School opening date

The House gave preliminary approval to HF151 (Thiede, IR-Pequot Lakes), a bill that would require the state's public schools to start classes after Labor Day.

Some of the issues surrounding the legislation are how school opening affects the tourism industry and local control of school districts.

About two-thirds of Minnesota's school districts begin classes before Labor Day. But those who favor HF151, such as campground, resort, motel and restaurant owners say the early start shortens the tourism season.

Those opposed, don't like the idea of taking the decision away from local school districts, while others were against changing the education system for the sake of economic development.

The bill picked up a few votes from last week when the House turned it down on a vote of 71 to 62. It'll face at least another hearing before the House when it goes onto the Calendar. The bill must have at least 68 votes to pass.

Employee incentive plan

Calling it a "Share the Gain Bonus Bill," Rep. John Burger (IR-Long Lake) brought HF389 before the Governmental Operations Committee March 7. The bill would set up a bonus incentive plan for state and university employees. It proposes paying cash bonuses to those employees if the ratio of state spending to total personal income in the state decreases from year to year.

By saving the state money, in other words, state employees could make some extra cash.

Burger said the plan would benefit everyone involved. Taxpayers would have more of their own money to spend. Policymakers would have a good management tool and get good cooperation. For employees, it would be a moral booster and provide incentive to work together. And people getting help from the state would get better service and encouragement to become self-sufficient, he said.

Ted Blanch, of E.W. Blanch Co., one of many who testified before the committee, focused his testimony on how incentive plans work.

"An incentive compensation plan by itself is not particularly effective, said Blanch. But a well-designed plan can be an effective management tool. They can become very complex," he said, "but it doesn't mean they can't work."

Some committee members, however, saw conflict in trying to encourage lower state spending in agencies whose jobs mean spending money for the good of the state. Law enforcement for apprehension of criminals and enforcing the state's recent DWI laws, was an example they gave.

The committee plans to continue hearings on the bill March 13.

Farm equipment sales tax

A bill lowering the sales tax on new and used farm machinery equipment and parts to three percent got the approval of the Taxes Committee on March 7.

The rate now is four percent on new and used farm equipment and the full general six percent on farm machinery parts. HF53 (Fjoslien, IR-Brandon) now goes to the floor of the House.
Income tax update - update

On March 7, the Taxes Committee received new estimates on the amount of revenue the state could expect to receive from the income tax update bill. HF538 (Onnen, IR-Cokato) would make changes in state tax law to conform with 1984 federal tax changes.

The committee recommended the bill to pass on Feb. 28, but Chairman William Schreiber (IR-Brooklyn Park) brought the bill before the committee again because of the new estimates.

Commissioner of Finance Gus Donhowe said the state could expect to get about $97 million additional revenue if the state conforms to the 1984 federal changes. According to the commissioner, the governor has already included $47 million in his January budget.

That amount comes from a 1983 federal provision excluding 15 percent of interest from a person’s income, effective in 1985. The state conformed with that provision, but the 1984 Congress repealed the provision before it could take effect.

If the state fails to conform with the federal changes, Minnesota taxpayers would have the interest exclusion on their 1985 returns.

Donhowe said the governor did not include the remaining $50.3 million in his January budget. He cautioned the committee on these amounts because they are “soft numbers” which could change.

The committee did not reconsider the bill so its earlier recommendation to pass will send the bill to the floor of the House.

Higher education

David Longanecker, director of the Higher Education Coordinating Board (HECB), returned to the Education Division of the Appropriations Committee March 7 to continue his presentation of the HECB’s report on the state’s post-secondary school plans. (See Session Weekly, Volume 2, Number 8, page 3.)

The role of the HECB is to be a catalyst for reform for the state’s schools, Longanecker said. “In many cases similar services are being offered in close proximity to each other. This is what we should be working to change.”

Longanecker said three areas need further study:

- Mission statement — overlap exists between institutions proposed goals and objectives.
- Inter-system cooperation — there is no program for coordination for biennial planning and requests.
- Finance — tuition costs must be held down while continuing support for important high cost programs.

No-fault insurance, ‘stacking’

If you are injured in a car accident and you have two car insurance policies, you might not be able to collect from both. A bill to get rid of “stacking” insurance benefits got the attention of the Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee on March 6.

HF345 (Seaberg, IR-Mendota Heights) would also make several changes to the state’s No-Fault Automobile Insurance Act.

Since 1978, the Minnesota Supreme Court has permitted, under the state’s no-fault law, injured parties to collect from more than one policy as long as they recover only their actual out-of-pocket losses under the court’s ruling.

The committee plans to consider the bill again next week.

Drinking age bill

The bill calling for a drinking age of 21 years in Minnesota got its second hearing in the Crime and Family Law Committee on March 6.

But now, attached to HF102 (Schafer, IR-Gibbon), are a couple other provisions. One would increase the license reinstatement fee for those who lose their licenses because of DWI offenses from $100 to $150. Proceeds would go to the departments of Education and Public Safety for programs to prevent alcohol-related traffic injuries and deaths.

Under another provision the committee voted for, people who manufacture or sell alcoholic beverages could not sponsor or contribute to college-campus events that involve drinking or the sale of alcohol, or the promotion of those activities.

Also under the amended version of the bill, the effective date for the 21-year-old drinking age would be Sept. 1, 1986, instead of Sept. 1, 1985. Author of the amendment, Rep. Sandy Pappas (DFL-St. Paul), said her concern with the 1985 effective date was the threat of Minnesota’s under-21-year-olds crossing the border into other states that haven’t yet done anything about the higher drinking age, particularly Wisconsin.

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Most committee members felt different legal ages on either side of the border could cause even more problems, traffic injuries, and deaths, than delaying the drinking age increase for one year.

The committee will take another look at the bill, and then hopes to pass it along to the Appropriations Committee.

**Workers’ Comp**

The state unemployment fund owes the federal government about $210 million. On March 6, the Unemployment Insurance/Workers’ Compensation Division of the Labor-Management Relations Committee heard a proposal by Rep. Gil Gutknecht (IR-Rochester).

