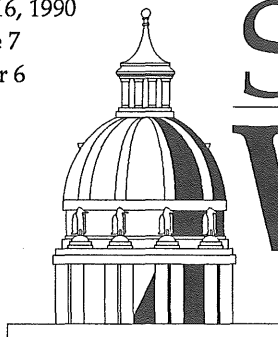


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March 16, 1990  
Volume 7  
Number 6



# Session Weekly

Minnesota House of Representatives

## *It's a fact!*

The first recorded case of capital punishment in Minnesota occurred when Ann Bilansky, convicted of poisoning her husband, was hanged outside the Ramsey County Jail in St. Paul.

Public pressure and petitions aimed at stopping the execution. The Legislature passed a bill to commute her sentence to life imprisonment. But after Gov. Alexander Ramsey vetoed the bill, Bilansky's sentence was carried out March 23, 1860.

Bilansky told the crowd of over 1,500 who witnessed her execution, "I die for my soul, not for murder."

In 1911, a House bill to abolish the death sentence in Minnesota passed on a 95-19 vote; it won Senate approval on the last day of the session.



On March 13, workers who contributed to the restoration of the House chamber attended a rededication ceremony in their honor. The event celebrated the completion of a team effort to restore and modernize the chamber. See photo story on page 10.

## Highlights

### Ethics seminars

Should lawmakers sit on a bank's board of directors? Or should they represent someone in a legal matter who may have a future stake in a proposal before the Legislature?

Legislators grappled with these and other gray areas of public life — those instances when the action is legal but may be questionable — during half-day seminars on ethics March 13.

Martin Linsky and Gary Orren, both from Harvard College's John F. Kennedy School of Government, posed ethical questions and led discussions about a variety of scenarios in the two closed-door seminars.

During a news conference to review the day's discussions, the presenters said

they didn't come to preach ethics. The seminar's purpose, Orren said, was to draw attention to the "ethical minefield" that legislators face.

Linsky said, "Our purpose here is to give them an opportunity to think more intensely about their own standards. This is not an attempt to teach people about ethics."

### DWI laws

Repeat DWI offenders and the judges who sentence them came under attack March 12 when members of the Criminal Justice Division of the Judiciary Committee heard four bills that would affect Minnesota's drunk driving laws.

Division members amended the



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measures into one large bill — HF2420 — and approved it March 14.

The bill would allow police officers to impound the license plates of third-time DWI offenders, treat passengers in a car with an open bottle the same as the driver, lower the blood-alcohol level to .07 for repeat offenders, and change the crime of "criminal vehicular operation resulting in death" to "criminal vehicular homicide."

While judges can impound the license plates of repeat DWI offenders, it happens to less than 10 percent of third-time offenders, says Steve Simon, director of the Minnesota Justice System DWI task force. His task force found that 80 percent of those whose plates were removed stopped driving, says Simon.

Rep. Ann Rest (DFL-New Hope), co-author of the bill with Rep. Doug Swenson (IR-Forest Lake), says the measure would allow police officers to remove license plates immediately after pulling over a repeat DWI offender.

"We're trying to toughen the law by taking it out of the courts," says Rest.

Parents whose children have been killed or injured by drunk drivers spoke in favor of re-naming the criminal-vehicular-operation-resulting-in-death statute.

Sandie Swenson, wife of Rep. Doug Swenson, says the current terminology makes it sound as if the car were at fault — not the driver. The Swensons' son was killed by a drunk driver last year.

"It's time we start calling it what it is: murder," says Sandie Swenson.

HF2420 was sent to the Judiciary Committee for further review.

## Pay equity

A bill that would reform the current pay equity law to help eliminate sex-based wage discrimination among public employees was approved by the Governmental Operations Committee March 15.

The measure, sponsored by Rep. Wayne Simoneau (DFL-Fridley), would help redefine what pay equity is and would penalize local units of governments that are not complying with it.

The Department of Employee Relations would judge whether local governments were paying female-dominated job classes consistently less than male-dominated job classes. The Legislature

would review their reports to see if a local unit should be penalized for failure to comply with the law.

"Women are consistently being paid less (than men) in comparable jobs," says Susan Stebbins of the National Organization of Women (NOW). She adds that many women and their children are living below the poverty level because of inequitable pay.

Simoneau agrees. "We have to pay people enough to get by in this world."

However, Roger Peterson, representing several metropolitan cities, says local governments "don't have a bottomless pit of money" to implement the pay equity program. The committee approved an amendment that would allow counties, cities, and schools the option of having their tax levy limit increased. Some opponents of the bill also say they are experiencing salary freezes due to the current pay equity law.

Under the measure, local governments would be able to compare pay equity programs of other local governments and the private sector to help determine what their own employees should be paid. Simoneau spoke against the change to his bill, saying it would allow local units of government to "take a snapshot of institutional wage discrimination."

Members referred HF1198 to the Taxes Committee for further consideration.

## 'Per diem' compensation

Members of metropolitan agencies could receive only one per diem payment per day if a bill the Local Government and Metropolitan Affairs Committee approved March 15 becomes law.

The bill clarifies that metro agency members are compensated for the entire day, not for every agency meeting they attend, says bill sponsor Rep. Wes Skoglund (DFL-Mpls).

A recent legislative auditor's report found that some agency commissioners filed for compensation for each meeting they attended. Some received as many as four per diem payments in a single day, according to information Skoglund supplied to the committee.

"Per diem means 'by the day,'" says Skoglund. "This bill makes sure it's *by the day*."

The bill applies to agencies in the seven-county metropolitan area.



A dejected Grand Rapids hockey player skated past a jubilant group of Roseau players after they scored their third goal in the championship game during the Minnesota State High School Hockey Tournament March 10.

## Two-tier hockey

A bill that would repeal a 1989 law requiring the Minnesota State High School League to conduct a two-tier hockey tournament was approved March 15 by the General Legislation, Veterans Affairs and Gaming Committee.

Rep. Bob Milbert (DFL-South St. Paul), author of the bill, says the Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL) and member schools are better equipped to decide the issue than the Legislature.

The committee heard an MSHSL resolution adopted earlier in the day stating the league will work with the Minnesota Hockey Coaches Association and schools that play hockey to create a new format for the high school hockey tournament.

"It represents an agreement between hockey playing schools and their coaches, and the high school league to set into place an orderly process to ensure more participation in post-season play," says Milbert.

The groups will meet and plan a new tournament format before the 1992 tournament.

The bill, SF1727, will be considered next on the House floor.

## Domestic abuse

People who violate a domestic abuse protection order could be out as much as \$10,000 under a bill approved March 12 by the Judiciary Committee.

The measure that Rep. Sandy Pappas (DFL-St. Paul) sponsors would require people convicted of violating a judicial protection order to post up to \$10,000 bond that would be in place for the duration of the order.

If the order is violated, the money would be forfeited. And those who refuse to post the bond could be placed in jail for the duration of the protection order.

A protection order issued by the courts is designed to protect victims of domestic abuse by prohibiting abusers from coming near their victims.

But supporters of Pappas' bill say abusers often ignore the orders. And even when they are violated, they say the courts take little, if any, action.

The bill would also allow the courts to bar the abuser from the victim's place of employment, and would require judicial districts with a 50 percent or higher domestic abuse dismissal rate to carry out a plan to improve the domestic abuse conviction rate.

"The most successful prosecutions

occur where there are active advocacy programs and victim services," says Pappas. But she adds that the Department of Corrections estimates it would cost \$3.2 million to make an advocacy program available in every Minnesota county.

"A better solution, and a less expensive solution, would be to develop the public mandate that there is no excuse for abuse," Pappas says.

HF1884 will move to the House floor for further review.

## BST ban

A measure that would place a three-year moratorium on the commercial use of an artificial growth hormone in dairy cows — provided at least a few other states enact similar bans — was approved by the Agriculture Committee March 9.

On a 10-8 vote, the committee voted to provisionally ban bovine somatotropin (BST), which is used to increase milk production in cows. But the ban would only go into effect if states representing 40 percent of U.S. milk production would enact similar legislation.

Opponents of the bill say the proposal runs the risk of making Minnesota an "island" among other dairy states, thus reducing its competitiveness on the national and international milk market. They also note there is no evidence of health risks from the injected hormone, and that the moratorium would send a bad signal to the milk consumer.

"We're talking about isolating Minnesota," says Sue Harlander, an assistant professor of food science and nutrition at the University of Minnesota. She adds that new technology is important to the states' dairy industry.

Bill sponsor Rep. Chuck Brown (DFL-Appleton), however, says more research is needed on BST.

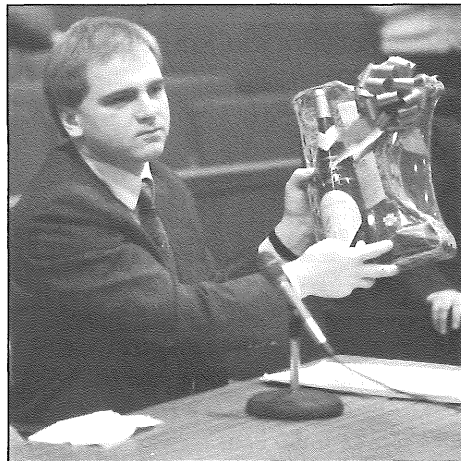
"I respectfully submit to you this question, if it's so . . . safe, why are you all so worried about a little moratorium. Allow the testing to proceed, let's have conclusive, beyond a doubt evidence . . . let's calm the fears of those milk-using folks in this country . . . that's all this bill would do," says Brown.

Supporters of the bill fear that with increased milk production, prices would



drop and smaller dairy farmers would be driven out of business. They also argue that consumers have a right to know what's in their milk.

Members sent HF1463 to the House floor for further consideration.



Rep. Bernie Omann (IR-St. Joseph) displays an example of Minnesota-produced wine that could be sold at the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport if his bill is approved.

## Wine at the airport?

Travelers from around the country may get a chance to take a taste of Minnesota home with them if a bill the Regulated Industries Committee approved March 12 becomes law.

The measure sponsored by Rep. Bernie Omann (IR-St. Joseph), would give the Metropolitan Airports Commission the authority to issue off-sale liquor licenses to the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport so it could sell Minnesota-produced wine.

Steve Kaminski, a Minnesota wine producer, told the committee that allowing Minnesota-produced wine to be sold in the airport would promote agriculture in the state, which in turn would create more jobs and a larger tax base.

Kaminski says selling Minnesota wine in liquor stores is often unsuccessful because of the competition with other American and international wines.

The measure, HF2313, now moves to the House floor for further review.

## Compensation court

A bill proposing a constitutional amendment to create a court of compensation appeals and abolish the current Workers' Compensation Court of Appeals was approved March 9 by the Labor-Management Relations Committee.

"There is an absolute consensus that we could do better than we are doing now for our employees and our employers," says Rep. Jean Wagenius (DFL-Mpls), referring to discussions with business, labor, and judicial leaders. "There is also a consensus that the best that we could do is give them a judicial court with the same status, with the same rules, and with the same public scrutiny that the Minnesota Court of Appeals has."

The new court would be established within the state's judicial system to decide workers' compensation and unemployment insurance cases. Currently, workers' compensation cases are handled by the Workers' Compensation Court of Appeals, an administrative agency under the executive branch.

The proposed amendment would be presented to voters at the 1990 general election. If approved, the new court would begin hearing cases Jan. 1, 1991.

The bill would affect the Workers' Compensation Court of Appeals whether or not the proposed constitutional amendment is adopted. It would set new qualifications for judges to sit on the court and change procedures for hearing cases. In addition, it would set time limits for the hearing and disposition of cases.

The committee sent HF2196 to the Appropriations Committee for further review.

## Wetlands

A measure that's designed to preserve Minnesota's remaining wetlands was approved on a 16-4 vote by the Agriculture Committee March 9. But not before some wetland types protected under the original proposal were removed from the bill.

"If it passes like this you don't have much of a bill here," says Jim Nichols, commissioner of the Department of Agriculture.

The original "no net loss" proposal would have prohibited the draining of

most wetlands in excess of one acre unless they were replaced by comparable wetlands in the same area. The modified bill exempts wetlands under 10 acres in size and water-filled meadows known as "type 2" wetlands from protection.

Marsh told lawmakers that Minnesota is continuing to lose wetlands "at an alarming rate." He says that 90 percent of the wetlands in the prairie pothole region of western Minnesota have been tapped dry.

"I think we have to get away from the thought that this is somehow ducks versus farmers or anything of the sort . . . this is a water quality issue and a water issue in general," says Marsh.

Wetlands help control flooding, recharge groundwater, reduce soil erosion, and provide habitat for wildlife.

Some concerns voiced by opponents of the bill included: the added "bureaucracy" farmers would be subjected to, how the measure would affect farmers existing drainage systems, and the cost of the plan — which would call for \$10 million in bonding money to compensate farmers and \$2.1 million for local governments and the DNR to implement the program.

Wetlands would be tax exempt under the bill, and the state would reimburse counties for lost tax revenue as a result of the exemptions.

The legislation wouldn't go into effect until the DNR develops rules for enforcing the wetlands preservation plan. But Marsh and others expressed concern that many more wetlands could be drained during the delay.

Members sent HF31 to the Appropriations Committee for further consideration.

## Trust fund lands

People who lease lake shore cabin lots from the state would have first dibs on the property when it comes up for sale if a bill approved March 9 by the Environment and Natural Resources Committee becomes law.

Rep. Tom Rukavina (DFL-Virginia) says some tenants have been out-bid since the DNR began selling lake shore lands at public auctions.

Under his proposal, the tenants would have first crack at the property if they agreed to pay the appraised value, plus 5

percent. If they can't pay the price within four months, the land could be sold to others for the same price. The measure would eliminate the requirement that public auctions be held to sell such property.

Rep. Willard Munger (DFL-Duluth), committee chair, opposed the bill. He says it's unconstitutional to sell trust fund land without holding a public auction, and adds that the land shouldn't be sold at all.

"Selling of public land for private use is the beginning of the end," wrote Munger in a letter to Minnesota Lake-shore Leaseholders Association.

Most of the land in question is school trust fund land; the proceeds of the rent have been used to fund education. Rukavina's bill would reimburse the school trust fund with up to \$2.5 million per year in bonding money to replace the lost rent.

Rukavina says he believes the bill will survive a constitutional challenge.

Lawmakers sent HF 2229 to the Education Committee for further discussion.

## Blowguns

Blowguns — a weapon traditionally associated with the deepest jungle — would be regulated like other weapons in Minnesota under a bill approved by the Environment and Natural Resources Committee March 9.

The measure requires the DNR to regulate the sale and use of blowguns by July 1, 1991, but leaves it up to the department to determine exactly what regulations are needed.

While some may consider blowguns nothing more than a toy, hunter Kurt Johnson seemed to dispel that notion when he gave a demonstration to committee members of how lethal blow guns can be.

He blasted one dart through a two-pound slab of meat and another through a 200-page directory.

Rep. Dee Long (DFL-Mpls), the bill's sponsor, says people can carry blowguns uncased in their cars and are shooting at grouse and other small game from their car windows. The laws prohibits this practice when guns are used.

Specifically, the bill asks the DNR to

determine whether the sale of blowguns to minors should be prohibited, whether blowguns should be regulated as bows and arrows are, and whether limitations should be placed on the kinds of game that can be hunted with blowguns.

