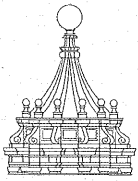


Session Weekly

Minnesota House of Representatives • February 28, 1992 • Volume 9, Number 4





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Flashback

It's possible that Minnesota would still have the death penalty today had three St. Paul newspapers decided to obey an early law that until 1906 had not been enforced.

The *Pioneer Press*, *Dispatch* and *Daily News* all printed details of what later proved to be the last hanging in Minnesota. It took William Williams 14-1/2 minutes to die by strangulation because the hangman failed to consider that rope stretches (see story page 12). The *Pioneer Press* coverage was relatively staid, but the *Dispatch* and *Daily News* reported the hanging in true turn-of-the-century fashion:

"Then he looked up and saw, in the pitiless glare of the electric lights, the death machine, gaunt, shadowed, primitive and awful, with the long hempen rope and the noose," stated the Feb. 13, 1906, *Dispatch*.

Pushed by a "reforming legislator," who once tried to get an inmate on death row to pray with him, the 1889 Legislature approved a law regulating hangings.

The law limited the number of spectators, required they take place before sunrise, and included this curious provision: "No account of the details of such execution, beyond the statement of the fact that such convict was on the day in question duly executed according to law, shall be published in any newspaper."

Walter Trenery, in *Murder in Minnesota*, says that provision had never been enforced, but Ramsey County officials "seem to have been thin-skinned." They successfully obtained an indictment against all three newspapers for violating the "John Day Smith law," named for the Minneapolis legislator who sponsored it.

The papers claimed the law was unconstitutional, but the Minnesota Supreme Court disagreed. "If, in the opinion of the Legislature, it is detrimental to public morals to publish anything more than the mere fact that the execution has taken place, then . . . the appellant was not deprived of any constitutional right in being so limited," wrote the court in *State v. Pioneer Press Company*. The papers were each fined \$25.

"Although the St. Paul newspapers were found guilty . . . they had brought the bungled execution to public attention, hinting at a parallel to Inquisition tortures of the Middle Ages, and Minnesota was shocked," wrote Trenery in *Murder in Minnesota*.

—Grant Moos

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On the cover: A picturesque snowfall greeted lawmakers returning to work Monday.

—photo by Laura Phillips

Highlights



Budget

Budget deficit grows

Citing ongoing problems in the economy, Minnesota budget officials Feb. 27 predicted a \$569 million state budget shortfall by the end of the current fiscal cycle in July 1993, setting the stage for another round of difficult budget decisions for state lawmakers.

Nearly all of the state's budget problems can be blamed on the recession, said state Finance Commissioner John Gunyou. He said the economic downturn has reduced state income tax revenues about \$469.6 million, making it the largest single factor in the deficit.

The forecast, issued twice yearly by the Department of Finance, indicates state spending is staying at levels earlier predicted. Overall, state expenditures should total about \$13.2 billion by the end of the current budget cycle, about \$72 million higher than anticipated in the November 1991 forecast.

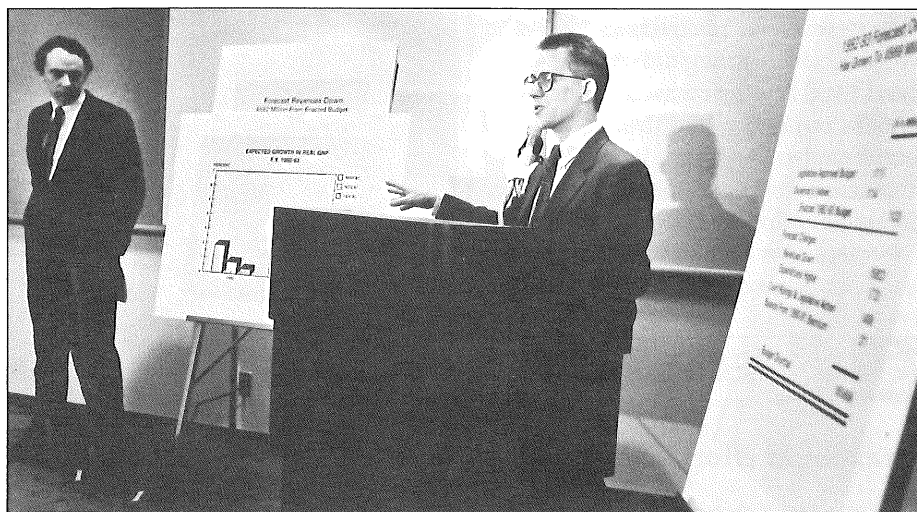
The news remains bleak for the long-range forecast. Gunyou said that unless changes are made now to narrow the gap between state spending and revenues, Minnesota could be nearly \$1.75 billion in the red by the end of the next biennium in 1995.

The size of the projected state deficit caught few lawmakers by surprise. "It's the worst-kept secret around," Gunyou joked prior to briefing DFL legislative leaders earlier in the day.

But how legislators now intend to resolve the budget gap remains unanswered, although a combination of spending cuts, tax and fee increases, and using a portion of the \$400 million budget reserve account, appear likely.

Rep. Wayne Simoneau (DFL-Fridley), chair of the House Appropriations Committee, said he anticipates tax increases of between \$100 million and \$150 million will ultimately be approved.

Other DFL leaders appeared leaning toward changing the timetable for



Minnesota Finance Commissioner John Gunyou, right, explained details of the state's \$569 million projected budget shortfall. With Gunyou at the Feb. 27 news conference was state economist Tom Stinson.

dispensing some of the state aids to local governments or schools, allowing them to take more from the budget reserve account, which is normally used to avoid short-term state borrowing.

Gov. Arne Carlson and most other Independent-Republicans, however, have consistently argued against using the reserve account for balancing state budget problems.

Carlson will offer his budget recommendations March 5 in a joint address to state House and Senate members.



Higher Education

State grant program

Members of the Education Division of the Appropriations Committee say they are frustrated about misinformation they say is being circulated regarding changes in the state grant program.

Rep. Lyndon Carlson (DFL-Crystal), chair of the division, said students are being left with the impression that financial aid is being cut.

"Although we had a \$1.2 billion shortfall last year, money appropriated for financial aid was increased by \$3.96 million, and I don't think you'll find

many areas of state government where that happened," said Carlson.

Although students expressed appreciation for the overall increase in financial aid at the Feb. 27 division meeting, they are concerned about the impact the new definition of full-time student will have.

The 1991 Legislature defined full-time student as one who carries 15 credits per term — up from the current federal 12 credit standard. The change will result in less aid per term for students who take fewer than 15 credits.

The committee members defended the change by saying that part-time students will be able to receive aid grants for a longer period of time. The current system cuts off state grants after four years whether or not students have completed their degrees. The new law will allow students to receive aid for 180 credits, even if it takes longer than four years to get it.

The changes were intended to encourage full-time students to complete their education in a timely manner and to give students who need more time to complete their programs the opportunity to continue their education.

But representatives of the Minnesota Association of Financial Aid Administrators presented a report to the committee Feb. 27 that showed students will receive

less aid — not more.

Even with the ability to get grants over a longer period of time, part-time students will receive less aggregate financial aid than students who take 15 credits for four years, said the report.

Under the new state rules, a student taking fewer than 15 credits in 1992-93 would receive a state grant of \$452 — about \$400 less than what a student who takes 12 or more credits this year will receive under the current rules, said administrators from Anoka-Ramsey Community College.

(See page 9 for more on higher education)



Education

Maximum effort school loans

Eight schools that have been waiting to finance building improvements with money appropriated by the 1991 Legislature through the maximum effort loan program could get started a lot sooner if a bill approved by the Education Committee Feb. 26 becomes law.

The \$45 million that was appropriated in 1991 has been held up because the authorization included a requirement that bonds for school projects approved by the 1990 Legislature be sold first. The Legislature had hoped the requirement would force the 1990 bonds to be sold more quickly, but some are still outstanding.

HF1811 would allow the 1991 bonds for the eight schools to be sold before the 1990 bonds.

The bill's sponsor, Rep. Jim Tunheim (DFL-Kennedy), told the Education Committee Feb. 26 that the delay has hurt schools that began building in anticipation of the state funds.



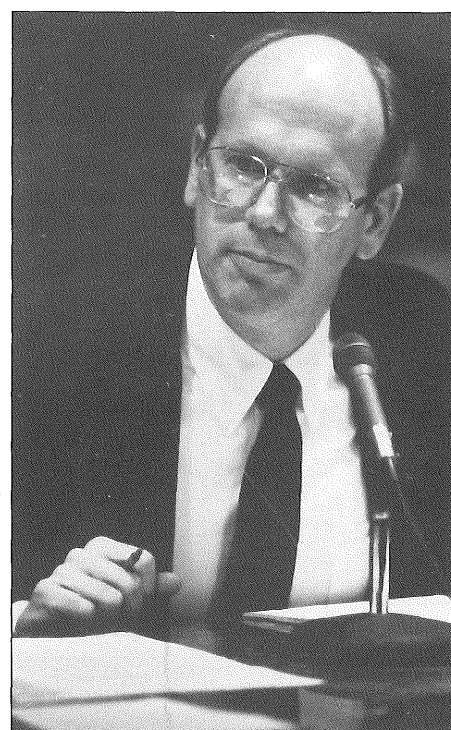
Environment

No nukes

Legislators should be the ones to decide whether high-level nuclear storage should be stored indefinitely on Prairie Island, Environment and Natural Resources Committee members decided Feb. 27.



Edith Pacini, left, a council member of the Prairie Island Indian Community, spoke in favor of a resolution Feb. 27 contending that the Legislature is responsible for siting a high-level nuclear waste storage facility. Mike Bradley, right, an attorney for Northern State Power Co., spoke against the resolution, which was approved by the Environment and Natural Resources Committee.



After heated disagreement and a 17-10 vote, the committee passed a resolution expressing its opinion that Northern States Power Company (NSP) is required to get legislative approval before siting a permanent nuclear storage facility on Prairie Island.

NSP is now seeking approval through the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) — a route some lawmakers believe circumvents the intent of the state's high-level nuclear waste storage law.

Rep. Alice Hausman (DFL-St. Paul) was among the legislators sponsoring the resolution. Since no federal site is likely to be chosen in the near future, the NSP site, she said, could become permanent.

Edith Pacini, councilwoman for the Prairie Island Mdewakanton Sioux Community, whose reservation is 130 yards from the proposed site, told the committee:

"I'm asking you as a family person — as a grandmother — how would you feel when you come outside your door and you see death there waiting?"

"I fear that unless you act now to assert the authority given to you by the [state nuclear waste] act, both our peoples will be left with a nuclear waste facility without even the opportunity for the

democratic process to be followed . . ."

NSP counsel Michael Bradley told the committee that NSP has already gone through an extensive approval process. He said the state Environmental Quality Board had determined that "at no time was on-site storage intended to come before you for approval."

The PUC approval process, he said, is better able to handle complex testimony about nuclear waste.

But Rep. Dennis Ozment (DFL-Rosemount) disagreed: "The PUC is not accountable to the public," said Ozment. "It's the responsibility that's already established in [law]. . . . We are pushing another problem off on our children."

The resolution will be sent directly to the Public Utilities Commission and the Environmental Quality Board, without requiring a vote from the House floor.



Government

Co-op redistricting

Electric cooperatives with more than 25,000 members will need to provide equal representation on their boards of directors from all their districts if a bill approved by the Regulated Industries Committee Feb. 25 becomes law.

Former Rep. Bob Jensen testified to the committee that the Dakota Electric Association's Board of Directors, of which he is a director, "has been very much out of proportion for a number of years."

Jensen said that the board appointed a redistricting committee to solve the problem, but that the 1991 reapportionment gave one district over 11,000 members and another only 650 members.

"Members [of electric cooperatives] will be much better served" by proportional representation, said bill sponsor Rep. Andy Dawkins (DFL-St. Paul).

The measure (HF1488) specifies that membership be surveyed every 10 years to see if enough change has occurred for reapportionment. The committee amended the bill to require a 20 rather than 10 percent population shift for reapportionment.

The bill now moves to the House floor for consideration.

Waseca 'U' options

A recent Department of Administration study on possible uses for the soon-to-be-abandoned University of Minnesota campus in Waseca is urging policymakers to move quickly to find a new tenant.

The university last year decided to close the 1,000-student farm college later this year in a cost-saving move. University officials have since offered to give the campus to either the state or city by September.

Currently, the options for making use of the Waseca campus include converting it to a new farm and environmental studies education center under the direction of another higher education system; turning it into a federal prison; or selling it to a private company. The report urged state officials to pursue all three options with vigor, and to make a decision soon.

Terry Bock, a researcher with the depart-

ment, told the State Government Division of the House Appropriations Committee Feb. 26 that re-opening the campus after the university shuts it down will be very expensive. He added it could cost about \$250,000 just "to keep the lights and heat on" the campus.



Health

Lead cleanup bill

Children in Minnesota cities continue to suffer from lead poisoning in epidemic proportions, a researcher for the Minnesota Lead Coalition told the Health and Human Services Committee Feb. 27.

The coalition's Patrick Reagan testified in support of a lead cleanup bill (HF1934) that was approved by the Health and Human Services Committee.

Bill author Rep. Karen Clark (DFL-Mpls) said the measure would not just target individual homes, but entire neighborhoods in an effort to prevent lead poisoning rather than treat it after the fact.

Reagan said the percentage of children exposed to enough lead to damage their central nervous systems is currently 40 percent in Minneapolis, 30 percent in St. Paul, 25 percent in Duluth, and 11 percent in St. Cloud.

Reagan told the committee that, in addition to the localized problem of lead-based paint, lead from gasoline is a widespread problem because it has built up for decades in the soil and continues to contaminate children today, especially in inner cities.

Reagan said that the federal Environmental Protection Agency has cleaned up sites in Dallas and El Paso with lead concentrations similar to those found in inner-city Minneapolis.

"If this residential neighborhood in Minneapolis were on an industrial site, it would be declared a hazardous waste and Superfund monies would be available," said Reagan.

Members expressed concern over the measure's proposed funding mechanism, which includes a tax on paint and a fee on gasoline storage. Members are expected to address that issue when the bill reaches the Taxes Committee.

The bill, approved by the Housing Committee last week, moves next to the Environment and Natural Resources Committee for further consideration.

Chemical dependency licensing

A bill that would require some chemical dependency counselors to be licensed was approved by the Health and Human Services Committee Feb. 27, but has legislators wondering exactly who would be licensed by the plan.

The bill (HF443) initially exempted counselors who work in public health care facilities that are tied to a city, county, or the state, but other exemptions have been added — further complicating the issue.

Programs that focus on ethnic minorities, and counselors who work for private hospitals, would also be exempt under the proposal.

The numerous exemptions led Rep. Bill Macklin (IR-Lakeville) to ask, "Who is left, and how many are left?" But it was a question that no one at the committee could readily answer.

The idea behind exempting counselors who are tied to private and public health care facilities is that presumably there would be some form of oversight in place.

"What we are really trying to get at with this bill are people who go out and hang up a shingle, charge fees, and hold themselves out as chemical dependency counselors," said Rep. Gil Gutknecht (IR-Rochester).

Daniel Cain of the Chemical Dependency Regulation Coalition said there has been well-documented evidence of rather bizarre treatment methods used by practitioners.

In one case, a counselor performed a "reenacted" a rape with a client and told her afterwards that the incident was not a rape and that she enjoyed it, said Cain. In other cases the counselor would dump hot coffee on clients "to get them to emote," he added.

"No one could prohibit the person from practicing except the hospital, and they declined," said Cain. Both cases resulted in out-of-court settlements.

The bill, however, would not require that counselor to be licensed because the practitioner worked for a hospital.

Bill sponsor Rep. Mary Murphy (DFL-Hermantown) said that most facilities will want their counselors licensed even if it is voluntary. She added that these are settings where some regulation already exists.

HF443 was referred to the Governmental Operations Committee for further review.

Adolescent health centers

The relationship of schools and health care — including student access to birth control measures and mental health counseling — was the focus of an educational subcommittee meeting Feb. 24.

Reps. Linda Wejcman (DFL-Mpls) and Gloria Segal (DFL-St. Louis Park) presented the Education Committee's Curriculum Subcommittee with two bills designed to improve the health of students.

Wejcman's proposal (HF607) would require junior and senior high schools to establish adolescent health care centers within or adjacent to school buildings. The centers would provide comprehensive primary health care to students including reproductive and mental health services. Sixty percent of 12th graders in Minnesota report that they are sexually active.

Centers would inform adolescents of the consequences of teen pregnancy, encourage abstinence, and diagnose and treat sexually transmitted diseases. Sexually active adolescents would be provided with information and resources to avoid unwanted pregnancies. Centers would dispense contraceptives on-site or would refer adolescents to community-based services where they could be obtained.

Parents could prevent children from using all of the services the centers provide, or just prevent them from obtaining contraceptive counseling and access to birth control measures.

Dr. M. Joycelyn Elders, director of the Arkansas Department of Health, testified that the adolescent health centers in Arkansas have been successful in significantly reducing the rate of teenage pregnancy.

She said schools were key players in the fight against infectious diseases such as mumps, measles, polio and small pox. The current challenge is to address the social problems of substance abuse, suicide, and teenage pregnancy.

While there was initial opposition to clinics in Arkansas, Elders said that attitudes have changed. A plan to remove a clinic from one school was greeted with the same amount of rage that was expressed when the clinic was first proposed.

