to pass as amended; re-referred to Appropriations. (See Highlight)

COMMERCE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Thursday, Feb. 7
- Aggregate limit—dramshop insurance
  HF265 (Kvam, IR-Litchfield)—recommended to pass as amended at a joint meeting of the Commerce/Economic Development Committee and the Financial Institutions/Insurance Committee.

GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS

Monday, Feb. 4
- PERA reorganization
  HF110/SF122* (Knickerbocker, IR-Hopkins)—heard as amended.

Tuesday, Feb. 5
- PERA reorganization
  HF110/SF122* (Knickerbocker, IR-Hopkins)—recommended to pass as amended. (See Highlight)
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* Offices in the State Office Building
Bill Introductions

Monday, February 4

HF265—Kvam (IR)—Commerce/Economic Development
Insurance; dram shop liability; authorizing annual aggregate policy limits; amending statutes.

HF266—Marsh (IR)—Crime/Family Law
Arrest; providing indemnification for off-duty peace officers who make arrests outside their jurisdiction; specifying the circumstances under which peace officers, constables, and part-time peace officers may make on or off-duty arrests outside their jurisdiction; amending statutes.

HF267—Solberg (DFL)—Local/Urban Affairs
Local governments; authorizing political subdivisions to enter into certain joint insurance arrangements; amending statutes.

HF268—Sviggum (IR)—Environment/Natural Resources
Environment; removing statutory provisions for joint and several liability and causation for personal injury; changing the date of certifying condominium floor plans by the county surveyor; prescribing fees; amending laws.

HF269—Krueger (DFL)—Agriculture
Waters; limiting appeals from determinations that certain waters are public waters; amending statutes.

HF270—Minne (DFL)—General Legislation/Veterans Affairs
City of Hibbing; fixing the term of mayor.

HF271—Wenzel (DFL)—Taxes
Taxation; requiring payment of property tax refunds to personal representatives of deceased claimants; amending statutes.

HF272—Knickerbocker (IR)—Governmental Operations
Metropolitan government; providing for various standards and procedures of metropolitan commissions; providing for the appointment and removal of certain officers of metropolitan commissions; requiring reports and plans; regulating duties of the regional transit board; amending statutes.

HF273—McKasy (IR)—Commerce/Economic Development
Commerce; making permanent the time price differential rate on certain motor vehicles; amending statutes; repealing statutes.

HF274—Ozment (IR)—Crime/Family Law
Crimes; defining "dangerous weapon" to include flammable liquids; amending statutes.

HF275—Levi (IR)—Crime/Family Law
Crimes; reporting maltreatment of minors; defining "person responsible for the child's care"; providing for concise summaries of disposition of reports; making technical changes; prescribing penalties; amending statutes.

HF276—McDonald (IR)—Rules/Legislative Administration
A resolution memorializing the President and the Congress of the United States to repeal the Federal Reserve Act.

HF277—McEachern (DFL)—Health/Human Services
Health; permitting the county coroner to remove the pituitary gland from a body under certain circumstances; proposing new law.

HF278—Kostohryz (DFL)—Education
Education; increasing state aid for school district programs for gifted and talented students; appropriating money; amending statutes; repealing statutes.

HF279—McEachern (DFL)—Education
Education; changing the basic maintenance mill rate to 20 mills; amending statutes.

HF280—Onnen (IR)—Taxes
Taxation; income; imposing a tax for individuals, estates, and trusts computed as a percentage of federal income tax liability; proposing an amendment to the Minnesota Constitution permitting state tax laws to adopt future federal tax laws by reference; proposing new law.

HF281—Uphus (IR)—Environment/Natural Resources
Game and fish; requiring the commissioner of natural resources to issue moose hunting licenses by lottery; amending statutes.

HF282—Nelson, K (DFL)—Education
Education; declaring the mission of public elementary and secondary education in Minnesota; proposing new law.

HF283—Erickson (IR)—Education
Education; increasing aid for gifted and talented students; appropriating money; amending statutes.

HF284—Heap (IR)—Labor—Management Relations
Labor; regulating the tip credit for minimum wage purposes; amending statutes; repealing statutes.

HF285—Beard (DFL)—Local/Urban Affairs
Washington county; approving for the purchase of condemning floor plans by the county auditor; prescribing fees; amending laws.

HF286—Beard (DFL)—Local/Urban Affairs
Washington county; providing that condominium floor plans must be signed by county auditor to ensure no delinquent taxes are due and by the county treasurer to ensure that current taxes have been paid.

