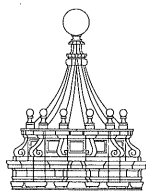


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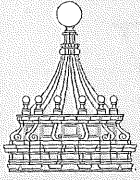
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Session Weekly

Minnesota House of Representatives • April 26, 1991 • Volume 8, Number 16





Session Weekly
is a publication of the
Minnesota House of
Representatives Public
Information Office.

During the 1991 Legislative Session, each issue reports daily House action Thursday (2:30 p.m.) to Thursday (2:30 p.m.) each week, lists bill introductions and advance committee schedules, and provides other information. The publication is a service of the Minnesota House. No fee.

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Session Weekly (ISSN 1049-8176) is published weekly during the legislative session by the Minnesota House of Representatives Public Information Office, 100 Constitution Ave., St. Paul, MN 55155-1298. Second Class postage paid at St. Paul, MN, and at additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *Session Weekly*, Public Information Office, Minnesota House of Representatives, St. Paul, MN 55155-1298.

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Flashback

It was just 100 years ago that the Minnesota Legislature established Itasca State Park, the first major state park in Minnesota.

While the state park system celebrates its centennial this year, it's interesting to note that the legislative process hasn't changed much between then and now.

Although the Legislature created the park in 1891, it didn't appropriate a dime for land and gave its first commissioner, Jacob Brower, just \$5 per day for expenses (with a maximum of \$300). It was, as Brower said, a "park on paper."

Creating something and not funding it is a frequent criticism of the Legislature — one that will no doubt surface again as this session moves into its appropriations phase. The creation of the park is an interesting study of how concepts and ideas at the Legislature often precede hard cash by several years.

The only appropriation in 1891 for the park was the \$5 per diem, capped at a maximum of 60 days. The measure slipped by the Senate without a vote to spare but had a sizable majority in the House.

In the following session in 1893, the park fared a little better, but not by much. The Legislature appropriated \$1,326 to buy land.

"Mr. Brower stood on the portico of the old Capitol building as the members filed out, defeated but not discouraged and declared that while the burdens and actions were obstructive legislation that 'Itasca Park shall live forever,'" wrote C.L. Llewellyn in the May 1921 edition of *Western Magazine*.

In 1895, the Legislature raised Brower's pay to \$600 per year and gave him up to \$1,000 to build a home and up to another \$1,000 to construct a park building. Apparently realizing that his pay was still very modest, the Legislature also allowed him to use up to 10 acres of park land to grow food.

In 1897, the Legislature didn't appropriate anything for the park. But Brower and the park finally hit pay dirt in 1899 when the Legislature appropriated \$21,000 for the purchase of land — eight years after the park was first formed.

The Itasca example points to the need for patience when lobbying the Legislature for funding. But legislators can also use Jacob Brower as an example of how commitment to a cause eventually prevails.

During the park's lean times, Brower, himself a former member of the House, spent more than \$5,100 of his own money to keep the park going.

— Grant Moos

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On the cover: Support for a measure that would extend health care insurance to all Minnesotans received a lot of vocal support on the Capitol mall April 25. The petition extended from the front of the Capitol to the Veterans Service Building.

—Photo by Laura Phillips

Highlights



Appropriations

The divisions of the Appropriations Committee this week continued to discuss elements of omnibus appropriations bills, which are to include various bonding proposals as well.

Originally, the five divisions were to have completed their work by either late this week or early next week, but final action has been delayed, says committee Chair Rep. Wayne Simoneau (DFL-Fridley).

Simoneau says the appropriation packages now coming together are "about 95 percent" in agreement with earlier spending recommendations suggested by Gov. Arne Carlson in February.

The following is a breakdown of some of the preliminary allocations made by four of the five appropriations divisions. The Environment and Natural Resources Division is expected to complete much of its work soon.

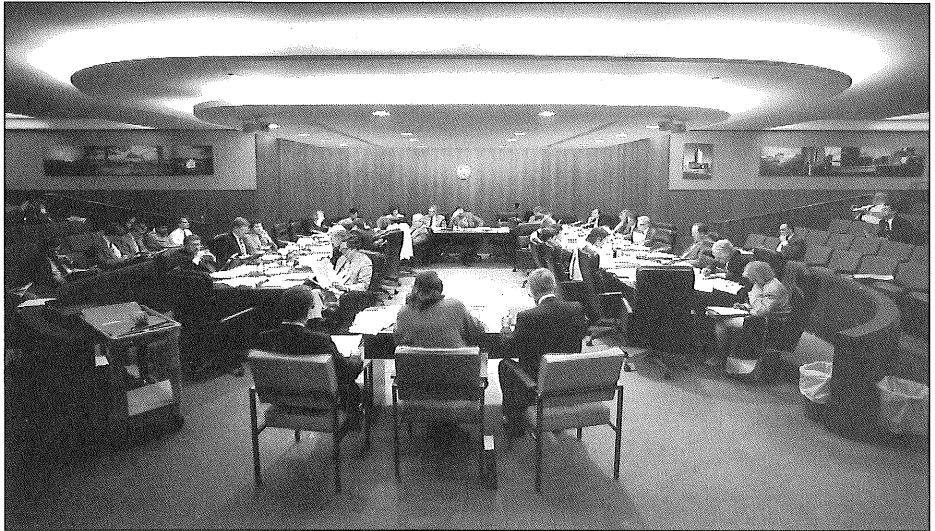
Economic Development, Infrastructure, and Regulation Division

The Department of Gaming would be eliminated, but the World Trade Center would still receive some state money under a spending package being debated in the Appropriations Committee's Economic Development, Infrastructure, and Regulation Division.

The division is expected to make a final decision on the state spending package by the end of April and refer it to the full Appropriations Committee.

Under the proposal, the World Trade Center would receive \$1.3 million in the next biennium — \$3 million less than it received in the current two-year spending cycle. Gov. Arne Carlson, however, had called for its funding to be eliminated.

The \$1.3 million appropriation would be taken from the Greater Minnesota Corporation (GMC). GMC funding would drop to about \$12 million. In addition, the lottery funds dedicated to



Although the April 24 deadline has passed for House policy committees to review their bills, the Taxes Committee (shown here) and the Appropriations Committee will continue to meet.

the GMC and a state college building fund would be diverted into the state's general fund.

When finalized, the \$310 million package could top the governor's recommendations by more than \$40 million in the next biennium.

The measure adds about \$15 million for road construction and maintenance over earlier recommendations by Gov. Arne Carlson. Other additions to Carlson's state spending suggestions include funding for a statewide presidential primary next year, and considerably more money for public transit, including money to move throngs of fans expected for the Super Bowl in Minneapolis next January.

The bill funds a wide array of state agencies and government-related offices, including the state departments of Transportation, Commerce, Public Safety, and Public Service, as well as the Secretary of State's Office and the Minnesota Historical Society.

The bill would also transfer nearly 11 percent of the motor vehicle excise tax (MVET) to the trunk highway fund. It also would tap \$4.5 million in MVET funds for ethanol fuel subsidies and about \$10 million more to finance public transit statewide.

Some proposed cuts for arts and humanities programs would be restored under the bill. The State Arts Board, for example, would receive about \$8.4 million during the next biennium, the same as the current biennium. It had been targeted for about \$1.9 million in cuts.

Education Division

The Appropriations Committee's Education Division gave preliminary approval April 25 to a two-year \$2 billion higher education proposal.

The plan calls for a \$185 million allotment to the Higher Education Coordinating Board, \$330 million for the technical colleges, \$197 million for community colleges, \$358 million for state universities, and \$896 million for the University of Minnesota. In addition, a \$2 million allocation was approved for the Mayo Medical Foundation. All of the appropriations are for the 1992-1993 biennium.

Total cuts to higher education spending came to \$88 million, \$55 million less than the governor recommended.

Some key items in the measure include

the development of a school of law enforcement in the metro area through the State University System. The school's mission would be to advance the profession of law enforcement. An advisory committee comprised of people knowledgeable in law enforcement and education would also be established to advise the college systems about how to set up peace officer education programs.

The proposal also calls for the establishment of the Minnesota Academic Excellence Scholarship Program, created to reward students who have demonstrated outstanding ability in certain academic subject areas. The program, also called the collegiate merit scholarship program, would be financed through the sale of special collegiate license plates from the Department of Public Safety.

Other provisions in the bill include defining the course credit limit requirements for full- and part-time students. Full-time students would have to be enrolled for a minimum of 15 credit hours per quarter or semester; part-time students would have to be enrolled for eight credit hours.

Human Resources Division

The chemical dependency units at seven of the state's regional treatment centers would remain open — but several workers would be laid off — under a proposal given conditional approval April 23 by the Appropriations Committee's Human Resources Division.

The proposal calls for laying off 52 of the 212 employees who work in the centers' chemical dependency units. Gov. Arne Carlson had called for closing all of the units and laying off all the employees, then later considered allowing one unit — most likely one in St. Peter — to remain open.

The division's proposed layoffs were included among many other measures given conditional approval this week and last as lawmakers in the division continued to sift through the human resources budget.

The division also gave conditional approval for:

- expanding the eligibility requirements for people to receive workers' compensation benefits.

- an 8.5 percent increase in the next biennium for the Department of Human Rights budget, which division members say is necessary for the department to keep pace with its increasing caseload;
- an 18 percent increase in Head Start funding, a child development program for low-income families;
- a 6 percent increase in family planning grants, a proposal recommended by the governor;
- reductions in special transportation, or non-emergency, reimbursement rates;
- a 3.5 percent average inflationary increase in wages for personal care attendants, private nurses, and alternative care grant providers;
- a delay of the opening of the Silver Bay Veterans Home so that money may instead be used to renovate and operate the Minneapolis and Hastings veterans nursing homes;
- a 4.5 percent increase in salaries at the state's four minority councils, and its council on the disabled; and
- the 10 state health boards to raise their various licensing fees to cover increased operating costs. The division is scheduled to complete its budget allocations April 26.

State Government Division

The State Planning Agency would be abolished by July 1992 under a section of the omnibus appropriations bill that was given preliminary approval April 24 in the Appropriations Committee's State Government Division.

The plan would eliminate 77 of the agency's 131 positions and shift the remainder to several other state agencies, resulting in a \$4 million savings in the next biennium.

The budget of the Department of Trade and Economic Development (DTED) would also be trimmed by \$4 million under the package, which is expected to receive final approval April 26 and then be referred to the full Appropriations Committee.

The bulk of the DTED cutback — \$2 million — would come from the Urban Revitalization Action Program, which is designed to revitalize inner-city neighborhoods.

Overall, the administration requested \$668 million in expenditures to state agencies for the biennium. The division arrived at a preliminary budget of \$667 million April 24, with just over a million left to allocate. Most departments were budgeted at or near the governor's recommendations.