Critics of blowguns say they are inaccurate and can sometimes wound game, causing a slow and painful death.

Members placed HF 1861 on the Consent Calendar.

## Batten the hatches

A bill aimed at protecting motorists from being struck by stray objects falling from trucks was unanimously approved by the Transportation Committee March 14.

Under the measure sponsored by Rep. Katy Olson (DFL-Sherburn), bottom dumptrucks carrying rocks, sand, gravel,

or similar materials would be required to cover their loads if their cargo is within two feet of the top of the compartment or if material rises to within six inches of the top of the sides. Failure to do so would be a misdemeanor.

Currently, a ticket is given for unsecured loads only if highway patrolmen actually see debris fall off trucks.

Trucks carrying farm produce would be exempt from covering their load, but their operators could be charged with a petty misdemeanor for any food spillage.

Bruce Erickson, a Maple Grove resident whose daughter was killed by a rock that fell from a truck, says the partial load exemption loophole in the bill weakens the measure and would make the restriction difficult to enforce.

Members sent HF2373 to the House floor for further consideration.

## Budget resolution

The budgets of state agencies would be trimmed by \$113.4 million and \$100 million would be taken from the state's budget reserve under a House budget resolution approved March 15 by the House.

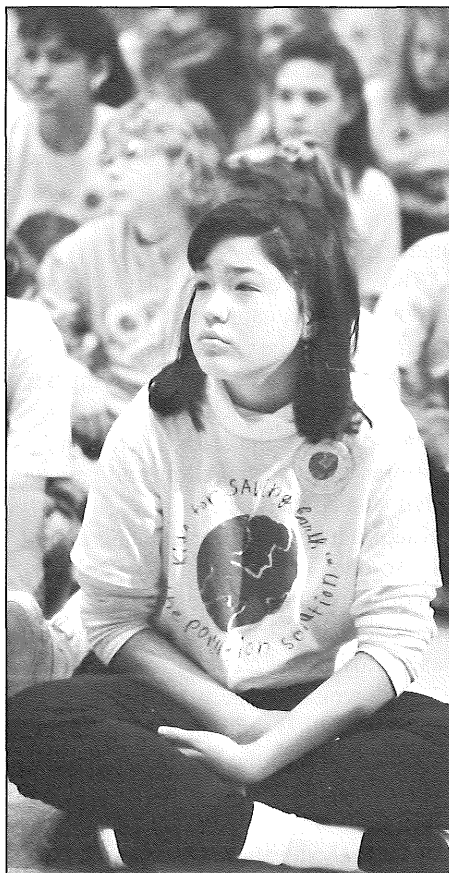
The resolution is designed to help the state through a \$144.6 million budget shortfall predicted for fiscal year 1991 by the Department of Finance.

The resolution calls for the following budget adjustments:

- \$113.4 million in budget reductions for state agencies;
- \$65.4 million in increases for programs in drug prevention and treatment, child care, gambling enforcement, and other state programs;
- \$25.6 million for the sale of bonds for building construction in the areas of education, environment and natural resources, public safety, transportation, and other state building needs;
- \$22.4 million in "additional revenues" from various sources would be included into the general fund.

The resolution would spend \$100 million of the current \$550 million reserve and calls for the state to have a \$450 million budget reserve account.

House Minority Leader Rep. Bill Schreiber (IR-Brooklyn Park) says the state is facing a fiscal crisis, and that the



Biana Johnson and her sixth-grade class from Sunny Hollow Elementary School in New Hope came to the Capitol rotunda March 15 to promote Earth Day 1990. The class presented Gov. Rudy Perpich with an Earth Day flag they created in honor of former classmate Clinton Hill, who died of brain cancer last November. Hill had established the "Kids for Saving Earth" club. The flag will fly over the Capitol on April 22 — Earth Day 1990.

budget resolution doesn't address the problem that the state is spending more money than it's raising.

"Somehow we have to come to grips with the fact that we're out-of-balance, that we're spending more than were taking in, and it's catching up with us in a real hurry," said Schreiber at a Ways and Means Committee hearing March 14.

He says the budget reserve money shouldn't be spent, and that the imbalance between state spending and revenue should be corrected to provide for long-term economic stability.

The Appropriations and Taxes committees will decide where state agency budget cuts are made, which could include reductions in state aid to local governments.

### **'Hopper' invasion**

A measure that would compensate farmers for crop damages due to last year's grasshopper invasion — while also addressing the concerns of beekeepers and environmentalists — was approved by the Agriculture Committee March 9.

A bill sponsored by Rep. Clair Nelson (DFL-Barrett) would allocate \$2.5 million to partially reimburse counties and townships for last year's grasshopper control costs. The measure would also compensate beekeepers for bee colonies that are damaged by grasshopper spraying in 1990.

"In spraying [for grasshoppers last year] we inadvertently damaged another industry," says Rep. Jim Girard (IR-Lynd).

In addition, the measure would require that farmers notify beekeepers at least 24 hours before spraying near their bee colonies, provided the beekeepers fill out maps for county extension agents pinpointing where the colonies are located.

"The whole pretext of this bill is to get farmers, beekeepers, and pesticide applicators communicating," says Nelson.

The bill would also exempt "sensitive areas" such as nature conservatories and organic farms from grasshopper spraying. And the Minnesota Department of Agriculture would be required to recom-

mend pesticides that would eliminate grasshoppers, but at the same time be environmentally safe.

Members sent HF1808 to the Appropriations Committee for further consideration.

### **Handicapped children**

Kathryn Cassner returned to a "normal" classroom last year, fulfilling a lifetime dream. More handicapped children may follow suit if an experimental "inclusionary" program is approved by the Legislature this year.

Kathryn's mother testified March 12 before the Education Finance Division of the Education Committee in support of a proposed pilot program designed to place handicapped children in mainstream public school classrooms.

The pilot program would give parents in St. Paul and nine other school districts the option of allowing their handicapped children to be taught in classrooms alongside non-handicapped students.

Kathryn died last summer of a seizure, but her mother recounted how much Kathryn enjoyed being a part of the mainstream school system.

"The best part of Kathy's day — the most responsive, happy part of the day — was the time in the classroom," says Diane Cassner. "I dreamed of having her totally integrated. To me, that meant she was a member of the class. There's quite a difference between visiting and being a fully included member."

Kathryn had a degenerative neurological disorder.

People speaking for the program requested that districts where the program was approved be given the amount of money it would normally receive for its special education program. The program proposal is part of the Education Finance Division's budget bill.

The program would establish ways to keep special education students in regular classrooms with their peers, says Helen McClain, a first-grade teacher at St. Paul's Eastern Heights School.

McClain says it's often best to treat special education students and gifted students in the same way — teach to the whole class, then break into groups to focus on children's special needs.

"If St. Paul can plan so beautifully for such a severely handicapped child, think what they could do for other individual learning needs," says Cassner.

### **Occupational safety**

The Department of Health would plan and research an occupational health surveillance system to promote a safer working environment under a bill approved March 12 by the Labor-Management Relations Committee.

Rep. Paul Ogren (DFL-Aitkin) says his proposal is a "preventive health approach" and stems from workplace illnesses associated with the Conwed Corp. in Cloquet.

"Widespread exposure to asbestos caused severe injury to literally hundreds of workers — injuries that in fact could have, and should have, been avoided," says Ogren.

Ogren says those injuries could have been avoided had information been given to the appropriate officials.

"If this sort of state occupational health surveillance system had been in place 20-some years ago, literally tens of millions of dollars in exposure, relative to workers' compensation and other claims, would have been averted in the Conwed circumstance alone."

The surveillance system would not be limited to industrial sites, and would include studying safety conditions in agricultural and other jobs.

The \$63,500 study would be completed by June 1991 and would be funded by the special compensation fund.

Members sent HF2460 to the Appropriations Committee for further review.

### **Labor contracts**

Collective bargaining agreements would have to be honored by a business's new owner under a bill approved March 8 by the Labor-Management Relations Committee.

The bill allows collective bargaining agreements to contain clauses that specify the agreement would be honored by a new owner for up to three years from the signing date of the contract.

"It just provides the same protection in contract law for contracts between an

employer and a labor organization that exists in any type of contract between two persons, two entities, two corporations, or a person and corporation," says Rep. Jim Rice (DFL-Mpls), chief author of the measure.

Oftentimes, companies will buy another business but won't honor the labor contracts. Rice's bill would curb that practice.

Bernard Brommer, American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO), says he supports the bill because "a contract entered into in good faith ought to be honored."

He says the message to prospective new owners would be "you buy the enterprise, you honor the legally binding contractual obligations until they terminate."

He says a survey conducted for the AFL-CIO found that 86 percent of the respondents supported having labor contracts honored by a business's new owner.

An employer who has agreed to such a clause in a collective bargaining agreement would have to notify prospective buyers of the clause. Labor contracts signed by a company in bankruptcy proceedings wouldn't be protected by the bill.

Members sent HF2426 to the House floor for further review.

## Repairs at Inver Hills

Emergency funding to repair fire-related damages to the Inver Hills Community College earned the unanimous approval of the Appropriations Committee March 13.

The emergency measure would allow college officials to use about \$2 million in state funds for the repairs. The state would sell bonds to cover the costs.

The Appropriations Committee's Education Division heard the request March 12. During that hearing, bill author Rep. Bob Milbert (DFL-South St. Paul) told the education panel that repair and clean-up costs for the college's main complex should be just under \$2 million. The fire broke out earlier this month.

While fire damage was confined to the roof of the 10-year-old college center,

extensive smoke and water damage affected the entire building. Fire officials traced the blaze to a faulty coffee pot.

## Public adjusters

Public adjusters would no longer be allowed to chase fire trucks in an effort to drum up business if a bill approved by the Insurance Committee March 14 becomes law.

The bill's sponsor, Rep. Wes Skoglund (DFL-Mpls), says the measure is designed to take away some of the profit motive for public adjusters, who, for a fee, work for the owners of fire-damaged property to obtain a settlement with insurance companies.

Skoglund says his bill, which was prompted by a series of articles last year in the Minneapolis-based *Star Tribune*, could help curb arson.

The measure would spell out how public adjusters should conduct business. For example, public adjusters would no longer be able to accept payments for referrals, offer rebates to clients, repre-

sent both an insurance company and the insured at the same time, or contact prospective clients between 8 p.m. and 8 a.m.

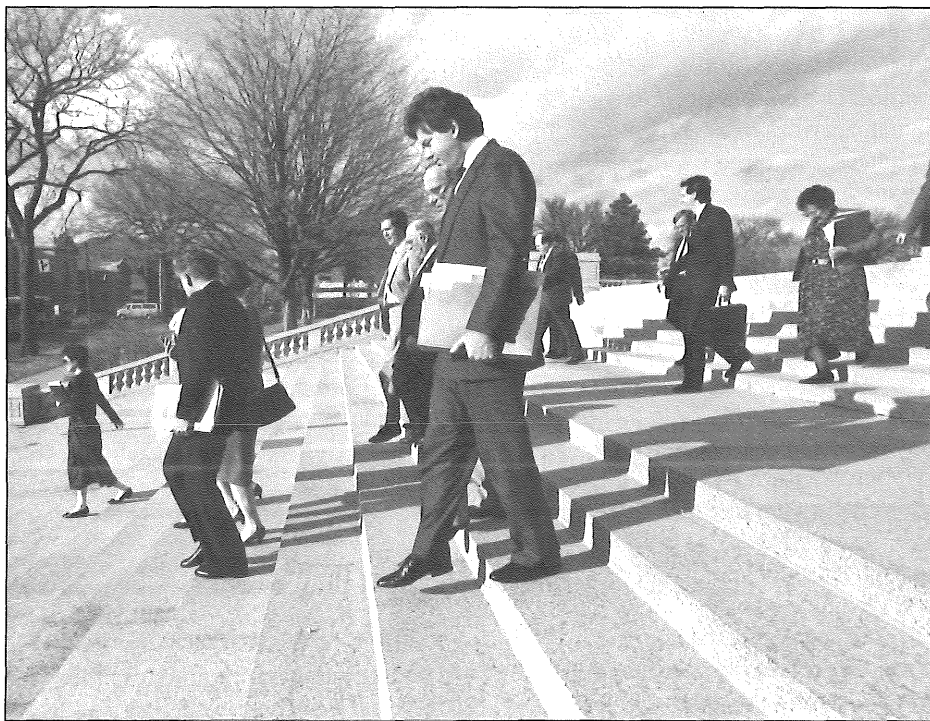
It would also require them to maintain at least five years of records, have an office, show their licenses to prospective clients, and provide clients with a card specifying their fee.

Members sent HF 2205 to the House floor for further action.

## Building contractors

Residential building contractors, remodelers, and specialty contractors would fall within the state's purview under provisions of a bill the Commerce Committee heard March 15.

Committee chair Rep. John Sarna (DFL-Mpls) sponsors the bill that would require statewide licensing of residential building contractors, remodelers, and people who perform specialty work such as refinishing or concrete work. Minnesota handles licensing on a city-to-city basis, while 34 states require contractors



Members took advantage of record breaking temperatures on their way back to the State Office Building after session March 12.

and remodelers to either be licensed or registered with a state agency.

Under provisions of the bill, contractors and remodelers must complete a written exam to receive a license from the Department of Commerce. The bill also includes provisions for continuing education as well as establishing a Builder State Advisory Board.

"A home typically is the most expensive investment we make," says Lowell Pratt of the Builders Association of Minnesota, who spoke in favor of the bill. "Yet it's worked on by one of the most uncontrolled businesses."

Pratt called the proposed state oversight of contractors an instance of "less, better government."

Sarna says the bill will be discussed and modified during the interim.

## Wage increase

Employees of privately run facilities for the mentally retarded and workers at private developmental achievement centers would receive a 5 percent pay increase under a bill approved by the Health and Human Services Committee March 8.

The measure would also require the commissioner of the Department of Human Services to establish a task force to address staff turnover, recruitment, and training at such privately run facilities. The task force would be required to submit recommendations to the commissioner by November.

The amendment to increase wages offered by Rep. Steve Sviggum (IR-Kenyon) is designed to bring the wages of private workers closer to that of their counterparts in state-operated facilities.

Critics say the method the state uses to reimburse private facilities for the mentally retarded allows workers to be paid significantly less than if they were employed by the state.

It's estimated that the increase in wages would cost the state about \$2 million over nine months.

Members sent HF1907 to the Appropriations Committee for further review.

## Sobering station

A measure that would establish an enhanced detoxification unit in the metropolitan area was approved by the Health and Human Services Committee March 15.

Rep. Karen Clark (DFL-Mpls) says the proposed "sobering station" would provide people with a humane and safe environment off the streets, and would offer chemical dependency services that aren't currently available at some existing detox centers.

The measure Clark sponsors would prohibit the "sobering station" from being in a residential area or within one-fourth of a mile of a place selling alcohol.

In addition, the sobering station would have to be designed to serve the needs of American Indians and veterans, and must also provide vans to transport clients so the police wouldn't have to.

The bill calls on the Department of Human Services to develop a grant program to fund the pilot project.

Currently, people aren't getting the services they need at a detox center in south Minneapolis because of overcrowding, says Clark. That unit serves more than 50 percent of the people in need of detoxification services in Minnesota and is one of the largest in the United States. The overcrowding has caused some people to be discharged in as little as eight hours, before they have time to sober up, says Clark.