Gutknecht’s proposal, which is not yet complete, addresses the two major prongs of the problem: worker benefits and employer taxes.

Gutknecht said that containing growth in benefits and increasing the taxable wage base is the most reasonable and fair method we could use to restore permanent solvency to the unemployment insurance program.

Ten major points of the proposal would:

- set the employer’s unemployment taxable wage base at flat dollar amounts for the next three years (replacing the present formulas);
- tie the definition of a credit week for employee earnings to the state adult minimum wage;
- increase the amount of credit weeks necessary to qualify for benefits from 15 to 20;
- set the maximum weekly benefit at $200 for 1985, with 8% increases over the next two years;
- make the duration of benefits equal to 66-2/3 percent of the worker’s credit weeks (current law sets the limit at 26 weeks);
- make additional funds available to those who have exhausted all state and federal benefits and who live in a county that has an unemployment rate at least double the state rate;
- make seasonal workers ineligible who file for benefits the same quarter, two years in a row;
- establish a waiting week without pay before benefits would start;
- tie severance pay in with the start of benefits; and
- define suitable work for determining whether an individual getting benefits must accept an offer of employment, 85 percent of previous salary for the first 6 weeks, 75 percent for 6-14 weeks, and 65 percent for more than 14 weeks.

The committee will hold public hearings on the measure March 12 and 13 and hopes to take amendments and vote on the measure March 19.

**Financial farm data collection**

On March 6, the Agriculture Committee recommended to pass as amended, HF581 (Frerichs, IR-Rochester), a bill that would set up a data collection task force to develop a uniform procedure for collecting financial data from Minnesota farmers.

Author of the bill, Rep. Don Frerichs, says there’s a lack of comprehensive, sound, financial data on which to design state farm relief programs for farmers. He says supporting the efforts of the University of Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service and the Vocational Technical Education System would get rid of the data problem. He says the U and the Vo-tech System have programs (Project Support and Project Survival), that targets enhancing farm financial recordkeeping and evaluating existing farm financial information.

Under HF581, agricultural extension agents and vo-ag instructors would take a temporary leave from their present jobs and work with the task force to collect data from farmers. They would use a computerized system to analyze finances of family farms and provide farmers with farm crisis intervention services.

Some committee members are concerned about advertising methods for the program, who participants would be, and the accuracy of the data.

**Community education changes**

Minnesota’s Community Education programs could change under a bill Rep. Harriet McPherson (IR-Stillwater) is sponsoring and which the governor's office supports. The bill would put more emphasis on adult literary and academic learning.

Brian Kanes of the Department of Education, appearing before the Education Finance Division of the Education Committee March 6, said that the goal of community education is “to create a learning society that will provide all citizens with the capacity to stretch their minds to the fullest.”

HF367 would allow aid and levy revenues to fund only certain types of programs and would require fees, donations, and other sources of revenue for programs of a more recreational nature.

Under the bill, funds could go to health education, financial and retirement planning, childhood and family instruction, and opportunities for undereducated adults to bring their education up to a high school equivalency level.

Areas that would not receive funding include craft and hobby, athletics, travel, and recreational classes.
State agency fees

"What this bill does," says Rep. Gerald Knickerbocker (IR-Hopkins), "is answer the policy question, 'Should the Legislature exercise its oversight function and set fees or should it be done by the agencies?'"

In testimony at the Governmental Operations Committee meeting on March 6, Knickerbocker referred to an executive branch study that recommends 37 new fees, for an increase in revenue for the biennium of over $17 million in the general fund, and over $3 million in other funds.

But, according to Knickerbocker, fee setting should be a function of the Legislature and under his bill, HF376, the Legislature would set the maximum amount of state agency expenditures that fees will recover. New fees and fee adjustments would have to go through the rulemaking process. Controversial fees adjustments, said Knickerbocker, would have to go through the public hearing process just like controversial state agency rules.

The commissioner of finance could no longer determine that fees should be greater than agency costs for providing a service.

Jay Kiedrowski from the Finance Department said that the executive branch doesn't set fees on its own, that the legislature already has oversight functions.

"Every state agency has to have specific state authority in statute to set a fee. So the fees being talked about today have been authorized by the Legislature," said Kiedrowski.

Kiedrowski said he thinks the bill is trying to address opposition to some controversial fees the Pollution Control Agency (PCA) set. Unfortunately, said Kiedrowski, the bill goes way beyond the PCA fees.

The committee will continue hearing the bill on March 12.

Victims' compensation fund

A victims' compensation fund, for people who've suffered injuries from hazardous waste releases, got a hearing in the Environment and Natural Resources Committee on March 6. Rep. Sally Olsen (IR-St. Louis Park), author of HF156 says it complements the proposed revisions to the superfund law by providing an alternative to victims who won't get compensation under the superfund law (if HF268 passes).

Olsen said the 1983 superfund law required the Legislative Commission on Waste Management to look into the need for such a fund. She said the study focused on three major areas—the number of potential victims, the adequacy of existing compensation remedies, and alternative approaches to victims' compensation in Minnesota.

Olsen said estimates are that the number of actual claims is around 10 or low multiples of 10.

HF156 would put a cap on the amount of compensation, per claimant, per claim, that injured people could recover from the fund of $250,000. It would appropriate $1 million from the general fund into the compensation fund for the biennium.

Jack Ditmore from the State Planning Agency says, though the governor is concerned about compensating victims of hazardous waste releases, if the superfund changes go through, the governor's office isn't taking a stand on any specific victim compensation measure at this time.

Those testifying from the Sierra Club, the League of Minnesota Cities, AFL-CIO, and the Clean Water Action Project again stated their support for the current superfund law and opposition to any revisions. However, all conceded that, should the revisions get the Legislature's and the governor's approval, a victims' compensation fund would be necessary.

Some of the problems with HF156, according to this group of people, are that it doesn't address damage to property or economic loss; $1 million in the fund isn't enough to address the needs it will have to address; it doesn't include death benefits; and it puts the victim compensation burden on tax-payers instead of on responsible parties.

