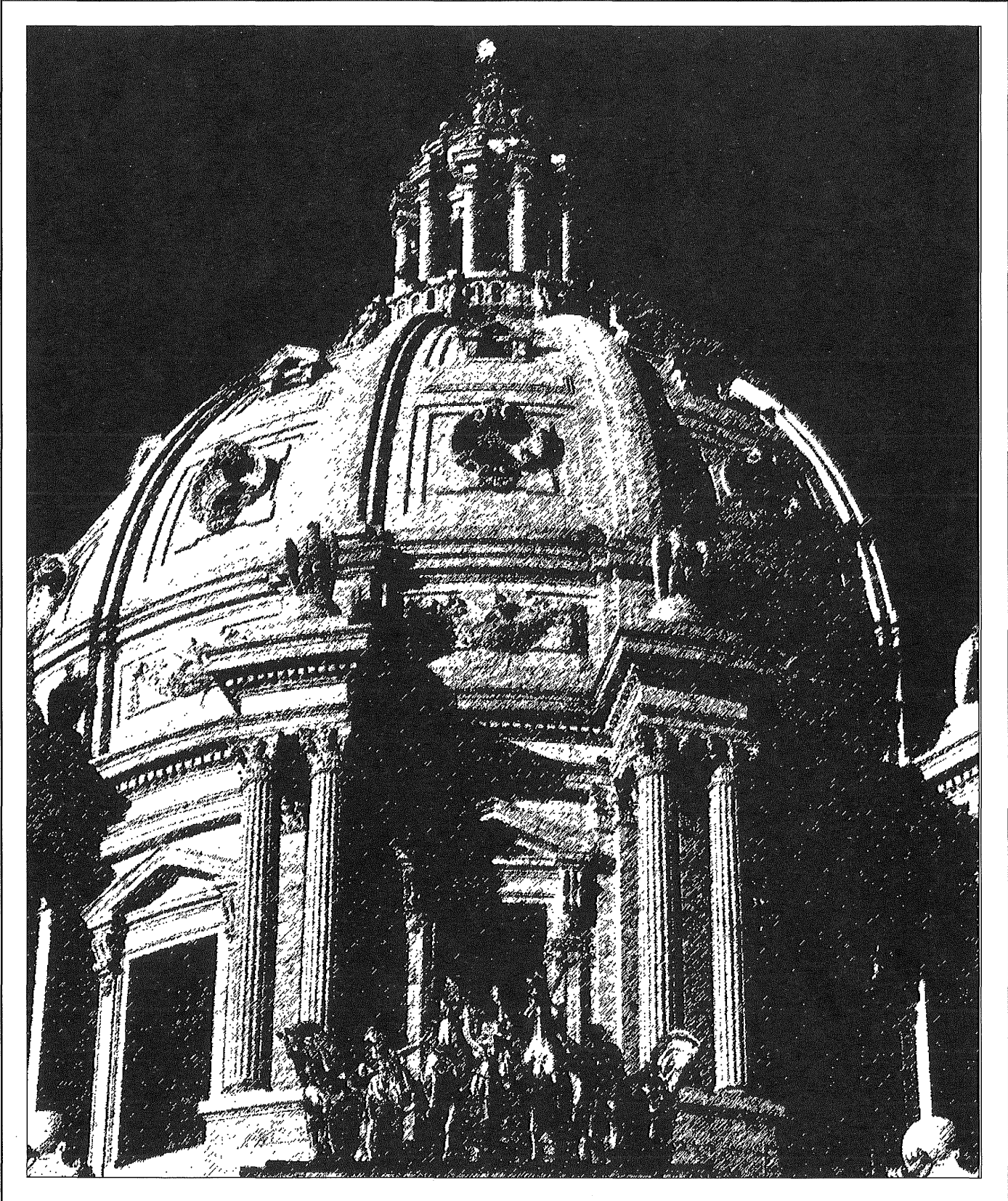


93, March 5

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SESSION WEEKLY

Minnesota House of Representatives ♦ March 5, 1993 ♦ Volume 10, Number 9



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SESSION WEEKLY

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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 (R-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 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

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On the cover: Computer-generated photo illustration of the State Capitol Building by Tom Olmscheid.

Highlights

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

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.

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:

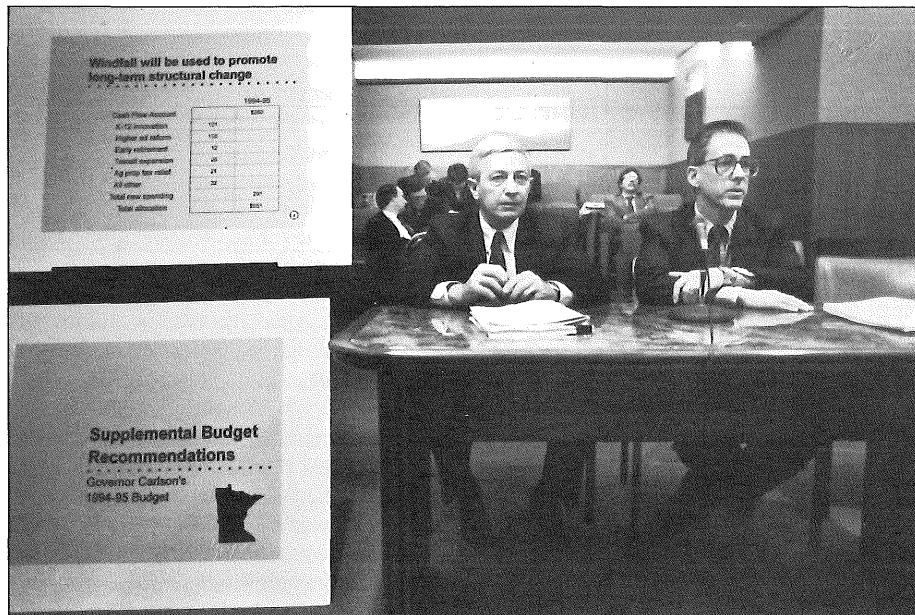
- \$101 million to K-12 education and children's programs. More than half — \$52 million — would go to the Accelerated Standards Adoption Project, which is helping schools shift to outcome-based education. Another \$38 million would help growing school districts that faced a budget squeeze under the 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.