Other provisions contained in the preliminary state agency funding package



Freeman Wicklund, left, and Albert Clouse, right, of the Animal Rights Coalition unrolled petitions on the Capitol steps that contained the signatures of more than 10,000 people who oppose the use of animals in laboratory research. Coalition members placed flowers on the petitions April 23 in memory of animals that were used for research.

included allocations that did not appear in Carlson's recommendations that were added by the committee. They include:

- \$43.5 million to operate the House of Representatives, \$1 million more than suggested by Gov. Arne Carlson;
- \$51,000 to the Minnesota Amateur Sports Commission to hire a women's sports director;
- \$130,000 to the state Attorney General's Office to prepare for litigation over a treaty dispute with the Mille Lacs Chippewa Band; and
- \$35,000 to a general purposes contingent account to pay salary differentials for state employees called up as reservists for Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm — paid only to those who earned less as soldiers than as state employees.



Bonding

State Government Division

Better lighting on the Capitol complex grounds and renovation of a building at the Minnesota Veterans Home in Minneapolis are among the capital improvement projects included in House bonding proposals.

The Appropriations Committee's State Government Division April 24 authorized a total of \$9.2 million in state borrowing authority for these and other projects in the next two-year spending cycle.

The committee authorized \$961,000 in bonding to improve safety through brighter lights and increased electronic surveillance on the Capitol complex. Other bonding projects that would be overseen by the the state Department of Administration include:

- \$400,000 to relocate most of the state's education agencies from the Capitol Square Building into a new facility;
- \$2 million, which would be kept in reserve, to buy privately owned property near the Capitol grounds; and
- \$5 million to continue the Capitol Asset Preservation and Replacement Account.

The Veteran's Home Board would receive the remaining \$895,000 to improve Building 6 at their Minneapolis facility. The bonding proposal, as approved by the division, now moves to the full Appropriations Committee for consideration.

Education Division

The Appropriation Committee's Education Division April 23 approved the bonding sections of the higher education omnibus bill, which included \$11 million worth of safety-related capital improvement projects at the state's four public college systems.

The approved measure was \$22 million shy of the four college systems' \$33 million request, but closely follows Gov. Arne Carlson's bonding recommendations.

The authorization of state bonding authority calls for a \$2.6 million allotment for the community college system, \$1.4 million for the technical colleges, \$5.2 million for state universities, and \$1.9 million for the University of Minnesota.

A total of \$3.6 million of the funds authorized for the State University System would be used for improvements to the heating plant at Moorhead State University, and \$1.3 million would be used for a utility tunnel at Mankato State University.

The bulk of the remaining money was authorized to be used throughout the four systems for a variety of safety-related improvements, ranging from the removal of hazardous substances to bringing buildings up to code.

The measure now moves to the full Appropriations Committee.



Education

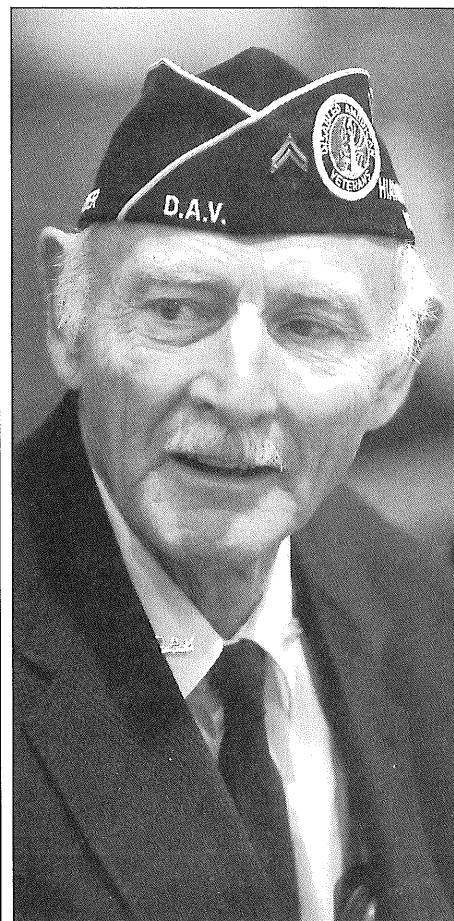
Ed finance bill approved

House education policymakers April 19 finalized their public schools funding bill, a package providing more than \$4.5 billion for students and teachers over the next two years.

The bill (HF700) incorporates many new initiatives, including specifying student outcomes, more localized control of schools, and a longer school year beginning in 1995.

Much of the package approved by the Education Finance Division follows Gov. Arne Carlson's proposed budget, but the measure totals about \$12 million more than the governor had suggested.

Per-student state funding jumps to \$3,050 for elementary students and



Ed Burkhalter of the Disabled American Veterans' Hiawatha Chapter testified before the Transportation Committee April 24 in support of a proposal (HF99) to rename a stretch of U.S. 61 the "Disabled American Veterans Memorial Highway." The bill passed without opposition.

\$3,965 for high school students during each of the next two school years. Overall, total state spending for schools climbs about 7 percent in the next budget cycle, from about \$3.7 billion to \$4.5 billion.

"This is a balancing act; I think it's a good balance," says Rep. Ken Nelson (DFL-Mpls), chair of the division. "I'm proud of this bill, I think it was the best we could have done given [the] recommendations."

The bill was approved on a partisan roll-call vote, with IRs voting against the measure. It now has moved largely intact through the full Education and Taxes committees.

Similar legislation is pending in the Senate, where House Education Committee chair Rep. Bob McEachern (DFL-Maple Lake) says there are several differences between the two bills.

The Senate bill incorporates broader open enrollment provisions that would allow students from neighboring states to attend Minnesota schools, and does not move to lengthen the school year as the House bill does, he says.

The Senate package also shifts more money into staff-development programs for implementing outcome-based education programs, a provision sought by Carlson and teachers' groups. The House bill instead uses the money to maintain several existing school programs.

HF700 was referred to the Appropriations Committee for further review.

School consolidation worries

The omnibus education bill was approved by the Taxes Committee April 23 and the Education Committee the day before, where it was sharply criticized by Rep. Dennis Ozment (IR-Rosemount) and other Independent-Republicans.

Ozment dubbed the measure a "forced consolidation bill" that would turn the commissioner of education into an "educational czar" who would be "taking over school districts from St. Paul."

Ozment was referring to a portion of the bill that would require five-year plans to be filed with the Department of

Education for school building projects costing more than \$50,000. The department would have to approve the projects before they could proceed.

Ozment also attacked a provision that would require comment from adjacent school districts on any school district plan that calls for new facilities or an expenditure of more than \$1 million on one site.

But supporters of the bill, including Rep. Becky Kelso (DFL-Shakopee), who chairs the Public Facilities Subcommittee of the Education Committee, say that better planning is necessary.

"Indicating to school districts that they should talk to each other [about use of public facilities] is not forced consolidation," says Kelso. "That is good planning."

An amendment to expand school boards to include one teacher and one student as non-voting members was added to HF700. The Education Committee approved the \$4.5 billion education package by a 19-12 margin.

The measure calls for slight per-pupil funding increases in each of the next two years and maintains funding for transportation and special education by shifting funds that the governor had proposed for early childhood initiatives.

HF700 was referred to the Taxes Committee for further review.

College 'distance-learning'

To better compete in the future, all Minnesota colleges may have to become "technological schools," says one of the state's higher education officials.

Joe Graba, deputy executive director of the Higher Education Coordinating Board (HECB), says colleges likely will have to use inter-active television and other technological innovations to spread their dwindling share of state funding to the growing numbers of students.

Such high-tech steps would allow the state's colleges to cut costs without reducing access, he says.

Colleges in several states are already using "distance-learning" television as a way to reach non-traditional students in remote locations. Maine community colleges recently began using two-way television for classes, increasing the number of "schools" from 11 to 75. And postgraduate courses are now being offered through a Colorado university via satellite.

Some Minnesota higher education systems — primarily the technical colleges — have recently begun limited use of two-way television. But high-tech teaching remains an untapped resource, particularly in engineering and science fields, says Graba.

At present, only the University of Minnesota offers advanced coursework in those areas, and the programs are generally geared toward full-time students, he says. This bars many working adults from seeking post-baccalaureate degrees, but could be reversed through distance-learning courses.

The HECB is also considering using the proposed STARS system, a statewide telecommunication system now being developed through the state Department of Administration, for teaching purposes, says Graba.

Graba spoke before Higher Education Division of the Education Committee April 24 as the division was considering a proposed merger of three of the state's college systems.



They let Rudy and Lola Perpich in, but not at the state Capitol. Dan Miller, *left*, and Dan Shinderlar, *right*, of the Minnesota Historical Society hang the controversial portrait of the Perpiches April 22 on the main floor of the Historical Society Building.



Sex abuse reporting deadlines

The victims of sexual abuse would have more time to report those crimes under a measure now moving through the Minnesota Legislature.

The House recently gave final approval to HF345, a bill that would lift certain sexual abuse statutes of limitations, allowing minor victims of sexual abuse to report the offense to authorities at any time. Prosecutors would then have to file criminal charges within two years.

Generally, minor victims now have only until age 25 to ask prosecutors to file charges. A separate provision in the bill would also give sexual assault victims six years following the discovery of the abuse to file civil lawsuits in such cases; the current limit is two years.

The same bill, authored by Rep. Kathleen Vellenga (DFL-St. Paul), would also extend the reporting time allowed for adult sexual assault victims. An amendment offered by Rep. Peggy Leppik (IR-Golden Valley) would extend the statute of limitations to seven years from the time the offense occurred; the current limit is three years.

Advocates for sexual abuse victims have long argued that such victims need more time to report the crimes because it often takes several years for them to come to terms with the abuse.

The measure, which was given final approval in the House April 17 on a 131-0 vote, passed the Senate Judiciary Committee April 23. It now goes to the Senate floor.

School bus law revisions

Drivers would face more severe penalties for passing school buses if a bill approved April 18 by the House on a 131-0 vote becomes law.

The full House voted to make it a gross misdemeanor — up from a misdemeanor — to pass a school bus on the right when its stop arm is extended and its flashing lights are activated.

That was just one of the several provisions of a school bus operations bill authored by Rep. Mary Murphy (DFL-Hermantown).

The other provisions:

- require applicants for new or renewed drivers' licenses to acknowledge by signature that they are aware of their driving responsibilities with respect to school buses;
- empower local authorities to require bus drivers to use the stop arm and signals at locations off streets and highways if motorists are warned by signs they must stop for the bus; and
- allow school bus roofs to be painted white for increased cooling during warm months.

HF244 now moves to the Senate for consideration.

Welfare fraud penalties

People who are convicted three times of illegally obtaining AFDC or food stamp benefits could be disqualified from the program permanently if a proposal approved in the Judiciary Committee April 22 becomes law.

Under the measure (HF1272), recipients convicted of AFDC or food stamp fraud for the first time would be removed from the program for six months.

Second-time offenders would be banned from the program for a year and three-time and subsequent violators would be removed from the program permanently.

The bill, authored by Rep. Bill Macklin (IR-Lakeville), would also authorize 11 additional fraud prevention projects in counties with the highest AFDC caseloads.

The proposal would require the Department of Human Services to develop training programs for county personnel involved in fraud investigations.

And the bill would require all applicants for food stamps to attest to the truth of the application, under penalty of perjury.

HF1272 was referred to the Appropriations Committee for further review.

Seat belt fines increased

The current \$10 fee for not fastening your seat belt could rise to \$25 if a bill approved April 24 by the Transportation Committee becomes law.

