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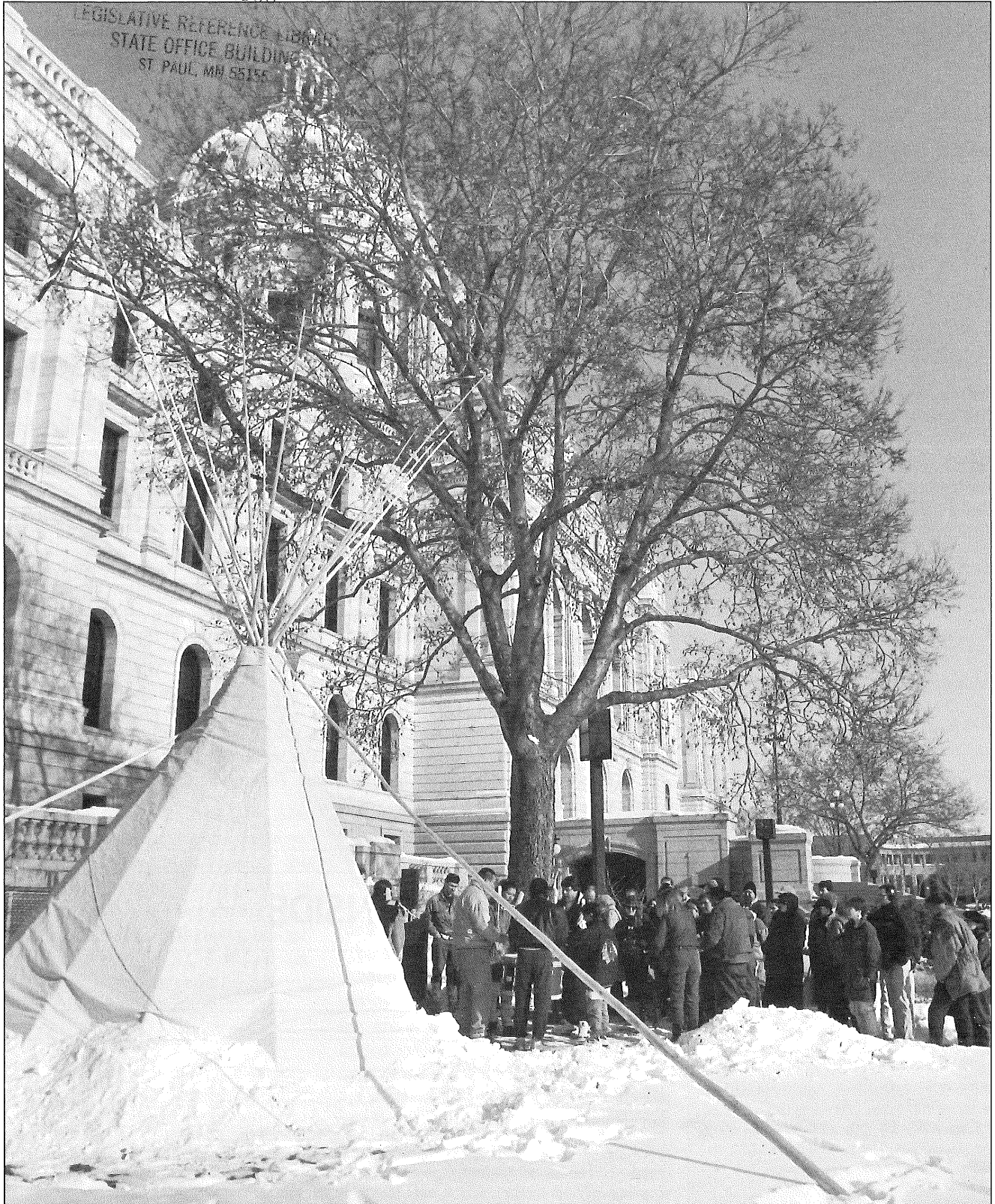
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# SESSION WEEKLY

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Minnesota House of Representatives ♦ January 22, 1993 ♦ Volume 10, Number 3

JAN 22 1993



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# SESSION WEEKLY

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## Flashback

Minnesota has long been a model for the quality of its chemical dependency treatment programs and the various spin-offs that have been created — from Overeaters Anonymous to Spenders Anonymous. You could argue that one more addiction should be added to the growing list: Politics Anonymous.

While labeling such an obsession an "addiction" is certainly a stretch, there are people at the Capitol who do place the annual pilgrimage to St. Paul on a par with more accepted forms of addictive behavior.

Simply put, the reality that can sometimes be created here is unlike anywhere else. There is that little sugar rush of excitement during any floor session, no matter what is being debated. There can be those long, focused hours devoted to a single task to the exclusion of everything else. Add to that the din created by the pacing lobbyists waiting outside the chamber doors in the Capitol Rotunda, and you can get the feeling that the spirit of Abraham Lincoln himself has resurfaced to cut loose with Gettysburg Address II.

Of course, that's absurd. But that's the point. Veteran members are all too quick to point out that the secret to success at the Capitol is to not get sucked in too far. They offer varying versions of former U.S. Sen. Eugene McCarthy's famous line to help keep things in perspective.

"Being in politics is like being a football coach," McCarthy once said. "You have to be smart enough to understand the game and dumb enough to think it's important." McCarthy, known for his wit and scholarly writings, probably doesn't believe that. But his point is clear.

Although it's too early in this year's legislative season for people to become consumed by the process, the inauguration of President Bill Clinton this week did offer a glimpse of the degree to which some people are obsessed with government and politics. As the countdown to the Wednesday swearing-in approached, several people frantically called the House Public Information Office in search of television sets (we don't have any).

The inauguration was no doubt an historic event — one watched by millions of Americans. But it was the tone of voice from the callers that was unmistakable, and seemed a harbinger of things to come as the session escalates.

They needed a TV and they needed it now. That moment, and nothing else, was the most important thing in the world.

—Grant Moos

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On the cover: Members of the Prairie Island Environmental Protection Committee set up a tepee Jan. 19 outside the Capitol to protest and draw attention to Northern States Power Company's proposed high level nuclear storage facility by tribal land near Red Wing.

—photo by Tom Olmscheid

# Highlights



## Bonding

### Building reform

Elected officials will have a better view of "the big picture" when it comes to capital bonding projects, the Department of Finance told the Capital Investment Committee Jan. 19.

The state has begun a major reform of its capital budget process, now requiring departments to come up with six-year capital budget plans and to link all requests to the "goals and mission" of their agencies. Additionally, the Department of Administration will provide a technical analysis of state buildings.

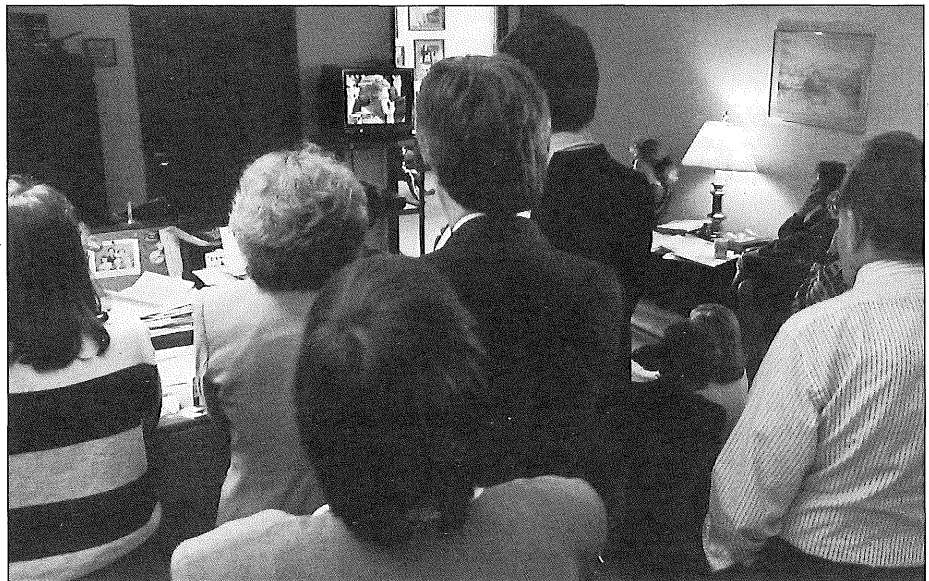
The result will be "more systematic and uniform information available to elected officials when they're making decisions on capital projects," said Dale Nelson, environment and economic development team leader for the state Department of Finance.

The Finance and Administration departments are directing the change, which was requested by the governor and the 1990 and 1991 Legislatures.

Capital Investment is a new committee for the House this session. Previously, capital expenditures were approved by divisions of the former Appropriations Committee, and subsequently referred to the Appropriations Committee before reaching the House floor.

Nelson told legislators that Gov. Arne Carlson's proposal for capital improvements will focus on "a few projects" this session, with the major bonding bill to be considered by the 1994 Legislature.

The proposed "strategic capital budget" plan will be ready by Oct. 1 of this year, said Nelson. It will represent a six-year capital plan for 1994 through 1999.



Members, staff, and lobbyists watched Jan. 20 as William Jefferson Clinton was sworn in as the 42nd president of the United States.



## Crime

### Addressing juvenile justice

Juvenile justice issues will likely be a large part of the Judiciary Committee's agenda this session, said committee Chair Rep. Wes Skoglund (DFL-Mpls).

During a Jan. 20 meeting, the committee reviewed a schedule of forthcoming reports requested by the Legislature, several of which concentrate on crimes committed by or against Minnesota's children.

Rep. Kathleen Blatz (IR-Bloomington) expressed an interest in a report that will study the removal of judges in certain cases involving alleged child abuse or neglect. It will also examine the possibility of training judges for such cases.

Blatz told members of a case where a judge allegedly "pulled out a bullwhip" during proceedings in a child abuse hearing, and another instance where allegedly biased counsel was used by a judge in reviewing child abuse cases.

Committee members also toured the Minnesota Judicial Center, where they met with Sandra Gardebring, associate justice of the state Supreme Court. Gardebring also serves on the task force on juvenile

justice which is due to issue a report in December 1993.

Skoglund said the task force will be involved in juvenile issues during the 1993 session, and noted that he and Sen. Allan Spear (DFL-Mpls), chair of the Senate Crime Prevention Committee, have discussed expanding the task force in order to diversify its membership.

In addition, Skoglund announced the formation of three Judiciary subcommittees for this session.

Rep. Phil Carruthers (DFL-Brooklyn Center) will chair the subcommittee on Criminal Justice and Family Law, while Rep. Tom Pugh (DFL-South St. Paul) will chair the subcommittee on Civil Law. A chair has not yet been designated for the subcommittee on Data Privacy.

### From BCA to MHS

The Minnesota History Center doesn't have a blood spatter exhibit. But members of a House committee got to see information about that discipline — in addition to the "Minnesota A to Z" exhibit — during a week filled with tours.

The Economic Development, Infrastructure and Regulation Finance Committee took two field trips this week to view



operations it will soon be called upon to fund.

Eight committee members toured the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA) Jan. 19. The 191-member BCA staff provides forensic, research, and investigative services to local law enforcement officials. The agency operates the state's centralized criminal history database, maintains an automatic fingerprint identification system with search capabilities, and remains on-call 24 hours a day to assist local police at the site of serious "crimes against people."

The BCA also manages one of the country's few "DNA fingerprinting" laboratories, maintains an identifying DNA profile for each of the state's convicted sex offenders, and has experts on staff that can analyze blood spatters from a crime scene to glean evidence that could be used in a court trial.

Legislators were told that growing federal funds have not solved the bureau's need for funds.

"Crime is on the increase and that has definitely stretched our resources," said Acting BCA Superintendent Michael Camption. The BCA's annual budget is about \$15 million, \$600,000 of which comes from the federal government.

Committee members also visited the new, \$32 million Minnesota History Center Jan. 21. The Center, completed last year, is now the home of the Minnesota Historical Society.

Aside from preparing public exhibits and providing educational programs, the history center houses the state's official archives and most of its collection of artifacts. Prior to the center's construction, the Historical Society's collection was held at scattered locations without proper climate control.

The History Center's current major exhibit is entitled "Minnesota A to Z" and depicts aspects of the state's diverse cultural past.

## State prison tours

House Judiciary Committee members and legislative staff got a firsthand look at prison life by touring two of the state's correctional facilities Jan. 15.

The two facilities — at Stillwater and Oak Park Heights — serve different purposes and operate on different philosophies.



Reps. Walter Perl and Mark Holsten speak with an inmate through the window of his cell door at the Stillwater state prison during the Judiciary Committee's Jan. 22 tour of the facility.