Proponents of the bill say that adolescents' access to health care is often limited.



Joycelyn Elders, director of the Arkansas Department of Health, testified Feb. 24 before a House subcommittee in support of a bill that would establish health clinics in Minnesota schools.

By placing the centers where the students are — at school — the centers can overcome barriers to health care services due to lack of transportation, cost, confidentiality, and apprehension about discussing personal health concerns.

School-based clinics in Minneapolis high schools currently provide students with mental health counseling, substance abuse prevention and treatment, acute and chronic care, AIDs counseling, nutrition education, and reproductive care. The clinics do not distribute contraceptives on-site or make abortion referrals. Fifteen percent of clinic visits are for family planning services.

Segal's bill (HF370) creates a grant program for fiscal years 1992 and 1993 to assist school districts in developing comprehensive school and community health and wellness programs for students in kindergarten through grade 12. The curriculum would address a comprehensive set of health issues including physical fitness, mental health, positive self esteem, sexual health and responsibility, and chemical and tobacco use prevention.

Segal cited national studies which show that health results improve when students receive comprehensive programs in grades K-12.

The subcommittee made no recommendation on either bill; people opposing the measures are expected to testify before the subcommittee at a future hearing.

A treatable ailment

Minnesotans could save millions of dollars per year in nursing home costs if a relatively simple ailment that is not directly tied to aging could be cured: loss of bladder control.

Urinary incontinence is the second leading cause for the placement of the elderly in nursing homes and yet it is not a natural consequence of aging, Dr. Gerald Timm told members of the Appropriations Committee's Human Resources Division Feb. 26.

Incontinence is a symptom of an underlying problem that is usually treatable, and, in many cases, curable with known techniques, said Timm.

As few as 5 percent of nursing home residents suffering from incontinence sought medical advice for their problem before entering the nursing home, he added. Yet two-thirds of Minnesota nursing home residents — about 27,000 people — suffer from incontinence.

Timm has founded a non-profit institute, Timm Uro-Care Institute of Minneapolis, and asked the division to help fund a project to assess 100 nursing home residents who suffer from incontinence. The project would establish procedures to improve treatment of incontinence and begin education of health care workers and the public.

"The hope is to delay and preclude admissions to nursing homes," said Timm, who said it costs \$24,000 per year, on average, to reside in a Minnesota nursing home.

Presumably, state taxpayers could see a lot of savings because Minnesota has a relatively high number of nursing homes, many of which receive state funding.

Timm is seeking \$300,000 in state money to help fund the project whose total price tag is \$700,000.

In order to see savings, however, Timm said it will require a lot of training of doctors, nurses, and nurses' aides. "I have had nursing assistants tell me that they would rather change diapers than help someone to the bathroom because it is easier," said Barb Dentinger, director of nursing at Ebenezer Ridges Care Center in Burnsville.

And perhaps more important than the cost savings is the improvement in elderly quality of life.

"I have seen residents who would not

go with their families, would not go to meals, religious services, and other activities because they were embarrassed that someone might smell them," said Linda Duffy, a geriatric nurse specialist at the V.A. Medical Center, Minneapolis.

The proposal by Timm Uro-Care Institute is not yet in bill form.



Crime

Students debate death penalty

'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth,' or should the focus of criminal sentences be rehabilitation?

More than 100 students from both Minneapolis North and St. Paul Central high schools — as well as other interested citizens — wrestled with age-old questions Feb. 21 when the House Judiciary Committee assembled at North High School.

Testimony opened with Manuel Guerrero, president of the Minnesota Hispanic Bar Association, condemning capital punishment as "wrong-headed and wrong-hearted," adding that it is "retribution, and essentially public murder."

Students rose to disagree.

"Certain crimes deserve the electric chair," said Brandy Phillips, a North student. She cited convicted mass

murderer Jeffrey Dahmer as "a perfect example."

Although several other proponents listed "taxpayer expense" as an argument against the life imprisonment alternative, many concluded their testimony by saying that allowing murderers to live "is just not right."

But when Anthony Baker, another North student, said "No one is in any position to decide who can die," many responded with applause.

North student Isaac Matthieu rose initially to speak against the death penalty, then called for early intervention in the criminal justice system. He questioned why jails are called correctional facilities "when they do not correct. . . . People need rehabilitation if they're going to get on the right track."

One student said the death penalty is biased against minorities. Many others were concerned with the roots of crime in minority communities — specifically the black community — and asked, "Who's helping us?"

And several other students from North, whose student body is 66 percent non-white, said there is a wide gap between their experiences and those of Judiciary Committee members.

When asked why there were no minorities on the Judiciary panel, Chair Rep. Kathleen Vellenga (DFL-St. Paul) said it was "up to both sides of the table" to change the complexion of the Legislature.

Rep. Richard Jefferson, (DFL-Mpls) the only African-American in the Legislature, requested that the meeting be held at North, which falls within his district's boundaries.

No handguns for abusers

Anyone convicted of a fifth-degree assault stemming from a domestic abuse case would be refused a handgun permit for at least 10 years under a bill approved Feb. 24 by the Judiciary Committee's Criminal Justice Division.

"This bill says that when you beat somebody up so bad you're convicted in a court of law, then you can't have a handgun," said Rep. Dave Bishop (IR-Rochester), the bill's chief author. "We're after the people who've demonstrated they can't control their anger."

Rep. Kathleen Vellenga (DFL-St. Paul), a co-sponsor of the bill, said the goal is to prevent a lesser assault crime from escalating.

"If you hurt someone, you lose some of the rights you had before you hurt that someone," she said.

The proposal is backed by Citizens for a Safer Minnesota and the Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women, among others.

Opponents tagged the bill a gun control measure, and suggested lawmakers instead target domestic abusers by "putting some teeth into domestic and child abuse statutes," said Joseph Olson, lobbyist for the Gun Owners Civil Rights Alliance of Minnesota.

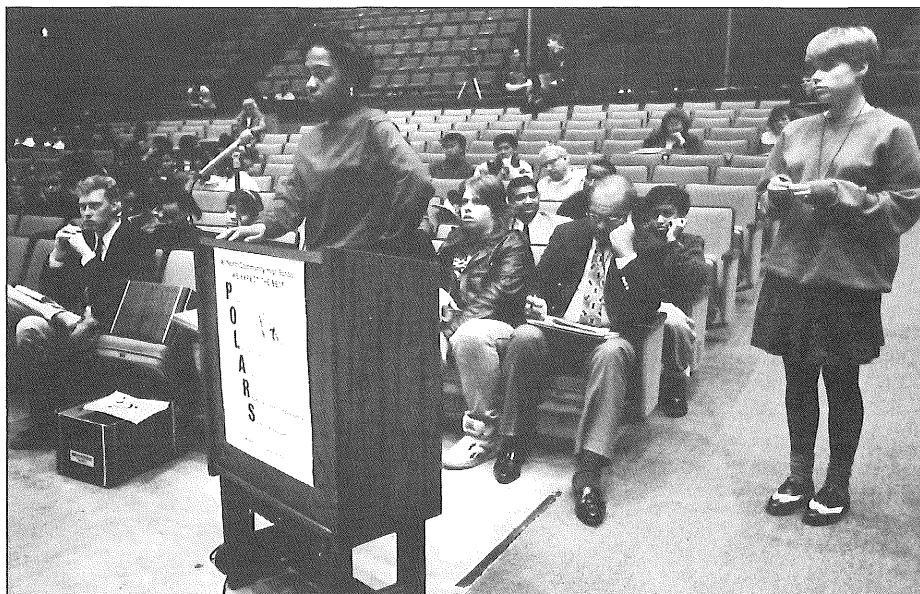
He challenged lawmakers to make such crimes felony offenses because "today, as a society, we don't treat these crimes seriously," he said.

Others called it gun control "because it blankets people who do not abuse firearms." Christopher Lamotte, a Gulf War veteran, called it "a definite infringement of my second amendment rights."

But proponents disagreed. Rep. Howard Orenstein (DFL-St. Paul) noted that nothing in the bill prohibits a person from having a handgun as long as they obey the law.

The bill was recommended to pass on a unanimous voice vote, although some committee members said they hope to amend it later in the process.

SF1619, which was approved by the



Brandy Phillips, a student at Minneapolis North High School, told members of the House Judiciary Committee Feb. 22 that state government needs to improve its communication with students and other people in the community.

Senate Feb. 18 on a 61-0 vote, now moves to the full Judiciary Committee.

Harsher sex offender penalties

Convicted sex offenders would only earn "good time" in prison if they satisfactorily completed sex offender treatment under a bill approved Feb. 26 by the Judiciary Committee's Criminal Justice Division.

The bill (**HF1849**) would also increase maximum prison sentences for first- and second-degree criminal sexual conduct by five years each, require life imprisonment for some repeat sex offenders, and require mandatory 30-year sentences for others.

The bill also calls for a psychological assessment of all sex offenders to determine if they have "psychopathic personalities." The results of the assessments would be forwarded to the county attorney in the jurisdiction where the offenders were convicted. In such cases, commitment proceedings could then be considered after prisoners have served their sentences.

Sponsored by Rep. Kathleen Vellenga (DFL-St. Paul), the measure also calls for increased supervision of sex offenders after their release from prison.

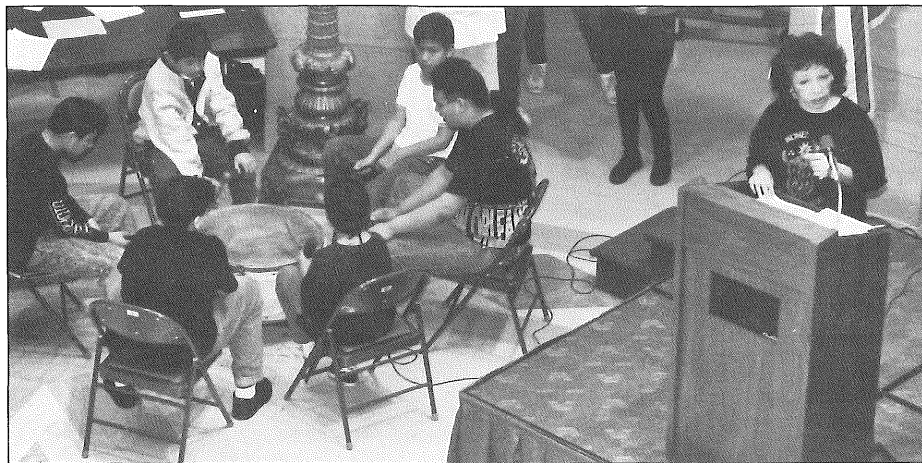
But Richard Frase, a professor at the University of Minnesota Law School, told lawmakers they were "credit-card sentencing" by writing policy the state can't afford, and that mandatory treatment would "waste money."

Vellenga disagreed. She said that according to prison officials, most inmates who want treatment are amenable to it. Rep. Marcus Marsh (IR-Sauk Rapids) said the only "real con" was that prisoners accumulate good time "by just not getting into trouble."

Frase praised the independent nature of the Minnesota Sentencing Guidelines Commission and asked that lawmakers proceed cautiously in directing both judges and the guidelines commission to follow mandatory sentences.

"Don't lead the public to believe that criminal sentencing will solve heinous crimes," he said, adding that Minnesota is now quite severe in its sentencing as compared with other states.

He said that sex offenders in the United States spend an average of 79 months in



Minnesota women and children who were victims of murder in 1991 are remembered during ceremonies Feb. 27 at the state Capitol. Mazi Johnson read the names of each of the victims while students of the Red School Drum and Dance group performed next to her.

prison, while in Minnesota the actual time served is 109 months.

HF1849 was referred to the Judiciary Committee for further consideration.



Law

TV testimony for kids

Kids under 12 who are victims of — or witnesses to — such crimes as murder, assault, or terroristic threats would be allowed to testify outside the courtroom by videotape or closed circuit television under a bill approved Feb. 26 by the Judiciary Committee's Criminal Justice Division.

Current law limits the cases where such testimony is allowed to children under 10 who are victims of physical or sexual abuse. The decision to allow the TV testimony is made at the discretion of the presiding judge.

The goal, as outlined in the bill (**HF1842**), is to "minimize the trauma to the child of testifying in the courtroom" and to provide a setting more amenable to getting "uninhibited, truthful testimony."

Sponsored by Rep. Connie Morrison (IR-Burnsville), the proposal stems from the high-profile Douglas Simmons murder case, explained Karin Asphaug, Dakota County assistant attorney.

Simmons allegedly murdered his wife in their Sunfish Lake home in 1991. The couple's two children, ages seven and five, were the only witnesses.

The children were later allowed to

make videotaped statements "over the strenuous objections of the defense," said Asphaug. She wants the current bill passed "because children are critical witnesses in many cases" not outlined in existing law. She said the national trend is to facilitate the testimony of children.

The bill creates a broad category of crimes that would allow out-of-court testimony — "crimes children are likely to witness because they occur in the home," said Asphaug, who insists the proposal does not infringe on the rights of the defendant.

But Rep. Dave Bishop (IR-Rochester) sees a "real tension and conflict" between protection of the witness and the defendant's presumption of innocence. He says the changes as proposed may raise serious constitutional concerns.

HF1842 now moves to the full Judiciary Committee.

Free credit reports

Any consumer would be able to request one free copy of their credit report each year under a bill approved Feb. 26 by the Judiciary Committee's Data Privacy Subcommittee.

Current federal law says credit reports can be obtained free of charge only when a consumer has been denied credit. Most agencies charge between \$15 and \$20 for such a service.

The bill (**HF1816**), sponsored by Rep. Phil Carruthers (DFL-Brooklyn Center), stems partly from a Consumers Union survey published in May 1991 that found 48 percent of 161 reports reviewed by the three largest United States credit

reporting companies — TRW, Equifax, and Trans Union Corp. — contained inaccurate information.

"This [bill] is a constructive beginning toward the solution of a huge, huge problem," said Doug Blanke, director of consumer policy for the Office of the Attorney General. He told members that credit report inaccuracies are now the leading source of complaints fielded by the Federal Trade Commission, outpacing telemarketing fraud and automotive concerns.

And attempting to remedy a faulty report becomes a "Kafkaesque situation," said Blanke, where both costs and frustrations run high.

Opponents of the bill, including Jim Farnum, vice president of CSC Credit Services, attacked the methodology of the Consumers Union survey as one "that would make any statistician squirm." He said the credit reporting business "is not out of control."

If the industry were truly almost 50 percent inaccurate, "We would soon be out of business," he added.

Rep. Bill Macklin (IR-Lakeville), a co-sponsor of the bill, said the only justifiable reason *not* to support the measure would be the cost.

Farnum did air concerns that **HF1816** would result in a high number of "curiosity reports" that would cause "an unknown burden on the industry."

Members are expecting to amend the proposal so that consumers may also obtain a free copy of a corrected credit report to ensure that any inaccuracies have been remedied.

HF1816 now awaits action before the full Judiciary Committee.

Higher Education

Students oppose tuition hikes

Student leaders from public colleges testified against a proposal that would double tuition at state colleges and use the additional funds for increased financial aid and program improvements.

Students told the Higher Education Division of the Education Committee Feb. 26 that they fear increased tuition will decrease access to higher education and result in an exodus of students from the state.

"If a student is priced out of education in Minnesota, they are going to take a fast track to Iowa, Wisconsin, [or] North or South Dakota," said Lisa Noponen of the University of Minnesota's Student Senate.

A bill (**HF1597**) sponsored by Rep. Mike Jaros (DFL-Duluth) would essentially reverse the current state formula for funding higher education in Minnesota. It would require students to pay two-thirds of actual education costs — instead of the current one-third — and have the state pick up the remainder.

Bonnie Hau, a Lakewood Community College student, said tuition increases could force her to drop out of school. Hau and her husband, who both work full time, have put one son through college and their daughter is in her third year. If tuition goes up again, Hau said, "I'll have to sit out again and wait until I get my daughter through."

Students also questioned whether the "sticker shock" of higher tuition would discourage students and their families from applying to college.

But proponents of Jaros' bill say that the current system is keeping students out of higher education now, citing a 25 percent decline in financial aid applications from Minnesota students with a family income of under \$30,000.

Jaros said he doesn't think higher education will see any additional funding until 1995.

His bill — and limited resources — are forcing legislators, educators, and students to think about what principles

should guide higher education funding.

David Laird, president of the Private College Council, said that state dollars should be targeted to those who need it most. But state college student leaders say that low tuition is the best form of financial aid.



Housing

Creating a housing trust

Two bills that would use the state's fiscal muscle to solve housing shortages both cleared the Housing Committee Feb. 24.

One measure (**HF2004**) authorizes the sale of \$20 million in state bonds for a first-of-its-kind "housing trust." Under the proposal, cities and other housing authorities could tap into the account to purchase and convert acquired properties into affordable living units.

A second bill (**HF2005**) would earmark state funds so Minnesota could qualify for a \$17 million federal block grant to provide equity partnerships for low-income homeowners.

The housing trust plan differs from most government-run housing programs by giving occupants the chance to buy or lease their home while the housing authority retains title to the land.

Supporters say the housing trust would help lower-income people buy living space without having to purchase the



Bonnie Hau, a student at Lakewood Community College in White Bear Lake, pleaded with lawmakers Feb. 26 to guard against more tuition hikes at state colleges.

land it occupies.

It would mark the first time the state would use bonds to directly address housing needs, said bill sponsor Rep. Andy Dawkins (DFL-St. Paul).