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 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

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 loosey-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.

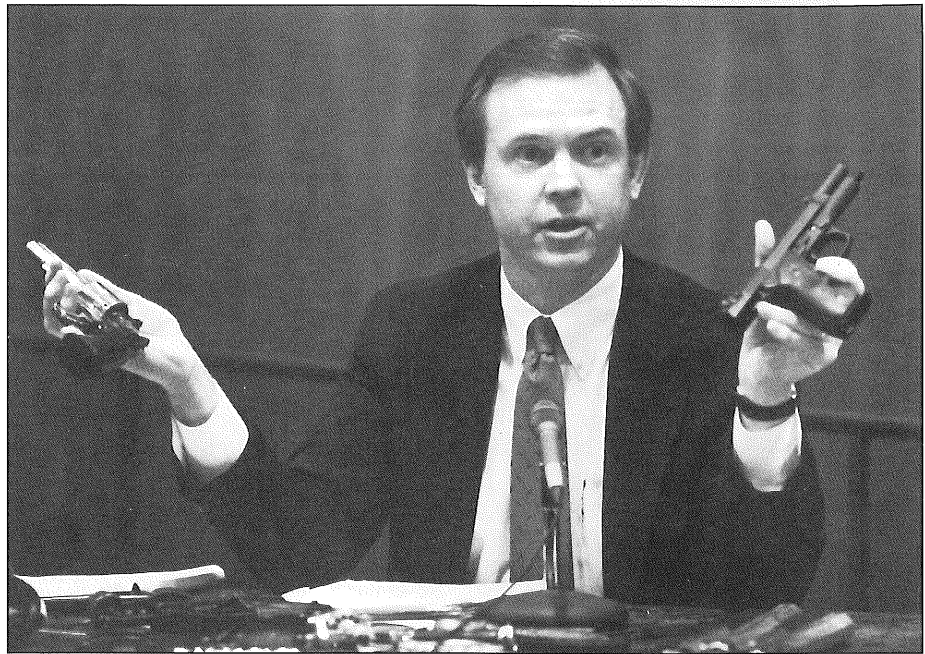
Under a bill (HF277) approved March 2 by the Agriculture, Finance and Rural Development Subcommittee, deer and other members of the cervidae animal family would be designated as livestock in state law.

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.



Rep. Charlie Weaver exhibited several weapons confiscated from Anoka High School students to illustrate the need for his bill (HF222) which would make possession of a firearm in a school zone a felony offense. Weaver testified March 3 before the Judiciary Committee's Criminal Justice and Family Law Subcommittee.



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 HF406 would require all federally licensed gun dealers to post a warning about storing guns around children. Dealers also would be required to sell or give away the locks to firearms purchasers.

The bill would exempt adult-supervised gun use by minors and access to firearms gained by an unlawful entry.

"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 HF559) 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.

"The problem is young people in schools, not poor people in public housing," said Rep. Andy Dawkins (DFL-St. Paul).

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.



DEVELOPMENT

World Trade Center

Even though the World Trade Center is set to be "privatized" by the end of this year, the Legislature is being asked to retain some ultimate financial obligation for the venture.

The outgoing president of the center, Richard Nolan, told members of a House committee March 1 that he had drafted a brief memo to Lee Berlin, who is expected to purchase the center and its operations. The memo outlines a plan whereby Minnesota would continue to own the license for the operation, allowing the state to "enforce remedies" if the public purpose of the center was not fulfilled.

However, if the center were to fail financially, the state would be financially liable. Nolan explained that the liability would be no greater than \$750,000. Other than assuming some of the risk of Berlin's venture, no other financial responsibilities would be required of the state.

Nolan pitched the idea as a way for the state to ensure that the World Trade Center would continue to fulfill its mission of increasing international trade through information networks and training for regional businesses, without requiring more tax dollars. He said that his idea was to turn Berlin's investment into a deal in which the state was "hiring a manager for state assets."

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.

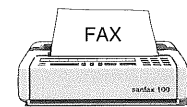
Because Minnesota high schools award diplomas based on class hours and not performance standards, "we spend millions of dollars and thousands of hours re-educating new workers and college students to get them up to speed," said Lindquist.

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



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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-

tive review in the past two years. The Legislature has the ability to intervene in the rule making process this biennium. The board also anticipates holding future public hearings on the proposed rule.

Continued legislative discussion on the proposed rule will continue later this session.

Teacher revival

Current legislative proposals to improve education range from raising student graduation requirements to altering complex state funding formulas to give more students "equal access" to quality education.

A new program sought by the Minnesota Humanities Commission, however, may address a more basic student need: teachers who are enthusiastic about teaching.

The proposal (HF202) would offer week-long "teacher-renewal" seminars designed to help teachers regain their enthusiasm for learning and teaching.

While most teachers have access to seminars on teaching methodology, they don't have programs to help them "regenerate," said the commission's executive director, Cheryl Dickson.

Sponsored by Rep. Kathleen Vellenga (DFL-St. Paul), the proposal would offer the seminars to some 1,800 Minnesota teachers in 1994 and 1995.

Dickson told legislators that addressing "teacher burnout" has been a missing element in educational priorities. Coping with growing class sizes and the increasing problems that students face has heightened the need for teacher renewal, according to the commission.

Citing a recent survey, Dickson told legislators March 1 that nearly 90 percent of Minnesota teachers indicate that their profession has a "morale problem."

"While other education issues are important, it all comes down to the teachers. We've got to see that they're the best teachers our youngsters can possibly have," Dickson said. The commission held pilot seminars last fall through its newly formed Minnesota Institute for the Advancement of Teaching.

Through week-long seminars, 125 teachers studied "in residence" with scholars in humanities fields, including biomedical ethics, Native American culture, and "the urban experience."

The overwhelmingly positive response from participants both delighted and dismayed the commission, Dickson told the committee. All but two of the 125 participants rated the seminars the "best professional development program they had ever had."

