Flashback

There's probably never been a larger assembly of pinstripe suits and seed caps in the history of the Brainerd High School Farm. But looking back, that meeting may very well have marked the beginning of a rare coalition of city-based consumers and the farmers who feed them. The occasion was a September 1991 meeting of the House Agriculture Committee during the Brainerd Lakes/Cuyuna Country Mini-Session — one of the House's semi-regular road shows where legislative meetings are held somewhere other than in St. Paul.

With cows mooing in the background and in a barn whose floor was covered in fresh sawdust, Rep. Gil Gutknecht (IR-Rochester) questioned the wisdom of a 1957 law that prevents milk from being sold as a “loss-leader” at the grocery store in the same way Pepsi or Coke is. It wasn’t the first time Gutknecht had raised the idea, nor was it the last. But for whatever reason, Gutknecht caught the attention of Agriculture Committee Chair Rep. Steve Wenzel (DFL-Little Falls).

His proposal to abolish sections of the Dairy Industry Unfair Trade Practices Act was granted a hearing the following year, but the idea never went much further. This year, however, things appear to be different. Gutknecht’s free-market idea, while not his alone, is one of the key components in a bill introduced this week by Wenzel that supporters say could both increase milk prices on the farm while lowering them for consumers. That might sound like political double-talk, but supporters of the bill say it actually could happen.

But more importantly, it illustrates how bills begin with ideas and how many issues — particularly ones dealing with agriculture — do not follow party lines. “It’s amazing what you can accomplish if you don’t care who gets the credit,” said Gutknecht, while doing a convincing imitation of former President Ronald Reagan.

That’s not to say, however, that everyone is behind the idea. The Minnesota Grocers Association says the proposal could force still more small grocery stores out of business. The original law was designed to protect such grocers from cut-throat competition from large supermarket chains by requiring that milk be priced at no less than the cost of delivery to the store plus 15 percent as an average “cost of doing business.” That prevents milk from being sold as a loss leader as it is in other states, but Wenzel said it also makes the dairy case one of the most profitable sections of the supermarket.

Coupled with the deregulation concept is a proposal that would raise the price of wholesale milk, which is designed to help the state’s dairy farmers. But Wenzel said the deregulation of retail milk prices should actually make milk cheaper at the grocery store — a key ingredient that persuaded House Speaker Dee Long (DFL-Mpls) to be a co-sponsor of the bill.

“It’s seems to me to be a marriage of convenience,” said Gutknecht. And it’s a good illustration of how alliances are formed between DFLers and Independent-Republicans, and between farmers and city folks.

—Grant Moos
Revised budget forecast. . .
State's financial outlook brightens by $606 million

The magical effects of an improving economy have caused more than three-fourths of the state's expected $769 million budget shortfall to vanish, making it likely that big tax and tuition hikes will be avoided this session.

That dramatically improved fiscal position, announced March 3 by Department of Finance Commissioner John Gunyou, is allowing Gov. Arne Carlson to propose $551 million in new spending for the next biennium. Along with his revised spending plan, Carlson also said he will propose freezing property, sales and income taxes this session.

The governor warned that the windfall is a one-time event, and that caution is reflected in his spending plan. Almost every proposal is a one-time shot of funding that avoids long-term spending commitments.

"In this scenario is both good and bad news," Carlson said. "The good news is; we have a temporary blip and we have some extra cash on hand. The bad news is that revenues in Minnesota are going to decline over the next four years."

Revenues to the state now increase more than 9 percent a year. By 1997, that rate will drop to 7 percent, even though spending demands will keep their rapid pace. The budget gap at the end of the 1996-97 biennium could exceed $1.6 billion at current spending rates.

"We have built up a spending system that has tremendous expectations that are beyond the capacity of the state, financially, to meet," the governor said. The new budget reflects that concern.

Economic improvement since last November's budget forecast means the state will collect $449 million in additional revenue—mostly from individual income taxes. A reduction in the inflation rate from 3.5 percent to 3 percent will net the state another $157 million more than anticipated, according to the Department of Revenue's forecast.

That additional $606 million now puts the state's projected budget shortfall at $163 million.

The governor is proposing to put just under half the new spending—$260 million—into the state's cash-flow account, sometimes called the "rainy day fund." That avoids the short-term borrowing that would have been forced by the governor's January budget, which could have affected the state's credit rating and cost an estimated $6 million in interest payments.

Under the revised plan, the cash fund account would total $500 million. The account allows the state to pay its bills during times of the year when revenue collections don't keep pace with spending demands.

This is how Carlson said he wants to spend some of the remaining $291 million:
- $101 million to K-12 education and children's programs.
- More than half—$52 million—would go to the Accelerated Standards Adoption Project, which is helping schools shift to outcome-based education. Another $38 million would help growing school districts that faced a budget squeeze under the governor's original plan.
- $100 million to higher education, of which $80 million would ease tuition hikes down to 2 percent. Another $12 million would go to the University of Minnesota's Institute of Technology. The plan does not restore aid cuts to seven "practitioner-oriented" graduate programs.
- $25 million to expand transit services. The money would bring those services to 20 counties which don't have them, and expand service in 23 others.
- $24 million for a variety of human development programs.
- $21 million for one-time property tax relief to farmers, to counter soaring agricultural land values.
- $12 million to fund an early retirement program for public employees. The governor had said in January he would withdraw a proposed salary freeze for state employees if the March forecast improved, but offered this as an alternative.

Implicit in his budget plan, the governor added, is $140 million in property tax relief. Echoing their reaction to the governor's January budget address, DFLers strongly refuted that claim.

"It's absolute nonsense," said House Speaker Dee Long (DFL-Minneapolis). "If I weren't a lady, I'd use stronger terms."

While supporting some of Carlson's ideas, Long said she is still skeptical about yet unknown details of the plan. Along with breaking his promise to public employees, she added, the vast disparity between the November and March forecasts raises questions.

"When we have that kind of a revenue increase in individual income taxes, it looks like there may have been a little high-balling going on — or low-balling as the case may be — last

Morrie Anderson, commissioner of the state Department of Revenue, left, and John Gunyou, commissioner of the state Department of Finance, right, outlined the revised revenue forecast before the Taxes Committee March 4.
November," Long said.

The governor's January budget plan sounded promising on its face, but details have since revealed there is a lot to dislike, she said.

"Once we cleared away some of the smoke and adjusted the mirrors, reality was far different than what had been presented to us," the speaker said.

As for the tax freeze proposal, Long said it's an interesting idea that has been floated in the past, but the governor again remains vague on how it would work and what its effects would be.

"It's one of these sort of looey-goosey, Rube Goldberg kinds of ideas that's flopped out there with nothing to back it up," Long said. "So we'll wait for the details."

---Jim Anderson

**AGRICULTURE**

**Bill promotes deer farms**

There are plenty of deer and even a few antelope playing on farms in Minnesota, but those who raise those animals for a living say regulations are keeping a potential industry from growing.

Under a bill (HF277) approved March 2 by the Agriculture, Finance and Rural Development Subcommittee, deer and other members of the cervidae animal family would be designated as livestock in state law.

That means greater numbers of farmers who are starting to raise those animals would no longer be considered to be operating a game farm, and instead would be recognized and regulated like more conventional livestock producers.

Rep. Doug Peterson (DFL-Madison) said his bill would also require the Department of Agriculture to promote cervidae meat just as it does for other livestock. It also sets up regulations for the fast-growing industry.

Gary Tank, president of the Minnesota Deer Breeders Association, told the panel there are about 300 farms now raising deer, elk, and their cousins in Minnesota. Both the United States and Minnesota import most of its venison, and the bill would help the industry tap into a potentially huge market.

HF277 now moves to the full Agriculture Committee.

**CRIME**

**Keeping weapons away from kids**

Child safety was the overriding concern of three bills heard in a House subcommittee March 3 that may be added to this year's omnibus crime bill. HF406, sponsored by Rep. Kathleen Vellenga (DFL-St. Paul), would make it a gross misdemeanor to leave a loaded firearm in a location "where the person knows, or reasonably should know, that a child [under age 16] is likely to gain access."

However, the bill would exempt firearms that are "trigger locked." Vellenga explained that the bill would exempt firearms that are "trigger locked." Vellenga explained that the bill would impose felony penalties of up to five years in jail plus a fine for bringing dangerous weapons into a "school zone."

"HF406 is not a gun control bill," said Michelle St. Martin of Citizens for a Safer Minnesota, a coalition of organizations concerned with health and safety issues. "It does not effect anyone's ability to buy, possess, or use a gun."

St. Martin said that many crimes, accidental deaths and injuries, and suicides among youth have been traced to accessible guns in parents' homes.

But John Lindsey of the National Rifle Association (NRA) said that accidental deaths by gunfire of children under age 14 total only about three deaths per year in Minnesota, an historic low. "Accidents from firearms are at the lowest point in American history. Period," he added.

He commented that other forms of accidental deaths are far more prevalent, such those by fire or from drowning.

The NRA opposes the bill because the use of trigger locks on loaded guns can be dangerous, and because provisions of the bill would hinder a gun owner's ability to use a weapon for self-defense in their homes, Lindsey said.

Vellenga told the subcommittee that the NRA had supported the concept in other states in the past, and had only recently reversed its position.

The subcommittee also heard testimony on two proposals (HF222 and HF593) which would impose felony penalties of up to five years in jail plus a fine for bringing dangerous weapons into a "school zone."

HF222, in addition, would remove any civil liability from school officials who use "reasonable force" while on the job to prevent harm or death to another person.

The Criminal Justice and Family Law Subcommittee did not take action on the proposals, as some interest groups have yet to testify. Continued discussion on all three bills is scheduled for March 5.

**Tougher LSD penalties**

LSD (lysergic acid diethylamide) would be added to the list of drugs punishable by a 25-year maximum prison term if sold or possessed in a school zone, under a bill approved by a Judiciary subcommittee Feb. 26.

The stiff penalty already applies to the pos-
session or sale of several drugs, including cocaine and heroin, in school, park, and public housing zones. The proposal would add LSD, a hallucinogen, to that class of narcotics.

Currently, the maximum prison term for LSD possession on school grounds is 10 years.

Charles Diemer of the Dakota County Attorney’s Office said that his area has seen an increase in arrests for LSD use. And bill sponsor Rep. Tom Pugh (DFL-South St. Paul) said that LSD use is becoming more prevalent, after fading away for a few years.

Objections were raised to the inclusion of “public housing zones” and “park zones” along with “school zones” as triggers for the more severe sentence.


Other members suggested that the bill might be too narrow in scope. Although no amendments were proposed, Rep. Mary Jo McGuire (DFL-Falcon Heights) suggested that the committee consider expanding the stiffer sentences to all controlled substances found to be sold or held within a school, park or public housing zone.

HF207 was approved on a voice vote by the Criminal Justice and Family Law Subcommittee and will be incorporated into the 1993 omnibus crime bill.

Nolan reported that Berlin agreed with the ideas summarized in the memo, and a more detailed document will be hammered out soon.

Last session, the Legislature authorized up to $580,000 in state funds be spent so the center could be sold to a private company.

Reps. Jim Rice (DFL-Mpls) and Andy Steensma (DFL-Luverne) expressed regret that the state was preparing to divorce itself from financial ties with the center. They claimed that it had been successful at providing opportunities for local business by connecting them with compatible markets overseas. Rice said the center had suffered from inconsistent political leadership.

Nolan agreed: “But for politics, this project would have never been created . . . . Simultaneously, politics has been the bane of our existence.”

The Economic Development, Infrastructure and Regulation Finance Committee toured the center March 1.

EDUCATION

Graduation rule changes

More courses, more credit hours, and more time in school aren’t enough to help Minnesota students compete globally, the State Board of Education told legislators this week.

The board and the Minnesota Department of Education presented their proposed “results-oriented” high school graduation rule to the Education Committee March 4. The requirements would be implemented to start the 1997-98 school year.

A 1988 Legislative Auditor’s report found that two-thirds of Minnesota’s schools have no minimum standards for their graduates’ reading and math skills. Nearly all districts “are silent on their level of expectation in all other curriculum areas,” said Tom Lindquist, a member of the State Board of Education.

Because Minnesota high schools award diplomas based on class hours and not performance standards, “we spend millions of dollars and thousands of hours re-educating new workers and college students to get them up to speed,” said Lindquist.

The proposed “results-oriented” graduation rule calls for “content” and “comprehensive” goals for students, beginning at the kindergarten level.

The “content” goals would require specific student performance levels in 20 areas such as reading, writing, and math.

“Comprehensive” goals are more general and interdisciplinary in nature. Teachers would help their students: use critical thinking, direct their own learning, use technology, and apply conflict-management strategies, among other things.

Groups of parents, students, teachers, and businesses would work at pilot sites to explore specific “outcomes,” and to create statewide “assessments” of student performance. The results of that work, Lindquist said, would be used to create a uniform, statewide plan.

The board is asking for $8 million to fund the pilot sites. The governor’s revised supplemental budget proposes $52 million for a two-year program “to redesign Minnesota’s teaching and learning system around measurable outcomes.”

Lindquist emphasized that while high standards can be set by the state, how those standards are reached would be left up to local districts.

“In the past, many people have mistakenly thought we were going to regulate how teachers teach in their classrooms. That is not our intent. . . . How teachers teach is a local site issue. We are not mandating what has been referred to as an outcome-based education teaching methodology.”

The proposed rule is in its third draft, having been changed in response to public and legisla-
The mail-in voting bill (HF253), sponsored by Rep. Harold Lasley (DFL-Cambridge), would require ballots to be mailed out to every eligible voter 14 days before the presidential primary election. They would be due at the Secretary of State's office by 8 p.m. on election day.

Secretary of State Joan Growe said the bill would dramatically improve voter participation in the primary. In 1992, only about 10 percent of the eligible voters participated in the presidential primary. No other state allows statewide mail-in balloting. Minnesota has allowed mail-in ballots on a pilot basis in Ramsey and Kittson counties with proven success, Growe said.

The panel delayed action on a second bill (HF271), also sponsored by Lasley, that would require Growe's office to mail a voter's guide to every Minnesota household three weeks before elections. The guide would contain brief biographical information on candidates, their statements, and details about election procedure.

But Mark Anfinson, attorney for the Minnesota Newspaper Association, said putting an elected official in charge of publishing a political document raises serious concerns.

There is nothing wrong with the state disseminating general information about voting procedures, but putting the secretary of state in the role of political editor flies in the face of the First Amendment, Anfinson said.

From a practical standpoint, it may unnecessarily "open a can of worms" for the state. The bill would require the secretary of state to edit obscene, profane, scandalous or defamatory language. Defining those terms could lead the state into a legal quagmire, said Anfinson, an expert on libel law.

HF253 was referred to the Economic Development, Infrastructure and Regulation Finance Committee for further consideration. HF271 will be considered later this session.

**Mail balloting approved**

A bill aimed at making voting in the presidential primary election easier by allowing statewide mail-in balloting was approved by the General Legislation, Veterans Affairs and Elections Committee March 1.

