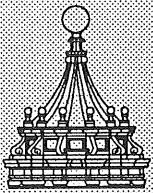


Session Weekly

Minnesota House of Representatives • January 25, 1991 • Volume 8, Number 3





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 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. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *Session Weekly*, Public Information Office, Minnesota House of Representatives, St. Paul, MN 55155-1298.

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Flashback

"Would someone please tell us what's going on here?"

That seemed to be the question on a lot of people's minds late this week at the Capitol when the DFL-controlled House narrowly approved Gov. Arne Carlson's budget-cutting measure.

The curious turn of events began Wednesday when the House Ways and Means Committee met for four hours to debate the proposal in a meeting that was marked by sharp criticism of the bill.

But the committee then voted 15-4 to send it to the House floor without a recommendation. For a committee to send a major bill to the floor without a recommendation is unusual. But considering the fiery rhetoric in opposition of the bill, the development seemed even more peculiar.

Some people wondered whether there was a plan to send the bill to the floor where it could suffer a very public death.

Others questioned whether there was actually a degree of bipartisan support for the bill. No one seemed to know. And unlike the outcome of many votes on the House floor, the vote on this one seemed genuinely in question.

The outcome, in fact, seemed as difficult to predict as it was to divine the actual impact of House File 47. Is the entire measure a genuine budget-cutting bill, or are portions of it nothing more than "smoke and mirrors," as Rep. Paul Ogren alleged on several occasions this week?

While the week's events have left many people scratching their heads, the developments could be the beginning of something that is just slowly beginning to sink in:

There's a new state order in place at the Capitol. For the first time in nearly 10 years, there's an Independent-Republican governor and a DFL-controlled Legislature. That's nothing new, of course, but memories are notoriously short around the Capitol.

So don't expect politics-as-usual this session.

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On the cover: As Gov. Arne Carlson rose to present his State of the State address Jan. 22, he was applauded by President of the Senate Jerome Hughes left and Speaker of the House Robert Vanasek right.

Photo by Laura Phillips

Highlights



Breaking with tradition, Gov. Arne Carlson sat down Jan. 22 and listened as Lt. Gov. Joanell Dyrstad presented a portion of the State of the State address to a joint session of the Legislature.

State of the State history

The traditional "State of the State" address this year could have been called the "Governor and His Lieutenant's Address."

Lt. Governor Joanell Dyrstad took the podium midway through Gov. Arne Carlson's Jan. 22 address in the House chamber, becoming the first lieutenant governor in state history to share the State of the State spotlight with the governor.

During their hour-long address, Carlson paid tribute to the troops in the Middle East and called on Minnesotans to offer them support when they return home.

But most of their message focused on domestic issues, notably the state's current fiscal crisis. Carlson accused Minnesota leaders of avoiding the tough decisions in the 1980s. And now the problem has come to roost.

"We favored soccer stadiums over child nutrition, and community centers and swimming pools over classrooms, meanwhile transferring record levels of debt to our children," he said.

If the state had spent at the rate of inflation, Minnesota would now have a \$9 billion surplus — not a \$197 million shortfall. He added that since July 1989, the state has spent \$800,000 more per day than it has taken in.

Carlson also emphasized that the state shouldn't dip into the \$550 million budget reserve. That, he added, would simply delay the problem.

The governor also reassured the Legislature that he would work with them to achieve passage of a workers' compensation reform bill, a bill that has been vetoed three times.

Dyrstad said, "We need to bring down the barriers to participation in the economy, whether they be poverty, racial and/or sexual discrimination, illiteracy, access to child care, or government regulation."

She also urged less reliance on government to solve problems: "You and I must become participants in our society, relying less on government to solve every problem and more on ourselves."

Budget bill approved

Gov. Arne Carlson appears on track to scoring his first big legislative victory after the House approved his \$197 million deficit reduction package Jan. 24.

The measure sponsored by Rep. Don Frerichs (IR-Rochester) next moves to the floor of the state Senate, where a final vote on the package is expected Jan. 28.

The House vote was 69-61, with more than a dozen DFLers joining almost an almost unanimous Independent-Republican caucus in support of the bill.

The package calls for \$50 million in cuts for state aids to city and county governments and shifting \$52 million in Motor Vehicle Excise Taxes from road and bridge projects to the general fund.

It also would take about \$35 million from other programs while taking about \$60 million in uncommitted funds from state agencies and programs. The proposal requires no permanent use of the state's \$550 million reserve fund, which Carlson wants to save for balancing a \$1.2 billion deficit expected in the next biennium.

The House DFL leadership helped speed the measure along when the Ways and Means Committee voted 15-4 to send the bill to the floor without a recommendation.

Carlson cut short a planned trip to Tampa, Fla., this week to personally lobby lawmakers to support the package.

Frerichs, who wore a bullet-proof vest on the floor to avoid political "sniping," urged lawmakers to look at the whole bill, and to avoid "nitpicking" at individual aspects of it.

"There is some pain in this bill, but we tried to share that pain equally," he said.

But several DFLers, including Paul Ogren, Taxes Committee chair criticized the bill, saying it would shift the burden of paying for programs to county and city governments through higher local property taxes.

"We can't pretend that we are not passing a tax increase in this bill," the

Aitkin DFLer said. "It is a sham."

Other DFLers also railed against portions of the bill which would decrease some funding for education, health and human services, and transit programs.

During debate, two provisions were amended onto the bill. The first restored about \$3.1 million to the recently created displaced workers program, which would have lost about \$4.8 million in the original package.

House members also cut \$68,000 from the operations budget of the offices of the governor and lieutenant governor. Supporters said it's only fair that Carlson's staff receive the same proportional cut as the Legislature, which saw its budget trimmed by \$2 million.



Rep. Don Frerichs wore a bullet-proof vest on the House floor Jan. 24 as he prepared to take political shots for carrying Gov. Carlson's budget-cutting bill.

Smoke and mirrors?

Is a large portion of Gov. Arne Carlson's proposal to trim spending in the current biennium nothing but "smoke and mirrors?"

That's the assessment of Taxes Committee Chair Paul Ogren (DFL-Aitkin), who says the governor is playing a

"smoke and mirrors game with \$50 million" in the budget-cutting package.

Ogren's comments came Jan. 22 when Finance Commissioner John Gunyou and Revenue Commissioner Dorothy McClung appeared before the committee to present the governor's budget-cutting measure.

Ogren alleged that the \$50 million in "cuts" really apply to the next biennium and shouldn't be included in the plan to trim the current budget.

Gunyou says it would have been preferable to cut these funds in December, but that the former administration took no action. He says it's better to announce those cuts now to give local governments time to prepare their budgets.

Ogren also questioned the November forecast on which the estimate of a budget shortfall is based, adding that since the forecast was released the state has collected \$55 million more in taxes than had been projected. In addition, he says wage and salary growth for 1990 were not factored into the forecast.

But McClung says it's too early to tell whether the \$55 million will be sustained through March. She added that corporate and sales tax revenues are right on what was forecast, adding that these are the numbers that normally fluctuate when underlying assumptions are flawed.

Farm education cutbacks

Some vocational programs for farm managers might not get money this year because of the state's budget crunch, and Rep. Stephen Wenzel (DFL-Little Falls) says he isn't happy about it.

Wenzel's disappointment was voiced Jan. 23 during a meeting of the Environment and Natural Resources Division of the Appropriations Committee.

New Department of Agriculture Commissioner Elton Redalen told the committee that of the \$535,000 in proposed budget cuts for his department in this biennium, \$300,000 came at the expense of vocational programs.

Although the state Board of Vocational Technical Education requested the money from the Legislative Advisory Commission, the Department of Finance has recommended it not be spent.

"I want to see this matter corrected in the 1991 session," Wenzel told the committee.

The money for the vocational programs would have come from funds not spent for the control of grasshoppers and to support the state's county fairs.

Delayed camping?

Some state campgrounds might open later than scheduled this year because of proposed cuts in the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) budget.

And Minnesota's environment and natural resources programs would be cut more than \$2.6 million in the rest of this fiscal year under Gov. Arne Carlson's budget-balancing measure.

The largest share of those cuts — \$970,000 — would come from the DNR's budget, members of the Environment and Natural Resources Division of the Appropriations Committee were told Jan. 22.

New DNR Commissioner Rodney Sando told lawmakers that the proposed cut to his department is "something we can do without a great impact on the public and without great impact to the resources of the state."

Lawmakers, however, expressed concern that some campgrounds might open late. DNR Assistant Commissioner Gene Gere says the department hopes to avoid the delayed start by holding off on some seasonal employment.

Several legislators, including Rep. Tom Osthoff (DFL-St. Paul), questioned whether the DNR should trim its testing for contaminants in the state's streams and rivers, one of the programs affected by the proposed \$970,000 reduction in the DNR budget.

In addition to the \$2.6 million to be cut in environmental spending, \$1 million earmarked for the Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources would be transferred to the state's general fund to help balance the budget, according to the governor's recommendation.

The new GMC

Look for a leaner Greater Minnesota Corporation (GMC) with a clearer identity and purpose.

GMC President Jacques Koppel testified before the Economic Development Committee Jan. 22 and outlined his goals for the agency that has been sharply criticized on a variety of fronts.

To reduce confusion over GMC's purpose, the agency has cut down its original mission from six areas to three. It will now focus on:

- applied research and development, especially in agriculture and natural resources;
- technological and financial assistance for manufacturers.
- new product development and assistance for technology-based startup companies in Minnesota.

Koppel says streamlining of the agency was partially the result of media scrutiny of GMC's operations and financing.

"In the area of fiscal accountability, we have made very strenuous efforts to address the issues and concerns that a number of individuals have had, and we are working closely with the legislative auditor to make sure we are in compliance with all of the state's concerns," he says.

GMC's yearly operating budget has been trimmed from approximately \$30 million in fiscal year 1990 to \$14 million in 1991. It receives 25 percent of estimated annual lottery proceeds; at one time it was to receive 50 percent of the lottery proceeds.