In addition, Clark says the heavy traffic at the south Minneapolis detox center has caused problems for residents and businesses.

Members sent HF1946 to the Appropriations Committee for further review. No one mentioned cost figures during the Health and Human Services Committee meeting.

## Medical board

The State Board of Medical Examiners would increase in size from 11 to 16 members if a bill approved March 14 by the Health and Human Services Committee becomes law.

The measure, sponsored by Rep. Lee Greenfield (DFL-Mpls), would increase the number of medical doctors on the board from seven to 10, and the number of public members from three to five.

It would also change procedural requirements for reporting disciplinary action and encourage the governor to make appointments to the board that reflect both the state's geography and its broad mix of expertise.

The measure would make public disciplinary actions imposed by the board through a contested case or settlement agreement public data, and would name the address of the licensee and the nature of their misconduct. If disciplinary action is by settlement agreement, the entire agreement would be considered public data.

Greenfield says the extra members would help the board carry out additional duties assigned to it in recent years.

The legislation would also exempt doctors who come to Minnesota for the sole purpose of providing medical services at an athletic event from the requirement of having to be licensed to practice in the state. Currently, they must be licensed by the state before being allowed to practice.

For example, an athlete participating in the U.S. Olympic festival this summer could be treated by their personal doctors, says Greenfield, without becoming licensed in Minnesota.

However, registration requirements would be established for these doctors and a \$50 registration fee would be imposed.

Lawmakers sent HF2582 to the Governmental Operations Committee for further review.

## Freon dumping

The use of freon, a coolant that is widely used in refrigerators and air conditioners, would have to be reduced if a bill approved by the Environment and Natural Resources Committee March 15 becomes law.

The measure, sponsored by Rep. Steve Trimble (DFL St. Paul), would prohibit refrigerators and air conditioners containing freon from being dumped in Minnesota landfills. And the recycling of freon would be required.

Trimble says he wants Minnesota to be a leader in the protection of the earth's ozone layer. Each year, about 100,000 pounds of freon is dumped in Minnesota landfills.

The committee sent HF 1025 to the House floor for further consideration.



People convicted of animal abuse could have their pets taken away and could be prevented from getting another pet under a bill approved March 15 by the General Legislation, Veterans Affairs & Gaming Committee. A judge would decide when such a person could again have a pet, and would establish the conditions under which the individual could get one. Conditions could include requiring periodic visits to the person's home, community service in an animal humane facility, and receiving behavioral counseling. The bill, HF2099 (Simoneau, DFL-Fridley), is on the House floor. Simoneau says the bill was prompted by a recent case in his district where a man is accused of severely beating a dog.

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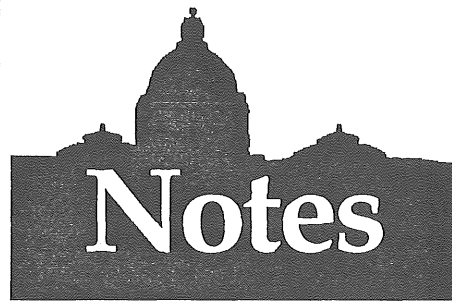
Anyone driving in rain, hail, sleet, snow, or other nasty weather would be required to keep their headlights on, under a bill approved by the Transportation Committee March 14. Drivers failing to do so would be tagged with the same violation as those driving without headlights at night. The committee sent HF1860 (Sviggum, IR-Kenyon) to the House floor.

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The consumer has the right to know whether they're eating real cheese, says Rep. Andy Steensma (DFL-Luverne). His bill, approved by the Agriculture Committee March 9, would require restaurants and retailers who use cheese substitutes in preparing food to post signs saying so. Steensma told lawmakers that the measure would help promote Minnesota's dairy industry. Members sent HF173 to the House floor for further review.

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Women and minority-owned businesses in Minnesota are being discriminated against, according to a Department of Administration report on small business procurements. A bill, approved by the Governmental Operations Committee March 14, would set up a bid preference and set-aside program so public agencies would use women- and minority-owned businesses more. HF2230 (Jefferson, DFL-Mpls) was sent to the House floor for further consideration.



The average blood-alcohol level of people arrested for drunk driving is .16 — well over the legal threshold of .10, says Steve Simon, director of the Minnesota Criminal Justice System DWI Task Force. The Criminal Justice Division of the Judiciary Committee approved a bill March 14 to lower the blood-alcohol threshold for repeat DWI offenders to .07. Currently, it's illegal to drive in Minnesota with a blood-alcohol content of .10 or above.

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Insurance companies would no longer be able to reject child care providers' request for insurance under a bill approved in the Insurance Committee March 8. But the measure, sponsored by Rep. Teresa Lynch (IR-Andover), would also allow insurance companies to charge child care providers a higher rate. In case of an accident, the child's medical bills first would be paid by the auto insurance company of the child's parents. If the parents had no auto insurance, the child care provider's insurance would pay. Members sent HF2589 to the House floor.

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Adults interested in furthering their education would get some help with child care and transportation costs under a bill proposed by Rep. Jerry Bauerly (DFL-Sauk Rapids). The bill allocates up to \$50,000 to help pay for child care and transportation — both frequently cited reasons for not pursuing further education. The Education Finance Division of the Education Committee heard HF2192 on March 12.

People would focus attention on automobile safety during the third week in March if a bill the Education Committee approved March 9 becomes law. A bill proposing an automobile safety awareness week, sponsored by Rep. Doug Swenson (IR-Forest Lake), would ask public school teachers to pay special heed to safety behind the wheel (including the use of seat belts), the hazards of drinking and driving, and automobile travel safety tips.

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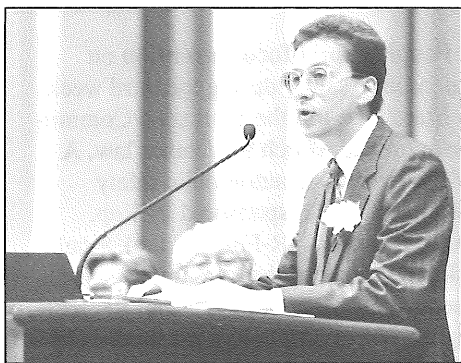
People wanting to learn about the Minnesota Legislature could attend a legislative school under provisions of a bill approved by the Education Committee March 9. Bill sponsor Glen Anderson (DFL-Bellingham) proposes a school to teach high school and college students about the legislative process. Students would attend classes during the summer. Members sent the bill to the Appropriations Committee for further study.

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"Essential employees" would be paid interest from the time their contracts expired until a new contract takes effect under a proposal approved March 9 by the Labor-Management Relations Committee. The measure is designed to prod units of government into settling contracts sooner. Interest paid would be based on the total salary package awarded and would be prorated on each employee's salary. "Essential employees" include workers such as policemen, firefighters, and nurses who aren't allowed to strike, and would affect five of the state's 16 bargaining units. The Appropriations Committee will consider HF2332 (Begich, DFL-Eveleth) soon.

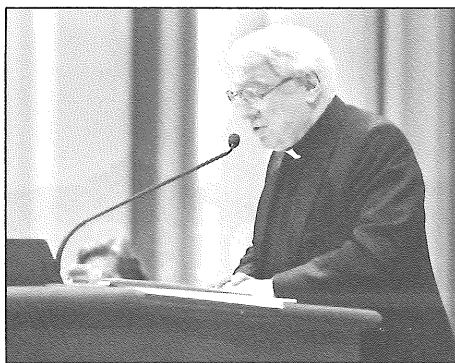
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Bruce Willis and Vanne Hayes received initial approval from the General Legislation, Veterans Affairs & Gaming Committee March 15 for their appointments to the Minnesota Ethical Practices Board. Willis, a Minneapolis attorney, would fill an unexpired term and serve until January 1992. Vanne, an assistant dean at the University of Minnesota Law School, would serve until 1994. The full House will consider their appointments.



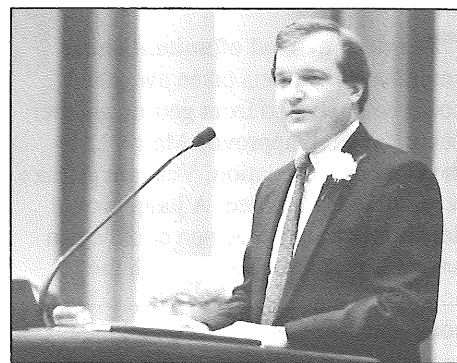
*"Over the last year, we've witnessed the special care and pride each artist, each worker, each craftsperson has taken in completing this restoration."*

—Rep. Peter Rodosovich,  
House Restoration Committee chair



*"The work and the workers we are celebrating this evening should enliven our faith and make us grateful."*

—Monsignor James Habiger, House chaplain



*"Everything looks neater and cleaner and brighter than it did last year."*

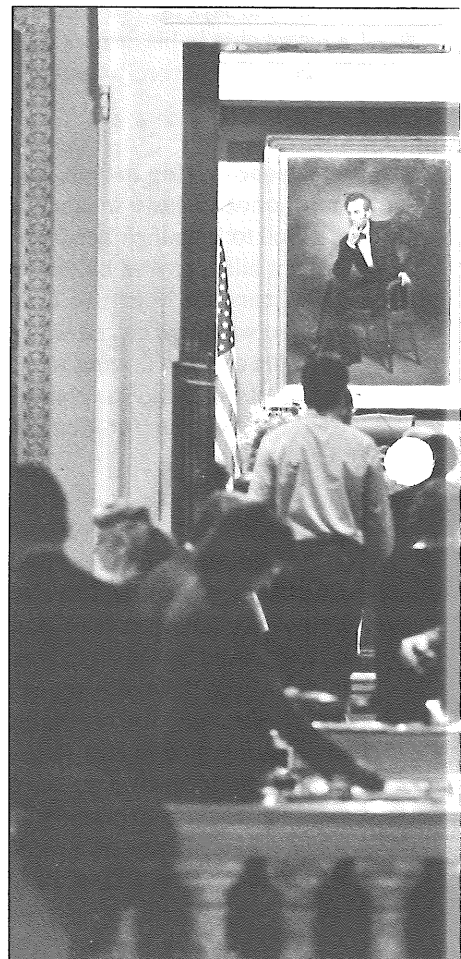
—Rep. Robert Vanasek, House speaker

*"To get a final product, you have to have good people on the job . . . those are the people who make the building."*

—Rep. Don Valento, House Restoration Committee member



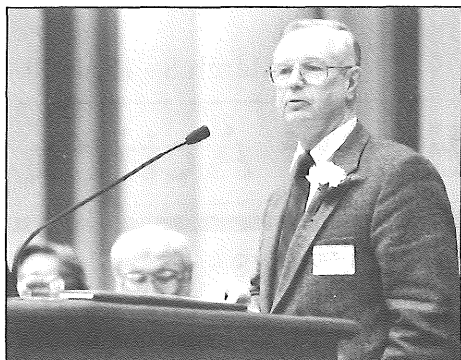
The White Bear Lake High School Choir sang under the direction of David Briggs.



*"The color schemes that you see around you this evening are identical to the paint colors that were here in 1905."*

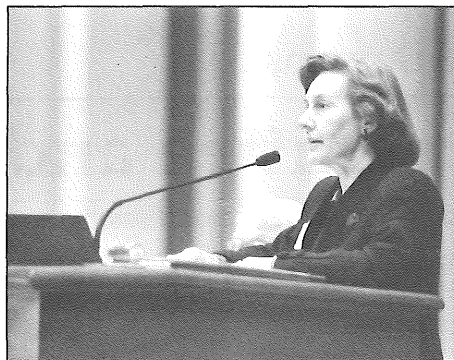


*"... natural daylight has been reintroduced into the chamber through the restoration of the skylight."*



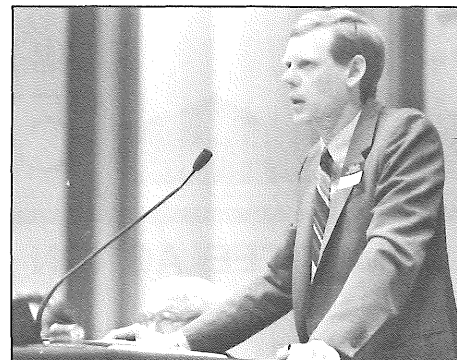
*"The restoration of the House chamber is part of an ongoing preservation plan for restoring the entire Capitol to its original appearance."*

—Foster Dunwiddie, architect



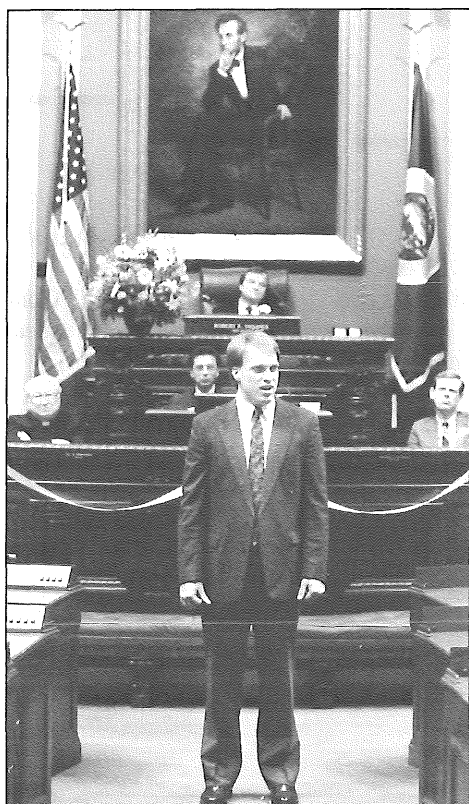
*"When this building marks its centennial in the year 2005 . . . the public will see it as the people saw it in 1905."*

—Carolyn Kompelien, Capitol historic site manager:



*"This fine project is an example of what can happen when a team effort takes place."*

—Michael Petersen, division manager,  
M.A. Mortenson Company



Ross Ukkelberg, University of Minnesota, sang "Minnesota, Hail to Thee" before the ribbon cutting ceremony.

*"My wish and the committee's wish is that as we deliberate and execute our laws, may they be done with as much excellence as your work has been done in the last seven months."*

—Rep. Mary Murphy, House Restoration Committee vice chair.

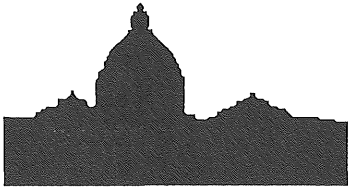
## House chamber Rededication

In celebration of a job well done, some 500 people gathered at the House chamber in the state Capitol March 13 to see the fruits of their labor. The rededication ceremony honored those individuals, businesses, and corporations who over the last year demolished, rebuilt, restored, and transformed the House chamber to its original stately appearance, one that Capitol architect Cass Gilbert designed in 1905.

Speakers paid tribute to everyone who contributed to the project. House Speaker Robert Vanasek said that House members were proud to hold sessions in the new chamber. "They're honored," he said, "to conduct the business of the citizens of Minnesota in a chamber that now is as historically accurate as it is elegant and efficient."