The response indicated that teachers are "starved for subject content," Dickson said. Teachers told her that becoming learners again helped them carry new ideas and enthusiasm into their classrooms, she said.



Tor Dahl, an adjunct professor at the University of Minnesota's School of Public Health, spoke March 1 before the Education Committee's K-12 Finance Division in favor of a bill (HF666) that would provide "alternative staffing" for Minnesota's schools. The proposal would put more adults in each classroom, and allow more individualized student instruction.

Last fall's pilot program was funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities and The St. Paul Companies.

HF202 seeks \$3.2 million in state funding for 1994 and 1995. The commission said that it intends to secure more than \$1 million from private corporations and foundations, and has commitments of more than \$200,000 at this time.

The measure will be discussed in the committee at a future date.



ELECTIONS

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.

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.



EMPLOYMENT

'Work curfew' reconsidered

Sixteen- and 17-year-old high school students would be prohibited from working past 11 p.m. on school nights or before 5 a.m. on school days under a bill before the House Labor-Management Relations Committee.

Currently, minors under age 16 are prohibited from working after 9 p.m. or before 7 a.m. on school days.

Chief author Rep. Joel Jacobs (DFL-Coon Rapids) said his bill to expand the "work curfew" (HF64) is intended to protect students from trading off the long-term advantages of a quality education for the short-term benefits of extra spending money. Jacobs said he is not against students' working, but "I want to make

Legislative timeline

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

sure these youth are working just as hard on their educations.”

The measure would hit employers with a \$50 fine for each curfew violation. Repeat violators would face misdemeanor charges, punishable by a fine of up to \$700 and 90 days in jail. Students enrolled at an area learning center or an alternative education program would be exempt under the proposal.

Many school officials and teachers, citing diminished classroom performance, have long urged adoption of student work curfews. But employers argue against the measure, saying it should be up to parents to decide when and how late their children should work.

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 **HF64** is scheduled next week before the labor panel.



ENERGY

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.

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 northern 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 be 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 — 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.



GAMBLING

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.



"Sue," a compulsive gambler, told the Governmental Operations and Gambling Committee about her \$2,000-a-day gambling habit March 2. Joining Sue were Dr. Lynn Rambeck and recovering compulsive gamblers "Jack," center right, and "Rick," left.

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 Laudergeran 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.



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. Most of the department (as many as 1,400 employees) would end up under the auspices of MnDOT.

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

"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.



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

far more optometrists than ophthalmologists available to them.

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.

HF134, sponsored by Rep. Kathleen Vellenga (DFL-St. Paul), now moves to the House floor for consideration.

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.

HIGHER EDUCATION

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 could better serve students and save money.

Depending on how they are measured, as

many as 11 percent of technical college programs had only a 51 percent placement rate over three years, while as many as 19 percent had placement rates less than 60 percent. For community colleges, 11 percent of their occupational programs had placement rates below 51 percent, and 28 percent had rates under 60 percent.

- With the exception of those in health fields, more than one-fifth of occupational programs at technical colleges and 15 percent at community colleges had fewer than 14 students per teacher. If those programs reached the 14-student mark, the state would save nearly \$3 million a year. If those systems reached 17 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



Thirteen-month-old Jesse Scheie wrestled with his 5-year-old sister, Elsa, during a March 4 meeting of the Health and Human Services Committee. Many children were present during a discussion on increased state funding for child care programs.

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.

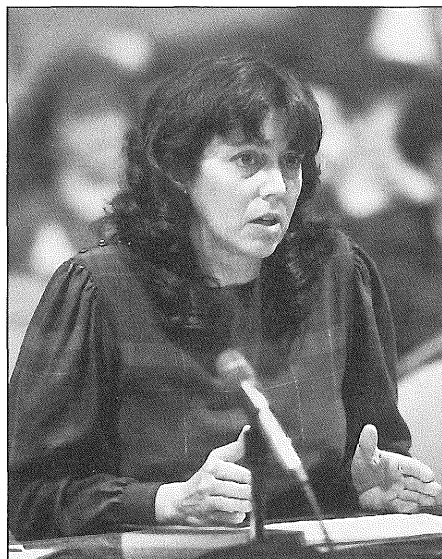
HUMAN SERVICES

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-



Deborah Kelly testified before the Human Services Finance Division of the Health and Human Services Committee that state plans for welfare reform do not take into account the importance of women's work as mothers.

gram would move public aid recipients into the work force but would supplement their income and continue medical and child-care assistance until the recipients were earning decent wages.

While some advocates for the poor welcomed the program as a significant reform, some mothers saw MFIP as representative of the low value society places on women's "unwaged work" as mothers. Mary Devitt of the Mother's Union objected to the separation of mother and child so the woman can work at a low-wage job while another low-wage worker cares for her child. Citing an expert in child rearing, Devitt said that this lengthy mother-child separation has a devastating effect on preschool children that can lead to attachment disorders and the formation of psychopathic personalities.

Devitt and another witness, Deborah Kelly, said the people in their neighborhoods fear that riots will be the result of the state's failure to resolve the problems of poverty, lack of affordable housing, and segregation.

Some legislators took exception to the strong assertions witnesses made.

"Did you suggest that the Minnesota Legislature, in its ivory tower, is out of touch with reality?" Rep. Gregory Davids (IR-Preston) asked Devitt.

"Absolutely," Devitt replied.

Members of the Human Services Finance Division of the Health and Human Services Committee will debate the details of the governor's proposed changes in public assistance programs during the next few months as they consider bills allocating funds to the various assistance programs.

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 so 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 **HF619**, 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.



Former House Speaker Robert Vanasek told members that government, business, and labor have "to move beyond enunciating problems" and develop concrete proposals to provide quality jobs for Minnesotans. Vanasek, now president of the Minnesota High Technology Council, spoke March 3 before the International Trade, Technology and Economic Development Division of the Commerce and Economic Development Committee.



LAW

Spousal maintenance

Those owing a former spouse "maintenance" payments could have their tax refunds seized or their business licenses suspended under a bill approved by the Judiciary Committee March 1.