Bill sponsor Rep. Chuck Brown (DFL-Appleton) told members he expects "greater compliance and, therefore, greater safety" if his proposal is adopted.

About 47 percent of Minnesotans currently buckle up, according to a 1990 Department of Public Safety study. A similar survey in 1986, when the seat belt law was first adopted, showed only 20 percent of front-seat riders wore safety belts.

The fine generates \$400,000 annually, says Brown. His proposal (HF628) is expected to raise \$1 million a year. Under the bill, 90 percent of the fine revenue would be distributed to the eight regional emergency medical services systems statewide. The remaining 10 percent would go to the Department of Public Safety for continued traffic safety education programs.

The bill originally contained language that would have allowed law enforcement officials to stop motorists who aren't buckled up, but that provision was deleted from the bill. Currently, motorists can only be tagged for the seat belt violation if they are stopped by officers for another moving violation.

HF628 was referred to the Appropriations Committee for further review.

Civil rights deadline

A bill that would, in some cases, extend to two years the statute of limitations within which victims of discrimination can file a civil suit or lodge a complaint with the Department of Human Rights was approved by the Judiciary Committee April 23.

Rep. Alice Hausman (DFL-St. Paul) initially proposed extending the current one-year statute of limitations to two years for all discrimination victims.

But the bill (HF1170) was criticized by the state Department of Human Rights, which says a two-year limitation would create a glut of cases from people who have fuzzy memories of the circumstances of their disputes.

The Department of Human Rights makes probable cause rulings on all claims that are filed with them. They try to bring cases with merit to an administrative resolution, and turn unsettled disputes over to the Attorney General's Office.

The Attorney General then files suit on behalf of the state and the person who was allegedly discriminated against.

Rep. Loren Solberg (DFL-Bovey) offered an amendment, which was approved by the committee, that outlined which types of cases would fall under the one-year limit and which would be extended to two years.

Sexual harassment cases would be granted the two-year statute of limitations. And others who lodge a discrimination complaint with either local or state human rights officials within one year would be granted two years to file a civil suit in court.

"My understanding is, at least in the sexual harassment cases . . . they are more difficult to come to grips with," says Solberg.

The bill (HF1170) now goes to the House floor.

Butane ban for minors

The Judiciary Committee April 22 favored adding butane to the list of toxic substances that retailers cannot legally sell to minors.

The compound, used in cigarette lighters and in products for lighting coals on backyard grills, is also being inhaled by kids seeking a quick and inexpensive high.

Chief author Rep. Karen Clark (DFL-Mpls) says Minnesota kids pay heavily for the brief high from inhaling butane — risking damage to their central nervous systems, and even death.

Included among the four teenagers in Minnesota who died from sniffing chemicals in 1990 was a 16-year-old St. Paul Academy student who died after inhaling lighter fluid, says Clark.

The Minnesota Retail Merchants Association opposes the bill. Association president Judy Cook said that retailers shouldn't face misdemeanor charges for customers' misuse of everyday products.

"The youth who wants to find something to inhale will always find new

compounds and inhalants to abuse that are found in everyday products that are readily available," says Cook.

As part of the inhalants law, retailers also would be required to display a "conspicuous" sign outlining the products banned for sale to minors. Currently, retailers are prohibited from selling to minors glue, cement, and aerosol paints that contain intoxicating chemicals.

The measure (HF1196) now moves to the House floor.



Government

Gender balancing the boards

A bill designed to bring gender-balance to state boards and commissions was approved April 23 by the Governmental Operations Committee.

"Women bring a distinctive voice to public service," says bill sponsor Rep. Phyllis Kahn (DFL-Mpls). "We need to ensure these opportunities exist."

Under the bill (HF1114), whenever a vacancy occurs on a state board or commission, a person of the opposite sex of the majority of panel members would be appointed to fill the position.

Appointed offices, says Kahn, are often "training grounds" for future governmental service. By increasing female appointments, she says "the probability of more women running for elective office also increases."

Although Minnesota has more women in elective office than most states, the state's report card for gender-balanced boards and commissions needs work, says Kahn. Of 1,819 appointed positions statewide, only 667, or 38 percent, are female, according to a Minnesota Women's Political Caucus survey. And 49 state-appointed panels have no women, or only one woman, as members.

Rep. Leo Koppendrayner (IR-Princeton) says he voted against the bill because it would be a disservice to women to appoint them "not because they earned it, but because they needed to be appointed."

Kahn, however, countered that the quality of appointments is not the only issue.

"True equality will not be achieved when one superior woman makes it, but

when female mediocrity marches at the same rate as male mediocrity," she says.

HF1114 now moves to the House floor for further consideration.

Super Bowl party favors

Commemorative medallions may be minted in precious metals to celebrate the 1992 Super Bowl to be played in the Metrodome next year.

The Appropriations Committee's State Government Division voted April 24 to allow state treasurer Mike McGrath to arrange for the production and distribution of the collectible medallions to promote next year's big game.

If the treasurer is unable to mint the coins before game time, the enabling language — which will be voted on again as part of the omnibus appropriations bill — would allow McGrath to weigh future Minnesota events for their "medallion-worthiness."

No money is appropriated for the proposal, which allows McGrath to solicit private contributions for the project and to contract with a private company to produce the medallions.

The measure was sponsored by Rep. Steve Trimble (DFL-St. Paul).



Taxes

DFL/IR tax plans

IR legislators say that Minnesota's property tax system is "broken" and that raising the sales tax to buy down property taxes is not the way to fix it. That, in a nutshell, was the debate over the House DFL tax package in the Taxes Committee April 24.

Rep. Paul Ogren (DFL-Aitkin) unveiled the DFL tax plan April 23 that called for an increase in the property tax to 6.5 percent from 6 percent.

Ogren says that his plan will hold homeowner property tax increases to 7 percent, on average, next year compared to the projected 12 to 18 increase that will occur if nothing is done.

A provision in the bill would give counties the "local option" to levy 2 cents of the 6.5-cent tax, which they could then use to hold down local property taxes.

Ogren says those taxes would total \$1.45 billion for the 1992-93 biennium and would replace \$1.4 billion in state funding for homestead and agricultural credit aid (HACA), local government aid (LGA), and other forms of property tax relief in an effort to encourage local accountability and spending restraint.

The Ogren plan would raise income tax rates for the wealthy to 9 percent from 8.5 and 8 percent, but would reduce the property tax rate on high-value homes from 3 percent to 2 percent. It would also reduce the tax rates on apartments from 3.6 percent to 3.35 percent; on duplexes and triplexes from 3 percent to 2.75 percent; and on high-value commercial-industrial property from 4.95 percent to 4.75 percent.

The DFL package is based on using \$300 million of the reserve fund. If enacted, the higher sales tax would begin July 1, 1991.

But Rep. Bill Schreiber (IR-Brooklyn Park) says that the Ogren plan doesn't go far enough to reform a property tax

system that is "broken." Schreiber says that taxpayers deserve more reform for the proposed increases in sales tax and income tax.

Schreiber presented the governor's proposal (HF1187) for property tax reform and for state aids to local governments. Schreiber says that the link between taxes paid and services received has been "nearly severed" in Minnesota.

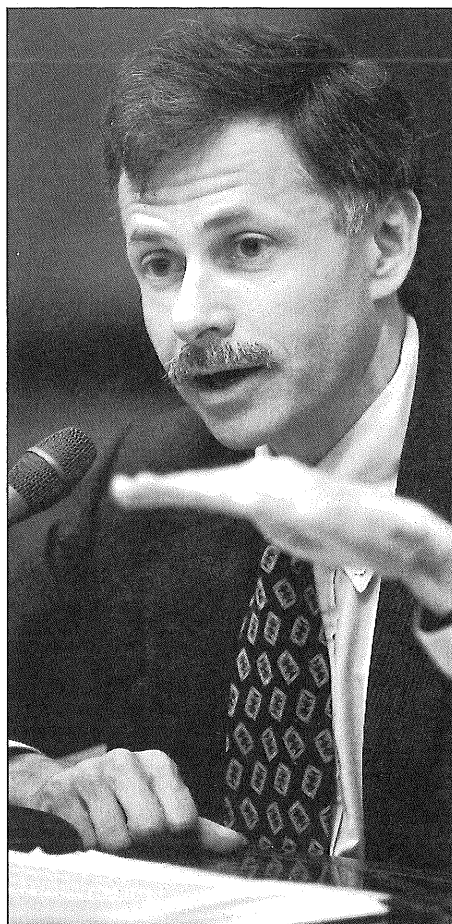
The Carlson proposal offers long-term reform without raising the sales tax, taxing new items, establishing luxury taxes, or raising income taxes significantly — all key components of the DFL plan, says Schreiber.

"Property value is not a good indicator of someone's ability to pay," says Schreiber, adding that 2 percent of income is an ideal threshold for determining property tax and that Minnesota's system would move toward that level under Carlson's proposal.

The Carlson proposal simplifies property taxes into four classes that would all be assessed at 100 percent of market value, but would receive different levels of exemptions. The plan would also reevaluate the "fiscal condition of cities," and establish a new local government aid formula that would base state aid on "the gap" between a city's needs and its ability to raise revenue rather than on what a city or county spends.

Ogren says that under the Carlson plan, property taxes on low-and middle-value homes would raise drastically and that the \$223 million "circuit breaker" for next year in the governor's plan would not be enough to offset the hike from reforms coupled with huge cuts in local government aid.

"You can do all these things [in the Carlson plan] if you're willing to increase a typical home's property taxes by 50 percent — it's like magic," says Ogren. "What we have been hearing from Minnesota taxpayers — and we have been hearing it loud and we have been hearing it clear — is that they want property tax increases halted, and they want it right now."



St. Paul Mayor Jim Scheibel testified before the Taxes Committee April 25 about the effects of the revenue shortfall on St. Paul.



Labor

More rights for disabled

If you become disabled on the job and agree to receive workers' compensation, you can't sue your employer for discrimination if you are later fired or demoted because of that disability.

That was the decision of the Minnesota Supreme Court in the 1989 *Karst vs. F.C. Hayer* case. Rep. Howard Orenstein (DFL-St. Paul) says that's not fair and he hopes to correct the inequity.

The Judiciary Committee April 19 approved a bill (HF1123) sponsored by Orenstein that would allow workers in such cases to sue for discrimination if their employers think they can't perform their old job.

The state Supreme Court ruled that disabled citizens who received workers' compensation don't enjoy the same human rights guarantees afforded other handicapped Minnesotans, says Minnesota Trial Lawyers spokeswoman Karla Wahl.

While the Minnesota Trial Lawyers supports HF1123, the measure is opposed by the Minnesota Defense Lawyers Association and the Minnesota Workers' Compensation Coalition. They say the bill would make employers targets for double claims for a single injury.

But supporters countered that the Karst decision gives employers carte blanche to discriminate against disabled workers who were compensated for their injury and who have no other recourse for subsequent acts of discrimination.

The bill (HF1123), as approved by the Judiciary Committee, now goes to the Rules and Legislative Administration Committee for further consideration.

Workers' comp bill approved

A bill proponents say will save Minnesota employers an estimated \$120 million by cutting workers' compensation premium costs by 12 percent won final approval from the House April 22.