# Committee and Floor Action

## COMMITTEE ACTION

### AGRICULTURE

**Friday, March 9**

**Wetlands—drainage prohibition**  
HF31/SF905 (Marsh, IR-Sauk Rapids)—recommended to pass as amended; re-referred to Appropriations Committee. (SF in Senate Environment & Natural Resources Committee)

**Food ingredients—consumer information**  
HF173 (Steensma, DFL-Luverne)—recommended to pass.

**Bovine growth hormone—restrictions**  
HF1463/SF1028 (Brown, DFL-Appleton)—recommended to pass as amended. (SF in Senate Agriculture & Rural Development Committee)

**Grasshopper control—program modifications**  
HF1808/SF1674 (C. Nelson, DFL-Barrett)—recommended to pass as amended; re-referred to Appropriations Committee. (SF in Senate Judiciary Committee)

**Crop insurance—resolution**  
HF2151 (K. Olson, DFL-Sherburn)—recommended to pass.

**Potato research—promotion council changes**  
HF2374/SF1889 (Bauerly, DFL-Sauk Rapids)—recommended to pass. (SF in Senate Agriculture & Rural Development Committee)

**Agricultural products—interest discounts**  
HF2385/SF2207 (E. Olson, DFL-Fosston)—recommended to pass. (SF on Senate Floor)

**Organic foods—certification**  
HF2497/SF1999 (Ogren, DFL-Aitkin)—postponed. (SF in Senate Agriculture & Rural Development Committee)

**Agricultural societies—supplemental funding**  
HF2580/SF2411 (Cooper, DFL-Bird Island)—recommended to pass; re-referred to Appropriations Committee. (SF in Senate Finance Committee)

**Liming law—establishment**  
HF2592/SF2527 (Jennings, DFL-Harris)—recommended to pass. (SF in Senate Agriculture & Rural Development Committee)

**Family farm system—resolution**  
HF2652 (Wenzel, DFL-Little Falls)—recommended to pass as amended.

**Emergency drought relief—appropriations**  
HF2719 (Wenzel, DFL-Little Falls)—recommended to pass; re-referred to Appropriations Committee

**Wednesday, March 14**

**Technical colleges—agriculture programs**  
HF2035/SF1718 (Wenzel, DFL-Little Falls)—recommended to pass; re-referred to Appropriations Committee. (SF in Senate Finance Committee)

**Organic foods—certification changes**  
HF2497/SF1999 (Ogren, DFL-Aitkin)—recommended to pass as amended. (SF on Senate Floor)

**Foreclosure sales—deficiency judgements**  
HF2658/SF1946 (Bertram, DFL-Paynesville)—recommended to pass as amended. (SF on Senate Floor)

## APPROPRIATIONS

**Tuesday, March 13**

**Inver Hills Community College—emergency funding**  
HF2609/SF2371 (Milbert, DFL-South St. Paul)—recommended to pass as amended. (SF in Senate Finance Committee)

## APPROPRIATIONS/ Education Division

**Monday, March 12**

**Inver Hills Community College—emergency funding**  
HF2609/SF2371 (Milbert, DFL-South St. Paul)—recommended to pass as amended; re-referred to Appropriations Committee. (SF in Senate Finance Committee)

## COMMERCE

**Thursday, March 15**

**Rental-purchase agreements—regulation**  
HF1234/SF1499 (O'Connor, DFL-St. Paul)—recommended to pass. (SF on Senate Floor)

**Building contractors—regulation**  
HF2015/SF1792 (Sarna, DFL-Mpls)—heard; re-referred for interim study. (SF in Senate Commerce Committee)

**Real estate licensing prohibition—removal**  
HF2704/SF2403 (Scheid, DFL-Brooklyn Park)—recommended to pass. (SF on Senate Floor)



## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Thursday, March 15

### Government procurement assistance program

HF2575/SF2415 (Pelowski, DFL-Winona)—recommended to pass as amended; re-referred to Appropriations Committee.  
(SF in Senate Finance Committee)

## EDUCATION

Friday, March 9

### Anoka-Ramsey CC—appropriation

HF45 (A. Johnson, DFL-Spring Lake Park)—recommended to pass; re-referred to Appropriations Committee.

### Students—Higher Education Coordinating Board

HF1067/SF1551 (Trimble, DFL-St. Paul)—recommended to pass as amended; placed on Consent Calendar.  
(SF in Senate Education Committee)

### Postsecondary child care—limit removal

HF1929/SF2191 (Williams, DFL-Moorhead)—recommended to pass; re-referred to Appropriations Committee.  
(SF in Senate Education Committee)

### Automobile safety awareness week

HF2016/SF1971 (Swenson, IR-Forest Lake)—recommended to pass as amended.  
(SF in Senate Education Committee)

### Open enrollment—border state expansion

HF2144 (Girard, IR-Lynd)—recommended to pass as amended.

### ECSU—representative assembly

HF2152 (K. Olson, DFL-Sherburn)—recommended to pass as amended.

### Board of Teaching—variances

HF2202/SF1809 (K. Nelson, DFL-Mpls)—recommended to pass; placed on Consent Calendar.  
(SF in Senate Education Committee)

Legislative school—establishment  
HF2454/SF2440 (G. Anderson, DFL-Bellingham)—recommended to pass; re-referred to Appropriations Committee.  
(SF in Senate Education Committee)

### Missing children—flagging school records

HF2494/SF2443 (O'Connor, DFL-St. Paul)—recommended to pass.  
(SF in Senate Education Committee)

### Agriculture education council—establishment

HF2522/SF2332 (McEachern, DFL-Maple Lake)—heard; re-referred to Education Finance Division.  
(SF in Senate Education Committee)

### Education task force—Minnesota-S. Dakota border

HF2564/SF1717 (Brown, DFL-Appleton)—recommended to pass as amended; re-referred to Rules & Legislative Administration Committee.  
(SF passed Senate)

### Indian education—long-term planning

HF2576/SF2464 (McEachern, DFL-Maple Lake)—heard; re-referred to Education Finance Division.  
(SF in Senate Education Committee)

### Aversion, deprivation procedures—definitions

HF2605/SF2318 (Wagenius, DFL-Mpls)—recommended to pass as amended.  
(SF in Senate Education Committee)

### Teaching licenses—

#### alternative requirements

HF2633/SF2442 (Kelso, DFL-Shakopee)—heard; re-referred to Education Finance Division.  
(SF in Senate Education Committee)

### Corporal punishment

HF2685/SF2048 (Pelowski, DFL-Winona)—recommended to pass.  
(SF on Senate Floor)

## Education Finance/EDUCATION

Monday, March 12

### Nashwauk-Keewatin School District—fund transfers

HF2110/SF2093 (Solberg, DFL-Bovey)—amended; amended into HF2200.  
(SF in Senate Education Committee)

### Performance bond—requirements elimination

HF2166 (Bauerly, DFL-Sauk Rapids)—amended; amended into HF2200.

### Adult education—grant distribution

HF2192/SF2201 (Bauerly, DFL-Sauk Rapids)—heard; amended into HF2200.  
(SF in Senate Education Committee)

### General education fund balance—reduction modification

HF2237/SF2094 (Carruthers, DFL-Brooklyn Center)—amended; amended into HF2200.  
(SF in Senate Education Committee)

### Badger School District—borrowing

HF2378/SF2085 (Tunheim, DFL-Kennedy)—heard; amended into HF2200.  
(SF in Senate Education Committee)

Wednesday, March 14

### Subcapital appropriations—open, standing

HF626 (Krueger, DFL-Staples)—withdrawn.

### Fund balance reduction—modifications

HF1209/SF1243 (K. Olson, DFL-Sherburn)—heard.  
(SF in Senate Education Committee)

### Open enrollment—transportation

HF1863/SF2001 (Sviggum, IR-Kenyon)—heard; amended.  
(SF in Senate Education Committee)

### Maximum effort loan program—changes

HF1876/SF1787 (McEachern, DFL-Maple Lake)—heard; amended; amended into HF2200.  
(SF in Senate Education Committee)

**Health, safety expenditures—  
science lab**

HF2039/SF1957 (Stanis, IR-  
White Bear Lake)—heard; withdrawn.  
(SF in Senate Education Committee)

**School district formula allowance—  
increase**

HF2040/SF1956 (Stanis, IR-  
White Bear Lake)—heard.  
(SF in Senate Education Committee)

**Minnesota Academic Excellence  
Foundation—modifications**

HF2055/SF1910 (K. Nelson, DFL-  
Mpls)—heard; amended; amended into  
HF2200.  
(SF in Senate Education Committee)

**School district revenue formula  
allowance—establishment**

HF2167 (Bauerly, DFL-Sauk Rapids)—  
heard.

**School district equity revenue—  
changes**

HF2272/SF2242 (Bauerly, DFL-  
Sauk Rapids)—heard; amended.  
(SF in Senate Education Committee)

**School districts—equalized aid, levies**

HF2307/SF2343 (Quinn, DFL-  
Coon Rapids)—heard; amended.  
(SF in Senate Education Committee)

**AFDC students—pupil unit changes**

HF2308/SF2344 (Quinn, DFL-  
Coon Rapids)—heard.  
(SF in Senate Education Committee)

**Mpls., St. Paul—levies, bonding  
extension**

HF2417/SF2206 (K. Nelson, DFL-  
Mpls)—heard; amended.  
(SF in Senate Education Committee)

**Special education levy—equalization**

HF2428/SF2265 (Lasley, DFL-  
Cambridge)—heard.  
(SF in Senate Education Committee)

**Parental school involvement—  
initiatives increase**

HF2435 (Weaver, IR-Champlin)—heard;  
amended.

**School district debt service levy—  
equalization**

HF2451/SF2125 (Bauerly, DFL-  
Sauk Rapids)—heard.  
(SF in Senate Education Committee)

**School district referendum levy—  
equalization**

HF2452/SF2142 (Bauerly, DFL-  
Sauk Rapids)—heard.  
(SF in Senate Education Committee)

**Special education funds—reductions**

HF2540 (K. Olson, DFL-Sherburn)—  
heard.

**Bond issuance—authorization**

HF2680/SF2429 (Begich, DFL-  
Eveleth)—heard; amended.  
(SF in Senate Taxes & Tax Laws  
Committee)

**ENVIRONMENT  
& NATURAL RESOURCES**

**Friday, March 9**

**Blowgun regulations**

HF1861 (Long, DFL-Mpls)—recom-  
mended to pass; placed on Consent  
Calendar.

**Moose licensure—restrictions**

HF2000 (Stanis, IR-White Bear Lake)—  
recommended to pass as amended.

**Trust, non-trust fund land—con-  
demnation, sale**

HF2229/SF2144 (Rukavina, DFL-  
Virginia)—recommended to pass as  
amended; re-referred to Education  
Committee.  
(SF in Senate Education Committee)

**Lake Superior—sportfishing zone**

HF2440 (Stanis, IR-White Bear Lake)—  
re-referred to Game & Fish Subcommit-  
tee.

**Dept. of Natural Resources—  
bonding bill**

HF2496/SF2447 (Kahn, DFL-Mpls)—  
recommended to pass; re-referred to  
Appropriations Committee.  
(SF in Senate Environment & Natural  
Resources Committee)

**Lanesboro—forest resource center**

HF2536/SF2426 (Redalen, IR-Foun-  
tain)—recommended to pass; re-referred  
to Appropriations Committee.  
(SF in Senate Environment & Natural  
Resources Committee)

**Fuel—drilling regulation**

HF2630 (Hausman, DFL-St. Paul)—  
recommended to pass as amended.

**Thursday, March 15**

**Chlorofluorocarbons—recycling  
requirements**

HF1025/SF824 (Trimble, DFL-  
St. Paul)—recommended to pass as  
amended.  
(SF in Senate Taxes & Tax Laws  
Committee)

**Forestry—expansion, maintainance  
program**

HF2382/SF2127 (Lasley, DFL-  
Cambridge)—recommended to pass as  
amended.  
(SF on Senate Floor)

**Tax-forfeited land—sales**

HF2656/SF2489 (Rukavina, DFL-  
Virginia)—recommended to pass as  
amended.  
(SF on Senate Floor)

**Infectious waste control act—  
modifications**

HF2695/SF2236 (Kahn, DFL-Mpls)—  
recommended to pass as amended.  
(SF on Senate Floor)

**Conservation officers—enforcement  
expansion**

HF2709/SF1703 (Trimble, DFL-  
St. Paul)—recommended to pass as  
amended.  
(SF on Senate Floor)

## FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS & HOUSING

Friday, March 9

### Uniform Commercial Code—fund transfers

HF2243/SF2064 (Scheid, DFL-Brooklyn Park)—recommended to pass as amended; re-referred to Taxes Committee.  
(SF in Senate Judiciary Committee)

### Public financing—tax exempt revenue bonds

HF2457/SF2329 (Rest, DFL-New Hope)—recommended to pass as amended.  
(SF in Senate Economic Development & Housing Committee)

## GENERAL LEGISLATION, VETERANS AFFAIRS & GAMING

Thursday, March 14

**Hockey—two-class tournament repeal**  
HF1826/SF1727\* (Milbert, DFL-South St. Paul)—recommended to pass.

**Public safety—fire code changes**  
HF2080/SF1692\* (Brown, DFL-Appleton)—recommended to pass as amended; placed on Consent Calendar.

**Animals—ownership restriction**  
HF2099/SF1968 (Simoneau, DFL-Fridley)—recommended to pass; placed on Consent Calendar.  
(SF on Senate Floor)

**Elections, ethics—changes**  
HF2666/2334 (Scheid, DFL-Brooklyn Park)—recommended to pass as amended; re-referred to Taxes Committee.  
(SF in Senate Finance Committee)

## GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS

Friday, March 9

### Teachers' retirement act— establishment

HF365/SF691 (Blatz, IR-Bloomington)—laid over.  
(SF in Senate Governmental Operations Committee)

### Motor carriers—legislative commission establishment

HF869/SF677 (K. Olson, DFL-Sherburn)—recommended to pass as amended.  
(SF in Senate Transportation Committee)

### Retirement—LCPR powers

HF1963/SF2186 (R. Johnson, DFL-Bemidji)—recommended to pass  
(SF in Senate Governmental Operations Committee)

### Public records—optical disk recordkeeping

HF2194 (Krueger, DFL-Staples)—laid over.

### Wild rice—promotion council establishment

HF2253/SF2299 (Clark, DFL-Mpls.)—recommended to pass as amended.  
(SF in Senate Agriculture & Rural Development Committee)

### Affirmative action—requirements, penalties

HF2291/SF2103 (McLaughlin, DFL-Mpls.)—recommended to pass.  
(SF in Senate Governmental Operations Committee)

### Becker County—tax forfeited land

HF2296/SF2161 (Poppenhagen, IR-Detroit Lakes)—recommended to pass.  
(SF in Senate Environment & Natural Resources Committee)

### State property—rental agreement changes

HF2304/SF2233 (Bauerly, DFL-Sauk Rapids)—recommended to pass as amended.  
(SF in Senate Governmental Operations Committee)

### Cambridge regional center— water, sewer facilities

HF2328/SF2220 (Lasley, DFL-Cambridge)—recommended to pass as amended.  
(SF in Senate Education Committee)

### Environmental Education Act

HF2383/SF2160 (K. Nelson, DFL-Mpls.)—recommended to pass.  
(SF in Senate Governmental Operations Committee)

### Administrative procedures— regulations

HF2462/SF2252 (Gruenes, IR-St. Cloud)—recommended to pass.  
(SF in Senate Governmental Operations Committee)

### Retirement—beneficiary designation

HF2505 (Dorn, DFL-Mankato)—recommended to pass.