"It says this year instead of bonding for wetlands and ducks or highways and roads, we're going to take care of housing and people who are homeless," he said.

Dawkins said he believes the state could recoup much of the estimated \$1.9 million yearly cost to pay off the bonds through an income-based property tax on very high-valued homes.

But some members on the housing panel — representing suburban areas that now have a housing surplus — said that while the proposal would benefit inner cities and possibly other portions of the state, it wouldn't help the suburbs.

Others argued that the housing bills — despite their merits — were being rushed through the committee before members fully ascertained costs or potential funding sources.

Dawkins conceded that certain areas could see benefits sooner than others, and added that he is willing to work with skeptical colleagues to obtain bipartisan support so the bills could avoid a possible gubernatorial veto.

Both measures were referred to the Appropriations Committee for further review.



Labor

Equal time for unions

Employers who use company time to discourage their workers from unionizing may have to provide equal time to union representatives if a bill approved by the Labor-Management Relations Committee Feb. 24 becomes law.

Rep. Tom Rukavina (DFL-Virginia) said the intent of the measure, which was approved on a 10-7 vote, is to combat those few situations where employers may misinform workers about the consequences of unionizing.

"When any employer tries to treat employees like cattle and requires a meeting for ear-banging, we want to make sure the other side is heard," said Rep. James Rice (DFL-Mpls).

But Brad Ervin of the Minnesota

Chamber of Commerce said the issue is one of "employer control over the workplace," and likened it to Minnesota's "strikebreaker" law which makes the hiring of permanent replacement workers during a strike an unfair labor practice.

Like the strikebreaker law, Ervin said Rukavina's bill would conflict with federal law. The courts would overturn it, leaving Minnesota with a law that only applies to those businesses that don't engage in interstate commerce, creating a "two-tiered system," he said.

Committee Chair Rep. Joe Begich (DFL-Eveleth) said the status of federal law should not be a major concern and Rep. Steve Sviggum (IR-Kenyon) agreed. "The only issue here is whether we believe that government should be involved in business to this degree. I do not," said Sviggum.

Rep. Kevin Goodno (IR-Moorhead) said he wasn't sure employers should have to pay for a second meeting just because they want to use company time to put across their views.

"A good businessman wouldn't waste money on the first meeting," said Rukavina.

HF756 now moves to the House floor.



Transportation

Parking patrols pushed

If you routinely park your car in a handicapped-only zone and aren't supposed to, your chances of getting nabbed may be going up.

Under a bill now heading for the House floor, police in Minneapolis, St. Paul, Duluth, and Bloomington would be allowed to organize volunteer patrols to help enforce parking laws.

A pilot program in Minneapolis using a pair of part-time paid monitors to tag violators in handicapped slots has proved very successful, say its supporters.

Sandy Forcier, an activist for the disabled who helped establish the Minneapolis program, told the House Transportation Committee Feb. 26 that stiff fines of up to \$200 per ticket just aren't enough to convince some people.

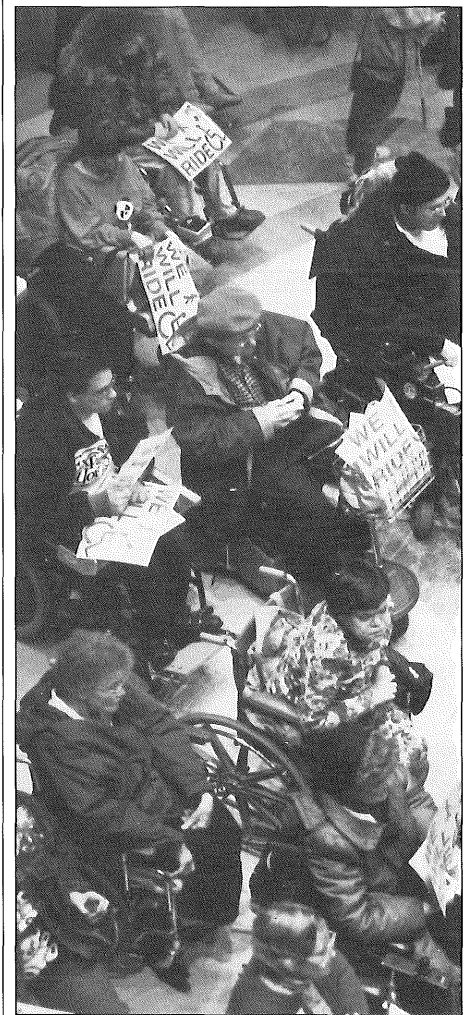
"This is something we need, especially in the city of Minneapolis, because there just aren't enough police officers or traffic

control enforcers to do this," she said.

Other proponents of the bill (**HF 1833**), sponsored by Rep. Linda Wejcman (DFL-Mpls), said illegal parking in handicapped zones is particularly bad during severe weather and the holiday shopping season — just when disabled drivers need easy access the most.

Wejcman said if the parking patrols prove successful in larger cities, she'll likely come back with a similar bill next year to extend it statewide. She added that her bill has the support of city and police officials.

Although there were some questions about liability should a volunteer be injured on the job, the measure was approved and referred to the House floor for further consideration.



Metro Mobility passengers rallied Feb. 26 in the state Capitol rotunda for continued funding of transportation service for the disabled.



Insurance

Tighter insurance regulations

An omnibus insurance package that addresses everything from auto insurance to breast implants was approved by the Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee Feb. 26.

The bill (HF1681), sponsored by committee Chair Rep. Wesley Skoglund (DFL-Mpls), covers a range of consumer-related issues — from high-risk insurance plans and insurance company solvency to insurance for people who have lost their jobs.

And several insurance companies — including St. Paul Companies Inc. and Lloyds of London — made clear their opposition to certain portions of the measure, parts of which were proposed by the state Department of Commerce.

One provision of the bill would allow companies to begin offering unemployment insurance, which people could buy to cover certain debts if they lose their jobs.

The legislation also would:

- Strengthen the requirements for companies that sell any type of "credit" insurance. Depending on the policy, credit insurance pays certain debts in the event someone becomes disabled or unemployed.

- Prohibit health insurance firms from refusing to sell coverage to otherwise healthy women who have breast implants.

- Require group insurance companies to notify employees when an employer drops a health insurance plan.

- Place tighter controls over high-risk insurance plans that don't protect customers with an industry-backed "guaranty" fund.

- Set up court protection for solvent Minnesota insurance companies endangered by the insolvency of an affiliate company.

- Provide greater protection to terminated employees and surviving spouses who purchase "conversion" coverage when they leave the company's regular health insurance plan. Employers would be required to inform them of the actual costs of the coverage.

- Require uniform auto insurance rules for the higher rates (surcharges) charged customers after accidents.

- Raise maximum coverage of a little-known state program that sells health insurance to people who can't get insurance, or who have reached the maximum coverage limits with their regular health insurance. Employers would also be required to tell terminated employees about the program, known as the Minnesota Comprehensive Health Association.

Former Gov. Wendell Anderson testified on behalf of Fingerhut Corp. in support of a measure that would allow companies to sell credit unemployment insurance for the first time.

It would, he said, give Minnesota a

better chance of landing a new company that is being created by Fingerhut Corp. and Montgomery Ward and Co. that could add between 300 and 500 new jobs to the state.

HF1681 now moves to the House floor for further discussion.



Taxes

Tracking down scofflaws

State tax officials are rediscovering an old business adage: it sometimes costs money to make money.

With up to \$120 million in unpaid taxes owed to the state, the Minnesota Department of Revenue is asking lawmakers to provide extra funding so it can nab more tax deadbeats.

How much extra funding the department is seeking is still up in the air. But with the state more than \$500 million dollars in the red, beefing up tax collections is being championed as a relatively cheap — and politically less risky — way to increase state revenues without resorting to a tax hike.

Each year, about half of the state's delinquent taxes remain uncollected, said Jerry McClure, the department's collections division director. That amounted to about \$110 million in 1991 and is projected to hit about \$120 million in the current fiscal year.

McClure told the Appropriations Committee's State Government Division Feb. 24 that while existing penalties probably are sufficient to convince most taxpayers to ante up on time, his division still needs additional personnel to catch up with the minority who don't.

He estimated that the state is getting about a 9-to-1 return on the money it spends for collecting delinquent revenue. But McClure conceded that even if his division enjoyed unlimited resources, some unpaid taxes still would slip through the cracks.

The reason, he explained, is that it's often just too expensive to chase after a relatively small amount of money. "There is a point of diminishing returns," McClure said. "We don't exactly know where that is but I think we're still well below it."



Rep. Peggy Leppik waited patiently during a brief demonstration on acupuncture Feb. 21 at the state Capitol despite having an earful of pins. Leppik is sponsoring a bill that would require acupuncturists to be licensed.

Since 1911 . . .

Bills to restore death penalty often short-lived

It had been a high-profile crime from the outset: the double murder of a boy and his mother in 1905. There were inflammatory news accounts of the killings, complete with denunciations of a suspected "unnatural relationship" between the murderer and boy.

In the end, William Williams, the 28-year-old steamfitter convicted of murdering his 16-year-old friend, John Keller, failed to convince the jury that he was insane, and he lost every appeal.

And when he took his final steps to the gallows under the Ramsey County Jail in 1906, no one knew it would be the last time an execution was carried out in Minnesota.

The executioners did not take into account one key factor: the stretch of the hanging rope. After Williams' feet hit the floor, sheriff's deputies scrambled to hoist the rope. The police surgeon counted the minutes on his watch, waiting for the pulse to stop. A small crowd of spectators watched as it took Williams 14 and one-half minutes to die by strangulation.

The miscalculated hanging began a six-year movement to abolish the death penalty in the Minnesota Legislature. Among those leading the movement was a Republican legislator from Gaylord, George MacKenzie. Along with other legislators, Rep. MacKenzie supported bills in 1905 and 1909 without success. On his third attempt in 1911, he implored members on the House floor:

"Mr. Speaker. Six years ago in the first Legislature which convened in this beautiful building, I had the honor of lifting my voice in support of a bill similar to the one now under consideration . . . and as the years have gone by, my earnest conviction that Capital Punishment is wholly wrong has become deepened and settled. . . .

"If punishment is what you want to inflict, would it not be much more of a punishment to incarcerate the criminal within prison walls, where conscience might bring remorse to torture him through the slow lapse of years, cut off from the job and sunshine of freedom, not hearing the songs of the wild birds, sense the breath and perfume of the flowers, where no rustle of the autumn



Rep. George MacKenzie

Photo courtesy Minnesota Historical Society

leaves could reach him? . . .

"Did Domitian stamp out Christianity by putting to death 40,000 Christians? . . . Did the English retrieve their fallen fortunes in France by burning Joan of Arc or crush Erin's love and hope of liberty by the execution of Robert Emmet? . . .

"Have women ever been unfaithful since Henry VIII made an example of

Legislators applauded MacKenzie and HF2 was approved by an overwhelming 95-19 margin in the House. The Senate soon followed, voting to abolish the death penalty by a 35-19 margin, and then-Gov. Adolph O. Eberhart signed the bill into law.

Since then, few attempts to restore the death penalty have come close to succeeding. Though reintroduced many times, only in 1913 and 1923 has a death penalty bill made it out of committee to either the House or Senate floor for a final vote.

Recent proposals for death penalty measures reflect public outrage at a series of violent murders in the state. Out of two death penalty proposals slated for this session, however, one was rejected Feb. 24 by the Senate Judiciary Committee on a vote of 15-2. The bill, sponsored by Sen. Charles Berg (DFL-Chokio), called for death by lethal injection for certain heinous crimes.

The other proposal, authored by Sen. Patrick D. McGowan (IR-Maple Grove), would have Minnesota voters decide the issue. Sen. Allan Spear, chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee, said his committee will not hold hearings on another death

"If punishment is what you want to inflict, would it not be much more of a punishment to incarcerate the criminal within prison walls. . . where no rustle of the autumn leaves could reach him?"

—Rep. George MacKenzie, 1911

Anne Boleyn? Have army spies been unknown since Nathan Hale gave up his life for his country? . . .

"Let us bar this thing of Vengeance and the Furies from the confines of our great State; Let not this harlot of judicial murder smear the pages of our history with her bloody fingers, or trail her crimson robes through our Halls of Justice, and let never again the Great Seal of the Great State of Minnesota be affixed upon a warrant to take a human life. . . ."

Newspaper accounts called it one of the most eloquent anti-death penalty speeches ever given in the House chamber. *

penalty measure this session.

Rep. Kathleen Vellenga (DFL-St. Paul), chair of the House Judiciary Committee, said her committee would not hear any death penalty bills this session unless they are first approved by the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Vellenga's committee last considered the death penalty issue in 1989, when House members voted 21-2 against it.

A committee vote this session, she said, would not be significantly different since 16 of the 21 members opposing the bill remain on the committee.

—Joyce Peterson

Death penalty legislation in Minnesota since 1911

1911 — The death penalty (HF2) is abolished on a 95-19 vote in the House, and a 35-19 vote in the Senate.

1913 — A House bill (HF416) to revive the death penalty comes to a vote on the House floor twice. The votes are close — 56-51 and 49-51 — but the bill fails to get the required one-half of all members of the House. Twenty-seven members didn't vote the first time, and 34 didn't vote the second time. A Senate bill (SF336) fails to get committee approval.

1915 — Bills (HF100 and HF102) calling for the death penalty are referred to Crimes and Punishment Committee in the House, but fail to receive committee approval.

1919 — A death penalty bill (HF1013) is referred to Judiciary Committee in the House, but is "indefinitely postponed" upon committee's request.

1921 — Death penalty bill (HF743) is recommended to pass by General Legislation Committee. Committee report adopted on the House floor, but a later motion to return the bill to its author is approved. SF340 and SF370 are "indefinitely postponed."

1923 — A flurry of death penalty bills are proposed, but the four House bills (HF47, HF48, HF113, HF114) fail to receive committee approval, and are returned to their authors. A Senate bill (SF20) makes it to the Senate floor, but is defeated on a 26-41 vote.

1927 — A Senate bill (SF858) is reported back from Crime and Crime Prevention Committee, and at its recommendation, is "indefinitely postponed."

1931 — A House bill (HF240) is reported back from Crime and Crime Prevention Committee that it be "indefinitely postponed."

1933 — A Senate bill (SF204) is referred to Crime and Crime Prevention Committee, but no vote is taken.

1937 — A House bill (HF250) is returned to its author by the Crime and Crime Prevention Committee. Two bills in the Senate (SF157, SF1159) also fail to get committee approval.

1974 — A Senate bill (SF3010) doesn't make it out of the Health, Welfare and Corrections Committee.

1975 — A Senate bill (SF518) doesn't make it out of Judiciary Committee.

1986 — Two bills (HF2215, SF2095) fail to receive committee approval.

1989 — A House bill (HF998) is referred to the Judiciary Committee, but following a hearing is defeated in committee on a 2-21 vote. A bill in the Senate (SF768) was referred to the Judiciary Committee but did not receive a hearing.

It's a fact!

Sen. Harry Cannon of St. Paul probably would have done well as a 16th century Briton.

"The first thing we do, let's kill all the lawyers," Shakespeare wrote in 1591.

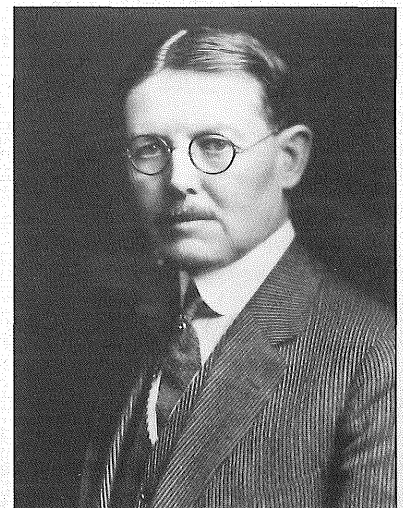
It was Cannon who, on Valentine's Day in 1929, made a resolution to drive the legal profession from the Legislature.

Born in Wisconsin, Cannon dabbled in many fields of study — including law — before becoming a surgeon in 1905.

Upset with the increasing number of lawyers in the Legislature, Cannon took his case to the Senate floor, where 29 of its members were lawyers.

He proposed that a committee of five be selected from "among the clergyman, physicians, newspapermen, farmers, and other honest working men of this body, whose duty it shall be to devise some plan to reduce the sum total of the legal profession herein and restore as it were the balance that should prevail in membership with regard to the different crafts, occupations and so forth."

The measure never did receive a vote, but time has partially corrected the imbalance that Sen. Cannon perceived. Today, there are only 11 lawyers in the Senate.



Sen. Harry Cannon

Photo courtesy of Minnesota Historical Society

Minority Leader Terry Dempsey . . .

IR leader uses 'reason' to keep caucus in line



Suggest to Minority Leader Terry Dempsey that he is perceived as Gov. Arne Carlson's greatest ally at the Capitol, and he'll let out one of his trademark hearty laughs.

"Is that right? I'm Gov. Carlson's ally?" he asked. "I suppose that's better than being described as his enemy because then I wouldn't have any friends."

That the Independent-Republican from New Ulm would resort to some good-natured humor comes as no surprise; his colleagues at the Capitol say he's one of the most affable guys they've ever met.

But the first three weeks of the 1992 Session were anything but fun and games. There were attempts in the House to override three gubernatorial vetoes, and each time Independent-Republicans calmly maintained the governor's position and rejected the attempts.