Koppel says he hopes the agency will develop strong relationships with industry groups, business associations, and chambers of commerce. A direct marketing campaign is planned to target industry and academia.

Rural woes

The Greater Minnesota Corporation (GMC) may not be able to stem the exodus of residents and businesses to faster-growing cities elsewhere in the state, the agency's president says.

"We're not NASA and we're not Walt Disney," GMC President Jacques Koppel told state lawmakers Jan. 22. He warned

against unrealistic expectations that his agency can completely rebuild rural Minnesota's economy.

"There probably is little that can be done in areas with declining populations," he says.

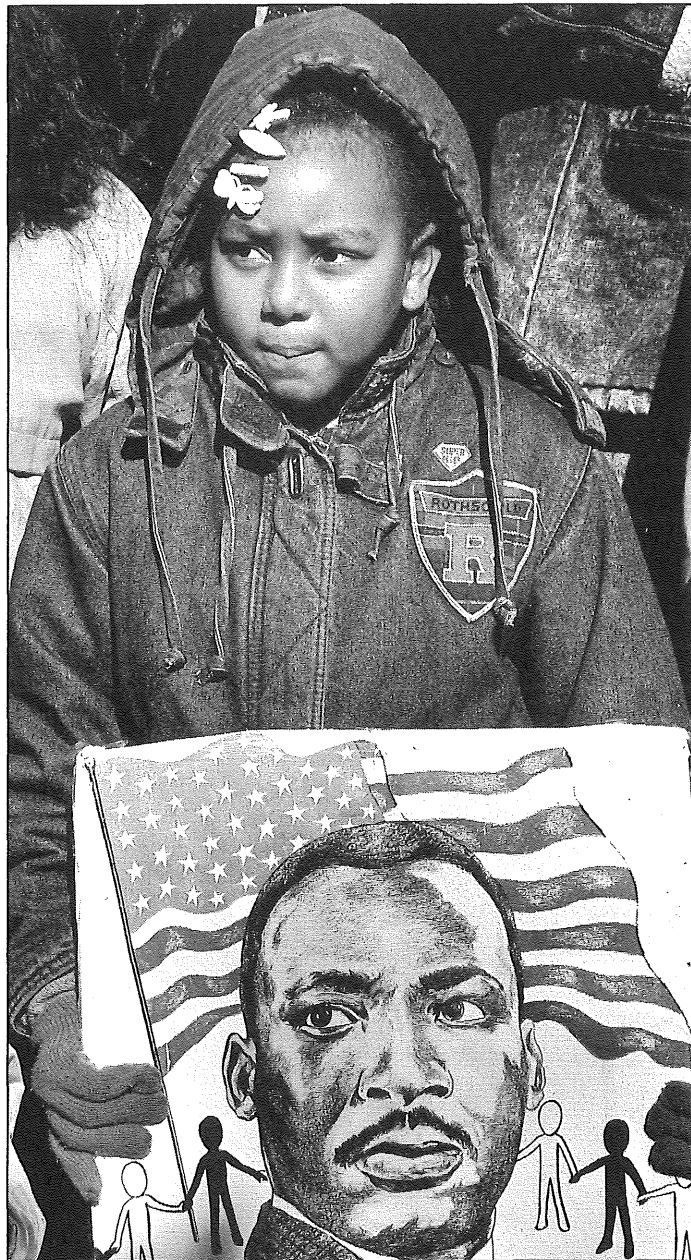
Although some communities have successfully lured new industries, he says most growing businesses will continue to spurn small towns and instead gravitate to existing population centers to take advantage of research and transportation facilities, and other support services.

Koppel says, however, there have been some signs of an economic rebirth in greater Minnesota in the past three years.

Significant increases have been made in the manufacturing sector, with at least 15,000 new jobs created outside the Twin Cities during that time.

The GMC has also made strides in revitalizing its image among state residents, he says. The agency has narrowed its scope and is seeking to eliminate the political skirmishing that has obscured some of its past projects.

"I don't think that dollars are as critical as the commitment to keep [GMC activities] out of the political sphere," he told the Economic Development,



Kirinda Anderson, 8, of St. Paul listened Jan. 21 to a speech on the Capitol steps before the Martin Luther King Jr. Day march.

Infrastructure, and Regulation Division of the Appropriations Committee. "What we're trying to do is establish the programs and generate them with the funds available."

Koppel says he doesn't anticipate that the GMC will halt any projects because of a plan to take a portion of the agency's share of lottery revenues and place them in the general fund.

But he did say that some long-term research and development projects, which have already been "cut down to the bare bones," likely would continue to take a back seat due to the reduced funding.

The reduction measure (HF47) authored by Rep. Don Frerichs (IR-Rochester) proposes shifting lottery proceeds now dedicated to the GMC into the general fund to meet the anticipated \$197 million shortfall in the current biennium.

Koppel says that the budget package does not actually take any dollars away from the GMC. Rather, it redirects to the general fund the \$9 million in money collected from the lottery proceeds that has not been spent. The additional money is the result of unexpectedly strong lottery sales.

MVET cuts

A variety of interest groups testified before the Transportation Committee Jan. 23 as it began to review the governor's proposed \$52 million transportation funding cut for fiscal year 1991.

The cut, drawn from the Minnesota Department of Transportation's (MnDOT) annual 30 percent share of the Motor Vehicle Excise Tax (MVET), would mean a loss of nearly \$35 million for the state trunk highway fund, \$13 million for county roads, and \$4 million for city roads.

John Riley, MnDOT's new commissioner, says his office will try to absorb half of the proposed cut by reducing operating expenses, leaving more money for roads.

"The pain that's inflicted by these cuts on the state cannot compare to the damage that can be done economically by a budget deficit that approaches \$2 billion over the next three fiscal years," says Riley.

Transportation is being singled out for a disproportionately large cut — 25 percent of the total shortfall — according to Rep. Henry Kalis (DFL-Walters), committee chair.

"The fact is, we have a large problem late in the year. We've got one piece of money here that is large, and in order to deal with a critical issue right now, this was a piece of money that could be used," said Dwight Pederson, a representative of the Department of Finance.

Representatives from the League of Minnesota Cities, the Association of Minnesota Counties, the County Engineers Association, and the Regional Transit Board each testified about the probable effects of the loss of revenue.

Dave Weirens, a policy analyst with the Association of Minnesota Counties, repeated the charge that the cuts are not equitably shared by state agencies.

"Maybe you would like to take it from the needs of the homeless?" replied Rep. Connie Morrison (IR-Burnsville).



A group of House members displayed the American flag at their chamber desks in support of U.S. service men and women fighting in the Persian Gulf.

Child Care Task Force report

The Child Care Task Force unanimously adopted the final draft of its report to the Legislature on Jan. 18, but not without a lot of discussion and minor changes.

The 1989 Legislature directed the Legislative Commission on the Economic Status of Women (LCESW) to study and make recommendations for a statewide coordinated child care system. In response, the commission formed the Child Care Task Force. The task force's final report will recommend that the Legislature:

- fully fund the "basic sliding fee program," which offers a state subsidy based on income so Minnesota families can afford child care services. This would cost the state an additional \$155 million per biennium to serve those who are currently eligible;
- extend the Dependent Care Credit to families with an infant under 16 months who are not purchasing child care services, and extend the Child and Dependent Care Credit to family child care providers who also care for their own children;
- establish incentive grants to improve the quality of early childhood care and education;
- improve licensing procedures for child care providers;
- establish a state network to coordinate early childhood care and education services by creating the Minnesota Early Childhood Care and Education Council; and
- recognize that a greater emphasis should be placed on multicultural child-rearing practices.

Several task force members noted that the projected budget shortfall will make funding for such programs more difficult to obtain.

Emergency preparedness

Public Service Commissioner Kris Sanda says low-income and rural residents would likely feel the first pinch if gasoline and heating oil prices continue to rise.

The commissioner says although supplies have remained relatively constant, prices paid by consumers have climbed more than 25 percent since Iraq's Aug. 2 invasion of Kuwait.

She adds that people living outside the Twin Cities metropolitan area — where more homes rely on fuel oil for heating needs — would be hurt more by higher petroleum costs.

But Sanda, who doubles as chair of the newly formed Emergency Preparedness Council, told members of the Regulated Industries Committee Jan. 23 that there is little threat such crises could occur.

"It's sort of like buying hail insurance," she says of emergency planning. "You buy it and you hope you never have to use it."

The panel, which is made up of state administrators, public safety officials, utility representatives, and members of the military, was assembled Jan. 15 to develop plans to avert potential problems in Minnesota caused by the war with Iraq.

Since the war started, Sanda says most of the state's utility and petroleum suppliers have stepped up their security procedures. Similar safety measures are being implemented in state government buildings and by some private businesses.

The council has also looked at telephone and other communication systems throughout the state to examine ways to speed information to the appropriate authorities and to the public in the event of a disruption in service.

Sanda says council members don't consider organized terrorist activities to be a major threat in Minnesota.

'Focus the mission'

Several state agencies and departments need to re-examine their purpose, says Tom Triplett, executive director of the Minnesota Business Partnership.

Testifying before the Governmental Operations Committee Jan. 22, Triplett



Public Service Commissioner Kris Sanda answers questions concerning Minnesota's emergency preparedness during a Jan. 23 Regulated Industries Committee.

named both the State Planning Agency and the Department of Jobs and Training as examples of departments "with unclear missions that need clarification."

Triplett's theme of "focus the mission" touched on a number of ways new legislative policies might streamline state government.

Triplett says the following areas of state government could be better organized:

- The issue of environmental protection is currently divided among several state agencies. Centralization would result in a more coherent policy.
- There is currently no agency with a clear lead on insuring access to health care; and
- Some state agencies are too large and have conflicting missions, including the Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Human Services.

Triplett says there is no incentive for state agencies to operate more efficiently. He urged lawmakers to offer incentives that would reward departments for saving money.