HF287—Price (DFL)—Local/Urban Affairs
Washington county; providing that condominium floor plans must be signed by county auditor to ensure no delinquent taxes are due and by the county treasurer to ensure that current taxes have been paid; providing for approval of condominium floor plans by the county auditor; prescribing fees; amending laws.

HF288—Osthoff (DFL)—General Legislation/Veterans Affairs
Minnesota Constitution; proposing an amendment allowing the legislature to authorize lottery revenues dedicated to education and lottery operations operated by nonprofit organizations for charitable purposes.

HF289—Osthoff (DFL)—General Legislation/Veterans Affairs
Minnesota Constitution; proposing an amendment allowing the legislature to authorize lottery revenues dedicated to enhancement of natural resources and lottery operations operated by nonprofit organizations for charitable purposes.

HF290—Osthoff (DFL)—General Legislation/Veterans Affairs
Minnesota Constitution; proposing an amendment allowing the legislature to authorize lottery revenues dedicated to education and lottery operations operated by nonprofit organizations for charitable purposes.

HF292—Osthoff (DFL)—General Legislation/Veterans Affairs
Minnesota Constitution; proposing an amendment allowing the legislature to authorize lottery revenues dedicated to education and lottery operations operated by nonprofit organizations for charitable purposes.

HF293—McDonald (IR)—Agriculture
Agriculture; establishing an emergency farm operating loans program; providing penalties; appropriating money; amending statutes; proposing new law.
HF294—Blatz (IR)—Health/Human Services
Insurance; health maintenance organizations; prohibiting certain exclusive agreements with providers; amending statutes.

HF295—Waltman (IR)—Rules/Legislative Administration
A resolution memorializing the President and Congress to provide income tax incentives to landowners who sell or lease agricultural land to beginning farmers and to state and national financial institutions who make loans to beginning farmers.

HF296—Blatz (IR)—Taxes
Taxation; providing for the computation of interest on tax overpayments; amending statutes; proposing new law.

HF297—Pauly (IR)—Financial Institutions/Insurance
City of Savage; authorizing the establishment of detached banking facilities.

HF298—Gruenes (IR)—Appropriations
Independent School District No 742, St Cloud; authorizing AVTI construction projects subject to certain conditions.

HF299—Zaffke (IR)—Taxes
Taxation; exempting residential use of electricity from the sales tax; amending statutes.

HF300—Thorson (IR)—Environment/Natural Resources
Natural resources; terms of payment in county timber sales; amending statutes.

HF301—McKasy (IR)—Judiciary
Crimes; permitting crime victims suffering certain types of property damage to file claims for reparations; amending statutes.

HF302—Hartinger (IR)—Crime/Family Law
Crimes; prohibiting persons employed by the welfare system from releasing information pertaining to identities of victims and persons accused of sexual child abuse to news media; prescribing penalties; proposing new law.

HF303—Gruenes (IR)—Education
Education; establishing arts education aid for school districts; establishing recommended guidelines for use of the aid; designating the purpose of certain tax revenues; amending statutes; proposing new law.

HF304—Waltman (IR)—Taxes
Taxation; providing for the computation of interest on tax overpayments; amending statutes; proposing new law.

HF305—Sparby (DFL)—Health/Human Services
Health; changing eligibility requirements for catastrophic health expense protection; including insurance premiums; appropriating money; amending statutes.

HF306—Heap (IR)—Labor-Management Relations
Public employment labor relations; abolishing the public employment labor relations board; establishing certain powers and duties of the director of the bureau of mediation services; providing for appeals to the court of appeals; amending statutes; repealing statutes.

HF307—Sviggum (IR)—Financial Institutions/Insurance
Town of Cannon Falls; authorizing the establishment of a detached banking facility.

HF308—Frederick (IR)—Commerce/Economic Development
Intoxicating liquor; hours for Sunday sale; amending statutes.

HF309—Simoneau (DFL)—Taxes
Taxation; providing an income tax credit for home care of the elderly; amending statutes.

Thursday, February 7

HF310—Fjoslien (IR)—Education
Independent School District No 208, Evansville; authorizing a permanent fund transfer.

HF311—Vellenga (DFL)—Commerce/Economic Development
Nonprofit corporations; requiring the articles of incorporation to contain a mailing address; amending statutes.