Through it all, Dempsey emerged as the keeper of the Independent-Republican flame — the leader who marshaled the forces when the going got tough.

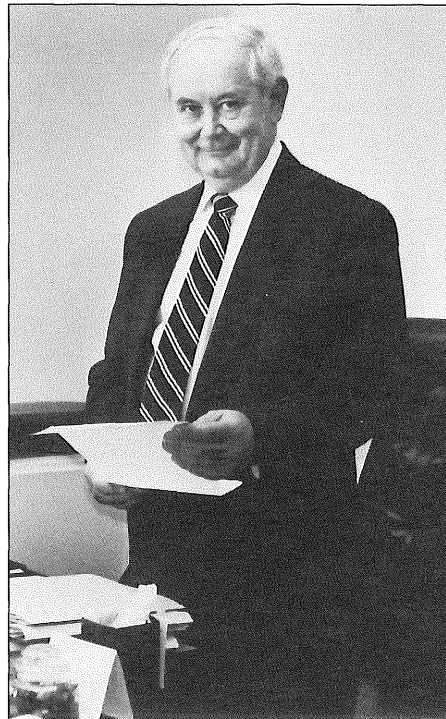
But Dempsey, true to his pledge of a year ago when he was first elected minority leader, said no heavy-handed arm-twisting was employed to keep his caucus in check.

"It was absolutely made clear to the caucus that there was no feeling that anyone had to vote for the governor, or support the governor, or vote with the governor because he's governor," said Dempsey. "I bet if I've said it once, I've said it 20 times, 'You're all free agents . . . on this one, but we're not going to let it become a habit.'"

And Independent-Republican caucus members say that's an accurate reflection of the sometimes stormy caucus meetings.

"I've never had anyone tell me how I can vote," said Rep. Bob Waltman (IR-Elgin), adding that he has nothing but respect for Dempsey and singled out his easy-going style for praise. "That's what makes a good leader — you don't have to stomp your feet."

Dempsey, who is 60 and is serving his 13th year in the House, has led by reason and is by no means a mere messenger for the governor's wishes, say several caucus members.



House Minority Leader Terry Dempsey

So how has he kept the caucus in line, enabling it to withstand the considerable lobbying pressure that is brought to bear in such cases?

"I talked in terms of maintaining a good working relationship with the governor and that it's the right thing to do because we're short of money," he said. "If that makes me the governor's strongest ally, I think it doesn't stop there. I think I'm the ally of my caucus and the ally of the state Independent-Republican Party."

This year, following one of the most contentious sessions in recent memory, Dempsey said partisan bickering appears to be on the wane. Not only has the governor "set the tone" for reaching a bipartisan agreement on the budget deficit, but negotiators are also coming together on a health care access bill.

"If we can cooperate on something that's that major of an issue, it would seem that we have the potential for many of them," said Dempsey. "If we can hit a few major highlights and prove that everything isn't political bickering and haranguing . . . we would really, I think, go a long way toward enhancing our standing in the eyes of the people. They

think we're either dumb or our egos are too big. They want us to cooperate, they really do."

Several caucus members say Dempsey has encouraged cooperation within the IR caucus by delegating responsibility to assistant minority leaders, and through his ability to "get everyone calmed down."

"We come out of there [caucus meetings] feeling relatively good about the communal decision we have made," said Rep. Gil Gutknecht (IR-Rochester), Dempsey's one-time opponent for the minority leader post. "He laughs off a lot of things, but he's always paying attention."

His only fault, say Gutknecht and others, is that he may be too nice — a charge that has frequently been leveled at minority leaders in both the House and Senate.

Perhaps the biggest topic of interest about Dempsey, who is a lawyer, is how long he will remain at the Capitol. His desire to become a judge is no secret.

"I'm the most experienced applicant — not because of my background and training but for the frequency with which I apply," joked Dempsey. But this is the first time he has applied with an Independent-Republican in the governor's office.

Dempsey said he would prefer either one of the district court positions that are open in St. James and North Mankato because he could be close to home, but a position will open in June on the Minnesota Court of Appeals.

Although Dempsey downplays his loyalty to the governor, Gutknecht suggested that few people can be trusted as much as Dempsey.

"If I were in a foxhole, I would want Terry Dempsey next to me," said Gutknecht. "He is fiercely loyal to his friends."

—Grant Moos

Minnesota House of Representatives

1992 Committee Assignments

- 45A Abrams, Ron (IR-Minnetonka)**
Financial Institutions & Ins.—Banking Div.
General Legislation, Veterans Affairs & Gaming
Redistricting
Taxes
- 10B Anderson, Bob (IR-Ottertail)**
Appropriations—Human Resources Div.
Commerce
Ethics
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
- 30B Anderson, Dick (IR-Waseca)**
Agriculture
Economic Development
—International Trade & Technology Div.
Education—Higher Education Div.
Energy
Housing
- 3A Anderson, Irv (DFL-Int'l Falls)**
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs (Chair)
Labor-Management Relations
Regulated Industries
Taxes
Ways & Means
- 6A Battaglia, David (DFL-Two Harbors)**
Appropriations—Environment &
Natural Resources Div. (Chair)
Environment & Natural Resources
Labor-Management Relations
Ways & Means
- 18B Bauerly, Jerry (DFL-Sauk Rapids)**
Education—Education Finance Div. (Vice Chair)
Agriculture
Energy
Redistricting
- 56B Beard, Pat (DFL-Cottage Grove)**
General Legislation, Veterans Affairs & Gaming
—Veterans Affairs Div. (Chair)
Commerce
Education—Higher Education Div.
Labor-Management Relations
Regulated Industries
- 6B Begich, Joseph (DFL-Eveleth)**
Labor-Management Relations (Chair)
Environment & Natural Resources
Rules & Legislative Administration
Taxes
Transportation
- 16B Bertram, Jeff (DFL-Paynesville)**
General Legislation, Veterans Affairs
& Gaming (Vice Chair)
Veterans Affairs Div.
Agriculture
Appropriations—Education Div.
Financial Institutions & Ins.—Banking Div.
- 11B Bettermann, Hilda (IR-Brandon)**
Commerce
Economic Development
Education—Higher Education Div.
Labor-Management Relations
- 33B Bishop, Dave (IR-Rochester)**
Appropriations—State Government Div.
Commerce
Ethics
Judiciary—Criminal Justice Div.
Ways & Means
- 41B Blatz, Kathleen (IR-Bloomington)**
Environment & Natural Resources
Judiciary—Criminal Justice Div.
Rules & Legislative Administration
Taxes
- 35B Bodahl, Larry (DFL-Waconia)**
Economic Development
—International Trade & Technology Div.
Energy
Housing
Taxes
- 8B Boo, Ben (IR-Duluth)**
Financial Institutions & Ins.—Banking Div.
General Legislation, Veterans Affairs & Gaming
Health & Human Services
Redistricting
Regulated Industries
- 11A Brown, Chuck (DFL-Appleton)**
Appropriations (Vice Chair)
Agriculture
Appropriations—Education Div.
Judiciary—Criminal Justice Div.
Transportation
- 46B Carlsson, Lyndon (DFL-Crystal)**
Appropriations—Education Div. (Chair)
Economic Development
—International Trade & Technology Div.
Financial Institutions & Ins.
Rules & Legislative Administration
Ways & Means
- 47B Carruthers, Phil (DFL-Brooklyn Center)**
Financial Institutions & Ins.
—Banking Div. (Vice Chair)
Judiciary
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
Taxes
- 60A Clark, Karen (DFL-Mpls)**
Housing (Chair)
Appropriations—Human Resources Div.
Economic Development
—International Trade & Technology Div.
Financial Institutions & Ins.
Transportation
- 21B Cooper, Roger (DFL-Bird Island)**
Economic Development
—International Trade & Technology Div.
(Vice Chair)
Agriculture
Governmental Operations
—Government Structures Div.
Health & Human Services
- 9B Dauner, Marvin (DFL-Hawley)**
Health & Human Services (Vice Chair)
Agriculture
Housing
Taxes
Transportation
- 32B Davids, Gregory (IR-Preston)**
Agriculture
Governmental Operations
Housing
Transportation
- 65A Dawkins, Andy (DFL-St. Paul)**
Housing (Vice Chair)
Energy
Financial Institutions & Ins.—Banking Div.
Taxes
- 23A Dempsey, Terry (IR-New Ulm)**
Rules & Legislative Administration
Taxes
Ways & Means
- 21A Dille, Steven (IR-Dassel)**
Agriculture
Education—Higher Education Div.
Environment & Natural Resources
Labor-Management Relations
- 24A Dorn, John (DFL-Mankato)**
Appropriations—Education Div. (Vice Chair)
Energy
Health & Human Services
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
- 42B Erhardt, Ron (IR-Edina)**
Commerce
Economic Development
Energy
Governmental Operations
—Government Structures Div.
- 67A Farrell, Jim (DFL-St. Paul)**
Commerce
Financial Institutions & Ins.
Governmental Operations
Labor-Management Relations
- 24B Frederick, Sal (IR-Mankato)**
Agriculture
Appropriations—Economic Development,
Infrastructure & Regulation Div.
General Legislation, Veterans Affairs & Gaming
—Veterans Affairs Div.
- 32A Frerichs, Donald (IR-Rochester)**
Appropriations—Economic Development,
Infrastructure & Regulation Div.
Economic Development
—International Trade & Technology Div.
Financial Institutions & Ins.—Banking Div.
Ways & Means
- 40A Garcia, Edwina (DFL-Richfield)**
Education—Higher Education Div.
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
Redistricting
Transportation

Note: Members serving on a division also serve on the corresponding full committee.

27A Girard, Jim (IR-Lynd)

Agriculture
Commerce
Energy
Financial Institutions & Ins.
Labor-Management Relations
Taxes

9A Goodno, Kevin (IR-Moorhead)

Environment & Natural Resources
Governmental Operations
Labor-Management Relations
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs

61A Greenfield, Lee (DFL-Mpls)

Appropriations—Human Resources Div. (Chair)
Health & Human Services
Judiciary—Criminal Justice Div.
Rules & Legislative Administration
Ways & Means

17B Gruenes, Dave (IR-St. Cloud)

Appropriations—Human Resources Div.
Financial Institutions & Ins.
Health & Human Services
Regulated Industries
Rules & Legislative Administration

33A Gutknecht, Gil (IR-Rochester)

Energy
General Legislation, Veterans Affairs & Gaming
Health & Human Services
Taxes

56A Hanson, Jeff (DFL-Woodbury)

Economic Development
—International Trade & Technology Div.
Environment & Natural Resources
Governmental Operations
Transportation

30A Hartle, Dean (IR-Owatonna)

Education—Education Finance Div.
Energy
Financial Institutions & Ins.
Regulated Industries

13A Hasskamp, Kris (DFL-Crosby)

Energy (Vice Chair)
Commerce
Education—Higher Education Div.
Judiciary
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs

31A Haukoos, Bob (IR-Albert Lea)

Appropriations—Education Div.
Financial Institutions & Ins.—Banking Div.
Redistricting
Regulated Industries

63B Hausman, Alice (DFL-St. Paul)

Economic Development (Vice Chair)
Education—Education Finance Div.
Energy
Environment & Natural Resources
Financial Institutions & Ins.

50B Heir, Phil (IR-Blaine)

Education—Higher Education Div.
Energy
Housing
Regulated Industries

40B Henry, Joyce (IR-Bloomington)

Education—Higher Education Div.
General Legislation, Veterans Affairs & Gaming
—Veterans Affairs Div.
Health & Human Services
Transportation

41A Hufnagle, Paul (IR-Bloomington)

Energy
Governmental Operations
Housing
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs

29A Hugoson, Gene (IR-Granada)

Agriculture
Economic Development
—International Trade & Technology Div.
Redistricting
Rules & Legislative Administration
Taxes

49B Jacobs, Joel (DFL-Coon Rapids)

Regulated Industries (Chair)
Financial Institutions & Ins.—Banking Div.
Rules & Legislative Administration
Taxes

5B Janezich, Jerry (DFL-Chisholm)

Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
(Vice Chair)
Commerce
Regulated Industries
Taxes

7B Jaros, Mike (DFL-Duluth)

Education—Higher Education Div. (Chair)
Commerce
Labor-Management Relations
Taxes

57B Jefferson, Richard (DFL-Mpls)

Governmental Operations (Vice Chair)
Health & Human Services
Housing
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
Redistricting

19B Jennings, Loren (DFL-Harris)

Appropriations
—Human Resources Div. (Vice Chair)
Environment & Natural Resources
Housing
Regulated Industries

51A Johnson, Alice (DFL-Spring Lake Park)

Education—Education Finance Div.
Labor-Management Relations
Rules & Legislative Administration
Transportation

4A Johnson, Bob (DFL-Bemidji)

Environment & Natural Resources (Vice Chair)
Financial Institutions & Ins.
Governmental Operations

34A Johnson, Virgil (IR-Caledonia)

Appropriations
—Environment & Natural Resources Div.
Environment & Natural Resources
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs

58B Kahn, Phyllis (DFL-Mpls)

Appropriations—State Government Div. (Chair)
Agriculture
Environment & Natural Resources
Ways & Means

29B Kalis, Henry (DFL-Walters)

Transportation (Chair)
Agriculture
Appropriations—Economic Development,
Infrastructure & Regulation Div.
Health & Human Services

36A Kelso, Becky (DFL-Shakopee)

Regulated Industries (Vice Chair)
Education—Education Finance Div.
Health & Human Services
Redistricting
Transportation

4B Kinkel, Anthony (DFL-Park Rapids)

Commerce (Vice Chair)
Education—Higher Education Div.
General Legislation, Veterans Affairs & Gaming
—Veterans Affairs Div.

43B Knickerbocker, Jerry (IR-Minnetonka)

Redistricting (Vice Chair)
Financial Institutions & Ins.
General Legislation, Veterans Affairs & Gaming
Governmental Operations
—Government Structures Div.
Rules & Legislative Administration

18A Koppendrayner, LeRoy (IR-Princeton)

Agriculture
Commerce
Governmental Operations
—Government Structures Div.

47A Krambeer, Richard (IR-Brooklyn Park)

Commerce
Energy
Labor-Management Relations

53A Krinkie, Philip (IR-Arden Hills)

Energy
Governmental Operations
Labor-Management Relations
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs

12B Krueger, Richard (DFL-Staples)

Economic Development
—International Trade & Technology Div.
(Chair)
Agriculture
Appropriations—State Government Div.
Economic Development
Rules & Legislative Administration

19A Lasley, Harold (DFL-Cambridge)

Transportation (Vice Chair)
Education—Education Finance Div.
General Legislation, Veterans Affairs & Gaming
Regulated Industries

45B Leppik, Peggy (IR-Golden Valley)

Economic Development
Education—Education Finance Div.
Health & Human Services

2A Lieder, Bernard (DFL-Crookston)

Appropriations—Economic Development,
Infrastructure & Regulation Div. (Vice Chair)
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
Transportation

48A Limmer, Warren (IR-Maple Grove)

Appropriations—Education Div.
Judiciary—Criminal Justice Div.
Redistricting

59A Long, Dee (DFL-Mpls)

Rules & Legislative Administration
Taxes
Ways & Means

14B Lourey, Becky (DFL-Kerrick)

Economic Development
Financial Institutions & Ins.—Banking Div.
Governmental Operations
Health & Human Services

50A Lynch, Teresa (IR-Andover)

Appropriations
—Environment & Natural Resources Div.
Financial Institutions & Ins.—Banking Div.
Health & Human Services

36B Macklin, Bill (IR-Lakeville)

Health & Human Services
Judiciary
Taxes

65B Mariani, Carlos (DFL-St. Paul)

Education—Higher Education Div.
Housing
Transportation

17A Marsh, Marcus (IR-Sauk Rapids)

Economic Development
—International Trade & Technology Div.
Energy
Environment & Natural Resources
Judiciary—Criminal Justice Div.

22A McEachern, Bob (DFL-Maple Lake)

Education (Chair)
—Education Finance Div.
—Higher Education Div.
Commerce
General Legislation, Veterans Affairs & Gaming
Ways & Means

63A McGuire, Mary Jo (DFL-Falcon Heights)

Appropriations
—Environment & Natural Resources Div.
(Vice Chair)
Environment & Natural Resources
Housing
Judiciary—Criminal Justice Div.