Chief author Rep. Tom Rukavina (DFL-Virginia) told members that "we can never have true reform without management and labor coming together. They

did that, and here's the bill."

The House approved the measure by a 78-56 margin. The measure was then sent to the Senate, where it received preliminary approval with minor amendments April 25.

Before the final House vote was tallied, lawmakers also overwhelmingly approved an amendment to wipe all workers' compensation statutes off the books by July 1993 so the issue will be revisited soon.

"None of us likes to make decisions, unless we have to, and the only way to resolve this issue is if we're forced to do it," says Rep. Henry Kalis (DFL-Walters), the author of the amendment.

Several members, including Rep. Steve Sviggum (IR-Kenyon), criticized the compromise workers' compensation bill and labeled it "cosmetic reform." They unsuccessfully tried to substitute it with a rival bill supported by Gov. Arne Carlson that advocates say would result in a 17 percent savings in workers' compensation premiums.

Minority Leader Terry Dempsey (IR-New Ulm) called Rukavina's proposal "a labor bill that gives false hope," one that "admits it is inadequate by establishing a commission to further study the issue."

The "labor bill" tag stems from a recent decision by the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce to pull their support from HF1422, a measure originally fashioned by AFL-CIO President Bernie Brommer and chamber President Jerry Olson.

"This is a compromise — labor wouldn't cut benefits by \$46 million," says Rukavina, adding that organized labor "has been and remains true to their word."

Cap raised for whistleblowers

Employees who are fired for reporting that a child or vulnerable adult has been abused by a fellow employee can only collect \$1,000 in civil penalties if they prove they were wrongfully dismissed.

"I can't imagine any lawyer taking these [cases] on a contingent fee basis with only a \$1,000 penalty," says Rep. Gloria Segal (DFL-St. Louis Park).

The Judiciary Committee agreed that the current law is inequitable and voted April 23 to increase the maximum civil fine to \$10,000.

The Association for Retarded Citizens supports Segal's measure (HF1099). Association spokeswoman Linda Thunstrum called the Legislature hypocritical for imposing a misdemeanor criminal penalty on caregivers who don't report abuse while not adopting significant protections for those workers who do report it.

"The person who was fired is not the only victim here," says Thunstrum, adding that children and vulnerable adults are victims as well. "They are the ones who will not have the protection of having a mandated reporter who has the safety net and has the support of the Legislature to go ahead and report the abuse and neglect of the provider."

Although the measure originally called for a maximum fine of \$50,000, Segal says she's happy with the \$10,000 cap.

HF1099 now moves to the House floor.



Environment



The "exotic" carp

When exotic is not exotic

They ride in on ships, multiplying to 30,000 per square meter, clogging water pipes and shutting down power plants. These zebra mussels increasingly line Great Lakes beaches.

Purple loosestrife — recently sold as a pretty European flower — invades 38,000 acres of Minnesota wetlands.

A plant called leafy spurge encroaches upon native prairies and pastures — almost impossible to eradicate.

Officials worry about the security of the wild boars fenced in on Minnesota farms and unlicensed shooting preserves. The boars have severely affected the ecosystem in many states. In California, they are multiplying by 10 percent annually despite an open hunting season to eradicate them.

There is a quiet environmental crisis taking place, says the Minnesota Exotic Species Task Force. Plants and animals which are "exotic" — not native to Minnesota — pose an increasing threat to

the ecology of our state.

The Environment and Natural Resources Committee recently approved a bill (HF1120) that its supporters say would strengthen state control over the spread of harmful exotics and establish a review process for any proposed introduction of a non-native species.

The task force says some exotic species are not harmful; rainbow trout and ringneck pheasants, for example, have had no negative impact on the Minnesota environment.

But other exotic species have a competitive edge over native plants and animals, destroying a delicate balance in nature and resulting in costly damage to both the Minnesota ecosystem and the state budget.

Almost as many species of harmful aquatic exotics have been accidentally introduced in Minnesota in the past 10 years as had been introduced in the past century, says the task force.

The task force, created by the 1989 Legislature, has identified 81 plant and animal species that pose a severe or moderate threat.

HF1120, sponsored by Rep. Brad Stanius (IR-White Bear Lake), has been sent to the Appropriations Committee for consideration.

Deer hunting laws

A bill that would allow deer hunters one deer under an archery permit and a second with a firearms permit was given final approval by the House April 18.

Currently, hunters are limited to just one deer per year, although bow hunters can take a second deer under a bonus permit system in areas where the deer population is considered too high.

The bill (HF887) was opposed by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and the Minnesota Deer Hunters' Association. The measure, sponsored by Rep. Leo Reding (DFL-Austin), was approved on a vote of 130-2.

The House also voted April 18 to allow special seasons for disabled hunters, leaving discretion for setting the season with the DNR. The measure (HF877), sponsored by Rep. Alice Johnson (DFL-Spring Lake Park), was approved on a vote of 131-0.

Both HF887 and HF877 are pending in the Senate.



Energy

Weatherproofing help

Low-income residents could weatherproof their homes and make more extensive energy-saving improvements with money from the state under a bill now moving through the House.

The program would be funded with contributions from electric and gas utilities, taking up to 1.5 percent of their gross revenue for conservation efforts. The bill also would offer various incentives, including tax breaks, to utilities to use more renewable fuels and to spend a larger portion of their income on energy-saving projects.

The measure (HF1246), authored by Rep. Joel Jacobs (DFL-Coon Rapids), was approved April 22 by the Regulated Industries Committee and now goes to the Appropriations Committee for further review.

The conservation fund could be used to pay for insulation costs, more efficient appliances, and some heating costs; the eligibility requirements for the proposed program are pending.

The bill also contains more stringent cold-weather shutoff regulations on local utilities and cooperatives.

An amendment that called for a tripling of the inspection fee on fuel stored at refineries or in pipelines, with half of the additional revenue targeted for the conservation fund, was sidelined during the April 22 hearing.

Considerable differences, however, remain between House and Senate versions of the energy package.

Jacobs, chair of House Regulated Industries Committee, says unless language consistent with his plan can be worked out during conference committee negotiations later in the session, he would likely move to delay final action on the bill until next year.



Rep. Tom Osthoff got a first-hand look at the inside of a video lottery machine following an April 24 General Legislation, Veterans Affairs, and Gaming Committee meeting.



Gaming

Video lottery machines

A bill that would authorize the use of video lottery machines in on-sale liquor stores and bars received a hearing April 25 before the General Legislation, Veterans Affairs, and Gaming Committee, but no action was taken.

Committee Chair Rep. Tom Osthoff (DFL-St. Paul) told members he granted the bill a hearing "to get the issue on the table," despite the passing of the April 24 committee deadline.

Since no Senate action has occurred on the bill, it would be unlikely for the measure to pass this session. Osthoff suggested the issue be studied over the interim.

The bill (HF793) is based on the successful South Dakota operation of video lottery machines. There, the machines generate \$24 million in tax revenue for the state each year. Bill sponsor Rep. Jeff Bertram (DFL-Paynesville) says a conservative estimate for potential Minnesota revenue would be \$50 to \$75 million per year.

A minimum of 80 cents of every dollar wagered would be spent on prizes, says Bertram, with 5 percent returning to the state, and the remaining 15 percent divided between the owner of the machines and the bar owner. No more than 12 machines would be allowed per location; the maximum bet would be \$2

per game.

Nearly a dozen people, mostly bar and hotel owners from around the state, spoke in favor of the bill. Nobody testified in opposition.

The bar owners say they can't compete against the Native American-operated "casino centers" around the state.

"In a small community, you depend on the locals, and they meet at my bar and car-pool to the casino," says Steve Tufte, a Park Rapids bar owner.

Betting on (TV) horses

A bill to authorize pari-mutuel betting on horse racing at teleracing centers throughout Minnesota was heard April 24 by the General Legislation, Veterans Affairs, and Gaming Committee, but the panel took no action on the measure.

And since the April 24 policy committee deadline has passed, the measure's (HF601) chances of passage this year remain clouded.

Under the proposal, the licensed sites could broadcast both live horse races from Canterbury Downs and simulcasts of horse races run in other states as authorized by the Minnesota Racing Commission. The year-round facilities would offer free parking and admission, and are expected to serve food and liquor as well.

Proponents of the measure, sponsored by Rep. Leo Reding (DFL-Austin), say the lagging horse racing industry needs a

boost. "The protection and expansion of the live racing industry is the theme of this bill," says Cort Holten of the Minnesota Horsemen's Benevolent Protection Association. He calls simulcasting "a pivotal factor in the economics of racing today."

The telercing centers would function under a "hub-and-spoke" system, with all sites computer-linked to Canterbury Downs. The betting pools would all be lumped together, with each site providing the same wagering options that the racetrack offers.

Daily attendance for live racing at Canterbury Downs has dipped from over 13,000 in 1985 to 7,200 in 1989, according to the Minnesota Racing Commission's 1990 annual report.

"It's not the track that's at risk," says one breeder, "it's the horse farms, and they're the cradle of the industry." Minnesota currently has more than 400 breeding farms, with the racing industry providing an estimated 4,000 jobs statewide.

"Without marketing enhancement, if we continue on the curve we're on, we'll be gone in a very short time," says Holten, adding that telercing facilities would actually increase attendance at the Shakopee track, "by virtue of increased visibility."

Terry McWilliams, director of mutuels and business development for Canterbury Downs, says 12 would be the ideal number of telercing sites, with possible locations in Duluth, East Grand Forks, Mankato, Moorhead, Rochester, St. Cloud, and Winona. He says the metro area could handle only two such centers.



Banking

Interstate banking expansion

Interstate banking will expand to include Michigan and Ohio and bring to 16 the number of states already in the agreement under a plan approved by the Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee April 18.

Interstate banking — which permits banks to be bought or sold within reciprocating states — was first approved by the Legislature in 1986 with four states.

The new legislation may be a turning

point for Minnesota banking. Until this time, the Legislature has approved interstate banking when Minnesota banks sought to acquire banks in other states.

HF1178, sponsored by Rep. Joel Jacobs (DFL-Coon Rapids), is being sought by the Minnesota-based Marquette Bank, which is rumored to be the target of a takeover by an out-of-state bank.

Committee members say they have considered that the addition of Michigan and Ohio, homes to several large banks, raises the odds that more Minnesota-based banks could be acquired by out-of-state interests.

Twenty-one Minnesota banks have already been acquired by out-of-state reciprocating bank holding companies since interstate banking was approved in 1986.

"I'm concerned about what this means for the state of Minnesota," says committee Chair Rep. Wesley Skoglund (DFL-Mpls). "We've done interstate banking so our banking institutions can grow. I don't know that we haven't been grown in upon, as opposed to growing out."

'Reverse mortgage' counseling

Minnesota senior citizens who are "house rich and cash poor" may have a growing number of borrowing options available to them as lending agencies line up to lend them money based on the equity of their homes.

A measure (HF1359) approved April 24 by the Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee is designed to protect those seniors by providing counseling before they sign on the dotted line.