"Currently there is no such mechanism in place," he says. "Greater efficiency only means less money for the next fiscal year."

Fire protection

A bill that would require annual statewide licensing and certification of fire protection contractors, and journeyman and apprentice sprinkler fitters, was approved by the Governmental Operations Committee Jan. 24.

The measure also calls for the creation of a nine-member advisory council on fire protection systems. The council would advise the commissioners of the departments of Public Safety and Labor and Industry on matters within their jurisdictions.

Currently, licensure and regulation of fire protection systems workers is done only at the local level, a practice which has raised questions about the quality of the systems from city to city.

Bill sponsor Rep. Wayne Simoneau (DFL-Fridley) says the proposal "creates a needed regulatory mechanism for sprinkling system units."

Under the bill, anyone who performs work on fire protection systems without a license would be guilty of a misdemeanor.

Minnesota State Fire Marshal Tom Brace, testifying before the committee, said the industry itself wants to be regulated, and that he has "encountered no opposition" in his conversations with those in the business.

"It is a fraud upon the public and to the public safety if sprinkler systems fail when needed," he told the committee. Brace also noted that the existence of a sprinkler system within a building serves as a foundation for further code standards and affects insurance rates as well.

Brace said annual licensing fees for contractors would be about \$500. Fees for apprentice and journeyman workers would likely be between \$25 and \$50.

"But these fees alone cannot make the program fiscally sound," says Brace. The bill also asks that an unspecified amount be drawn from the Department of Public Safety's general fund to pay for the program's administrative costs.

Members recommended HF31 to pass and referred it to the Appropriations Committee for further consideration.

PCA review

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (PCA) needs to step up its enforcement of environmental laws, better manage its staff, and free up the PCA Board to set broad strategy.

Those and other recommendations for improving Minnesota's main regulator of air and water quality are contained in a review of the agency released Jan. 17 by the Office of the Legislative Auditor.

While acknowledging that the PCA has a difficult job, its efforts "are insufficient to ensure that state pollution control laws are being carried out," Deputy Legislative Auditor Roger Brooks told members of the Environment and Natural Resources Committee Jan. 22.

For example, the agency's air quality division has a backlog of 250 permit applications "that's going to take PCA some time to get a handle on," Joel Alter, a project manager for the legislative auditor's office, told the committee.

The agency also should improve its watchdog role over polluters, says the auditor's office.

"... PCA places too little emphasis on continuing compliance, particularly in its air, water, and solid waste programs," says the report.

Speaking to the committee two days later on Jan. 24, PCA Deputy Commissioner Bonnie Simms conceded that the audit was on target with many of its findings and suggestions.

"Overall, we agree with most of the recommendations in the legislative auditor's report," she says. "... We recognize that we can and must do better."

The report also recommends that the Legislature give the PCA commissioner more power, thereby freeing up the PCA Board which "is nearly overwhelmed by its current agenda." That would give the board more time to review and set policy.

Rep. Willard Munger (DFL-Duluth) questioned how the PCA can be expected to step up inspections when its budget might be cut.

"This agency, like all state government agencies, will have to operate in an environment of having to do more with less," responded Tom Walstrom, a project manager for the auditor's office.

'Crack' vs. 'powder' cocaine

When the Legislature passed a law in 1989 that increased penalties for street-level crack dealers, its intention was to decrease drug trafficking in neighborhoods. But a Hennepin County District Court judge viewed the law in a much different light.

Judge Pamela Alexander struck down the law, ruling that it discriminates against blacks because blacks are charged more often than whites with possessing crack — which carries a much stiffer penalty — than are whites.

Emily Shapiro of House Research along with a member of the State Public Defender's Office discussed the decision with members of the Judiciary Committee's Criminal Justice Division Jan. 23.

Alexander ruled that the law is not only discriminatory, but also makes a questionable distinction between crack cocaine and powder cocaine, which are essentially the same substance. The Minnesota Supreme Court is expected to review the decision this spring.

The ruling cited statistics that showed "powder cocaine" is used most often by whites while "crack cocaine" is used more often by blacks.

The maximum penalty for possession of three grams of "crack cocaine" is up to 20 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine, while the maximum penalty for possession of 10 grams of "powder cocaine" is five years in prison and a \$10,000 fine. Both crimes are third-degree controlled substance violations.

In essence, the judge ruled that the discrepancy in penalties violates the Equal Protection Clause of the United States Constitution.

Minnesota nursing homes

A report on the state's nursing homes conducted by the Office of the Legislative Auditor concluded that many of the homes are under financial stress, but the situation is not critical.

The report, which was authorized by the 1990 Legislature, was released Jan. 24 to the Human Resources Division of the Appropriations Committee.

Marilyn Jackson-Beeck, the project manager for the study, says the report refutes a different study conducted last

spring that concluded that more than half the state's nursing homes were operating at a loss.

But the report does say that the state's reimbursement formula for nursing homes may have contributed to the physical deterioration of some homes and other "undesirable cost-cutting."

The office recommends that the Department of Human Services:

- Tie "efficiency incentive payments" to outstanding correction orders or fines. That way, nursing homes wouldn't be rewarded for cutting costs that could result in health or safety violations.
- Offer short-term loans to nursing homes so they can correct life-threatening conditions.
- Make available one-time grants to help selected nursing homes develop unique, cost-effective programs.

The office also suggested that a separate study of Department of Human Services rules be conducted to determine whether its rules are efficient and cost-effective.

The office suggested that the Interagency Board of Quality Assurance conduct the study, adding that such an examination could mean cost savings to the state.

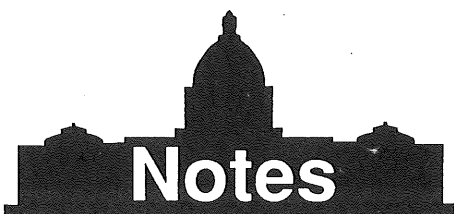
Military affairs cutbacks

The Department of Military Affairs is being asked to turn over \$458,000 in funds it hasn't spent to help eliminate a projected \$197 million deficit in this biennium.

About \$345,000 of the transfer would be drawn from the department's Enlistment Incentives program. That program, piloted in 1989, provides for higher education tuition reimbursements for Army and Air National Guard recruits, plus a re-enlistment bonus of \$250 per year for members.

"The worst thing we could do is back off on the people we've committed to," says Tom Ryan, a comptroller with the department.

Ryan testified before the State Government Division of the Appropriations Committee Jan. 18. Ryan added that this one-time cut would not affect current Enlistment Incentives commitments, but that any other budget cutting in the near future could.



One hundred dollars to a millionaire is petty cash, but for a pauper an extra C-note can mean survival. That's the message Minnesota's 1,803 townships are trying to send to state lawmakers. David Fricke, executive director of the Minnesota Association of Townships, says proposed cuts in the state budget could result in more than 1,500 townships not receiving any money at all from the state this year. "We're very tight right now," Fricke says of strapped township budgets. "Even if it's only going to be a couple hundred dollars [less], there's going to be a big impact."

A jump at the pumps could put the lottery in the dumps. Despite unexpectedly high sales during its first nine months, Lottery Director George Andersen says rising gasoline prices likely will drive down the state's \$1 million weekly take from the instant and daily games and the twice-weekly lotto. He says the customer who once pulled into a convenience store, filled up his gas tank, paid with a \$20 bill and took his change in lottery tickets is now changing habits. "With gas prices up, you're seeing that guy stopping the pump at 20 bucks and he's not reaching into his wallet to spend money on tickets," says Andersen. Lottery officials across the country are anticipating similar drops in sales due to the recession, he adds.

Not too many bills were introduced on the House floor Jan. 22, but there was a House resolution. The resolution, HR1, honored Rep. Willard Munger (DFL-Duluth), the "Dean of the Minnesota Legislature," for his 80th birthday. Munger, who turned 80 on Jan. 20, is serving his 18th term in the Minnesota House.

Calling the White House, ordering groceries, or getting the late sports scores from the West Coast via the telephone are among the consumer services that will be available this fall when a new telephone service goes on line in the Twin Cities. Members of the Regulated Industries Committee Jan. 22 got a sneak preview of "Community Link," which will access government, news, and entertainment services as well as private businesses through subscriber's personal computers or rented terminals. A U.S. West spokesman says hooking up to Community Link will be free, although some services will charge a per-minute access fee. Incidentally, for those of you unwilling to wait until November for the White House telephone number, it's 202-456-1414.

Before the ball is even teed up for the kick-off of the 1991 Super Bowl, local transit officials are already suiting up for the big game here in '92. A Metropolitan Transit Corporation official is in Tampa, Fla., this week studying how city officials there are coping with the influx of football fanatics. The MTC plans on providing shuttles to carry the public from the Metrodome to sites across the Twin Cities and other transportation services. Michael Ehrichmann, director of the Regional Transit Board (RTB), told members of the Local Government and Metropolitan Affairs Committee, that the RTB doesn't anticipate asking the Legislature for additional funds to cover Super Bowl-related expenses.

Administrative costs account for 25 percent of Minnesota's total health care dollars, according to the 1991 Minnesota Health Care Access Commission's final report to the Legislature. Lois Quam, chair for the commission, outlined the report for members of the Governmental Operations Committee Jan. 23. "This was the fastest rising component of health care costs in the 1980s," says Quam.

Another garbage incinerator might be needed in the Twin Cities by the year 2000, says Bonnie Simms, Pollution Control Agency deputy commissioner. In a review of the agency before the Environment and Natural Resources Committee Jan. 24, Simms said an incinerator could be needed even with recycling and waste reduction programs. Minnesota currently has 12 waste incinerators, four of them in the Twin Cities area.

Dolphins at the Minnesota Zoo in Apple Valley might have to do without a new home until the 1991 budget shortfall is resolved. But the popular World of Birds program might yet get a new amphitheater. Those are the ramifications of the governor's \$400,000 proposed cut for the zoo. The Environment and Natural Resources Division of the Appropriations Committee learned Jan. 23 that the cut would come from \$760,000 originally allocated for the Dolphinarium project. With \$1.6 million in matching private funding, however, the remaining dollars would allow construction of the amphitheater.