The proposal (**HF129**) seeks to toughen collection procedures for delinquent court-ordered support payments. Rep. Phil Carruthers (DFL-Brooklyn Center), the bill's chief author, said that **HF129** would use some of the same techniques currently used in collecting child support payments.

In terms of importance, the Minnesota State Bar Association doesn't differentiate between the two types of spousal payments, said Attorney Mike Dittberner during testimony before the Criminal Justice and Family Law Subcommittee Feb. 26. "They are both court orders," Dittberner said.

Under the proposal, a person who owes spousal maintenance could not reclaim a business license until they were "current" on their payments. The provision is meant to catch independently employed spouses who are delinquent in their maintenance payments.

Although Rep. Andy Dawkins (DFL-St. Paul) said he supported the legislation in general, he was worried that suspending licenses could prevent a person from being able to pay the court-ordered sum.

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 \$88,579 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 Biernat, 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 also was 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.



Rep. Mindy Greiling

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

District 53B

Population: 32,639
Distribution: 98.5 percent urban, 1.5 percent rural
County: Ramsey
Largest city: Maplewood (portion)
Location: northern Metro
1992 presidential election results:
 Clinton/Gore: 40.5 percent
 Bush/Quayle: 35.3 percent
 Perot/Stockdale: 23.7 percent
 Other: 0.5 percent

Health care marks Asch's journey to the House

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



Rep. Marc Asch

"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.

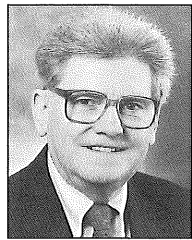
—Adam Samaha

District 54B

Population: 32,583
Distribution: 100 percent live in urbanized areas
County: Ramsey
Largest city: Roseville
Location: northeastern Metro
1992 presidential election results:
 Clinton/Gore: 46.8 percent
 Bush/Quayle: 31.0 percent
 Perot/Stockdale: 21.6 percent
 Other: 0.6 percent

Mahon wants less airport noise, more funding for cities

"Who am I? Why am I here?" Rep. Mark Mahon (DFL-Bloomington) throws out his arms and imitates failed vice presidential candidate Admiral James Stockdale.



Rep. Mark Mahon

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

worked for 35 years before retiring in 1990.

He also served on the Bloomington Port Authority since 1982, and as a Metropolitan Waste Control Commission commissioner since 1983. He resigned both posts after becoming a member of the House.

Mahon defeated two-term Independent-Republican Rep. Joyce Henry to win his seat. The election was one of the year's closest, with only 55 votes separating the candidates.

His new constituents want to avoid another hike in property taxes, something Mahon knows is directly linked to state aid for cities.

"Cutbacks in HACA (homestead and agricultural credit aid) and other local government aid translate to higher real estate taxes. The city budgets are already tight. If there are more cuts [in local government aid] that means higher taxes."

The suburban district, which also includes the southwestern corner of Richfield, is well within earshot of the Mpls-St. Paul International Airport. Not surprisingly, noise abatement is near the top among constituent concerns.

Mahon has served on a number of panels addressing airport noise and co-founded the Bloomington-Richfield Airport Action Group (BRAAG) that opposed the extension of Runway 422.

From his new seat on the House Local Government and Metropolitan Affairs Committee, Mahon hopes to directly influence state policy on noise mitigation. Last year, the committee helped to target more funding for soundproofing of area homes and public buildings.

Mahon welcomes the opportunity to serve in the House and acknowledges there is "much to learn." Although there is the potential to have more of an impact at the Legislature, he also has to persuade 200 other legislators to his point of view. On the Bloomington City Council, he only had to persuade a handful of people.

"I've yet to determine whether this is a promotion or not," he joked.

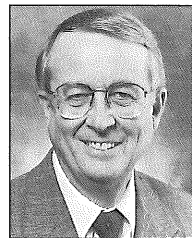
—John Tschida

District 40A

Pop.: 31,723
Distribution: 100% in urbanized areas
Counties: Hennepin
Largest City: Bloomington (portion)
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

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."



Rep. Ken Wolf

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 41B

Pop.: 31,914
Distribution: 100% in urbanized areas
Counties: Dakota, Hennepin, and Scott
Largest City: Bloomington (portion)
Location: southwestern Metro
1992 presidential election results:
 Bush/Quayle: 38.4 percent
 Clinton/Gore: 34.4 percent
 Perot/Stockdale: 26.7 percent
 Other: 0.5 percent

Speaker pro tem

Bauerly takes a swing at pinch-hitting for speaker

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 organizations 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."

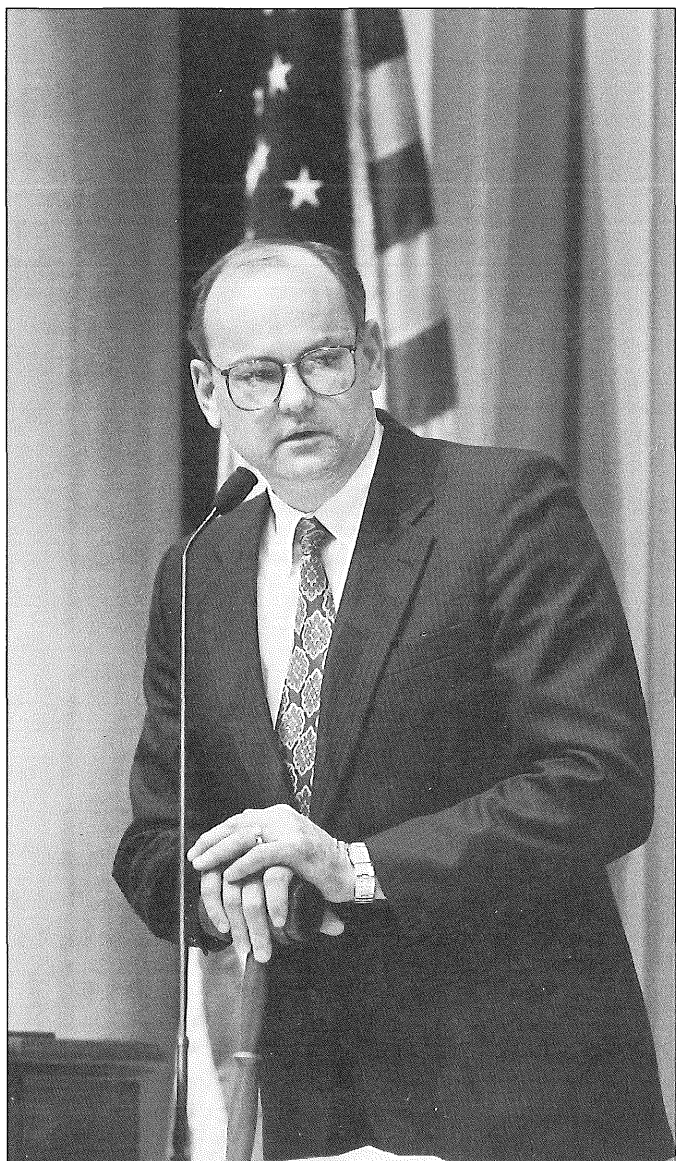
Bauerly takes his ascension from rank-and-file lawmaker to the speaker's chair in stride — even when switching roles is spontaneous.