At the medium security facility in Stillwater, "the prison is a community," said Warden Robert Erickson. The prison maintains programs and activities for its 1,400 inmates similar to many outside its turn-of-the-century walls — including vocational education, industrial production, and even higher education studies.

Most Stillwater inmates have some freedom of movement between buildings during certain hours of the day, so they can participate in organized activities. At night, before being locked in their cells, prisoners may socialize with others in their cell block while being watched by a handful of guards.

At the Oak Park Heights facility, life is far more restricted and regimented. Oak Park Heights is Minnesota's maximum security facility, designed to hold the state's most dangerous criminals. Here, the watchword

is "control" rather than "community."

Inmates are segregated into eight blocks of 52 prisoners, and then divided again into "defensible living units" of about five cells each. Inmates are not allowed to move between units, but may visit with others in their block in common areas.

The 14-year-old circular structure was prompted, in part, by legislators' concern with the growing proportion of violent criminals entering the state's prison system. More than 90 percent of Oak Park's inmates were convicted of "personal crimes" such as rape or murder. At Stillwater, about 60 percent fit that category, while 40 percent are property offenders.

The state pays a large price for Oak Park's level of surveillance and control: it costs about twice as much money per day to hold a prisoner at Oak Park Heights as it does at Stillwater.

The tab for the state's correctional system continues to rise. Commissioner Orville Pung said that unlike most departments and agencies, the Department of Corrections was not asked by Gov. Arne Carlson for a 5 percent reduction in its budget for the coming fiscal year. "For us, it's a question of how large the increase is," said Pung.



## Education

### Teaming for education

When Commissioner Gene Mammenga says the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) has been reorganized, he means it.

"One of out of five staff that were here two years ago are gone now," Mammenga told the Education Committee's K-12 Finance Division Jan. 20. He outlined his department's restructuring efforts following a 21 percent cut in funding for 1991 and 1992. With some 60 to 70 staff cuts, and shrinking state funding on the horizon, the department decided to change the way it was serving students and schools.

"We chose to wipe the paper clean and start all over again," said Mary Lillesve, an MDE team leader. MDE staff members were involved in transforming the department from distinct "sections" into a "team" and regionally-oriented organization. There are now 22 such teams in the MDE, including seven regional "service teams" which

will work closely with communities and schools throughout the state. Other teams will provide education resources and support services to region staff.

Mammenga said the changes reflect a departmental shift in focus "from regulation to service."

MDE traditionally has been the state's monitoring agency, as well as the promoter of "best practice" educational methods. While the department has been viewed as having good staff and programs, interviews with educators, parents and legislators revealed that its services were perceived to be fragmented, Lillesve said.

Change hasn't been easy, Mammenga told the committee. The department is establishing career tracks for staff no longer in manager positions, and not all staff are yet convinced the reorganization will work. Federal mandates for federally-funded staff also hamper department flexibility, he said.

Mammenga added that Gov. Arne Carlson's recent proposal to coordinate children's programs in a new single department will not dismantle MDE's efforts.

"We're certainly not [going] to throw overboard what we've done," Mammenga told the committee. "Some [children's program's] aren't going to fit as naturally," but he said, that makes "teaming" all the more necessary.

## Courting education reform

The final outcome of a lawsuit against the state could have a significant impact on the Legislature's ability to make decisions regarding school financing, legislative analyst Lisa Larson told members of the Education Committee Jan. 21.

Three elements of the state's K-12 school finance system were found unconstitutional by a Wright County District Court judge in December 1991. The state appealed that decision. On Feb. 4, oral arguments will be presented before the Minnesota Supreme Court, which will rule sometime this year.

Fifty-two outer-ring suburban and rural school districts — representing 25 percent of the state's K-12 enrollment — were plaintiffs in the lawsuit, known as *Skeen v. State of Minnesota*.

The school districts argue that Minnesota's school finance formula results in unequal educational opportunity. The

state is arguing that the issues raised in the lawsuit present political questions that the Minnesota Legislature ought to decide.

If the court rules on the matter before the end of this session, the Legislature may have to respond to any court directives during the current two-year budget cycle, Larson said.



## Environment

### Walleye priorities

The moral of the story is that the state intends to be a lot more careful about where it puts its walleye.

The old ways of "dumping millions of walleye into lakes without careful planning" don't work, said Jack Skrypek, the head of the state Department of Natural Resources (DNR) fisheries division.

The DNR currently stocks some 600 Minnesota lakes with about 3.5 million walleye fingerlings and 375 million fry annually. Anglers catch only about 5 percent of these fish because many of the stocked fish die.

Skrypek told lawmakers that current walleye stocking practices work about one-third of the time, fail about one-third of the time, and have mixed results the rest of the time.

Fish stocking isn't a substitute for good regulations and habitat protection, Skrypek said. Despite pressure from constituents to

stock certain lakes, he said the DNR wants to limit stocking in lakes with features that make them more successful in supporting walleye.

Those features include large lakes with shallow waters and plenty of perch — or walleye "fish food," said Dennis Schupp, DNR senior fisheries biologist. He cited the DNR's stocking of Lake Osakis as one successful example.

But many lakes with strong walleye populations do fine without DNR help, Schupp said.

"Eighty percent of the state's walleye population is in lakes we don't stock," he said, adding that it's critical to protect habitat, which will be cheaper and more productive than stocking in the long run.

Skrypek emphasized that walleye stocking continues to be an important fishing management activity, but that the DNR wants to use stocking "more scientifically and efficiently."

The fisheries division will continue to work with lake associations and sports groups which propose stocking programs for lakes, Skrypek said. Any proposals must fit management plans for the lakes in question, and DNR managers "want to work with constituents" in developing those plans.

The DNR held a "fish stocking" briefing for legislators Jan. 19, which several members of the House and Senate Environment and Natural Resources committees attended.



An often visible opponent of air pollutants, Rep. Willard Munger was shrouded in smoke from his 82 birthday candles Jan. 20. Rep. Munger is the Legislature's elder statesman and only octogenarian.

## Breathing quality air

Our air is getting easier to breathe, but it will be 1995 before we reach federal air quality standards.

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) has completed specific plans with 20 state industries that are keeping Minnesota from compliance with federal air regulations, the agency told lawmakers Jan. 21.

The industries, which now have MPCA "orders" and deadlines to meet, include refineries, power utilities, asphalt plants, and grain handling operations.

With the deadlines now in place, the state will be in compliance with federal standards by 1995, Lisa Thorvig, MPCA air quality manager told the Environment and Natural Resources Committee.

Currently, the state is in violation of federal standards for emissions of sulfur dioxide, carbon monoxide, and particulate matter (a fine dust harmful to lungs) in the Twin Cities and Rochester.

Sulfur dioxide emissions result primarily from refineries and coal-fired boilers, while carbon monoxide stems from vehicle emissions. Particulate matter is associated with coal piles, asphalt plants, piles of gravel, and grain facilities.

While industry emissions are being worked on, air pollution has been reduced in other areas.

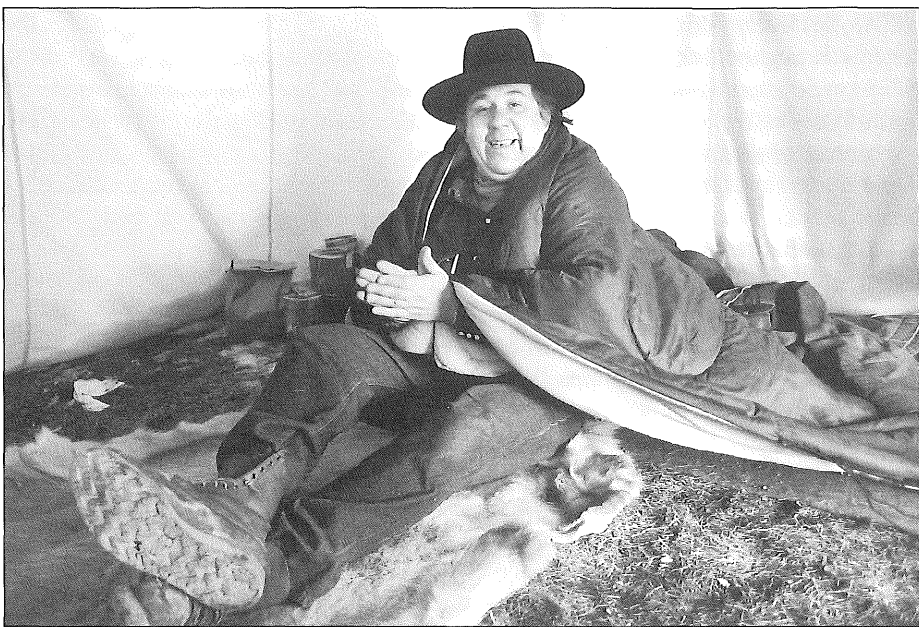
The state's vehicle testing program reduced carbon monoxide emissions by 27,000 tons during the 12 months preceding July 1992, Thorvig told legislators. Emissions also will fall because of a federal program requiring winter use of oxygen-enriched gasoline, such as ethanol-blended fuel. MPCA began that program last November.

Thorvig reported that Minnesota's air quality during the past year was "very good," although she said the improvement could reflect lower carbon monoxide that resulted from cooler summer weather.

## Petrofund needs cleanup

Minnesota's petroleum tank cleanup program is overburdened, under funded, and driving many small business owners into bankruptcy, say some state officials and lawmakers.

"We're digging, excavating, and raising hell with these people and the money isn't there for them," said Rep. Marc Asch (DFL-



Joseph Campbell, spokesperson for the Prairie Island Environmental Protection Committee, spent the week in a teepee in front of the Capitol to "make himself available to members of the Legislature." A Mdewakanton Sioux storyteller, Campbell opposes Northern States Power Company's proposed siting of a "temporary" high-level nuclear waste storage facility near reservation land.

North Oaks).

The petrofund, administered jointly by the state Department of Commerce and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), was created to help pay cleanup and repair costs caused by leaking underground gasoline and oil storage tanks.

Under the program, the state pays up to 90 percent of the costs to remove the tanks and surrounding contaminated soil, while property owners pay the remaining 10 percent. Funding for the program is generated by a 1-cent per gallon charge to petroleum distributors throughout the state.

But the state's payment of the cleanup cost functions on a reimbursement system, and payment delays of months — even years — are not uncommon, said several members of the Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee Jan. 20. Some business owners have had to shut their doors permanently waiting for their money to arrive.

"The station [owners] are having to dig up tanks and replace them regardless of whether the money comes or not," said Rep. Becky Lourey (DFL-Kerrick). "These people are really hurting."

The owners' problems are then aggravated by difficulties in securing temporary bank loans because the collateral property is "damaged," Lourey added.

One reason for the payment delays, said Commerce Commissioner Bert McKasy, is

that the MPCA is approving reimbursements faster than his department can dole out the money. Last year the petrofund board approved \$44 million in cleanup financing, far surpassing incoming revenue of \$30 million.

"We definitely have a problem," said McKasy. "We're going to have to come with a way of raising more revenue or come up with some new rules on how the reimbursements are made."

A report by the Office of the Legislative Auditor on the administration of the petrofund and possible remedies is due within a few weeks, said McKasy, adding that the Department of Commerce likely will include many of those recommendations in its upcoming legislative requests.



## Gaming

### Final day at the races?

Chances for the continuation of horse racing in Minnesota — both live and simulcast — are slim, according to Richard Krueger, executive director of the Minnesota Racing Commission (MRC).

During testimony before the Governmental Operations and Gaming Committee Jan. 19, Krueger presented a litany of grim statistics outlining the industry's decline.

Between 1990 and 1992, attendance at Canterbury Downs declined by more than 50 percent, and the "handle" (total amount wagered) fell by more than 40 percent to \$57 million in 1992. By comparison, the 1986 handle — a record high for the track — was \$133.6 million.

Total licenses issued by the MRC for employees of pari-mutuel betting dropped 37 percent during the same period and by more than half over the past six years.

Off-season simulcast betting pulled in more money than live racing for the first time. However, with no guarantee that live racing will take place in the state during 1993, MRC's negotiations with private contractors to deliver simulcast racing dissolved on Dec. 31, 1992, Krueger said.

Rep. Tom Osthoff (DFL-St. Paul) wondered if the stalled negotiations were "putting another nail in the coffin of Canterbury Downs." Simulcasting is the track's only source of off-season revenue.

Osthoff said that the commission should pay attention to the well-being of the entire industry, not just "what's good for prize money."

Race horse owners are guaranteed purses as high as 8.4 percent of all money wagered on a live race, but only about one percent of the handle if the race is simulcast.

Krueger responded that "it is the strong feeling of the racing commission that simulcasting ought to augment and enhance live racing," but not replace it.



