



# THE SESSION WEEKLY

## MINNESOTA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOLUME 5, NUMBER 13

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(April 21 - 26)

**Bills the Governor Signed**  
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**Bill Introductions**  
(April 22 - 25)  
(HF2827 through HF2830)

### 24-HOUR INFORMATION:

To follow a bill from introduction, through committee and floor action, to the governor's signature, call:

**House Bill Status Line**  
(612) 297-1264

For up-to-date committee meeting times and agendas, call:  
**House Calls** (612) 296-9283

### DURING OFFICE HOURS:

For general information, call:  
**House Information**  
(612) 296-2146

### FOR HEARING IMPAIRED:

Electronic communication for hearing-impaired persons. To ask questions or leave messages, call:  
**TDD Line** (612) 296-9896

**Follow each sign  
to information '89**

Nothing herein is admissible as legal proof of legislative intent.

## HIGHLIGHTS

### End of session

At 2 a.m. April 26, Speaker Robert Vanasek (DFL-New Prague) sounded the gavel to close the 75th Legislative Session.

During the 12-week session, 401 bills passed in the House and Senate. In the stack of approved legislation are several bills that will:

- make Minnesota the first state to mandate open enrollment and remove age barriers to high school graduation;
- raise the state's gas tax 3 cents and transfer more MVET monies into highway construction accounts;
- allow voters to decide on a state-run lottery, an environmental trust fund, and six-member juries;
- restore the missing 33.3 percent of renter and homeowners' property tax refunds withheld in 1987;
- permit interstate banking with other surrounding states; and
- require motorists to replace license plates that are seven years old.

For more information about 1988 legislation, see other highlights in this issue, and the bill listings under "Floor Action."

### K-12 education

Minnesota school districts will receive \$20 more state aid for each pupil under a K-12 supplementary funding bill that the Minnesota House passed April 25 by a 126-3 vote.

A conference committee hammered out the compromise to HF2245 (K. Nelson, DFL-Mpls). Besides increasing aid to all districts, the bill provides an additional \$10 per pupil to about 160 of the state's 435 districts. These districts, many of which are in the suburban metropolitan area, received less than a 3-percent increase last year when the aid formula changed, according to Rep. Ken Nelson.

"The House position was to give every district in Minnesota \$50 more for each student," he said. "But the Senate position was to give no added aid. So this was the best we could do."

The compromise bill also mandates statewide open enrollment, beginning during the 1989-90 school year. Under the bill's plan, all districts with 1,000 or more students would have to comply.

Other provisions in the bill would:

- raise the mandatory age for school

### *It's a fact!*

"Chez Minnesota" serves a pleasing menu of state symbols these days. The chef's selection is walleye pike (state fish), a favorite, freshwater catch in the land of 10,000 lakes since 1965. In 1977, we began serving the entree on a bed of wild rice (state grain).

After much consideration, the menu expanded in 1984 to include a side dish of mouth-watering morels (state mushroom). That year, we also decided to offer each diner a tall, cold glass of milk (state beverage).

And, beginning this year, a basket of freshly baked blueberry muffins (state muffin) will be on each table.

For "How the Muffin Became a Symbol" story, see "Do You Know?" on the back page.