"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



Rep. Jerry Bauerly, speaker pro tem, assumes the speaker's role whenever the need arises.

Committee, Floor & Final Action

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

(rp)," "recommended to pass as amended (rpa)," "not recommended to pass (nrp)," and "re-referred (re) 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 repass** 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** 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.

Committee/Division Abbreviations

AG	AGRICULTURE
AGR	AGRICULTURE & RURAL DEVELOPMENT
CA	CAPITAL INVESTMENT
CCP	COMMERCE & CONSUMER PROTECTION
CED	COMMERCE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
CED/itt	International Trade, Technology & Economic Development Division
CED/t	Tourism & Small Business Division
CP	CRIME PREVENTION
CP/cpf	Crime Prevention Finance Division
ECF	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, INFRASTRUCTURE & REGULATION FINANCE
ED	EDUCATION
ED/ed	Education Division
ED/edf	K-12 Education Finance Division
ED/hif	Higher Education Finance Division
EN	ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES
EN/f	Environment & Natural Resources Finance Division
ENF	ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES FINANCE
ET	ETHICS
ETC	ETHICS & CAMPAIGN REFORM
FA	FAMILY SERVICES
FN	FINANCE
FN/sg	State Government Division
FI	FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS & INSURANCE
GA	GAMING REGULATION
GL	GENERAL LEGISLATION, VETERANS AFFAIRS & ELECTIONS
GOR	GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS & REFORM
GO	GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS & GAMING
GO/sgf	State Government Finance Division
HC	HEALTH CARE
HC/f	Health Care & Family Services Finance Div.
HH	HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
HH/hhf	Health & Housing Finance Division
HH/hsf	Human Services Finance Division
HO	HOUSING
JEC	JOBS, ENERGY & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
JEC/f	Jobs, Energy & Community Development Finance Division
JU	JUDICIARY
JU/fj	Judiciary Finance Division
LA	LABOR-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS
LG	LOCAL GOVERNMENT & METROPOLITAN AFFAIRS
MLG	METROPOLITAN & LOCAL GOVERNMENT
MLG/t	Metropolitan and Local Government Tax Div.
RI	REGULATED INDUSTRIES & ENERGY
RA	RULES & ADMINISTRATION
RU	RULES & LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATION
TA	TAXES
TT	TAXES & TAX LAWS
TPT	TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC TRANSIT
TR	TRANSPORTATION & TRANSIT
TR/f	Transportation & Public Transit Finance Div.
VG	VETERANS & GENERAL LEGISLATION
WM	WAYS & MEANS

**1993 MINNESOTA LEGISLATURE
BILL STATUS TRACKING SHEET**
Bill action between Feb. 25 - March 4

rp - recommended to pass h - heard
rpa - recommended to pass as amended v - vetoed by governor
nrp - not recommended to pass † - footnote
re - referred to another cmte./div. * - version under consideration
a - amended