Superfund changes

A bill that would make changes to the personal liability section of the state's Superfund law got the Judiciary Committee's approval on March 5. HF268 (Sviggum, IR-Kenyon) would affect a victim's chances to claim damages from hazardous waste exposure and win. (See last week's highlight for a summary of the bill).

Supporters say the 1983 Superfund law places such tough liability on waste handling companies that underwriters are unwilling to provide insurance. And, they say, it has had a bad affect on the state's business climate.

Opponents say the changes will hurt innocent victims in their attempts to get paid for injuries, property loss, or death because of hazardous waste exposure.

The committee adopted an amendment which would remove the cap in current law limiting the amount of damages a victim can recover in a joint and several liability action. Presently, that cap is twice the percentage of fault of each person jointly liable.

The bill now goes to the floor of the House.

Farm aid

The House gave final approval to a $25 million farm-aid plan on March 5.
Under the plan, SF54 (Redalen, IR-Fountain), farmers could get loans for spring planting at a lower rate of interest through an interest buydown program. The state would subsidize 5-1/2 percent; the local lender would forego 1-1/2 percent—giving an interest rate reduction of about 7 percent to eligible farmers.

The maximum loan to individual farmers would be $75,000. To be eligible, farmers must show they could make a profit if they can borrow at lower interest rates. And they have to show a debt-to-asset ratio of about 50 percent.

The plan also calls for a debt restructuring program whereby farm borrowers and lenders can attempt to restructure farm debt through the Farmers Home Administration (FMHA) Loan Guarantee and Debt Restructuring Program.

Under this program, the state would pay the interest on existing farm operating and real estate loans (not exceeding $25,000), for 60 days, of a 120-day foreclosure grace period. This interest break would go on loans to qualified borrowers that approved lenders submit to FMHA for loan guarantees and debt restructuring.

As a condition for receiving the state-paid interest for 60 days, lenders must agree to carry the loan for an additional 60 days without interest and sign an agreement with the state to stop foreclosure on farm loans for 120 days. If FMHA approves refinancing of a loan, lenders, then, can add the foregone interest onto the loan principal.

Snowbound

The big snow on March 4 brought legislative activities to a near halt for about a day-and-a-half. Because the House didn't have a quorum of 68 members present, a requirement to transact House business, the session lasted just a few minutes. And committees didn't meet.

By noon on March 5, however, it was business as usual. Committees were active, and the House was ready to meet to take up, among other issues, the farm aid bill.

Hazardous waste

Pollution Control Agency (PCA) Deputy Director Michael Robertson explained the problems of hazardous waste cleanup and enforcement to the State Departments Division of the Appropriations Committee on March 1.

State concern for hazardous waste began in 1979, says Robertson, but enforcement began just last year when the Legislature approved funding. The waste itself has been around for a lot longer; in some cases, since the 1930s, he says.

According to Robertson, one of the department's needs is increased enforcement staff — 16 more positions over the next two years. In some cases, Robertson says, with present staff, medium size or smaller polluters might get by with an inspection only once every 16 years. The increase in staff could reduce that to once every five years.

The agency staff performs about 300 site inspections a year. Ninety percent of the time, inspectors find record keeping problems. Ten percent of the time, they find serious problems where management practices have to be changed, says Robertson.

About $24 million worth of hazardous waste cleanup went on last year, says Robertson, at an average cost of $3 to 5 million per site. A minimum of two years is typical to completely remove all hazardous material from a site.

The PCA declared 87 sites to be hazardous in the state right now. Robertson expects the list to grow to 123 by next year. Thirty-four of these sites are on the federal cleanup list; 11 of these are currently getting attention. Of the 87 identified spots, action is expected on 65 by 1987.
EDUCATION
Wednesday, March 6
• Warroad school district—capital loan
  HF263 (Tunheim, DFL-Kennedy)—recommended to pass as amended.
• Financial aid for students—changes
  HF46 (Johnson, IR-Caledonia)—recommended to pass; rereferral to Appropriations Committee.
• HECB—student advisory council
  HF204 (Piepho, IR-Mankato)—recommended to pass; placed on General Orders.

Education Finance Div./Ed.
Wednesday, March 6
• Community education—changes in emphasis
  HF367 (McPherson, IR-Stillwater)—amended to Article 4 of HF88. (See Highlight)

Higher Education Div./Ed.
Thursday, March 7
• Independent student—changes in definition
  HF249 (Sherman, IR-Winona)—recommended to pass as amended.

ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES
Wednesday, March 6
• Aspen recycling program—established
  HF483 (Neuenschwander, DFL-Int’l Falls)—recommended to pass as amended.
• Hazardous substance injury—compensation fund
  HF156 (Olsen, IR-St. Louis Park)—heard. (See Highlight)

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS & INSURANCE
Wednesday, March 6
• No-fault insurance—changes; stacking—eliminated
  HF345 (Seaberg, IR-Mendota Heights)—heard; laid over until next meeting. (See Highlight)

Thursday, March 7
• Local Governments—joint insurance arrangements
  HF267 (Solberg, DFL-Bovey)—recommended to pass as amended.

TAXES
Thursday, March 7
• Sales tax on farm equipment—reduced
  HF53 (Foslien, IR-Brandon)—recommended to pass as amended. (See Highlight)
• Sales tax—farm machinery parts
  HF48 (Lieder, DFL-Crookston)—heard.
• Sales tax on farm equipment—reduced
  HF707 (Boerboom, IR-Cottonwood)—heard.

FLOOR ACTION

CONSENT CALENDAR
Thursday, Feb. 28
• Aspen cord weight
  HF155 (Carlson, D., IR-Sandstone)—passed.

Tuesday, March 5
• Detached facility—Santiago
  HF85 (Brinkman, DFL-Richmond)—passed.
• Land conveyance—St. Louis County
  HF231 (Boo, IR—Duluth)—passed.