### Minneapolis employees' retirement fund—modification

HF2599/SF2361 (Simoneau, DFL-Fridley)—recommended to pass as amended.  
(SF in Senate Governmental Operations Committee)

### Retirement funds—State Board of Investment changes

HF2626 (R. Johnson, DFL-Bemidji)—recommended to pass as amended.

### Dept. of Jobs & Training— unclassified position

HF2628/SF2445 (Sparby, DFL-Thief River Falls)—recommended to pass.  
(SF in Senate Governmental Operations Committee)

### Workers' compensation court— judicial salaries

HF2639/SF2453 (Kostohryz, DFL-North St. Paul)—laid over.  
(SF in Senate Governmental Operations Committee)

### Tax-forfeited lands—sale

HF2656/SF2489 (Rukavina, DFL-Virginia)—recommended to pass; re-referred to Environment & Natural Resources Committee.  
(SF on Senate Floor)

**Indian Affairs Council membership—  
increase**

HF2657/SF1861 (Rukavina, DFL-Virginia)—recommended to pass; re-referred to Environment & Natural Resources Committee.  
(SF in Senate Governmental Operations Committee)

**Minneapolis police, firefighters—  
benefit changes**

HF2721 (Sarna, DFL-Mpls)—recommended to pass as amended.

**Monday, March 12**

**Public purchasing requirement—  
targeted groups**

HF2230/SF2075 (Jefferson, DFL-Mpls)—heard; postponed.  
(SF on Senate Floor)

**Wednesday, March 14**

**Pay equity—definition, penalties**  
HF1198/SF488 (Simoneau, DFL-Fridley)—heard; laid over.  
(SF on Senate Floor)

**Setaside program—targeted groups**  
HF2230/SF2075 (Jefferson, DFL-Mpls)—recommended to pass as amended.  
(SF on Senate Floor)

**Hazardous materials—incident  
response program**  
HF2458/SF2194 (Reding, DFL-Austin)—recommended to pass.  
(SF in Senate Finance Committee)

**Thursday, March 15**

**Pay equity—definitions, penalties**  
HF1198/SF488 (Simoneau, DFL-Fridley)—recommended to pass as amended; re-referred to Taxes Committee.  
(SF on Senate Floor)

**Lake of the Woods state forest—  
establishment**  
HF1879/SF1772 (Tunheim, DFL-Kennedy)—recommended to pass.  
(SF on Senate Floor)

**HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES**

**Thursday, March 8**

**Employee wages—intermediate care  
facilities**  
HF1907 (Williams, DFL-Moorhead)—recommended to pass as amended; re-referred to Appropriations Committee.

**Chiropractors—medical exams**  
HF2111/SF2165 (Jefferson, DFL-Mpls)—recommended to pass as amended.  
(SF in Senate Health & Human Services Committee)

**Child protection—omnibus bill**  
HF2390/SF2188 (Vellenga, DFL-St. Paul)—recommended to pass as amended; re-referred to Appropriations Committee.  
(SF in Senate Judiciary Committee)

**Asbestos abatement—changes**  
HF2407/SF2481 (K. Olson, DFL-Sherburn)—recommended to pass; placed on Consent Calendar.  
(SF in Senate Health & Human Services Committee)

**Welfare fraud reform**  
HF2470/SF2277 (Jennings, DFL-Harris)—recommended to pass as amended; re-referred to Appropriations Committee.  
(SF in Senate Health & Human Services Committee)

**Long-term health care**  
HF2646/SF2417 (Greenfield, DFL-Mpls)—recommended to pass as amended; re-referred to Appropriations Committee.  
(SF in Senate Health & Human Services Committee)

**GMAC—housekeeping**  
HF2649/SF2478 (Welle, DFL-Willmar)—recommended to pass as amended; re-referred to Appropriations Committee.  
(SF in Senate Health & Human Services Committee)

**Wednesday, March 14**

**Board of Pharmacy—medical devices**  
HF1673/SF1507 (Stanis, IR-White Bear Lake)—recommended to pass; placed on Consent Calendar.  
(SF on Senate Floor)

**Prescription drugs—dispensation**  
HF1935/SF1789 (Greenfield, DFL-Mpls)—recommended to pass as amended.  
(SF passed Senate)

**Chemical dependency—research,  
treatment programs**  
HF2051/SF1931 (Greenfield, DFL-Mpls)—recommended to pass as amended; re-referred to Governmental Operations Committee.  
(SF in Senate Finance Committee)

**Medical Assistance—  
swing bed services**  
HF2096/SF1888 (Battaglia, DFL-Two Harbors)—recommended to pass; re-referred to Appropriations Committee.  
(SF in Senate Finance Committee)

**Health Maintenance Organizations—  
regulations**  
HF2118/SF1940 (Greenfield, DFL-Mpls)—recommended to pass as amended; re-referred to Insurance Committee.  
(SF on Senate Floor)

**Hospitals—new construction  
moratorium**  
HF2168/SF1698 (Greenfield, DFL-Mpls)—recommended to pass as amended.  
(SF on Senate Floor)

**Health insurance—  
demonstration project**  
HF2293/SF1696\* (Jaros, DFL-Duluth)—recommended to pass.

**Health Care Access Commission—  
membership increase**  
HF2521/SF2286 (Ogren, DFL-Aitkin)—recommended to pass; placed on Consent Calendar.  
(SF on Senate Floor)



**Board of Medical Examiners—procedures**

HF2582/SF2216 (Greenfield, DFL-Mpls)—recommended to pass as amended; re-referred to Appropriations Committee.  
(SF on Senate Floor)

**Thursday, March 15**

**Podiatric medicine—standards**

HF524/SF443\* (Dauner, DFL-Hawley)—recommended to pass as amended.

**Early childhood coordinating board—establishment**

HF1888/SF1915 (Williams, DFL-Moorhead)—recommended to pass; re-referred to Appropriations Committee.  
(SF in Senate Finance Committee)

**Chemical dependency—sobering stations**

HF1946/SF1693 (Clark, DFL-Mpls)—recommended to pass as amended; re-referred to Appropriations Committee.  
(SF in Senate Taxes & Tax Laws Committee)

**Mental health, retardation—ombudsman powers**

HF2133/SF2370 (Greenfield, DFL-Mpls)—recommended to pass as amended; placed on Consent Calendar.  
(SF on Senate Floor)

**Nursing home moratorium—exception**

HF2346/SF2224 (Trimble, DFL-St. Paul)—recommended to pass as amended.  
(SF on Senate Floor)

**Medical Assistance—case management services**

HF2379/SF2073 (Welle, DFL-Willmar)—recommended to pass as amended; re-referred to Appropriations Committee.  
(SF in Senate Finance Committee)

**Medical Assistance—nursing home case mix rates**

HF2453/SF2247 (Orenstein, DFL-St. Paul)—recommended to pass as amended; re-referred to Appropriations Committee.  
(SF in Senate Health & Human Services Committee)

**Nursing home—waiver restrictions**

HF2689/SF2051 (Greenfield, DFL-St. Paul)—recommended to pass as amended.  
(SF on Senate Floor)

**INSURANCE**

**Thursday, March 8**

**MCHA—certain employers acceptance**

HF2408/SF2258 (Skoglund, DFL-Mpls)—laid over.  
(SF in Senate Commerce Committee)

**Long-term care insurance—changes**

HF2474 (Skoglund, DFL-Mpls)—recommended to pass as amended.

**Auto insurance—home child care providers**

HF2589/SF2493 (Lynch, IR-Mpls)—recommended to pass as amended.  
(SF in Senate Commerce Committee)

**Insurance—subrogation clarification**

HF2637/SF2514 (Skoglund, DFL-Mpls)—recommended to pass.  
(SF in Senate Commerce Committee)

**Wednesday, March 14**

**Health, insurance costs—task force**

HF1997/SF1790 (Jaros, DFL-Duluth)—recommended to pass as amended; re-referred to Governmental Operations Committee.  
(SF in Senate Rules & Administration Committee)

**Public insurance adjusters—regulations**

HF2205/SF2130 (Skoglund, DFL-Mpls)—recommended to pass as amended.  
(SF passed Senate)

**Commercial property, liability insurance—notices**

HF2499/SF2109 (Carruthers, DFL-Brooklyn Center)—recommended to pass as amended.  
(SF on Senate Floor)

**Life insurance—cancellation nonrenewal**

HF2500/SF2129 (Carruthers, DFL-Brooklyn Center)—recommended to pass and placed on the Consent Calendar.  
(SF on Senate Floor)

**Auto insurance—motorcycles.**

HF2735/SF2349 (Simoneau, DFL-Fridley)—laid over.  
(SF on Senate Floor)

**JUDICIARY**

**Friday, March 9**

**Bias crimes—curriculum development**

HF1561/SF1365 (Clark, DFL-Mpls)—recommended to pass as amended.  
(SF in Senate Judiciary Committee)

**Real estate—dissolution**

HF1854/SF1757 (Pugh, DFL-South St. Paul)—recommended to pass as amended.  
(SF on Senate Floor)

**Drugs, alcohol—excise tax**

HF1979/SF1945 (Rest, DFL-New Hope)—recommended to pass as amended; re-referred to Taxes Committee.  
(SF in Senate Judiciary Committee)

**Criminal sexual conduct—definition**

HF2077 (Ozment, IR-Rosemount)—recommended to pass as amended.

**Revisor's bill—statutory corrections**

HF2220/SF2072 (Milbert)—recommended to pass.  
(SF in Senate Judiciary Committee)

**Peace officers—degree requirements**

HF2276/SF2178 (Kelly, DFL-St. Paul)—recommended to pass as amended.  
(SF in Senate Judiciary Committee)

**Toxic chemical discharge—penalties increase**

HF2334/SF2287 (Orenstein, DFL-St. Paul)—recommended to pass as amended.  
(SF in Senate Environment & Natural Resources Committee)

**Railroad crossings—penalties, changes**  
HF2401/SF2400 (Tunheim, DFL-Kennedy)—recommended to pass as amended.  
(SF in Senate Transportation Committee)

**Social worker assaults—penalties increase**  
HF2434/SF2089 (K. Nelson, DFL-Mpls)—recommended to pass as amended.  
(SF in Senate Judiciary Committee)

**Controlled substances—penalties increase**  
HF2662 (Wenzel, DFL-Little Falls)—heard.

#### **Monday, March 12**

**Uniform statutory will act—adoption**  
HF1372/SF260\* (Pugh, DFL-South St. Paul)—heard; laid over.

**Anatomical gifts—language update**  
HF1101/SF1102 (Greenfield, DFL-Mpls)—recommended to pass as amended.  
(SF on Senate Floor)

**Creditors remedies**  
HF1439/SF1150 (Pugh, DFL-South St. Paul)—recommended to pass as amended.  
(SF on Senate Floor)

**Domestic abuse—prosecution**  
HF1884/SF1860 (Pappas, DFL-St. Paul)—recommended to pass as amended.  
(SF in Senate Finance Committee)

**Sexual assault victims—notice of risk**  
HF2277/SF2046 (Pappas, DFL-St. Paul)—recommended to pass as amended.  
(SF on Senate Floor)

### **Criminal Justice Division/ JUDICIARY**

#### **Monday, March 12**

**Open bottle law—expansion**  
HF1986/SF1901 (Rest, DFL-New Hope)—heard.  
(SF in Senate Judiciary Committee)

**DWI repeat offenders—blood alcohol level**  
HF2180/SF2031 (Swenson, IR-Forest Lake)—heard.  
(SF in Senate Judiciary)

**Criminal vehicular homicide—name change**  
HF2226/SF2176 (Swenson, IR-Forest Lake)—heard.  
(SF in Senate Judiciary Committee)

**DWI repeat offenders—license plate impoundment**  
HF2420/SF2177 (Rest, DFL-New Hope)—heard; amended.  
(SF in Senate Taxes & Tax Laws Committee)

#### **Wednesday, March 14**

**DWI repeaters—license plate impoundment**  
HF2420/SF2177 (Rest, DFL-New Hope)—recommended to pass as amended; re-referred to Judiciary Committee.  
(SF in Senate Finance Committee)

### **LABOR-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS**

#### **Thursday, March 8**

**Minimum wage—exemption**  
HF2163/SF2313 (Williams, DFL-Moorhead)—recommended to pass.  
(SF in Senate Employment Committee)

**Employment—labor contracts**  
HF2426/SF2282 (Rice, DFL-Mpls)—recommended to pass.  
(SF in Senate Employment Committee)

**Unemployment compensation—technical changes**  
HF2541/SF2395 (Beard, DFL-Cottage Grove)—recommended to pass as amended.  
(SF in Senate Employment Committee)

**Workers' compensation—loggers**  
HF2616/SF2375 (Begich, DFL-Eveleth)—recommended to pass; re-referred to Appropriations Committee.  
(SF in Senate Employment Committee)

**Workers' compensation—regulating insurance rates**  
HF2623/SF2482 (Begich, DFL-Eveleth)—recommended to pass as amended.  
(SF in Senate Employment Committee)

#### **Friday, March 9**

**Public safety dispatchers—essential employees**  
HF301/SF325 (Wenzel, DFL-Little Falls)—amended; laid over.  
(SF in Senate Governmental Operations Committee)

**Court of compensation appeals—creation**  
HF2196/SF2045 (Wagenius, DFL-Mpls)—recommended to pass as amended; re-referred to Appropriations Committee.  
(SF in Senate Employment Committee)

**Essential employees—arbitration awards**  
HF2332/SF2145 (Begich, DFL-Eveleth)—recommended to pass; re-referred to Appropriations Committee.  
(SF in Senate Governmental Operations Committee)

**Workers' compensation—mentally retarded registered**  
HF2615/SF2490 (Begich, DFL-Eveleth)—recommended to pass as amended.  
(SF in Senate Employment Committee)

**Monday, March 12**

**Occupational health—surveillance system**

HF2460/SF2139 (Ogren, DFL-Aitkin)—recommended to pass; re-referred to Appropriations Committee.  
(SF in Senate Finance Committee)

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
& METROPOLITAN AFFAIRS**

**Thursday, March 15**

**Zoning—comprehensive plans**

HF84/SF158 (Battaglia, DFL-Two Harbors)—recommended to pass as amended.  
(SF on Senate Floor)

**Redwood County—ditch abandonment**  
HF1792/SF1663\* (Girard, IR-Lynd)—recommended to pass as amended; placed on Consent Calendar.

**Metro agencies—per diem compensation**

HF2083/SF1739 (Skoglund, DFL-Mpls)—recommended to pass.  
(SF on Senate Floor)

**Townships—elections**

HF2266/SF2090 (Jennings, DFL-Harris)—recommended to pass as amended.  
(SF on Senate Floor)

**Energy contracts—municipalities**

HF2268/SF2156 (Simoneau, DFL-Fridley)—recommended to pass.  
(SF on Senate Floor)

**City hospital payments—special fund**

HF2318/SF2092 (Uphus, IR-Sauk Centre)—recommended to pass as amended.  
(SF on Senate Floor)

**St. Louis County—solid waste management**

HF2386/SF2270 (Rukavina, DFL-Virginia)—recommended to pass as amended.  
(SF on Senate Floor)

**Upsala—boundary commission**

HF2683/SF2383 (Bertram, DFL-Paynesville)—recommended to pass; placed on Consent Calendar.  
(SF on Senate Floor)

**Court administrators—duties assignment**

HF2498/SF1820\* (Cooper, DFL-Bird Island)—recommended to pass as amended.