1993 MINNESOTA LEGISLATURE BILL STATUS TRACKING SHEET Bill action between Feb. 25 - March 4			COMMITTEE				FLOOR					FINAL
			Introduction/ Committee Referral	Committee/Division	Committee Report (date/action)	Re-referral	Final Passage	Vote	First reading in other body/Substitution	Referred to Conference Committee	Concurrence & Repassage	Governor's Signature (Chapter Number)
File No.	Author	Committee/Division/Bill Title										
		COMMERCE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT										
HF0165	Jennings	Skiers safety act—privileges,	2/1 CED	CED	3/2 rpa	re JU						
SF0317	Johnson, J.B.	liability rules clarified	2/15 CCP									
HF0167	Bauerly	Development—capital account for	2/1 CED	CED	3/2 rp	re WM						
SF0338	Johnson, J.B.	small business loans recreated	2/15 JEC									
		Int'l. Trade, Tech. & Ec. Dev. Division COMMERCE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT										
HF0161	Trimble	Neighborhood revitalization	1/28 CED	CED/itt	3/3 rp	re CED						
SF0069	Metzen	programs provided funding	1/21 JEC									
		Tourism & Small Business Division COMMERCE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT										
HF0544	Tunheim	Tourism—	2/22 CED	CED/t	3/3 rpa	re CED						
SF0463	Finn	loan program established	2/22 JEC									
		K-12 Education Finance Division EDUCATION										
HF0042	Kelso	Faribault academies—	1/14 ED	ED/edf	3/3 h							
SFnone		student activity account authorized										
HF0202	Vellenga	Humanities Commission	2/1 ED	ED/edf	3/1 h							
SF0224	Pogemiller	teaching institute funded	2/9 ED									
HF0666	Greiling	Alternative staffing patterns	3/1 ED	ED/edf	3/1 h							
SFnone		allowed										
		ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES										
HF0065	Munger	Packaging Act of 1993	1/19 EN	EN	3/2 a †							
SFnone												
HF0269	Hasskamp	Cuyuna recreation area—	2/9 EN	EN	3/4 rpa	re ENF						
SF0213	Samuelson	funded	2/9 EN									
HF0292	Dorn	Sakatah state trail—	2/11 EN	EN	3/2 rpa	re FN						
SF0299	Hottinger	bonding granted	2/15 EN									
HF0316	Rukavina	Iron mine facilities—	2/11 EN	EN	3/4 rp	re CED						
SF0487	Janezich	salable condition required	2/25 EN									
HF0421	Wenzel	Lindbergh State Park—	2/18 EN	EN	3/2 rp							
SF0347	Samuelson	lands added	2/18 EN									
HF0513	Kahn	Coal-fired steamheating—	2/22 EN	EN	3/4 a †							
SFnone		prohibited in certain areas										
HF0534	McCollum	Wastewater treatment—	2/22 EN	EN	3/2 nrp							
SF0096	Riveness	rukemakinn provisions changed	1/25 EN									
HF0546	Waltman	Dorer Hardwood Forest—	2/22 EN	EN	3/2 rpa							
SFnone		motor sports prohibited										
HF0596	Murphy	Rock, gem, mineral—	2/25 EN	EN	3/2 rp	re FN						
SF0251	Chmielewski	interpretive center funded	2/11 EN									
		FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS & INSURANCE										
HF0009	Skoglund	Insurance—coverage required	1/7 FI	FI	2/10 rpa		3/1	130-1				
SF0291	Piper	for treating port-wine stains	3/4 HC									
HF0141	Simoneau	MinnesotaCare—small employers	1/28 FI	FI	3/3 h	re HH						
SF0167	Berglin	insurance program expanded	2/1 CCP									
HF0146	Reding	Financial institutions—	1/28 FI	FI	2/17 rp		3/1	132-0				
SF0109	Hottinger	merger procedures eased	1/26 CCP	CCP	2/22 rp							
HF0619	Skoglund	Auto, health care insurers—	2/25 FI	FI	3/3 h							
SFnone		cooperative policies allowed										
HF0683	Jennings	Auto insurers—contracts with	3/1 FI	FI	3/3 h							
SF0201	Hottinger	managed care providers permitted	2/9 CCP									
		GENERAL LEGISLATION, VETERANS AFFAIRS & ELECTIONS										
HF0253	Lasley	Elections—presidential primary	2/9 GL	GL	3/1 rpa							
SF0416	Pogemiller	established	2/22 ETC									
HF0271	Lasley	Elections—voter information	2/9 GL	GL	3/1 h							
SF0286	Flynn	guide developed	2/15 ETC									

**1993 MINNESOTA LEGISLATURE
BILL STATUS TRACKING SHEET**
Bill action between Feb. 25 - March 4

rp - recommended to pass h - heard
rpa - recommended to pass as amended v - vetoed by governor
nrp - not recommended to pass † - footnote
re - referred to another cmte./div. * - version under consideration
a - amended

			COMMITTEE				FLOOR					FINAL
File No.	Author	Committee/Division/Bill Title	Introduction/ Committee Referral	Committee/Division	Committee Report (date/action)	Re-referral	Final Passage	Vote	First reading in other body/Substitution	Referred to Conference Committee	Concurrence & Repassage	Governor's Signature (Chapter Number)
		GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS & GAMBLING										
HF0272	Solberg	Public safety department	2/9 GO	GO	3/4 rpa	re TR						
SF0114	Kelly	abolished	1/28 GOR	GOR	3/3 h,†							
		HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES										
HF0134	Vellenga	Optometrists authorized to	1/26 HH	HH	3/2 rp							
SF0117	Samuelson	prescribe topical legend drugs	1/28 HC									
HF0142	Anderson, R.	Nursing assistant evaluation program—	1/28 HH	HH	2/23 rp							
SF0119*	Sams	certain options modified	1/28 HC	HC	2/11 rp		2/25	62-0	3/1			
HF0203	Kelley	Medical practitioner licensing—	2/1 HH	HH	3/4 rpa							
SF0094	Piper	requirements modified	1/25 HC	HC	2/25 rpa							
HF0294	Simoneau	Group residential housing	2/11 HH	HH	3/4 rpa	re HH/hsf						
SF0249	Betzold	bed moratorium—exception made	2/11 HC									
HF0336	Tompkins	Foster care avoidance promoted	2/15 HH	HH	3/4 rpa	re HH/hsf						
SF0327	Kiscaden	by use of emergency assistance funds	2/15 FA	FA	2/25 rp	re RA						
HF0402	Jefferson	Child care fund increase	2/18 HH	HH	3/4 rp	re HH/hsf						
SFnone		to include more children										
HF0426	Simoneau	Achievement center workers—	2/18 HH	HH	3/4 rpa	re HH/hsf						
SF0233	Samuelson	pay increase	2/9 HC									
		HOUSING										
HF0504	Dawkins	Property tax classification	2/22 HO	HO	3/1 rpa	re TA						
SF0675	Morrison	modified for certain property	2/22 HO									
HF0531	Dawkins	Tenants—written leases provided;	2/22 HO	HO	3/1 h							
SF0415	Anderson	landlord disclosures required	2/22 JU									
		JUDICIARY										
HF0045	Bishop	Durable power of attorney	1/14 JU	JU	3/1 rpa							
SF0040	Reichgott	for health care established	1/14 JU	CP	2/18 rpa†		3/4	53-10				
HF0047	Dawkins	Real estate law—	1/14 JU	JU	2/22 rpa†							
SF0048*	Betzold	miscellaneous changes	1/19 JU	JU	2/9 rpa				3/1			
HF0079	Peterson	Grandparents' visitation rights	1/21 JU	JU	2/22 rpa		3/1	128-0				
SF0106	Vickerman	clarified	1/25 JU									
HF0129	Carruthers	Spousal maintenance collection	1/26 JU	JU	3/1 rpa†	re TA						
SF0513	Betzold		2/25 JU									
HF0181	Rest	Limited Liability Company	2/1 JU	JU	3/1 rpa†							
SF0181	Reichgott	Act amended	2/1 JU	JU	3/1 rpa							
HF0341	Pugh	Business Corporation Act—	2/15 JU	JU	3/1 rp							
SF0265	Finn	amended	2/11 JU									
		LABOR-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS										
HF0064	Jacobs	Work curfews extended	1/19 LA	LA	3/1 h							
SF0053	Price	for high school students	1/19 JEC									
HF0097	Rukavina	Public employees—definition of	1/25 LA	LA	2/15 rp	reGO	3/1	131-1				
SF0093	Flynn	confidential employee modified	1/25 GOR	GOR	3/4 rp							
HF0199	Winter	Workers' Compensation—loan to	2/1 LA	LA	3/1 rpa	re FI						
SF0112	Moe	state fund mutual authorized	1/26 JEC	JEC	2/18 rpa	re CCP						
		LOCAL GOVERNMENT & METROPOLITAN AFFAIRS										
HF0074	Jefferson	Minneapolis gov't entities allowed	1/21 LG	LG	3/2 rp							
SF0524	Flynn	to impose residency requirement	2/25 MLG									
		REGULATED INDUSTRIES & ENERGY										
HF0185	Reding	Lake Pepin—river bluff power	2/1 RI	RI	3/1 rp							
SFnone		plant project blocked										
HF0522	Rukavina	Utilities—property easements	2/22 RI	RI	3/1 rpa							
SF0405	Solon	requirements clarified	2/18 JEC									
		RULES & LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATION										
HF0001*	Solberg	Legislature—	1/7 RU	RU	1/19 rpa		1/25	126-0	1/26		3/1	
SF0038	Luther	obsolete committee references deleted	1/14 RA	RA	2/9 rp							