CALENDAR
Tuesday, March 5
• Motor vehicle sale/distribution regulations changes
  HF241 (Dempsey, IR—New Ulm)—passed.
• Multi-party accounts act
  HF140 (Mckasy, IR—Mendota Heights)—passed.
• Abuse reporting—notice to parents/guardians
  HF213 (Staunis, IR—White Bear Lake)—passed.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE
Tuesday, March 5
• Farm operating loan program—interest buydown
  HF32/SF54* (Redalen, IR—Fountain)—repassed as amended in conference committee. (See Highlight)

JUDICIARY
Tuesday, March 5
• Superfund changes
  HF268 (Sviggum, IR-Kenyon)—recommended to pass as amended.

LOCAL & URBAN AFFAIRS
Tuesday, March 5
• County governments—language cleanup/minor changes
  HF516 (Johnson, IR-Caledonia)—recommended to pass as amended; placed on Consent Calendar.
**Bill Introductions**

**Tuesday, Mar 5**

**HF670—Clark (DFL)—Labor-Management Relations**

Occupational safety and health; regulating the use of video display terminals; amending statutes.

**HF671—Unknerzbocker (IR)—Financial Institutions/Insurance**

Financial institutions; authorizing interstate acquisition and formation of banks between this state and certain states on a reciprocal basis; proposing coding for new law.

**HF672—Staten (DFL)—Governmental Operations**

Human rights; adding the Roy Wilkins memorial to the list of state monuments; establishing a memorial to Roy Wilkins for placement in the Capitol complex; providing for a competition to select a designer; appropriating money; amending statutes.

**HF673—Riveness (IR)—Local/Urban Affairs**

City of Bloomington; providing authority for the city to establish and maintain district heating systems.

**HF674—Clausnitzer (IR)—Health/Human Services**

Human services; adoption; regulating adoptions by relatives; providing for procedural changes; amending statutes; repealing statutes.

**HF675—Knickerbocker (IR)—Governmental Operations**

State government; requiring the adoption of rules governing the 700 hours program; requiring the preparation of agency affirmative action plans; providing for incentives; appropriating money; amending statutes; proposing coding for new law; repealing statutes.

**HF676—Erickson (IR)—Education**

Education; appropriating money for the southwest Minnesota telecommunications project operated by ten public school districts.

**HF677—Upshus (IR)—General Legislation/Veterans Affairs**

Towns; authorizing the conduct of town business at places located outside the town; amending statutes; proposing coding for new law.

**HF678—Redalen (IR)—Taxes**

Taxation; permitting a deferral of certain farm property taxes for farmers; changing the dates for payment of property taxes, settlements, and distribution; appropriating money; amending statutes.

**HF679—Bott (IR)—Health/Human Services**

Nursing homes; establishing an educational program for nursing home consumer advisory councils; authorizing a surcharge on nursing home license fees; appropriating money; proposing coding for new law.

**HF680—Cohen (DFL)—Crime/Family Law**

Crimes; increasing penalties for certain crimes when committed with intent to cause fear; amending statutes.

**HF681—Carlson, D (IR)—Health/Human Services**

Human services; establishing a demonstration project for state-operated, community-based services for mentally retarded persons; creating a limited exception to the moratorium on new intermediate care facilities for the mentally retarded; requiring the commissioner to establish rules concerning staff ratios; setting priorities for services under federal waivers; expanding the capability of the legislative commission on long-term health care; amending statutes; proposing coding for new law.

**HF682—Carlson, D (IR)—Environment/Natural Resources**

Natural resources; reducing fees for camping spaces within a state park and state park motor vehicle permits for physically handicapped persons; amending statutes.

**HF683—Johnson (IR)—Judiciary**

Probate; allowing a minor to be a donor for purposes of the Uniform Anatomical Gift Act; amending statutes.

**HF684—Quist (IR)—Commerce/Economic Development**

Liquor; prohibiting off-sale of large containers of malt or intoxicating liquor; amending statutes.

**HF685—Zaffke (IR)—Financial Institutions/Insurance**

Insurance; requiring the return of unearned premiums upon the death of the insured; amending statutes.

**HF686—Ozemnt (IR)—Local/Urban Affairs**

Metropolitan government; providing an independent review board to consider certain disputed matters; proposing coding for new law.

**HF687—Erickson (IR)—Agriculture**

Agriculture; repealing requirements for a department slogan on printed matter; changing emergency rulemaking authority; establishing a statistical services account in the state treasury; clarifying membership requirements for the soil and water conservation board; appropriating money to amend statutes; proposing coding for new law; repealing statutes.

**HF688—Hartinger (IR)—Commerce/Economic Development**

Obscenity; prohibiting lending or selling videocassettes and videodiscs which are obscene; prescribing penalties; proposing coding for new law.

**HF689—Himle (IR)—Local/Urban Affairs**

Local improvements; providing for advertisement for bids in certain publications; amending statutes.

**HF690—Hartinger (IR)—Crime/Family Law**

Crimes; providing for penalties upon conviction of certain hit and run violations; enhancing penalties upon conviction of certain hit and run violations; amending statutes.

**HF691—Ozemnt (IR)—Local/Urban Affairs**

Local government; authorizing county employees to make certain contracts; amending statutes.

**HF692—Tunheim (DFL)—Governmental Operations**

Natural resources; establishing a board of regents for the department of natural resources; amending statutes.

**HF693—Frederick (IR)—Local/Urban Affairs**

City of North Mankato; permitting the establishment of a port authority; authorizing the port authority to exercise the powers of a municipal housing and redevelopment authority.

**HF694—Anderson, R (IR)—Environment/Natural Resources**

Natural resources; grants and loans for certain dam reconstruction and repair projects; amending laws.

**HF695—Ozemnt (IR)—Judiciary**

Corporations; allowing nonprofit corporations to establish, maintain, and operate common trust funds; proposing coding for new law.

**HF696—Ozemnt (IR)—Health/Human Services**

Human services; adjusting eligibility requirements for the child day care sliding fee program; permitting county boards to set limits on the day care rates that will be subsidized; amending statutes.