A second bill that would require the state to publish and distribute a voter's guide prior to elections was held over, however, after questions about its constitutionality were raised.
Recent statewide surveys indicate about two out of three high school age students have a job, largely in fast food restaurants or retail stores. According to educators testifying March 1 in favor of the bill, these students often are tired and distracted in class while some are tardy or occasionally miss school entirely.

But Louis Henry, an owner of three McDonald's restaurants in Minneapolis, said many parents — particularly those in inner city areas — encourage their children to find after-school jobs to steer them away from gang influences and to gain future work skills.

"We do care about these kids," Henry said, adding that before he hires someone he actively seeks information from the youth's parents and school to determine if he or she is making the grade academically. "We won't go against what the parents want," he said.

Employer groups are encouraging legislators to amend the bill to allow students to work until 11:30 p.m. one school night per week. This would prevent employees over age 18 from always having to work closing shifts. "A lot of those kids are students, too," said Tom Newcome, a lobbyist for the Minnesota Restaurant, Hotel and Resort Associations.

The House has passed three similar work curfew bills in recent years, but the measures have stalled each time in the Senate.

Continued testimony on HF185 is scheduled next week before the labor panel.

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**Legislative timeline**

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<td>March 3</td>
<td>Revised state revenue forecast released by state Department of Finance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 2</td>
<td>First committee deadline. For continued consideration, a bill must have passed through at least one policy committee in either body by this date.</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 5</td>
<td>Session at 2:30 p.m. No committee meetings after 4:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 6</td>
<td>Passover. No committee meetings after 4:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 7</td>
<td>Regular committee meeting schedule.</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 8</td>
<td>Session at 12 noon. No committee meetings after that time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 12</td>
<td>Session at 7 p.m. No committee meetings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 13</td>
<td>Regular committee schedule resumes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 16</td>
<td>Second committee deadline. For continued consideration, a bill must have passed through at least one policy committee in the other body by this date.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 13</td>
<td>Conference reports on omnibus appropriations bills due.</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 17</td>
<td>Constitutional deadline for adjournment.</td>
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**No giant power slide**

Lawmakers are moving to rebuff any plans that electric utility companies might have to build a generator on the Mississippi River bluffs above Lake Pepin.

Last summer, the Southern Minnesota Municipal Power Agency shelved a plan to build a 500-megawatt generator near Lake City. Under the proposal, the lakewater would have been pumped up the 200-foot bluff and into a reservoir during the night when electric costs were cheaper. The water would then have been released during the day, flowing through generator turbines to create extra electricity during high-use periods.

The plan's potentially adverse effects on the environment sparked hostile opposition from area residents and state agencies. Specifically, critics said the water flow would agitate contaminants settled on the lake's bottom. They also said the project would cause wide fluctuations in the water level, harming fish and other wildlife in the area and making several parts of the lake impossible to navigate.

Rep. Leo Reding (DFL-Austin) said his bill (HF185) would send a clear signal, and state officials would not have to spend additional funds to fight a resurrected version of the project.

"We've already spent a lot of money saying no to a foolish idea," Reding said. "I'd hate to think sometime in the future this project will come back to haunt us."

The bill — which specifically prohibits any state agency from issuing permits for a project seeking to pump water from the river up the bluffs to generate electricity — easily cleared the Regulated Industries and Energy Committee March 1 on a voice vote.

HF185 now advances to the House floor for consideration on the Consent Calendar, where non-controversial bills are usually placed.

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**Ethanol cartel**

Illinois and Iowa share more than a common border along the Mississippi River. They're both major energy suppliers to Minnesota.

Minnesota imports more than half of the ethanol used in the state, with about 60 percent coming from producers in Iowa and Illinois, according to a March 4 presentation by the state Department of Agriculture before the House Environment and Natural Resources Finance Committee.

With federal law now requiring the use of oxygenated fuels in the Twin Cities during winter months, demand for ethanol has increased sharply. Minnesota cars burned about 90 million gallons of ethanol last year.

That's a 50 percent increase in less than a year, and far exceeds the current 39 million gallon production capabilities of the four existing Minnesota ethanol producers, said Ralph Groschen, marketing division director for the state Department of Agriculture.

Groschen said with production still lagging behind demand, Minnesota-grown corn and other grains actually have been shipped out of state, turned into ethyl alcohol, and then exported back to Minnesota as ethanol.

Eight new production facilities with a capacity of over 125 million gallons annually are in the works, Groschen said. That's enough to blend a 10 percent ethanol/90 percent gasoline mixture for all of the automobile fuel expected to be sold in the state by 1997.

The state — citing both economic development and agricultural concerns — has played a major role in establishing a homegrown ethanol market, providing Minnesota producers with a 20-cent per gallon subsidy. That subsidy, which under a current proposal would increase to a total of $9 million for each of the next two years, is set to expire in 2000.

Groschen also said the Department of Agriculture has not yet determined if a proposed new federal energy tax would have an adverse impact on the ethanol industry.

"It could be quite large," he said, noting that ethanol requires a considerable amount of energy in its production. "It will all depend on how they [Congress] structure it."
Interpreting Superior agates

Your favorite agates could end up in an interpretive center for Minnesota geology one day, under a proposal approved by the Environment and Natural Resources Committee March 2.

Sponsored by Rep. Mary Murphy (DFL-Hermantown), HF596 paves the way for an interpretive center to display "Lake Superior agates as well as rocks, gems, minerals, and geological artifacts indigenous to Minnesota."

The Department of Natural Resources has indicated that Moose Lake State Park is a likely candidate for the site. The park is located in Carlton County — a prime location for Lake Superior agates.

Rev. Phil Gotsch, one of the "rock hounds" who has sought an interpretive center in Minnesota for several years, said there are two million like-minded souls in this country. The interpretive center, he said, would encourage tourists to come to Minnesota because Lake Superior agates are considered to be "some of the most beautiful in the world." They also are considered to be the oldest agates, he said.

Agates formed in gas pockets within lava flows approximately 1.1 to 1.2 billion years ago. Cavities in the lava were filled in by minerals, which then crystallized, forming various colors. Minnesota's agates owe their predominant red color to heavy concentrations of iron in northeastern Minnesota.

While advancing glaciers scattered agates throughout the upper midwest, some of the best agate-rich concentrations are found within an area stretching from the Iron Range to the Twin Cities and back up to the North Shore.

The interpretive center would display Minnesota's diverse geologic history, and information about field trips and geology in other state parks. Rock hounds also would have a source to find out about "freshly exposed agates," according to Gotsch.

Individuals and associations could lend or donate geologic specimens and artifacts for display in the center. HF596 would fund only the architectural and engineering design for the center, at a cost of about $30,000, Murphy said. Supporters of the measure are seeking additional private funds.

The measure now moves to the Environment and Natural Resources Finance Committee for further consideration.

Fowl stamps

If you make enough of something — whether it's coins, baseball cards, or beer cans — it seems somebody will start to collect it. One person's garbage is another's treasure.

Add Minnesota duck stamps to the long list of collectibles.

Seizing on a philatelic taste for waterfowl and hoping to raise some revenue in the process, the state Department of Natural Resources is periodically selling off sets of its old duck stamps. Two years ago, an offering of 3,000 packets of 13 stamps each quickly sold out, netting the department $180,000 for its fish and wildlife fund.

In fact, wildlife stamps have proven so popular in the collecting community, some are unhappy that they're getting shut out of the fun.

Soon after the sellout in 1991, an irate constituent sparked an investigation to discover if other collectors had unscrupulously beat him to the front of the stamp purchasing line.

A subsequent examination by the Office of the Legislative Auditor turned up no wrongdoing, said Ron Nargang, deputy DNR commissioner. But it also clearly showed just how big a market there is for stamps, he told the House Environment and Natural Resources Finance Committee March 1.

The DNR is taking steps to ensure that its stamps retain their value. The agency destroys any unsold stamps after two years. "The idea is to clean out our old inventory of stamps so that the collector value increases," said Roger Holmes, director of the DNR's Fish and Wildlife Division.

States that don't destroy excess duck stamps don't see an increase in value. Besides, Holmes said, the DNR just doesn't have the room anymore to keep tens of thousands of old stamps lying around.

Minnesota hunters and anglers are required to buy stamps in addition to their regular licenses for taking certain animals: migratory waterfowl such as duck and geese, pheasants, wild turkey and trout. Proceeds from the $5 stamps are targeted for habitat projects and other enhancement programs.

But don't hold your breath waiting for a wild turkey or trout stamp market to develop. Holmes said the real interest is in duck stamps.

"Most other states don't have those type of stamps, so there doesn't seem to a lot of collector interest yet," he said.

Eagles in; ATVs out

A proposed motor sport park in southeastern Minnesota's Dorer Memorial Hardwood Forest ran into a roadblock March 2, with a House committee voting to require local county and township board approval before such a site could be built.

Motor sport groups have asked the state to create a park for dirt bikes, and four-wheel drive and all-terrain vehicles near the metropolitan area.

A $75,000 study of the issue — funded by the Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources — pointed to 13 potential park sites, several of which are in Wabasha and Goodhue counties.

The bill (HF546), sponsored by Rep. Bob Waltman (IR-Elgin), would effectively prevent the park from being built because the Wabasha County Board of Commissioners is against the idea, said Waltman.

Building the park would "tear up our forests in Wabasha County," he said.

In addition to the board, the Audubon Society, Wabasha County sportsmen's clubs, and the Sierra Club are among the groups opposing the park, Waltman said.

Wabasha County may have been chosen as a site, Waltman later said, because the county has no zoning ordinances other than what the state mandates.

Tom McMillin, a tree farm owner who lives near one of the proposed sites, told legislators that residents who sold their forested land to the Department of Natural Resources in recent years "feel they have been betrayed."

He said the area has benefited from eagles returning in recent years, and that a motor sport park would be "a disruptive form of recreation."

HF546 was approved by the Environment and Natural Resources Committee and now moves to the House floor for consideration.

Packaging bill altered

The controversial packaging and recycling bill is undergoing changes to accommodate some of the concerns of Minnesota's businesses.

HF65, which was both supported and opposed in lengthy public testimony last week, proposed greater use of recycled materials in paper, glass, and plastic packaging. It set fees for discardable packaging not exempted by law, and encouraged the beverage industry to step up its use of refillable containers or face a container deposit program.

Chief author Rep. Willard Munger (DFL-Duluth) modified his bill this week. He said that further amendments will be considered when the Environment and Natural Resources meets March 9.

Changes in the legislation include:
• Soft drinks and carbonated water in refillable containers would be exempt from the sales tax.
tax — unlike current law.

- Paper would no longer be required to contain post-consumer recycled material, as had been proposed. Instead, the bill would require a study to determine minimum standards for paper, plastic packaging and other packaging materials. Findings would be reported to the Legislature by Jan. 1, 1994.

- Most newsprint, glass, and paperboard would still be required to have 25 percent recycled content by 1996, and 50 percent by the year 2000. But plastic was changed to "rigid plastic," and given a lowered goal of 10 percent and 25 percent in corresponding years. Small printing businesses also would have lowered goals of 15 percent and 30 percent. (Those with fewer than 10,000 copies of newsprint publications per month.)

- Packaging fees have been revised. As before, discardable packaging would have a 1-cent fee imposed from 1994 to Jan. 1, 1996. After that, fees would be lowered and simplified. There would be no tax on packaging if it is recyclable, contains 50 percent post-consumer material, and is correctly labeled. All other packaging would require a 2-cent fee. The fee would apply to all layers of packaging. Retail businesses would have more options for paying the waste management fee to the state.

- Transport packaging — boxes, packing materials, barrels, crates, and pallets — would be prohibited from the waste stream by 1997. Items such as wood and paper that are made entirely of renewable resources and are completely degradable would be allowed in composting facilities. The bill originally required 50 percent of transport packaging to be re-used at least 20 times, contain at least 50 percent recycled content, and be recyclable.

**Restocking the Superfund**

Sealing off leaking and possibly dangerous landfills is expensive, and will require new funding sources in the future, according to officials of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA).

More than 100 state landfills are either existing or potential sources of groundwater contamination. But the Superfund, created 10 years ago to help pay for the cleanup of those and other hazardous waste sites, is nearly exhausted, said Jim Warner, MPCA division manager for groundwater and solid waste.

"We are running out of money in the Superfund," Warner told lawmakers, as the agency ended five days of budget presentations before the House Environment and Natural Resources Finance Committee March 1.

The MPCA is recommending a 0.66-cent per pound tax on hazardous waste producers. The agency also wants to tighten regulations that exempted all but a handful of the hazardous waste generators from paying currently required fees.

The new tax would raise an estimated $4.25 million a year, enough to handle the state's share for Superfund cleanups and to match available federal funds.

The agency also is siding with a recommendation made by Gov. Arne Carlson that would no longer designate closed municipal landfills as Superfund sites. Instead, the sites would fall under broader, statewide jurisdiction. Under the proposed shift, the MPCA would continue to respond to hazardous waste spills, to investigate illegal dumping, and to seek payment from responsible parties.

According to agency documents, the overall proposal would streamline solid waste disposal efforts under a more centralized MPCA authority.

### Coal-burning opposed

A University of Minnesota (U of M) plan to burn coal in its Twin Cities campus steam plant would "condemn the neighborhood and the Mississippi River to another half century of burning coal," Rep. Phyllis Kahn (DFL-Mpls) told the Environment and Natural Resources Committee this week.

The U of M Board of Regents voted in 1992 to use coal to power its steam plant in the St. Anthony Falls historic district. It was a decision that Kahn said might be "the worst environmental public policy decision of recent times."

A measure (HF513) sponsored by Kahn would prohibit the state from granting permits for expansion or enhancement of the university's coal-fired steam heating facilities by the Mississippi River.

"It is not micro-management to consider land use along the most important river in the country, even the continent," Kahn told legislators. Coal-fired power plants, she said, "are major generators of carbon dioxide and the largest contributor of airborne heavy metals, including mercury."

Sue Markham, the U of M's vice president for facilities management, told the committee that the university chose the system because it needed "a reliable system at a reasonable cost."

The university objects to the bill, said Markham, because "it places the Legislature in the role of permit maker." It would be better to rely on the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), she said, than "a [legislative] hearing where emotionalism is substituted for fact-finding. We have faith in EIS; let that process proceed."

The university comes to the Legislature for funding, Rep. Jean Wagenius (DFL-Mpls) told Markham, saying that it is on the "cutting edge of technology." Coal is an old energy source, said Wagenius. "Why isn't the U looking at some of Minnesota's resources?"

The committee will continue discussion of HF513 next week.

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**Compulsive gambling**

Recovering compulsive gamblers and their loved ones told tales of deception, betrayal, and bankruptcy during the Governmental Operations and Gambling Committee's hearing on problem gambling March 1.
Several of the former addicts who testified described an "acceleration" in their habits after the state legalized pulltabs and American Indian groups established casinos. Recovering gamblers did not offer their full names, some are still in treatment or correctional facilities.