Who says a \$6.5 million budget cut doesn't hurt? Although the slice in state aids to education is relatively small compared to the proposed cuts in some programs in the 1991 deficit-reduction package, the bill calling for the cuts has already inflicted some pain. While explaining the proposed reductions to members of the Education Finance Division of the Education Committee, Joyce Krupey, assistant education commissioner, suffered a small paper cut on her finger. The minor mishap caused a short break in her testimony while division members and staff scrambled to find a bandage. "Perhaps, it's a little symbolic," Division Chair Ken Nelson (DFL-Mpls) noted.

Committee names change over time . . .

'Hospitals for the Insane,' 'School for Defectives'

Twenty-two committees, from Agriculture to Ways and Means, will keep members of the House of Representatives hopping this session.

The House, however, hasn't always had that many committees and they haven't always been called the same. Committees, like the state as a whole, have undergone a dramatic transformation over time.

That's not surprising when you consider that committees form the heart of the Legislature, which is really a reflection of society. But like many gradual changes, the transformation sometimes goes unnoticed.

A hundred years ago, for example, legislators divided their time between a number of committees, including one devoted entirely to "Binding Twine and Fiber and Fibrous Plants."

Others panels that met in 1891 included committees on Hospitals for the Insane, Temperance Legislation, School for Defectives, Logs and Lumber, and Immigration. These committees, as has the one on fibrous plants, have been eliminated as the fabric of the state has changed.

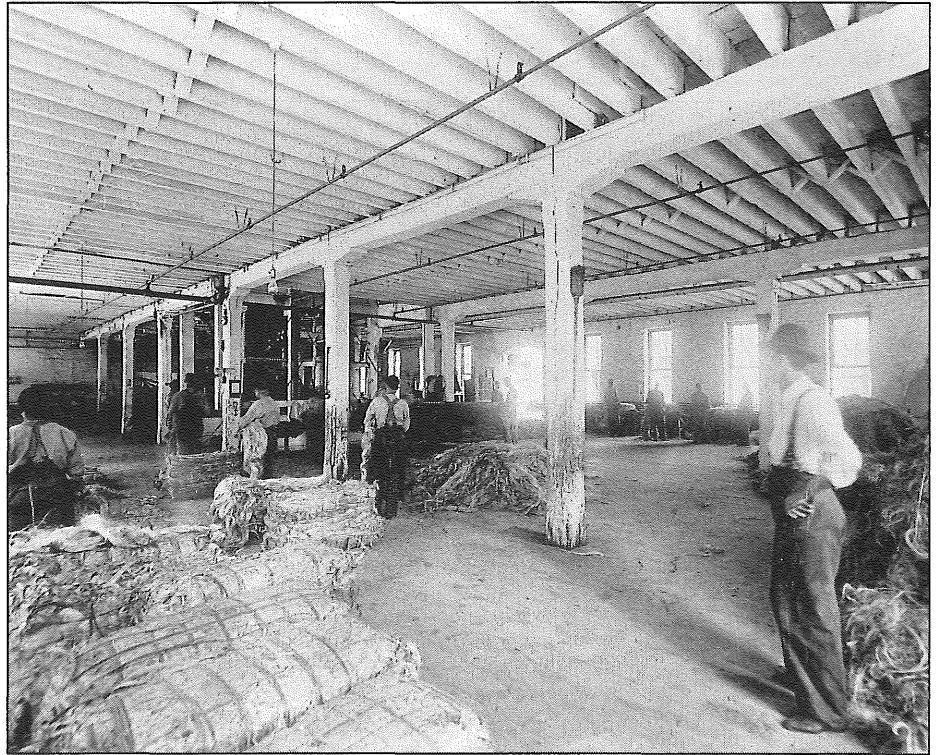
The lumber industry in Minnesota is no longer as extensive as it was in the first half of the century and, therefore, doesn't raise as many issues as it once did.

Binding twine, whose manufacturers once included the old state prison in Stillwater, is no longer a big business in the state. And although immigration to Minnesota continues, it isn't as brisk as it was at the turn of the century when thousands of foreigners flocked to the state.

And here's an interesting fact for those who complain about the growth of government. The number of standing committees meeting today in the House is actually less than half — 22 vs. 46 — the number that met 100 years ago.

But, often, by the time you tally up the number and names of committees and subcommittees and divisions, the bottom line is pretty much the same.

In 1972, for example, the Liberal-controlled Senate made news by slashing



The House once had a committee that oversaw the twine business, whose manufacturers at the turn of the century included the old state prison at Stillwater. (Photo courtesy of the Minnesota Historical Society)

the number of committees from 21 in the 1971 Session to 13 in the 1973 Session. That didn't necessarily simplify the legislative process because the Senate still had 36 subcommittees.

Just 10 years ago in the House, there were only 17 committees. But then Commerce, Economic Development, and Housing — separate committees this session — were grouped into one committee. Criminal Justice, however, was its own committee, while this session it remains a division of the Judiciary Committee.

In 1965, the standing committees of the House numbered 33 and included such titles as Cities of the First and Second Class, Drainage and Soil Conservation, Forestry and Public Domain, State and Junior Colleges, Temperance and Liquor Control, and University.

House and Senate rules, besides spelling out what standing committees will meet during a session, also allow for special committees. These committees

might tackle sensitive investigations of government affairs or deal with rising social issues.

While in the past a committee's name might have made unclear the panel's purpose, sometimes there's no doubt. Take, for example, this special Senate committee set up during the 1937 session: "To Determine if 75 percent of Trunk Highway System is Completed."

—Andris Straumanis

1991 COMMITTEE SCOPE

The Minnesota Legislature is divided into many different committees, divisions, and subdivisions, which form the heart of the legislative process.

Although many people believe that most of the legislative process occurs on the House and Senate floor, it's in committee where the most substantive action occurs. It's here where each bill is pored over and dissected, key amendments are added, and sections are deleted.

In the House, the speaker names the committees, appoints members to the committees, and selects chairs to lead them. Once the committee assignments are made and the House convenes for its session, the speaker assigns bills to the appropriate committees.

The *Session Weekly* staff asked House committee chairs and administrators for brief, general descriptions of the functions of their committees and divisions. More specifically, they asked what topics were likely to be considered this session.

Here is the result — a list describing the scope of each committee and division, as well as the specific concerns of each for the 1991 Legislative Session.

AGRICULTURE

Reviews farm policies and programs to assist farmers, promotes interstate and international trade, develops strategies for marketing commodities, and develops programs to encourage soil conservation.

Agenda '91:

- Wetlands
- Dairy fee issues (raising or maintaining fees for producers)
- Ethanol promotion
- Corporate farming issues
- Food safety issues

APPROPRIATIONS

Recommends objectives and goals in appropriating state money; reviews the governor's budget proposals; recommends funding levels for all state agencies and programs the state finances; provides estimates of appropriations to the Ways and Means Committee; reviews every bill where a state appropriation is required (even if the bill has had its first hearing in another committee). The committee has five divisions, which specialize in different appropriations issues.

Agenda '91:

- Budget issues for fiscal year 1991
- Budget issues for fiscal year 1992-93
- Funding for health care access
- Education

Economic Development, Infrastructure & Regulation Division/ APPROPRIATIONS

Reviews and recommends funding for transportation projects; all public safety projects; the departments of Commerce, Gaming, Labor and Industry, Transportation, and Public Safety; the Office of the Secretary of State; the Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board; the Greater Minnesota Corporation; The World Trade Center; and the Minnesota Historical Society.

Agenda '91:

- State debt service, infrastructure
- Transit and transportation issues
- Greater Minnesota Corporation

Education Division/ APPROPRIATIONS

Handles legislative funding for the state's four public higher education systems and the Higher Education Coordinating Board.

Agenda '91:

- Funding for higher education
- Enrollment (especially proposed limits)
- Minnesota Study of Post-Secondary Access & Needs (MSPAN)
- Financial Aid

Environment & Natural Resources Division/ APPROPRIATIONS

Oversees the budgets of agencies related to the environment, natural resources, and agriculture.

Agenda '91:

- Omnibus Environment and Natural Resources Appropriations Bill

Human Resources Division/ APPROPRIATIONS

Reviews governor's budget; recommends funding for state health, human services, corrections, and housing programs; reviews funding needs for legislation that policy committees recommend to pass.

Agenda '91:

- Maintaining social service "safety net"

State Government Division/ APPROPRIATIONS

Reviews and recommends appropriations for state departments and agencies.

Agenda '91:

- Balancing the budget for current fiscal year
- Budgeting review/balancing budget for fiscal year 1992-93
- Placing public-public and public-private partnerships in state government.

COMMERCE

Deals mainly with consumer affairs, professional licensing, tourism, and small-business issues.

Agenda '91:

- Consumer affairs/protection
- Tourism
- Real estate
- Professional licensing

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Covers rural development, community development, international trade, technology development, and the application of research and technology to the marketplace; considers job development, business finance and technical assistance issues; and reviews programs in the Department of Trade and Economic Development.

Agenda '91:

- Review of existing economic development entities
- International trade
- Quality work force and work place
- Agricultural Resources and Technology
- Access to capital

International Trade & Technology Division/ ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Examines Minnesota's economic and job needs, emphasizing world competitiveness; makes recommendations for small- and medium-sized businesses to improve manufacturing techniques and enhance exporting opportunities; promotes technology transfer from learning institutions to industry.

Agenda '91:

- Strategic planning for information management
- Coordination of efforts in relation to projects in trade and technology in the state
- Legislative use of office automation and new technologies to enhance citizen participation of government

EDUCATION

Handles policy areas such as statewide funding and structure of public education for K-12, and organization of educational districts.