**REGULATED INDUSTRIES**

**Monday, March 12**

**Minnesota wine—airport sales**

HF2313/SF1983 (Omann, IR-St. Joseph)—recommended to pass as amended.  
(SF on Senate Floor)

**Flexible gas rates—regulation**

HF2520/SF2158 (Jacobs, DFL-Coon Rapids)—recommended to pass as amended.  
(SF in Senate Finance Committee)

**Emergency 911 system—local identification**

HF2528/SF2302 (Tunheim, DFL-Kennedy)—recommended to pass as amended.  
(SF on Senate Floor)

**TAXES**

**Thursday, March 15**

**Hennepin County—bond issuance**

HF1877/SF1807 (Schreiber, IR-Brooklyn Park)—recommended to pass.  
(SF in Senate Taxes & Tax Laws Committee)

**Rural health care**

HF1965/SF1896 (Cooper, DFL-Bird Island)—recommended to pass as amended; re-referred to Appropriations Committee.  
(SF in Senate Education Committee)

**Gambling—horse racing, pari-mutuel betting**

HF2171/SF1870 (Price, DFL-Woodbury)—recommended to pass.  
(SF on Senate Floor)

**Public finance—tax exempt bonds**

HF2457/SF2329 (Rest, DFL-New Hope)—laid over.  
(SF in Senate Taxes & Tax Laws Committee)

**TRANSPORTATION**

**Wednesday, March 14**

**Headlights—weather requirements**

HF1860/SF1729 (Sviggum, IR-Kenyon)—recommended to pass as amended.  
(SF on Senate Floor)

**Track abandonment—standards**

HF2064/SF1752 (Brown, DFL-Appleton)—recommended to pass as amended.  
(SF on Senate Floor)

**Commercial drivers licenses—changes**

HF2238/SF2060 (Lasley, DFL-Cambridge)—recommended to pass; re-referred to Appropriations Committee.  
(SF in Senate Finance Committee)

**License plates—regulations**

HF2372/SF2146 (Orenstein, DFL-St. Paul)—recommended to pass as amended; re-referred to Appropriations Committee.  
(SF in Senate Taxes & Tax Laws Committee)

**Covered truck loads—regulations, penalties**

HF2373/SF2213 (K. Olson, DFL-Sherburn)—recommended to pass as amended.  
(SF on Senate Floor)

**Faribault—legislative route 298**

HF2608/SF2381 (Rodosovich, DFL-Faribault)—recommended to pass as amended.  
(SF on Senate Floor)

**Well drilling vehicle—tax exemption**

HF2621/SF2039 (Kalis, DFL-Walters)—recommended to pass as amended.  
(SF on Senate Floor)

## FLOOR ACTION

### CALENDAR

**Monday, March 12**

#### State-aid system—changes

HF1569\*/SF1420 (A. Johnson, DFL-Spring Lake Park)—passed 73-58.  
(SF on Senate Floor)

#### American Heritage Trust Act—resolution

HF1754\*/SF1647 (Munger, DFL-Duluth)—passed 130-0.  
(SF in Senate Environment & Natural Resources Committee)

#### Plat monuments—tampering penalties

HF1785\*/SF2141 (Dempsey, IR-New Ulm)—passed 128-0.  
(SF in Senate Judiciary Committee)

#### Child punishment—penalties increase

HF1830\*/SF1978 (Morrison, IR-Burnsville)—passed 130-0.  
(SF in Senate Judiciary Committee)

#### Prostitution—penalties for patrons

HF1846\*/SF1977 (Wagenius, DFL-Mpls)—passed 118-9.  
(SF in Senate Judiciary Committee)

### CONSENT CALENDAR

**Thursday, March 8**

#### County recorders—fees

HF1555\*/SF1238 (Blatz, IR-Bloomington)—passed 124-0.  
(SF on Senate Floor)

#### Driver education—tax exempt plates

HF1989\*/SF1775 (McEachern, DFL-Maple Lake)—passed 132-0.  
(SF in Senate Taxes Committee)

#### Legal newspaper—deadline change

HF2018\*/SF1909 (Bertram, DFL-Paynesville)—passed 132-0.  
(SF withdrawn by Senate author)

**Monday, March 12**

#### Intersection right-of-way—clarification

HF1927\*/SF2138 (Ogren, DFL-Aitkin)—passed 131-0.  
(SF in Senate Transportation Committee)

#### Health, accident insurance—benefits coordination

HF1984\*/SF2110 (Skoglund, DFL-Mpls)—passed 132-0.  
(SF on Senate Floor)

#### Mental retardation—definition

HF2045\*/SF1905 (Williams, DFL-Moorhead)—passed 132-0.  
(SF in Senate Judiciary Committee)

#### Vocational-technical colleges—title changes

HF2058\*/SF1926 (Carlson, L., DFL-Brooklyn Center)—passed 129-3.  
(SF on Senate Floor)

#### Port authorities—title changes

HF2149\*/SF1960 (Hausman, DFL-St. Paul)—passed 129-2.  
(SF in Senate Economic Development & Housing Committee)

#### Township ordinances codification

HF2188\*/SF1979 (Lieder, DFL-Crookston)—passed 132-0.  
(SF on Senate Floor)

#### Felony—presentence investigation

HF2481\*/SF2237 (Peterson, DFL-Princeton)—passed 132-0.  
(SF in Senate Judiciary Committee)

#### Minneapolis schools—unclassified positions

HF2508\*/SF2314 (Wagenius, DFL-Mpls)—passed 131-0.  
(SF in Senate Education Committee)

**Wednesday, March 14**

#### Veterans' homes—cemeteries

HF2002\*/SF1967 (Beard, DFL-Cottage Grove)—passed 125-0.  
(SF on Senate Floor)

#### Elections—automatic recounts

HF2134\*/SF2002 (Abrams, IR-Minnetonka)—passed 128-0.  
(SF in Senate Elections & Ethics Committee)

#### Board of Teaching—variances

HF2202\*/SF1809 (K. Nelson, DFL-Mpls)—passed 128-0.  
(SF in Senate Education Committee)

#### Becker County—tax forfeited land

HF2296\*/SF2161 (Poppenhagen, IR-Detroit Lakes)—passed 128-0.  
(SF in Senate Environment & Natural Resources Committee)

#### Auto purchase price refunds—statements

HF2321\*/SF2253 (Haukoos, IR-Albert Lea)—passed as amended 129-0.  
(SF in Senate Commerce Committee)

#### Waseca County—FarmAmerica exemption

HF2336\*/SF1890 (Frederick, IR-Mankato)—passed 128-0.  
(SF on Senate Floor)

#### Asbestos abatement—changes

HF2407\*/SF2481 (K. Olson, DFL-Sherburn)—passed 128-0.  
(SF in Senate Health & Human Services Committee)

#### Retirement—beneficiary designation

HF2505\* (Dorn, DFL-Mankato)—passed 127-0.

#### Domestic insurers—foreign insurers

HF2645\*/SF2549 (Skoglund, DFL-Mpls)—passed 128-0.  
(SF in Senate Commerce Committee)

#### Cemetery—land transfer

HF2650\*/SF2455 (Waltman, IR-Elgin)—passed 128-0.  
(SF on Senate Floor)

### KEY

HF--House File

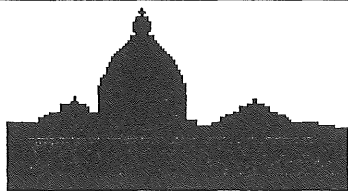
SF--Senate File

HF#/SF#--companion bills

\*--version of the bill under consideration

Copies of bills and resolutions are available from the  
Chief Clerk's Office  
Room 211, State Capitol  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
(612) 296-2314





For Your Information . . .

## The Inside Report

### Plan to control nursing home costs dates to 1983

Placing a loved one in a nursing home may hinge on nursing home reimbursement decisions.

The state's nursing home reimbursement system provides the ways to pay nursing home care costs provided to Medical Assistance (MA) recipients, according to a House Research Department information brief. Reimbursement decisions affect all nursing home residents — MA recipients and private payors — as well as the state budget. Private pay residents can't be charged more than the MA rates under Minnesota's equalization law.

Reimbursement to a nursing home is based on expenses incurred during the previous reporting year, adjusted for expected inflation and number of resident days, and resident care needs.

The total reimbursement to a nursing home is the sum of four separate cost

components: care-related costs, other operating costs, pass-through costs (property taxes, assessments, or licensing or screening fees), and property costs. Payment for care-related costs varies with the care needs of each resident. Costs that are care related, other operating and property are subject to reimbursement limits.

In 1983, the Legislature set up the current reimbursement system and made other changes in the long-term care system to help control costs. The changes include a moratorium on nursing home beds, the expansion of the pre-admission screening requirement, and the creation of the Interagency Board for Quality Assurance.

These changes also affected MA spending. Reductions were made in the number of nursing home residents, the

rate of increase in MA nursing home costs, and the proportion of MA spending directed to nursing home care.

During the 1989 legislative session, Minnesota lawmakers provided money to nursing homes to help offset the costs of complying with the federal Nursing Home Reform Act, passed as part of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (OBRA) of 1987. The federal act sets training and competency evaluation requirements for nurse aids, sets up a single classification standard for MA certification, and requires homes to meet higher standards for nursing staff.

Besides providing money to meet OBRA-related costs, the Legislature also provided wage and inflation adjustment increases to nursing home providers and made other modifications to the reimbursement system.

### Sculptor returns for House ceremony

Among those who returned for the House rededication on March 13 was sculptor Amerigo Brioschi of St. Paul.

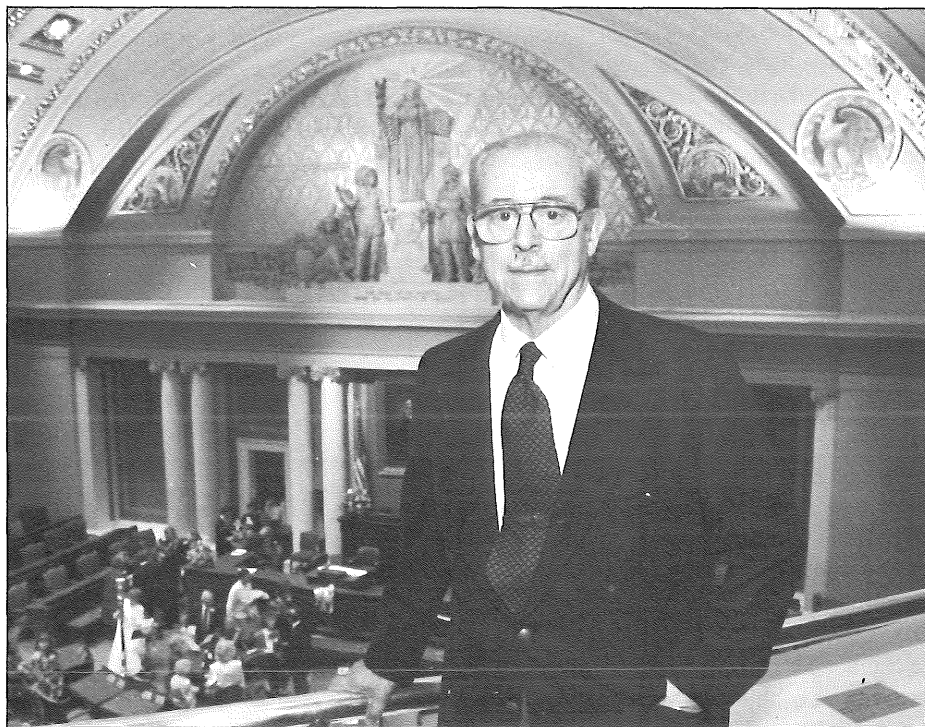
Brioschi and his father created the statuary at the front of the House chamber more than 50 years ago.

"It looked as good as it ever did," says Brioschi, who is 82.

So, too, he added, did the rest of the renovation.

"I thought the House was beautifully done. Everything was well-chosen and completed. I thought it was a grand party and I thought it was nice of the House to give recognition to all the workers who did such a beautiful job."

Brioschi and his father Carl were commissioned by the State Emergency Relief Administration to design the statuary.



Sculptor Amerigo Brioschi and his father Carl created the "Minnesota, Spirit of Government" sculpture in the House chamber back in 1938.

# Lobbyists for all seasons, and then some

You see them clustered outside the House chamber, milling about at committee hearings and gathering wherever legislators meet. They're legislative lobbyists, and their numbers are growing.

"There's a lobbyist for just about anything you can think of to lobby for," says Jenny Engh, a lobbyist for the law firm of Opperman, Heinz and Paquin.

This year, there are 1,185 lobbyists registered with the Minnesota Ethical Practices Board — nearly twice the number registered just a decade ago.

In 1980, only 690 lobbyists were registered; in 1985, that number had increased to 1,074. They're all the more visible now with their portable telephones and electronic pagers.

And they're representing more organizations than ever before. This year's lobbyists will report for about 2,185 associations — nearly three times the number of organizations represented 10 years ago. In 1980, there were only 780 associations represented, according to the Minnesota Ethical Practices Board.

Wanda Schumacher, a legislative consultant for the lobbying firm known as the Governmental Relations Group, describes the lobbyist's job this way:

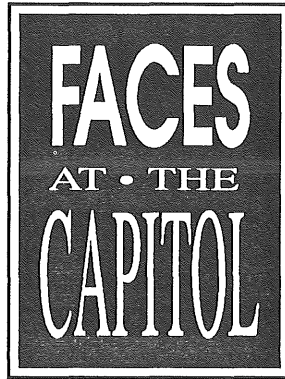
"We help clients develop a legislative package to take to the Legislature (if needed), we watch for legislation that could have an impact on their business or association, and we attempt to educate legislators and convince them that our proposal is the appropriate way to go," she says.

Just how difficult is it for a lobbyist to get a message out to the appropriate people?

"Legislators will hear you out — even if they may not agree with you," says Engh. The best relationship, says Engh, is one in which both the legislator and the lobbyist are "up front with each other."

"You might be fighting someone one day and helping them out the next," she adds.

Schumacher sees lobbying as "a very positive sort of thing." Legislators can't be experts on everything because there isn't enough time to be familiar with all the issues, she says. "They need to rely on outside staff and resources for information . . . that's what we try to



provide."

Lobbyists may also work with state agencies on legislative proposals as well as to develop alternatives to legislation, she says.

A typical day of lobbying during a legislative session would likely include a check on a bill's status for a client and talks with appropriate committee chairs, she says. Sometimes committee chairs need to be convinced to hear a certain bill, she adds.

Lobbyists also try to persuade committees to vote on a bill; attempt to convince members of a bill's merits; write amendments or accept amendments to legislation; look for legislators to author bills; and make sure the House bill they're pushing has also passed in the Senate.

Toward the end of session when conference committees meet, a lobbyist's main task is to "safeguard" what they

have already successfully lobbied for, says Schumacher.