The bill, sponsored by Rep. Loren Thompson (DFL-Waubun), would require that banks offering so-called "reverse mortgages" refer borrowers to approved counseling services so the costs associated with the loan can be explained and other available loan options and resources can be outlined.

A trend toward "reverse mortgages" — loaning senior citizens money based on their home equity — may soon be offered by a number of lenders. Reverse mortgages allow seniors to delay repaying loans and interest until they sell or leave their homes.

"We wanted to be ahead of these agencies to protect the seniors," says Joanne MacDonald, housing director at the Minnesota Senior Federation, Metro Region. "For most seniors, this will be the second biggest financial decision they'll ever make — the first being the purchase of their home. They need to understand what the costs are, and the other alternatives they can use to complement this program or to use instead of it."

Currently, the only reverse mortgages available to seniors are through an FHA-insured program and a private program in the metro area.

Senior citizens wanting more information about reverse mortgages can call the Minnesota Senior Federation at 1-800-365-8765 or at (612) 645-0261 in the Twin Cities.



Transportation

Hennepin County light rail

Metropolitan-area counties could build their own light rail transit (LRT) lines if they get federal funding for them under provisions of a transportation bill now moving through the House.

The Local Government and Metropolitan Affairs Committee April 23 adopted an amendment to HF723 that would give individual county governments the authority to proceed with LRT plans, regardless of the actions of other regional governments. Each county could only build one demonstration line and would not be able to construct tunnels as part of its project.

The measure gives the state Department of Transportation broad powers to review routing and engineering plans. Final approval for any project, however, would still lie with the Regional Transit Board.

The bill now moves to the Appropriations Committee's Economic Development, Infrastructures, and Regulations Division, chaired by Rep. Jim Rice (DFL-Mpls), the author of the LRT amendment.

The bill does not provide any state money for LRT, but continues to allow the counties to levy property taxes to finance their projects. Hennepin County has been doing just that for several years, and could be the only county government with a sufficient tax base to build a demonstration line.

From cows to underwear . . .

Constituent Services gets some odd calls

If you had a problem with the contractor who built your home, you'd probably call the Better Business Bureau — or your attorney.

Likewise, it makes sense to contact your doctor when the problem lies in aches and pains.

But whom do you call when you have problems that don't fit into a clear category, where there is no easy solution in sight?

Your friendly neighborhood representative, of course. Although their primary job is to pass judgment on the many laws considered at the Capitol each year, members are also called on as problem solvers of last resort.

For five-term Rep. Bob Waltman (IR-Elgin), the cow dilemma stands out as among the oddest of requests.

When a farmer in his district found stray cattle on her land — and got no answer to her “Found: Six Cows” ad — Waltman was summoned to help.

The farmer didn't want the cows but didn't want them roaming around southeastern Minnesota either, recalls Waltman. He turned for help to IR Caucus Research, which turned up a 19th century law that required the finder of unclaimed cattle to keep them for a year before they could be sold at auction, with the proceeds going to local school districts.

“She was very disappointed,” says Waltman. “She didn't want the cattle mixing with her purebred stock.”

Luckily, the dilemma came to a happy end when the cows' owner belatedly showed up. But the story illustrates how legislators, like everyone else, are limited in their ability to fix problems.

That doesn't stop people from turning to their lawmakers for help, however. Lynn Bolnick, director of the DFL Caucus Constituent Service Division, says lawmakers are called when people's frustration level is so high they have nowhere else to turn.

And the caucus staffs don't turn down requests for help. If they can't answer the question, they try to find someone who can.

But what about the guy who expected his representative to plug him into the Denver television station that broadcasts all the Broncos' football games?

“Frankly, we weren't able to fix his problem,” admits Bolnick. “There are times you just can't help; sometimes the law says you can't do it.”

Members often get requests from constituents who have run up against the law. These cases can be especially difficult because of the mistaken belief that legislators have the power to overturn a judge's decision, explains Jeanne Danaher, the IR Caucus executive director.

“We can't handle these problems. There are three branches of government and we can't fix a child custody case or fix a bad judgment,” she says.

In these situations, all the caucuses can do is explain the purpose of a law. Similarly, health and human services cases — among the most common fielded by legislators — are usually handled by directing constituents elsewhere for a solution.

But once the constituent is pointed in the right direction, it can be frustrating for IR and DFL staffers not to know what happens.

Take the 1982 case when former Rep. Cal Ludeman was contacted about the plight of a constituent's parents — Czechoslovakian citizens with temporary visas — who were forced to leave the U.S. because they hadn't established permanent residency in time.

The constituent already had the proper Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) papers. The problem was getting the papers to Czechoslovakian officials before they became invalid.

Ludeman and Danaher, an IR legislative analyst at the time, located an envoy in Canada who could quickly dispatch the papers to Eastern Europe.

“After that point, after we got the papers to the envoy, we hadn't heard anything — we didn't know if this elderly couple got out of the country before the curtain came down,” Danaher recalls.

They wondered if they would ever know until about a year later when Danaher got a phone call. “It was a woman [speaking in] broken English, and she was sobbing on the phone. And she said, ‘I just want to tell you that my parents arrived today.’”

Although fulfilling constituent requests gives a sense of satisfaction to both staff and members, they also can translate to votes on election day. And each request, no matter how far-fetched, warrants courteous treatment.

That's why when one constituent, a resident of a county jail, told his legislator that he wasn't getting adequate changes of underwear, DFL caseworker David Hunt didn't hesitate to tackle the complaint.

“He felt daily or thrice weekly changes were in keeping with state standards,” says Hunt. But “he was allowed [only] weekly changes, and that was the complaint.”

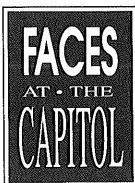
Hunt consulted the state Department of Corrections, and learned that there are jail clothing standards, and that once-weekly changes of underwear were enough under state regulations.

“As it turned out, he didn't have a leg to stand on,” says Hunt.

But it was time well-spent, he adds, even though felons can't vote. After all, they may one day rejoin the voting rolls.

—Joan Wadkins

'Coming to America' a king-sized job for Kong



Song K. Kong fits the part of the happy and easy-going mailman as he makes his daily rounds through the Capitol complex as the assistant postmaster for the House.

But life wasn't always so easy for Kong, 35, who grew up on a farm in Laos and later worked, beginning at age 14, as a military policeman for the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency.

Like many southeast Asians who worked for the U.S. government, Kong was a marked man following the North Vietnamese takeover of Laos in 1975.

"Whoever served in the CIA had no chance to survive because the communists didn't like them," says Kong.

And like most refugees, Kong has quite a story to tell.

Although the U.S. pledged to help Kong and his wife, Lee Her, relocate in America, space was limited on the evacuation flights from Laos and they were forced to stay behind.

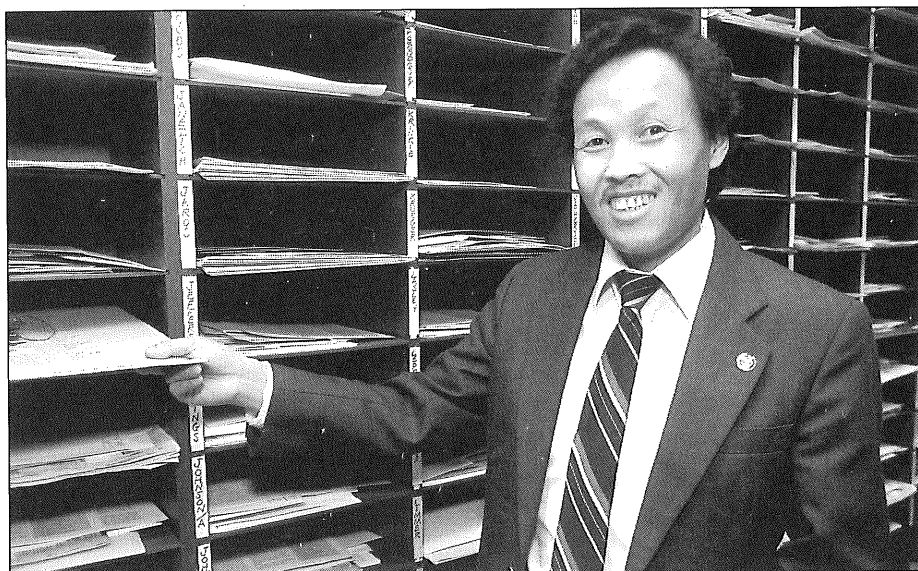
The communist government knew Kong's name and was looking for him, so he and Lee Her took to the jungle, where they lived for four years. They slept under large banana leaves and subsisted on roots, leaves, berries and whatever animals and birds they could kill.

But in 1979, tired of their fugitive life in the jungle, Song and Lee Her joined a group of more than 70 others to flee southward in an attempt to reach the refugee camps in Thailand.

Kong says he became ill during the journey and would have been left behind because he was one of the smallest men in the group. But he had one indispensable skill that the others lacked: he knew the Thai language.

It took 21 days to reach the powerful Mekong River, which forms the border between Laos and Thailand. They waited until nightfall before entering the swift currents of the Mekong, which were made even more severe by a thunderstorm that night.

He says it took six hours to reach the other side. When they emerged, only 47 of the 72 people in the group remained; 25 had drowned as soldiers fired at them



Song Kong has found a niche in the House of Representatives post office, where he has worked since 1987.

from Laos as they fled. But the swim was only one of the obstacles they faced as they entered Thailand.

They were immediately robbed of everything they owned by a group of armed men. Kong, however, was lucky. He had relatives living in Thailand who sent them money. But their odyssey was still far from over.

While their paperwork for refugee status was being processed, Kong and his wife spent one month in a jail where they ate just once a day, had to buy water, and where there were no bathrooms.

Several months later, with the help of the United Nations, Song and Lee Her arrived in New York in February 1980. Although the U.N. provided food and shelter, it didn't provide clothing.

"Can you believe I was walking outside in the snow without shoes when I just arrived?" he asks.

Kong worked for awhile at a manufacturing company in Woodbury, Conn., but a year later moved to Minnesota where his brother lived.

Kong worked as a custodian for two years, then later as kitchen attendant for Northwest Airlines before being laid off. That's when Song's neighbor, Rep. Steve Trimble (DFL-St. Paul), noticed Kong was out of work.

Trimble helped Kong get a job as a House page, a position he held for 1-1/2

years before becoming assistant postmaster in 1987. Kong also serves as a member of the Dayton's Bluff Community Council on St. Paul's east side.

Furthermore, Kong passed his U.S. citizenship exam last March. Lee Her and their five children will be with him when he takes the oath of citizenship this summer.

Although Kong says he's happy to be in America, there are many things he misses from his native land, including a brother he fears he will never see again.

He says America may be the land of the free, but in Laos you are free to hunt and fish whenever you like. Not only does he miss the wildlife; he longs for the way of life as well.

People in Laos, he says, tell time and plant and harvest crops by the singing of the birds and insects.