Agenda '91:

- Budget issues—possible cuts and general revenue levels
- Funding equity—constitutionality of our current funding formula is being challenged in court
- School building needs—school district facilities need major repairs or replacement
- Outcome-based education—attempts to measure what a student has learned rather than what courses the student has taken
- University of Minnesota Regents—the Legislature will elect four regents from the first, fourth, sixth, and seventh congressional districts

Education Finance Division/EDUCATION

Provides policy direction and funding of the state's K-12 education system, which includes all public school districts and the Department of Education.

Agenda '91:

- General education funding formula
- Funding equity
- Restructuring the education system
- Coordination and collaboration of education and other services

Higher Education Division/ EDUCATION

Makes recommendations for the goals and objectives of technical colleges, state universities, community colleges, the University of Minnesota, and the Higher Education Coordinating Board; assesses the quality, availability, governance, and administration of these institutions.

Agenda '91:

- Needs, use of the state's higher educational systems
- Examining institutions' ability and success with student job placement
- Matching curricula with needs of prospective employers
- Institutions' budget requests and possible re-allocation of funds within the systems

ENERGY

Reviews energy policies and conservation issues.

Agenda '91:

- State energy policy
- Energy costs
- Energy efficiency
- Alternative fuels
- Integrated resource planning

ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES

Examines issues relating to pollution, waste management, wildlife protection, forestry and mining, groundwater protection, solid waste reduction, and recycling; also examines hunting and fishing regulations and promotion.

Agenda '91:

- Wetlands
- Toxic emissions and deposition
- Packaging regulations (SCOPE)
- Pollution enforcement
- Game and Fish issues

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS & INSURANCE

Reviews laws pertaining to banks, savings and loans, credit unions, and industrial thrifts. Examines consumer rights in insurance and availability of insurance for individuals and companies, and other aspects of the insurance industry.

Agenda '91:

- Insurance company solvency
- Health Care Access Commission Report

Banking Division/ FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS & INSURANCE

Examines fiscal condition of the banking industry and how best to meet the needs of financial institutions and consumers and the businesses they serve.

Agenda '91:

- Examination of fiscal condition of financial institutions in Minnesota

- Review of how financial institutions are serving consumers and business entities in Minnesota
- Study of the farm credit system and how it is serving rural communities
- Review of concerns at financial institutions in Minnesota
- Work with the Department of Commerce and senate and interested public to provide accurate and honest information in regard to the industry

GENERAL LEGISLATION, VETERANS AFFAIRS & GAMING

Reviews gambling issues and regulations, election concerns, veterans' programs, and miscellaneous legislation.

Agenda '91:

- Gambling issues: off-track betting, video pulltab, video lottery; charitable gambling/enforcement, audit, prize posting
- Election issues: withdrawal of candidates, mail elections, election judges time off with pay, fair/unfair campaign practices
- Veterans issues: veterans hospital issues, MIAs/POWs
- Canterbury Downs: industry (horse owners) issues
- State Fair: divestment of multiple ownership
- High School League issues

Elections Division/ GENERAL LEGISLATION, VETERANS AFFAIRS & GAMING

Considers election laws, campaign finance issues, and campaign practices.

Agenda '91:

- mail ballot elections
- uniform municipal election day
- fair/unfair campaign practices
- withdrawal of candidates from a race
- voter participation and election judge pool issue

Veterans Affairs Division/ GENERAL LEGISLATION, VETERANS AFFAIRS & GAMING

Addresses policy matters concerning various veterans programs and issues; considers legislation concerning veterans and military affairs.

Agenda '91:

- Silver Bay Veterans Home (code violations)
- The "It's the Right Thing to Do" program (aims to bring attention to the MIA/POW issue)

GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS

Reviews any bill that substantially changes or creates a new state department, agency, commission, board or bureau, although a bill may have had its first review and hearing in another committee; deals with public employee pension plans, and state workers' bargaining procedures.

Agenda '91:

- Reorganization of State Government Agencies
- Underfunded pension plans
- Health insurance; State Health Plan
- State employee collective bargaining agreements for next biennium
- Lease/rental issue on state buildings

Government Structures Division/ GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS

Examines the organization of the state's executive branch agencies and departments to effectively manage the growth of state government.

Agenda '91:

- Reviewing state government agencies and departments
- Pension issues
- Issues of importance to state employees
- Rulemaking authority

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Receives all bills relating to health issues and various social services in the state; reviews issues relating to health maintenance organizations; deals with the licensing of health care providers and social workers; reviews and recommends welfare programs, policies, goals, objectives, reform and creation.

Agenda '91:

- Health care access
- Wage enhancement for direct care employees
- Nursing home and alternative care grant funding
- Child care

HOUSING

Examines all aspects of housing programs; focuses on revitalization and rehabilitation projects, targeting housing for those with the greatest need; focuses on preserving existing affordable housing.

Agenda '91:

- Targeting affordable housing to those with the greatest need, i.e., homeless, low income people, and renters
- Developing creative financing to leverage limited dollars, i.e., public/private partnerships, federal matches
- Focusing on neighborhood-based revitalization and rehabilitation
- Linking housing to human services which promote self-sufficiency, i.e., STRIDE, youth employment, housing for disabled and elderly
- Preserving existing affordable housing, i.e., lead abatement and replacement housing strategies

JUDICIARY

Considers all areas of Minnesota law and the structure and organization of the courts.

Agenda '91:

- Corrections/Crime
—examination of probation/intensive supervision

- incarceration of juveniles in adult jail
- gang escalation and increase of violent juvenile crime
- Domestic Violence
 - reform of response system for battered women
 - child protection measures, including trial expedition for child sex-abuse and elimination of statute of limitations for same
- Drugs
 - redefinition of penalties for powdered and crack cocaine possession
 - drug use and revocation of driver's license
 - elimination of ex parte detox release powers for

judges

- Divorce
 - reform to expedite simple divorces; affordability
- Civil Law
 - reform of joint liability

Criminal Justice Division/JUDICIARY

Examines several aspects of criminal law, including the state's sentencing guidelines, court procedures in juvenile delinquency cases, and questions concerning child abuse.

Agenda '91:

- Domestic abuse/child protection
- Drugs—penalties, treatment programs for abusers
- DWI
- Juvenile justice
- Correction resources

LABOR-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS

Considers unemployment insurance, workers' compensation, and labor standards concerning issues about hours worked, wages paid, and working conditions. Also deals with certain public employee labor issues, but not pensions.

Agenda '91:

- Minimum wage
- Permanent replacement workers
- Worker privacy issues
- Dislocated workers
- Workers' compensation

LOCAL GOVERNMENT & METROPOLITAN AFFAIRS

Examines local government and makes recommendations concerning the relationship between state and local governments. Also examines local governments' jurisdiction, control, and bonding authority; reviews metropolitan agencies' structures, goals, and programs; considers transportation, sewers, roads, bridges, parks, and airports in the metropolitan area.

Agenda '91:

- Local government structure
- Light rail
- Metropolitan agencies
- Airports
- Land use planning issues

REDISTRICTING

Responsible for the process of redrawing the boundaries for legislative and congressional districts. Redistricting takes place once every ten years. The re-mapping will take place to reflect the 1990 census in order to equalize the populations of each district while also respecting natural physical boundary lines and local governmental boundaries whenever possible.

Agenda '91:

- Legislative redistricting
- Congressional reapportionment
- Metro Council Redistricting

REGULATED INDUSTRIES

Examines controls on state-regulated industries such as liquor, telephone, utilities, and commercial soliciting.

Agenda '91:

- Integrated resource planning for electric utilities including financial incentives for conservation and public utilities commission approval
- Continued scrutiny of electric utility service area boundaries and measures to resolve disputes between utilities
- Telecommunication issues
 - resale of telephone service
 - telephone assistance plan reform
 - caller identification
- Evaluation of the Public Utilities Commission rate setting process for

utilities

- Regulating sales and service of appliances, energy-consuming products, and equipment by public utilities

TAXES

Reviews bills that affect state income, sales, use, and property tax policy.

Agenda '91:

- Fair and affordable taxation based on ability to pay

TRANSPORTATION

Addresses policy matters concerning highways, trucking, transit systems, airports, and the departments of Transportation and Public Safety.

Agenda '91:

- Transportation Study Board report
- Truck regulation/deregulation
- Motor vehicle excise tax

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

ETHICS

Reviews ethical complaints concerning members of the House of Representatives; sets procedures on dealing with ethical problems.

RULES & LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATION

Establishes the budget for the House; approves personnel matters; determines House rules and joint rules of the House and Senate. Acts on bills and resolutions referred to the committee.

WAYS & MEANS

Sets overall spending and taxing policies and limits for the Appropriations and Taxes committees, and the Education Finance Division of the Education Committee.

Ever watchful . . .

Ward stepped out of retirement to accept job

FACES AT THE CAPITOL

It could be argued that Charlie Ward knows more about the comings and goings of the Minnesota House than anyone else in state government.

He's the official

House doorman, the person lobbyists turn to when they're trying to track down a member. And he's also the man who sometimes overhears the "insider information" that is traded just outside the chamber.

"I get the story behind the story that's in tomorrow's newspapers," he says.

While the occupation of doorman might sound less than glamorous to some, Ward says he relishes the post, adding that he likes Minnesota almost as much as he loves politics.

"I love it here," he says, "the people, the atmosphere, the whole educational process."

A longtime political activist, fundraiser, and campaign worker, Ward came to the Capitol in 1983 — three years after he retired as the postmaster of Anoka.

He began work as a page, but after long-time former doorman Andy Jones passed away, Ward was offered the job.

"Of course, I took the promotion," says Ward.

His job is clearly defined in the Permanent Rules of the House. And unlike the duties of most doormen, one of Ward's primary duties is to keep people out, not let them in.

The governor, former governors, members of the House and Senate, representatives of the media, and former legislative members are among the privileged few allowed on the House floor.