**HF697—Ocis (DFL)—Education**

Education; requiring the commissioner to have conferences on peer tutoring programs in the schools; appropriating money.

**HF698—Frederick (IR)—Commerce/Economic Development**

Intoxicating liquor; authorizing the city of North Mankato to issue one short-term, on-sale liquor license.

**HF699—Halberg (IR)—Judiciary**

Courts; providing for the appointment of a chief judge and assistant chief judge for each judicial district; clarifying the administrative authority of the chief judge; amending statutes.
HF700—McEachern (DFL)—Education
Education; requiring school districts to assess pupils in core curricular areas; requiring the state board to adopt measurable learning expectations for districts to use at their option; requiring a state curriculum advisory committee; requiring an annual curriculum report by the state board; appropriating money; amending statutes; proposing coding for new law; repealing statutes.

HF701—Clausnitzer (IR)—Health/Human Services
Human services; allowing the county boards to serve as the community mental health center boards; amending statutes.

HF702—Clausnitzer (IR)—Health/Human Services
Human services; requiring notice to the designated agency in certain proceedings pertaining to persons committed as mentally ill and dangerous; authorizing the commissioner to transfer persons committed as mentally ill and dangerous between regional centers under certain circumstances; amending statutes.

HF703—Backlund (IR)—Education
Education; removing the metering of state aid payments to school districts; amending statutes; repealing statutes.

HF704—Wenzel (DFL)—Governmental Operations
Retirement; providing permanent increases in monthly annuities or benefits payable to pre-1973 public employee retirees, disablees, and surviving spouses; appropriating funds; proposing coding for new law.

HF705—Himle (IR)—Taxes
Taxation; income; adopting federal law with included in income for certain previous years due to nonconformity; amending statutes.

HF706—McKasy (IR)—Judiciary
Courts; abolishing the county and probate court; transferring the jurisdiction, cases, records, and employees of that court to the district court; merging the municipal and conciliation courts within the district court in the second and fourth judicial districts; transferring the jurisdiction, cases, records and employees of those courts to the district court; providing that municipal, probate and county judges learned in the law are district judges; providing that the county court judge not learned in the law is an associate judge; limiting the creation of additional referee, law clerk, courtroom bailiff, and courtroom deputy clerk positions; requiring each judicial district to prepare a reorganization plan; amending statutes; proposing coding for new law; repealing statutes.

HF707—Booerboom (IR)—Taxes
Taxation; sales and use; reducing the rate of tax on farm machinery; including repair and replacement parts in the definition of farm machinery; amending statutes.

HF708—McDonald (IR)—Agriculture
Animals; changing certain duties and powers of the board of animal health; increasing certain penalties; amending statutes.

HF709—Ose, S (IR)—Taxes
Taxation; sales tax; exempting candy; amending statutes.

HF710—Ellioff (DFL)—Transportation
Drivers' licenses; providing that license and permit applicants in St. Louis county apply at state office; amending statutes.

HF711—Nelson, K (DFL)—Education
Education; providing that the compulsory attendance law applies to a child below the age of seven who is enrolled grades kindergarten or above; amending statutes.

HF712—Nelson, K (DFL)—Transportation
Motor vehicles; denying license plates or registration tabs to moving traffic violators under outstanding warrants; amending statutes.

HF713—Segal (DFL)—Education
Education; changing the basic maintenance mill rate to 20 mills; amending statutes.

HF714—Segal (DFL)—Governmental Operations
Minnesota Constitution; proposing an amendment providing for a senate of 36 members elected for staggered six-year terms and a house of representatives of 108 members elected for staggered four-year terms.

HF715—Segal (DFL)—Governmental Operations
Minnesota Constitution; proposing an amendment eliminating the office of state treasurer; giving the treasurer's powers and duties to another officer provided by law.

HF716—Ellioff (DFL)—General Legislation/Veterans Affairs
Local government; setting authority to regulate firearms and related matters; amending statutes; proposing coding for new law; repealing statutes.

HF717—O'Connor (DFL)—Commerce/Economic Development
Liquor; including wine in the prohibition on discrimination in sales; amending statutes.

HF718—Nelson, D (DFL)—Environment/Natural Resources
Environment; requiring the commissioner of health to monitor the quality of water in private water wells in the metropolitan area; amending statutes.

HF719—Upshus (IR)—Agriculture
Agriculture; increasing the number of collectors of goods and services; establishing a trade office; appropriating money; amending statutes; proposing coding for new law.

HF720—Quist (IR)—Governmental Operations
State departments and agencies; requiring the commissioner of administration to notify libraries about available surplus documents; proposing coding for new law.

HF721—Otis (IR)—Health/Human Services
Human services; allowing additional income disregard for certain general assistance recipients; amending statutes.

HF722—Rees (IR)—Education
Education; providing for full implementation or tier revenue by the 1986-1987 school year; amending statutes; repealing statutes.

HF723—Johnson (IR)—Education
Transportation; authorizing designation of minimum-maintenance roads by resolution of local road authorities; exempting road authorities from liability for damages arising from reduced maintenance standards on minimum-maintenance roads; providing penalties; amending statutes; proposing coding for new law.

HF724—Hartinger (IR)—Labor-Management Relations
Labor; providing a system for citizens to report fraud in connection with receipt of workers' compensation and unemployment compensation benefits; appropriating money; proposing coding for new law.

Thursday, Mar 7

HF725—Rees (IR)—Local/Urban Affairs
Environment; providing for state grants for the construction of collector sewers in totally unserved cities; amending statutes.

HF726—Wenzel (DFL)—General Legislation/Veterans Affairs
Local government; setting authority to regulate firearms and related matters; amending statutes; proposing coding for new law; repealing statutes.

HF727—Solberg (DFL)—General Legislation/Veterans Affairs
Local government; setting authority to regulate firearms and related matters; amending statutes; proposing coding for new law; repealing statutes.

HF728—Kostohryz (DFL)—Environment/Natural Resources
Recreational vehicles; requiring registration of snowmobiles; abolishing special registration requirements for collector's snowmobiles; amending statutes; repealing statutes.