—Marty Johnson

Tracking the Bills . . . April 18-25, 1991

Committee, Floor & Final Action

Key to Committee/Division Abbreviations

AG	AGRICULTURE	EG	ENERGY	HO	HOUSING
AGR	AGRICULTURE & RURAL DEVELOPMENT	EH	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & HOUSING	JU	JUDICIARY
AP	APPROPRIATIONS	EM	EMPLOYMENT	JU/crjus	Criminal Justice Division
AP/ecir	Economic Development, Infrastructure & Regulation Div.	EN	ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES	LA	LABOR-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS
AP/ed	Education Division	EP	ENERGY & PUBLIC UTILITIES	LG	LOCAL GOVERNMENT & METROPOLITAN AFFAIRS
AP/enr	Environment & Natural Resources Division	ET	ETHICS	LO	LOCAL GOVERNMENT
AP/hr	Human Resources Division	FI	FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS & INSURANCE	MA	METROPOLITAN AFFAIRS
AP/sg	State Government Division	FI/bk	Banking Division	RA	RULES AND ADMINISTRATION
CO	COMMERCE	FN	FINANCE	RE	REDISTRICTING
EC	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	GL	GENERAL LEGISLATION, VETERANS AFFAIRS & GAMING	RI	REGULATED INDUSTRIES
EC/itt	International Trade & Technology Division	GL/elec	Elections Division	RU	RULES & LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATION
ED	EDUCATION	GL/vet	Veterans Affairs Division	TA	TAXES
ED/edfin	Education Finance Division	GO	GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS	TR	TRANSPORTATION
ED/high	Higher Education Division	GO/gs	Government Structures Division	TT	TAXES & TAX LAWS
ED/ef	Education Funding Division	GR	GAMING REGULATION	VG	VETERANS & GENERAL LEGISLATION
EE	ELECTIONS & ETHICS	HH	HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES	WM	WAYS & MEANS

1991 MINNESOTA LEGISLATURE BILL STATUS TRACKING SHEET			COMMITTEE				FLOOR					FINAL
File No.	Author	Committee/Division/Bill Title	Introduction/ Cmte. Referral	Committee/Div.	Committee Report (date/action)	Re-referral	Final Passage	Vote	1st reading in other body/Substitution	Referred to Conference Cmte.	Concurrence & Repassage	Governor's Signature (Chapter Number.)
rp -- recommended to pass a -- amended rpa -- recommended to pass as amended h -- heard nrp -- not recommended to pass v -- vetoed by governor re -- re-referred to another cmte./div. * -- footnote												
		AGRICULTURE										
HF1070	Steensma	Farm management program—	3/25 AG	AG	4/11 rpa		4/18	131-0				
SF1142	Davis	tuition assistance	4/2 AGR									
HF1549	Wenzel	Milk price resolution	4/10 AG	AG	4/18 rpa		4/23	132-0				
SF1414	Sams		4/10 AGR	AGR	4/24 rp							
		APPROPRIATIONS										
HF0073	Tunheim	Maximum effort school loans—	1/22 ED	AP	2/25 rp		3/4	132-0	2/14		4/24*	
SF0069	Stumpf	interest	1/18 ED	FN	3/7 rpa		4/22	60-1				
		Education Division										
		APPROPRIATIONS										
HF1080	K. Nelson	Colleges—funding linked	3/25 ED	AP/ed	4/24 h							
SF1473	Dicklich	to education outcomes	4/17 ED									
HF1471	Dorn	State university board—	4/8 ED	AP/ed	4/22 h							
		chancellor's fund										
		Envir. & Natural Resources Division										
		APPROPRIATIONS										
HF0637	Kahn	Environmental trust fund—	3/4 EN	AP/enr	4/22 rp*							
SF0621	Dahl	LCMR clarified	3/7 EN	EN	4/22 rpa							

*HF0073 Con/Re 4/24 129-0

Bill action between April 18-25

April 26, 1991 / **SESSION WEEKLY 15**

1991 MINNESOTA LEGISLATURE BILL STATUS TRACKING SHEET			COMMITTEE				FLOOR					FINAL
rp -- recommended to pass rpa -- recommended to pass as amended nrp -- not recommended to pass re -- re-referred to another cmte./div.			Introduction/ Cmte. Referral	Committee/Div.	Committee Report (date/action)	Re-referral	Final Passage	Vote	1st reading in other body/Substitution	Referred to Conference Cmte.	Concurrence & Repassage	Governor's Signature (Chapter Number)
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File No.	Author	Committee/Division/Bill Title										
HF1081	Pauly	State park capital fund	3/25 EN	AP/enr	4/23 rp							
SF1042	Price	use modified	3/27 EN	EN	4/11 rp	reFN						
HF1227	Girard	Food licensing fees—	3/27 AG	AP/enr	4/23 rpa							
SF0864	Renneke	changed	3/21 AGR	AGR	4/22 rpa	reFN						
HF1301	Kahn	Releaf program—DNR	4/2 EN	AP/enr	4/23 rpa*							
SF1135	Dahl		4/2 EN									
HF1428	McGuire	Air emission permit fees	4/8 EN	AP/enr	4/23 rp*							
SF1184	Morse		4/4 EN	EN	4/17 rpa	reFN						
HF1474	Stanius	Omnibus game and fish	4/8 EN	AP/enr	4/23 rpa							
SF1333	Berg		4/8 EN	EN	4/24 rpa	reFN						
		Human Resources Division										
		APPROPRIATIONS										
HF0600	Bishop	Juvenile detention services—	3/4 JU	AP/hr	4/25 rp*							
SF0453	McGowan	appropriation	3/4 JU	GO	4/10 rpa	reAP						
HF0695	Rest	Battered women's advisory council	3/7 JU	AP/hr	4/25	reAP						
SF0835	Spear		3/18 HH	HH	4/18 rpa	reGO						
HF0766	McGuire	Intensive community supervision	3/11 JU	AP/hr	4/19 rpa							
SF0526	Spear	program—changes	2/28 JU									
HF0774	Vellenga	Children of color—	3/11 JU	AP/hr	4/25 rpa*							
SF0773	Berglin	protection, placement	3/14 HH	HH	4/25 rpa	reFN						
HF1438	Greenfield	Mental health regulation,	4/8 HH	AP/hr	4/19 rpa*							
SF1045	Berglin	therapy boards created	3/27 HH	GO	4/4 rpa							
		State Government Division										
		APPROPRIATIONS										
HF0262	Pelowski	Capital access program—	2/7 EC	AP/sg	4/23 rp							
SF0196	Beckman	fund claims	2/7 EH	EC	3/18 rp	reFN						
HF1569	Bishop	Public land—	4/11 GO	AP/sg	4/23 rp							
SF1455	Renneke	lease-purchase agreements	4/15 GO									
HF1598	Bishop	Human Rights Department—	4/11 AP	AP/sg	4/23 rp							
		legal fees										
		COMMERCE										
HF0739	Simoneau	Insurance company—	3/7 CO	CO	4/2 rp		4/18	131-0	4/23			
SF0482	Reichgott	takeover	2/28 JU	JU	3/27 rpa							
HF0832	Sparby	Heavy, utility equipment—	3/13 CO	CO	3/26 rp		4/18	133-0	4/23			
SF0833	Solon	dealership agreements	3/18 CO	CO	4/4 rp							
HF1406	O'Connor	Abstract holders—	4/4 CO	CO	4/23 rpa							
SF0875	Luther	annual notices	3/21 CO	CO	4/17 rpa							
		EDUCATION										
HF0331	Kinkel	School boards—	2/14 ED	ED	3/18 rpa		3/21	134-0			4/24	
SF0396	Finn	interactive television	2/20 ED				4/22	67-0				

*HF0637, 1301, 1428 incorporated into HF1474

*HF0774, 0600 incorporated into HF1591

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File No.	Author	Committee/Division/Bill Title										
HF0582	Nelson	Omnibus education bill—	2/28 ED	ED	4/22 rp							
SF0417	Dicklich	technical corrections	2/25 ED	ED	4/15 rpa							
HF0700	Nelson	Omnibus education bill	3/7 ED	ED	4/22 rpa	reTA						
SF0467	Dicklich		2/25 ED									
HF0921	McEachern	Employees—criminal defense	3/18 ED	ED	4/3 rpa		4/18	132-0				
SF1111	Dicklich	cost reimbursement	4/2 ED									
HF1580	D. Anderson	Waseca—21 campus	4/11 ED	ED	4/22 rp	reAP						
SF1402	Hottinger	alternative uses study	4/10 ED	ED	4/15 rp	reFN						
		Education Finance Division										
		EDUCATION										
HF0700	Nelson	Education omnibus bill	3/7 ED	ED/edfin	4/19 rpa	reED						
SF0467	Dicklich		2/25 ED									
		ENERGY										
HF0884	Hausman	Rate making—PUC	3/18 EG	EG	4/24 h							
SF0406	Marty		2/21 EG	EG	4/15 rpa							
		ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES										
HF0064	Dauner	Tax-forfeited land—	1/22 EN	EN	4/23 rpa							
SF0083	Langseth	Clay County	1/24 EN	EN	4/15 rpa							
HF0065	Dauner	Tax-forfeited land—	1/22 EN	EN	4/23 rp							
SF0084	Langseth	Barnesville	1/24 EN	EN	4/11 rp							
HF0744	Sparby	Petrofund reimbursement	3/11 EG	EN	4/3 rpa		4/18	132-0				
SF1134	Novak		4/2 EN									
HF0781	Dille	Infectious waste control—	3/11 HH	EN	4/23 rpa	reAP						
SF0783	Dahl	veterinarians	3/14 HH	HH	4/4 rpa	reFN						
HF0887	Reding	Hunting—two	3/18 EN	EN	3/28 rp		4/18	130-2				
SF0457	Berg	deer license	2/25 EN									
HF0977	Solberg	Hazardous substances—	3/21 EN	EN	3/28 rpa		4/23	129-0				
SF0891	Morse	response to spills	3/21 EN	EN	4/8 rpa							
HF1323	Tunheim	Land conveyance—	4/2 EN	EN	4/23 rpa							
SF1216	Stumpf	Roseau County	4/4 EN	EN	4/15 rpa							
HF1542	Kahn	Air emissions—	4/10 TR	EN	4/23 rpa							
SF1251	Dahl	engine replacement	4/4 EN	EN	4/11 rpa							
		FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS & INSURANCE										
HF0140	Osthoff	Medicare supplement insurance—	1/28 FI	FI	4/17 rp		4/23	133/0				
SF0006	Waldorf	requirement provisions	1/9 CO	CO	2/11 rp		2/14	63-0	2/18			
HF0181	Sparby	Petroleum tanks—	2/4 EN	FI	4/10 rpa		4/18	133-0				
SF0382	Novak	cleanup reimbursement restricted	2/20 EN									
HF0603	Carruthers	Credit repair services—	3/4 FI	FI	4/24 rpa							
SF0204	Marty	consumer protection	2/7 CO	CO	4/17 rpa							