55B McPherson, Harriet (IR-Stillwater)

Agriculture
Education—Higher Education Div.
Environment & Natural Resources
Labor-Management Relations

39B Milbert, Robert (DFL-South St. Paul)

General Legislation Veterans Affairs & Gaming
—Veterans Affairs Div. (Vice Chair)
Commerce
Judiciary—Criminal Justice Div.
Taxes

38A Morrison, Connie (IR-Burnsville)

Appropriations—Education Div.
Housing
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
Transportation

7A Munger, Willard (DFL-Duluth)

Environment & Natural Resources (Chair)
Appropriations
—Environment & Natural Resources Div.
Energy
Rules & Legislative Administration

8A Murphy, Mary (DFL-Hermantown)

Energy (Chair)
Appropriations—Human Resources Div.
Economic Development
Labor-Management Relations

62A Nelson, Ken (DFL-Mpls)

Education—Education Finance Div. (Chair)
Education—Higher Education Div.
Rules & Legislative Administration
Ways & Means

12A Nelson, Syd (DFL-Sebeka)

Agriculture
Economic Development
Governmental Operations
—Government Structures Div.
Health & Human Services

54B Newinski, Dennis (IR-Maplewood)

Commerce
Financial Institutions & Ins.
Governmental Operations

66B O'Connor, Rich (DFL-St. Paul)

Governmental Operations
—Government Structures Div. (Chair)
Commerce
Housing
Regulated Industries

14A Ogren, Paul Anders (DFL-Aitkin)

Taxes (Chair)
Health & Human Services
Rules & Legislative Administration
Ways & Means

44A Olsen, Sally (IR-St. Louis Park)

Redistricting
Regulated Industries
Rules & Legislative Administration
Taxes

2B Olson, Edgar (DFL-Fosston)

Taxes (Vice Chair)
Agriculture
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
Redistricting
Transportation

28B Olson, Katy (DFL-Sherburne)

Education (Vice Chair)
—Education Finance Div.
Agriculture
Economic Development
Energy

16A Omann, Bernie (IR-St. Joseph)

Agriculture
Appropriations
—Environment & Natural Resources Div.
Economic Development
Health & Human Services

22B Onnen, Tony (IR-Cokato)

Financial Institutions & Ins.
Health & Human Services
Judiciary
Taxes

64B Orenstein, Howard (DFL-St. Paul)

Judiciary—Criminal Justice Div. (Vice Chair)
Appropriations—Education Div.
Health & Human Services
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs

59B Orfield, Myron (DFL-Mpls)

Governmental Operations
—Government Structures Div. (Vice Chair)
Environment & Natural Resources
Financial Institutions & Ins.—Banking Div.
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs

66A Osthoff, Tom (DFL-St. Paul)

General Legislation, Veterans Affairs & Gaming
(Chair)
—Veterans Affairs Div.
Appropriations
—Environment & Natural Resources Div.
Redistricting
Regulated Industries

23B Ostrom, Don (DFL-St. Peter)

General Legislation, Veterans Affairs & Gaming
Health & Human Services
Taxes
Transportation

37B Ozment, Dennis (IR-Rosemount)

Education—Education Finance Div.
Environment & Natural Resources
Regulated Industries

42A Pauly, Sidney (IR-Eden Prairie)

Economic Development
—International Trade & Technology Div.
Environment & Natural Resources
Ethics
Taxes
Transportation

52B Pellow, Dick (IR-New Brighton)

Commerce
Economic Development
Education—Higher Education Div.
Transportation

34B Pelowski, Gene (DFL-Winona)

Appropriations—Economic Development,
Infrastructure & Regulation Div.
General Legislation, Veterans Affairs & Gaming
Health & Human Services
Regulated Industries

20A Peterson, Doug (DFL-Madison)

Agriculture
Environment & Natural Resources
Governmental Operations
—Government Structures Div.
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs

39A Pugh, Thomas (DFL-South St. Paul)

Appropriations
—State Government Div. (Vice Chair)
Environment & Natural Resources
Financial Institutions & Ins.
Judiciary

31B Reding, Leo (DFL-Austin)

Governmental Operations (Chair)
—Government Structures Div.
Environment & Natural Resources
Ethics
Financial Institutions & Ins.—Banking Div.
Regulated Industries

46A Rest, Ann (DFL-New Hope)

Rules & Legislative Administration (Vice Chair)
Judiciary—Criminal Justice Div.
Redistricting
Taxes

57A Rice, James (DFL-Mpls)
 Appropriations—Economic Development,
 Infrastructure & Regulation Div. (Chair)
 Labor-Management Relations
 Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
 Rules & Legislative Administration
 Ways & Means

25B Rodosovich, Peter (DFL-Faribault)
 Health & Human Services (Chair)
 Redistricting (Chair)
 Appropriations—Human Resources Div.
 Energy
 Financial Institutions & Ins.
 Rules & Legislative Administration

5A Rukavina, Tom (DFL-Virginia)
 Labor-Management Relations (Vice Chair)
 Economic Development
 Education—Higher Education Div.
 Environment & Natural Resources
 Redistricting

52A Runbeck, Linda (IR-Circle Pines)
 Education—Higher Education Div.
 Environment & Natural Resources
 Housing
 Transportation

58A Sarna, John (DFL-Mpls)
 Commerce (Chair)
 Appropriations—Economic Development,
 Infrastructure & Regulation Div.
 Labor-Management Relations
 Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs

35A Schafer, Gary (IR-Gibbon)
 Education—Education Finance Div.
 Environment & Natural Resources
 Transportation

48B Schreiber, Bill (IR-Brooklyn Park)
 Housing
 Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
 Regulated Industries
 Taxes
 Ways & Means

38B Seaberg, Art (IR-Eagan)
 Appropriations—Economic Development,
 Infrastructure & Regulation Div.
 Judiciary—Criminal Justice Div.
 Transportation
 Ways & Means

44B Segal, Gloria (DFL-St. Louis Park)
 Economic Development (Chair)
 Appropriations—Human Resources Div.
 Economic Development
 —International Trade & Technology Div.
 Financial Institutions & Ins.
 Health & Human Services
 Housing

51B Simoneau, Wayne (DFL-Fridley)
 Appropriations (Chair)
 Redistricting
 Rules & Legislative Administration
 Ways & Means

61B Skoglund, Wesley (DFL-Mpls)
 Financial Institutions & Ins. (Chair)
 —Banking Div.
 Education—Education Finance Div.
 Environment & Natural Resources
 Judiciary

43A Smith, Steve (IR-Mound)
 Governmental Operations
 Judiciary
 Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs

3B Solberg, Loren (DFL-Bovey)
 Judiciary—Criminal Justice Div. (Chair)
 Appropriations—State Government Div.
 Commerce
 Ethics
 General Legislation Veterans Affairs & Gaming

1B Sparby, Wally (DFL-Thief River Falls)
 Financial Institutions & Ins.—Banking Div.
 (Chair)
 Ways & Means (Vice Chair)
 Agriculture
 Appropriations—Environment & Natural
 Resources
 Economic Development
 —International Trade & Technology Div.

53B Stanius, Brad (IR-White Bear Lake)
 Appropriations—Human Resources Div.
 Financial Institutions & Ins.—Banking Div.
 Regulated Industries
 Ways & Means

27B Steensma, Andy (DFL-Luverne)
 Agriculture (Vice Chair)
 Appropriations—Economic Development,
 Infrastructure & Regulation Div.
 Health & Human Services
 Transportation

26A Sviggum, Steve (IR-Kenyon)
 General Legislation, Veterans Affairs & Gaming
 —Veterans Affairs Div.
 Health & Human Services
 Labor-Management Relations
 Taxes

55A Swenson, Doug (IR-Forest Lake)
 Appropriations
 —Environment & Natural Resources Div.
 Health & Human Services
 Judiciary—Criminal Justice Div.

10A Thompson, Loren (DFL-Waubun)
 Education—Higher Education Div. (Vice Chair)
 Commerce
 Economic Development
 —International Trade & Technology Div.
 Housing
 Judiciary

37A Tompkins, Eileen (IR-Apple Valley)
 Appropriations—State Government Div.
 Health & Human Services
 Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs

67B Trimble, Steve (DFL-St. Paul)
 Appropriations—State Government Div.
 Economic Development
 Energy
 Environment & Natural Resources
 Rules & Legislative Administration

1A Tunheim, Jim (DFL-Kennedy)
 Ethics (Chair)
 Education—Education Finance Div.
 Regulated Industries
 Transportation

15A Uphus, Sylvester (IR-Sauke Centre)
 Agriculture
 Economic Development
 —International Trade & Technology Div.
 Governmental Operations
 —Government Structures Div.
 Transportation

54A Valento, Don (IR-Little Canada)
 Housing
 Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
 Rules & Legislative Administration
 Taxes
 Transportation

25A Vanasek, Robert (DFL-New Prague)
 Ways & Means (Chair)
 General Legislation, Veterans Affairs & Gaming
 Taxes

64A Vellenga, Kathleen (DFL-St. Paul)
 Judiciary (Chair)
 Health & Human Services
 Judiciary—Criminal Justice Div.
 Rules & Legislative Administration
 Taxes

62B Wagenius, Jean (DFL-Mpls)
 Judiciary (Vice Chair)
 Environment & Natural Resources
 Judiciary—Criminal Justice Div.
 Taxes
 Transportation

26B Waltman, Bob (IR-Elgin)
 Education—Higher Education Div.
 Environment & Natural Resources
 General Legislation, Veterans Affairs & Gaming
 —Veterans Affairs Div.
 Transportation

49A Weaver, Charlie (IR-Champlin)
 Education—Education Finance Div.
 Environment & Natural Resources
 Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs

60B Wejcman, Linda (DFL-Mpls)
 Energy
 Governmental Operations
 Health & Human Services
 Housing
 Judiciary

20B Welker, Ray (IR-Montevideo)
 Appropriations—State Government Div.
 Judiciary
 Labor-Management Relations

15B Welle, Alan (DFL-Willmar)
 Rules & Legislative Administration (Chair)
 Redistricting
 Taxes
 Ways & Means

13B Wenzel, Stephen (DFL-Little Falls)
 Agriculture (Chair)
 Appropriations
 —Environment & Natural Resources Div.
 Financial Institutions & Ins.
 Labor-Management Relations

28A Winter, Ted (DFL-Fulda)
 Financial Institutions & Ins. (Vice Chair)
 Agriculture
 Economic Development
 —International Trade & Technology Div.
 Environment & Natural Resources
 Taxes

Precinct caucuses convene Tuesday, March 3

Beginning at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 3, Minnesotans will have a chance to participate in the democratic process by attending one of the more than 4,100 precinct caucuses scheduled throughout the state.

If you are now an eligible voter, or will be eligible to vote by Nov. 3, and live in the precinct in which the caucus is to be held, you may participate; those not eligible to vote may attend as observers.

A precinct caucus is an open political party meeting of neighbors living in the same precinct who are concerned about the operation of government on all levels: local, state, and federal. In cities, precinct boundaries may include only a few blocks, while in rural areas they might extend over several miles.

State law requires that major political parties hold caucuses in each election precinct in each state general election year to elect delegates and party officers,

and to conduct party business. Currently, two groups — Independent-Republicans and Democratic-Farmer-Laborites — are recognized as major political parties in Minnesota.

While the official business of a precinct caucus is to elect delegates to county/legislative district conventions, caucuses also allow voters their first chance to express preferences concerning candidates who will be elected in November. This year, state and federal offices, including the Legislature, the president and vice-president, and the eight U.S. representatives will be up for election.

At precinct caucuses, voters also may influence the issues of campaigns and party platforms by offering resolutions which, upon approval, will be considered at county/legislative district conventions. Once approved at this level, resolutions will be sent on to the state convention where the party platform is developed.

State law requires that precinct caucus activities be accessible to all people, including the elderly and the handicapped.

For more information about precinct caucuses or the election, call or write: Joan Anderson Growe, Secretary of State, 180 State Office Building, 100 Constitution Ave., St. Paul, MN 55155-1299, 612-296-2805, FAX: 612-296-9073.

For information about the political parties, call or write: Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party, 525 Park St., Suite 100, St. Paul, MN 55103-9939, 612-293-1200; or Independent-Republicans of Minnesota, 8030 Cedar Ave. S., Bloomington, MN 55420, 612-854-1446.

To find out where your precinct caucus will be held, you can call your county auditor's office. Phone numbers for the 87 Minnesota county auditors are listed below.

County auditors in Minnesota

County	Phone number	County	Phone number	County	Phone number
Aitkin	218-927-2102	Itasca	218-327-2860	Pope	612-634-5301
Anoka	612-421-4760	Jackson	507-847-2763	Ramsey	612-298-4181
Becker	218-847-7659	Kanabec	612-679-1030	Red Lake	218-253-2598
Beltrami	218-759-4100	Kandiyohi	612-231-6202	Redwood	507-637-3207
Benton	612-968-6254	Kittson	218-843-2655	Renville	612-523-2071
Big Stone	612-839-2525	Koochiching	218-283-6201	Rice	507-332-6200
Blue Earth	507-389-8212	Lac qui Parle	612-598-7444	Rock	507-283-9165
Brown	507-359-7900	Lake	218-834-5581	Roseau	218-463-1282
Carlton	218-384-4281	Lake of the Woods	218-634-2836	St. Louis	218-726-2000
Carver	612-448-3435	LeSueur	612-357-2251	Scott	612-445-7750
Cass	218-547-3300	Lincoln	507-694-1529	Sherburne	612-441-1441
Chippewa	612-269-7447	Lyon	507-537-6728	Sibley	612-237-2369
Chisago	612-257-1300	McLeod	612-864-5551	Stearns	612-656-3900
Clay	218-299-5006	Mahnomen	218-935-5669	Steele	507-451-8040
Clearwater	218-694-6520	Marshall	218-745-4851	Stevens	612-589-4660
Cook	218-387-2282	Martin	507-238-3211	Swift	612-843-4069
Cottonwood	507-831-1905	Meeker	612-693-2887	Todd	612-732-4469
Crow Wing	218-828-3970	Mille Lacs	612-983-2561	Traverse	612-563-4242
Dakota	612-437-3191	Morrison	612-632-2941	Wabasha	612-565-2648
Dodge	507-635-6230	Mower	507-437-9549	Wadena	218-631-2425
Douglas	612-762-2381	Murray	507-836-6148	Waseca	507-835-0610
Faribault	507-526-5145	Nicollet	507-931-6800	Washington	612-439-3220
Fillmore	507-765-2144	Nobles	507-372-8231	Watsonwan	507-375-3341
Freeborn	507-377-5121	Norman	218-784-2101	Wilkin	218-643-4961
Goodhue	612-388-8261	Olmsted	507-285-8115	Winona	507-457-6320
Grant	218-685-4520	Otter Tail	218-739-2271	Wright	612-682-3900
Hennepin	612-348-5151	Pennington	218-681-4011	Yellow Medicine	612-564-3132
Houston	507-724-5211	Pine	612-629-6781		
Hubbard	218-732-3196	Pipestone	507-825-4494		
Isanti	612-689-1644	Polk	218-281-2554		

Source: Office of the Secretary of State

Bill Introductions

HF2032 — HF2254

Monday, Feb. 24

HF2032--Kalis (DFL)
Transportation

County state-aid highway system conflict resolution procedures provided; and county state-aid highway fund distribution formula to include lane-miles.

HF2033--Orenstein (DFL)

Local Government & Metro. Affairs

St. Paul provided capital improvement bond limits.

HF2034--Bodahl (DFL)

Health & Human Services

HIV and hepatitis B testing provided to persons voluntarily providing emergency assistance at an accident.

HF2035--Runbeck (IR)

Transportation

POW personalized license plates issued free of charge.

HF2036--Hanson (DFL)

Judiciary

Jail and local adult correctional centers provided construction and operating standard flexibility.

HF2037--Dorn (DFL)

Appropriations

Sakatah Singing Hills state trail provided bond issuance for repairs and upgrading, and money appropriated.

HF2038--McEachern (DFL)

Education

Teaching advancement institute appropriated money.

HF2039--Johnson, A. (DFL)

Education

Residential facilities aid increased and to include contracted residential services in nonresident facilities, and money appropriated.

HF2040--Vanasek (DFL)

Education

Transportation levy authorized for late transportation of pupils involved in after school activities, and levy adjustment authorized.

HF2041--Segal (DFL)

Health & Human Services

Juvenile offender mental health and chemical dependency screening and treatment pilot programs established, and money appropriated.

HF2042--Pelowski (DFL)

Education

Higher education board abolished.

HF2043--Dawkins (DFL)

Commerce

Pet origin and health disclosure act adopted.

HF2044--Trimble (DFL)

Environment & Natural Resources

Once-through water cooling system permit termination exemption authorized for certain nonprofit corporations.

HF2045--Hasskamp (DFL)

Local Government & Metro. Affairs

Lake Edward allowed to withdraw from watershed districts.

HF2046--Bertram (DFL)

Commerce

Motor vehicle lienholder to provide notice to secured creditors before vehicle is sold.

HF2047--Solberg (DFL)

Judiciary

Sex offender and chemical dependency treatment programs established in correctional facilities; inmates not released on holidays and weekends; good time reduction requirements modified; and probation task force established.

HF2048--Welle (DFL)

Local Government & Metro. Affairs

Kandiyohi county allowed to consolidate the offices of auditor and treasurer.

HF2049--Thompson (DFL)

Taxes

Seniors at least 62 years of age provided additional property tax refund of five percent of household income or one percent of the homestead market value.

HF2050--Bishop (IR)

Health & Human Services

HIV or hepatitis B virus infected health care workers reported and monitored; access to medical data provided; patient health and safety program established; rulemaking authorized; penalties provided, and money appropriated.

HF2051--Reding (DFL)

Governmental Operations

State department and agency appointment procedures and requirements clarified.

HF2052--Bertram (DFL)

Financial Institutions & Insurance

Credit union investments in share certificates regulated, reverse mortgage loans authorized, and investment of trust funds allowed.

HF2053--Janezich (DFL)

Transportation

Drivers' license fees increased.

HF2054--Bertram (DFL)

Agriculture

Pesticide distributor requirement for accepting used containers and unused pesticides delayed.

HF2055--Hasskamp (DFL)

Judiciary

Crime victimization survey conducted every three years, and money appropriated.

HF2056--Mariani (DFL)

Education

Migrant farmworkers, deaf students attending a regional center, and refugees included in enrollments used for appropriations.