## Housing

### Help needed for housing

A Jan. 20 tour of two Minneapolis agencies that aid the poor and homeless was intended to portray the human side of the issue, and to persuade members of the Housing Committee that more state funding is needed for transitional housing.

At Simpson Emergency Shelter in south Minneapolis, Director Joanne Champion told legislators that on the last day of each month, names are drawn out of a hat to determine who will be able to sleep at the shelter during the next month. Last month, 65 homeless people vied for 40 "beds," which are actually mats lined up on the floor.

Champion was straightforward in de-



Ernest Lloyd and daughter, Breahna Newport, took part in Jan. 20 ceremonies marking the accomplishments of Martin Luther King Jr. Lloyd has attended the annual ceremony for the last 13 years; his daughter, the last five.

scribing the shelter's clients, 99 percent of whom are men.

"The drug of choice in this shelter is alcohol," she said. Because of their drinking and mental health problems, many of the shelter users "will never be self-sufficient but, we try to make them independent." When possible, Simpson Shelter helps the men get into affordable permanent housing — but most then need continued mentoring to help them organize their lives.

Another program, Simpson Transitional Housing, provides rent-subsidized housing for single women and women with children. The apartments, which are scattered in parts of Minneapolis, Richfield, and Hopkins, help the women avoid the stigma of being in a shelter as they look for jobs and work on improving their lives.

Committee members also visited Sharing & Caring Hands, which relies on dona-

tions to feed and clothe the poor, and to rent motel and hotel rooms for those in need of emergency housing.

The guide for the housing tour was Steve Frenkel, the legislative advocate for the Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless. The coalition is proposing an \$880,000 increase in state funding over the biennium to pay for transitional housing. That amount would replace \$528,000 in lost federal dollars and provide an additional \$352,000 for new programs and program expansion.

A homeless person or family that is provided with transitional housing pays at least 25 percent of family income for rent, with the remainder of the cost subsidized by the state. The individual or family can remain in the housing for up to two years.



## Taxes

### Taxing reform

A fiscal watchdog group's plan to drastically revamp Minnesota's property tax and state aid systems was unveiled this week before members of the Taxes Committee.

The Minnesota Taxpayer Association's 14-point plan would bring short-term pain, but long-term benefits, said Dan Salomone, the group's executive director. "It puts the system on a more rational footing."

The plan's focal point is reducing the number of property classifications from 14 to three. With this simplification, the system would make better use of money used for property tax relief, provide greater local accountability, and, most importantly, eliminate the unfairness of the classification system, Salomone said.

"In the '80s, lacking funds to buy down property taxes, there was greater attention paid to the classification system to shift burdens between classes of property," he told the panel Jan. 19. "The theory, I think in summary, is that if you can't lower everyone's property taxes with state dollars, then you try to protect certain classes of property taxpayers at the expense of others."

That tinkering has resulted in homeowners getting a \$700 million break on property taxes, while businesses and owners of rental property pay more. Reform efforts have faltered because of politics, Salomone said.



Middle- and high-income people in lower-valued homes, and upper-income people in expensive homes, would see the greatest property tax increases under the plan. Most other homeowners would either see no change or increases of less than \$120 a year.

Several committee members were concerned with the plan's estimated impact on homeowners and the proposed shifting of dollars to aid schools and local governments.

Though the proposal hasn't been put into bill form, portions of it are likely to play a role in this session's tax discussions.

## Fixing state aid

Groups representing urban, suburban, and rural cities are backing a bill that would completely redesign how state aid is channeled to those communities.

The bill (HF48) would eliminate three aid programs now in place — disparity reduction aid, local government aid, and equalization aid — and replace them with a single program using a simple formula reflecting their true need, Rep. Don Ostrom (DFL-St. Peter) told members of the Taxes Committee's Property Tax Subcommittee Jan. 21.

Ostrom is the chief author of the bill, which was developed by the League of Minnesota Cities and supported by the Association of Metro Municipalities, North Metro Mayors Association, and Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities. Leaders of those groups also testified in favor of the bill.

"I've been disturbed by the increases in property taxes for various reasons that we've had in recent years, to the point where we now, in the state of Minnesota, are collecting more revenue through the property tax than we are through the income tax," Ostrom said.

Making up for disparities in wealth between cities as they try to fund services is still the basis for the proposal, Ostrom said. But the current formulas used to determine the amount of aid received are arbitrary, complex, and hard to defend, he added.

The new formula would use four factors: housing built before 1940 in each city, population, population decline, and percentage of commercial/industrial property. It is designed to keep city revenues stable



Rep. Jim Rhodes, the House's newest member, received a warm welcome from colleagues Jan. 19. Rhodes won a Jan. 12 special election for the District 44B seat following the resignation of Rep. Gloria Segal.

while preventing property tax hikes caused by the state, Ostrom said.

The subcommittee did not take action on the proposal. No revenue amount was requested, but it would be based on the state's commitment to earmarking a 2 percent share of sales tax funds for property tax relief.



## Tourism

### More options for tourists

The state's top tourism official said his agency doesn't yet know how the Mall of America or casino gambling is affecting Minnesota's hospitality industry.

Responding to questions from legislators whose districts include popular vacation destinations, Hank Todd, director of the state Office of Tourism, said no statistical data yet exists to show if the megamall or casinos could be siphoning tourist dollars away from resorts and other tourism-related businesses.

He said anecdotal evidence is inconclusive as well, but noted, "There are just so many disposable dollars [to go] around."

Todd testified Jan. 20 before the Tourism and Small Business division of the House Commerce Committee.

Several committee members had anecdotal evidence of their own, including Rep. Kris Hasskamp (DFL-Crosby), who said resort and restaurant owners in her region have experienced a notable income drop

since an American Indian-owned casino opened near Lake Mille Lacs last year.

"They're telling me that [vacationers] are spending all of their discretionary dollars down along Highway 169 before they get farther north," Hasskamp said.

Todd said although casino gambling may have played some role in the loss of income for other nearby businesses, it's impossible to determine if it was a significant reason. He later added that all forms of lawful gaming could be causing the perceived declines — not just the casinos. "It's a very complex issue," Todd said.

The Mall of America, however, ultimately could bolster nearly all hospitality businesses in the state, Todd said.

In the five months since the Bloomington shopping complex opened, the state tourism office has received countless inquiries from travel agents seeking mall information. Many of the tour groups are planning extended trips, and are traveling elsewhere in the state once their shopping bags are full, Todd said.

"It's planting a seed for all of Minnesota. . . . In the long run, it should be a benefit for the state as a whole," he added.

Todd said a tourism study now being conducted by the University of Minnesota (to be released this spring) could provide a better view on the overall health and interplay between the various components of the state's \$4.9 billion per year tourism and hospitality industry.





## Transportation

### Taxing for transit

An extension of the 6.5 percent general sales tax to gasoline would provide funds dedicated specifically for public transit if the Legislature adopts a proposal being pushed by the Regional Transit Board (RTB).

But the barrage of tough questions asked Jan. 19 by members of the Local Government and Metropolitan Affairs Committee suggests the RTB will face more rough going this year. Late last session the committee narrowly defeated a proposal to abolish the agency, which was created by the Legislature in 1984 to do transit planning and to contract for transit services.

Committee Chair Rep. Irv Anderson (DFL-Int'l Falls) reminded RTB board members that a 1992 report by the Office of the Legislative Auditor was very critical of the RTB. The report recommended that the Legislature retain control of transit funding derived from any new source.

Other committee members raised doubts about RTB's direction. Rep. Jean Wagenius (DFL-Mpls) wanted assurance that the RTB's focus will remain on mass public transit that can be used by everybody rather than individualized solutions such as car pools.

The RTB presented the committee with its "Vision '97." Its goals for improving public transit by 1997 include a 20 percent increase in regular route bus service, the addition of 28 express routes, and the construction of nine large park-and-ride lots.

Many of the improvements are intended to meet the needs of the suburban commuter. To accomplish these goals by 1997, the RTB needs to build up its annual state funding from a current \$27 million to \$62.7 million by 1997.

More than half of RTB funding comes from property taxes levied in the metro area. About one-third is from fares, and the remainder comes from federal and state funds. The RTB contracts with 46 providers that offer public transportation services in the metropolitan area, including the Metropolitan Transit Commission.

The current state gas tax is 20 cents per gallon — a level that has remained constant since 1988, when a 3-cent per gallon increase was approved.

The state constitution specifies that for each dollar raised by the gas tax, 62 cents goes to the state trunk highway fund, 29 cents to the county-state aid highway fund, and 9 cents to the municipal state aid fund.

### Driver's license revocation

A House resolution opposing revocation of drivers' licenses for drug-related crimes was approved Jan. 20 by a House Committee.

The bill (HF6) was introduced in response to a 1991 federal highway law that reduces funding to states that don't do one of two things: adopt a license revocation policy for drug-related crimes, or pass a formal resolution stating opposition to that policy.

The measure approved by the Transportation and Transit Committee meets that second requirement.

Unless action is taken by April 1, 1993, the state will lose about 5 percent of its federal funds, said Dick Borson of the Minnesota Department of Transportation.

Rep. Tom Osthoff, (DFL-St. Paul) chief sponsor of the bill, said that the issue was partly one of "state's rights, which the federal government is infringing on, as usual."

Katherine Burke Moore of the Department of Public Safety said that the state's current policy is to avoid taking away drivers' licenses for crimes unless the offense is "motor-vehicle related." Twenty-two other states have filed opposition legislation with the federal government, she said.

Reps. Becky Kelso (DFL-Shakopee) and Connie Morrison (IR-Burnsville) noted that the Legislature has allowed Minnesota judges the discretion to suspend the licenses of minors convicted of drug-related offenses.

The bill was approved by voice vote without opposition, and now proceeds to the House floor for consideration.

A similar bill has been approved by the Senate Transportation and Public Transit Committee and has been referred to the floor for consideration.

### Tagging salvaged autos

Used car buyers would have access to better information about vehicles they want to purchase under a bill presented Jan. 21 to the House Commerce and Economic Development Committee.

The measure (HF51) seeks to clarify motor vehicle title classifications used to track automobiles — particularly cars, vans, and light trucks severely damaged in accidents and later repaired for resale — to create a permanent record on the vehicle title indicating the car had been wrecked and then rebuilt.

A 1989 law said that damaged vehicles whose repairs would cost more than 70 percent of the car's market value must carry a "rebuilt" brand on its title. But according to Doug Blanke, director of consumer policy for the Minnesota Attorney General's office, the current law has a loophole allowing disreputable auto rebuilders to obtain "unbranded" titles for cars imported from other states by submitting inaccurate or misleading documentation to Minnesota officials.

"What we have been getting is the rebuilders setting the [classifications] themselves," Blanke told the committee. "The bill you have before you will be a much stronger and more meaningful consumer protection than the current statute."

The bill, sponsored by Rep. Geri Evans (DFL-New Brighton), has broad support from trade associations representing new car dealers, law enforcement officials, and auto mechanics, as well as several individual consumers testifying before the commerce panel.

Mike Giefer of Woodbury said he unknowingly bought an out-of-state, accident-salvaged car from a dealership in Bloomington and didn't discover its true history until after he closed the deal. After two weeks of research and threats of legal action, Giefer said he finally was able to convince the dealer to give him a refund.

"It was a lot of work," Giefer said. "If the title had shown what it was supposed to show when the car entered Minnesota, I wouldn't have had to do all that."

Continued discussion on HF51 is expected next week.

Independent-Republican . . .

## Sviggum referees House minority caucus

**F**or House Minority Leader Steve Sviggum, this is no time to put away his striped shirt nor his whistle.

In his decade-plus of refereeing high school football and basketball games, Sviggum has had to make thousands of quick decisions and break up more than a few disputes between overheated opponents.

Those weren't necessarily attributes he accented during his successful bid to lead the House Independent-Republican caucus, but they are skills that should serve him well as he grows into his new job.

"It might be a part of my personality," he said. "You get into the position of making judgment calls. Those are the calls I enjoy making on the basketball court and they are the ones I certainly enjoy making in the Legislature."

Shortly after the close of the 1992 session, Sviggum, 40, was chosen by House Republicans to serve as minority leader. After first gaining a House seat during the Independent-Republican surge of 1978, Sviggum quickly established himself inside and outside the IR caucus with his knowledge of state government.

During his 12-year tenure, the Kenyon farmer and teacher has been at the forefront of battles to hold down the growth in state spending, while championing alternative solutions to workers' compensation and property tax reform.

"Government in Minnesota shouldn't be different from any business or any job that's out there in the private sector right now," he said. "Every business and every job has to get more efficient and has to produce a better product for less cost. And if they don't do that, they're not meeting their competition."