Likewise, congressmen and judges are allowed in the chamber, as are heads of state government departments. Current members are also permitted to bring one guest into the chamber, provided the guest obtains a pass from the House speaker.

Do unauthorized people try to sneak by? "I've never been fooled," says Ward.



Charlie Ward, the House doorman since 1983, knows all about the comings and goings of lawmakers.

"That doesn't mean they don't try."

Yet despite his designated role as quasi-bouncer, Ward gets high marks for his courteous demeanor.

"Charlie is a gentleman in the truest sense of the word," says Larry Bothwell, who first hired Ward as a page. "I couldn't think of a finer ambassador for the House."

And there are many lobbyists, who often rely on Ward to tell them which members have or haven't passed through his doors, to sing his praises as well.

A lifetime Minnesota resident, Ward graduated from Anoka High School in 1937. After attending St. John's University for a year, he returned to Anoka and joined the National Guard. In February of 1941 he was called to active service. Honorably discharged five years later, he returned to Anoka once more, this time staying for more than 40 years.

As a full-time mail carrier he delivered both city and rural routes, eventually becoming postmaster of the city of Anoka in 1966. He held this position until his retirement in 1980.

Ward and his wife, Bernice, have been married since 1950 and have six children. They now live in St. Paul.

Has his wife ever been onto the House floor during session?

"Never even thought of trying," he says. "That's definitely against the rules."

—John T. Tschida

Jan. 1, 1923

On this day, Lake of the Woods County, whose boundaries partially include its namesake lake, was established. In 1688, Frenchman Jacques De Noyon explored the area and named the lake "Lac aux Iles," or Lake of the Woods, because it surrounds more than 14,000 forested islands.

'For it's one, two, three times, she's *in* . . . '

The first time Rep. Becky J. Lourey (DFL-Kerrick) ran for the Legislature, she was defeated. The experience taught her a lesson: She had ideas, but needed a greater understanding of her district.

So Lourey decided to get an education by becoming active in various groups such as the East Central Recycling Task Force, the Pine County Developmental Achievement Center, and the AIDS Task Force.

She tried again in 1988 to unseat long-time Independent-Republican Rep. Doug Carlson, but failed a second time. Lourey was undaunted. "The experience made me want to involve myself more," she says.

This time Lourey sought and obtained an appointment to the Health Care Access Commission, where she continued to learn about health issues and became more familiar with the state government process.

The effort paid off. In November, Lourey narrowly defeated Carlson in one of the closest legislative elections of 1990.

Lourey says she decided to run for the Legislature because of what she saw as government's hands-off attitude during the 1980s, symbolized by the savings and loan crisis and the rise of homelessness.

"I really believe in government," she says. "I believe in responsible government and responsive government."

Her election comes at a good time for the mother of 11 children, seven of whom are adopted. "The kids are enjoying their dad," Lourey says. Her husband, Gene, works from their farm home as a systems analyst.

Lourey's top priority for this session is to "make sure that every Minnesotan has financial and geographic access to health care." It's a goal she's sure can be reached.

Other concerns for Lourey are the environment and economic development. She says she's been impressed by the entrepreneurial talents of her district and would like to improve economic development and tourism programs. Lourey wants to push for a telecommunications program that would allow areas of her vast district to be linked by telephones and computers.

She says she wants to learn as much as



Becky J. Lourey

District 14B

Age: 47

Home: Kerrick

Occupation: Activist and homemaker

District traits: 14B is "really large" and primarily rural, containing parts of Aitkin, Carlton, Kanabec, and Pine counties.

she can about a topic before making a decision and has added a television and radio to her office in the State Office Building to keep abreast of the news. She also plans frequent weekend trips to her district to discuss issues with constituents.

As a freshman legislator, Lourey says she realizes the importance of her new job.

"It's really very different from being here asking for something [as when she was public affairs chair for the Minnesota Public Health Association] and actually working here," she says. "It's a lot of responsibility."

It's a fact!

It's almost creepy. All those gophers. Watching.

The State Office Building has gobs of gophers. The next time you use the stairway in the State Office Building, take a look at the railing.

It contains 168 gophers.

Over in the Capitol, the state rodent can be seen in a stairway and in the railing of the rotunda. Architect Cass Gilbert designed the gopher in the iron grillwork "that guards the main floor stair well to the basement," wrote Neil B. Thompson in *Minnesota's State Capitol*.

You can also see gophers in the wrought iron gates that guard the entrances to the Senate and the Minnesota Supreme Court.



Gophers keep a watchful eye on those who use the stairway in the State Office Building.

Hufnagle achieves last of youthful goals

Rep. Paul C. Hufnagle (R-Bloomington) has finally made it.

The freshman legislator reaches back to his high school years to tell the story of his success.

"You remember in high school when you had to write down the three things you wanted to become most? This is the one thing I hadn't done," he says, referring to his election to the House of Representatives last November.

"For the first time I can say I'm satisfied," he says. "I've done everything I set out to do."

Hufnagle's other goals — to raise a family and become financially successful — have already been attained. He's married and has five children. Since graduating with an economics degree in 1957 from the University of Minnesota, he has worked for a number of financial institutions and is currently chairman of the board of the Franklin State Bank in Renville County.

"Handling money is what I've done most of my career," he says.

Hufnagle has been involved in politics since 1952 — before he was old enough to vote. In his youth, he was a bit of a rebel. In the early 1950s, he was thrown out of a Hennepin County Republican



Paul C. Hufnagle

District 41A

Age: 55

Home: Bloomington

Occupation: Banker

District traits: 41A takes in the western part of Bloomington, which is characterized by mostly middle-to upper-class homes and a number of large parks.

convention because he was deemed too young to be a precinct delegate. He was 20, then under legal voting age.

Now that he's been elected — after two unsuccessful bids — Hufnagle says he has no plans to run for higher office. He supports a limit on terms in the Legislature.

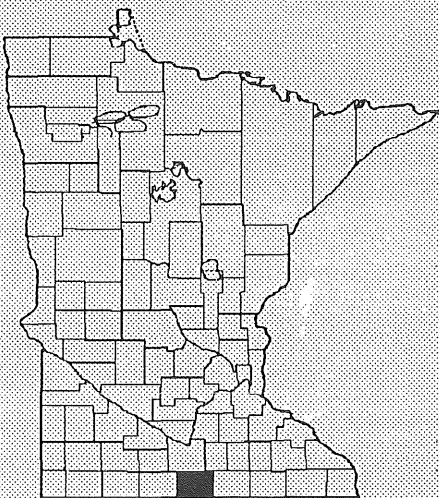
His first impressions of the Legislature? "It's a very interesting body," he says. "Everyone here has a definite ego of their own."

If there's one thing Hufnagle dreams of accomplishing this session, it's repealing the state's fiscal disparities law. The fiscal disparities program allows Twin Cities area communities with little new com-

mmercial-industrial development to benefit from tax dollars generated in communities with lots of new development. Bloomington is among the largest net contributors to the tax pool, losing tax dollars to other cities.

Hufnagle, however, is realistic about the slim prospects of eliminating fiscal disparities. And, as a freshman, he also doesn't expect to be leading the charge on other major legislation. Instead, he hopes to introduce some local bills.

"I learned real quick that seniority counts around here, and right now I don't have any," he says.



Do you know?

Faribault County was named after Jean Baptiste Faribault, a trader who was the first white settler to cultivate soil in Minnesota and the first person to build a stone house in the state.

Faribault spent most of his life as a trader with the Dakota, or Sioux, Indians. Born in Quebec, he came to Minnesota in 1803 and took charge of a trading post at Little Rapids, a few miles up from the present sites of Chaska and Carver.

Later, he became an independent trader at Pike Island, just below Fort Snelling at the mouth of the Minnesota River. Faribault also resided in Mendota, where he lived in Minnesota's first stone house, which is still standing today.

During his lifetime, Faribault taught farming to several groups of Indians who lived in what is now the upper Midwest.

He spent his last years in present-day Faribault, which began as an Indian trading post founded by his son, Alexander Faribault, for whom the city is named.

In the Hopper . . . Jan. 18-24, 1991

Bill Introductions

HF0067-HF0114

Tuesday, Jan. 22

HF0067—Carruthers (DFL)

Judiciary

Peace officers guaranteed certain rights when under investigation and in disciplinary proceedings.

HF0068—Lieder (DFL)

Local Government & Metro. Affairs

International airport plan date extended.

HF0069—Scheid (DFL)

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

Political parties; executive committee to fill nomination vacancies.

HF0070—Cooper (DFL)

Health & Human Services

Regional treatment centers to continue caring for persons with developmental disabilities.

HF0071—Morrison (IR)

Judiciary

Marriage dissolution petition to include name variants and aliases.

HF0072—Long (DFL)

Health & Human Services

Health care plan for uninsured and underinsured established and money appropriated.

HF0073—Tunheim (DFL)

Education

Maximum effort school loan interest payment deduction eliminated.

HF0074—Welle (DFL)

Judiciary

Municipal tort liability for injuries caused by beach and swimming pool equipment specified.

HF0075—Uphus (IR)

Taxes

Agricultural homestead classification expanded.

HF0076—Rodosovich (DFL)

Taxes

Cities permitted to levy for peace officer controlled substance enforcement and drug abuse resistance education (DARE) costs.

HF0077—Pelowski (DFL)

Education

Winona levy for drug abuse resistance education (DARE) authorized.

HF0078—Solberg (DFL)

Judiciary

Judicial administration fees and procedures changed.

HF0079—Solberg (DFL)

Taxes

Itasca county special levy authority extended for economic development purposes.

HF0080—Dauner (DFL)

Health & Human Services

Salary increases required for certain human services employees.

Thursday, Jan. 24

HF0081—Orfield (DFL)

Housing

Name change in mortgage satisfaction or release recital considered evidence.

HF0082—Welle (DFL)

Labor-Management Relations

Affirmative action plan filing requirement changed for businesses seeking public contracts.