"Jack" said that after gambling recreationally, he moved on to video poker machines, where he ran up $75,000 in debt. "I began to chase my loses," said Jack, describing how the state's convenient casinos made his habit hard to break.

"Sue" ended up in a federal prison after stealing $41,000 from the bank where she worked to support a $2,000 per night addiction. And "Shelly" explained how her husband constantly lied about his whereabouts and finances to conceal his gambling. "I felt like I was married to a stranger."

Rep. Alice Seagren (IR-Bloomington) wondered whether the state had encouraged the addictions of Minnesotans by increasing accessibility to gambling — and legitimizing it — by legalizing more gambling forms.

Some of the recovering gamblers said that, in their personal experiences, the availability of gambling in Minnesota made it easy to lose money every day.

J. Clark Laundergan of the University of Minnesota-Duluth's Center for Addiction Studies told members that "potentially pathological gamblers" make up about 3.5 percent of all Minnesota youth, and that compulsive gamblers are 1.5 percent of the total state population. His studies indicate that problem gambling among youth recently has been on the rise. Comparable measures for adults were not available.

Representatives of gambling rehabilitation organizations used the meeting to request major increases in funding to prevent, study, and treat compulsive gambling. The governor has proposed a total of about $1.3 million for the next biennium, a 5 percent reduction from current funding levels.

Steve Dentinger, chair of the Department of Human Services Advisory Committee on Compulsive Gambling, said that more than $5.8 million is needed, with much of that sum going to treatment centers and their expansion. Dentinger said that future demand for treatment will require greater financial investments by the state.

Proponents of funding increases emphasized the cost savings of prevention programs. Betty George of the Council on Compulsive Gambling cited a Johns Hopkins University study showing a savings of $20 for every $1 spent to prevent compulsive gambling. The state would save on future treatment and criminal justice costs created by gambling addicts, many of whom end up stealing money to finance their habits, George said.

"The cost of mistakes is enormous," Jordan said. "In some senses, the forces of evil are winning out over the forces of good" as the world has become more dangerous in recent years. That situation has been recognized by most states, leading them to maintain coordinating bodies like the DPS, Jordan said.

Other opponents of the measure questioned the motivation for the proposal. Rep. Phil Krinkie (IR-Shoreview) noted that union representatives had testified that they were not happy with the treatment given them by management. Krinkie wondered whether the bill was simply a means of soothing worker discontent "by shuffling them from department to department" or by getting rid of managers, rather than working problems out through negotiation.

Solberg responded by emphasizing the efficiencies his bill would bring, though he agreed there had been labor relations problems in the department.

The proposal still has a long way to go before reaching the House floor, Rep. Phyllis Kahn (DFL-Mpls) reminded members. She said that five more committees are expected hold hearings on the bill.

HF272 will move on to the Transportation and Transit Committee next.

**GOVERNMENT**

**Gender-balanced boards**

A measure seeking equal gender representation on state-appointed boards won preliminary approval in the House March 4. The vote was 75-56.

**HF31** would apply to all gubernatorial selections made under the state Open Appointments Act. It would stipulate that if a board's membership has a predominance of one gender, the next vacancy would have to be filled by a member of the underrepresented gender.

Under the bill, existing state board members would not be removed due to currently gender-imbalanced panels, but their re-appointments could be affected.

The measure would require a good faith effort to make appointments that reflect racial, ethnic, socioeconomic, and geographic diversity.

**HF31** is expected to come up for final passage soon.

**DPS abolition**

Legislation to abolish the Department of Public Safety (DPS) won approval March 4 from the Governmental Operations and Gambling Committee by an 11-8 vote.

The bill (HF 272) would disband the department by moving its subdivisions to other state departments and by eliminating about 70 of its 1,880 current positions.

Though savings estimates have varied since the proposal came to light, Rep. Loren Solberg (DFL-Bovey), the bill's chief author, said the state could expect to save $1.5 million. The department's annual budget is currently about $65 million.

Anticipating the long struggle ahead for the bill, Solberg said, "Whenever you're about to change government ... those bureaucracies will protest." He also said DPS services would not be adversely affected: "This bill does not destroy the services provided by the Department of Public Safety, rather, it puts them back from whence they came."

For example, HF272 would move the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension to the Attorney General's Office and the State Highway Patrol would be transferred to the Department of Transportation (MnDOT). Both were moved to the DPS when it was created in 1969.

Michael Jordan, commissioner of the DPS, claimed that any potential savings are "dubious" and the proposal would actually decrease efficiency and quality of service by taking small, coordinated programs and "forcing them into a larger bureaucracy."

**HEALTH**

**Expanding optometrists' practice**

The interests of two types of medical practitioners that many people can't tell apart — optometrists and ophthalmologists — clashed at a Health and Human Services Committee meeting March 2.

In the end, the optometrists won. By a vote of 15-9, committee members approved a bill that would allow licensed optometrists who are specially board-certified to prescribe and administer topical legend drugs. This means that optometrists who receive special training would be able to treat, with drugs, eye injuries such as corneal abrasions, and eye diseases like cataracts and glaucoma.

The bill (HF134) won approval in spite of strong opposition from the state's ophthalmologists, who brought in witnesses from other states to testify that their vision loss might have been prevented if they had been properly treated by an ophthalmologist instead of relying on their optometrists.

"I can do no greater prevention of eye disease than to oppose this bill," said Edward Holland, associate professor of ophthalmology at the University of Minnesota. He argued that the additional training required of optometrists in the bill does not compare to the eight to 10 years of training ophthalmologists receive.

To proponents of the bill, the issues centered on access and affordability. People in inner city neighborhoods and rural areas, they said, have
An optometrist's four years of medical training, plus the additional training and examination the bill would require for board certification, qualify him/her to prescribe and administer topical legend drugs, proponents argued.

Another safeguard the bill provides is that if a patient suffers an adverse reaction to a treatment, the optometrist would be required to report that condition to the Board of Optometry within 10 days.

In Minnesota, virtually the same bill approved March 3 has been defeated in three of the past four sessions. The two occupations have been battling to redefine, or protect, their respective "scopes of practice" for years. Thirty-two states have already passed similar bills.


No (day care) smoking

The House gave preliminary approval March 4 to a bill that would forbid family day care providers from smoking or allowing others to smoke in their homes during hours of operation.

The bill (HF29) is aimed at protecting the 100,000 Minnesota children who spend their days in family day care centers from the harmful health effects of secondhand smoke.

No specific penalty for smoking is attached to the bill, but known violations would be considered by the state during the licensing renewal process, the bill's sponsor, Rep. Lee Greenfield (DFL-Mpls), explained on the House floor.

A final vote on the bill is expected next week.

Keeping tabs on higher education

At a time when Minnesota's higher education systems are being called on to wring the most out of dwindling dollars, a new study finds that not enough is being done to keep tabs on efficiency.

As a result, there are many educational programs that cost too much, have low job placement rates, have too few students for every teacher, and are needlessly duplicated, according to an evaluation by the Legislative Auditor's Office. The findings were presented to the Legislative Audit Commission Feb. 26.

The state's four higher education systems have made strides in recent years to more closely monitor how well they perform their assigned tasks, said Joel Alter, an evaluator who led the study. But there is still plenty of room for improvement, he said.

"We think the Higher Education Coordinating Board (HECB) should do more than they're now doing," Alter told the commission.

The HECB is charged with analyzing and developing plans for higher education programs. Alter said there is little review of existing educational programs by the board, and that past reviews have been mostly "unfocused."

Most of the study's recommendations are directed at the HECB and the educational systems, not the Legislature, he added.

Among the report's key findings:

- Occupational programs at technical and community colleges had only a 51 percent placement rate, the state would save nearly $3 million a year. If those systems reached 14 students per teacher as another auditor's report recommended 10 years ago, the savings would total $4 million annually.

- Duplication is evident in all four systems, primarily in the Twin Cities area. Some of that is necessary because of the distinct missions of each system, Alter said, but restructuring or eliminating high-cost programs would bring more savings.

- For baccalaureate programs, the report zeroed in on two programs: engineering and teacher education. While the state may have over-built both those programs, it has had opposite results in those two fields: Universities are producing too many teachers, but too few engineers.

Engineering programs aren't drawing as many students as anticipated, driving up the per-student cost of those programs. Expanding teacher education has led to more graduates than the job market can absorb. Placement rates for full-time teachers has dropped from 61 percent to 41 percent over the past decade.

The report recommends that the Higher Education Coordinating Board take a more active role in reviewing programs, and be more strict in creating new ones.

It also urges the Legislature to direct the board to track its graduates who reach the job market, and that the four education systems provide more accurate, timely employment information to students making choices in their education.

Private college myths

The perception that Minnesota's private colleges are filled with the children of the state's wealthy and elite is not supported by the facts, lawmakers were told March 3.

More often, today's private college students are older, more ethnically diverse, and in need of just as much financial aid as their counterparts at public institutions, said Charles Anderson, president of Augsburg College in Minneapolis.

The House Higher Education Finance Division traveled to Augsburg to hear directly from private college students and administrators on
the quality and availability of the state’s financial aid programs. Most of the reviews were positive.

Steve Rusk, a freshman attending Hamline University in St. Paul, said the financial aid he and other students receive reduces their need to earn money from outside employment and allows them to concentrate more on their studies.

"[Financial aid] isn't only important for a student to attend college but also is important for his mental health once he gets there," he said.

Rusk’s observations echoed those of other students, who told members they came from families with moderate incomes who chose a private college because it's a better fit for their instructional needs.

"State grants allowed me to make a choice," said Jason Koch, a pre-med senior at Augsburg.

The committee later this year will vote on financial aid funding as part of its overall higher education spending package. Included in those discussions will be a proposal to allow tuition costs at public colleges and universities to rise significantly with the extra money used to supplement financial aid for low- and moderate-income students.

But even if the proposed aid formula results in more dollars going to private colleges, it won't be helping rich kids who don't need the money, said Harold Johnson, financial aid director at Augsburg.

In fact, Johnson said, students at private colleges typically have a lower median family income than do students at the University of Minnesota and a slightly higher income than students in the State University System.

"The myth that we’re the enclave of the rich just isn’t true," he said.

HUMAN SERVICES

Poorer than poor

Unless Gov. Arne Carlson does something to increase the level of public assistance, he will not meet his goal of improving the lives of children, several witnesses told a House panel during public testimony on the state's family support and self-sufficiency programs March 3.

Children on the state's largest welfare program, Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC), live at or below 60 percent of the poverty level, said Tonya Orr, an attorney with the Legal Services Advocacy Project. Because rents are generally almost equal to recipients' AFDC grants, Orr recommended that the state allocate another $45.5 million to the AFDC budget in order to give a $100-a-month housing allowance to all AFDC recipients who are not in public housing.

Witnesses were divided on the value of a new welfare reform program called the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP). The pro-

Alternatives for elderly

If Minnesota wants to cut health care costs, it must find alternatives to nursing home care for elderly residents who could live on their own.

Minnesota institutionalizes a higher proportion of its elderly than most other states, with 8 percent of the state's elderly in nursing homes compared to 5 percent nationwide. One-third of the state's Medical Assistance budget goes to paying the bills of 30,000 nursing home residents, said Helen Yates, assistant commissioner of Health Care Administration for the Department of Human Services.

At the same time, the number of children enrolled in Medical Assistance is also escalating, the Human Services Finance Division of the Health and Human Services Committee learned March 1, as it reviewed the governor's recommendations for health care programs.

By 1995, 14 percent of Minnesota residents will be enrolled in some kind of state-assisted health care program, including MinnesotaCare, said George Hoffman, director of reports and forecasts for the Department of Human Services. That compares to 8 percent in 1985 and 11 percent currently.

A major reason for the increase is "stagnation of family income" which caused many to slip below the poverty line, said Rep. Lee Greenfield (DFL-Mpls), committee chair.

Details of the governor's cost-saving strategies, particularly in the area of care for the elderly, will be presented to the committee later this session.

INSURANCE

Driving home blues

Insurance companies are gouging inner-city residents by basing a portion of their automobile insurance premiums on where they live, according to Rep. Wes Skoglund (DFL-Mpls).

Skoglund is sponsoring a bill (HF619) that goes to the heart of insurance companies' current practice of territorial rating. The measure would prohibit auto insurers from using a policyholder's address in determining premium costs for residents of the seven-county metro area.

In general, premiums are higher for people who live in the inner city and lower for those in outer-ring suburbs. Insurers also use an individual's driving record, age, and type of vehicle among other factors in determining overall premium costs.

Skoglund said the disparities are becoming so great that inner-city residents often pay as much as $1,000 more a year than suburbanites for similar coverage, even if other factors are equal.

"The good drivers living in one area shouldn't
have to pay more than a bad driver living in another — that just isn't fair," he said.

Insurers testifying before the committee defended territorial rating, saying it reflects the fact that policyholders living in highly urbanized areas are much more likely to be involved in an accident, be the victim of theft, and typically file higher claims.

For example, differences in parking policy between the inner cities and suburban communities can help explain the premium price differential, said Tom Newcome, representing State Farm Insurance Co.

While many suburbs don't permit residential, on-street parking, Newcome said, residents of St. Paul and Minneapolis often have to park on the streets outside their homes. This narrows driving lanes and raises the risk of collisions. City driving, he said, also requires more starts and stops and intersection crossings, all of which increase the potential for an accident.

The Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee took no action on HF199, which also contains other auto insurance reform provisions that will be discussed at a later date.

Aiding an ailing insurer

The House Labor-Management Relations Committee voted March 1 to prop up one of state's larger workers' compensation insurance companies with a $20 million loan from a state-sponsored fund.

State officials in May 1992 seized the ailing State Fund Mutual Co. after it lost nearly all of its reserves to bad investments. The proposal (HF199) would permit the state-chartered Workers' Compensation Reinsurance Association (WCRA) to lend $20 million from its portfolio to State Fund Mutual Co.

Commerce Commissioner Bert McKasy said State Fund, established by the 1983 Legislature with a $5.7 million loan, remains solvent. "I don't believe it will be a problem again in the future," he told the committee.

State Fund Mutual Co. was the third largest workers' compensation insurance provider in Minnesota during 1991, writing premiums totaling $64.9 million for 5,522 employers with an estimated 80,000 workers. Its policyholders mostly are smaller firms with yearly premium costs of $10,000 or less, said its new president, Pat Johnson.

HF199 now moves to the House Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee for further review.

Dittberner said that an amendment was being drafted in the Health and Human Services Committee to allow license redemption as long as the person can demonstrate that he or she is complying with a repayment plan.

HF129 was referred to the Taxes Committee, where the panel will consider the costs of garnishing tax refunds.

Identifying fathers

About half of all children born out of wedlock don't have paternity established at birth, which can lead to a variety of problems — and sometimes poverty — in the future.

But if the Children's Defense Fund-Minnesota (CDF-MN) gets its wish, the mystery surrounding paternity of many children will be cleared up and their chances for an improved standard of living will be increased.