"I think Minnesota government has to change its philosophy around from just increasing the price of the product, to making it better and less costly and more efficient," he said.

But Sviggum's caucus lacks the voting strength to pass laws to reflect these ideals. With just 48 members, working with the House DFL leadership is necessary.

"I think it's our job to cooperate and to

work together on various issues — which was done during the last session," Sviggum said. "But there are going to be certain times when we don't agree and that's when it's the role of the minority to present

third person in four years to hold the post. "There is a certain amount of burnout and it's a position that can be frustrating, simply because you never have the votes to do what you want to do."

House Independent-Republicans, however, do have a valuable ally in fellow IR Gov. Arne Carlson. The governor can wield considerable influence on legislation through vetoes and threats of vetoes, giving both Carlson and the minority caucus leverage.

"We intend to bring forth a unified message even though we recognize, at times, we may have differing opinions," he said.

Although they are certainly supportive of the direction Carlson is moving, Sviggum said House IRs should not be considered a rubber stamp for the governor's



House Minority Leader Steve Sviggum during a recent House floor session.

alternatives and options and be a bit confrontational. That's part of the process as well."

He calls the task "keeping the majority honest" and it's a role he said fits him well, despite the frustration and difficulties being minority leader can entail.

"People don't last long in minority leadership spots," he said, noting that he is the

proposals.

"He is going to feel one way about something and our caucus is going to feel another. That's going to happen in any relationship. But as long as we feel ownership with what the governor is doing and we feel an input into decisions he makes, we can empower one another to be real players in the legislative process."

— Dave Price

## Assistant minority leaders

While the Independent-Republican minority leader certainly listens to the opinions of caucus members, obtaining the input of all 48 is a difficult task.

That's why several assistant minority leaders are elected — to serve as liaisons to funnel the concerns of members to their caucus leader.

This session, seven members were elected by their IR peers to serve as assistant minority leaders. With three lawyers, an auctioneer, a farmer, a sign-language interpreter, and a businessperson in the group, they reflect the occupational and geographic diversity of the IR caucus.

They are:

Ron Abrams .....	45A .....	Minnetonka
Kathleen Blatz .....	40B .....	Bloomington
Don Frerichs .....	31A .....	Rochester
Gil Gutknecht .....	30A .....	Rochester
Gene Hugoson .....	26A .....	Granada
Teresa Lynch .....	50B .....	Andover
Charlie Weaver .....	49A .....	Anoka

## LCMR funding proposals total \$40.8 million

Environmental projects totaling \$40.8 million have been recommended to state lawmakers by the Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCMR).

"There was no lack of interest in submitting proposals," LCMR director John Velin told members of the House Environment and Natural Resources Finance Committee Jan. 20. A total of 810 funding requests totaling \$378 million were submitted to the commission.

Of those, the 16-member panel targeted 96 priority projects for funding over the next biennium. They include biologically-safe pest control research, wetlands protection and reforestation programs, and an "ecology bus" that would provide interdisciplinary environmental education to K-12 students in the southwest portion of the state.

The LCMR is made up of eight members of the House and eight from the Senate who study environmental funding issues, and then make recommendations to the Legislature as a whole.

LCMR projects are largely funded through a two-cent per pack tax on cigarettes, and earnings from lottery revenues dedicated to the environmental and natural resources trust fund. Approximately 6 cents of every lottery dollar spent helps to fund LCMR projects.

New projects comprise slightly more than half — \$21.2 million — of the 1993-95 proposals, with the remainder aimed at continuing programs and projects begun in previous sessions.

The largest single item among all LCMR recommendations is nearly \$6.4 million for new and continuing grants for the Reinvest In Minnesota (RIM) program.

New funds totaling \$2.6 million are proposed to accelerate RIM land match programs to protect and improve fish, wildlife and native plant habitats, with an additional \$1 million proposed to acquire land for scientific and natural areas.

The state's fisheries also figure prominently in 1993-95 RIM funding with \$687,000 suggested for trout, walleye and smallmouth bass habitat development, including installation of aeration systems on winterkill-prone lakes.

Reflecting an increase in visitors, \$3 million is apportioned for improvement in Minnesota state parks and to prevent deterioration of historically significant structures. In all, 25 improvement projects are slated for state and regional parks and trails, carrying a \$17.2 million price tag.

Slightly more than \$2.3 million is targeted to continue development of the Paul Bunyan Trail in the central lakes region, a second trail connecting the city of Har-

mony to the Root River Trail, and a third trail between Barnum and Carlton. Another \$2.3 million is proposed to acquire, improve and connect trailways in the Twin Cities metropolitan area.

Funding of \$380,000 is proposed to adapt state park facilities and make them more accessible for the physically challenged, and an additional \$300,000 is suggested to enhance recreational opportunities for Minnesota's growing southeast Asian ethnic communities.

Other recreational funding proposals included:

- construction of the Birch Lake Regional Bikeway/walkway in Ramsey County near White Bear Lake at \$450,000;
- construction of the Cedar Lake non-motorized trail in Minneapolis at \$610,000;
- acquisition and protection of undeveloped properties along the St. Louis, Cloquet, and Whiteface rivers near Lake Superior at \$1,000,000;
- acquisition of a water access site on Maxwell and Crystal Bays on Lake Minnetonka at \$944,000;
- construction of the Mesabi multi-purpose trail connecting Grand Rapids and Ely at \$700,000; and
- planning and development funding for the Agassiz recreational trails in northwest Minnesota and for improvements in four nearby local parks in Norman County at \$650,000.

Velin cautioned snowshoers, hikers and hunters that before they begin planning future outdoor adventures they should remember that the LCMR recommendations need the approval of the full Legislature. He said individual proposals can be added or dropped from the package through the committee or floor vote process.

Lawmakers in 1991 approved \$35 million in LCMR projects, which was included as part of the omnibus appropriations bill. A total of \$235 million for projects has been authorized since the commission was established in 1963.





Visiting the Minnesota State Capitol complex can be a rewarding and educational experience for everyone. There are buildings to explore and tours to take almost any time you choose to visit. And when the Legislature is in session during the first part of every year, there are floor sessions to observe, committee meetings to attend, and legislators to meet. Remember that this is your state Capitol, and you are always welcome.

Here's some general information to help you plan your visit.

## How to get here

### Location

The Capitol complex is north of I-94 just minutes from downtown St. Paul. It is accessible from the east and west on I-94, and from the north and south on I-35E.

**I-94 eastbound:** Exit at Marion Street. Turn left. Go to Aurora Avenue and turn right. Go one block, cross Rice Street, and enter Parking Lot D.

**I-94 westbound:** Exit at Marion Street. Turn right. Go to Aurora Avenue and turn right. Go one block, cross Rice Street, and enter Parking Lot D.

**I-35E northbound:** Exit at Kellogg Boulevard. Turn left. Go to John Ireland Boulevard and turn right. Metered parking spaces line both sides of the boulevard.

**I-35E southbound:** Exit at University Avenue. Turn right. Go to Rice Street and turn left. Go one block and enter Parking Lot D.

### Parking

Public metered parking is available at Lot Q, north of the Capitol at Cedar Street and Sherburne Avenue; Lot D, next to the State Office Building at Aurora Avenue and Rice Street; and the orange level of the Centennial Building Ramp at Cedar Street and Constitution Avenue. All-day parking is available in Lot Q and the Centennial ramp. St. Paul meter patrols will issue tickets for expired parking.

Handicapped parking is available in the Centennial Building Ramp on all levels (the blue level is the most easily accessible to the building). Additional handicapped park-

ing is located directly behind the Capitol (Lot N), west of the State Office Building (between Lots D and E).

Since parking is limited during legislative sessions, busing may be easier. Free-way express bus service is available. Call the Metropolitan Transit Commission (MTC), (612) 827-7733, for your specific route information.

## What to do

### Tours

Tours of the Capitol are offered through the Capitol Historic Site Program of the Minnesota Historical Society.

Tour guides lead the free, 45-minute tours from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays through Fridays; from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays; and from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Sundays. The tours begin at the Capitol's information desk at the end of the corridor to the right of the main entrance. Brochures in several languages, including Japanese, German, and Spanish, are also available here.

Tour participants may request customized tours that emphasize either the building's art and architecture or state government. Also, tours can be customized for senior citizens or grade school students.

The society gives a "History and Government Lesson," offering half-day educational sessions for students in grades 7-12.

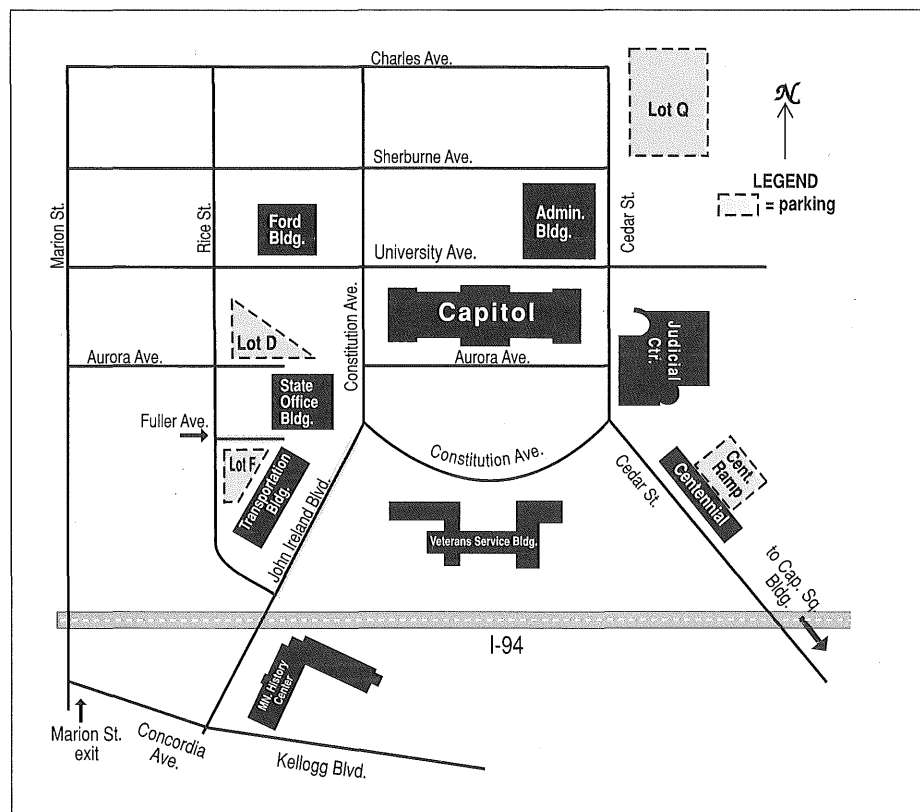
Historical society officials ask that groups of 10 or more call in advance to reserve a tour time.

For more information about the tours or to reserve a time, call the Capitol Historic Site Program, (612) 296-2881.

### Legislative sessions

All members of the House of Representatives and the Senate can debate bills when the Legislature is in session.

At the beginning of a legislative session, the pace of floor sessions is generally slow while new bills are assigned to committees



and non-controversial items are debated. At about the session's midpoint, however, the legislative pace quickens.

During the first few weeks the House meets at 2:30 p.m. and the Senate meets at 9:30 a.m. Mondays and 11 a.m. Thursdays. House floor sessions are scheduled for the afternoon because committees meet in the morning and early afternoon. As the session nears its end, however, both bodies may meet several times a day, and often into the night.

All House and Senate floor sessions are open to the public. Visitors interested in observing these sessions may call the Chief Clerk's Office, (612) 296-2314, or Senate Information, (612) 296-0504, with any questions. Spectators may sit in the galleries of either chamber.

### Committee meetings

Committees continue to consider bills several weeks after the session starts. Visitors wanting to attend a committee meeting may call the committee hotlines for prerecorded messages with the meeting times and agendas for each day: House, (612) 296-9283; Senate, (612) 296-8088. Printed agendas for the week also appear in each issue of the *Session Weekly* and the *Senate Briefly*.

Committee meetings are open to the public. When a public hearing is scheduled the committee may listen to comments from the audience (when time permits) in addition to the scheduled speakers. Committees have different policies on hearing testimony depending upon their size and workload. Some committees hear general testimony at the subcommittee level, while others allow general testimony during meetings of the full committee. Informational handouts that committee members receive during meetings or hearings are considered public information and are available to the audience on a first-come, first-served basis.

Major proposals on issues such as open enrollment or groundwater legislation often have several public hearings so committee members may listen to all arguments for and against a bill.

Each committee has a chair, vice chair, legislative assistant, and administrator. A list of committees and members is available in the House Public Information Office in Room 175 of the State Office Building or the Senate Information Office in Room 231 of the State Capitol.