HF0083—Kalis (DFL)

Transportation

Town road project fees not to exceed \$100.

HF0084—O'Connor (DFL)

Health & Human Services

Podiatrists accepted as participating entities by health maintenance organization through rules adopted by health department.

HF0085—Olson, E. (DFL)

Judiciary

Nursing homes with 100 or fewer beds that are located within 75 miles of each other allowed to share an administrator.

HF0086—Greenfield (DFL)

Health & Human Services

Peace officers to notify parents or custodians of available social services when a child is taken into custody for shelter care placement and money appropriated.

HF0087—Solberg (DFL)

Transportation

Itasca county board and appropriate town boards allowed to establish and record certain public roads less than four rods in width.

HF0088—Blatz (IR)

Taxes

Homestead treatment to apply to property if a relative is required to be a coowner.

HF0089—Welle (DFL)

Judiciary

Punitive damages not to be collected if stolen property is recovered.

HF0090—Welle (DFL)

Health & Human Services

Medical examiners board to have geographic representation.

HF0091—Dawkins (DFL)

Judiciary

Marriage solemnization alternatives provided for Quaker, Buddhist, and Hmong residents.

HF0092—Lasley (DFL)

Local Government & Metro. Affairs

Mora deadline extended for negotiating municipal wastewater treatment facility contracts.

HF0093—Onnen (IR)

Financial Institutions & Insurance

Comprehensive health insurance plan eligibility to include employers with one or more employees.

HF0094—Onnen (IR)

Health & Human Services

Health care and insurance costs reduction study created and money appropriated.

HF0095—Onnen (IR)

Financial Institutions & Insurance

Group health insurance underwriting practices restricted.

HF0096—Onnen (IR)

Judiciary

Alcohol provided to an underage person that leads to the person or other recipient becoming intoxicated and causing or suffering death or great bodily harm considered a felony.

HF0097—Thompson (DFL)

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

Persian Gulf; President and Congress to express Minnesota's support for troops.

HF0098—Seaberg (IR)

Judiciary

Ex parte judicial release orders prohibited during the emergency hold period.

HF0099—Pelowski (DFL)

Transportation

Disabled American veterans highway and rest area designated.

HF0100—Cooper (DFL)

Health & Human Services

Health coverage surcharge imposed; emergency medical services personnel account and incentive plan for ambulance personnel established.

HF0101—Blatz (IR)

Financial Institutions & Insurance

Liability coverage to school districts for asbestos related claims authorized.

HF0102—Carruthers (DFL)

Judiciary

Personnel data amendments clarified.

HF0103—Kinkel (DFL)

Regulated Industries

On-sale seasonal liquor license length extended for counties.

HF0104—Milbert (DFL)

Commerce

Automatic garage door opening systems regulated and warning label required.

HF0105—Olson, K. (DFL)

Health & Human Services

Nurses practicing in nursing homes eligible for loan forgiveness program.

HF0106—Dauner (DFL)

Transportation

Town road account money to be distributed annually by March 1.

HF0107—Janezich (DFL)

Local Government & Metro. Affairs

Town supervisor election provisions clarified and certain town officers and employees compensation provided.

HF0108—Janezich (DFL)

Local Government & Metro. Affairs

Towns required notice of projects and copies of permits.

HF0109—Vellenga (DFL)

Judiciary

Sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) victims to be autopsied and medical examiners and coroners authorized access to child abuse and neglect reports.

HF0110—Anderson, I. (DFL)

Health & Human Services

Health care plan for uninsured and underinsured established and money appropriated.

HF0111—Rice (DFL)

Health & Human Services

Health care plan for uninsured and underinsured established and money appropriated.

HF0112—Janezich (DFL)

Health & Human Services

Health care plan for uninsured and underinsured established and money appropriated.

HF0113—Simoneau (DFL)

Appropriations

Finance department appropriated money for certain data search and copying expenses.

HF0114—Johnson, V. (IR)

Local Government & Metro. Affairs

Winona County permitted to dispose of consecutive index recordings of real estate.

Editor's note: The bills (HF0047-HF0066) listed under Wednesday, Jan. 16, in the last issue of Session Weekly were officially introduced on Tuesday, Jan. 22.



Editor's note: Last year we invited readers to ask questions about the legislative process so they could be answered in this space. Here's the first of several questions that will be answered by Session Weekly in our Q & A column.

How are committee chairs selected, and how are appointments to committees made?

All committee appointments in the House, including the naming of powerful committee chairs, are made by the speaker of the House. Members of the speaker's caucus request assignment to certain committees, and the minority leader submits to the speaker a list of desired committee appointments for the minority caucus. The speaker — balancing the various requests — then makes the appointments.

In deciding on a committee chair, the speaker usually chooses a senior member with some expertise in the committee's work. But oftentimes members with less

seniority are chosen over their more experienced colleagues.

The method of selecting committee chairs in the House differs from the Senate method where the decisions are made by the Rules and Administration Committee. The Senate majority leader does exercise a great deal of influence on the final decisions, however.

Ideally, committee memberships reflect the balance of DFLers and IRs in the House. Each committee, therefore, would be a representative sample of the whole body.

Why do committees have so much power?

Because of the large volume of legislation proposed each session, legislators couldn't possibly make informed decisions on all issues without specialists passing judgment on them first. That's why the House and Senate are divided into several different committees.

The House relies on the specific committees to make sound judgments within their respective areas of expertise. If a committee says no to an idea, the full House generally doesn't second-guess the decision — although it does happen on occasion.

After a committee studies and decides what bills to recommend for passage, the committee members will explain to their caucus's membership what position they recommend on the bill.

Consequently, committees and their chairs have quite a bit of power over what moves through the House. However, a bill voted down by a committee can be resurrected. If the House votes to do so, a bill can be moved to another committee, or it can be moved out of a committee and considered on the House floor. This can happen if a committee chair refused to grant a hearing to a bill the leadership believed should be discussed.

In addition, a bill defeated in a committee can be amended into another bill in another committee, on the House floor, or in a conference committee.

Sometimes political maneuvering like this takes place in order to do an "end run" around a particular committee that is considered by other members to be hostile to a proposal.

Coming up Next Week . . . Jan. 28-Feb. 1, 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, Jan. 28

7:30 a.m.

Education Division/ APPROPRIATIONS

Campus visit at U of M,
Minneapolis campus
Chr. Rep. Lyndon Carlson
Agenda: University of Minnesota
overview at Minneapolis campus.

8 a.m.

EDUCATION

5 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Bob McEachern
Agenda: House Research report: Reten-
tion of Minnesota College Students. Q-7 -
Quality on the line, Minnesota State
University System. State Board of
Education proposed curriculum rules.

8:30 a.m.

Environment & Natural Resources Division/ APPROPRIATIONS

Basement Hearing Room
State Office Building
Chr. Rep. David Battaglia
Agenda: Overviews: Department of
Natural Resources report on state forest
payments to counties; and Department of
Natural Resources plan for hostel
development.

Human Resources Division/ APPROPRIATIONS

200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Lee Greenfield
Agenda: Continuation of review of the
governor's 1991 budget recommenda-
tions.

State Government Division/ APPROPRIATIONS

300S State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Phyllis Kahn
Agenda: Agency overview/budget
hearings.

10 a.m.

AGRICULTURE

5 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Steve Wenzel
Agenda: Presentation by Elton Redalen,
commissioner of Minnesota Department
of Agriculture and Minnesota Department
of Agriculture officials regarding legisla-
tive priorities.

Government Structures Division/ GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS

10 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Rich O'Connor
Agenda: Introductory meeting; possible
presentation by governor's staff on
governor's reorganization plans for state
government.

JUDICIARY

Basement Hearing Room
State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Kathleen Vellenga
Agenda: Mark Shields, director, Minne-
sota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension.
Bruce McManus, deputy commissioner of
Community Services, Minnesota Depart-
ment of Corrections. HF0054 (Solberg)
Juries; persons 75 years or older and
impaired excused from jury service upon
request.

REGULATED INDUSTRIES

10 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Joel Jacobs
Agenda: House Research staff will
present a review of Minnesota Statutes
relating to public utilities, communica-
tions, and liquor.

12:30 p.m.

Education Finance Division/ EDUCATION

300N State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Ken Nelson
Agenda: K-12 education system incen-
tives.

Banking Division/FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS & INSURANCE

300S State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Wally Sparby
Agenda: Information meeting. Minnesota
Association of Credit Unions, Debby
Ellingwood; Minnesota League of Credit
Unions, Gary Plank; and Savings League
of Minnesota, John Corbid and George
Loban.

HOUSING

5 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Karen Clark
Agenda: Presentations: Jim Solem,
Minnesota Housing Finance Agency; Jim
Jensen, MCDA; Mary Vogel, U of M; and
John Horner, Multi-Housing Association.

LABOR-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS

200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Joseph Begich
Agenda: Bernie Brommer, president,
Minnesota AFL-CIO and Bill Peterson,
secretary/treasurer, Minnesota AFL-CIO.
Jack Mogelson, president of Minnesota
DRIVE. Jean Dunn, executive director of
Teamster Service Bureau.

2:30 p.m.

The House will meet in session.

TUESDAY, Jan. 29

7:30 a.m.

Education Division/ APPROPRIATIONS

Campus visit at St. Catherine's College
Chr. Rep. Lyndon Carlson
Agenda: Private College System overview
at the College of St. Catherine, St. Paul.

8 a.m.

Human Resources Division/ APPROPRIATIONS

200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Lee Greenfield
Agenda: Continuation of review of the
governor's 1991 budget recommenda-
tions.

State Government Division/ APPROPRIATIONS

300S State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Phyllis Kahn
Agenda: Agency overview/budget
hearings.

GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS

10 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Leo Reding
Agenda: HFXXX (Cooper) EMS.
Administrative rules: Mark Shepard,
House Research; Robert Hamper,
director, Rules and Bulletins Division,
Department of Human Services; Bill
Brown, chief administrative law judge,
Administrative Hearing Office; Maryanne
Hruby, executive director, Legislative
Commission to Review Administrative
Rules.