HF729—Scheid (DFL)—Governmental Operations
Retirement; providing for an increased re­ demption benefit option for participants in the Hennepin county supplemental retirement program; allowing withdrawal from the program; amending laws.

HF730—Tjornhom (IR)—Commerce/Economic Development
Petroleum products; setting standards for heating fuel, kerosene, and diesel fuel; providing testing authority for the weights and measures division of the department of public service; amending statutes; repealing statutes.

HF731—Seaberg (IR)—Governmental Operations
Retirement; special retirement coverages for certain military affairs department personnel.

HF732—Seaberg (IR)—Taxes
Taxation; extending subdivision 4 of section 297A.03, subdivision 3 property to certain property owned by certain fraternal and benefit societies; amending statutes.

HF733—Brinkman (DFL)—General Legislation/Veterans Affairs
Elections; changing certain procedures and deadlines related to absentee ballots; changing the municipal election filing deadline; amending statutes.
<table>
<thead>
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<th>Bill Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HF734</td>
<td>Brinkman (DFL)</td>
<td>Judiciary: Civil actions; repealing statutes authorizing and regulating dram shop actions; amending statutes; repealing statutes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HF735</td>
<td>Brinkman (DFL)</td>
<td>Taxes: Taxation; removing the additional sales tax from liquor; repealing statutes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HF736</td>
<td>Heap (IR)</td>
<td>Governmental Operations: Retirement; resumption of service by retired teachers; amending statutes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HF737</td>
<td>Backlund (IR)</td>
<td>Judiciary: Property transfers; regulating transfers to persons under a certain age; enacting the uniform transfers to minors act; proposing coding for new law; repealing statutes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HF738</td>
<td>Dempsey (IR)</td>
<td>Taxes: Taxation; eliminating the excise tax rates for farm wineries; reducing the excise tax credit for certain malt beverages and extending the credit to beverages produced outside Minnesota; amending statutes; repealing statutes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HF739</td>
<td>Simoneau (DFL)</td>
<td>Judiciary: Courts; correcting references to the number of district court judges in law; providing for additional district court judgeships in the tenth judicial district; appropriating money; amending statutes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HF740</td>
<td>Simoneau (DFL)</td>
<td>Governmental Operations: Retirement; public employees generally; revising the state unclassified employees retirement program; amending statutes; repealing statutes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HF741</td>
<td>Beard (DFL)</td>
<td>Agriculture: Agriculture; requiring schools and institutions serving milk under agreement with the department of agriculture to submit reimbursement claims and be paid in the manner provided by federal regulation and any rules of the department; proposing coding for new law.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HF742</td>
<td>Riveness (DFL)</td>
<td>Taxes: Taxation; sales and use; motor vehicle excise; reducing the general rate of five percent; amending statutes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HF743</td>
<td>Clausnitzer (IR)</td>
<td>Local/Urban Affairs: City of Plymouth; permitting the establishment of a port authority; amending laws.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HF744</td>
<td>Cohen (DFL)</td>
<td>Commerce/Economic Development: Intoxicating liquor; authorizing the sale of miniature containers; proposing coding for new law.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HF745</td>
<td>Cohen (DFL)</td>
<td>Governmental Operations: Retirement; authorizing transfer of certain coordinated plan service credit of a public employees retirement association member to the basic plan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HF746</td>
<td>Price (DFL)</td>
<td>Taxes: Taxation; income; providing for additional withholding exemptions in certain instances; amending statutes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HF747</td>
<td>Pauly (IR)</td>
<td>Taxes: Taxation; property; providing an exemption for certain housing facilities for the elderly; amending statutes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HF748</td>
<td>Wenzel (DFL)</td>
<td>Taxes: Taxation; motor vehicles; accelerating distribution of motor vehicle excise tax proceeds; amending statutes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HF749</td>
<td>Price (DFL)</td>
<td>Governmental Operations: Public employees; regulating teacher labor relations; amending statutes; proposing coding for new law.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HF750</td>
<td>Kahl (DFL)</td>
<td>Budget: Housing; raising the limit on the total amount of Minnesota housing finance agency bonds and notes outstanding; amending statutes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HF751</td>
<td>Wenzel (DFL)</td>
<td>Government Operations: Government operations; providing for the salaries of certain department and agency heads.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HF752</td>
<td>Redalen (IR)</td>
<td>Environment/Natural Resources: Game and fish; use of crossbows to take deer; amending statutes.</td>
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<tr>
<td>HF753</td>
<td>Dempsey (IR)</td>
<td>Crime/Family Life Adoption: Eliminating the requirement for certain consents; amending statutes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HF754</td>
<td>Anderson, G (DFL)</td>
<td>Financial Institutions/Insurance: Banking; providing assistance to customers of failed banks; appropriating money; proposing coding for new law.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HF755</td>
<td>Carlson, D (IR)</td>
<td>Regulated Industries/Energy: Horseracing; authorizing the commission to adopt certain drug rules; amending statutes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HF756</td>
<td>Schreiber (IR)</td>
<td>Taxes: Taxation; income; changing certain filing and payment dates for corporate estimated tax declarations; amending statutes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HF757</td>
<td>Zaffke (IR)</td>
<td>Local/Urban Affairs: Hubbard county; authorizing a special levy for park and recreation purposes; requiring a reverse referendum under certain circumstances.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HF758</td>
<td>Elioff (DFL)</td>
<td>Education: Independent school district No. 706; authorizing the issuance of general obligation bonds to finance the acquisition and betterment of school buildings and facilities and the levy of ad valorem taxes therefor; authorizing the transfer of certain taconite taxes to the district for payment of debt service on the bonds; appropriating money.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HF759</td>
<td>Backlund (IR)</td>
<td>General Legislation/Veterans Affairs: Elections; changing certain procedures and deadlines related to absentee ballots; changing the municipal election filing deadline; amending statutes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HF760</td>
<td>Bennett (IR)</td>
<td>Commerce/Economic Development: Cities of the first class; authorizing the cities to regulate taxicabs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HF761</td>
<td>Svviggum (IR)</td>
<td>Governmental Operations: Retirement; public employees retirement association; earnings limits for membership; amending statutes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HF762</td>
<td>Bishop (IR)</td>
<td>Governmental Operations: State government; providing for the status of seasonal employees of the department of revenue; amending statutes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HF763</td>
<td>Himle (IR)</td>
<td>Taxes: Taxation; property; increasing the market value of commercial and industrial property assessed at 28 percent; amending statutes.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**House Advisories**