The Judiciary Committee's Civil Law Subcommittee approved a measure (HF177) March 1 that will require hospitals to make available a "recognition of paternity form" to parents at the time a child is born.

Although completion of the form is voluntary and a blood test is not required, the form, which must be signed by both parents, would have the force of law.

Proponents of the measure say establishing paternity at birth would increase the chances that absent fathers would pay child support, eliminating one of the major contributors to childhood poverty.

Although current law allows for a "declaration of parentage" form, it may require further court action before taking effect. Additionally, the declarations are not treated uniformly in all Minnesota counties.

Under the bill, sponsored by Rep. Linda Wejcman (DFL-Mpls), the state Department of Human Services would also be required to design educational materials which explain the importance of identifying a child's biological father. Either parent could choose to invalidate the form within 30 days of its establishment.

Laura Kadwell of CDF-MN said that children would benefit the most if the bill were to become law. She said the concept has successfully encouraged recognition of paternity in other states, making it easier for children to receive child support and inheritance, among other benefits.

Fathers are more likely to legally recognize their children, Kadwell added, when their paternal responsibilities are outlined. For example, establishing visitation rights is a much easier task if paternity has already been established.

HF177 would require hospitals to make available educational material along with the "recognition of parentage form." The bill was referred to the full Judiciary Committee for consideration.
Increased pay for judges

Minnesota’s judges are underpaid, and judicial salaries need to be raised by about $10,500 a year to bring them in line with those in other states, the Compensation Council of the Legislative Coordinating Commission was told Feb. 26.

Currently, Minnesota’s trial court judges are paid $83,494 a year. Karl Egge, a professor of economics at Macalester College, was asked by the Minnesota State Bar Association to do a study comparing judicial salaries with those of private and public attorneys. He concluded that the state’s district judges should be paid 11 percent more than they earn now, or $94,000 a year.

Currently, Minnesota ranks 22nd among states in judicial salaries.

Supreme Court Chief Justice A.M. Keith — the state’s highest paid judge at $103,835 a year — said that half the judges appointed in the last three years took a pay cut to join the bench. “In fact, a significant number of public sector lawyers in the Twin Cities and suburban counties currently earn more than the judges before whom they practice,” he said.

Keith did not ask for a major salary increase but for a cost-of-living adjustment of 3 percent in 1995 and another 3 percent in 1996. His request, if adopted, would raise the salaries of district judges to $98,579 in 1996.

“We have to give judges the ability to make viable financial plans based on a predictable and stable income so they can provide for their families,” Keith said.

Not all council members appeared sympathetic to the request. “Many of [my constituents] who worked for Northwest Airlines would be happy to be on last year’s salary,” said Rep. Connie Morrison (IR-Burnsville).

“I’m a little troubled by the implication that how much money lawyers make is necessarily to be equated with how good they will be as judges,” said Sen. Allan Spear (DFL-Mpls).

At its March 26 meeting, the Compensation Council is expected to recommend judicial salary levels for 1995 and 1996. It is then up to the Legislature to make the final decision.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Work here, you live here

People seeking jobs in Minneapolis might have to live within the city limits if a bill approved March 2 by the Local Government and Metropolitan Affairs Committee becomes law.

Currently, many Minneapolis employees, including two-thirds of teachers, police officers, and firefighters, live outside the city. The nightly departure of those well-paid workers means that $140 million in city salaries are shifted out of Minneapolis every year, said Rep. Richard Jefferson (DFL-Mpls), chief sponsor of the bill.

HF74 does not impose a residency requirement but, only grants the city of Minneapolis, the Minneapolis School District, the Minneapolis Library Board, and the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board the authority to impose residency requirements as a condition of employment. Only new hires would be affected.

“We’re desperate to have middle-class people living in the city,” said Len Biennet, a Minneapolis School Board member. Sixty-three percent of the children enrolled in Minneapolis public schools are poor.

Critics thought the bill could lead to the Balkanization of the Twin Cities. “We’re part of a broader community,” said Rep. Steve Kelley (DFL-Hopkins). “I’m deeply offended by those new communities that have built walls around themselves to keep strangers and others out. But I also have concerns that it may be just as bad to try to build walls around the city for the purpose of keeping people in.”

The bill was also opposed by representatives of city employee groups, who saw the freedom to choose one’s place of residence as a civil rights issue.

In reference to the issue of Balkanization, one of the bill’s co-authors, Rep. John Sarna (DFL-Mpls), said that the courts would regard it as racially discriminatory if suburbs such as Roseville imposed their own residency requirements. Minneapolis and St. Paul, because of their racial diversity, are the only cities in the state that could impose the requirement, if authorized by the Legislature. HF74 would only give that authority to Minneapolis.

The bill now moves to the House floor.

SPORTS

Ski bill advances

The ski safety act cleared another gate March 2 on its run through the Minnesota House.

The proposal (HF165) would define the responsibilities of skiers and ski operators, and limit the operators’ liabilities if a skier is injured due to the “inherent risk” of the sport.

Although a ski area operator still could be sued for negligence, supporters said the bill would go a long way in holding down insurance costs for those operators.

The proposal was approved on a voice vote by the full Commerce and Economic Development Committee. The panel dropped a provision absolving operators for a skier’s injury caused by the reckless actions of someone else.

“I just don’t think I should be responsible if a careless skier runs into me on the hill,” said Rep. Bob Milbert (DFL-South St. Paul), himself a skier. The bill, however, still would make it a petty misdemeanor to leave an on-hill collision without first leaving your name and other information with the other skier or an employee of the skiing facility.

The bill now moves to the House Judiciary Committee, where similar legislation stalled last year. Attorney groups have objected to several parts of the bill. Specifically, they oppose its inherent risk provisions as well as a two-year limit to initiate legal action following an injury.

Chief author Rep. Loren Jennings (DFL-Harris) said he intends to work with opponents to resolve their differences before the Judiciary panel considers the bill.

Workers at agencies that help the state’s developmentally disabled make such low wages that some of their families qualify for public assistance. Regarding this situation as “unconscionable,” Health and Human Services Committee members approved a bill March 4 that would raise those workers’ wages by 35 cents an hour. Only those making less than $20,000 a year would be affected.

If HF426 eventually passes, the average worker at a development achievement center would see his/her hourly wage increase from $5.50 an hour to $5.85 in July 1993. The bill, sponsored by Rep. Wayne Simoneau (DFL-Fridley), will next be considered by the committee’s Human Services Finance Division.

A small boy got a seat on the Health and Human Services Committee March 4 without even having to stand for election. The chance to swivel around in a big black leather chair must have looked like too much fun for a child to resist. So when Rep. Darlene Luther (DFL-Brooklyn Park) got up momentarily to get a drink, the boy escaped from his mother’s arms, ran around the wooden barrier that separates audience from lawmakers, and scrambled into Luther’s seat.

His presence was welcomed by legislators — at least until he discovered how much fun it was to speak into the microphone. At that point, Rep. Kay Brown (DFL-Northfield) picked him up and kindly returned him to his mother.

Many toddlers accompanied their parents to the March 4 committee meeting to demonstrate the need for more affordable child care. A bill (HF402) sponsored by Rep. Richard Jefferson (DFL-Mpls) would require the state’s Child Care Sliding Fee program to serve 100 percent of eligible children by 1996. The program currently has an 18-month waiting list.

HF402 was approved and referred to the committee’s Human Services Finance Division.
Greiling aims to deliver service-oriented education

While Rep. Mindy Greiling (DFL-Roseville) might be in her first term as a House member, she is no newcomer to public service. She's been a teacher, a school board member, an action chair for legislative lobbying for the League of Women Voters, and a frequent volunteer campaign worker. When the District 54B seat opened, Greiling found that the Legislature came looking for her.

Greiling (pronounced GRY-ling) was heading Sen. John Marty's re-election campaign when the suggestions started coming. "People — particularly John Marty" — encouraged me to run for the seat, she said. And she credits the League of Women Voters for her developing interest in the political process.

"I joined the League because I was home with my kids and I thought it was a way to plug into issues" of importance, Greiling explained. "The League was the only group I knew of where people discussed issues."

Her experiences with both the League and political campaigns sparked a dedication to campaign finance reform, an issue she's already tackling this session. Greiling is a co-sponsor of HF163, the reform package crafted with the assistance of Common Cause, a political watchdog, good government group.

"I like the playing field to be level," she said, "and it doesn't seem like the playing field is level." HF163 would, in part, curb the financial advantages incumbents now hold over their challengers.

Issues of the highest priority for Greiling are educational fairness and property tax equity — two big concerns in Greiling's district, which covers portions of Little Canada, Maplewood, and Roseville.

Specifically, Greiling wants to bring her teaching experience to the area of educational reform. In the short term, she hopes the current funding tensions between rural, suburban, and inner city schools can be resolved. But moving to reform the relationship between schools, administrations, and other levels of government is her long-term goal.

Critical of "top-down management," Greiling explained that "school districts should be more service-oriented." She suggested that the state Department of Education, for example, be a resource for schools when they need guidance, and not simply "tell [schools] exactly what to do."

"I really want school districts to be able to do things in a smarter way. We have to free up the school districts more, and give them goals that we want them to accomplish, and ... financial incentives to work smarter, and in the long term that will save money."

Although Greiling's expertise lies in the area of education, she describes herself as a "real generalist." She does serve on the Education Committee, but says she could have been put on "half the other committees and been just as happy."

"I'm just having the best time of my life," Greiling said. "I keep thinking some day this will seem like work... I like people so much and I like to study issues, and this seems to put it all together."

—Marnie Sadlowsky

Health care marks Asch's journey to the House

Ask Rep. Marc Asch (DFL-North Oaks) how got to the Minnesota Legislature and you'll hear a long list of professional accomplishments, most of which involve health policy and education.

"I think problems are susceptible to study," Asch said. "You can gather information, review it, analyze it, talk about it, and make better decisions."

Asch, who brought his own computer to the Capitol and who has a self-professed love for number-crunching, is aiming to bring a passion for analysis to the Capitol.

It was in the early 1970s that Asch was exposed to the growing problem of health care costs while working at the Michigan Department of Social Services. A major study on health costs piqued his interest in the issue, and Asch got an administrative job at a hospital where he worked to improve efficiency through "short interval work sequencing."

At the same time, Asch said his wife "ran into gross, overt [gender] discrimination" while applying to medical schools. Eventually, she was accepted by Case Western Reserve University, so the couple moved to Ohio. Asch landed an administrative position quite close to his wife — in the dean's office of Case Western's medical school.

Four years later, Asch got a call from the office of U.S. Sen. Howard Metzenbaum (D-Ohio), who was looking for a "special assistant" on health care issues. So, Asch and his family were off to the Washington, D.C. area, where he spent two years on the senator's staff and another two years at the National Institute of Health as a legislative liaison.

They moved to Maine and back to Ohio before settling in Minnesota in 1987, when his wife, Susan, was asked to head a pediatric emergency room in the Twin Cities. She is currently in private practice in Stillwater.

Now representing St. Paul's northern suburbs, Asch describes his legislative priorities with the slogan, "fairness for the suburbs."

"I want to make sure that taxes are collected and distributed equitably," he said.

Asch said that his district, although relatively wealthy, was being hurt by state tax policies. "We were being done over. Our schools were on hard times... the assumption is made that if you have a high-valued home that your income is also high. That's not necessarily true."

This practice unfairly taxes suburban home owners, he said.

Asch heard that frustration while on the campaign trail. "It wasn't the amount of taxes that people were paying that upset them," Asch said, "it was the feeling that taxes weren't being distributed fairly."

Asch also hopes to help shape the state's health care decisions. Noting that he has been involved in health policy from just about every possible perspective, "I intend to be an active participant," he said.

And those who drop by his office should not be surprised to see Asch and his staff crunching numbers and tossing around ideas in search of solutions.

—Adam Samaha

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But Mahon is joking, of course, and answers the questions as quickly as he asked them.

He’s serving in the House to tackle the same issues he faced during his 17-year tenure on the Bloomington City Council: airport noise, property taxes, and economic development along the Interstate 494 corridor.

After being encouraged by family members and DFL colleagues to take a shot at higher office, Mahon (pronounced MAN) jumped at the chance in the newly drawn district.

“Some of us thought it was time to have a Democrat serving the district again,” he explained, giving credit for his victory to his wife and campaign coordinator, Florence.

But Mahon himself knows something about plotting a successful course. He served a four-year stint in the U.S. Air Force as an air traffic controller in the U.S. and Saudi Arabia. After his tour, he got a job as a union official for Case International Harvester in St. Paul, where he

Transportation and spending top priorities for Wolf

A year ago, Rep. Ken Wolf (IR-Burnsville) had no idea he would end up as a member of the Legislature. But when redistricting created an open seat in District 41B, the city council veteran of 10 years decided it was time for a change. As a representative of District 41B, he’d have “the opportunity to serve the public in a little different capacity, with different issues, and different challenges.”

In his first run for the Legislature, he bested his opponent by about 1,500 votes.

Public service is not a new area of work for Wolf. In addition to his tenure on the Burnsville City Council, he was active in the League of Minnesota Cities and the Association of Metropolitan Municipalities, and he chaired the Dakota County Solid Waste Advisory Committee.

“I’m not unfamiliar with the [legislative] process,” explained Wolf, pointing out that his work in city government has brought him to the Capitol many times. “But I’m learning more and more every day, and the learning process will never end.”

Prior to becoming a House member, Wolf spent 28 years with Control Data Corporation, and then ran a restaurant in Savage for two years. Describing himself as “semi-retired,” he still does part-time computer consulting for a medical company. He hopes to use his extensive corporate and “public budgeting” background to contribute to the ongoing legislative conversation on “fiscal responsibility” in government.

Wolf hopes the Legislature will include itself in that discussion. He has co-authored a bill calling for a reduction in the size of the Legislature (HF478). It would reduce the Senate to 34 members, down from the current 67, and trim the House to a body of 68, down from 134.

Wolf also serves on the Environment and Natural Resources Committee, and hopes his experience on the Dakota Solid Waste Advisory Committee might “bring some perspective to that [policy] area” as well.

But a major issue for his new constituents, Wolf said, is transportation. His district, which covers the southeastern corner of Eden Prairie, southwestern corner of Bloomington, western Burnsville, and all of Savage, contains a severe traffic bottleneck along Interstate 35W near the Minnesota River, and at the Bloomington Ferry Bridge between Savage and Bloomington. When other members speak of redistributing dollars away from the southwestern suburbs, Wolf will be there to suggest that the area is far from perfect.

He was also told on the campaign trail “to get the deficit under control.” Indian gaming and gambling expansion is also an issue he’ll be watching, considering the proximity of his district to Mystic Lake Casino.

As for the session ahead, Wolf says he’s excited about his move from city to state government, and is sure his new job will be both “interesting and educational.” He’s not here with a set agenda.

“There’s an awful lot of knowledge and wisdom and experience up here. . . . I really feel like a college freshman, and right now I’m in a listening mode.”