HF2057--Rest (DFL)

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

Presidential primary voting allowed in a single city polling place.

HF2058--Olsen, S. (IR)

Education

Higher education board and system merger not to include technical colleges.

HF2059--Bettermann (IR)

Governmental Operations

Electricity board to include a member with military experience, and military service electrical experience equivalent recognition required.

HF2060--Cooper (DFL)

Health & Human Services

Intermediate care facilities for persons with mental retardation or related conditions exempted from state human services rules if certified under federal standards.

HF2061—Hausman (DFL)**Education**

Regional library basic system support grant requirements modified for maintenance of local effort.

HF2062—Gutknecht (IR)**Health & Human Services**

Intermediate care facilities for persons with mental retardation downsizing demonstration project established, and money appropriated.

HF2063—O'Connor (DFL)**Governmental Operations**

Retirement pension payments subtracted from public employee salaries.

HF2064—Carruthers (DFL)**Judiciary**

County attorney subpoena power to include cellular phone, paging, and safe deposit companies and financial institutions, and search warrant time of service restrictions modified.

HF2065—Trimble (DFL)**Health & Human Services**

Asian youth crime prevention services grant program established, and money appropriated.

HF2066—Trimble (DFL)**Labor-Management Relations**

Video display terminal (VDT) operator health risks studied, and money appropriated.

HF2067—Hanson (DFL)**Judiciary**

Driving while intoxicated (DWI); third or subsequent violation provided felony penalty.

HF2068—Pugh (DFL)**Taxes**

West St. Paul provided delayed property tax assessments for improvements to certain residential property.

HF2069—Wenzel (DFL)**Gen'l Leg., Vet's Affairs & Gaming**

Camp Ripley day care center established, and money appropriated.

HF2070—Johnson, A. (DFL)**Education**

Violence prevention state advisory council and community task forces established; violence prevention revenue and levy provided to school districts; and money appropriated.

HF2071—Pugh (DFL)**Economic Development**

Tax increment financing (TIF) procedures and requirements clarified, recodified, and provided.

HF2072—Johnson, A. (DFL)**Education**

Elementary school students provided comprehensive student services program, and money appropriated.

HF2073—Welker (IR)**Judiciary**

Safe communities act of 1992 adopted, and money appropriated.

HF2074—O'Connor (DFL)**Regulated Industries**

Minnesota-produced beer only sold by metropolitan airports commission liquor licensees.

HF2075—Welker (IR)**Judiciary**

Work release program inmate wages used to pay court-ordered fines; and parent or guardian of minor victim of harassment allowed restraining order from district court.

HF2076—Dawkins (DFL)**Housing**

Tenant covenant violation unlawful detainer action brought by county attorney, and real estate interest forfeiture clarified related to contraband or controlled substance seizures.

HF2077—Girard (IR)**Education**

School year not to begin before the first Tuesday in September.

HF2078—Ostrom (DFL)**Education**

Food service fund accounting and fund transfer requirements provided for school districts incurring a fund deficit.

HF2079—Hasskamp (DFL)**Taxes**

Property tax late payment penalties reduced if taxes paid within three days, and late payment penalty abated if taxes not paid due to unforeseen circumstances and are paid within seven days.

HF2080—Tunheim (DFL)**Transportation**

Railroads reimbursed for maintaining grade crossing signals and other safety devices; loss or lack of rail service studied; rehabilitation project grants provided for rail lines owned by a public entity; and money appropriated.

HF2081—Tunheim (DFL)**Health & Human Services**

Medical assistance provider appeal filing date requirement modified.

HF2082—Skoglund (DFL)**Regulated Industries**

Telephone company customer service

provided within three minutes, and tracer service required for harassing telephone calls.

HF2083—Hausman (DFL)**Health & Human Services**

Smoking prohibited in a family or group family licensed day care center.

HF2084—Olson, E. (DFL)**Governmental Operations**

License and permit application action required within 60 days by state departments or agencies.

HF2085—Hanson (DFL)**Judiciary**

Driving while intoxicated (DWI) repeat offenses subject to property forfeiture proceedings, alcohol victims reparations account created, and money appropriated.

HF2086—Kelso (DFL)**Education**

Violence prevention programs established by school districts; violence prevention and sexual harassment curriculum center created; early childhood education revenue and general education aid increased; and money appropriated.

HF2087—Johnson, R. (DFL)**Judiciary**

Child abuse and child in need of protective services definitions expanded.

HF2088—Sparby (DFL)**Transportation**

Rail-highway grade crossing accidents studied involving trains and schools buses.

HF2089—Murphy (DFL)**Energy**

Photovoltaic (solar) devices and materials used to produce or store electric power exempted from sales, use, and property tax.

HF2090—Carruthers (DFL)**Judiciary**

No-fault automobile insurance requirements enforced and penalties provided.

HF2091—Frederick (IR)**Transportation**

Veterans' special motor vehicle license plate transfer expense provided to transferee.

HF2092—Heir (IR)**Taxes**

June sales and use tax liability accelerated payment modified for certain vendors.

HF2093—Hasskamp (DFL)**Education**

Tobacco use prohibited at public elementary and secondary schools.

HF2094—Jefferson (DFL)**Judiciary**

Culture or ethnic heritage and legal information requirements provided in adoption and child placement proceedings.

HF2095—Greenfield (DFL)**Health & Human Services**

Nursing home bed moratorium exception process approval expiration date extended, and property reimbursement modified for moratorium exceptions.

HF2096—Farrell (DFL)**Commerce**

Motor vehicle franchise termination payments regulated.

HF2097—Cooper (DFL)**Labor-Management Relations**

Rescue squad voluntary worker classified as an employee for workers' compensation purposes, and ambulance personnel classification evaluated.

HF2098—Kalis (DFL)**Housing**

Rental deposit interest rate lowered for landlords.

HF2099—Carruthers (DFL)**Financial Institutions & Insurance**

Insurers to reimburse insureds for deductible amounts before retaining subrogation proceeds, and insureds provided recovery rights.

HF2100—Cooper (DFL)**Health & Human Services**

Antitrust law exemption provided for certain agreements between not-for-profit hospitals and health care providers.

HF2101—Kelso (DFL)**Education**

Early childhood developmental screening requirements modified, and health history information rights provided to parents.

HF2102—Beard (DFL)**Education**

Debt service equalization aid provided an open and standing appropriation.

HF2103—Blatz (IR)**Regulated Industries**

Liquor resale exporter allowed resale of liquor purchased from a retail licensee or municipal liquor store.

HF2104—Milbert (DFL)**Gen'l Leg., Vet's Affairs & Gaming**

Audit requirement exemption provided for certain gambling organizations.

HF2105—Vanasek (DFL)**Education**

Independent school district No. 392, Le Center, provided additional capital bonding authority for school building equipment, handicap accessibility improvements, and fire code compliance.

HF2106—Trimble (DFL)**Commerce**

Currency exchanges provided distance limitations, operating restrictions, and local license approval requirements.

HF2107—Hanson (DFL)**Education**

Alcohol and drug abuse instruction included in public and private driver education programs.

HF2108—O'Connor (DFL)**Commerce**

Minnesota-produced food and beverages sold by "A Taste of Minnesota" vendors.

HF2109—Kelso (DFL)**Education**

Resident district defined for pupil whose parent or guardian is a Shakopee correctional facility inmate.

HF2110—Kelso (DFL)**Education**

Faribault academy appropriations to include kindergarten students and not to cancel, and academies allowed to provide respite care and supplemental education instruction and services.

HF2111—Hausman (DFL)**Rules & Legislative Administration**

Budget enforcement act; Congress to allow transfers of savings in the military account to the domestic budget.

HF2112—Hasskamp (DFL)**Appropriations**

Bond issuance and sale authorized and money appropriated for the construction of buildings at Brainerd technical and community college.

HF2113—Orenstein (DFL)**Transportation**

Flashing light and stop arm use authorized on properly marked school buses transporting persons age 18 and under to and from certain activities.

HF2114—Cooper (DFL)**Judiciary**

Volunteer liquor resale exporter allowed resale of liquor purchased from a retail licensee or municipal liquor store.

Thursday, Feb. 27**HF2115—Begich (DFL)****Local Government & Metro. Affairs**

Fence apportionment of cost provided on need and benefit of partition fences.

HF2116—Lasley (DFL)**Transportation**

Buses provided privileged use of street or highway lanes and right-of-way, transit tax credit provided for bus use and promotion, gasoline and special fuel tax modified, and local public transportation utility fees allowed.

HF2117—Segal (DFL)**Health & Human Services**

Home health visiting program grants authorized for prevention of child abuse and neglect, and money appropriated.

HF2118—Segal (DFL)**Education**

Student nonbinding votes encouraged in school district elections.

HF2119—Segal (DFL)**Education**

Limited English proficiency program pupil-teacher ratio reduced, program eligibility expanded, and levy authorized.

HF2120—Nelson, S. (DFL)**Appropriations**

Farmer-lender mediation program appropriated money.

HF2121—Nelson, K. (DFL)**Education**

Education department programs provided technical changes.

HF2122—Welker (IR)**Taxes**

Tax-forfeited land purchase price to include delinquent taxes and assessments, penalties, interest, and other costs.

HF2123—Jefferson (DFL)**Commerce**

Locksmiths and keymakers licensed, penalties provided, and money appropriated.

HF2124—Pugh (DFL)**Judiciary**

Intestate succession and will amendments adopted for uniform probate code and conflicting provisions repealed.

HF2125—Tunheim (DFL)**Agriculture**

Roseau and Koochiching counties added to the restricted seed potato growing area.

HF2126—Orenstein (DFL)**Education**

Violence prevention and sexual harassment training program participation required for post-secondary institution staff and students, grants authorized, and money appropriated.

HF2127—Sparby (DFL)**Governmental Operations**

State buildings with flat roofs prohibited.

HF2128—Clark (DFL)**Health & Human Services**

Nursing home bed moratorium provided an exception to provide beds in a specialized facility in Hennepin county for chronic inebriates.

HF2129—Vellenga (DFL)**Judiciary**

Criminal justice system task force established to study criminal code and penalties, enhanced penalties, bias crime penalties, and the sentencing guidelines.

HF2130—Dempsey (IR)**Education**

Interactive television levy authority extended to school districts in economic development region nine.

HF2131—Vellenga (DFL)**Judiciary**

Extradition expense reimbursement provided to counties from forfeited bail revenue.

HF2132—Sarna (DFL)**Commerce**

Rebuilt motor vehicle title certificate exemption deleted.

HF2133—Jacobs (DFL)**Regulated Industries**

Gasoline sellers to comply with octane standards, testing criteria, enforcement, and penalties provided, and money appropriated.

HF2134—Jacobs (DFL)**Energy**

Oil fired heating plant efficiency improvement programs appropriated money.

HF2135—Jacobs (DFL)**Regulated Industries**

Telephone extended area service petition criteria modified.

HF2136—Cooper (DFL)**Health & Human Services**

Nursing home specialized services need studied by long term care planning committee.

HF2137—Lourey (DFL)**Governmental Operations**

Administration, benefits, and investment practices changed.

HF2138—Greenfield (DFL)**Health and Human Services**

Nursing home hold-harmless provision established, debt recognition from certain sales authorized, repair and maintenance rate and equity incentives provided, valuation process established, and money appropriated.

HF2139—Olson, K. (DFL)**Judiciary**

Juvenile courts to act promptly in matters involving physically or sexually abused children.

HF2140—Farrell (DFL)**Judiciary**

Homicide investigation and tracking and domestic abuse data systems established, protection order restitution and statewide enforcement and verification provided, certain data deemed private, and money appropriated.

HF2141—Farrell (DFL)**Judiciary**

Harassment repeat offenses enhanced, prosecutor role in victim restitution increased, sentencing guidelines affected when victim is a stranger.

HF2142—Johnson, A. (DFL)**Labor-Management Relations**

Leaves of absence relating to an employee's child modified, labor standards division to investigate and report on complaints relating to parental leave.

HF2143—Steensma (DFL)**Environment & Natural Resources**

Above ground storage tank regulation adoption moratorium imposed, report and legislative review required.

HF2144—Pugh (DFL)**Health & Human Services**

Mental health services delivery system pilot project in Dakota county proposed.

HF2145—Brown (DFL)**Education**

Community and technical college administrative consolidation and technical college district creation requirements repealed.

HF2146—Lieder (DFL)**Appropriations**

Potato inspection facility constructed in East Grand Forks.

HF2147—Wagenius (DFL)**Environment & Natural Resources**

Mercury sales, use and recycling regulated, placement in solid waste banned.

HF2148—Rest (DFL)**Taxes**

Alternative minimum tax exemption provided for certain cooperatives.

HF2149—Greenfield (DFL)**Health & Human Services**

Work readiness program transfer of certain secondary school students to general assistance program.

HF2150—Wagenius (DFL)**Environment & Natural Resources**

Waste recycling provisions defined and regulations established.

HF2151—Peterson (DFL)**Education**

Joint school district No. 6011, Lac Qui Parle Valley, appropriated money for start up costs.

HF2152—Murphy (DFL)**Labor-Management Relations**

Arbitration required in certain cases, procedures established, and penalties provided.

HF2153—Vanasek (DFL)**Local Government & Metro. Affairs**

Metropolitan airport planning authority, duties, and name revised, council expanded, voting status of certain members altered, staff and office space authorized.

HF2154—Orenstein (DFL)**Judiciary**

Immunization data release provided in certain cases.

HF2155—Sparby (DFL)**Gen'l Leg., Vet's Affairs & Gaming**

Lawful purpose definition expanded to include certain sponsored senior citizen activities, and contribution restrictions provided.

HF2156—Sparby (DFL)**Gen'l Leg., Vet's Affairs & Gaming**

Card game tournaments held by certain organizations for senior citizens allowed, and rules provided.

HF2157—Sparby (DFL)**Gen'l Leg., Vet's Affairs & Gaming**

Lawful gambling advisory council established, and money appropriated.

HF2158—Sparby (DFL)**Labor-Management Relations**

Workers' compensation act proposed.

HF2159—Sarna (DFL)**Judiciary**

Municipalities to reimburse costs incurred by peace officers in defense of civilian complaints.

HF2160—Wagenius (DFL)

Judiciary

Child support and visitation administration, computation, and enforcement provisions modified, and money appropriated.

HF2161—Clark (DFL)

Health & Human Services

Supplemental aid program expanded to include assistance for mentally ill persons in shared housing.

HF2162—Hausman (DFL)

Education

Transportation levy adjustment provided for hazard costs.

HF2163—Hausman (DFL)

Education

Transportation levy authorized for late transportation of pupils involved in after school activities, and levy adjustment authorized.

HF2164—Hausman (DFL)

Education

Transportation aid restored for late transportation of pupils.

HF2165—Hausman (DFL)

Education

Transportation revenue inflation factor modified and levy adjustment provided.

HF2166—Rest (DFL)

Taxes

Sales tax exemption provided for building materials purchased by government agencies for use in construction of low and moderate income housing.

HF2167—Wejcman (DFL)

Judiciary

Law enforcement training courses concerning violent crimes against women and children required.

HF2168—Mariani (DFL)

Health & Human Services

Alternative mental health delivery service demonstration projects provided.

HF2169—Janezich (DFL)

Education

School board vacancies filled by runner up candidates provided.

HF2170—Farrell (DFL)

Environment & Natural Resources

Bond or insurance must be provided by person bidding on or performing petrofund corrective actions.

HF2171—Seaberg (IR)

Judiciary

Drivers' license revocation required for persons convicted of controlled substance offense involving use of a motor vehicle.

HF2172—Nelson, S. (DFL)

Appropriations

Wetlands preservation funds allocation provided.

HF2173—Kelso (DFL)

Education

Reimbursement provided to school districts for complying with required elementary preparation time rules, and money appropriated.

HF2174—Trimble (DFL)

Environment & Natural Resources

Grants provided for retro-fitting and conversion of once through cooling systems.

HF2175—Frerichs (IR)

Appropriations

Lake Florence; bond issuance authorized for restoration project, and money appropriated.

HF2176—Frerichs (IR)

Taxes

Vacant platted property provided valuation and assessment.

HF2177—Rukavina (DFL)

Labor-Management Relations

Workers' compensation benefits and coverage regulated, and penalties provided.

HF2178—Rukavina (DFL)

Labor-Management Relations

Workers' compensation court of appeals hearings, appointments, and attorney fees regulated, penalties provided.

HF2179—Vellenga (DFL)

Health & Human Services

School social workers licensed by the board of teaching exempt from licensing requirement.

HF2180—Bauerly (DFL)

Local Government & Metro. Affairs

Commissioner residence location provided in certain years.

HF2181—Carruthers (DFL)

Judiciary

Data practices provisions codified outside of the government data practices act referenced.

HF2182—Carruthers (DFL)

Judiciary

Authorizing health-related licensing boards, and the Attorney General's office to bring civil penalties against certain corporations and partnerships.

HF2183—Waltman (IR)

Local Government & Metro. Affairs

Zumbrota authorized to erect two informational signs within two miles of the city along highway No. 52 with land owner approval.

HF2184—Orenstein (DFL)

Judiciary

Tort liability limits for claims against the Metropolitan Transit Commission raised.

HF2185—Farrell (DFL)

Labor-Management Relations

Railroad employee protections provided following an acquisition, and penalties provided.

HF2186—McGuire (DFL)

Governmental Operations

St. Paul fire department relief association authorized payment of benefits to a surviving former spouse.