**Tuesday, Mar 5**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Bill Number</th>
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<tr>
<td>HA6</td>
<td>Krueger (DFL)</td>
<td>Health/Human Services: A proposal to study adoption.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Thursday, Mar 7**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bill Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>H74</td>
<td>Riveness (DFL)</td>
<td>Governmental Operations: A proposal to study reports that must be submitted to the legislature.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Senate Files/1st. Readings**

**Thursday Mar 7**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bill Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SF47</td>
<td>Frank (DFL)</td>
<td>Crime/Family Life: Animals; increasing penalties for certain cruel acts against animals; clarifying what acts constitute torture; amending statutes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SF244</td>
<td>Storm (IR)</td>
<td>Financial Institutions/Insurance: City of Savage; authorizing the establishment of detached banking facilities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SF331</td>
<td>Adkins (DFL)</td>
<td>Health/Human Services: Health; permitting the county coroner to remove the pituitary gland from a body under certain circumstances; proposing coding for new law.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SF450</td>
<td>Jude (DFL)</td>
<td>Taxes: Taxation; providing for collection of outstanding liabilities; changing certain time limitations; changing tax lien provisions; providing for certain disclosures; changing entry for confessions of judgment; amending statutes; proposing coding for new law.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SF455</td>
<td>Jude (DFL)</td>
<td>Judiciary: Uniform acts; enacting the Uniform Conservation Easement Act; proposing coding for new law.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Monday, March 11  
8:00 a.m.  
STATE DEPARTMENTS DIVISION/Appropriations, Rm. 300 S. Chr. Rep. Gaylin DanOuden. Agenda: Budget hearing for MN State Retirement System; Public Employment Relations Board; Public Employee Retirement Association; Teachers Retirement Association.  
GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS, Rm. 500 N. Chr. Rep. Jerry Knickerbocker. Agenda: HF509 (Ogren) Providing free distribution of MN Statutes to the library of the largest municipality of each county. HF440 (Knickerbocker) Technical corrections in laws governing public retirement funds. HF388 (Burner) Establishing a commission to study property taxes.  
10:00 a.m.  
CRIME & FAMILY LAW, Rm. 500 N. Chr. Rep. Kathleen Blatz. Agenda: HF374 (Seaberg) Redefining arson in the third degree. HF274 (Ozment) Defining "dangerous weapon" to include flammable liquids. HF335 (Bishop) Removing certain information from certified record for com­mitment of persons convicted of a felony or gross misdemeanor. HF657 (Levi) Relating to dissemination of data. HF275 (Levi) Reporting misuse of minors.  
12:00 noon  
EDUCATION FINANCE DIVISION/Education, Rm. 500 N. Chr. Rep. Sally Olsen. Agenda: Discuss aids in Article 8 (technology demonstration sites, coursework package development, purchase subsidy, package evaluation, and duplication rights).  
2:00 p.m.  
The House of Representatives will meet in Session.  
7:00 p.m.  
STATE DEPARTMENTS DIVISION/Appropriations, Rm. 300 S. Chr. Rep. Gaylin DanOuden. Agenda: Budget hearing for Dept. of Natural Resources.  
Tuesday, March 12  
8:30 a.m.  
AGRICULTURE, TRANSPORTATION & SEMI-STATES DIVISION/Appropriations, Rm. 400 S. Chr. Rep. Merlyn Valan. Agenda: Budget hearings for Crime Victims Reparations Board; Civil Air Patrol; Private Detective and Protection Agent Services; Dept. of Public Safety, Driver and Vehicle Licensing.  
STATE DEPARTMENTS DIVISION/Appropriations, Rm. 300 S. Chr. Rep. Gaylin DanOuden. Agenda: Budget hearings for State Planning Agency; Workers Compensation/Court of Appeals.  
8:15 a.m.  
TAXES, Rm. 5. Chr. Rep. Bill Schreiber. Agenda: HF536 (Dempsey) Modifying certain procedures relating to taxpayer appeals; requiring apportionment of lev­eys in specific situations. HF261 (Ogren) Providing computation of interest on tax overpayments. HF403 (McKasy) Reducing the estate tax to the amount of the federal credit for state death taxes.  
10:00 a.m.  
COMMERCE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, Rm. 300 N. Chr. Rep. Tony Bennett. Agenda: HF193 (Elliot) Relating to St. Louis County.  
ENVIRONMENTAL & NATURAL RESOURCES, Rm. 5. Chr. Rep. John Rose. Agenda: HF156 (S. Olsen) Establishing a hazardous substance compensation trust account. HF626 (Rose) Enhancement of fish and wildlife; planning and im­plementation of wildlife management; conservation of marginal agricultural lands; habitat management; aspen recycling program.  
HEALTH CARE SUBCOMMITTEE/Health & Human Services, Rm. 400 N. Chr. Rep. Dave Gruenes. Agenda: Resolution 11 (Dempsey) State Employee Awareness Week. HFxxx Nonsmoking bill. HFxxx (Onnen) Aging strategy. HF535 (Sherman) Lead solder, prohibits use in certain cases.  
SOCIAL SERVICES SUBCOMMITTEE/Health & Human Services, Rm. 500 N. Chr. Rep. Allen Quist. Agenda: HF186 (Sherman) Interstate contracts for mental health services (Sviggum) Study and report on public guardianship, HFxxx (Sviggum) Permanency planning for children.  
12:00 noon  
ELECTIONS SUBCOMMITTEE/General Legislation & Veterans Affairs, Rm. 400 N. Chr. Rep. ever. Agenda: HFxxx Absentee voting for military and overseas. Secretary of State. HFxxx Punch card voting for absentee ballots.  
CIVIL LAWS & ADMINISTRATION SUBCOMMITTEE/Judiciary, Rm. 300 N. Chr. Rep. Bert McKasy. Agenda: HF125 (Blatz) Relating to real property; requiring a court order before a registered land survey. HF394 (Bishop) Non-primacy of statutes. HF590 (Bishop) Relating to a re­peal of the sunset provision of the law providing for surcharges on civil filing fees. HF449 (Blatz) Relating to attachments.  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS SUBCOMMITTEE/Local & Urban Affairs, Rm. 200. Chr. Rep. Dennis C. Fredericksen. Agenda: HF422 (McKasy) West St. Paul; changing the municipal election day and extending the terms of certain elected of­ficials. HF158 (Solberg) Taxation; in­creasing the amount statutory cities and towns may levy for a public cemetery. HF526 (Solberg) Fixing conditions of cer­tain energy programs. HF387 (Solberg) Itasca County; changing the permissible expenditure on tourist, agri­cultural, and industrial promotion. HF866 (R. Anderson) Allowing for an increase in the appropriation a county may make for a county humane society in any year.
METROPOLITAN AFFAIRS SUBCOMITTEE/Local & Urban Affairs, Rm. 300