—Marnie Sadlowsky

District 40A

- Pop.: 31,723
- Distribution: 100% in urbanized areas
- Largest City: Bloomington
- Location: southern Metro
- 1992 presidential election statistics:
  - Clinton/Gore: 46.2 percent
  - Bush/Quayle: 30.0 percent
  - Perot/Stockdale: 23.2 percent
  - Other: 0.6 percent

Mahon wants less airport noise, more funding for cities

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“There’s an awful lot of knowledge and wisdom and experience up here. . . . I really feel like a college freshman, and right now I’m in a listening mode.”

—John Tschida

District 41B

- Pop.: 31,914
- Distribution: 100% in urbanized areas
- Largest City: Bloomington
- Location: southern Metro
- 1992 presidential election results:
  - Clinton/Gore: 34.4 percent
  - Bush/Quayle: 38.4 percent
  - Perot/Stockdale: 26.7 percent
  - Other: 0.5 percent
Actors have their understudies, baseball teams their pinch-hitters, and even Johnny Carson was known to rely on a guest host or two.

The Minnesota House of Representatives also has its version of calling someone off the bench to get the job done.

This session is the first that Rep. Jerry Bauerly (DFL-Sauk Rapids) has been appointed the speaker pro tempore, as the position is officially known (pro tem for short), though he's had experience at the podium in the previous two sessions. As the Latin translation makes clear, the speaker pro tem assumes the speaker's role on a short-term basis whenever the need arises.

"If Speaker Dee Long is to be out of town on a session day, or is tied up with a committee or a meeting or a speaking engagement, or something like that, then it's my responsibility to be the pinch-hitter," Bauerly said.

Sometimes the schedule change is known in advance, but at other times — especially when floor sessions get longer — it can be unexpected.

"Later in the session, the speaker has an incredibly overloaded agenda in terms of meeting with committee chairs, meeting with Ways and Means folks, bonding committee folks, often meeting with the governor and the majority leader of the Senate," he said. In those grueling last days, it is often not physically possible for one person to preside over the lengthy floor sessions.

Because of the speaker's crammed schedule, Bauerly's duties include acting as liaison between Long and members of the DFL caucus. He also works with the majority leader and assistant majority leaders as part of his caucus' management team.

Historically, House rules have allowed for temporary speakers almost since statehood, but the actual practice has varied. In fact, having a representative specifically designated for the role for an entire session is a fairly new concept.

Before the 1980s, temporary speakers could not serve for more than a day. And instead of being appointed by the speaker, they were chosen by a majority of the House or by the Rules Committee. Under current rules, if neither Long nor Bauerly is available to preside over floor sessions, the speaker will simply pick someone else to fill the post.

Bauerly doesn't consider himself an expert on parliamentary procedure, but he said he's worked hard at polishing those skills. Chairing a school board and other local organization has helped, along with Chief Clerk Ed Burdick's training course on the subject.

The position requires quick, sure decision-making on a variety of issues that may appear mundane to some. But determining whether an amendment is "germane" to a bill is oftentimes no easy task. And the judgment often means the difference between its passage or defeat.

Those rulings can lead to the political tension that makes the democratic system work, said Bauerly. At the same time, he said he also has a duty to keep things moving.

"[You have to make sure] that everyone gets a chance to speak on a bill so you don't limit or stifle debate, and yet try and keep on the agenda and keep the process moving on a steady and methodical basis — so we can get our work done."

Bauerly takes his ascension from rank-and-file lawmaker to the speaker's chair in stride — even when switching roles is spontaneous.

"Actually, the first couple of minutes up there, until you get oriented to where everything is at, it is a little disconcerting," he said. "But I really enjoy it."

Burdick's well-versed crew at the House floor's front desk smooths the transition, he added.

"It really gives you a sense of humility, I think, in terms of knowing the expectation of incredible fairness and impartiality as you mete out the decisions between members," Bauerly said.

— Jim Anderson
How a bill becomes a law in Minnesota

The bill status tracking sheets are designed to give you the latest information on bill action during the week preceding each issue (Thursday, 2:30 p.m. to Thursday, 2:30 p.m.). Since it is impossible to provide a cumulative list of all bill action due to space limitations, we urge you to save each issue of the Session Weekly and mark the bills you want to follow.

The bill status tracking sheets provide you with the bills under current consideration, their chief authors, and titles to indicate content. They are organized first by committee or division; then, numerically by House File number. Most bills have companions in both the House and the Senate.

If certain bills are not listed during a particular week, it means that no further action has been taken on them. Abbreviations are used throughout the bill tracking sheets to save space. Though they may seem baffling at first, a glance at the key which appears at the top of each page can quickly remedy the problem. The boldfaced terms in this introduction appear as column headings on the bill tracking sheets.

The major section headings on the bill tracking sheets are divided into three stages that parallel the lawmaking process, namely: committee action, floor action, and final action.

Committee action

Under committee action, bills are introduced in written form and referred to an appropriate committee for consideration. A bill on farming, for example, would most likely be sent to the Agriculture Committee. Each committee chair decides which bills will be taken up during the session.

The committee or division holds hearings and discussions on the bill, and then sends a committee report citing the committee's recommendation for action to the floor of the House (or Senate). Typical actions include "recommended to pass," "recommended to pass as amended," "not recommended to pass," and "re-referred to another committee or division.

Floor action

When the committee report reaches the floor, the full body debates the bill and considers amendments. All legislators then vote on the bill in its final form. Final passage requires at least 68 "yes" votes in the House; 34 in the Senate.

Since companion bills are processed through both bodies concurrently, there comes a point where the House and Senate must agree on the bill. Therefore, the first body to pass a bill sends it to the other body for a first reading where the bill is substituted for its companion and replaces it in the process.

If the bills the House and Senate pass differ, either the first body agrees to accept the second body's version, or a conference committee is appointed to work out the differences. Typically, either three or five members of each body are named to such committees.

Once the conference committee reaches a compromise, the bill is sent back to the full House and the full Senate for approval. Sometimes the bill differs from the ones members in each body approved. But if both bodies concur and re-pass the bill, it is given a chapter number and sent on to the governor for action — approval or disapproval.

Final action

If the governor disapproves or vetoes (v) the bill, it cannot become law unless two-thirds of the members in both the House and the Senate vote to override the veto. If the governor approves or signs (s) the bill, it becomes law.

Copies of bills are available through the Chief Clerk's Office, 211 State Capitol, St. Paul, MN 55155, (612) 296-2314.
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<th>Committee/Division/Bill Title</th>
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<td>SF0317</td>
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**Committee/Division**
- Commerce & Economic Development
- Agriculture & Rural Development
- Education
- Environment & Natural Resources
- Finance & Taxation
- Consumer Protection
- Health
- Transportation
- Government Operations
- Law Enforcement
- Appropriations
- Rules

**Bill Status Tracking Sheet**
- Bill status tracking sheet
- Bill action between Feb. 25 - March 4
- Governor's Chapter Number
- File No.
- Author
- Committee/Division/Bill Title
- Committee/Division
- Committee Report (date/act)
- Re-referral
- Final Passage
- Vote
- First Reading in Other Body
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- Concurrence & Repassage
- Referred to Another Committee/Division
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- Not Recommended to Pass
- Footnote
- Governor's Chapter Number

**Governor's Chapter Number**
- 1301
- 1320

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As of Aug. 28, 1992, a total of 5,003 liquor licensees were spread throughout the state of Minnesota. For awhile in 1852, there were none. That's because the Territorial Legislature, struck with the national fever of temperance reform, agreed to let the citizenry vote to outlaw the manufacture and sale of "spirituous or intoxicating liquors." The proposal said only "public agents" could sell booze. Most saloonkeepers didn't qualify.

In April 1852, territorial citizens voted 853 to 662 to outlaw intoxicants. Violators faced a $25 fine, (that's $408 in 1991 dollars), or imprisonment, or both. The penalty could have been tougher. One legislator, Rep. Mahlon Black of Stillwater, wanted a standard penalty death. Only two of his colleagues agreed, however, and his amendment was defeated.

After the referendum passed, (perhaps out of fear of Black) "Stillwater obeyed the mandate and closed its saloons, but the law was practically ignored elsewhere," wrote Theodore Christianson in Minnesota: The Land of Sky-Tinted Waters.

A few months later, Andrew Cloutier, decided to "defy the will of the people," and enjoyed a bit of prohibited drink. He was slapped with a $25 fine, but appealed the penalty to the Territorial Supreme Court.

The court threw out the law, ruling that a law passed by referendum was meaningless because the U.S. Congress had vested the legislative powers of the territory only in the House and the Council, (then the Senate equivalent) — not in the citizens of the territory.

Many public hearings were held to agitate for the reenactment of the law," wrote William Folwell, in A History of Minnesota, but the efforts were unsuccessful.

In Minnesota today, there are 2,025 on-sale liquor licensees, 754 off-sale, 1,185 on-sale/off-sale combination licenses, 574 club licenses, and 465 owners of wine licenses.
Bill Introductions

In the Hopper . . . Feb. 26 - Mar. 4, 1993

Monday, March 1

HF641—Orfield (DFL)
Local Government & Metro Affairs
Metropolitan Council made an elective body; transit, sports facilities, airports, and waste control commissions changed to council operating divisions; regional transit board duties transferred, and Mosquito Control Commission abolished.

HF642—Carruthers (DFL)
Governmental Operations & Gambling
Brooklyn Center volunteer firefighters relief association provided lump sum water.

HF643—Luther (DFL)
Commerce & Economic Development
Cosmetology licenses and practice regulations provided for establishing replacement programs in eligible communities in the metropolitan area.

HF644—Lourey (DFL)
Environment & Natural Resources
Itaska County authorized to sell certain tax-forfeited land bordering public water.

HF645—Lasley (DFL)
Education
Maximum effort school loan program maximum tax rate modified for districts refunding bonds at a lower interest rate.

HF646—Simoneau (DFL)
Local Government & Metro Affairs
Charter city commission membership terms and petition procedures modified.

HF647—Kelso (DFL)
Education
Change-oriented school pilot project established.

HF648—Anderson, I. (DFL)
Local Government & Metro Affairs
Itasca County allowed to consolidate the offices of auditor and treasurer.

HF649—Tomassoni (DFL)
Education
Duluth campus; taconite research endowed chair authorized at the University of Minnesota Natural Resources Research Institute in Coleraine.

HF650—Tomassoni (DFL)
Education
County-school district coordinated program established for delivering educational and community social services, and money appropriated.

HF651—Winter (DFL)
Labor-Management Relations
Unfair labor practice to include not informing employees of right to have a union representative present during an investigation or disciplinary interview.

HF652—Greenfield (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Community program access equality required for persons with mental retardation or related conditions.

HF653—Kelso (DFL)
Transportation & Transit
Regional Transit Board rate modifications removed for establishing replacement programs in eligible communities in the metropolitan area.

HF654—Perlt (DFL)
Commerce & Economic Development
Corporate registration and administrative dissolutions, limited partnership registrations, trademarks, and various lien filings regulated; and secretary of state provided various housekeeping changes.

HF655—Orenstein (DFL)
Judiciary
Civil service commission decision appeals provided to cities and employees.

HF656—Simoneau (DFL)
Judiciary
Medical malpractice punitive damage award deposit required in the health care access fund.

HF657—Simoneau (DFL)
Judiciary
Jury selection procedures simplified by Supreme Court.

HF658—Wejman (DFL)
Transportation & Transit
Paratransit service eligibility to require physician's disability certification statement.

HF659—Wejman (DFL)
Transportation & Transit
Handicapped parking certificate or special disabled license plate applicants issued immediate temporary permits.

HF660—Brown, C. (DFL)
Taxes
Local government sales tax effective date modified.

HF661—Wenzel (DFL)
Agriculture
Dairy trade practices act adopted.

HF662—Orfield (DFL)
Governmental Operations & Gambling
Minneapolis Teachers Retirement Fund Association provided purchase of allowable service credits for public school employment outside the state.

HF663—Reding (DFL)
Governmental Operations & Gambling
St. Paul Teachers Retirement Fund Association provided postretirement adjustment administrative expenses, and first class city teachers retirement associations provided annuities and administration.

HF664—Greiling (DFL)
Education
Job sharing incentive provided in teacher retirement programs for experienced teachers.

HF665—Greenfield (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Hospital construction moratorium made permanent.

HF666—Greiling (DFL)
Education
Teacher and professional staff involvement and satisfaction fostered, instruction improved, and school expenditure cost increases minimized; and pupil-teacher ratio calculating modified.

HF667—Haukoos (IR)
Governmental Operations & Gambling
Volunteer firefighter relief associations provided modified corporate registration requirement for compliance with fire state aid financial reporting.

HF668—Greiling (DFL)
Transportation & Transit
Paratransit commission created for serving the elderly, disabled, or people with special needs transportation, and money appropriated.

HF669—Jennings (DFL)
Transportation & Transit
Paratransit commission created for serving the elderly, disabled, or people with special needs transportation, and money appropriated.

HF670—Lourey (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Mental or nervous disorder treatment outpatient benefits regulated for mental health professionals.

HF671—Orfield (DFL)
Housing
Metropolitan Council to allocate comprehensive choice housing among cities and towns in the metropolitan area and compliance review provided.

HF672—Spardy (DFL)
Environment & Natural Resources
Genetic engineering and isolated genetic material use procedures clarified.

HF673—Johnson, V. (IR)
Environment & Natural Resources
Eurasian wild pigs and other species prohibited, penalties imposed, and money appropriated.

HF674—Bettermann (IR)
Labor-Management Relations
Workers' compensation premium adjustment programs prohibited based on contractor size, average hourly wage paid, or other condition unless actuarially justified.

HF675—Smith (IR)
Transportation & Transit
Rebuilt passenger motor vehicle value determined by purchase price for taxation purposes.

HF676—Asch (DFL)
Commerce & Economic Development
Facsimile transmission of unsolicited advertising materials regulated and penalties provided.

HF677—Orfield (DFL)
Taxes
Urban enterprise zone program established, property tax exemptions and franchise tax credits provided, and tax increment financing project exemptions and special rules created.

HF678—Sarma (DFL)
Labor-Management Relations
Total quality management technique education grant program established in the small employer environment, and money appropriated.
HF679—Asch (DFL)  
Taxes  
Sales limit penalties canceled.

HF680—Rice (DFL)  
Local Government & Metro Affairs  
St. Anthony Falls heritage board appointment allowed by the chair of the Hennepin County Board of Commissioners.

HF681—Wagenius (DFL)  
Judiciary  
Firearm regulation adoption authorized by metropolitan county cities and the Metropolitan Airports Commission.

HF682—Trimble (DFL)  
Environment & Natural Resources  
Fishing without a license exemption for nonresident/foreign visitors.

HF683—Jennings (DFL)  
Financial Institutions & Insurance  
No-fault automobile insurance reparation obligations authorized to offer medical expense benefits through managed care plans, and premium reductions provided.