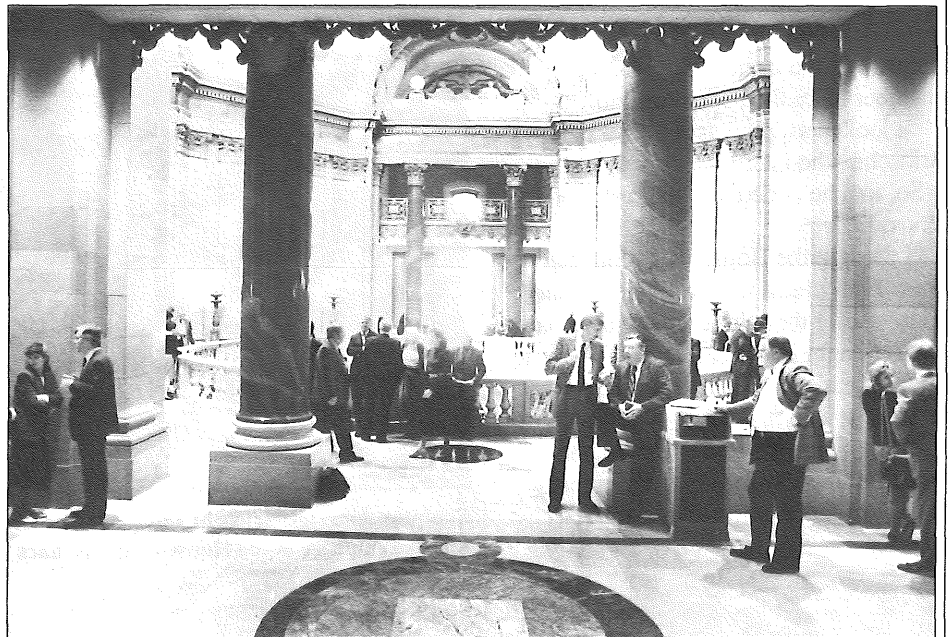
By that point during a session, the agenda has largely been set, says Schumacher, adding that lobbyists have considerably less influence at this time.

Although lobbying is often associated with back-room politics, Schumacher says the process has become much more open since the 1973 Minnesota open meeting law. Before then, committee meetings were not always public. Now, meeting agendas must be published in advance to ensure that more people have a chance to express their opinions, she says.

In addition, lobbyists must now file quarterly reports disclosing any gift, loan, food, travel or lodging given to a legislator valued at \$50 or more. However, they do not have to report political contributions or their salaries.

Although lawmakers leave the Capitol during the interim, lobbyists continue to remain active. They evaluate what effects, if any, a new law will have on their clients, how they might want to change a particular law, or how they can work with it.

And they continue to stay in contact with legislators. Wherever you find legislators — whether at outstate mini-sessions, conferences, or interim committee meetings — you'll also find lobbyists.



Lawmakers are greeted by a swarm of lobbyists as they leave the House chamber.

# A Window on the House *Chief Clerk's Office*

When people apply to work for the Chief Clerk's Office, Edward Burdick says he first asks if they have "any outside activities that would prevent them from working 25 hours a day during session."

All joking aside, Chief Clerk Burdick says the staff often works 75 or more hours a week during session, including weekends. They spend the time processing the enormous paperwork that flows through the House, including the bills, reports, amendments, motions, and resolutions that legislators act on.

And because Minnesota is one of the few states that use the *Journal of the House* as legal evidence to determine the validity of a law, the office has to be particularly careful with its editing, says Burdick.

Last year, for example, the Chief Clerk's Office published the largest *Journal* in state history, which was more than 10,000 pages long.

Each day's journal is carefully audited, indexed, corrected, and proofed so that every bill the state passes will stand up in court, says Burdick.

The chief clerk is in charge of processing all the bills, amendments, resolutions, and motions, and he also reads them to members during each floor session. The chief clerk and his assistants also teach classes on parliamentary procedure to new representatives and staff, so members know exactly what they're doing on the floor of the House. The Chief Clerk's Office staffs about 25 full-time people, adding three more during session.

At the House desk in the front of the Chamber, the *Journal* editor records House action for the *Journal*, including bill introductions, committee reports, and roll call votes.

In addition to the *Journal*, the House Desk publishes the daily agendas to let members and the public know what will happen on the floor each day.

The agendas list bills under four general headings: General Orders (bills awaiting preliminary House action), Calendar (bills awaiting final House

action), and Consent Calendar (non-controversial bills which usually pass without debate); and Special Orders (bills the House can consider, amend, and pass in one day).

The Index Department indexes bills by number, author, topic, and section of law being amended. The department is computerized which allows easy access for members, staff, and the public when trying to find the status of a bill.

"It's amazing how many bill inquiries the department gets during a session," says Burdick.

In Minnesota, every time a bill is successfully amended, it is rewritten and reprinted, notes Burdick. Thus, members and the public can always get a current version of a bill.

"This is not true in every state," says Burdick. "Pressure is being put on legislatures to become more accountable, and I think Minnesota is a leader in this field."

Tight deadlines are a fact of life in the Chief Clerk's Office. "When the speaker

rams the gavel and the House is going to meet at 2 p.m., we have to be ready at 2 p.m.," says Burdick. When the gavel comes down signaling adjournment, the staff hurriedly prepares all the paperwork for the printer so it can be copied and delivered back to the House by the following morning.

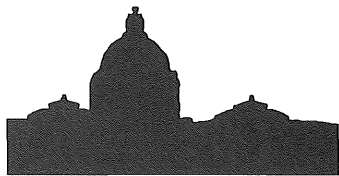
"For example, we'll print a 400-page *Journal* overnight, which is unheard of in a lot of other areas," says Burdick. "That's what we do and we have to do it."

Burdick says if a day's *Journal* is small, staffers are "lucky to go home by 8 p.m.; if it's large, which it frequently is, we're here until midnight or later."

The Chief Clerk's Office, established when Minnesota became a state in 1858, is the oldest legislative office in Minnesota. Burdick began working in the House in 1941 as a page. He started work at the House Desk in 1947 and became an assistant to the chief clerk in 1953. House members have elected him chief clerk every session since 1967.



The front desk in the House chamber is considered the heart of the Chief Clerk's Office.



In the Hopper . . .

March 9-March 15, 1990

# Bill Introductions

HF2722-HF2783

## Monday, March 12

**HF2722—Welle (DFL)**  
**Economic Development**  
Regional development commissions; maximum property tax levy established.

**HF2723—Krueger (DFL)**  
**Rules & Legislative Administration**  
Legislative day requirement removed from constitution.

**HF2724—Kalis (DFL)**  
**Agriculture**  
Groundwater Protection Act amended, pesticide regulations changed, remediation provisions changed, and money appropriated.

**HF2725—Winter (DFL)**  
**Gen'l Leg., Vet's Affairs & Gaming**  
Legislative reapportionment to occur upon normal expiration of Senate terms, constitutional amendment proposed.

**HF2726—Limmer (IR)**  
**Taxes**  
Property tax; residential homestead property taxed at single rate, with a constitutional amendment proposed.

**HF2727—Scheid (DFL)**  
**Labor-Management Relations**  
Sales quotas prohibited for employees selling service contracts or extended warranty agreements along with other goods and services.

**HF2728—O'Connor (DFL)**  
**Education**  
High school graduation incentives and private alternative school programs expanded to encourage participation by additional students.

**HF2729—Neuenschwander (DFL)**  
**Environment & Natural Resources**  
Mixed municipal solid waste disposal; publicly owned facilities exempted from certain fiscal responsibility rules.

**HF2730—Neuenschwander (DFL)**  
**Taxes**  
Koochiching County; certain lands in Littlefork sold.

**HF2731—Neuenschwander (DFL)** **Appropriations**  
Koochiching refunded a bond allocation deposit, and money appropriated.

**HF2732—Neuenschwander (DFL)**  
**Taxes**  
Ambulance service; counties' levies used to pay for service in subordinate service districts exempted from levy limits.

**HF2733—Ogren (DFL)**  
**Gen'l Leg., Vet's Affairs & Gaming**  
Purse regulations changed.

**HF2734—Otis (DFL)**  
**Financial Institutions & Housing**  
Banks to file notice of proposed acquisitions.

**HF2735—Simoneau (DFL)**  
**Insurance**  
Automobile insurance coverages provided for motorcycles.

**HF2736—Kalis (DFL)**  
**Transportation**  
Toll facilities; private operators allowed to construct, improve, own, lease, and operate roads and bridges.

**HF2737—Tjornhom (IR)**  
**Education**  
School district provisions changed for teacher retirement and FICA aid.

**HF2738—Lieder (DFL)**  
**Appropriations**  
Agriculture department provided funds from state bond sales for construction of a facility in East Grand Forks, with money appropriated.

**HF2739—Greenfield (DFL)**  
**Health & Human Services**  
Legislative human resources commission created, with trust fund account established.

**HF2740—Blatz (IR)**  
**Taxes**  
Property tax; homestead class rates changed.

**HF2741—Osthoff (DFL)**  
**Agriculture**  
Grasshopper control provisions changed to limit actions on natural resource department and certain nonprofit natural lands.

**HF2742—Gruenes (IR)**  
**Governmental Operations**  
Energy conservation goals established for state buildings.

**HF2743—Olsen, S. (IR)**  
**Education**  
State to take over cost of providing all kindergarten through grade 12 education.

**HF2744—Runbeck (IR)**  
**Judiciary**  
Child support; percentage of obligor's income raised for purposes of child support.

**HF2745—Ozment (IR)**  
**Rules & Legislative Administration**  
American flag; memorial to Congress to propose a constitutional amendment prohibiting desecration of the flag.

**HF2746—Murphy (DFL)**  
**Appropriations**  
Western Lake Superior Sanitary District appropriated money for design of wastewater treatment alternatives.

**HF2747—Dawkins (DFL)**  
**Gen'l Leg., Vet's Affairs & Gaming**  
Dog and cat control provided, pet food and supplies sales tax imposed, other changes made, and money appropriated.

**HF2748—Kinkel (DFL)**  
**Taxes**  
Hotel-motel optional tax increase repealed.

**HF2749—Richter (IR)**  
**Education**  
Removing the requirement that members of an education district must be in the same ECSU.

**HF2750—Hartle (IR)**  
**Education**  
School districts 201 in Claremont, 202 in Dodge Center, and 205 in West Concord appropriated money for consolidation costs.

**HF2751—Kelly (DFL)**  
**Judiciary**  
District court judicial elections staggered for judges and assistant chief judges.

**HF2752—Tjornhom (IR)**  
**Judiciary**  
Driving while intoxicated; forfeiture of vehicle provided for repeat offenses.

**HF2753—Schreiber (IR)**  
**Taxes**  
Property tax refund provided to certain homeowners.

**HF2754—Schreiber (IR)**  
**Judiciary**  
Assault of detention facility employees classified.

**HF2755—Schreiber (IR)**  
**Taxes**  
Income tax; charitable contribution deductions allowed in computation of alternative minimum taxable income.

**HF2756—Schreiber (IR)**  
**Gen'l Leg., Vet's Affairs & Gaming**  
State primary moved to August.

**HF2757—Vellenga (DFL)**  
**Governmental Operations**  
Public Employees Retirement Association to pay surviving spouse benefits to a certain St. Paul member.

**HF2758—Pelowski (DFL)**  
**Education**  
Public library automation grants established.

**HF2759—Pelowski (DFL)**  
**Education**  
University board to lease Lourdes Hall in Winona for a residential college program.

**HF2760—Johnson, R. (DFL)**  
**Transportation**  
Recreational off-road vehicles; all-terrain vehicles used exclusively on private property exempted from registration requirements.

## Wednesday, March 14

**HF2761—Price (DFL)**  
**Financial Institutions & Housing**  
Pets kept by elderly residents in mobile home parks.

**HF2762—Onnen (IR)**  
**Labor-Management Relations**  
Incentives provided for employers to return employees to work, and policies studied to encourage hiring of injured employees.

**HF2763—Gruenes (IR)**  
**Environment & Natural Resources**  
Deer licenses for taking a deer of either sex issued to disabled hunters.

**HF2764—Krueger (DFL)**  
**Education**  
Curriculum and technology integration funds given to educational cooperative service unit boards.



**HF2765—Greenfield (DFL)****Health & Human Services**

Mental health and social work boards and their responsibilities changed.

**HF2766—Rodosovich (DFL)****Health & Human Services**

County agreements required between counties for case management services.

**HF2767—Peterson (DFL)****Appropriations**

Purple loosestrife control appropriated money.

**HF2768—Tompkins (IR)****Environment & Natural Resources**

Emissions inspection; performance-based fees established.

**HF2769—Kalis (DFL)****Governmental Operations**

Handicapped accessibility provided in state buildings, with an access review board established.

**HF2770—Osthoff (DFL)****Financial Institutions & Housing**

Community reinvestment evaluations and ratings provided for financial institutions owned by interstate bank holding companies.

**HF2771—Otis (DFL)****Rules & Legislative Administration**

Human rights; memorial to Soviet Union to continue human rights reforms.

**HF2772—Brown (DFL)****Appropriations**

Public television; Pioneer Public Television Station in Appleton appropriated money from bond proceeds to provide noncommercial television in southwestern Minnesota.

**HF2773—Nelson, K. (DFL)****Taxes**

Alternative minimum tax provisions changed for effective dates.

**HF2774—Clark (DFL)****Appropriations**

Minneapolis appropriated proceeds from state bond sales for cost of acquiring additional land for Peavey Park.

**HF2775—Clark (DFL)****Appropriations**

Minneapolis community development agency appropriated money from state bond sales for certain low-income housing costs.

**HF2776—Clark (DFL)****Appropriations**

Chemical dependency; proceeds from state bond sales appropriated for preparation of urban detoxification and sobering station.

**Thursday, March 15****HF2777—Rest (DFL)****Taxes**

Public debt provisions changed.

**HF2778—Nelson, K. (DFL)****Health & Human Services**

Mental retardation; payment rates changed for intermediate care facilities.

**HF2779—McLaughlin (DFL)****Taxes**

Metropolitan revenue distribution system modified, with a crime and social services disparities fund created.

**HF2780—Stanisus (IR)****Ways & Means**

Budget; legislative budget commission and office established to review state expenditures, Legislative Commission on Planning and Fiscal Policy modified, and money appropriated.

**HF2781—Brown (DFL)****Taxes**

Grasshopper control tax levies authorized.

**HF2782—Stanisus (IR)****Governmental Operations**

Minnesota State Retirement System; prior credit purchased by a certain former employee of Department of Military Affairs.

**HF2783—Olsen, S. (IR)****Taxes**

Sales and use taxes from solid waste disposal services accounted for separately.

**House Advisories****Monday, March 12****HA38--Beard (DFL)****Regulated Industries**

A proposal to study links between cancer and exposure to electromagnetic fields.

**First Readings/Senate Bills****Thursday, March 8****SF443--Pogemiller (DFL)****Health & Human Services**

Establishing standards for the use of nitrous oxide in the practice of podiatric medicine.

**SF1730--Spear (DFL)****Financial Institutions & Housing**

Permitting interstate banking with an additional reciprocating state.

**SF1852--Pogemiller (DFL)****Judiciary**

Providing for the manner of filling vacancies in the office of judge.