Groups and individuals wishing to testify before a committee should call the appropriate committee's legislative assistant well in advance of the meeting and ask to be placed on the agenda. Committees prefer requests one week in advance but will accept later notification when unexpected issues appear on the committee schedule.

### Legislators

Most representatives and senators are willing to visit with constituents if they have prearranged meeting times. You should contact your legislator's office to set up an appointment.

### Dining

All buildings in the Capitol complex have their own cafeterias. The Capitol and State Office Building cafeterias are in the basement. The Transportation and Centennial Building cafeterias are on the ground floor of each building. The Veterans Service Building cafeteria is on the fifth floor, and the Capitol Square Building's dining area is on the lower level. The Capitol also has a snack bar on the second floor (where the House and Senate chambers are located) during the session. The Cafe Minnesota, located on the first level of the new Minnesota History Center, is now open as well. All cafeterias serve breakfast and lunch.

### Group visits

Sometimes groups plan a "legislative day" at the Capitol in order to express a particular viewpoint to legislators.

Rooms for special conferences or speakers can be reserved by calling Betty Langenberger, room scheduler for the State Office Building, (612) 296-5974; or Marritta Gould, room scheduler for the State Capitol, (612) 296-0866.

If group members would like to meet with their individual legislators or testify before a committee (see "Committee meetings"), arrangements should be made at least a week in advance.

Often, such groups have members wear a distinctive name tag or badge to indicate their concern about an issue.

Groups planning a trip to the Capitol should remember that seating is fairly limited in some committee rooms — particularly when the topic on the agenda is controversial.

## Where to find information

### House Information Office

175 State Office Building  
(612) 296-2146 or  
1-800-657-3550

**Committee schedule:** The *Session Weekly* includes the upcoming week's schedule, and the office has a prerecorded message, (612) 296-9283, that provides up-to-date information on meeting agendas, times, and locations.

**Legislator information:** The office has a listing of telephone and room numbers for all representatives.

**Informational brochures:** Many brochures for all ages are available at no charge.

### Chief Clerk's Office

211 State Capitol  
(612) 296-2314

**Copies of bills:** This office provides copies of bills at no charge, all agendas for House sessions, and the *Journal of the House*.

### House Index Department

211 State Capitol  
(612) 296-6646

**Bills:** The House Index Department, a part of the Chief Clerk's Office, has a computerized index available for public use. House Index lists bills by committee, topic, author, file number, and other categories.

**Bill status:** House Index can also tell you the current status of legislation.

### Senate Information Office

231 State Capitol  
(612) 296-0504

This office is responsible for all information about the Senate, including the committee schedule, bill status, legislator information, and the distribution of bill copies.

# Minnesota House of Representatives 1993-94

District/Member/Party	Room*	Phone (612) 296-
45A Abrams, Ron-IR	209	9934
10A Anderson, Bob-DFL	437	4946
3A Anderson, Irv-DFL	585	4936
53B Asch, Marc-DFL	507	7153
6A Battaglia, David-DFL	377	2190
17B Bauerly, Gerald J. "Jerry"-DFL	409	5377
57B Beard, Pat-DFL	565	3135
48A Bergson, Brian-DFL	449	5513
14B Bertram, Jeff-DFL	571	4373
10B Bettermann, Hilda-IR	243	4317
30B Bishop, Dave-IR	309	0573
40B Blatz, Kathleen A.-IR	281	4218
13A Brown, Chuck-DFL	597	4929
25A Brown, Kay-DFL	551	4229
46B Carlson, Lyndon R.-DFL	379	4255
47B Carruthers, Phil-DFL	575	3709
61A Clark, Karen-DFL	503	0294
38A Commers, Tim-IR	215	3533
15B Cooper, Roger-DFL	545	4346
9B Dauner, Marvin-DFL	581	8629
31B Davids, Gregory M.-IR	331	9278
65A Dawkins, Andy-DFL	371	5158
14A Dehler, Steve-IR	223	7808
51A Delmont, Mike-DFL	307	4226
29A Dempsey, Jerry-IR	241	8635
24A Dorn, John-DFL	533	3248
42A Erhardt, Ron-IR	239	4363
52B Evans, Geri-DFL	557	0141
67A Farrell, Jim-DFL	353	4277
31A Frerichs, Don L.-IR	247	4378
63B Garcia, Edwina-DFL	411	5375
21A Girard, Jim-IR	213	5374
9A Goodno, Kevin-IR	327	5515
62A Greenfield, Lee-DFL	375	0173
54B Greiling, Mindy-DFL	393	5387
16B Gruenes, Dave-IR	203	6316
30A Gutknecht, Gil-IR	261	9249
12A Hasskamp, Kris-DFL	451	4333
27A Haukoos, Bob-IR	291	8216
66B Hausman, Alice-DFL	403	3824
56A Holsten, Mark-IR	253	3018
26A Hugoson, Gene-IR	217	3240
6B Huntley, Thomas-DFL	387	2228
49B Jacobs, Joel-DFL	485	4231
7B Jaros, Mike-DFL	559	4246
58B Jefferson, Richard H.-DFL	577	8659
18B Jennings, Loren-DFL	349	0518
48B Johnson, Alice M.-DFL	539	5510
4A Johnson, Bob-DFL	345	5516
32B Johnson, Virgil J.-IR	207	1069
59B Kahn, Phyllis-DFL	367	4257
26B Kalis, Henry J.-DFL	543	4240
44A Kelley, Steve-DFL	417	3964
35B Kelso, Becky-DFL	415	1072
4B Kinkel, Anthony G. "Tony"-DFL	453	2451
19B Klinzing, Stephanie-DFL	549	5063
43B Knickerbocker, Jerry-IR	283	4315
17A Koppendrayner, Leroy-IR	233	6746
53A Krinkie, Phil-IR	323	2907
11B Krueger, Richard "Rick"-DFL	357	3201
18A Lasley, Harold-DFL	433	5364
45B Leppik, Peggy-IR	225	7026
2A Lieder, Bernie-DFL	515	5091
33B Limmer, Warren-IR	301	5502
33A Lindner, Arlon-IR	227	7806
60A Long, Dee-DFL	463	0171
8B Lourey, Becky-DFL	421	4308
47A Luther, Darlene-DFL	525	3751
50B Lynch, Teresa-IR	295	5369

District/Member/Party	Room*	Phone (612) 296-
37B Macklin, Bill-IR	317	6926
40A Mahon, Mark P.-DFL	401	7158
65B Mariani, Carlos-DFL	303	9714
55B McCollum, Betty-DFL	501	1188
54A McGuire, Mary Jo-DFL	567	4342
39B Milbert, Bob-DFL	579	4192
35A Molnau, Carol-IR	201	8872
36B Morrison, Connie-IR	251	4212
23B Mosel, Darrel-DFL	521	8634
7A Munger, Willard-DFL	479	4282
8A Murphy, Mary-DFL	389	2676
56B Neary, Pamela-DFL	429	4244
11A Nelson, Sydney G.-DFL	527	4293
20A Ness, Robert-IR	221	4344
2B Olson, Edgar-DFL	517	4265
22B Olson, Katy-DFL	553	5373
19A Olson, Mark-IR	315	4237
20B Onnen, Tony-IR	277	1534
16A Opatz, Joe-DFL	423	6612
64B Orenstein, Howard-DFL	529	4199
60B Orfield, Myron-DFL	413	9281
66A Osthoff, Tom-DFL	591	4224
24B Ostrom, Don-DFL	369	7065
37A Ozment, Dennis-IR	287	4306
42B Pauly, Sidney-IR	273	7449
38B Pawlenty, Tim-IR	231	4128
32A Pelowski, Gene, Jr.-DFL	531	8637
57A Perl, Walter E.-DFL	359	7807
13B Peterson, Doug-DFL	523	4228
39A Pugh, Thomas-DFL	583	6828
27B Reding, Leo J.-DFL	537	4193
46A Rest, Ann H.-DFL	443	4176
44B Rhodes, Jim-IR	313	9889
58A Rice, James I.-DFL	381	4262
25B Rodosovich, Peter-DFL	445	8237
5A Rukavina, Tom-DFL	473	0170
59A Sarna, John J.-DFL	563	4219
41A Seagren, Alice-IR	321	7803
50A Sekhon, Kathleen-DFL	593	2439
52A Simoneau, Wayne-DFL	365	4331
62B Skoglund, Wesley J. "Wes"-DFL	477	4330
34A Smith, Steven-IR	311	9188
3B Solberg, Loren-DFL	343	2365
1B Sparby, Wally-DFL	351	9918
55A Stanius, Brad-IR	259	5363
21B Steensma, Andy-DFL	471	4336
28B Sviggum, Steven A.-IR	267	2273
51B Swenson, Doug-IR	255	4124
5B Tomassoni, David-DFL	569	0172
36A Tompkins, Eileen-IR	245	5506
67B Trimble, Steve-DFL	491	4201
1A Tunheim, Jim-DFL	335	9635
34B Van Dellen, H. Todd-IR	279	5511
64A Vellenga, Kathleen-DFL	509	8799
23A Vickerman, Barb-IR	211	9303
63A Wagenius, Jean-DFL	439	4200
29B Waltman, Bob-IR	289	9236
49A Weaver, Charlie-IR	237	1729
61B Wejcman, Linda-DFL	431	7152
15A Welle, Alan W.-DFL	459	6206
12B Wenzel, Stephen G.-DFL	487	4247
22A Winter, Ted-DFL	407	5505
41B Wolf, Ken-IR	329	5185
28A Worke, Gary D.-IR	229	5368
43A Workman, Tom-IR	337	5066

\*All rooms are in the State Office Building, St. Paul, MN 55155  
As of 1/22/93



# Small town vitality top concern for Vickerman

As a small business owner and Independent-Republican Party activist involved in community affairs, Rep. Barb Vickerman (IR-Redwood



Rep. Barb Vickerman

Falls) has always been concerned about economic development in small town Minnesota.

Two years ago, she sold the card and gift shop she owned for nearly 18 years in Redwood Falls. With that responsibility gone, it seemed like a good time to make a move she had been considering for several years — a run for the state Legislature.

"Everything I've done, I've always had a lot of people contact," she said, explaining why she was not content to stay home. The fact that she is known to so many people throughout her district is probably the reason she ended up running unopposed in the general election after she won her party's nomination, she said.

Working on other IR candidates' campaigns and observing the Legislature's accomplish-

ments with a critical eye are what stirred her to become part of the process.

"There are a lot of laws that are not that necessary — especially when it comes to business regulation — that make it difficult to do business," she said. "We should put a little more confidence in the ability of people to act responsibly and not always be passing laws to make them."

Some of the principal concerns of her constituents in District 23A, a mainly agricultural district that includes the cities of New Ulm and Redwood Falls, are the availability of child care for working mothers, high property tax rates, and school funding.

"We're becoming an aging population. So to offer everything you need [academically] is more than a small population can support, in some cases," said Vickerman.

The high cost of workers' compensation is also a top issue in the district for both businesses and non-profit organizations such as nursing homes. Although unemployment is low, the district needs to attract more businesses that offer well-paying jobs to lure young people back to the area after they complete college, Vickerman said. She hates to see com-

panies that could provide such jobs move to nearby South Dakota where the cost of doing business is lower.

Vickerman is married to Gerry Vickerman, a land surveyor. They have four grown children.

Since taking office, the freshman legislator has been pleasantly surprised by the volume of mail and calls she has received.

"All these years I always said, 'Write to your legislators,' and I didn't realize how many actually did," she said.

— Ruth Hammond

## District 23A

**Population:** 33,056

**Counties:** Brown, Redwood

**Largest city:** Redwood Falls

**Largest employer:** Jackpot Junction Casino, 856 employees

**Topography:** 63.6 percent of residents living inside an incorporated city; 34.4 percent living in rural areas.

**1992 presidential election results:**

Bush/Quayle: 40.4 percent

Clinton/Gore: 30.5 percent

Perot/Stockdale: 28.4 percent

Other: 0.7 percent

# Elk River DFLer offers 'Cleansing Thoughts'

As a journalist-turned-legislator, Rep. Stephanie Klinzing (DFL-Elk River) realizes she has a different attitude toward protecting the public's



Rep. Stephanie Klinzing

right to know than some of her new colleagues.

"What I turn out to be — maybe to some people's dismay — is more public than those in power may want me to be," she said. Nevertheless, she holds her tongue when she hears some of her new colleagues bashing the media.

"If they don't have an appreciation of freedom of the press, I'm not the one who's going to convince them of that."