HF684—Svenson (IR)  
Judiciary  
Correctional facility product and service noncompetitive bidding purchases provided; inmate unclaimed money and property holding period reduced; inmate wage withholding expanded; and sex offender treatment assessment requirements modified.

HF685—Jennings (DFL)  
Environment & Natural Resources  
Eurasian water milfoil research and control costs provided, and money appropriated.

HF686—Klitzing (DFL)  
Environment & Natural Resources  
Drainage authorities provided appointment of viewers, drainage system alternates, and annual repair assessment levy requirements.

HF687—Rukavina (DFL)  
Agriculture  
Aquatic pest control applicators licensed.

HF688—Bishop (IR)  
Judiciary  
Pistol possession prohibited for persons convicted of domestic assault with a firearm.

HF689—Stians (IR)  
Local Government & Metro Affairs  
Metropolitan Mosquito Control Commission membership modified and provided long-term comprehensive and implementation planning.

HF690—Winter (DFL)  
Governmental Operations & Gambling  
Worthington city employee disability benefit reduction reduced for coordination with workers' compensation benefits.

HF691—Stians (IR)  
Judiciary  
Child protection workers authorized to take a child into immediate custody when a child is found in dangerous surroundings.

HF692—Kinkel (DFL)  
Environment & Natural Resources  
Citizen's lake monitoring program appropriated money.

HF693—Krueger (DFL)  
Governmental Operations & Gambling  
Legislative budget office established and money appropriated.

HF694—Ozment (IR)  
Environment & Natural Resources  
Industrial waste management regulated.

HF695—Ozment (IR)  
Gen. Leg., Veterans Affairs & Elections  
Veterans Affairs and Cemetery relocation prohibited without trustee or owner consent.

HF696—Jennings (DFL)  
Health & Human Services  
Health & Human Services MinnesotaCare to cover nonpreventive adult dental care services.

HF697—Steensma (DFL)  
Capital Investment  
Murray County authorized a grant for construction of a television tower to enable Pioneer Public Television to broadcast services to the southwestern part of the state, bond issuance provided, and money appropriated.

HF698—Blatz (IR)  
Judiciary  
Victims' rights applicability provided in juvenile court proceedings; towing fee notice and waiver provided for victims of auto theft; and restitution procedures clarified.

HF699—Paully (IR)  
Environment & Natural Resources  
Mineral leasing, environmental research and protection, exploratory mineral borings and data, lead ore stockpile removal, and oil and gas well spacing, pooling, and unitization provided.

HF700—Farrell (DFL)  
Labor-Management Relations  
Railroad employee interests protected following an acquisition.

HF701—Tompkins (IR)  
Health & Human Services  
Health care provider participation in health policies, plans, and contracts provided, and uniform claims forms, billing, and record keeping practices provided.

HF702—Carruthers (DFL)  
Judiciary  
DWI repeat offenders ineligible to earn jail sentence good time reductions; license cancellation offense penalty increased; driver's license revocation provided for drug offenses; pretrial procedures studied; and money appropriated.

HF703—Rhodes (IR)  
Judiciary  
Carjacking offenses created and penalties provided.

HF704—Trimble (DFL)  
Environment & Natural Resources  
Water deficiency declarations provided required criteria, groundwater use prohibited for surface water level maintenance, water appropriation permit reviews provided, water shortage planning, and metropolitan water plan modified.

HF705—Olson, K. (DFL)  
Education  
Business education tax created, state share of financing increased, local commercial-industrial tax base reduced, fiscal disparities program repealed, school district referendum levies modified, and money appropriated.

HF706—Lasley (DFL)  
Education  
General education formula allowance and staff development revenue increased; individualized learning and development aid and referendum market value tax base modified; teacher retirement state aid created; and money appropriated.

HF707—Weigman (DFL)  
Judiciary  
Hennepin County juvenile detention center construction of additional space appropriated money.

HF708—Osthoff (DFL)  
Transportation & Transit  
Motor vehicle deputy registrar appointments provided for local governments.

HF710—Johnson, R. (DFL)  
Health & Human Services  
Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indian welfare costs reimbursed to Beltrami and Clearwater counties, and money appropriated.

HF711—Bishop (IR)  
Education  
Winona State University upper division 2 + 2 program at the Rochester center appropriated money.

HF712—Dorn (DFL)  
Health & Human Services  
Technical college instructor unrequested leave of absence regulated during the regionalization process.

HF713—Orenstein (DFL)  
Taxes  
Ramsey County, St. Paul, and Independent School District No. 625, required joint property tax public hearings, and joint property tax advisory committee created.

HF714—Dawkins (DFL)  
Health & Human Services  
Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) waiver sought exempting wages of minor children attending school.

HF715—Osthoff (DFL)  
Transportation & Transit  
Motor vehicle deputy registrar appointments provided for local governments.

HF716—Simoneau (DFL)  
Judiciary  
Prisoner medical services regulated and automobile insurance policy discrimination prohibited.

HF717—Winter (DFL)  
Governmental Operations & Gambling  
Volunteer firefighter relief associations provided open and standing appropriation for supplemental benefit payments.

HF718—Winter (DFL)  
Governmental Operations & Gambling  
Lawful purpose expenditures to include certain building, maintenance, repair, and utility costs; pull-tab and tipboard tax lowered; annual audit requirement repealed; and uniform tax and reporting forms provided.

HF719—Winter (DFL)  
Taxes  
Tax increment financing district computation of original tax capacity to include tax-forfeited land.
HF720—Anderson, I. (DFL)
Local Government & Metro. Affairs
Cartways allowed on alternative routes for landowners without access to public roads.

HF721—Orfield (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Hennepin and Ramsey county work readiness programs replaced with metro public works training act.

HF722—Polowski (DFL)
Education
Rochester Community College instructional equipment purchases for the Rochester center appropriated money.

HF723—Simoneau (DFL)
Labor-Management Relations
Public preferential employment provi­sions to include the same employee salary and benefits before contracting out of services.

HF724—Bettermann (IR)
Health & Human Services
Optometrists authorized to prescribe and use topical legend drugs.

HF725—Greiling (DFL)
Rules & Legislative Administration
Unicameral legislature provided with a 135-member senate and constitutional amendment proposed.

HF726—Orfield (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Asbestos abatement provisions modified related to asbestos-related work, licenses, and fees, and penalties provided.

HF727—Loeurey (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Economic opportunity grants to community action agencies appropriated money.

Thursday, March 4

HF728—Garcia (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Medical Assistance and General Assis­tance Medical Care reimbursement increased for masters-prepared and master’s-level licensed mental health prac­titioners.

HF729—Van Dellen (IR)
Health & Human Services
MinnesotaCare provider tax amounts allowed itemization on patient health care bills.

HF730—Anderson, I. (DFL)
Local Government & Metro. Affairs
Local Government & Metro. Affairs Municipal annexations provided procedures and criteria and city development regulation application provided.

HF731—Pugh (DFL)
Local Government & Metro. Affairs
Municipal annexations provided procedures and criteria and city development regulation application provided.

HF732—McGuire (DFL)
Judiciary
Law enforcement agencies exempted from criminal offender rehabilitation employment law requirements.

HF733—Johnson, R. (DFL)
Environment & Natural Resources
Traps provided identification requirements and penalties provided.

HF734—Sparby (DFL)
Environment & Natural Resources
Deer, antlerless deer permit preference provided to applicants under 16 years old who have not been previously selected for a permit, and money appropriated.

HF735—Johnson, V. (IR)
Transportation & Transit
Implementers of husbandry traffic regulations clarified and expanded.

HF736—Wejman (DFL)
Health & Human Services
African-American young women with children provided inner city culturally oriented residence pilot project, and money appropriated.

HF737—Cooper (DFL)
Governmental Operations & Gambling
Compulsive gambling surtax and account created; youth gambling task force established; compulsive gambling commission operation provided; and money appropriated.

HF738—Kelley (DFL)
Education
Remedial instruction information disseminated by post-secondary institutions to school districts.

HF739—Johnson, A. (DFL)
Education
Community education licensed instructors provided teacher designation and tenure act employment protection, and instruction offered on a noncredit basis clarified.

HF740—Polowski (DFL)
Environment & Natural Resources
Winona County authorized to negotiate contracts with or without bids for solid waste management facilities, programs, and services.

HF741—Cooper (DFL)
Transportation & Transit
Rail service improvement account expenditures authorized for acquiring or upgrading previously used railcars and locomotives.

HF742—Pugh (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Dakota County adult mental health services pilot project continued, adult mental health services integrated fund established, grant provided, and money appropriated.

HF743—Welle (DFL)
Governmental Operations & Gambling
Management and budget department established, and Administration, Employee Relations, Finance, and Revenue departments and Strategic and Long-Range Planning Office abolished.

HF744—Johnson, R. (DFL)
Governmental Operations & Gambling
Early retirement; employer-paid health insurance provided as incentive for early retirement of certain public employees.

HF745—Hausman (DFL)
Education
Library online computer-based catalog system in state agency libraries appropriated money.

HF746—Osthoff (DFL)
Transportation & Transit
Title certificate transfer required upon ownership of motor vehicle, and registrar of motor vehicles allowed to research records before responding to a phone request.

HF747—Orenstein (DFL)
Judiciary
Bond order stays provided for actions presenting substantial constitutional or statutory construction issues.

HF748—Sparby (DFL)
Education
Computer hardware and software purchase levies authorized.

HF749—Solberg (DFL)
Environment & Natural Resources
Taconite lease procedures provided for negotiation of terms for negotiated or extended taconite iron mining leases.

HF750—Hasskamp (DFL)
Taxes
Commercial seasonal recreational property tax rate created.

HF751—Jacobs (DFL)
Regulated Industries & Energy
Telecommunications carrier rate equality provided, public filing of rates required, investigation of complaints furnished, price increase and service discontinuation notice granted, penalties and certification supplied.

HF752—Sparby (DFL)
Environment & Natural Resources
Commercially netted sauger sale or transportation prohibited.

HF753—Tunheim (DFL)
Taxes
Nonprofit tax exempt organizations to include groups for physically disabled.

HF754—Swenson (IR)
Governmental Operations & Gambling
Minimum age set for bingo, pari-mutuel betting, or purchase of pull-tab, tabletop ticket, paddleticket, or raffle ticket; negotiation required for minimum age agreement for Indian casino gambling.

HF755—Dorn (DFL)
Judiciary
Trespass on school property misdemeanor penalty provided, willful trespass on school property gross misdemeanor penalty provided.

HF756—Ness (IR)
Taxes
Adjusted assessed valuation inserted for adjusted net tax capacity; assessed valuation inserted for net tax capacity; and mill rate inserted for tax capacity rate in statutes, and mill rate defined.

HF757—Dorn (DFL)
Education
Comparable public institutions defined for the purpose of tuition financial aid determination.

HF758—Simoneau (DFL)
Transportation & Transit
Drivers' license produced to resist alteration and tampering, and drivers' license fees increased.

HF759—Macklin (IR)
Environment & Natural Resources
Fishing license for single parent and child under 18 established.

HF760—Neary (DFL)
Financial Institutions & Insurance
Dental coverage reimbursement rates disclosure by insurance companies required.

HF761—Pugh (DFL)
Local Government & Metro. Affairs
Local Government & Metro. Affairs Employee total compensation, claim payment rules modified; severance pay for highly compensated employees limited; certain high risk investments limited; and state auditor examination of local government grants and contractor provided.

HF762—Bishop (IR)
Local Government & Metro. Affairs
County services districts established for coordination of delivery of county services.

HF763—Anderson, I. (DFL)
Environment & Natural Resources
Transported fish from Canada transported whole, and misdemeanor penalty provided.
HF764—Anderson, I. (DFL)
Environment & Natural Resources
Fishing license from state required for transportation of fish from Canada.

HF765—Anderson, I. (DFL)
Taxes
Convention show operators required to collect tax for free brochures or other printed material, and penalty provided.

HF766—Svigum (IR)
Rules & Legislative Administration
Initiative and referendum provided and constitutional amendment proposed.

HF767—Orenstein (DFL)
Commerce & Economic Development
Credit check requirement of buyers prohibited as condition of sale.

HF768—Jaros (DFL)
Governmental Operations & Gambling
Grain inspector provided state retirement system service credit purchase.

HF769—Jaros (DFL)
Governmental Operations & Gambling
Teacher Retirement Association members provided service credit purchase.

HF770—Clark (DFL)
Education
Nursing school grants provided for persons of color, and money appropriated.

HF771—Greenfield (DFL)
Regulated Industries & Energy
Minneapolis licensed liquor establishments allowed extended hours license.

HF772—Jacobs (DFL)
Regulated Industries & Energy
Electric service separate metering exemptions modified.

HF773—Tunheim (DFL)
Environment & Natural Resources
Transported fish subject to size limits transported whole.

HF774—Tunheim (DFL)
Environment & Natural Resources
Sales of size limited fish prohibited if taken in state or Minnesota-Ontario border waters.

HF775—Stanisius (IR)
Environment & Natural Resources
Gill net biodegradable requirement provided.

HF776—Stanisius (IR)
Environment & Natural Resources
Aquatic management areas provided to protect wetland areas.

HF777—Rukavina (DFL)
Commerce & Economic Development
Consumer report inserted for credit report, consumer report use for employment prohibited without consumer consent.

HF778—Kinkel (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Regional health care management board membership appointment to include representation from each county to extent possible.

HF779—Dorn (DFL)
Governmental Operations & Gambling
Teacher Retirement Association members provided bounce-back annuity.

HF780—Haukoos (IR)
Transportation & Transit
Motor carrier rate charges collection limited.

HF781—Lasley (DFL)
Environment & Natural Resources
Cambridge loan from water pollution control revolving fund partially forgiven.

HF782—Knickerbocker (IR)
Environment & Natural Resources
Zebra mussel infested watercraft special tag provided, inspection for contamination required before infested watercraft allowed operation in noninfested water, penalties provided.

HF783—Haukoos (IR)
Governmental Operations & Gambling
Albert Lea Fire Department Relief Association provided preretirement and postretirement interest and salary increase actuarial assumptions.

HF784—Sparby (DFL)
Gen. Leg., Veterans Affairs & Elections
Precinct caucus time and date changed.

HF785—Kahn (DFL)
Governmental Operations & Gambling
Minneapolis Police Relief Association survivor benefit payments modified.

HF786—Cooper (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Nurse practitioner education grant program and promotion teams established for rural practice incentives, health care professional loan forgiveness programs modified, and money appropriated.

HF787—Svigum (IR)
Environment & Natural Resources
Trespass boundaries authorized by orange diagonal blaze marks on trees.

HF788—Wejcman (DFL)
Transportation & Transit
Paratransit commission created for serving the elderly, disabled, or people with special needs transportation, and money appropriated.

HF789—Anderson, R. (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program nutritional supplement funding increased, and money appropriated.

HF790—Peterson (DFL)
Agriculture
Oxidized gasoline provided increased minimum oxygen content specifications.

HF791—Evans (DFL)
Commerce & Economic Development
Tobacco retail sales licensure authorized by local units of government and administrative penalties provided for sales to minors.