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File No.	Author	Committee/Division/Bill Title										
HF0875	Farrell	Auto insurance—	3/13 FI	FI	4/3 rp		4/18	126-6				
SF0865	Mondale	rental vehicle coverage increase	3/21 CO									
HF0895	Uphus	Credit agreements—	3/18 FI	FI	4/22 rpa							
SF0601	D.E. Johnson	clarification	3/7 CO	CO	4/11 rpa							
HF1178	Jacobs	Interstate banking—	3/27 FI	FI	4/22 rp							
SF0785	Cohen	Ohio, Michigan	3/14 CO	CO	4/4 rp							
HF1359	Thompson	Reverse mortgages	4/4 FI	FI	4/24 rpa							
SF1411	Sams		4/10 EH	EH	4/17 rp							
HF1418	Greenfield	Minnesota comprehensive health	4/4 FI	FI	4/18 rp		4/23	133-0	4/25			
SF1211	Samuelson	association—member expenses	4/4 CO	CO	4/8 rp							
HF1467	Carruthers	Insurance agreement prohibition	4/8 FI	FI	4/18 rpa							
SF0918	Luther		3/21 CO	CO	4/11 rpa							
HF1517	Skoglund	Personal property	4/10 FI	FI	4/24 rpa							
SF1128	Luther	replacement insurance	4/2 CO	CO	4/11 rpa							
		Banking Division										
		FINANCIAL INST. & INSURANCE										
HF1359	Thompson	Reverse mortgages	4/4 FI	FI/bk	4/22 rpa							
SF1411	Sams		4/10 EH	EH	4/17 rp							
		GENERAL LEGISLATION										
HF0035	Lieder	Agriculture—	3/21 GL	GL			4/17	132-0				
SF0034	R.D. Moe	local society membership	1/14 AGR	AGR	3/11 rp		3/18	66-0	3/21			4/23 (35)
HF0196	Beard	POW/MIA truth bill—	2/4 GL	GL	2/25 rp		3/4	131-0	3/11	4/11		4/22 (R5)
SF0171	Bertram	resolution	2/4 VG	VG	2/14 rp		4/11	59-0				
HF0326	Osthoff	Primary elections—	2/14 GL	GL	3/18 rp		3/27	129-2	4/4	4/24		
SF0552	Hughes	employees excused to vote	3/4 EE	EE	3/18 rpa		4/22	62-1				
HF0408	Bauerly	Animals—carcass disposal	2/21 GL	GL	4/11 rp		4/17	132-0				
SF0391	Bertram	options provided	2/20 AGR	AGR	3/25 rp		4/8	63-0	4/15			4/23 (37)
HF0793	Bertram	Gambling—video	3/11 GL	GL	4/25 h							
SF0595	Adkins	lottery machines authorized	3/4 GR									
		GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS										
HF0389	Jefferson	Pensions—highway patrol	2/21 GO	GO	4/2 rpa		4/15	132-0				
SF0734	Pogemiller	annuity refunds paid	3/14 GO	GO	3/25 rpa		4/8	66-0	4/11			4/23 (34)
HF0806	O'Connor	Pensions—St. Paul teachers	3/11 GO	GO	4/15 rp		4/18	118-13	4/23			
SF0794	Waldorf	retirement fund adjustment	3/18 GO	GO	4/15 rp							
HF0870	Murphy	Duluth—police pensions	3/13 GO	GO	4/4 rpa		4/18	128-0				
SF0646	Solon	for surviving spouses	3/7 GO									
HF0996	Pelowski	Telephones—assistance	3/4 RI	GO	4/23 rp	reAP						
SF0699	Hottinger	program modified	3/11 EP	EP	3/21 rpa	reFN						
HF1114	Kahn	State agencies—	3/25 GO	GO	4/23 rp							
SF0768	Pappas	gender balance requirements	3/14 GO	GO	4/15 rp							

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File No.	Author	Committee/Division/Bill Title										
		HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES										
HF0488	Segal	Human services licensing—	2/25 HH	HH	4/2 rpa		4/17	130-0				
SF0713	Traub	repeal	3/11 HH	HH	3/25 rpa		4/8	66-0	4/11			4/24 (38)
HF0529	Orenstein	Child vaccination requirements—	2/28 HH	HH	3/21 rpa		4/8	133-0				
SF0583	Flynn	clarified	3/4 HH	HH	3/18 rpa		3/27	62-0	4/4		4/10*	4/19 (30)
HF0654	Jefferson	Child care provider training	3/4 HH	HH	4/25 rpa							
SF0990	Finn		3/25 HH	HH	4/15 rpa							
HF0735	Greenfield	Child health service—	3/7 HH	HH	4/4 rp		4/17	133-0				
SF0254	J.B. Johnson	expanded	2/11 HH	HH	3/25 rpa		4/8	66-0	4/11			4/23 (36)
HF1263	Onnen	Residential home	4/2 HH	HH	4/25 a	reAP						
SF1250	Storm	standards set	4/4 HH	HH	4/15 rpa	reFN						
HF1591	Greenfield	Omnibus health care bill	4/11 HH	HH	4/25 rpa	reAP						
SF1418	Berglin		4/10 HH	HH	4/15 rpa	reFN						
		HOUSING										
HF0407	Ostrom	Multicounty housing,	2/11 HO	HO	4/10 rp		4/15	132-0				
SF0252	Renneke	redevelopment—additional authority	2/11 ED	ED	3/21 rp		4/2	61-0	4/11			4/22 (33)
		JUDICIARY										
HF0074	Welle	Tort liability—injuries caused	1/22 JU	JU	4/10 rpa		4/18	132-1				
SF0213	D.E. Johnson	by beach, swimming pools	2/7 JU									
HF0197	Dawkins	Birth records—disclosure	2/4 HH	JU	4/24 rpa							
SF0762	Pappas	restrictions altered	3/14 JU	JU	4/17 rpa							
HF0287	Morrison	Teachers' private data—	2/11 JU	JU	3/25 rpa	reED	4/18	133-0				
		provided to Attorney General										
HF0375	Ogren	Marriage solemnization—	2/18 JU	JU	4/17 rp		4/24	130-0				
SF0379	Chmielewski	former court commissioners	2/20 JU	JU	4/10 rp							
HF0414	Bishop	Law enforcement agencies—	2/21 JU	JU	3/27 rp		4/18	133-0	4/23			
SF0400	Kelly	deadly force policy	2/21 JU	JU	4/22 rpa							
HF0526	Pugh	Corporation—	2/28 JU	JU	4/10 rpa		4/18	132-1	4/23			
SF0395	Reichgott	shareholder rights clarified	2/20 JU	JU	3/27 rpa							
HF0587	Hasskamp	Security guards—	3/4 CO	JU	4/23 rpa							
SF0514	Marty	registration required	2/28 JU	JU	4/17 rpa	reFN						
HF0675	Brown	Breathalyzer tests—immunity	3/7 JU	JU	4/23 rpa							
SF0634	Spear	for liquor establishments	3/7 JU	JU	4/17 rpa							
HF0723	Kalis	Highway board established,	3/7 JU	JU	4/22 rpa	reLG						
SF0598	Langseth	grants authorized	3/4 TR	TR	4/17 rpa	reFN						
HF0825	Carruthers	Driving while intoxicated—	3/13 JU	JU	4/11 rpa		4/18	133-0				
SF1007	Marty	implied consent refusal penalties	3/25 JU									
HF0927	Wagenius	Mercury levels in batteries	3/18 EN	JU	4/22rpa							
SF0793	Dahl		3/14 EN	EN	4/4 rpa							

*SF0583 Con/Re 4/10 58-0

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HF0932	S. Olsen	Female offenders programs—	3/18 JU	JU	4/10 rpa		4/18	132-0				
SF1010	Piper	juveniles included	3/25 HH									
HF1003	Knickerbocker	Courts—law library fees	3/21 JU	JU	4/24 rpa							
SF0953	Ranum		3/25 JU	JU	4/15 rpa							
HF1099	Segal	Reporting act penalties—	3/25 HH	JU	4/23 rpa							
SF1034	Spear	children, vulnerable adults	3/27 JU	JU	4/17 rp							
HF1123	Orenstein	Human rights—	3/25 JU	JU	4/23 rpa	reRU						
SF1069	Cohen	disabled's discrimination claims	3/27 JU	JU	4/17 rp	reRU						
HF1142	Carruthers	Civil disputes—alternative	3/25 JU	JU	4/24 rpa							
SF0969	Luther	resolution program	3/25 JU	JU	4/17 rpa							
HF1170	Hausman	Human rights—	3/27 JU	JU	4/23 rpa							
SF0268	Marty	statutes of limitations	2/14 JU	JU	4/17 rp							
HF1173	Hausman	Mineral exploration—	3/27 JU	JU	4/23 rpa							
SF0837	J.B. Johnson	access regulation	3/18 EN	JU	4/17 rpa							
HF1196	Clark	Minors—	3/27 JU	JU	4/24 rpa							
SF0979	Pappas	butane sales prohibited	3/25 JU	JU	4/10 rpa							
HF1215	Bertram	Agriculture laws—	3/27 JU	JU	4/23 rpa							
SF0928	Neuville	enforcement, penalties	3/21 AGR	AGR	4/11 rpa							
HF1272	Macklin	Human services—	4/2 HH	JU	4/24 rpa	reAP						
SF0873	Storm	welfare fraud penalties	3/21 HH									
HF1273	Carruthers	Child protection—data	4/2 JU	JU	4/23 rp	reAP						
SF1019	Ranum	practices provisions modified	3/25 JU	JU	4/10 rpa							
HF1280	Pugh	Hazardous waste—	4/2 EN	JU	4/23 rpa							
SF0822	Merriam	protections for eminent domain	3/18 EN	JU	4/17 rp							
HF1295	Dawkins	Legal assistants feasibility study	4/2 JU	JU	4/23 rpa							
SF0520	Kelly		2/28 JU	JU	4/18 rpa							
HF1449	Seaberg	Criminal justice—work	4/8 JU	JU	4/23 rpa	reAP						
SF0271	Kelly	release, crowding	2/14 JU	JU	4/18 rpa	reFN						
HF1462	Greenfield	Health—community	4/8 HH	JU	4/22 rpa							
SF0910	Berglin	water supply system identified	3/21 HH	HH	3/27 rpa							
HF1473	Pugh	Conservators—	4/8 JU	JU	4/24 rpa							
SF0691	Luther	transactions set aside	3/11 JU	JU	4/17 rpa							
HF1621	Vellenga	Drugs—drug free	4/15 JU	JU	4/22 rpa	reAP						
SF0525	Spear	zones established	2/28 JU	JU	4/17 rpa							
		LOCAL GOVERNMENT & METROPOLITAN AFFAIRS										
HF0131	Dille	Meeker County—	1/28 LG	LG	2/21 rp		22/25	129-0	2/28		4/11	4/22 (32)
SF0126	Bernhagen	hospital expansion	1/31 LG	LG	2/25 rp	reHH	4/8	66-0				
HF0422	McGuire	Public notice rules	2/21 LG	LG	4/22 rpa		4/24	130-0				
SF0344	Marty	exempted in some cities	2/18 LG	LG	3/14 rpa							
HF0723	Kalis	Omnibus transportation	3/27 TR	LG	4/22 rpa	reAP						
SF0598	Langseth	study board requirement	3/4 TR	JU	4/17 rpa	reFN						