HF312—Nelson, K (DFL)—Crime/Family Law
Highway traffic regulations; providing that use of a drug in conjunction with alcohol or a controlled substance is not a defense to a charge of violating the law prohibiting driving while under the influence of alcohol or a controlled substance; amending statutes.

HF313—Osthoff (DFL)—Taxes
Taxation; changing the period of time certain property held by a political subdivision is exempt from property taxes; amending statutes.

HF314—Becklin (IR)—Local/Urban Affairs
Economic development; providing limits on state and other public costs for the development of convention facilities.

HF315—Becklin (IR)—Local/Urban Affairs
Local government; removing the restriction on the number of mills certain towns may levy to provide fire protection for special fire protection districts; amending statutes.

HF316—Thorson (IR)—General Legislation/Veterans Affairs
Military; providing for the appointment of an additional assistant adjutant general for the army national guard; amending statutes.

HF317—Fjoslien (IR)—General Legislation/Veterans Affairs
National guard; changing minimum pay for certain enlisted persons; amending statutes.

HF318—Jennings, L (DFL)—Rules/Legislative Administration
A resolution memorializing the governments of the United States and Sweden that the State of Minnesota adopts the County of Kronberg as a sister state.

HF319—Rose (IR)—Local/Urban Affairs
City of Roseville; authorizing the city council to set off-sale intoxicating liquor license fees.

HF320—Rose (IR)—Local/Urban Affairs
City of Roseville; increasing the total number of on-sale liquor licenses.

HF321—Dempsey (IR)—Taxes
Taxation; providing for timely payment of sales and use taxes; amending statutes; repealing statutes.

HF322—Gruenes (IR)—Education
Education; directing the commissioner of education to form an advisory committee on nonpublic schools; amending statutes.

HF323—McKasy (IR)—Transportation
Taxation; providing for an annual compressed natural gas user permit; establishing compressed natural gas user permit fees in lieu of gas taxes; amending statutes; proposing new law.

HF324—O’Connor (DFL)—Labor-Management Relations
Labor; changing the definition of plumber’s apprentice for the purpose of employment licensing; amending statutes.

HF325—Shaver (IR)—General Legislation/Veterans Affairs
Elections; regulating lobbyist and candidate activities and contributing; proposing new law.

HF326—Shaver (IR)—General Legislation/Veterans Affairs
Elections; providing for a presidential primary election; changing the state primary date; amending statutes; repealing statutes.

HF327—Jennings, L (DFL)—Transportation
Transportation; defining “trees” for purposes of removal from highway right of way; amending statutes.

HF328—Kahn (DFL)—Commerce/Economic Development
Alcoholic beverages; allowing licensed premises to remain open after the hour sales of alcoholic beverages must cease; amending statutes.

HF329—Olson, S (IR)—Crime/Family Law
Peace officers; requiring a person seeking appointment as a part-time peace officer to provide the board of peace officer standards and training with proof that he or she has complied with appointment requirements; amending statutes.

HF330—Quist (IR)—Judiciary
Courts; providing that venue for hearings for certain pregnant women shall be the county in which the woman resides; amending statutes.

HF331—Halberg (IR)—Judiciary
Costs and attorney fees; providing for recovery of costs and attorney fees by prevailing parties in civil actions against the state and administrative contested cases; proposing new law.
HF332—Frerichs (IR)—Governmental Operations
Retirement; delaying the rule of 85 retirement date for certain teachers; amending statute.

HF333—Simoneau (DFL)—Governmental Operations
State government; ratifying certain salaries approved by the legislative commission on employee relations.

HF334—Vellenga (DFL)—Crime/Family Law
Marriage dissolution and child custody; requiring family courts to forward findings of parental child abuse to the county attorney; proposing new law.

HF336—Pauly (IR)—Taxes
Public finance; providing for allocation of 1984 state private activity bond issuance authority; proposing new law.

HF337—Frederick (IR)— Appropriations
Agriculture; appropriating funds for the Minnesota Agricultural Interpretive Center.

HF338—Jacobs (DFL)—Taxes
Taxation; income; providing time limits for certification for purposes of the small business investment credits; amending statutes.

HF339—Jacobs (DFL)—Taxes
Taxation; providing a credit against the income tax for contributions to candidates for local elective office; amending statutes.

HF340—Dyke (IR)—Taxes
Taxation; income; making the pollution control and feedlot pollution control credits effective for 1983 and 1984 tax years; amending laws.

HF341—Tjornhom (IR)—Taxes
Taxation; sales and use; motor vehicle excise; reducing the general rate to five percent; amending statutes.