Before she got into politics, Klinzing worked as a journalist for 20 years, the last 11 with the *Elk River Star News*. Having covered government issues for so long, "I thought I had as much knowledge as anybody," she said. So, four years ago, she decided to switch from affecting public policy by writing editorials to being a decision

maker. She ran for the Sherburne County Board and won.

After a tough nomination fight, Klinzing launched a campaign remarkable for its use of two donkey-like pets to symbolize the Democratic Party. In the interests of full disclosure, Klinzing admits the donkeys are actually mules, now meeting another household need by grazing on the 80 acres she and her family own in Elk River.

Her four years as a county commissioner made Klinzing aware that if change is going to occur, it must take place at the state level. She is especially concerned about state mandates placed on counties that are not accompanied by funding, resulting in a higher property tax burden on county residents.

Klinzing's District 19B is "property-poor," she said. Relatively few businesses and industries share the tax burden with an ever-growing number of residents who commute to the Twin Cities to work.

A clear message Klinzing got from her constituents is that they want no tax increases of any kind. Klinzing said she will do her best to abide by that wish. Among her early priorities

are reforming county ditch laws to alleviate drainage problems in new residential areas, and seeking forgiveness of a \$500,000 penalty against Sherburne County for exceeding the state levy limit.

Klinzing has the perfect avenue to keep her constituents well informed. Her observations from the Capitol will appear in her resurrected column, "Klinzing (pronounced 'Cleansing') Thoughts," in the *Elk River Star News*.

— Ruth Hammond

## District 19B

**Population:** 32,913

**Counties:** Sherburne, Wright

**Largest city:** Elk River

**Largest employer:** United Power Association, 425 employees

**Topography:** 59.2 percent of residents living inside an incorporated city; 40.8 percent living in rural areas.

**1992 presidential election results:**

Bush/Quayle: 35 percent

Clinton/Gore: 34.9 percent

Perot/Stockdale: 29.3 percent

Other: 0.8 percent

# Native Texan Lindner wants to shrink government

Rep. Arlon Lindner (IR-Corcoran) knows the state's workers' compensation system from more angles than most. So when he says the system needs to be fixed, he hopes people listen.



Rep. Arlon Lindner

He lost parts of two fingers in a work-related accident as an employee of Schwegert Foods in Minneapolis. And as a businessman, he said he knows all too well what the Minnesota system costs.

Although he missed only five weeks of work, Lindner said he "could have been out much longer." The system, he said, doesn't favor a quick return to work, which contributes to Minnesota's high workers' compensation costs.

He said workers' compensation reform is of top concern among members of his district, which takes in the northwestern corner of the metro area.

If something isn't done to repair the system, Lindner said he fears businesses will flee to neighboring states where rates are cheaper and

the overall cost of doing business is less.

A native Texan schooled in economics and math at North Texas State University, Lindner worked in the oil and gas business until 1969, when he turned to the retail business. With his wife, Shirlee, Lindner has lived in Corcoran for the past six years.

Since 1960, Corcoran has more than quadrupled in size. While population growth across the district has meant new residential and commercial development, it's a double-edged sword, said Lindner.

In a district he describes as two-thirds urban and one-third rural, "it's harder to maintain a farm as the world becomes closer," he said. Newcomers "find the whiff of the manure on the fields" disagreeable. Balancing the interests of both parties is something Lindner hopes to accomplish.

But that doesn't mean passing new laws.

Lindner's campaign slogan was "bringing government back to reason," reflecting his belief that government — and the body of laws the Legislature continues to pass — has grown too big to be effective.

"It should be, 'We the people', not 'We the government,'" he said.

Lindner argues that the latter is now the case, with "the tail wagging the dog." A self-defined conservative, Lindner said he favors limiting the role of government to its essential functions.

But Lindner said he realizes that making those types of decisions won't be easy. Aware that there are two sides to every issue, Lindner said the task will be challenging.

"I'm just excited to have the opportunity."

— John Tschida

## District 33A

**Population:** 32,967

**Counties:** Hennepin, Wright

**Largest city:** Maple Grove, (portion)

**Largest employer:** SCIMED Medical Supplies, 1,300 employees

**Topography:** A highly urbanized district, with 86.2 percent living inside an incorporated city.

**1992 presidential election results:**

Bush/Quayle: 37 percent

Clinton/Gore: 33 percent

Perot/Stockdale: 29.6 percent

other: 0.4 percent

# Sekhon stresses education, environmental concerns

As a third- through eighth- grade teacher in Anoka County schools, educational equity is one of Rep. Kathleen Sekhon's (DFL-Burns Township) main concerns.



Rep. Kathleen Sekhon

Sekhon said all four of the school districts she represents suffer from inadequate funding, and two of them are among the lowest statewide in per pupil spending. Sekhon became convinced

that talking about equity just wasn't enough.

"I decided that if we were going to have the money we needed to work with, it was important for me to run for the Legislature and help get that done."

Sekhon (pronounced "SEE-kahn") grew up in Pipestone, the oldest of seven children, and now has three children of her own (two in college; one in high school). Her political life began in 1980, when she attended her first precinct caucus. She "spoke up" and eventually found herself a delegate to the state DFL convention. She then became involved in several feminist, environmental, and other "social change" organizations, all of which helped to

define her agenda for this legislative session.

But it was during her tenure as chair of the DFL Platform and Issues Commission (1984 to 1990) that she was introduced to a broad range of statewide policy issues, she said. As commission chair she also honed her skills of working with others toward a productive end.

"That was the experience that convinced me that I had the skills that I needed to work effectively in committees, and that's how you get things done."

During her campaign in District 50A just north of Minneapolis in Anoka County, Sekhon managed to knock on 10,000 doors. She plans to return to the houses she missed this summer.

Residents told her they were concerned about environmental issues, specifically two sites within the district that are on the federal government's Superfund cleanup list — the Oak Grove and East Bethel landfills. Citizens are frustrated with delays in the cleanup schedule, Sekhon said, and the resulting increased threat of groundwater contamination due to the area's relatively high water table.

Many are also troubled by development issues arising from population growth, and are concerned that area wetlands remain protected. From her positions on both the Environment and Natural Resource Committee and the separate environmental finance panel, Sekhon will

be a voice for her district on these issues.

Although not a member of the Education Committee, Sekhon said she hopes to persuade her colleagues of the need for school funding equity. She also will bring her educational expertise to issues before the Labor-Management Relations Committee, including workplace safety.

Helping small businesses that have limited resources should be a legislative priority, she said.

"We can do a lot as a government to help small employers come up with better ways of doing things."

— Adam Samaha

## District 50A

**Population:** 32,806

**Counties:** Anoka

**Largest city:** Andover

**Largest employer:** Mate Punch & Die, 205 employees

**Topography:** all 32,806 residents live within an incorporated city

**1992 presidential election results:**

Bush/Quayle: 29.7 percent

Clinton/Gore: 38.3 percent

Perot/Stockdale: 31.3 percent

Other: 0.7 percent

# Name Pronunciation Guide

## 1993 Minnesota House of Representatives

Abrams, Ron		Johnson, Alice M.		Pawlenty, Tim	
Anderson, Bob		Johnson, Bob		Pelowski, Gene Jr.	
Anderson, Irv		Johnson, Virgil J.		Perlt, Walter E.	
Asch, Marc		Kahn, Phyllis		Peterson, Doug	
Battaglia, David	(ba-TAL-ya)	Kalis, Henry J.	(KAH-liss)	Pugh, Thomas	(PEW)
Bauerly, Jerry J.	(BOW-er-ly)	Kelley, Steve		Reding, Leo J.	(RED-ing)
Beard, Pat	(BEERD)	Kelso, Becky		Rest, Ann H.	
Bergson, Brian		Kinkel, Anthony G. "Tony"		Rhodes, Jim	
Bertram, Jeff	(BIR-trum)	Klinzing, Stephanie	(KLEN-zing)	Rice, James I.	
Bettermann, Hilda		Knickerbocker, Jerry	(NICK-er-bah-ker)	Rodosovich, Peter	(ra-DAH-so-vitch)
Bishop, Dave		Koppendray, Leroy	(KOH-pen-dry-er)	Rukavina, Tom	(roo-ka-VEEN-na)
Blatz, Kathleen A.		Krinkie, Phil	(KRIN-key)	Sarna, John J.	
Brown, Chuck		Krueger, Richard "Rick"	(KROO-ger)	Seagren, Alice	
Brown, Kay		Lasley, Harold	(LAZ-ly)	Sekhona, Kathleen	(SEE-kahn)
Carlson, Lyndon R.		Leppik, Peggy		Simoneau, Wayne	(SIM-men-oh)
Carruthers, Phil	(ka-RUH-thers)	Lieder, Bernie	(LEE-der)	Skoglund, Wesley J. "Wes"	(SKOHG-lund)
Clark, Karen		Limmer, Warren		Smith, Steven	
Commers, Tim	(KAH-mers)	Lindner, Arlon		Solberg, Loren	(SOHL-berg)
Cooper, Roger		Long, Dee		Sparby, Wally	
Dauner, Marvin	(DOW-ner)	Lourey, Becky	(LOR-ree)	Stanis, Brad	(STAN-ee-us)
Dauids, Gregory		Luther, Darlene		Steensma, Andy	
Dawkins, Andy		Lynch, Teresa		Sviggum, Steven A.	(SWIG-um)
Dehler, Steve	(DAY-ler)	Macklin, Bill		Swenson, Doug R.	
Delmont, Mike		Mahon, Mark P.	(MAN)	Tomassoni, David	(Tahm-uh-SOH-nee)
Dempsey, Jerry		Mariani, Carlos	(MAR-ee-AHN-ee)	Tompkins, Eileen	
Dorn, John		McCollum, Betty	(mah-CAHL-um)	Trimble, Steve	
Erhardt, Ron	(AIR-hart)	McGuire, Mary Jo		Tunheim, Jim	(TUHN-hime)
Evans, Geri		Milbert, Bob		Van Dellen, H. Todd	
Farrell, Jim		Molnau, Carol	(MOHL-now)	Vellenga, Kathleen	(VAL-eng-ga)
Frerichs, Don L.	(FRAIR-ricks)	Morrison, Connie		Vickerman, Barb	
Garcia, Edwina	(gar-CEE-a)	Mosel, Daryl	(MOH-sel)	Wagenius, Jean	(wa-GEEN-yus)
Girard, Jim		Munger, Willard	(MUN-ger)	Waltman, Bob	
Goodno, Kevin		Murphy, Mary		Weaver, Charlie	
Greenfield, Lee		Neary, Pamela		Wejcman, Linda	(WAITS-man)
Greiling, Mindy	(GRY-ling)	Nelson, Sydney G.		Welle, Alan W.	(WELL-ee)
Gruenes, Dave	(GREEN-ess)	Ness, Robert		Wenzel, Stephen G.	
Gutknecht, Gil	(GOOT-neck)	Olson, Edgar		Winter, Ted	
Hasskamp, Kris		Olson, Katy		Wolf, Ken	
Haukoos, Bob	(HOH-cuss)	Olson, Mark		Worke, Gary D.	(WORK-ee)
Hausman, Alice		Onnen, Tony	(AH-nen)	Workman, Tom	
Holsten, Mark		Opatz, Joe			
Hugoson, Gene	(HEW-goh-son)	Orenstein, Howard	(OR-en-steen)		
Huntley, Thomas		Orfield, Myron			
Jacobs, Joel		Osthoff, Tom	(AHST-hoff)		
Jaros, Mike	(YAH-ros)	Ostrom, Don	(OH-strum)		
Jefferson, Richard H.		Ozment, Dennis	(AHZ-ment)		
Jennings, Loren		Pauly, Sidney			



# Name Pronunciation Guide

## 1993 Minnesota Senate

Adkins, Betty A.	Johnson, Janet B.	Oliver, Edward C.
Anderson, Ellen R.	Johnston, Terry D.	Olsen, Gen
Beckman, Tracy L.	Kelly, Randy C.	Pappas, Sandra L.
Belanger, William V. Jr. (be-LAN-ger)	Kiscaden, Sheila M. (kiss-KAY-den)	Pariseau, Pat (PAIR-ih-soh)
Benson, Duane D.	Knutson, David	Piper, Pat
Benson, Joanne E.	Krentz, Jane	Pogemiller, Lawrence J. (POH-gah-mill-er)
Berg, Charles A.	Kroening, Carl W. (KROH-ning)	Price, Leonard R.
Berglin, Linda	Laidig, Gary W. (LIE-dig)	Ranum, Jane (RAN-num)
Bertram, Joe	Langseth, Keith	Reichgott, Ember D. (RYSH-got)
Betzold, Don	Larson, Cal	Riveness, Phil J. (RIV-ness)
Chandler, Kevin M.	Lesewski, Arlene J. (leh-SES-ski)	Robertson, Martha R.
Chmielewski, Florian (shim-uh-LES-kee)	Lessard, Bob (les-SARD)	Runbeck, Linda
Cohen, Richard	Luther, William P.	Sams, Dallas C.
Day, Dick	Marty, John	Samuelson, Don
Dille, Steve (Dill)	McGowan, Patrick D. (mc-GOW-en)	Solon, Sam G. (SOH-lun)
Finn, Harold R. "Skip"	Merriam, Gene	Spear, Allan H.
Flynn, Carol	Metzen, James P.	Stevens, Dan
Frederickson, Dennis R.	Moe, Roger D.	Stumpf, LeRoy A. (STUMF)
Hanson, Paula E.	Mondale, Ted A.	Terwilliger, Roy W. (ter-WILL-i-ger)
Hottinger, John C. (HOT-in-ger)	Morse, Steven	Vickerman, Jim
Janezich, Jerry R. (JAN-eh-zitch)	Murphy, Steve L.	Wiener, Deanna (WINE-er)
Johnson, Dean E.	Neuville, Thomas M. (NEH-vill)	
Johnson, Douglas J.	Novak, Steven G.	