8:30 a.m.

Environment & Natural Resources Division/APPROPRIATIONS

Basement Hearing Room
State Office Building
Chr. Rep. David Battaglia
Agenda: Overview of the legislative
auditor's report of PCA.

10 a.m.

ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES

10 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Willard Munger
Agenda: Environmental Quality Board,
Environmental Compact of the States.
Overviews: Office of Waste Management,
Legislative Commission on Waste
Management, Legislative Water Commis-
sion, and the Metropolitan Waste Control
Commission.

Subcommittee on Health Care Access & Delivery/ HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

5 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Roger Cooper
Agenda: HF0007 (Greenfield) Health care
plan for uninsured and underinsured
established. The full committee is invited
to attend this hearing.

12 noon

REDISTRICTING

James J. Hill House
240 Summit Ave., St. Paul
Chr. Rep. Peter Rodosovich
Agenda: Redistricting orientation
seminar. This meeting is scheduled to last
until 4:30 p.m.

12:30 p.m.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

5 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Gloria Segal
Agenda: Art Rolnic, senior vice president
and director of research, Federal Reserve
Bank in Minneapolis: Credit and capital
in today's Minnesota economy. John H.
Bullion, vice president, FBS Venture
Capital Co.: overview of venture capital.
Charles Shaffer, director of Small
Business Assistance Office, Department of
Trade and Economic Development:
Issues and trends in small business access
to capital. Harlan Jacobs, vice president,
TechniTran International Ltd.: Seed
capital, creative approaches to its
allocation and formation.

Elections Division/ GENERAL LEGISLATION, VETERANS AFFAIRS & GAMING

500N State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Linda Scheid
Agenda: Common Cause: Campaign
finance proposals for 1991 - 1992;
Citizens League: Precinct caucus study
update; and the League of Women
Voters: Legislative agenda for
1991-1992.

Veterans Affairs Division/ GENERAL LEGISLATION, VETERANS AFFAIRS & GAMING

500S State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Pat Beard
Agenda: Overview of the Veterans Affairs
Department from Commissioner Bernie
Melter and Terry Logan, director of
agency relations.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT & METROPOLITAN AFFAIRS

200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Irv Anderson
Agenda: Discussion of Office of the
Legislative Auditor's reports on local
government spending and local govern-
ment lobbying.

2:30 p.m.

Subcommittee on Civil Law/ JUDICIARY

500S State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Tom Pugh
Agenda: Introduction of members.
HF0074 (Welle) Municipal tort liability
for injuries caused by beach and swim-
ming pool equipment specified.

4 p.m.

ETHICS

300N State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Jim Tunheim
Agenda: Review of current procedures;
discussion of existing recommendations;
and member input.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 30

8 a.m.

Education Division/ APPROPRIATIONS

300N State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Lyndon Carlson

Agenda: Higher Education Coordinating Board (HECB) general overview of agency and discussion of financial aid.

Human Resources Division/ APPROPRIATIONS

200 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Lee Greenfield

Agenda: Continuation of review of the governor's 1991 budget recommendations.

State Government Division/ APPROPRIATIONS

300S State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Phyllis Kahn

Agenda: Agency overview/budget hearings.

EDUCATION

5 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Bob McEachern

Agenda: Teacher salary trends in Minnesota 1974 - 1988, House Research. Teacher compensation study, legislative auditor.

GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS

10 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Leo Reding

Agenda: Minnesota's pension system: structure, funding and policy. Larry Martin, executive director, Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement.

8:30 a.m.

Environment & Natural Resources Division/APPROPRIATIONS

Basement Hearing Room

State Office Building

Chr. Rep. David Battaglia

Agenda: PCA response to the legislative auditor's report. Overview of PCA superfund status report.

10 a.m.

Higher Education Division/ EDUCATION

500N State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Mike Jaros

Agenda: Minnesota Technical College System: Reporting on student job placement; Community College System: Reporting on student outcomes/job placement; Minnesota High Technology Council: Discussing needs of employers; State Building Trades Council, Ray Waldron, president: Discussing how higher education systems are meeting their needs; and the Minnesota Association of Private Postsecondary Schools, David Krogseng, executive director: Discussing student placements.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS & INSURANCE

Conference room at the

Department of Commerce, St. Paul

Chr. Rep. Wes Skoglund

Agenda: Continuation of presentation on financial institutions by Greg Pulles, general counsel, TCF. Tour of the Department of Commerce. A bus will depart from the front of the State Office Building promptly at 10 a.m. which will arrive shortly thereafter at the Department of Commerce.

12:30 p.m.

ENERGY

500N State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Mary Murphy

Agenda: Alternative fuels for vehicles. What are they doing? (Regional Transit Board, Garneth Peterson, planner) Where we are...Where we're going...Where we should be going...with ethanol (Ralph Groschen, Department of Agriculture) Tomorrows fuel today...natural gas (Susan Turbes, Minnegasco) A viable alternative: propane? (Suburban Propane, Tom Donley, area sales representative)

TRANSPORTATION

Tour

Chr. Rep. Henry Kalis

Agenda: Tour: Inspection of railroad inter-modal hub facility. Bus will depart from the front of the State Office Building.

1 p.m.

Subcommittee on Redistricting/ Legislative Coordinating Commission

5 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Peter Rodosovich

Agenda: Assistant system administrator position and equipment. LMIC contract for loading IVDCs. LMIC contract for data base development. Identification and training of caucus staff. Status report on the Post Redistricting Task Force. Preliminary report on public distribution of redistricting data.

2:30 p.m.

Education Finance Division/ EDUCATION

300N State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Ken Nelson

Agenda: K-12 education system incentives.

Subcommittee on Standards & Regulations/ HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

300S State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Howard Orenstein

Agenda: Overview of ethical and policy implications of genetic testing and the Human Genome Project. No legislation will be before the subcommittee. Witnesses will include Arthur Caplan, director of the Center for Biomedical Ethics, University of Minnesota; and business, labor, insurance and groups representing people with genetic disabilities, etc. These issues may overlap various committee jurisdictions. Legislators from the Insurance and Labor committees and other interested legislators are welcome to attend and participate.

THURSDAY, Jan. 31

8 a.m.

Education Division/ APPROPRIATIONS

300N State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Lyndon Carlson

Agenda: Department of Finance overview of average cost funding; state policies.

Environment & Natural Resources Division/APPROPRIATIONS

Tour

Chr. Rep. David Battaglia

Agenda: Tour of Minnesota Science Museum.

State Government Division/ APPROPRIATIONS

300S State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Phyllis Kahn

Agenda: Agency overview/budget hearings.

8:30 a.m.

JOINT MEETING

Human Resources Division/ APPROPRIATIONS

&

Education Finance Division/ EDUCATION

200 State Office Building

Chrs. Reps. Lee Greenfield & Ken Nelson

Agenda: Children's mental health system: Coordination and access to education and human services systems.

10 a.m.

COMMERCE

Basement Hearing Room

State Office Building

Chr. Rep. John Sarna

Agenda: Presentation by Hank Todd, director of Tourism, Department of Trade and Economic Development.

ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES

10 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Willard Munger

Agenda: Overview of the Department of Natural Resources.

Subcommittee on Health Care Access & Delivery/ HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

5 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Roger Cooper

Agenda: HF0006 (Lourey) Health care plan for uninsured and underinsured established.

HFXXX (Cooper) Health care access bill (rural). The full committee is invited to attend this hearing.

12:30 p.m.

International Trade & Technology Division/ ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

400S State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Rick Krueger

Agenda: To be announced.

GENERAL LEGISLATION, VETERANS AFFAIRS & GAMING

500S State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Tom Osthoff

Agenda: To be announced.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT & METROPOLITAN AFFAIRS

200 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Irv Anderson

Agenda: Metropolitan Park and Open Space Commission, Larry Kitto. Metropolitan Airports Commission, David Dombrowski, director, legislative relations.

2:30 p.m.

The House will meet in session.

6 p.m.

Legislative Commission on Waste Management

10 State Office Building

Chr. Sen. Gene Merriam

Agenda: Report on the effects of environmental contamination on real property, Pollution Control Agency. Legislative Commission on Waste Management

recommendations to the legislature on appropriations to: Minnesota Environmental Response and Liability Account (Superfund), Metropolitan Landfill Contingency Action Trust, and the Metropolitan Landfill Abatement Fund. Discussion of the options and implications related to financing response actions at a closed landfill in Hopkins, Minnesota.

FRIDAY, Feb. 1

8 a.m.

State Government Division/ APPROPRIATIONS

300S State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Phyllis Kahn

Agenda: Agency overview/budget hearings.

10 a.m.

JOINT MEETING

Subcommittee on Health Care Access & Delivery/ HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

&

Government Structures Division/ GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS

10 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Richard O'Connor

Agenda: HF0005 (Welle) Health care plan for uninsured and underinsured established.

12:30 p.m.

JUDICIARY

Basement Hearing Room

State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Kathleen Vellenga

Agenda: Hubert Humphrey III, Minnesota Attorney General; John Stuart, State Public Defender; and Professor Richard Frase, University of Minnesota Law School.

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

Education

National rank

Number of operating public school districts, 1988-89: 433	14
Average daily attendance in public schools, 1988-89: 686,000	20
State school aid per pupil (ADA) 1988-89: \$2,866	13
Estimated average salaries of public school teachers as reported by NEA, 1988-89: \$30,660	15
Estimated average salaries of public school teachers as reported by AFT, 1988-89: \$31,395	11
Pupil-teacher ratio, 1988: 17.1 percent	28
Percent of public school teachers who are men, 1988-89: 38 percent	2
High school graduation rate: 90.6 percent	1
ACT college entrance exam average score, 1988: 19.9 (national avg.: 18.8)	3

Source: State Policy Data Book '89

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:
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the status of a specific bill, call:
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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

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