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HF0795	Jacobs	County morgue	3/11 LG	LG	4/2 rp		4/4	130-1	4/10			4/22 (31)
SF0779	Merriam	restrictions removed	3/14 LG	LG	4/4 rp		4/11	64-0				
HF0983	McGuire	Ramsey County—laws amended	3/21 LG	LG	4/18 rp		4/23	133-1	4/25			
SF0943	Kelly	to conform with home rule charter	3/21 LG	LG	4/4 rp							
HF1105	McGuire	Ramsey County—civil	3/25 LG	LG	4/18 rp		4/23	133-0	4/25			
SF0973	Kelly	service classifications clarified	3/25 LG	LG	4/4 rp							
HF1226	Dorn	Mankato annexation of	3/27 LG	LG	4/25 rpa							
SF1074	Hottinger	uncontiguous land	3/27 LG	LG	4/4 rpa							
HF1282	Jennings	Storm sewers—	4/2 LG	LG	4/18 rpa		4/23	134-0	4/25			
SF1126	J.B. Johnson	improvement procedures	4/2 LG	LG	4/10 rp							
HF1396	Lourey	Pine County—hospital funding	4/4 LG	LG	4/18 rp		4/23	134-0	4/25			
SF1040	Chmielewski	transferred from welfare fund	3/27 LG	LG	4/15 rp							
HF1442	I. Anderson	Para-transit authority created	4/8 TR	LG	4/25 rpa							
SF1329	Frank		4/8 MA	MA	4/15 rpa							
HF1635	Orfield	County problem materials	4/17 EN	LG	4/23 rpa							
SF0931	Mondale	management	3/21 EN	EN	4/17 rpa							
		REGULATED INDUSTRIES										
HF0584	Hasskamp	Business telecommunications	3/4 LG	RI	4/10 rpa		4/18	128-1	4/23			
SF0599	Langseth	partnerships	3/4 LG	LG	4/10 rpa							
HF0683	Jacobs	Liquor—state, local regulation	3/7 RI	RI	3/25 rpa		4/18	133-17				
SF0683	Solon		3/11 CO									
HF0996	Pelowski	Telephone assistance plan	3/21 RI	GO	4/25 rpa	reAP						
SF0699	Hottinger	eligibility	3/11 EP	EP	3/21 rpa	reFN						
		TAXES										
HF0390	Trimble	Athletic programs for mentally	2/21 TA	TA	4/8 rpa		4/18	131-0				
SF0339	Luther	retarded— sales tax exemption	2/18 TT	TT	4/4 rpa		4/11	64-0	4/17			
		TRANSPORTATION										
HF0099	Pelowski	Trunk highways—Disabled	1/24 TR	TR	4/25 rpa	reAP						
SF0076	Morse	American Veterans designation	1/22 TR	TR	4/15 rpa	reFN						
HF0159	Steensma	Towns—bridge project funding	1/31 TR	TR	4/24 rpa							
SF0100	Chmielewski		1/28 TR	TR	4/10 rpa	reFN						
HF0612	Smith	Real estate—railroad	3/4 TR	TR	4/24 rp							
SF0593	Olson	right-of-way granted	3/4 TR	TR	4/24 rp							
HF0628	Brown	Traffic violations—seat belt	3/4 TR	TR	4/25 rpa	reAP						
SF0542	Frank	violation fine increased	3/4 TR	TR	4/8 rpa	reFN						
HF0709	V. Johnson	Deputy registrars—	3/7 TR	TR	4/24 rp							
SF0368	Morse	appointing authority	2/18 GO	GO	3/18 rpa		3/25	62-0	3/27			
HF0823	Lunch	Parking—	3/13 TR	TR	4/24 rpa							
SF0765	Marty	handicapped provisions changed	3/14 TR	TR	4/10 rpa							
HF1377	Garcia	Richfield—	4/4 LG	TR	4/25 rpa	reAP						
SF1238	Riveness	frontage road funded	4/4 TR	TR	4/15 rpa	reFN						

Bill Introductions

HF1649 — HF1664

Monday, April 22

HF1649—Jacobs (DFL)

Transportation

Rental vehicle surcharge imposed and revenues used to provide safe and affordable housing.

HF1650—Heir (IR)

Taxes

Property tax subtraction provided in lieu of property tax refund, and money appropriated.

HF1651—Cooper (DFL)

Environment & Natural Resources

Emergency management center established for reporting hazardous substance releases and money appropriated.

HF1652—Dempsey (IR)

Rules & Legislative Administration

Postage commemorative stamp; memorializes the postmaster general to issue a Wanda Gag commemorative stamp to honor the American author and illustrator.

HF1653—Runbeck (IR)

Appropriations

Sexual violence; state planning agency appropriated money for a symposium on violent juvenile sex offenders.

HF1654—Dawkins (DFL)

Taxes

Restructuring aid payments provided to local governments to encourage cooperative restructuring of services, and money appropriated.

Tuesday, April 23

HF1655—Simoneau (DFL)

Economic Development

Aircraft maintenance and repair facility construction at Duluth international airport granted bonding authority, job creation and sales tax exemptions provided, TIF districts established, and airports commission authority expanded.

HF1656—Runbeck (IR)

Local Government & Metro. Affairs

Citizen budget advisory committee act adopted.

HF1657—Steensma (DFL)

Appropriations

Corrections, public safety, and veterans affairs commissioners appropriated money for payment of claims against the state.

HF1658—Kelso (DFL)

Health & Human Services

Physical therapy board established and licensing requirements adopted.

Wednesday, April 24

HF1659—Simoneau (DFL)

Judiciary

Attorneys; supreme court assessments restricted against lawyers not handling client funds and bond filing requirements provided for attorneys handling client funds.

HF1660—Jennings (DFL)

Environment & Natural Resources

Scandia authorized to establish a detached banking facility.

HF1661—Heir (IR)

Taxes

Municipalities with substantial areas of regional parklands authorized to assess a service charge against park authority.

HF1662—Gruenes (IR)

Gen'l Leg., Vet's Affairs & Gaming

Unicameral legislature established with constitutional amendment adopted.

HF1663—Gruenes (IR)

Judiciary

Death benefits provided to surviving spouse and dependents of peace officers killed in the line of duty.

Thursday, April 25

HF1664—Ostrom (DFL)

Taxes

Small cities provided separate local government aid formula.

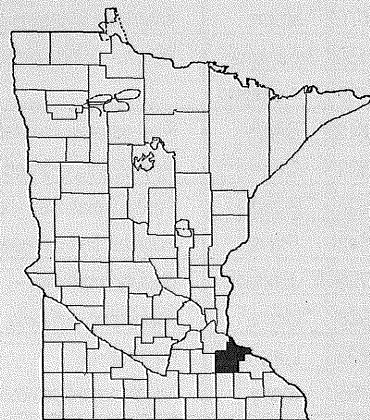
Do you know?

Goodhue County is named for James Madison Goodhue, who was said to be the first printer and editor in Minnesota.

He founded the *Minnesota Pioneer* in 1849 and used the newspaper to promote both St. Paul and Minnesota. A "man of very forcible character and high moral principles," he also made a lot of enemies in the process.

After writing a scathing editorial denouncing U.S. Marshal Alexander Mitchell and Judge David Cooper, Cooper's brother attacked Goodhue on Jan. 15, 1851, in front of the building where the legislative session was being held. Goodhue was stabbed twice and severely wounded, but he managed to shoot his attacker. Goodhue never fully recovered and died in August 1852.

"James M. Goodhue was a warm and fast friend of Minnesota to the day of his death," wrote Joseph R. Brown, his successor as editor of the *Pioneer*.



Coming Up Next Week . . . April 29-May 3, 1991

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, April 29

8 a.m.

APPROPRIATIONS

200 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Wayne Simoneau

Agenda: Appropriations committee division bills.

After full Appropriations Committee

State Government Division/ APPROPRIATIONS

300S State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Phyllis Kahn

Agenda: Omnibus state government appropriations bill.

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

TUESDAY, April 30

8 a.m.

APPROPRIATIONS

200 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Wayne Simoneau

Agenda: Appropriations committee division bills.

TAXES

5 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Paul Anders Ogren

Agenda: HF0833 (Rest) Housing finance agency; use of tax-exempt revenue bonds regulated.

HF1420 (Rest) Public debt assumption regulated and port authority financial obligations restricted.

After full Appropriations Committee

State Government Division/ APPROPRIATIONS

300S State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Phyllis Kahn

Agenda: Omnibus state government appropriations bill.

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

WEDNESDAY, May 1

8 a.m.

APPROPRIATIONS

200 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Wayne Simoneau

Agenda: Appropriations committee division bills.

10 a.m.

JOINT MEETING

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & EDUCATION

10 State Office Building

Chrs. Rep. Gloria Segal & Rep. Bob McEachern

Agenda: Ira Magaziner and Hillary Rodham Clinton from the National Center on Education and the Economy.

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

THURSDAY, May 2

10 a.m.

State Government Division/ APPROPRIATIONS

300S State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Phyllis Kahn

Agenda: Bills to be announced.

11:30 a.m.

ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES

400S State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Willard Munger

Agenda: Lunch and discussion of interim agenda. This meeting is scheduled to last until 1 p.m.

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

FRIDAY, May 3

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



Why are tax and appropriation bills put off until the end of the season?

To some it may seem the Legislature puts off the tough tax and spending decisions until the last minute — like waiting to write that dreaded term paper until the night before it's due.

While procrastination does probably play a small part in the delay, tax and spending bills are also the biggest, most complicated and politically-charged bills of the session.

The bills can be as long as 500 pages. And to complicate matters, they are pieced together by hundreds of people. So coordinating the various components of a bill is no easy task.

Generally, the Legislature settles the easier policy questions contained in these bills first, saving the tax and spending ones for last. That provides the basic framework for the bill. For example, if the state is faced with a budget shortfall, what should be cut: state aid to cities, counties, school districts, or all of the above?

As these bills move through committees, many legislators, lobbyists, and ordinary citizens want to have a say in how they're written. Just passing one of these bills on the floor can take a whole day of session because of the lengthy speeches — pro and con — that are given.

In an attempt to better focus the House on necessary tax and spending bills, the Ways and Means Committee does adopt, during session, a "budget resolution." This resolution sets the amount of money available for spending and serves as a working guideline for tax and spending bills.

So the simple answer to the question is that crafting and passing tax and appropriation bills is an enormous task.

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: Terry Dempsey

MINNESOTA INDEX

At Your Leisure

Tourist dollars spent in Minnesota by non-residents, in millions	386
Average hours of "free time" per week, per Minnesotan	41.8
Percentage of that time spent watching television	40
Percent of time spent on outdoor recreation	4
Outdoor recreation hours per year, per Minnesotan earning less than \$10,000 per year	154
earning between \$30,000 and \$39,000 per year	269
Percent of surveyed Minnesotans saying the state needs more paved shoulders for bikes	60
Percent of Minnesotans who fish	48
National ranking, sale of fishing licenses, per capita	1
Number of walleye eggs produced by Minnesota fisheries in 1987, in millions	640
Annual cost to control Eurasian Water Milfoil on Lake Minnetonka	\$565,000
Number of registered boats, 1989	690,000
National ranking, number of registered boats	3
National ranking, number of boats, per capita (6.4)	1

Source: Minnesota's Outdoor Legacy: Strategies for the '90's, published by the Minnesota
Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Trade and Economic Development

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
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