1993 MINNESOTA LEGISLATURE BILL STATUS TRACKING SHEET Bill action between Feb. 25 - March 4			COMMITTEE				FLOOR				FINAL	
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rp - recommended to pass h - heard rpa - recommended to pass as amended v - vetoed by governor nrp - not recommended to pass † - footnote re - re-referred to another cmte./div. * - version under consideration a - amended												
TAXES												
HF0117	Kinkel	Tax-forfeited land—	1/26 TA	TA	3/4 rpa							
SF0019	Price	repurchase price	1/11 TT									
HF0427	Winter	Taxes—omnibus	2/18 TA	TA	3/2 rpa							
SF0585	Pappas	technical corrections	3/1 TT									
WAYS & MEANS												
HF0442	Rodosovich	Higher Ed. Coordinating Bd.—	2/18 ED	WM	3/4 rp							
Sfnone		deficiency appropriation										

EN
 †HF0065 - laid over
 †HF0513 - laid over until 3/11
 GO
 †SF0114 - CP 2/22 rpa reGOR

JU
 †HF0047 - a in subcommittee
 †HF0129 - a in subcommittee
 †HF0181 - a in subcommittee



Friends of the Sibley House are prepared to sue the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for more than \$50,000, members were told March 3.

Nancy Moses, president of the Sibley House Association, said that the historic Mendota Heights home of Minnesota's first governor, Henry Sibley, could be damaged by vibrations caused by nearby highway construction that is to begin later this year. MnDOT agreed that damage to the structure and the original furnishings inside is possible, Sibley House counsel said.

But MnDOT says it doesn't have the money to pay for "preventative costs" demanded by Moses and others. She said the parties hoped to come to an agreement before litigation became necessary, and several members expressed a willingness to help negotiate a resolution.

Moses testified before the Economic Development, Infrastructure and Regulation Finance Committee.

While plowing through a 96-page bill (HF427) that would make technical, mostly non-controversial corrections to state tax laws, Rep. Steve Sviggum (IR-Kenyon) raised a concern over a provision buried in the sales and use tax section.

The section clarifies language that makes the sale of race horses subject to state sales and use taxes, but Sviggum wanted to make sure that it didn't apply to draft horses. Taxing draft horses, he told fellow Taxes Committee members March 2, would be unfair in light of other tax laws.

"Tell me the difference between a draft horse and a tractor," he asked Mike Boekhaus, director of the state Department of Revenue's legal division.

After a thoughtful pause, Boekhaus replied: "I know one when I see one."

It's a fact!

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.

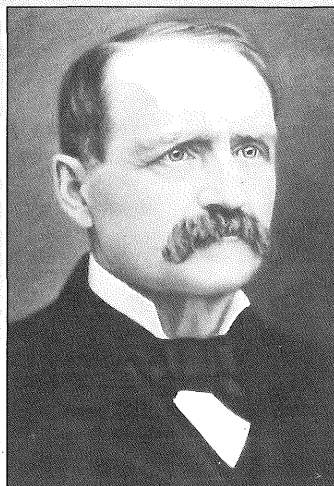
He was slapped with a \$25 fine, but appealed the penalty to the Territorial Supreme Court.

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 licensees, 574 club licenses, and 465 owners of wine licenses.



Rep. Mahlon Black

Photo courtesy Minnesota Historical Society

Bill Introductions

HF641-HF845

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 and monthly service pension maximums.

HF643—Luther (DFL)

Commerce & Economic Development
Cosmetology licenses and practice regulated and Commerce Department enforcement powers provided technical changes.

HF644—Lourey (DFL)

Environment & Natural Resources
Aitkin 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 Resource 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 investigative 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 date restrictions 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—Wejcman (DFL)

Transportation & Transit
Paratransit service use eligibility to require physician's disability certification statement.

HF659—Wejcman (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 credit 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—Sparby (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—Sarna (DFL)

Labor-Management Relations
Total quality management technique education grant program established in the small employer environment, and money appropriated.

HF679—Asch (DFL)
Taxes
Levy 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 extended to persons under 18 years of age.

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

HF684—Swenson (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 assessor requirements modified.

HF685—Jennings (DFL)
Environment & Natural Resources
Eurasian water milfoil research and control costs provided milfoil stamps and boat trailer surcharges.

HF686—Klinzing (DFL)
Environment & Natural Resources
Drainage authorities provided appointment of viewers, drainage system alternatives, 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—Stanisus (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—Stanisus (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
Cemetery relocation prohibited without trustee or owner consent.