### Do you know?

William Seeger was the state treasurer during the winter of 1872, when Minnesota's treasury vault was found to be missing \$180,000. While he admitted the funds were absent from the treasury, he insisted they could be "faithfully accounted for." Seeger also denied that any state dollars had been "perverted to his own use."

The Legislature didn't believe him, and the House immediately passed a resolution calling for Seeger's resignation. Seeger refused.

It turned out that Seeger's predecessor, Emil Munch, was the pilfering party. Munch, who was Seeger's father-in-law, had "borrowed" the missing state funds, and Seeger was hiding this fact on the books, "in the hope that [Munch]

would retrieve certain personal losses and restore the missing funds," wrote James Baker in *Lives of the Governors of Minnesota*.

The Legislature showed no sympathy for Seeger, and immediately called for his impeachment. Only then, on the advice of his attorneys, did Seeger resign.

Impeachment proceedings continued anyway, and Seeger was officially removed from office.

To prevent the reoccurrence of such an event, a constitutional amendment "to provide more effectively for the safekeeping of public funds" was submitted to voters in the fall of 1873. It passed overwhelmingly by a 5-to-1 margin.



Emil Munch

Photo courtesy Minnesota Historical Society

# Bill Introductions

HF53-HF87

## Tuesday Jan. 19

### HF53—Bettermann (IR) Labor-Management Relations

Workers' compensation court of appeals eliminated; workers' compensation appeals heard by court of appeals, suitable work defined, and permanent total disability modified.

### HF54—Asch (DFL) Judiciary

Harassment and stalking crimes clarified and expanded; harassers assessed for mental health treatment needs; civil harassment restraining order enforcement mechanism improved; and enhanced penalties clarified for repeat domestic assaults.

### HF55—Rukavina (DFL) Governmental Operations & Gaming

Eveleth authorized to increase pension and retirement benefits for retired police officers, fire fighters, and surviving spouses.

### HF56—Bertram (DFL) Education

Persian Gulf war veterans eligible for tuition-free technical college program.

### HF57—Murphy (DFL) Transportation & Public Transit

School bus signaling and presumption of evidence clarified; class B drivers' license holder gross vehicle weight restricted; school bus endorsement revoked upon conviction of a misdemeanor.

### HF58—Pugh (DFL) Governmental Operations & Gaming

Lawful gambling profits can be used for recreational, community, and athletic facilities for persons over the age of 54.

### HF59—McGuire (DFL) Judiciary

Harassment and stalking crimes, restraining orders, mental health assessments, and enhanced penalties clarified and provided; and drivers' license and motor vehicle registration applicant home address data classified as private data.

### HF60—Opatz (DFL) Education

Semesters; common semester system feasibility studied by higher education coordinating board.

### HF61—Steensma (DFL) Education

General education revenue reduction formula modified for large fund balances.

### HF62—Bauerly (DFL) Judiciary

Firearm permissive possession inference and administrative forfeiture provided; pistols prohibited for controlled substance offenders; pistol transfers provided to peace officers; and state patrol traffic enforcement powers clarified.

### HF63—Holsten (IR) Taxes

Stillwater allowed to exempt certain property from transient lodging taxes.

### HF64—Jacobs (DFL) Labor-Management Relations

High school student labor curfew to include not working after 11 p.m. on an evening before a school day or before 5 a.m. on a school day.

### HF65—Munger (DFL) Environment & Natural Resources

Packaging and products provided recycled content requirements; discardable packaging imposed a waste management fee; beverages required reusable packaging or refundable recycling deposits; penalties provided; and money appropriated.

## Thursday Jan. 21

### HF66—Weaver (IR) Governmental Operations & Gaming

Lottery board authority abolished to authorize additional compensation for the state lottery director.

### HF67—Weaver (IR) Governmental Operations & Gaming

Salaries frozen at 1992 levels for legislators, justices, judges, constitutional officers, and executive department heads.

### HF68—Morrison (IR) Judiciary

Licensing authority to remove an individual's name from a licensing data list that is for sale.

### HF69—Asch (DFL) Health & Human Services

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

### HF70—Opatz (DFL) Local Government & Metro Affairs

St. Cloud conveyed certain St. Cloud State University state land.

### HF71—Brown, C. (DFL) Education

Independent School District Nos. 209, Kensington; 262, Barrett; 263, Elbow Lake-Wendell; and 265, Hoffman, comprising the Grant County project, authorized a cooperative secondary education facility grant, and money appropriated.

### HF72—Jefferson (DFL) Local Government & Metro Affairs

Prostitution; motor vehicle forfeiture and impoundment provided through city ordinances for certain prostitution offenses.

### HF73—Jefferson (DFL) Local Government & Metro Affairs

Peace officer legal fees paid by local governments for unsustained civilian review authority complaint investigations.

### HF74—Jefferson (DFL) Local Government & Metro Affairs

Minneapolis, special school district No. 1, and the city library and park and recreation boards authorized to require residency as condition of employment.

### HF75—Sviggum (IR) Gen. Leg., Veterans Affairs & Elections

Caucus fundraisers restricted; campaign committee fund transfers prohibited to other campaign funds; unopposed candidates not to receive public subsidy; and matching private contribution requirements expanded for public subsidy recipients.

**HF76—Johnson, R. (DFL)**

**Taxes**

Homemaking and chore services sold to political subdivisions for elderly or disabled individuals exempt from sales tax.

**HF77—Peterson (DFL)**

**Environment & Natural Resources**

Elk and red deer not considered ecologically harmful exotic species.

**HF78—Blatz (IR)**

**Judiciary**

Adults criminally liable for having a mentally impaired person commit an offense.

**HF79—Peterson (DFL)**

**Judiciary**

Grandparent visitation action allowed after completion of marriage dissolution or other family court proceedings.

**HF80—Peterson (DFL)**

**Governmental Operations & Gaming**

Salaries frozen at 1992 levels for legislators and constitutional officers.

**HF81—Olson, K. (DFL)**

**Education**

Kindergarten pupil aid weight units increased and provided on class size, and instructional class hours extended.

**HF82—Olson, K. (DFL)**

**Transportation & Public Transit**

Title branding regulated for damaged vehicle and junking certificates of title required.

**HF83—Erhardt (IR)**

**Transportation & Public Transit**

Title branding regulated for damaged vehicles and junking certificates of title required.

**HF84—Delmont (DFL)**

**Judiciary**

Radio amateur operator exemption removed that allowed police radio signal reception in a motor vehicle.

**HF85—Bishop (IR)**

**Judiciary**

Trespassing on a construction site provided misdemeanor penalty.

**HF86—Vellenga (DFL)**

**Governmental Operations and Gaming**

Governor's residence council expiration date extended to 1998.

**HF87—Perlt (DFL)**

**Transportation & Public Transit**

Telephone caller identification service available to commercial transportation services.



**Committee agendas are jammed** with presentations from state funded agencies and organizations at the beginning of the biennium. When the manager of a state agency asked the chair of the Environment and Natural Resources Committee how long he would be allowed to speak, Rep. Willard Munger, with no malice whatsoever, answered, "It all depends on how interesting your talk is."

**Students in "general curriculum"** are most at risk, and need a broad array of school programs, said Dr. Carole Johnson, chancellor of the State Board of Technical Colleges. The high school youth apprenticeship program proposed by the governor could help young people attain competence in both theory and application, she told the House Education Committee. Seventy percent of German manufacturing firm CEOs were youth apprentices, she said.

**Fishing can be hard work**, admits Department of Natural Resources (DNR) fisheries supervisor Dean Beck. He said it takes an average of 10 hours to catch one walleye in the Glenwood fishing region he supervises. Beck spoke to legislators about DNR fish stocking practices.

**Minnesota state agencies** have reinvented the budget process based on initiatives developed by Minnesota Milestones and the Commission on Reform and Efficiency (CORE). Aimed at making agencies more accountable, the system leaves more budget decisions to agency administrators. But critics, like some on the Judiciary Committee's Finance Division, fear the new system will hinder the Legislature's ability to get sound information on which to base decisions. Rep. Howard Orenstein (DFL-St. Paul) said some programs could be cut without the intent — or input — of lawmakers.

"It seems to me we ought to just abolish the legislative branch and rewrite the state constitution," Orenstein said Jan. 19.

**Just how the cards are cut** between the state of Minnesota and Native American tribes when negotiating gaming compacts is something members of the Governmental Operations and Gaming Committee want to review. Members have asked staff and Minnesota Planning Agency officials to compare Minnesota's compacts with those of other states. The documents regulate legalized gambling on reservation land. Some committee members said that the state might not be getting a fair deal on tribal gaming revenues and income taxes owed by casino employees who live outside the reservations. Minnesota's tribal gaming industry is the largest in the country and in 1991 surpassed the state lottery in gross revenues (about \$180 million).

**There's only one place to call** if you've got spattered blood and a crime on your hands: the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA) at the state's Department of Public Safety. The BCA is home to world-renowned blood spatter experts, two of whom conduct semi-annual seminars on forensic techniques for those working with blood at the scene of a crime. The seminars are attended by aspiring forensics spatter experts from around the globe, said Lowell Van Berkomp, laboratory director at the BCA. Just remember to avoid using that most unscientific term, "splatter," if you ever have to call upon the BCA to examine a crime scene — you might just get their modern art division.

## Corrections

In the Jan. 15, 1993, issue of *Session Weekly*, the timeline on page 20, should have listed the Legislature's scheduled recess dates as Feb. 4-8.

In the Minnesota Index on page 24, the legislative salary should have been listed as \$27,979.

Last week's cover photo was taken by Laura Phillips, House photographer.



Coming Up Next Week . . . Jan. 25 - Jan. 29, 1993

# Committee Schedule

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

## MONDAY, Jan. 25

8 a.m.

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, INFRASTRUCTURE & REGULATION FINANCE

300N State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Jim Rice

**Agenda:** Continuation of an overview of the  
Minnesota Department of Transportation.

### ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES FINANCE

Science Museum  
Chr. Rep. David Battaglia

**Agenda:** Tour of Science Museum.

### K-12 Education Finance Division/ EDUCATION

200 State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Kathleen Vellenga

**Agenda:** Report on the Minnesota Center for  
Arts Education, Jim Undercofler, executive  
director; Barb Martin, deputy director. Report  
on the financial status of Minnesota school  
districts, Steve Sandberg, Minnesota Department  
of Education, panel of school superintendents.

8:30 a.m.

### Higher Education Finance Division/ EDUCATION

400S State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Peter Rodosovich

**Agenda:** Organizational meeting.

### Legislative Commission on Health Care Access

10 State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Lee Greenfield, Chr. Sen. Linda Berglin  
**Agenda:** Presentation of the cost containment  
plan of the Minnesota Health Care Commission.

10 a.m.

### AGRICULTURE

5 State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Steve Wenzel

**Agenda:** HF0020 (Kalis) Grain prices;

agriculture secretary to establish higher contract  
prices for grain commodities.

### JUDICIARY

Basement Hearing Room  
State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Wes Skoglund

**Agenda:** Overviews: crime statistics in  
Minnesota, Dan Storkamp, director, Minnesota  
Criminal Justice Statistical Analysis Center,  
Minnesota Planning; sentencing guidelines, Deb  
Dailey, director, Sentencing Guidelines  
Commission. Review of the 1989 and 1992  
omnibus crime bills, Emily Shapiro, House  
Research.

### REGULATED INDUSTRIES & ENERGY

10 State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Joel Jacobs

**Agenda:** Overview of public utilities - regulation,  
structure, and legislative issues, Linda Taylor,  
House Research. Overview of the Department  
of Public Services, Kris Sanda, commissioner.