HF342—Jacobs (DFL)—Taxes
Taxation; repealing the special sales tax on sales of intoxicating liquor and nonintoxicating malt liquor; repealing statutes.

HF343—Tominson (DFL)—Taxes
Taxation; property; decreasing the homestead credit percentage; increasing the homestead credit maximum; increasing the homestead value eligible to receive homestead credit; amending statutes.

HF344—Blatz (IR)—Financial Institutions/Insurance
Commerce; authorizing industrial loan and thrifts to sell certain evidences of indebtedness; establishing different certificates of authorization requirements for corporations that will and will not sell or issue thrift certificates; modifying certain application and examination duties of the department of commerce; providing simplified requirements for the issuance of more than one certificate of authorization to the same corporation; clarifying the right of industrial loan and thrifts to collect certain additional loan charges; exempting certain mortgage purchasers and assignees from licensing as regulated lenders; prohibiting industrial loan and thrifts from using the words “savings and loan” in their corporate names; authorizing regulated lenders to make loans up to ten percent of capital; modifying the licensing provisions governing regulated lenders; providing for changes in business locations of regulated lenders; increasing the minimum default charge that may be charged; providing for the determination of interest; authorizing certain additional loan charges; and providing alternative loan disclosure requirements; amending statutes; repealing statutes.

HF345—Seaberg (IR)—Financial Institutions/Insurance
Insurance; no-fault automobile; providing mandatory underinsured motorist coverage; clarifying legislative intent concerning stacking of insurance policies; coordinating the priority of applicability of security for payment of certain benefits; establishing tort threshold limitations on uninsured and underinsured motorist coverages; modifying the limitation of damages for noneconomic detriment; amending statutes.

HF346—Gruenes (IR)—Health/Human Services
Health; providing for physical therapy evaluation and referral; prohibiting certain practices by physical therapists; amending statutes.

HF347—Rodosovich (DFL)—Health/Human Services
Human services; authorizing a state hospital to enter into shared service agreements with for profit organizations; amending statutes.

HF348—Vellenga (DFL)—Health/Human Services
Human services; clarifying the services available to autistic persons; revising statutes; amending statutes.

HF349—Heap (IR)—Education
Education; providing an incentive to encourage school districts to reduce certain class sizes in kindergarten through third grade; appropriating money; proposing new law.

HF350—Nelson, K (DFL)—Education
Post-secondary education; reducing the tuition component required to pay part for instruction costs; amending statutes.

HF351—Olsen, S (IR)—Education
Education; clarifying transportation aid and related provisions; amending statutes.

HF352—Schafer (IR)—Education
Education; defining transportation to and from nonpublic school as nonregular transportation; amending statutes.

HF353—Hartle (IR)—Education
Department of education; authorizing it to make shared service agreements with other public agencies; appropriating money; proposing new law.

HF354—Backlund (IR)—Education
Education; deleting minimum school site area requirements; amending statutes.

HF355—Olsen, S (IR)—Education
Education; updating outdated provisions; removing obsolete provisions; amending statutes; repealing statutes.

HF356—Greenfield (DFL)—Education
Post-secondary education; allowing financial aid for four years, not just the first four years, of undergraduate education; amending statutes.

HF357—Greenfield (DFL)—Education
Post-secondary education; reducing the tuition component required to pay part for instruction costs; amending statutes.

HF358—Carlson, L (DFL)—Education
Higher education coordinating board; extending the regular scholarship and grant program to certain part-time students; amending statutes; repealing statutes.

HF359—Carlson, L (DFL)—Education
University of Minnesota; changing restrictions on the permanent university fund so that the fund can be used to help endow professorial chairs; appropriating money; amending statutes.

House Advisories

Thursday, February 7
HA3—Simoneau (DFL)—Agriculture
A proposal to study the costs associated with swine pseudorabies control.
Monday, February 11
8:00 a.m.

10:00 a.m.

1:00 p.m.
LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION ON EMPLOYEE RELATIONS, Rm. 118 Capitol. Chr. Rep. Jerry Knickerbocker. Agenda: 1) Continuation of review for ratification of the Pay Equity Report from the Dept. of Employee Relations concerning equalization of salaries for state employees. 2) Continuation of review of PERB report concerning possible consolidation of the Public Employment Relations Board with the Bureau of Mediation Services.