**Monday, March 12****SF1906--Stumpf (DFL)****Judiciary**

Making the crime victim ombudsman accountable to the commissioner of public safety; clarifying that certain juvenile records are available to the ombudsman.

**SF1943--Marty (DFL)****Judiciary**

Lengthening the statute of limitations for Human Rights Act violations.

**SF1695--Berglin (DFL)****Health & Human Services**

Authorizing allocation of central, affiliated, or corporate costs for nursing homes and intermediate care facilities for persons with mental retardation and related conditions.

**SF1813--Berglin (DFL)****Health & Human Services**

Amending the medicare certification requirement for nursing homes.

**SF1922--Solon (DFL)**

Referred to the Chief Clerk for comparison with HF2028--Carlson, L. (DFL)

Esempting credit unions from certain requirements for closing agents.

**SF1947--Peterson, R.W. (DFL)**

Referred to the Chief Clerk for comparison with HF2029--Jennings (DFL)

Naming and designating as Moberg Trail that portion of Constitutional Route No. 46 located within Chisago County.

**SF1783--Renneke (IR)****Education**

Allowing certain school districts to change education districts.

**Wednesday, March 14****SF1680--Frederickson, D.R. (IR)****Regulated Industries**

Providing absentee ballots are secret ballots.

**SF1794--Metzen (DFL)**

Referred to the Chief Clerk for comparison with HF2001--O'Connor (DFL)

Redefining the term "veteran."

**SF1691--Berglin (DFL)****Judiciary**

Establishing procedures for the placement and removal of children in foster homes.

**SF1717--DeCramer (DFL)****Education**

Establishing a task force to coordinate educational opportunity on the border between Minnesota and South Dakota.

**SF1820--Vickerman (DFL)****Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs**

Permitting a county board to assign certain duties.

**SF1973--Berglin (DFL)**

Referred to the Chief Clerk for comparison with HF2097--Dawkins (DFL)

A resolution memorializing the president and Congress to reauthorize the low-income home energy assistance program and to increase its appropriation for Fiscal Year 1991 and subsequent years.

**SF1777--Lantry (DFL)**

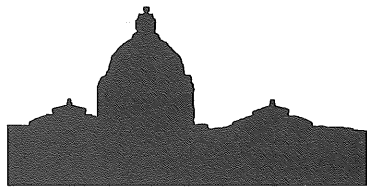
Referred to the Chief Clerk for comparison with HF2043--Kostohryz (DFL)

Ramsey County; setting the terms of charter commission members.

**SF2353--Piper (DFL)**

Referred to the Chief Clerk for comparison with HF2487--Cooper (DFL)

Vocational rehabilitation; providing for supported employment programs.



Coming Up Next Week . . .

March 19-March 23, 1990

## Committee Schedule

This schedule is subject to change.  
For information updates, call House Calls  
at (612) 296-9283. All meetings are open  
to the public.

### MONDAY, March 19

**8:00 a.m.**  
**Agriculture, Transportation & Semi-State Division/  
APPROPRIATIONS**  
400S State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. James Rice  
**Agenda:** Capital budget draft review.

**Education Division/  
APPROPRIATIONS**  
300N State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Lyndon Carlson  
**Agenda:** Capital bill

**State Departments Division/  
APPROPRIATIONS**  
300S State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Phyllis Kahn  
**Agenda:** Agency budget hearings.

**8:30 a.m.**  
**Health & Human Services Division/  
APPROPRIATIONS**  
200 State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Lee Greenfield  
**Agenda:** A continuation of the governor's supplemental budget recommendations for the Department of Human Services.

**10:00 a.m.**  
**REGULATED INDUSTRIES**  
10 State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Joel Jacobs  
**Agenda:** HF2340 (Kahn) On-sale liquor licenses issued by cities and counties for sales until 3 a.m. SF1680/HF2424 (Dempsey) Absentee ballots are secret ballots.

**12:30 p.m.**  
**Education Finance Division/  
EDUCATION**  
300N State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Ken Nelson  
**Agenda:** HF2477 (McEachern) Education district provisions changed in comprehensive bill. Also on the agenda is education district bargaining.

**1:30 p.m.**  
**RULES & LEGISLATIVE  
ADMINISTRATION**  
400N State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Dee Long  
**Agenda:** Special Orders.

**2:30 p.m.**  
The House will meet in session.

### TUESDAY, March 20

**8:00 a.m.**  
**Agriculture, Transportation &  
Semi-State Division/  
APPROPRIATIONS**  
400S State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. James Rice  
**Agenda:** The governor's consolidated funds proposal.

**Education Division/  
APPROPRIATIONS**  
300N State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Lyndon Carlson  
**Agenda:** To be announced.

**Health & Human Services Division/  
APPROPRIATIONS**  
200 State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Lee Greenfield  
**Agenda:** To be announced.

**State Departments Division/  
APPROPRIATIONS**  
300S State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Phyllis Kahn  
**Agenda:** Agency budget hearings.

**TAXES**  
5 State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Paul Anders Ogren  
**Agenda:** HF2457 (Rest) Public finance; authority allocated to issue tax exempt revenue bonds. (Laid over from 3/15/90 meeting.) HF2480 (McLaughlin) Technical corrections provided for sales, motor vehicle excise, income, franchise, insurance, fuel, gambling, property, and other taxes.

**10:00 a.m.**  
**Metropolitan Affairs Subcommittee/  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT &  
METROPOLITAN AFFAIRS**  
5 State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Phil Carruthers  
**Agenda:** An overview of metropolitan agencies affirmative action efforts.

**12:00 noon**  
**Legislative Audit Commission**  
400N State Office Building  
Chr. Sen. John Brandt  
**Agenda:** The legislative auditor will release the evaluation report on local government spending.

### WEDNESDAY, March 21

**8:00 a.m.**  
**Agriculture, Transportation &  
Semi-State Division/  
APPROPRIATIONS**  
400S State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. James Rice  
**Agenda:** Operating budget hearings.

**Education Division/  
APPROPRIATIONS**  
300N State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Lyndon Carlson  
**Agenda:** To be announced.

**Health & Human Services Division/  
APPROPRIATIONS**  
200 State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Lee Greenfield  
**Agenda:** To be announced.

**State Departments Division/  
APPROPRIATIONS**  
300S State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Phyllis Kahn  
**Agenda:** Agency budget hearings.

**Education Finance Division/  
EDUCATION**  
5 State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Ken Nelson  
**Agenda:** The final action on HF2200 (Nelson, K.) Education department initiatives proposed.

**2:30 p.m.**  
The House will meet in session.

### THURSDAY, March 22

**8:00 a.m.**  
**Agriculture, Transportation  
& Semi-State Division/  
APPROPRIATIONS**  
400S State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. James Rice  
**Agenda:** Operating budget hearings.

**Education Division/  
APPROPRIATIONS**  
300N State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Lyndon Carlson  
**Agenda:** To be announced.

**Health & Human Services Division/  
APPROPRIATIONS**  
200 State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Lee Greenfield  
**Agenda:** To be announced.

**State Departments Division/  
APPROPRIATIONS**  
300S State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Phyllis Kahn  
**Agenda:** Agency budget hearings.

**9:00 a.m.**  
**Task Force on Education  
Organization**  
Kelly Inn Buffington Room, St. Paul  
Chr. Ken Kelsey  
**Agenda:** Objectives: a legislative update of the task force recommendations and other bills, consideration and approval of "Principles for Organizing Education", review the task force's goals in relation to the national goals, continue development and discussion of conceptual framework for reorganization and restructuring, and reflect on accomplishments and where to go next. This meeting is scheduled to last all day.

**12:30 p.m.**  
**Community Stabilization &  
Development Division/ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT**  
300S State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Karen Clark  
**Agenda:** Community resources program update from 1989 Year of the Neighborhood legislation.

**Rural Resource Development Division/  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**  
300N State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Mary Murphy  
**Agenda:** To be announced.

**2:30 p.m.**  
The House will meet in session.

#### **FRIDAY, March 23**

**8:00 a.m.**  
**Agriculture, Transportation  
& Semi-State Division/  
APPROPRIATIONS**  
400S State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. James Rice  
**Agenda:** Operating budget hearings.

**Education Division/  
APPROPRIATIONS**  
300N State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Lyndon Carlson  
**Agenda:** To be announced.

**Health & Human Services Division/  
APPROPRIATIONS**  
200 State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Lee Greenfield  
**Agenda:** To be announced.

**State Departments Division/  
APPROPRIATIONS**  
300S State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Phyllis Kahn  
**Agenda:** Agency budget hearings.

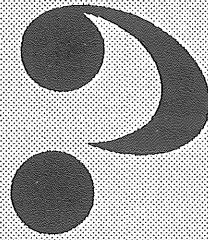
**EDUCATION**  
10 State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Bob McEachern  
**Agenda:** HF2200 (Nelson, K.) Education Department initiatives proposed. (Omnibus education finance bill.)

**TAXES**  
5 State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Paul Anders Ogren  
**Agenda:** HF2478 (Ogren) Internal Revenue Service references updated. This meeting may last all day.

**9:00 a.m.**  
**Task Force on Education  
Organization**  
Kelly Inn Buffington Room, St. Paul  
Chr. Ken Kelsey  
**Agenda:** A continuation of Thursday, March 22 meeting. Objectives: a legislative update of the task force recommendations and other bills, consideration and approval of "Principles for Organizing Education," review the task force's goals in relation to the national goals, continue development and discussion of conceptual framework for reorganization and restructuring, and reflect on accomplishments and where to go next. This meeting is scheduled to last until noon.

**12:30 p.m.**  
**Dairy & Livestock Subcommittee/  
AGRICULTURE**  
500N State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Rick Krueger  
**Agenda:** Public hearing on stray voltage.

## *Do you know*



The state's "Celebrate Minnesota" campaign, includes the Mankato Area International Festival on April 8.

The 10-year-old festival, sponsored by Mankato State University (MSU) and the Mankato Mall, offers "A Rainbow of Cultures" this year.

Downtown Mankato will host the festival from noon to 4:30 p.m. A "Parade of Nations" will begin the day, followed by style and entertainment shows. And there'll be ethnic foods, gifts, and displays.

Pre-festival activities include an ethnic film festival April 2-4, with showings from 7:15 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

In a new event this year, an international king and queen will be selected April 5 based on contestants' written essays titled, "What Being an International Student in the U.S.A. Means to Me." Following the crowning, there'll be an "International Dance-A-Rama."

By celebrating and providing a better understanding of the cultures of other people, the festival works to promote world peace. Last year, 5,000 people attended the festival.

For more information, contact the MSU International Student Office at (507) 389-1281.

*Celebrate*  
  
**MINNESOTA 1990**



Minnesota House of Representatives  
Public Information Office

Minnesota House of Representatives  
Public Information Office  
175 State Office Building • St. Paul, MN 55155-1298  
(612) 296-2146 1-800-657-3550

Speaker of the House: Robert Vanasek  
Majority Leader: Dee Long  
Minority Leader: William H. Schreiber

For general information, call:  
**House Information Office**  
(612) 296-2146 or  
1-800-657-3550

**FAX: (612) 296-1563**

To obtain a copy of a bill, call:  
**Chief Clerk's Office**  
(612) 296-2314

To find out about bill introductions or  
the status of a specific bill, call:  
**House Index Office**  
(612) 296-6646

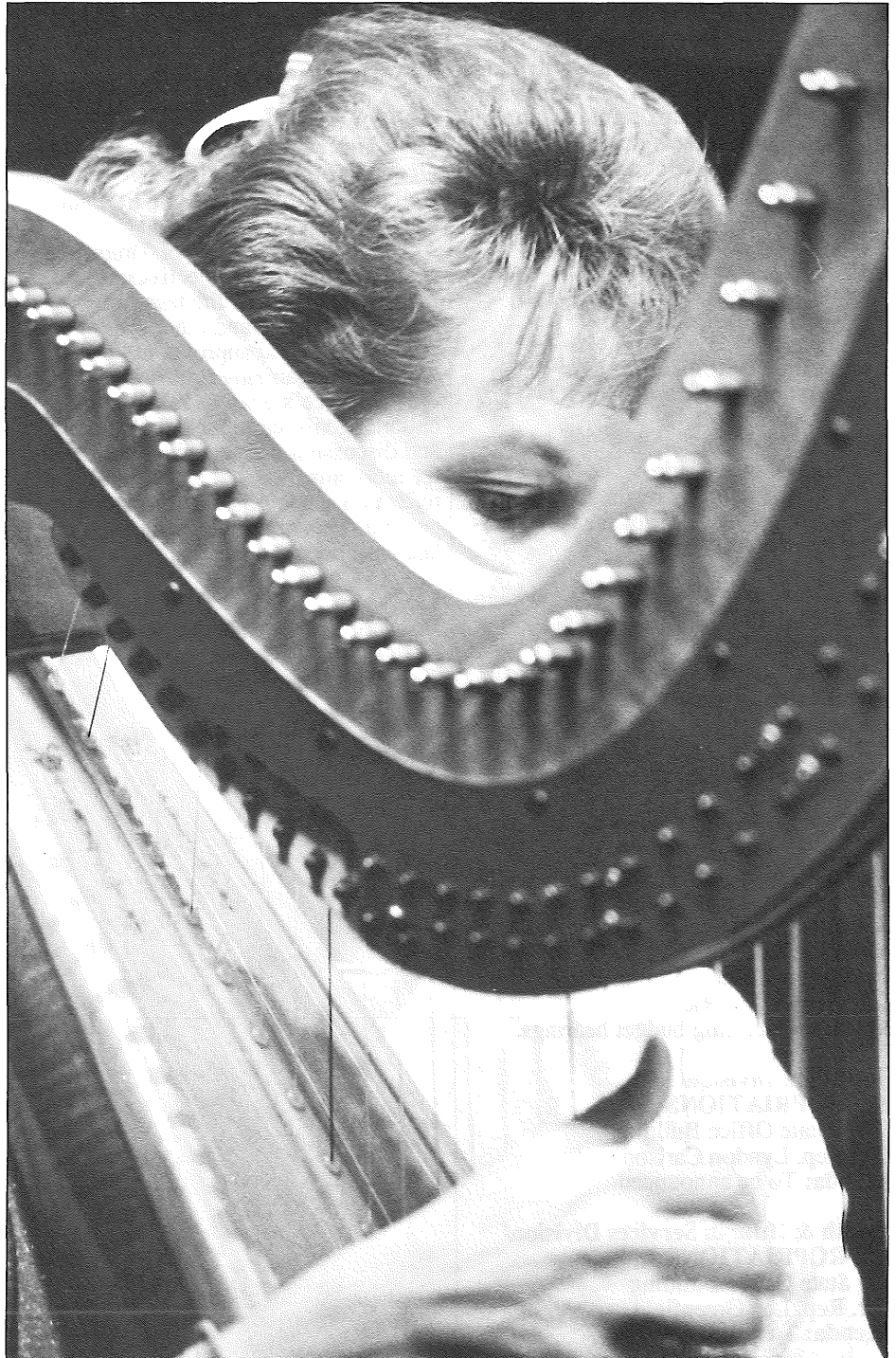
#### **24-Hour Recorded Information**

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

For a report of the day's committee  
action, call:  
**Committee Report (612) 297-1264**

#### **For Hearing Impaired**

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



The   
Last Frame

Harpist Trudy Finden filled the House chamber with music at the rededication ceremony March 13.