HF2187—Johnson, A. (DFL)

Regulated Industries

Blaine authorized to issue an on-sale intoxicating liquor license to the amateur sports commission for the national sports center for social events.

HF2188—Jefferson (DFL)

Commerce

Accountancy board membership and procedures modified, registered public accountants regulated, accountant education requirements changed, and money appropriated.

HF2189—Simoneau (DFL)

Economic Development

Legislative committees to consider effect of proposed legislation on state science and technology policy.

HF2190—McGuire (DFL)

Economic Development

Ramsey county provided powers and duties of a city related to economic development authorities.

HF2191—Simoneau (DFL)

Transportation

Metropolitan Council authorized acquisition and betterment of transit facilities and equipment, and bonding authority provided.

HF2192—Hausman (DFL)

Environment & Natural Resources

Tax increment financing special environmental treatment areas established, districts created, and certain contaminant remediation and development powers provided.

HF2193—Wejman (DFL)**Judiciary**

Parentage recognition provided force and effect of a paternity adjudication, paternity recognition form and educational materials distributed, and child visitation and custody provisions modified.

HF2194—McEachern (DFL)**Education**

Staff development revenue authorized use clarified.

HF2195—Runbeck (IR)**Education**

Planning, evaluating, and reporting process (PER) report entitled the "Annual Report on Curriculum and Student Performances," and to include curriculum advisory committee membership information.

HF2196—Dauner (DFL)**Local Government & Metro. Affairs**

County issuance of tax anticipation certificates modified.

HF2197—Nelson, K. (DFL)**Education**

Teaching board authorized to implement restructured teacher preparation programs and licensing requirements; one-year internship in a professional development school and certain internship examinations required; and provisions clarified.

HF2198—Runbeck (IR)**Education**

Students permitted to sign a waiver to attend a non-higher education coordinating board registered school.

HF2199—Trimble (DFL)**Gen'l Leg., Vet's Affairs & Gaming**

St. Paul special lottery game authorized with proceeds provided to city youth education and recreation programs.

HF2200—McEachern (DFL)**Taxes**

Tobacco and cigarette tax refunds provided, and money appropriated.

HF2201—Bertram (DFL)**Gen'l Leg., Vet's Affairs & Gaming**

Veterans home admission standards clarified.

HF2202—Cooper (DFL)**Education**

Physician loan forgiveness program modified; mid-level practitioner, rural psychiatrist, and nurse education accounts and grants established; physician assistant training program established; and money appropriated.

HF2203—Olson, E. (DFL)**Taxes**

Game and fish fund disbursements and proceedings modified for payment of certain in-lieu taxes.

HF2204—Olson, E. (DFL)**Taxes**

Property tax penalty and interest distribution modified.

HF2205—Mariani (DFL)**Transportation**

Interstate highway No. 94, St. Paul, directional sign erected for Metropolitan State University.

HF2206—Pugh (DFL)**Judiciary**

Conciliation court authorized appearances, jurisdiction, and procedures modified, and jurisdictional financial amounts increased.

HF2207—Pugh (DFL)**Judiciary**

Criminal and juvenile justice information commission and partnership council created; supplementary sex offender information statement prepared for patterned sex offenders, and money appropriated.

HF2208—Janezich (DFL)**Commerce**

Sign contractors licensed, advisory council established, rule adoption and penalties provided, and money appropriated.

HF2209—Wejman (DFL)**Judiciary**

Child removal from state by custodial parent study commission established.

HF2210—Wejman (DFL)**Judiciary**

Mechanic's lien law contractor fraud multiple violations provided felony penalty.

HF2211—Bauerly (DFL)**Judiciary**

Pistol permit possession eligibility modified, penalties increased, and certain law enforcement powers clarified.

HF2212—Greenfield (DFL)**Appropriations**

Lino Lakes Correctional Facility allowed alternate use of construction project appropriation, and money appropriated.

HF2213—Greenfield (DFL)**Health & Human Services**

Home care service licensure requirements modified, home management service personnel registered, and local government provider fee exemption removed.

HF2214—Clark (DFL)**Health & Human Services**

American Indian program section created within the human services department alcohol and drug abuse section.

HF2215—Farrell (DFL)**Financial Institutions & Insurance**

No-fault automobile insurance wage loss reimbursement coverage restricted for disabled persons.

HF2216—Farrell (DFL)**Taxes**

Homestead treatment to continue after a divorce in certain cases.

HF2217—Farrell (DFL)**Commerce**

Franchise and business opportunities uniform act adopted.

HF2218—Rest (DFL)**Judiciary**

Juvenile dangerous offender secure confinement provided at Red Wing or Sauk Centre correctional facilities; treatment programs created; victims allowed presence of supportive person during testimony; bonds authorized and money appropriated.

HF2219—Johnson, A. (DFL)**Transportation**

Commuter transportation benefits provided tax incentives; traffic congestion reduction program established; right turns in front of a bus prohibited; assault on a transit operator penalty increased; and other transit provisions provided.

HF2220—Dorn (DFL)**Education**

Metropolitan State University and community services or education instructors teaching noncredit classes status clarified for definition as a public employee.

HF2221—Sparby (DFL)**Education**

Teacher collective bargaining agreement deadline extended and penalty exemption provided for consolidating districts.

HF2222—Carlson (DFL)**Governmental Operations**

Robbinsdale city council member authorized election of plan coverage and purchase of prior service coverage.

HF2223—Carruthers (DFL)**Judiciary**

Juvenile court retention of delinquency records extended to offender's 26th birthday; conviction reductions restricted; and criminal history scoring modified.

HF2224—Hasskamp (DFL)

Environment & Natural Resources

Snowmobile registration fee reduced for snowmobiles not operated on public trails.

HF2225—O'Connor (DFL)

Governmental Operations

St. Paul police relief association board elections to include retirees, disability pensioners, and surviving spouses.

HF2226—O'Connor (DFL)

Governmental Operations

St. Paul police relief association date change validated for personal and benefit payments.

HF2227—Tunheim (DFL)

Taxes

Natural resources land in-lieu payments adjusted for inflation, and money appropriated.

HF2228—Dauner (DFL)

Taxes

Counties provided special levy for losses due to tax abatements or court actions.

HF2229—Wagenius (DFL)

Environment & Natural Resources

Landfill environmental cleanup program established; public facilities authority loans to counties for landfill closure authorized; consumer products and packaging toxic material registration and fee provided; and money appropriated.

HF2230—McEachern (DFL)

Education

Independent school district No. 885, St. Michael-Albertville, authorized fund transfer from debt redemption fund to the building construction fund.

HF2231—Carruthers (DFL)

Governmental Operations

Administrative rule clarification and corrections included in revisor's bill, rulemaking harmless errors and dual notices provided, and federally mandated rulemaking expedited.

HF2232—Simoneau (DFL)

Judiciary

Collateral source statute to include arbitration awards, and payments to a claimant provided.

HF2233—Trimble (DFL)

Taxes

Once-through water cooling system conversion or replacement air cooling equipment exempt from certain sales and property tax.

HF2234—McEachern (DFL)

Taxes

Otsego levy limits to exclude fire service levies.

HF2235—Rukavina (DFL)

Labor-Management Relations

Workers' compensation medical and rehabilitation benefits regulated and penalties provided.

HF2236—Hausman (DFL)

Education

Desegregation capital improvement grant act bond issuance authorized.

HF2237—Janezich (DFL)

Regulated Industries

Advertising of off-sale liquor prices provided.

HF2238—Cooper (DFL)

Health & Human Services

Rural health initiatives and program changes provided, rural hospital grant program modified, advisory committee established, rural health advisory committee assigned duties, State Health Plan flexibility required, and money appropriated.

HF2239—Johnson, R. (DFL)

Environment & Natural Resources

Natural resources permit applicant's bill of rights adopted, ombudsman created, and money appropriated.

HF2240—Rukavina (DFL)

Labor-Management Relations

Workers' compensation insurance and the assigned risk plan regulated; health and safety fund created; fraud prevention provided; repetitive motion injuries studied; rate reduction required; and money appropriated.

HF2241—Thompson (DFL)

Taxes

Homestead credit permanent trust fund established for providing property tax relief with funding provided by dedicating part of the sales tax, and constitutional amendment proposed.

HF2242—McGuire (DFL)

Governmental Operations

Declaring a state policy of zero tolerance of violence. Relating to human rights.

HF2243—Clark (DFL)

Governmental Operations

Declaring a state policy of zero tolerance of violence. Relating to human rights.

HF2244—McPherson (IR)

Governmental Operations

Declaring a state policy of zero tolerance of violence. Relating to human rights.

HF2245—Lourey (DFL)

Governmental Operations

Declaring a state policy of zero tolerance of violence. Relating to human rights.

HF2246—Kelso (DFL)

Governmental Operations

Declaring a state policy of zero tolerance of violence. Relating to human rights.

HF2247—Johnson, A. (DFL)

Governmental Operations

Declaring a state policy of zero tolerance of violence. Relating to human rights.

HF2248—O'Connor (DFL)

Transportation

Establishing a system for the notification, recording and collection of parking violations.

HF2249—Frerichs (IR)

Governmental Operations

Relating to public safety officers and public safety officer's benefits.

HF2250—Carruthers (DFL)

Governmental Operations

Relating to public safety officer's benefits

HF2251—Olson K. (DFL)

Governmental Operations

Adopting the square dance as the American folk dance of Minnesota.

HF2252—Waltman (IR)

Transportation

Reducing the fee for Minnesota identification card for physically disabled persons.

HF2253—McGuire (DFL)

Health & Human Services

Clarifying requirements for granting medical licenses and for investigating physicians.

HF2254—Cooper (DFL)

Health & Human Services

Clarifying membership requirements for the board of pharmacy.

March 1, 1856

On this day, Lake County was established and named after Lake Superior. The county lies directly south of the great lake.

On this day, the largest county in the state, St. Louis County, was named and established. The St. Louis River, the largest river flowing into Lake Superior, gives the county its name.



The Education Finance Division of the Education Committee thinks it's better to build baseball diamonds in corn fields rather than schools. Members of the committee advised superintendents seeking funding for new buildings to stay away from "corn field school" proposals at its Feb. 26 meeting. "Corn field schools" are defined as schools that are located in the country, far from access to water and sewer facilities. Building far from town can mean that water and sewer hookups can eat up money meant to improve educational facilities. Rep. Becky Kelso (DFL-Shakopee) clarified that the committee has nothing against building in cornfields close to towns and hookups.

Minnesota could receive up to \$5 million through a federal grant program for community youth service programs. Reps. Howard Orenstein (DFL-St. Paul) and Andy Dawkins (DFL-St. Paul) told the Education Committee Feb. 26 that the goal of the program is to involve young people in a community they have built. The St. Paul representatives are sponsors of HF2002, which directs the Minnesota Office of Volunteer Services to submit a proposal for a federal grant that would maximize the state's receipt of federal funds from the National and Community Service Act of 1990. HF2002 was approved by the committee.

Minnesota programs to ensure quality control within businesses are the best in the nation, but not nearly as good as programs in place in some foreign countries, officials from the Minnesota Council for Quality told members of the Appropriations Committee's Economic Development, Infrastructure, and Regulation Division Feb. 26. "That's very much like saying Moe is the very smartest of the Three Stooges," said Jim Buckman, president of the council.

"We need more people providing assistance, rather than running around with a hammer," Rep. Wally Sparby (DFL-Thief River Falls) told officials from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) Feb. 25. He and other members of the Appropriations Committee's Environment and Natural Resources Division expressed concern about MPCA's role in communities. John Chell, assistant MPCA commissioner, said the agency would like to have more of its staff outside its St. Paul headquarters so better relationships with communities could be developed. The agency hopes to move from the need for enforcement to a higher level of compliance through "collaboration," Chell told lawmakers.

If Minnesota's business climate is so rotten, how come the state's unemployment rate has been between 1.5 and 2 percent lower than the national average for the past five years? Officials from the Minnesota Council for Quality suggest it's because Minnesota businesses produce higher quality products than in other parts of the country. The office noted that two of the prestigious Malcolm Baldrige quality award winners have come from Minnesota in the past two years. They were IBM-Rochester and the Zytech Corp. from Redwood Falls. In addition, two other Minnesota firms were in contention for the national award in the past two years.

Rep. Jim Rice (DFL-Mpls) couldn't help adding his thoughts to the idea that basic principles of quality control can be applied just as easily to the public sector — including the Legislature — as they can to the private sector. "I've been here 22 years and it just shakes us up a little

bit that we could have quality in the Legislature," joked Rice. Officials from the Minnesota Council for Quality appeared Feb. 26 before the Appropriations Committee's Economic Development, Infrastructure and Regulation Division, which Rice chairs.

A moratorium on new forms of gambling is what Nick Zuber, chair of the Gambling Control Board, supports. Why? So that "policymakers can properly evaluate the direction of legalized gambling and its impact on the citizens of Minnesota," he wrote in a Feb. 14 letter to Rep. Tom Osthoff (DFL-St. Paul), chair of the General Legislation, Veterans Affairs and Gaming Committee. Zuber cites frequent statute and rule changes since 1985 as additional reasons for a freeze. While Osthoff did not support or oppose the moratorium at a Feb. 25 meeting, he did admit lawmakers have continued to tinker with lawful gaming statutes over the years. "The best thing we could do for the current gambling operators in this state is to go home tomorrow," he said.

Forecasting the state's projected revenues is a tricky business. A 1986 report from the Department of Finance concluded that the average absolute error of revenue forecasts between 1980 and 1987 was 9 percent, or roughly \$900 million based on the approximate \$10 billion biennial budget of that era. The report said little can be done to improve "the technical aspects of the state's revenue forecasting process," and added that making such forecasts is analogous to forecasting a "house of cards."

Accuracy of past revenue forecasts

(\$ in millions)

Biennium									
	1980-81		1982-83		1984-85		1986-87		Average absolute error
	\$ Variance	%	\$ Variance	%	\$ Variance	%	\$ Variance	%	
Non-dedicated revenues	-414	-6	-1,306	-14.3	596	6.8	-652	-6.9	8.5%
Expenditures/ other	55	0.7	-169	-2.2	73	0.8	-82	-0.8	1.1%
Total	-359	-4.9	-1,475	-16.1	669	7.5	-734	-7.2	9.0%

Source: State Budget Stability: The Limits of Forecasting — Creating a Manageable Budget, Department of Finance

Coming Up Next Week . . . March 2-7, 1992

Committee Schedule

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

MONDAY, March 2

8 a.m.

Economic Development, Infrastructure, & Regulation/APPROPRIATIONS
400S State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Jim Rice
Agenda: MNDot capital budget.

Education Division/APPROPRIATIONS
300N State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Lyndon Carlson
Agenda: Transfer of credit.

EDUCATION

5 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Bob McEachern
Agenda: Interim report on restructuring; pre-K-12, and the Community Education Service delivery system, Minnesota Board of Education.
HF1865 (Pelowski) Graduation rule not adopted by education board until authorized by law.

8:30 a.m.

Government Structures Division/GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS
10 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Rich O'Connor
Agenda: HFXXXX (O'Connor) Establishing a legislative commission on occupational regulation.

10 a.m.

AGRICULTURE

5 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Stephen Wenzel
Agenda: HF1827 (Dille) Cattle brucellosis testing requirements modified, and anaplasmosis testing required for cattle from Canada and certain states.
HFXXXX (Steensma) Increased funding for the Minnesota Extension Service.

JUDICIARY

Basement Hearing Room State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Kathleen Vellenga
Agenda: HF1910 (Rest) Limited liability company act adopted, and money appropriated.
HF1702 (Rest) Birth information released to adopted persons.
HF442 (Carruthers) Child neglect and child abuse reporting expanded to include neglect due to reliance on spiritual health care.

REGULATED INDUSTRIES

10 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Joel Jacobs
Agenda: HF1489 (Dawkins) Electric cooperative with a membership of 50,000 or more subject to open meeting law.
HF1943 (O'Connor) Telephone company nonpublic data disclosure restricted, and telephone rates and charges regulated.
HF1751 (Olsen, S.) Interactive and advertisement telephone services regulated.

12:30 p.m.

Subcommittee on Family Law/JUDICIARY
Basement Hearing Room State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Jean Wagenius
Agenda: HF2160 (Wagenius) Child support - continued from 2/28 hearing.

LABOR-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS

200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Joe Begich
Agenda: HF2 (Orenstein) Community service.
HF2066 (Trimble) Video display terminal (VDT) operator health risks studied, and money appropriated.
HF2142 (Johnson) Employment leave of absence.

Banking Division/FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS & INSURANCE

300S State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Wally Sparby
Agenda: HF1680 (Skoglund) Banks, credit unions, industrial loan and thrifts, regulated lenders, and banking corporations regulated, and banking practices modified.

12:30 p.m.

Education Finance Division/EDUCATION

300N State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Ken Nelson
Agenda: Department of Education responses to budget reductions. Department reorganization.

HOUSING

5 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Karen Clark
Agenda: HFXXXX MHFA bills.
HFXXXX (Runbeck) Manufactured homes.

2:30 p.m.

The House will meet in Session.

AFTER SESSION

ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES

10 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Willard Munger
Agenda: HF2229 (Wagenius) Alternatives to Superfund for landfill cleanup.
HF2150 (Wagenius) 1992 waste management account amendments.

7 p.m.

Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement/JOINT HOUSE & SENATE

10 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Leo Reding
Agenda: Presentation on actuarial status of Minnesota public pension plans, Thomas Custis, Milliman and Robertson.
HF1895 (Cooper)/SF1718 (Frederickson, D.J.) Ambulance service personnel longevity award and incentive program established, and funding provided from driver's license surtax.
HFXXX (Reding)/SFXXX MSRS; Austin highway employee annuity accrual date.
HF876 (Rodosovich)/SF791 (Morse) Service credit purchase authorized for teachers exempt due to pre-1957 pre-age 25 teaching service exemption.
HF1057 (Welle)/SFXXX Service credit; certain members authorized to purchase service credit for a period of authorized educational leave.
HF1350 (Jaros)/SF1139 (Solon) Wrongful discharge; service and salary credit awarded to public employees in the event of wrongful discharge.
HF1744 (Dempsey)/SF1710 (Frederickson, D.R.) Surviving spouse of public employees retirement association deceased disabled member provided joint and survivor optional annuity.
HF1794 (Munger)/SF1665 (Solon) State patrol retirement plan age-related limit on service credit eliminated. HF1871 (Dorn)/SF1711 (Hottinger) Annuity recomputation and restoration provided to retired member of teachers retirement association.
HF1979 (Jefferson)/SFXXX Prior service credit

purchase allowed for certain construction equipment operators in a city of the first class. HFXXX/SF1630 (Bellanger) PERA; permit certain refund repayment; buyback. HFXXX/SF1780 (Marty) St. Paul Fire Department Relief Association - surviving former spouse benefits eligibility.

TUESDAY, March 3

8 a.m.

Economic Development, Infrastructure, & Regulation Division/APPROPRIATIONS

400S State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Jim Rice

Agenda: MNDot capital budget.

Education Division/APPROPRIATIONS

300N State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Lyndon Carlson

Agenda: Higher education board.

State Government Division/ APPROPRIATIONS

300S State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Phyllis Kahn

Agenda: To be announced.

Assessment Practices & Policies Task Force/TAXES

5 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Andy Dawkins

Agenda: Adoption of final report.

8:30 a.m.

Environment & Natural Resources Division/APPROPRIATIONS

Basement Hearing Room State Office Building
Chr. Rep. David Battaglia

Agenda: Agency budget presentation.

Subcommittee on Property Tax/TAXES

5 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Edgar Olson

Agenda: Findings of the Assessment Policies & Practices Task Force.

All members invited to attend.

GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS

10 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Leo Reding

Agenda: HFXXXX (Peterson) Department of Administration bill.

HF1873 (Reding) Health insurance; retired public employees included in active employees insurance pool for determining premiums and coverages for hospital, health, and dental insurance.

Discussion of pension bills passed by the Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement at its 3/2 meeting.

10 a.m.

COMMERCE

Basement Hearing Room State Office Building
Chr. Rep. John Sarna

Agenda: HF1817 (Farrell) Trademark infringement considered restraint of trade with injunctive relief provided.

HF2096 (Farrell) Motor vehicle franchise termination payments regulated.

HF917 (Pelowski) Sales of previously leased or rented vehicles required license for each nonmetropolitan area county in which sales are to take place.

ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES

10 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Willard Munger

Agenda: HF1977 (Trimble) Water deficiency declaration criteria provided; groundwater use prohibited for lake level maintenance; water appropriation permit review and requirements provided; water shortage contingency planning required; and money appropriated. HF2044 (Trimble) Once-through water cooling system permit termination exemption authorized for certain nonprofit corporations.

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

5 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Roger Cooper

Agenda: HF2213 (Greenfield) Home care service licensure requirements modified, home management service personnel registered, and local government provider fee exemption removed.

HF1357 (Leppik) Acupuncture board established and practitioners licensed.

Subcommittee on Social & Family Services/HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

500N State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Richard Jefferson

Agenda: Report on plan for brain injury treatment center, Helen Hoffmann, Bob Armagost, Nancy McCarthy -- testimony following.

HF2034 (Bodahl) HIV and hepatitis B testing provided to persons voluntarily providing emergency assistance at an accident.

HF1958 (Vellenga) Youth employment and education pilot program established; family-based services special incentive bonus payments and family-based crisis service grants provided; and money appropriated.

Subcommittee on Standards & Regula- tions/HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

500S State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Howard Orenstein

Agenda: HF1978 (Cooper) Ionizing radiation quality assurance program established.

HF2050 (Bishop) HIV or hepatitis B virus infected health care workers reported and

monitored; access to medical data provided; patient health and safety program established; rulemaking authorized; penalties provided, and money appropriated.

HF2081 (Tunheim) Medical assistance provider appeal filing date requirement modified.

Subcommittee on Fiscal Affairs/ LOCAL GOVERNMENT & METROPOLITAN AFFAIRS

200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Phil Carruthers

Agenda: Discussion of committee bill on the powers and duties of the Metropolitan Council.

12:30 p.m.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

5 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Gloria Segal

Agenda: Overview of MN Technology Inc., Jaques Koppel.

HFXXX (Segal) Quasi-public reform act. Demonstration by Candace Campbell and Jim Hayes, MN Project Outreach.

WEDNESDAY, March 4

12 noon

Legislative Audit Commission

300S State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Ann Rest

Agenda: Release of the Program Evaluation Division's report on higher education administrative and student services spending at community colleges, state universities, and technical colleges.

12:30 p.m.

Higher Education Division/ EDUCATION

500S State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Mike Jaros

Agenda: Report by the Commission on Post-Secondary Education, Connie Levi, chair.

HF1776 (Mariani) Migrant farmworkers and dependents provided resident tuition status.

ENERGY

500N State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Mary Murphy

Agenda: Update on wind energy project in Marshall.

HF1931 (Murphy) Wind energy conversion systems and materials exempted from sales tax. HF2089 (Murphy) Photovoltaic (solar) devices and materials used to produce or store electric power exempted from sales, use, and property tax.

HFXXX (Janezich) - tentative.

Reports from Dan Juhl and Bill Weir, MN

Wind Energy Association.
Report: A cost effective market for photovoltaics in Minnesota, Department of Public Safety.

12:30 p.m.

TRANSPORTATION

10 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Henry Kalis

Agenda: HF804 (Morrison) Motor carrier provisions modified and technical changes provided.

HF2023 (Lasley) Building mover vehicles provided inspection standards.

HF2030 (Rice) Commercial motor carriers transporting passengers in intrastate commerce to comply with rules on maximum hours of service for drivers.

HFXXXX (Lasley) Trucking regulation modernization act.

HFXXXX (Johnson, A.) Changes in courier carrier regulation.

HF2029 (Dempsey) Traffic safety; Congress not to impose upon the states' constitutional authority to regulate traffic and motor vehicle safety or to mandate state laws requiring use of motorcycle helmets, safety belts, and child restraint systems.

1 p.m.

WAYS & MEANS

Basement Hearing Room State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Robert Vanasek

Agenda: Overview of revenue forecast for the Department of Revenue.

2:30 p.m.

Education Finance Division/ EDUCATION

300N State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Ken Nelson

Agenda: Facilities - capital bonding proposals.

3 p.m.

Criminal Justice Division/JUDICIARY

300S State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Loren Solberg

Agenda: HFXXXX (Carruthers) Omnibus DWI bill.

Subcommittee on Workers' Compensation & Unemployment Insurance/ LABOR-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS

200 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Tom Rukavina

Agenda: HF1952 (Rukavina) Workers' compensation benefits and insurance regulated, permanent commission established, health and safety fund created, penalties provided, and money appropriated.
HF1951 (Begich) Workers' compensation

insurance regulations modified, insurers rating association created, truck driver classification evaluated, hearing procedures provided, rule adoption permitted, and money appropriated.

HF2024 (Cooper) Ambulance services allowed to divide payroll by rating classifications for determining workers' compensation insurance rates.

HF2097 (Cooper) Rescue squad voluntary worker classified as an employee for workers' compensation purposes, and ambulance personnel classification evaluated.

HF2177 (Rukavina) Workers' compensation benefits and coverage regulated, and penalties provided.

HF2178 (Rukavina) Workers' compensation court of appeals hearings, appointments, and attorney fees regulated, penalties provided.

HF2235 (Rukavina) Workers' compensation medical and rehabilitation benefits regulated and penalties provided.

HF2240 (Rukavina) Workers' compensation insurance and the assigned risk plan regulated; health and safety fund created; fraud prevention provided; repetitive motion injuries studied; rate reduction required; and money appropriated.

6 p.m.

Legislative Water Commission

5 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Henry Kalis

Agenda: IPM Update on legislation, U of M. Mississippi Headwaters Board legislation, Molly MacGregor, executive Director. Report and legislation concerning groundwater nitrates, MDA, PCA, and LWC. Bottled water update, Tom Masso, director, food inspection, MDA. Minnesota Department of Agriculture legislation. Legislative proposals concerning once-through heating and cooling. Year 2000 water management report, Robert Dunn, chair, EQB; John Wells, EQB; Patricia Jensen, LWC. Other business.

7 p.m.

Legislative Commission on Employee Relations/JOINT HOUSE & SENATE

112 State Capitol

Chr. Sen. Gene Waldorf

Agenda: Presentation of unclassified civil service reports concerning higher education system criteria, Attorney General legal assistants, and DOER implementation plant. Testimony by interested parties. (Those wishing to testify should contact Greg Hubinger at 296-2963.) Consideration of commission bill.

THURSDAY, March 5

8 a.m.

Economic Development, Infrastructure, & Regulation Division/APPROPRIATIONS

400S State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Jim Rice

Agenda: Discussion of the operating budget of the Minnesota Historical Society. Southwest Expo. Secretary of State.

Education Division/APPROPRIATIONS

300N State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Lyndon Carlson

Agenda: Legislative auditor's report.

Human Resources Division/ APPROPRIATIONS

200 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Lee Greenfield

Agenda: Public testimony: managed care for chemical dependency and mental health.

State Government Division/ APPROPRIATIONS

300S State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Phyllis Kahn

Agenda: To be announced.

GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS

10 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Leo Reding

Agenda: To be announced.

8:30 a.m.

Environment & Natural Resources Division/APPROPRIATIONS

Basement Hearing Room State Office Building

Chr. Rep. David Battaglia

Agenda: Agency budget presentations.

10 a.m.

COMMERCE

Basement Hearing Room State Office Building
Chr. Rep. John Sarna

Agenda: HF2108 (O'Connor) Minnesota-produced food and beverages sold by "A Taste of Minnesota" vendors.

HF1766 (Smith) Real estate brokers provided lien on property for unpaid leasing commissions.

ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES

10 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Willard Munger

Agenda: HF1518 (Hausman) Mining operation financial assurances modified for hazardous substance releases.

HF1704 (Long/Skoglund) Solid waste management facility planning and siting process modified for new large facilities, planning and alternatives review provided,

environmental quality board to perform supplementary reviews, and other provisions changed.

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

5 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Peter Rodosovich

Agenda: Presentation on alcohol-impaired driver education program, John Palmer, project coordinator. Update on acute disease epidemiology, Mike Osterholm, Minnesota Department of Health, Mike Moen, director, Disease Prevention and Control Division.

12:30 p.m.

GENERAL LEGISLATION, VETERANS AFFAIRS & GAMING

500S State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Tom Osthoff

Agenda: To be announced.

International Trade & Technology Division/

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

400S State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Rick Krueger

Agenda: Minnesota Technology Inc.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT & METROPOLITAN AFFAIRS

200 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Irv Anderson

Agenda: HF1778 (Orfield) Metropolitan council and public facilities authority not to issue bonds, incur other debt, or provide loans for sewer facility interceptors that would increase sewer system capacity outside the council-defined fully developed area. HF1981 (Garcia) Minneapolis - St. Paul International Airport construction or extension of certain facilities prohibited. HFXXXX (Garcia) Noise mitigation.

Subcommittee on Safety/ TRANSPORTATION

Basement Hearing Room State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Jeff Hanson

Agenda: HF1313 (Olson, K.) Recreational vehicle combinations authorized with certain restrictions provided.

HF355 (Reding) Bicycles and bikeways on interstate highways provided and regulated.

2:30 p.m.

The House will meet in Session.

AFTER SESSION

Subcommittee on Curriculum/ EDUCATION

10 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Alice Johnson

Agenda: Discussion of Minnesota Student Survey.

HFXXXX (Johnson, A.) Including in the PER policy a procedure for parents to review the content of instructional materials.

FRIDAY, March 6

8 a.m.

Subcommittee on Dairy & Livestock/ AGRICULTURE

500N State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Jerry Bauerly

Agenda: To be announced.

Economic Development, Infrastructure, & Regulation Division/APPROPRIATIONS

400S State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Jim Rice

Agenda: Racing commission. POST board.

State Government Division/ APPROPRIATIONS

300S State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Phyllis Kahn

Agenda: To be announced.

10 a.m.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS & INSURANCE

Basement Hearing Room State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Wes Skoglund

Agenda: To be announced.

12:30 p.m.

JUDICIARY

Basement Hearing Room State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Kathleen Vellenga

Agenda: DWI/DUI bill.

HF2160 (Wagenius) Child support and visitation administration, computation, and enforcement provisions modified, and money appropriated.

7 p.m.

Legislative Commission on Pensions & Retirement/JOINT HOUSE & SENATE

10 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Leo Reding

Agenda: HFXXX/SFXXX Volunteer fire plans. Simplified time weighted total rate of return formula.

HF1966 (Welle)/SF1861 (Johnson, D.E.)

Public pension plans; minimum size increased for plans required to prepare investment performance reports.

HF1692 (Jaros)/SF1558 (Solon) Consolidation accounts; police and fire relief associations allowed to consolidate by municipality into local relief association consolidation accounts with the public employees retirement association.

HF1486 (Reding)/SFXXX Technical college teachers included in individual retirement account provisions.

HFXXX/SFXXX MSRS and PERA. Administrative provisions.

HF2025 (Reding)/SFXXX Interest rates increased for repayments and refunds for public pension plans.

SATURDAY, March 7

9 a.m.

Legislative Commission on Pensions & Retirement/JOINT HOUSE & SENATE

10 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Leo Reding

Agenda: HFXXX/SFXXX TRA and TRFA's.

Deferred compensation program coverage for extracurricular compensation.

HF1960 (Reding)/SFXXX Postretirement adjustment formula modified for certain public pension plans.

HF1902 (Johnson, R.)/SF1845 (Morse)

Annuity retirement formula increases provided for certain public employees.

HF2019 (Reding)/SFXXX Hospital and medical insurance benefits authorized for local police and salaried firefighters' relief associations, and actuarial valuations and municipal funding requirements adjusted. HF677 (Reding)/SF639 (Waldorf) Medicare plan B supplemental medical coverage costs paid for retired state employees.

HF2014 (Reding)/SFXXX Actuarial assumption option for interest and salary increases provided to local police and salaried firefighter relief associations.

HF1637 (Osthoff)/SFXXX Consolidation actuarial work for local police and firefighters relief associations provided modified interest and salary increase assumptions.

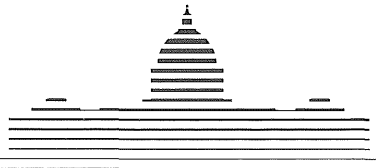
HF2018 (Farrell)/SFXXX St. Paul fire department relief association disability benefit formula modified, pre-1973 retirees provided increased pension benefits, longevity benefit option authorized, and postretirement benefit reductions limited.

HF1334 (Reding)/SF1230 (Stumpf) Volunteer firefighter qualifying service defined and computation and proration modified for service pensions.

HF1499 (Carruthers)/SF1304 (Luther) Brooklyn Center volunteer firefighters relief association provided alternative flexible service pension maximums.

HF1567 (McGuire)/SFXXX Falcon Heights volunteer firefighters relief association authorized full vesting after five years of service.

HF1805 (Leppik)/SFXXX Ancillary benefits allowed to retired volunteer firefighters under certain conditions.



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MINNESOTA INDEX

Death penalty

Minnesota's national rank for violent crimes, 1990	39
Minnesota's violent crime rate, per 100,000 population	306
Texas' violent crime rate, per 100,000	761
Florida's violent crime rate, per 100,000	1,244
Number of executions in Texas, U.S. capital punishment leader, 1977-90	37
Estimated number of Minnesota hangings, 1858-1911	26
Number of those hanged who were women	1
Percent of Minnesotans surveyed who favor the death penalty for persons convicted of murder, 1991	67
Percent of adults surveyed, nationwide, who favor the death penalty for persons convicted of murder, 1991	71
Percent of adults surveyed, nationwide, who favor making it more difficult for those convicted of violent crimes to get parole, 1989	82
Percent of adults surveyed, nationwide, who think criminals are being let off too easily, 1989	79
Number of states that have death penalty	36
Number of states that have someone under sentence of death	34
Number of people on death row in the U.S., end of 1991	2,547
Number of people in the U.S. who were executed in 1991	14
Number of people in the U.S. who were executed in 1990	23
Percent of people held on death row who are white, 1990	58
Percent of people held on death row who are black, 1990	40

Sources: House Judiciary Committee, Bureau of Justice Statistics Bulletin, 1991; Amnesty International-Minnesota Chapter; Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics, 1990; Star Tribune/KSTP-TV Minnesota Poll (Aug. 5-25, 1991); FBI Uniform Crime Reports, 1990; Murder in Minnesota.

For more information . . .

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