12:00 noon

LABOR-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS, Rm. 400. Chr. Rep. Jim Heap. Agenda: Presentations from Francis Fitzgerald, MAC; Tom Beer, AFSCME; Mike Haney, MAPE; Mike Hickey, NFIB; Wes Lane, MN Teamsters DRIVE.


Tuesday, February 12
8:00 a.m.


10:00 a.m.
COMMERCe & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, Rm. 300. Chr. Rep. Tony Bennett. Agenda: HF191 (Piepho) Relating to local government; requiring prompt payment of local government bills, HF241 (Dempsey) Relating to commerce; modifying certain motor vehicle sale and distribution regulations.

ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES, Rm. 500. Chr. Rep. John Rose. Agenda: Bob Hanson, Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources; continue Dept. of Natural Resources overview.


12:00 noon

2:00 p.m.

3:00 p.m.

Wednesday, February 13
8:00 a.m.

EDUCATION DIVISION/Appropriations, Rm. 200. Chr. Rep. Bob Haukoos. Agenda: State University System. Speakers: Chancellor Jon Wefald, budget overview; President Bob Carothers, Southwest State’s Technical Initiative; President Brenden McDonald, St. Cloud, International Business program; President Margaret Preska, Markatko, International Business Proposal; President Roland Dille, Moorhead Energy Management Institute; President Tom Stark, Winona, and President Ted Gillett, Bemidji, need for full funding and relating to equipment and supply reduction in 1981-83; President Reatha King, Metropolitan State U, non-traditional student and minority student support; Chancellor Jon Wefald, tuition stabilization request.

HUMAN SERVICES DIVISION/Appropriations, Rm. 300 N. Chr. Rep. Bob Anderson. Agenda: Budget hearing for Dept. of Corrections (continued).


10:00 a.m.
AGRICULTURE, Rm. 300 N. Chr. Rep. K. J. McDonald. Agenda: HF4 (Watman) Providing income tax incentives to landowners who sell or lease agricultural land to eligible beginning farmers. HF35 (Dimit) Family Farm Security program. HFxxx (McDonald) Relating to the University of MN Agriculture Extension Service.


12:00


2:00 p.m.

Thursday, February 14
8:00 a.m.
AGRICULTURE, TRANSPORTATION & SEMI-STATES DIVISION/Appropriations, Rm. 400 S. Chr. Rep. Merlyn Vanlan. Agenda: Budget hearings for Board of Abstractors; Board of Accountancy; Board of Architecture; Land Survey & Landscape Architecture; Board of Barber Examiners; Board of Boxing; and Board of Electricity.

EDUCATION DIVISION/Appropriations, Rm. 200. Chr. Rep. Bob Haukoos. Agenda: State University System. Speakers: David Jordre, President, Inter Faculty Organization; Ron Estes, Acting Director, MN State University Student Association; Rod Searle, President, SUB, the future of the State University System.

HUMAN SERVICES DIVISION/Appropriations, Rm. 300 N. Chr. Rep. Bob Anderson. Agenda: Budget hearings for Dept. of Corrections (continued); Ombudsman/Sentencing Guidelines.


8:30 a.m.
GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS, Rm. 500 N. Chr. Jerry Knickerbocker. Agenda: Presentation by Howard Bicker, Executive Director, State Board of Investment on pension investments. HF38 (Knickerbocker) Relating to the availability of actuarial services appropriation.

10:00 a.m.
COMMERCE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, Rm. 300 N. Chr. Rep. Tony Bennett. Agenda: HF210 (Heap) Shareholder vote required to amend articles of incorporation that relate to a reduction in the shareholders need to transact business. HF34 (Redalen) Wineries may use imported grapes until a crop is established. Time limit 4 years. HF97 (Redalen) Wineries authorized to sell cheese and cheese spread.

ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES, Rm. 5. Chr. Rep. John Rose. Agenda: HF268 (Sviggum) Relating to the environment; removing statutory provisions for joint and several liability and causation for personal injury.


12:00 noon
GENERAL LEGISLATION & VETERANS AFFAIRS, Rm. 500 N. Chr. Rep. Dave Fjoslien. Agenda: Hearing for a Committee bill regarding rules regulating charitable gambling; possible extension of those rules; and exemption of certain organizations participating in yearly events.


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

After Session
RULES & LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATION, Rm. 400 N. Chr. Rep. Connie Leit. Agenda: House Resolution 5 (Uphus); Resolutions: Permanent rules, deadlines; telephone credit cards.

Friday, February 15
8:00 a.m.