### State Government Finance Division/ GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS & GAMING

300N State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Rick Krueger

**Agenda:** Strategic planning presentations by  
the Information Policy Office (IPO) and  
Intertech.

12 Noon

### Legislative Commission on Waste Management

10 State Office Building  
Dir. Kim Austrian

**Agenda:** Automobile waste report, Katie DeBoer,  
LCWM. Overview of 1993 Waste Management  
Act amendments.

12:30 p.m.

### GENERAL LEGISLATION, VETERANS AFFAIRS, & ELECTIONS

300N State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Wally Sparby

**Agenda:** Presentations: Joan Growe, Secretary  
of State; Mary Ann McCoy, executive director,  
Ethical Practices Board; Jeanne Olson, assistant  
executive director, Ethical Practices Board.

### HOUSING

500S State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Karen Clark

**Agenda:** Affordable housing issues:  
homelessness, emergency shelters, transitional  
housing, needs for persons with mental illness.

### LABOR-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS

200 State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Pat Beard

**Agenda:** Presentations by David Olson,  
president, Minnesota Chamber of Commerce  
and Industry; Mike Hickey, National Federation  
of Independent Business; Employers'  
Association; Bernard Brommer, president,  
Minnesota AFL-CIO; Minnesota Teamsters; Tom  
Triplett, Minnesota Business Partnership.

2:30 p.m.

### House meets in Session

### 3 p.m./After Session

### K-12 Education Tutorial

5 State Office Building  
**Agenda:** Tutorial presented by Tim Strom,  
House Research, and Bill Marx, K-12 fiscal  
analyst. Open to all House members.

## TUESDAY, Jan. 26

8 a.m.

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, INFRASTRUCTURE & REGULATION FINANCE

300N State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Jim Rice

**Agenda:** Continuation of an overview of the  
Minnesota Historical Society.

### EDUCATION

200 State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Lyndon Carlson

**Agenda:** Overview of postsecondary budgeting  
and financial aid.

### ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES FINANCE

Department of Agriculture  
Chr. Rep. David Battaglia

**Agenda:** Tour of the Department of Agriculture.  
(Meet in front of the State Office Building for a  
ride.)

## **TAXES**

5 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Ann Rest

**Agenda:** 1992 Economic Report to the Governor.

10 a.m.

## **ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES**

200 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Willard Munger

**Agenda:** Overviews: the Board of Water & Soil Resources and the Department of Natural Resources.

## **GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS & GAMING**

10 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Phyllis Kahn

**Agenda:** Overview of lawful gambling: presentations by the Gambling Control Board and the Division of Gambling Enforcement.

## **Judiciary Finance Division/JUDICIARY**

300S State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Mary Murphy

**Agenda:** Overviews: Supreme Court; District Court; Court of Appeals.

12:30 p.m.

## **CAPITAL INVESTMENT**

500N State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Henry Kalis

**Agenda:** Overviews: Department of Administration, Dana Badgerow, commissioner; Property Management Bureau, Department of Administration, Dennis Spalla, assistant commissioner; Building Construction Division, Department of Administration, Bruce Taber, director.

## **COMMERCE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

5 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. John Sarna

**Agenda:** HF0051 (Evans) Title branding regulated for damaged vehicles and junking certificates of title required. Testimony from opponents of the bill.

## **LOCAL GOVERNMENT & METROPOLITAN AFFAIRS**

200 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Irv Anderson

**Agenda:** Presentation on the decline of the core cities by Rep. Myron Orfield.

6:30 p.m.

## **Joint Session House/Senate**

7 p.m.

## **Governor's Budget Address**

## **WEDNESDAY, Jan. 27**

8 a.m.

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, INFRASTRUCTURE & REGULATION FINANCE**

300N State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Jim Rice

**Agenda:** To be announced.

## **Human Resources Finance Division/HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES**

10 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Lee Greenfield

**Agenda:** Overview of operations by the Minnesota Department of Human Services.

## **K-12 Education Finance Division/ EDUCATION**

200 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Kathleen Vellenga

**Agenda:** To be announced.

8:30 a.m.

## **ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES FINANCE**

Basement Hearing Room

State Office Building

Chr. Rep. David Battaglia

**Agenda:** Budget presentations by the Minnesota/ Wisconsin Boundary Area Commission; Voyageurs National Park; the Academy of Science.

## **Higher Education Finance Division/ EDUCATION**

400S State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Peter Rodosovich

**Agenda:** Presentations by the University of Minnesota and the State University System.

10 a.m.

## **FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS & INSURANCE**

5 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Leo Reding

**Agenda:** HF0030 (Morrison) No-fault automobile insurance wage loss reimbursement coverage to consider insured's employment status.

## **JUDICIARY**

Basement Hearing Room

State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Wes Skoglund

**Agenda:** Overview of the juvenile justice system.

## **State Government Finance Division/ GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS & GAMING**

300N State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Rick Krueger

**Agenda:** Commission on Reform and Efficiency (CORE) report continued from meeting of 1/20/93.

12:30 p.m.

## **International Trade, Technology & Economic Development Division/COMMERCE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

500S State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Mike Jaros

**Agenda:** Overviews of the missions, current projects and future goals of Minnesota Technology Inc., Jacques Koppel, president; Natural Resource Research Institute, Mike Lalich, director; the Agricultural Utilization Research Institute, Richard Nelson, director.

## **Tourism & Small Business Division/ COMMERCE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

300N State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Jim Tunheim

**Agenda:** Presentation by tourist industry representatives.

## **TRANSPORTATION & TRANSIT**

10 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Tom Osthoff

**Agenda:** Report by Mike Christenson, Minnesota Transit Commission.

1 p.m.

## **WAYS & MEANS**

200 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Loren Solberg

**Agenda:** Report on the Governor's budget by John Gunyou, commissioner, Department of Finance.

HF0035 (Olson, E) Levy recertification authorized for qualifying school districts. (If passed out of the Taxes Committee.)

1:30 p.m.

## **Legislative Audit Commission**

300S State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Ann Rest

**Agenda:** Release of the report by the Program Evaluation Division's report on petrofund reimbursement for leaking storage tanks.

## THURSDAY, Jan. 28

8 a.m.

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, INFRASTRUCTURE & REGULATION FINANCE

300N State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Jim Rice

**Agenda:** To be announced.

### EDUCATION

200 State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Lyndon Carlson

**Agenda:** Report by the Minnesota State Board of Teaching on implementing the restructured teacher preparation and licensure system.

### TAXES

5 State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Ann Rest

**Agenda:** Governor's budget.

8:30 a.m.

### ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES FINANCE

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

**Agenda:** Budget presentation by the Office of Waste Management.

10 a.m.

### ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES

200 State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Willard Munger

**Agenda:** Environmental Quality Board. Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources. Minnesota Environmental Initiative report on findings regarding Superfund, EIS process, merging state agencies and other concerns.

### GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS & GAMING

10 State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Phyllis Kahn

**Agenda:** Overview of administrative rulemaking. Presentations by House Research, the Legislative Commission to Review Administrative Rules, the Office of Administrative Hearings, and the Attorney General's Office.

### Judiciary Finance Division/JUDICIARY

300S State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Mary Murphy

**Agenda:** Overviews: Tax Court, Workers' Compensation Court, the Bureau of Mediation Services.

12:30 p.m.

### LOCAL GOVERNMENT & METROPOLITAN AFFAIRS

200 State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Irv Anderson

**Agenda:** Presentation on the decline of the core cities by Rep. Myron Orfield (continuation of Tuesday's agenda).

2:30 p.m.

### House meets in Session

6 p.m.

### Legislative Commission on Waste Management

Basement Hearing Room  
State Office Building  
Dir. Kim Austrian

**Agenda:** Public comments on Draft 1993 Waste Management Act amendments (Individuals wishing to comment should contact the LCWM in advance). Overview of the Executive Branch's initiatives for funding traditional Superfund sites and an alternative to Superfund for landfill cleanup by the Pollution Control Agency.

## FRIDAY, Jan. 29

8 a.m.

### Human Resources Finance Division/HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

10 State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Lee Greenfield

**Agenda:** Presentation of the governor's recommendation for programs administered by the Minnesota Department of Human Services.

### Higher Education Finance Division/ EDUCATION

Front steps of State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Peter Rodosovich

**Agenda:** Tour schedule: 8:30 a.m. - 12 Noon, University of Minnesota; 12:30 p.m. - 2 p.m., Minneapolis Technical College; 2:15 p.m. - 3:15 p.m., Minneapolis Community College; 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m., Metro State University, Minneapolis campus.

10 a.m.

### TRANSPORTATION & TRANSIT

10 State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Tom Osthoff

**Agenda:** Reports on the Highway Users Federation, the Minnesota Transportation Alliance, and the Department of Public Safety.

## It's a fact!

While Minnesota lay too far inland to play a major role in naval affairs during the Civil War, there was a naval warship that carried the state's name.

The frigate *Minnesota*, 264 feet long and 51 feet wide, was built in the navy yard at Washington D.C. and launched in 1855.

Newspapers at the time called it a "noble vessel, a very leviathan upon the waters."

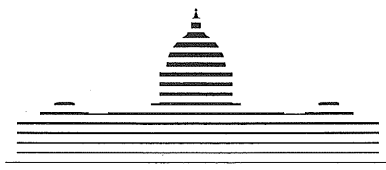
Shortly after Fort Sumter was captured by the South, the *Minnesota* was named flagship of a 16-vessel squadron, charged with blockading the coasts of the southern states. The *Minnesota* set out for Hampton Roads, Va.

Stationed at nearby Norfolk was the famed *Merrimac*, now in Confederate hands and "refitted with sloping sides plated with iron four inches thick, and equipped with a cast iron beak, or ram," wrote Mary Carney in *Minnesota, The Star of the North*. The ship was believed invincible.

The *Merrimac* attacked the Union squadron in the spring of 1862, destroying one ship and capturing another. In its attempt to aid the sinking ship, the *Minnesota* ran aground. During the night the *Monitor*, mocked by the Confederates as a "cheese-box on a raft," came to the *Minnesota's* defense. The following day the smaller *Monitor* engaged the *Merrimac*, and saved the *Minnesota*.

At the close of the war, the *Minnesota* was used for decades as a training ship, until 1901, when it was condemned by the Navy Department.

The steering wheel survives as part of the *Minnesota* A to Z display at the Minnesota History Center.



MINNESOTA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE  
175 STATE OFFICE BUILDING  
ST. PAUL, MN 55155-1298

Speaker of the House: Dee Long  
Majority Leader: Alan Welle  
Minority Leader: Steve Sviggum

## MINNESOTA INDEX

### Minnesota motor vehicle accidents

Ratio of motor vehicles to number of people, nationwide .....	4:5
Rank of traffic accidents among all causes of accidental death .....	1
Number of crashes, 1975, highest in Minnesota history .....	123,106
in 1991 .....	101,419
Chances that a teenage Minnesota driver will be involved in a traffic accident this year .....	1 in 10
Chances a Minnesotan in their 40s will .....	1 in 25
Number of 1991 crashes resulting from a collision with a deer .....	5,882
Collisions with all other animals .....	767
Percent of all crashes resulting in only property damage — no injuries .....	71
Number of motor vehicle fatalities, 1991 .....	531
in 1971 .....	1,024
Number of fatalities occurring on dry roads, 1991 .....	394
On snow, slush, or ice .....	79
Percent of fatalities occurring on rural roadways .....	72
Percent of those who were <b>not</b> on an interstate .....	94.7
Statewide fatalities occurring on an interstate .....	34
Number of Minnesota's 87 counties without a fatal crash, 1991 .....	6
Number of fatal crashes in January, lowest occurrence .....	12
in July, highest occurrence .....	63
Ratio of people killed over the Fourth of July holiday to those over the New Year's holiday, 1991 .....	7.5:1
Fewest number of total crashes, Traverse County .....	36
Ratio of 15-24 year olds who die in car crashes to those who drown .....	14:1
Ratio of men killed in car crashes to women killed .....	2:1
Pedestrians killed by motorized vehicles, 1991 .....	61
Bicyclists killed, 1991 .....	8
injured .....	1,157
Motorcyclists killed, 1990 .....	50
Those with a helmet .....	2
Those without .....	42
Total number of traffic injuries, 1990 .....	42,748
Number of those where "following too closely" was listed as a factor contributing to the accident .....	4,001
Number of accidents involving a school bus .....	857

Source: 1991 Minnesota Motor Vehicle Crash Facts, Minnesota Department of Public Safety's Office of Traffic Safety.

### For more information . . .

For general information, call:  
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