2:00 p.m.


EDUCATION DIVISION/Appropriations, Rm. 200. Chr. Rep. Bob Haukoos. Agenda: Budget hearing for University of MN; academic salaries request; special market and retention; skilled trades increases; equipment amortization; instructional computing equipment. Testimony from faculty groups.

COMMERCE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, Rm. 5. S. Chr. Rep. Tony Bennett. Agenda: HF183 (Himle) Modifying the finance charge on certain open end credit sales.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE DIVISION/Taxes, Rm. 500 S. Chr. Rep. Terry Dempsey. Agenda: Presentation of Governor Perpich’s property tax refund program (circuit breaker). Additional agenda to be announced.

3:00 p.m.


4:00 p.m.

HEALTH CARE SUBCOMITTEE/Health & Human Services, Rm. 500 S. Chr. Rep. Dave Grunes. Agenda: HF294 (Blatz) Health maintenance organizations; prohibiting exclusive agreements.

7:00 p.m.


8:00 p.m.


Wednesday, March 13

8:00 a.m.


11:00 a.m.

GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS, Rm. 500 N. Chr. Rep. Jerry Knickerbocker. Agenda: HF389 (Benz) Incentive bonuses provided for certain state employees.


3:30 p.m.

STATE DEPARTMENTS DIVISION/Appropriations, Rm. 300 N. Chr. Rep. Gaylin DenOuden. Agenda: Budget hearing for Dept. of Administration.


CRIMINAL JUSTICE SUBCOMITTEE/Crime & Family Law, Rm. 400 S. Chr. Rep. John Hartinger. Agenda: HF448 (Blatz) Defining sports bookmaking. HF264 (Heap) Imposing criminal liability on persons who cause the death of another by permitting an animal, known to have caused prior harm, to be unrestrained or improperly confined. HF484 (Sherman) Authorizing the commissioner of corrections to prescribe the conditions under which persons on work release may retain and expend their earnings. HF536 (Bishop) Providing for forfeitures of communications devices and proceeds derived from commission of designated offenses.


Thursday, March 14

8:00 a.m.


EDUCATION DIVISION/Appropriations, Rm. 200. Chr. Rep. Bob Haukoos. Agenda: Budget hearing for University of MN; Professional College tuition offset, President Ken Keller and Dave Berg; reciprocity offset; medical and dental fellowships; tuition fellowships/graduate students. Testimony from student groups.


STATE DEPARTMENTS DIVISION/Appropriations, Rm. 300 S. Chr. Rep. Gaylin DenOuden. Agenda: Budget hearings for Dept. of Veteran’s Affairs; Dept. of Military Affairs.

HIGHER EDUCATION DIVISION/Education, Rm. 400 N. Chr. Rep. Mark Piepho. Agenda: To be announced.

GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS, Rm. 500 N. Chr. Rep. Jerry Knickerbocker. Agenda: To be announced.

TAXES, Rm. 5. Chr. Rep. Bill Schreiber. Agenda: HF65 (Kvam) Sales and use; eliminating accelerated payment of liability.
10:00 a.m.
LIQUOR SUBCOMMITTEE/Commerce & Economic Development, Rm. 300 N. Chr. Rep. Tony Bennett. Agenda: HF328 (Kahn) Relating to alcoholic beverages; after hours sales.

ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES, Rm. 5. Chr. Rep. John Rose. Agenda: HF488 (Fjoslien) Appropriating money for walleyed pike fingerling production and related educational documentation. HF401 (Paul) Repealing the exemption for certain solid waste disposal facilities from the certificate of need requirements. HF425 (Minne) Imposing a temporary freeze upon certain lease rates for state-owned campgrounds.


10:45 a.m.

12:00 noon
GENERAL LEGISLATION & VETERANS AFFAIRS, Rm. 400 N. Chr. Rep. Dave Fjoslien. Agenda: Ethical Practices Board. HF575 (Gutknecht) Establishing a rabies control program.


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

7:00 p.m.
STATE DEPARTMENTS DIVISION/Appropriations, Rm. 300 S. Chr. Rep. Gaylin DenOuden. Agenda: Budget hearings for Tax Court; Legislative Coordinating Commission (LCC).

8:15 a.m.

10:00 a.m.


Friday, March 15
8:00 a.m.

STATE DEPARTMENTS DIVISION/Appropriations, Rm. 300 S. Chr. Rep. Gaylin DenOuden. Agenda: Budget hearings for Tax Court; Legislative Coordinating Commission (LCC).

12:00 noon
GAMBLING SUBCOMMITTEE/General Legislation & Veterans Affairs, Rm. 400 N. Chr. Rep. Gil Gutknecht. Agenda: To be announced.