HF792—Sulberg (DFL)
Environment & Natural Resources
Motor fuel excise tax exemption provided to refined waste motor oil.

HF793—Pelowski (DFL)
Education
SELF student loan recipients provided consumer protection.

HF794—Anderson, R. (DFL)
Gen. Leg., Veterans Affairs & Elections
Fergus Falls veterans home established.

HF795—Jennings (DFL)
Financial Institutions & Insurance
No-fault automobile insurance commercial vehicle right of indemnity not to include school busses.

HF796—Stanisius (IR)
Environment & Natural Resources
Fluorescent lamp recycling required in state buildings.

HF797—Bishop (IR)
Judiciary
Parent, guardian, or custodian reasonable efforts required in juvenile court proceeding requirements.

HF798—Delmont (DFL)
Transportation & Transit
Highway user tax distribution funds authorized for general transportation purposes; metropolitan area highway projects and planning prescribed; transit cost tax deductions and credits provided; light rail bonds issued; money appropriated.

HF799—Onnen (IR)
Education
General education tax levy to exclude certain land and provided based on school district modified net tax capacity, disparity reduction aid modified, and income tax rate schedules adjusted.

HF800—Greiling (DFL)
Transportation & Transit
Speed measuring devices; hand-held traffic radar operating procedure requirements provided for reduction of microwave radiation exposure.

HF801—Marioni (DFL)
Transportation & Transit
Failure to maintain control of a motor vehicle offense provided.

HF802—Lasley (DFL)
Transportation & Transit
Medical Assistance reimbursement increased for special transportation, and money appropriated.

HF803—Jennings (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Ambulance service area changes provided exemption from contested case hearing process requirements.

HF805—Hunley (DFL)
Finance & Commerce
Western Lake Superior sanitary district provided disposal of incinerator ash produced by the fluidized bed sewage sludge incinerators.

HF806—Rodosovich (DFL)
Commerce & Economic Development
Smoking prohibited in designated non-smoking hotel rooms, innkeepers allowed reimbursement of costs resulting from violations, and penalties provided.

HF807—Kahn (DFL)
Governmental Operations & Gambling
Minneapolis Fire Department Relief Association provided service pension rates.

HF808—Koppendrayer (IR)
Transportation & Transit
DUI conviction transcripts provided by courts at no charge to prosecuting attorney.
HF809—Frerichs (IR)
Health & Human Services
Regional treatment center and state nursing home facility rents returned to the facilities; resident relocations provided; regional treatment center system capacity reviewed; and state-operated community-based program operation provided.

HF810—Jaros (DFL)
Taxes
Motor vehicle registrar allowed to divulge motor vehicle purchaser's certificate information to local sales or use tax administrators.

HF811—Jaros (DFL)
Local Government & Metro. Affairs
Duluth Housing and Redevelopment Authority authorized a property tax levy, and port authority levy designation provided.

HF812—Rodosovich (DFL)
Local Government & Metro. Affairs
Faribault provided civil service status for the chief of police and director of fire and code services.

HF813—Hasskamp (DFL)
Environment & Natural Resources
Deer muzzle-loading season provided statewide.

HF814—Sviggum (IR)
Governmental Operations & Gambling
Teacher retirement plans provided deferred compensation, deferred compensation program recodified, and curricular teaching activity compensation coverage provided.

HF815—Osthoff (DFL)
Transportation & Transit
All-terrain vehicle regulation exemption provided to public bodies.

HF816—Delmont (DFL)
Judiciary
Minor illegal liquor consumption venue of action provided in jurisdiction of consumption.

HF817—Mahon (DFL)
Governmental Operations & Gambling
Annuity change options provided to certain Public Employees Retirement Association retired members.

HF818—Orenstein (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Hepatitis B Vaccination consent authority provided to minors.

HF819—Johnson, R. (DFL)
Labor-Management Relations
Health group insurance coverage for essential employees provided interest arbitration.

HF820—Jacobs (DFL)
Regulated Industries & Energy
District heating loan program repealed.

HF821—Jacobs (DFL)
Regulated Industries & Energy
Energy conservation loan program authority transferred to the Public Service Department.

HF822—Jacobs (DFL)
Regulated Industries & Energy
Municipal energy conservation loan program updated.

HF823—Jacobs (DFL)
Regulated Industries & Energy
Pipeline Safety Advisory Council expiration date deleted.

HF824—Jacobs (DFL)
Regulated Industries & Energy
Excavation to include agricultural drainage tile repair and installation and landscaping, and one call excavation notice system requirements modified.

HF825—Jacobs (DFL)
Regulated Industries & Energy
Liquor licensed premises, nonintoxicating malt liquor, restaurant, and wine definitions modified; manufacturers prohibited from dealing directly with retailers; felons disqualified from licensing; and license procedures modified.

HF826—Simoneau (DFL)
Labor-Management Relations
Workers' compensation minimum deposit requirements modified for self-insurers.

HF827—Olson, K. (DFL)
Transportation & Transit
Wally Nelson Highway designated in Lamberton.

HF828—Orenstein (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Chiropractic services provided utilization review organization procedures.

HF829—Clark (DFL)
Transportation & Transit
Highway user tax distribution funds authorized for general transportation purposes; metropolitan area highway projects and planning prescribed; transit cost tax deductions and credits provided; light rail bonds issued; money appropriated.

HF830—McCullum (DFL)
Transportation & Transit
Highway user tax distribution funds authorized for general transportation purposes; metropolitan area highway projects and planning prescribed; transit cost tax deductions and credits provided; light rail bonds issued; money appropriated.

HF831—Jacobs (DFL)
Regulated Industries & Energy
Energy conservation improvement contribution due dates changed and contribution and revenue use restrictions eased and modified.

HF832—Jacobs (DFL)
Regulated Industries & Energy
Public electric utility advance forecast reporting requirements eliminated in an integrated resource plan.

HF833—Jacobs (DFL)
Regulated Industries & Energy
Wind-powered or solar-powered electric generating plants excluded from certificate of need process.

HF834—Jacobs (DFL)
Regulated Industries & Energy
Energy conservation and other energy related program duties eliminated for public service department.

HF835—Luther (DFL)
Commerce & Economic Development
Housing concentrated area action plans provided and money appropriated.

HF836—Staunus (IR)
Environment & Natural Resources
Game and fish license subagent options provided.

HF837—Staunus (IR)
Environment & Natural Resources
Wildlife state area protection and stewardship provided, bond issuance authorized, and money appropriated.

HF838—Davids (IR)
Labor-Management Relations
Workers' compensation medical treatment and supply charges regulated.

HF839—Winter (DFL)
Education
Independent School District No. 504, Slayton, authorized a general education revenue reduction exemption.

HF840—Kinkel (DFL)
Environment & Natural Resources
Game fish imposed retail sales tax and revenue dedicated to aquaculture programs.

HF841—Peterson (DFL)
Agriculture
Aboveground agricultural storage tank regulation provided by agriculture department.

HF842—Staunus (IR)
Environment & Natural Resources
Moose license not issued to a person more than once and preference provided to previous applicants who were not selected.
## Coming Up Next Week . . . Mar. 8 - 12, 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, March 8

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>Details</th>
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| 8 a.m.     | ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, INFRASTRUCTURE & REGULATION FINANCE | 300N State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Jim Rice  
Agenda: Review of agency and proposed budget, Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry. |
| 10 a.m.    | AGRICULTURE                                     | 5 State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Steve Wenzel  
Agenda: HF256 (Steensma) Livestock activity civil liability limited.  
HF385 (Steensma) Right of first refusal actions provided time limit. |
|            | Subcommittee on Civil Law/JUDICIARY             | 400S State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Tom Pugh  
Agenda: HF264 (Johnson, R.) Child in need of protection or services and child abuse definitions modified.  
HF499 (Wejcman) Child support judgment wage executions and garnishments effective until judgments are satisfied. |
|            | Subcommittee on Criminal Justice & Family Law/JUDICIARY | Basement Hearing Room  
State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Phil Carruthers  
Agenda: Any bill not completed at the 3/5 Criminal Justice & Family Law Subcommittee meeting.  
HF209 (Wenzel) Murder of peace officer parole eliminated, shooting at homes or vehicles penalties provided, minor prostitution and assault penalties increased, juvenile adult certification age and sex offender registration modified; money appropriated.  
HF62 (Bauerly) 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.  
HF198 (Macklin) Probation hearings allowed after probation period expires.  
HF64 (Swenson) Correctional facility product and service noncompetitive bidding purchases provided; inmate unclaimed money and property holding period reduced; inmate wage withholding expanded; and sex offender treatment assessor requirements modified. |
| 12:30 p.m. | GENERAL LEGISLATION, VETERANS AFFAIRS & ELECTIONS | 300N State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Wally Sparby  
Agenda: HF163 (Sparby) Campaign reforms; candidates limited to one campaign committee, challengers first time spending limits higher, contribution limit lowered, public matching subsidy provided, corporate contributions modified, and money appropriated. |
| 5 a.m.     | HOUSING                                         | 500S State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Karen Clark  
Agenda: HF671 (Orfield) Metropolitan Council to allocate comprehensive choice housing among cities and towns in the metropolitan area and compliance review provided. |
| 5 a.m.     | LABOR-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS                      | 200 State Office Building  
Chr. Rep. Pat Beard  
Agenda: HF64 (Jacobs) 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.  
HF255 (Johnson, A.) Employee wage protection act established and money appropriated.  
HF651 (Winter) Unfair labor practice to include not informing employees of right to have a union representative present during an investigatory or disciplinary interview. |

For the full schedule, please refer to the original document.
2:30 p.m.

The House meets in Session

After Session

Subcommittee on Data Privacy/JUDICIARY
300N State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Mary Jo McGuire
Agenda: HF589 (Pugh) State auditor data considered nonpublic data.
HF18 (Carruthers) Criminal history data classified as public data, and foster care license prohibited for persons convicted of a crime of violence.

Subcommittee on Unemployment & Workers’ Compensation/LABOR-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS
500N State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Jim Farrell
Agenda: HF169 (Blatz) Guardian and conservator appointments required in workers’ compensation for minors and incapacitated persons.
HF343 (Sekhon) Unemployment compensation benefits allowed to individuals separated from employment to avoid domestic abuse.

TUESDAY, March 9

8 a.m.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, INFRASTRUCTURE & REGULATION FINANCE
300N State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Jim Rice
Agenda: Committee tour of the Minnesota World Trade Center. (Transportation provided. Meet at the east entrance of the State Office Building at 7:50 a.m.)

EDUCATION
200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Lyndon Carlson

Health & Housing Finance Division/HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
400S State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Bob Anderson
Agenda: Department of Health budget summary.

TAXES
5 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Ann Rest
Agenda: HF443 (Olson, E.) Local government levy limitations abolished.

8:30 a.m.

ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES FINANCE
Basement Hearing Room
State Office Building
Chr. Rep. David Battaglia
Agenda: Department of Natural Resources budget presentation.

10 a.m.

ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES
200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Willard Munger
Agenda: HF65 (Munger) 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.

GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS & GAMBLING
10 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Phyllis Kahn
Agenda: HF432 (Bishop) Legislative budget office established and money appropriated.
HF318 (Bishop) Optical disk storage provided for government records.
HF352 (Krueger) Employee suggestion plan authorized, and money appropriated.
HF283 (Krueger) Bonuses based on performance not paid to employees by state or quasi-state agencies.

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
5 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Wayne Simineau
Agenda: HF335 (Simineau) Family homeless prevention and assistance program established and money appropriated.
HF455 (Clark) Youthbuild and housing for the homeless program modified, eligible projects expanded, and money appropriated.
HF170 (Garcia) County veterans service office grant program established and money appropriated.
HF236 (Welle) Nursing facility intra-family sales authorized upon the death, disability, or retirement of the owner.
HF332 (Clark) Marijuana and Tetrahydrocannabinols (THC) allowed for treatment of a medical condition.

HF391 (Vickerman) Child care basic sliding fee program allocated money provided to counties.

Judiciary Finance Division/JUDICIARY
Basement Hearing Room
State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Mary Murphy
Agenda: Budget presentations by the Ombudsman for Corrections and the Department of Corrections. (Anyone wishing to testify regarding the above agencies should contact John Curry, (612) 296-5533. If necessary, budget presentations will continue at 4:30 p.m. in the basement hearing room.)

12:30 p.m.

CAPITAL INVESTMENT
500N State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Henry Kalis
Agenda: Overview of State housing revenue bonds, Jim Solem, commissioner, Housing Finance Agency.

Subcommittee on Consumer Protection/COMMERCE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
5 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Joe Opatz
Agenda: HF399 (Opatz) Unclaimed abandoned property notice requirements modified.
HF643 (Luther) Cosmetology licenses and practice regulated and Commerce Department enforcement powers provided technical changes.
HF554 (Carruthers) Roofers considered residential building contractors for licensing requirements.

Subcommittee on Local Government Relations/LOCAL GOVERNMENT & METROPOLITAN AFFAIRS
200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Syd Nelson
Agenda: HF498 (Rukavina) St. Louis County solid waste management contracting authority to include management operations.
HF361 (Davids) Municipal planning services contracts to provide for municipal plan ownership.
HF259 (Dauner) Notice and list of delinquent property and financial statement publications modified.
HF151 (Cooper) Town supervisor terms and road overseer and deputy treasurer employment clarified.
HF99 (Lasley) Regional public library districts authorized by local governments and levy authority provided.
HF383 (Pugh) Dakota County Housing and Redevelopment Authority and the county extension committee provided composition and powers.
HF333 (Steensma) Southwest Regional Development Commission to complete feasibility planning and final system design for connecting...
rural water systems to the multistate Lewis and
Clark Rural Water System of the Bureau of
Reclamation, and money appropriated.
HF152 (Cooper) Town road and bridge report
distribution eliminated to county auditor.
HF72 (Jefferson) Prostitution; motor vehicle
forfeiture and impoundment provided through
city ordinances for certain prostitution offenses.
HF461 (Jefferson) Cities authorized to offer
rewards for information leading to the apprehen­sion, arrest, or conviction of alleged felons.
HF496 (Tomassoni) Television broadcast facil­
ity funding provided by counties; and St. Louis
County television service cost assessment
authority repealed.
HF648 (Anderson, 1) Itasca County allowed to
consolidate the offices of auditor and treasurer.

2:30 p.m.

State Government Finance Division/ 
GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS & GAMBLING 
300N State Office Building 
Chr. Rep. Rick Krueger 
Agenda: Office of the State Treasurer overview and budget presentation. Minnesota Planning overview.

7 p.m.

Subcommittee on Dairy & Livestock/ 
AGRICULTURE 
5 State Office Building 
Chr. Rep. Jerry Bauerly 
Agenda: HF661 (Wenzel) Dairy trade practices act adopted.

WEDNESDAY, March 10

8 a.m.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, 
INFRASTRUCTURE & 
REGULATION FINANCE 
300N State Office Building 
Chr. Rep. Jim Rice 
Agenda: Review of agency and proposed budget, Minnesota Department of Public Safety.