HF696—Jennings (DFL)
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—Pauly (IR)
Environment & Natural Resources
Mineral leasing, environmental research and protection, exploratory mineral borings and data, lean 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 required, and metropolitan water plan modified.

HF705—Olson, K. (DFL)
Education
Business education tax created, state share of school 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—Wejcman (DFL)
Judiciary
Hennepin County juvenile detention center construction of additional space appropriated money.

HF708—Osthoff (DFL)
Transportation & Transit
Drivers' license and identification card application fee retention allowed by court administrator agents and appointments provided.

HF709—Tompkins (IR)
Health & Human Services
Smoking prohibited in a family or group family licensed day care center.

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)
Education
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—Pelowski (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—Lourey (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 masters-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
Municipal contract awarding preference provided to state based bidders.

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
Implements of husbandry traffic regulations clarified and expanded.

HF736—Wejcman (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—Pelowski (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, tip-board ticket, paddlewheel ticket, 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
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 grantee 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—Sviggum (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—Stanius (IR)
Environment & Natural Resources
Gill net biodegradable requirement provided.

HF776—Stanius (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 member 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 noncontaminated 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—Sviggum (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
Oxygenated 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—Solberg (DFL)
Environment & Natural Resources
Motor fuel excise tax exemption provided to rerefined 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 buses.

HF796—Stanius (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)
Education
General education formula allowance, training and experience revenue, referendum revenue subject to equalization, special education aid and revenue, and capital expenditure equipment allowance increased; and supplemental revenue phased out.

HF801—Mariani (DFL)
Transportation & Transit
Speed measuring devices; hand-held traffic radar operating procedure requirements provided for reduction of microwave radiation exposure.

HF802—Lasley (DFL)
Transportation & Transit
Failure to maintain control of a motor vehicle offense provided.

HF803—Jennings (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Medical Assistance reimbursement increased for special transportation, and money appropriated.

HF804—Cooper (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Ambulance service area changes provided exemption from contested case hearing process requirements.

HF805—Huntley (DFL)
Environment & Natural Resources
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—Koppendrayner (IR)
Transportation & Transit
DWI 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 extra-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 member.

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 Lambertton.

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

HF837—Stanius (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
Deer; antlerless deer permit priority provided to applicants who are handicapped or under the age of 18 or over the age of 65.

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

HF842—Stanius (IR)
Environment & Natural Resources
Moose license not issued to a person more than once and preference provided to previous applicants who were not selected.

HF843—Stanius (IR)
Environment & Natural Resources
Game fish imposed retail sales tax and revenue dedicated to aquaculture programs.

HF844—McCollum (DFL)
Labor-Management Relations
Employee invention agreements regulated.

HF845—Weaver (IR)
Judiciary
Criminal justice system task force established to review the criminal code and penalties, bias crime penalties, and sentencing guidelines.

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

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.

Higher Education Finance Division/ EDUCATION

5 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Peter Rodosovich

Agenda: Community College System Budget presentation, Geraldine Evans, chancellor.

K-12 Education Finance Division/ EDUCATION

200 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Kathleen Vellenga

Agenda: Governor's budget recommendations on outcome-based education (712, 707) and OBE teacher in-service.

HFXXXX (Sviggum) Salary freeze for public employees.

Report on large class size, teachers from St. Paul, Anoka, and Prior Lake school districts.

8:15 a.m.

Human Services Finance Division/ HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

10 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Lee Greenfield

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

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.

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.

HF684 (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.

REGULATED INDUSTRIES & ENERGY

10 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Joel Jacobs

Agenda: HF584 (Jennings) Telecommunication access for communication-impaired persons (TACIP) board membership modified, and message relay service and communication device surcharge maximum increased and collection provided per telephone access line.

HF630 (Lynch) Telecommunication access for communication-impaired persons (TACIP) board membership and duties modified and sunset repealed; relay service provided rate funding; and communication device and relay service accounts created.

HF342 (Ozment) Dakota Cooperative Electric Association to apply residential electric rates to a volunteer fire department using a motor of 50 horsepower or less for fire response and training.

State Government Finance Division/ GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS & GAMBLING

300N State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Rick Krueger

Agenda: Minnesota Film Board overview and budget presentation. Department of Finance report on the statewide accounting system. Report on the Accounts Receivable Project.

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.

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.

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 investigative or disciplinary interview.

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 date 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 proceedings 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

Agenda: House Research report on retention of Minnesota college students: enrollment patterns and graduation rates. Continuation of postsecondary enrollment options testimony.

**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 established to solicit ways to reduce state government or service costs by reducing waste or promoting efficiency, employee bonuses 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 Simoneau

Agenda: HF335 (Simoneau) 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 facility funding provided by counties; and St. Louis County television service cost assessment authority repealed.

HF648 (Anderson, I.) 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 Krupcy, MDE.

HF618 (Kelso) Outcome based schools expanded, school board applicant denial appeals 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

Chrs. Rep. Leo Reding, Rep. Mike Jaros

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 Pugh

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-

sessments, and enhanced penalties clarified and provided; and drivers' license and motor vehicle 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.

HF329 (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 full-time 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 (Perlt) Corporate registration and administrative disillusion, 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

500S State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Karen Clark

Agenda: HF384 (Mariani) Housing Finance Agency program review requirements changed, deferred loan limits increased, homesharing 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 care 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 (Lieder) 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. SF557 (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**

400S 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 non-profit 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 researching 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 Wiernes, 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.

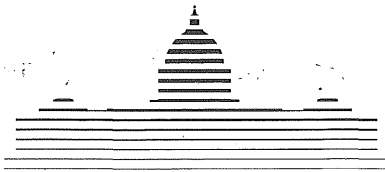
2 p.m.

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.)



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

Speaker of the House: Dee Long
Majority Leader: Alan W. Welle
Minority Leader: Steven A. Sviggum

MINNESOTA INDEX

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*.



For more information . . .

For general information, call:
House Information Office
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the status of a specific bill, call:
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24-Hour Recorded Information

For up-to-date committee meeting times
and agendas, call:
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