Human Services Finance Division/ 
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES 
10 State Office Building 
Chr. Rep. Lee Greenfield 
Agenda: Continuation of the Department of Human Services budget presentation of the governor's recommendations for health care programs.

Higher Education Finance Division/ 
EDUCATION 
5 State Office Building 
Chr. Rep. Peter Rodosovich 
Agenda: Report on the governor's budget. Ron Hackett, Department of Finance; Curt Johnson, Governor's Office.

K-12 Education Finance Division/ 
EDUCATION 
200 State Office Building 
Chr. Rep. Kathleen Vellenga 
Agenda: Discussion of paper, "Minnesota School Finance: Traditional Retrofit or Future Pacesetter," Joyce Krupey, MDE.
HF618 (Kelso) Outcome based schools expanded, school board applicant denials appealed provided, and nongeneral fund revenue limited to planning and operation start-up costs.
HF647 (Kelso) Change-oriented school pilot project established.
HFXXXX (Kelley) Charter schools.

8:30 a.m.

ENVIRONMENT & 
NATURAL RESOURCES FINANCE 
Basement Hearing Room 
State Office Building 
Chr. Rep. David Battaglia 
Agenda: Department of Natural Resources budget presentation.

10 a.m.

Joint FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS & 
INSURANCE/International Trade, Technology & Economic Development Division/COMMERCE & 
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT 
5 State Office Building 
Agenda: Presentation on financial service requirements necessary to promote international export opportunities, representatives from the banking community, the Minnesota Trade Office, the Minnesota Export Authority, the Minnesota Office of Tourism, and private businesses.

Subcommittee on Civil Law/JUDICIARY 
400S State Office Building 
Chr. Rep. Tom Fugh 
Agenda: HF592 (Pugh) Debtor homestead ex­emption limited and homestead insurance pro­ceed exemption provided. Other bills to be announced. (For further information, contact (612) 296-5396.)

Subcommittee on Criminal Justice & 
Family Law/JUDICIARY 
Basement Hearing Room 
State Office Building 
Chr. Rep. Phil Carruthers 
Agenda: Any bill not completed at the 3/8 Criminal Justice & Family Law Subcommittee meeting.
HF59 (McGuire) Harassment and stalking crimes, restraining orders, mental health as-

sessions, and enhanced penalties clarified and provided; and drivers’ license and motor ve­

icle registration applicant home address data classified as private data. Other bills to be announced. (For further information, contact (612) 296-5396.)

Subcommittee on Facilities/ 
K-12 Education Finance Division/ 
EDUCATION 
300S State Office Building 
Chr. Rep. Becky Kelso 
Agenda: HF118 (Kinkel) Capital expenditure facilities revenue transfers authorized to capital expenditure equipment account.
HF266 (Cooper) Property tax effects due to levies required, health and safety levy limit modified.
HF502 (Kelso) Capital expenditure facilities program policy provided and clarified; integration and co-location of services encouraged; cooperative secondary facilities grant amount modified; bonds authorized; and money appropriated.
HFXXXX (Seagren) Capital investment.
HF529 (Ozment) Children and education services department created; youth apprentice­ship enrollment options act adopted; academic excellence foundation established; education finance provisions modified; community pro­grams promoted; and money appropriated.

State Government Finance Division/ 
GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS & GAMBLING 
300N State Office Building 
Chr. Rep. Rick Krueger 
Agenda: Budget presentations by Minnesota Planning and the Department of Military Affairs.

12:30 p.m.

International Trade, Technology & 
Economic Development Division/ 
COMMERCE & 
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT 
500S State Office Building 
Chr. Rep. Mike Jaros 
Agenda: HF280 (Rukavina) Affirmative enterprise program established to encourage the full­time employment of disabled persons in high unemployment areas, and money appropriated.
HF454 (Clark) Trade and economic develop­ment commissioner required annual report on job impact of job creation and retention programs.
HF550 (Osthoff) Job Skills Partnership Board membership and fund use expanded.
HFXXXX (Krueger) Clarifying provisions relating to the Department of Trade and Economic Development; clarifying the duties of the commissioner.
Tourism & Small Business Division/
COMMERCE &
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
300N State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Jim Tunheim
Agenda: HF654 (Perl) Corporate registration and administrative dissolution, limited partnership registrations, trademarks, and various lien filings regulated; and secretary of state provided various housekeeping changes. Testifying: Katie Engler, Office of the Secretary of State.

TRANSPORTATION & TRANSIT
10 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Tom Osthoff
Agenda: League of Minnesota Cities report, Chuck Winkelman, mayor, City of St. Cloud; Bruce Bullert, director, Public Works, Savage. Metropolitan Inter-County Association (MICA) report, Dennis Berg, commissioner, Anoka County; Dana Frey. MnDOT report.

2 p.m.

Subcommittee to Review Proposed Public Pension Plan Administrative Legislation/
Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement
318 State Capitol
Chr. Sen. LeRoy Stumpf
Agenda: SF519 (Stumpf)/HF574 (Reding) Age discrimination act compliance and administrative changes provided to various public pension plans.

2:30 p.m.

HOUSING
5005 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Karen Clark
Agenda: HF384 (Mariani) Housing Finance Agency program review requirements changed, deferred loan limits increased, homeownership program housing trust fund eligibility expanded, rental housing assistance program modified, and tribal housing projects authorized. HF241 (Greenfield) Housing Finance Agency authorized to finance residential facilities for elderly or physically infirm or impaired persons, and money appropriated.

Subcommittee to Review Proposed Special Legislation/Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement
Basement Hearing Room
State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Leo Reding
Agenda: SF272 (Moe)/HF527 (Liedner) State patrol retirement plan retired member permitted benefit accrual after age 60. SF528 (Hottinger)/HF520 (Dorn) Independent School District No. 77, Mankato, teachers retirement association basic member authorized second chance Medicare coverage referendum. SF597 (Kelly)/HF690 (Winter) Worthington city employee disability benefit reduction reduced for coordination with workers' compensation benefits. SF575 (Hottinger)/HFXXXX TRA; optional annuity recomputation. SF616 (Solon)/HFXXXX TRA; Pre-Age 25 service credit buyback. SF617 (Solon)/HFXXXX MSRS; grain handler buyback. HF157 (Carlson)/SFXXXX Public employees retirement association police and fire fund prior service credit purchase authorized for two Minneapolis employees. HF270 (Sarna)/SFXXXX St. Paul Fire Department Relief Association allowed to pay refund to estate of certain member.

4 p.m.

Legislative Commission on Planning and Fiscal Policy
5 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Dee Long
Agenda: Report by the Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations (ACIR), Ruby Hunt, chair. Local government financial reporting project proposal to create an accounting standards resource board, Steven Laible, KPMG Peat Marwick; Morris Anderson, commissioner, Department of Revenue; Mark Dayton, state auditor. HF432 (Bishop) Legislative budget office established and money appropriated. LCPFp mission and focus.

THURSDAY, March 11

8 a.m.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,
INFRASTRUCTURE &
REGULATION FINANCE
300N State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Jim Rice
Agenda: Review of agency and proposed budget, Minnesota Department of Public Safety.

EDUCATION
200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Lyndon Carlson
Agenda: Legislative auditor's study on higher education program duplication.

Health & Housing Finance Division/
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
4005 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Bob Anderson
Agenda: Continuation of the Department of Health budget summary.

Subcommittee on Property Taxes/TAXES
5 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Edgar Olson
Agenda: HF179 (Wagenius) Assessments not to include value of improvements made to certain homestead property 40 years old or older. HF293 (Beard)/HF359 (Olson) Credit card payment of property taxes provided. HF505 (Krueger) Homestead property tax application filing requirements modified. HF508 (Clark) Commercial/industrial property provided expanded confession of judgment eligibility.

Subcommittee on State Taxes/TAXES
10 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Jean Wagenius
Agenda: HF129 (Carruthers) Spousal maintenance delinquent payment withholding authorized from certain tax refunds. HF267 (Macklin) Tax incentives both state and local provided for certified small business, and money appropriated. HF394 (Cooper) Cemetery maintenance purchases provided sales tax exemption for nonprofit religious organizations. HF660 (Brown, C.) Local government sales tax effective date modified.

8:30 a.m.

ENVIRONMENT &
NATURAL RESOURCES FINANCE
Basement Hearing Room
State Office Building
Chr. Rep. David Battaglia
Agenda: Department of Natural Resources budget presentation.

10 a.m.

ENVIRONMENT &
NATURAL RESOURCES
200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Willard Munger
Agenda: HF513 (Kahn) Mississippi River critical area permits prohibited for expansion or enhancement of coal-fired steam heating facilities. HF287 (Wagenius) Waste management practices changed and emphasis placed on waste reduction and recycling.

GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS
& GAMBLING
10 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Phyllis Kahn
Agenda: HF576 (Greiling) Advisory task force, council, or committee appointments to comply with appointment to multimember agency regulations. HF506 (Johnson, R.) Employee relations department authorized experimental or research human resource management practices im-
provement projects, career executive service program repealed, and elected officials leave options modified.

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
5 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Wayne Simoneau

Agenda: HF430 (Kinkel) Human services and health departments to develop and implement a plan to coordinate reviews, surveys, and evaluations.

HF437 (Skoglund) Chemical health index for research on chemical abuse and its treatment transferred to human services department, and money appropriated.

HF468 (Clark) Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) federal waiver request required for providing housing assistance.

HF485 (Goodno) General Assistance, General Assistance Medical Care, and Work Readiness eligibility denied for undocumented aliens and nonimmigrants; work readiness program eligibility restricted; and county work experience programs required.

HF494 (Kelso) Residential property restrictions prohibited limiting use for licensed family and group family day care services.

HF507 (Clark) Patients provided presence disclosure option.

HF532 (Worke) Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC), aid for pregnant women, and employment and training eligibility modified; employment and training education requirement established; and community work experience program created.

HF611 (Greenfield) Children's mental health integrated fund and service system created, local children's mental health collaboratives provided, and money appropriated.

Judiciary Finance Division/JUDICIARY
Basement Hearing Room
State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Mary Murphy

Agenda: Department of Corrections budget presentation. (Anyone wishing to testify regarding the above agency should contact John Curry, (612) 295-5533. If necessary, budget presentations will continue at 4:30 p.m. in the basement hearing room.)

12:30 p.m.

COMMERCE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
5 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. John Sarna

Agenda: To be announced.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT & METROPOLITAN AFFAIRS
200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Irv Anderson

Agenda: All bills from 3/9 subcommittee meeting.

2:30 p.m.

The House meets in Session

After Session

ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES
200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Willard Munger

Agenda: To be announced.

FRIDAY, March 12

8 a.m.

Higher Education Finance Division/EDUCATION
5 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Peter Rodosovich

Agenda: State University System budget presentation, Terrence MacTaggart, chancellor.

Human Services Finance Division/HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
10 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Lee Greenfield

Agenda: Continuation of the Department of Human Services budget presentation regarding the governor's recommendations for health care programs.

K-12 Education Finance Division/EDUCATION
200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Kathleen Vellenga

Agenda: Governor's budget recommendations on cooperation/combination (603 and 605) and status report.

HF114 (Steensma) Independent school district nos. 918, Chandler-Lake Wilson, and 504, Slayton, provided 1993 as their first year of cooperation.

HF536 (Steensma) Independent school district nos. 404, Lake Benton, and 408, Verdi, provided levy dissolution requirements.

HF263 (Rukavina) Consolidated school districts provided special consolidation aid, and money appropriated.

HF276 (Peterson) Joint powers district No. 6011, Lac qui Parle Valley, provided exemptions from cooperation and combination revenue use restrictions.

HF362 (Davids) Independent school district Nos. 233, Preston-Fountain, and 228, Harmony, provided alternative method to combine referendum authority.

HF389 (Jennings) Reorganization operating debt levy allowed for one or more years.

HF545 (Girard) Independent School District No. 893, Echo, authorized a referendum on combination.

10 a.m.

Subcommittee on Civil Law/JUDICIARY
300N State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Tom Pugh

Agenda: To be announced. (Contact (612) 296-5396 for further information.)

Subcommittee on Criminal Justice & Family Law/JUDICIARY
300S State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Phil Carruthers

Agenda: To be announced. (Contact (612) 296-5396 for further information.)

TRANSPORTATION & TRANSIT
10 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Tom Osthoff

Agenda: Reports by Chuck Wiemes, Association of Minnesota Counties; and MnDOT.

12:30 p.m.

Subcommittee on Agriculture Finance & Rural Development/AGRICULTURE
5 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Ted Winter

Agenda: To be announced.

2 p.m.

Higher Education Finance Division/EDUCATION
Tour
Chr. Rep. Peter Rodosovich

Agenda: Tour of the University of Minnesota Health Sciences. (Those attending should meet prior to the tour in the 3rd floor conference room, Public Health, Mayo Building.)
Women in America and Minnesota

Cents that a woman earns for every dollar earned by men, 1990 ....................... 71
Life expectancy for girls born in 1990, in years ................................................. 79
for boys born the same year ........................................................................... 72
Ratio of widowed women to widowed men, nationwide, 1990 ......................... 5:1
Percent change in the number of women aged 20 to 24
who are single, 1970-1991 .............................................................................. +28
Number of U.S. women aged 15-44 who gave birth in 1990 ................. 1 in 15
in 1960 .................................................................................................. 1 in 8.5
Percent of all U.S. women who live alone, 1990 ................................................. 15
Percent of Minnesotans over 65 who live alone that are women ................. 79
Chances that a female-headed U.S. family lives in poverty ...................... 1 in 3
Change, since 1960, in the percent of the U.S. workforce that is female ........................ +12
Number of women between 16 and 64 in Minnesota’s labor force,
in millions, 1990 .............................................................................................. 1.7
Number of those women in the military ..................................................... 381
Number of female Minnesota veterans ......................................................... 16,000
Minnesota women who are full-time homemakers ...................................... 207,000
Nationwide, percent of all minimum wage (or less) workers who are women ... 63
Percent of all U.S. births to unmarried women, 1990 ........................................ 23
in 1970 ..................................................................................................... 11
Chances that an unmarried woman giving birth in 1990 was a teenager ........................ 1 in 4
in 1970 .................................................................................................. 1 in 2
Number of Minnesota women eligible for Medical Assistance
in fiscal year 1990 .............................................................................................. 242,963
Number that received the Medical Assistance they needed .......................... 235,476
Federal poverty guideline, annual income, for a single woman
with two children, 1990 ................................................................................... $9,990
Minnesota annual AFDC grant for that single woman with two children ..... $6,384
Number of Minnesota’s 87 counties without advocacy
or shelter services for battered women ........................................................... 51
Number of women sheltered in Minnesota, 1991 .......................................... 4,800
Number of women who died as the result of
domestic violence in Minnesota, 1992 .......................................................... 25

Sources: MCESW newsletter #175, 176, 180; Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women; Statistical
Handbook on the American Family.