

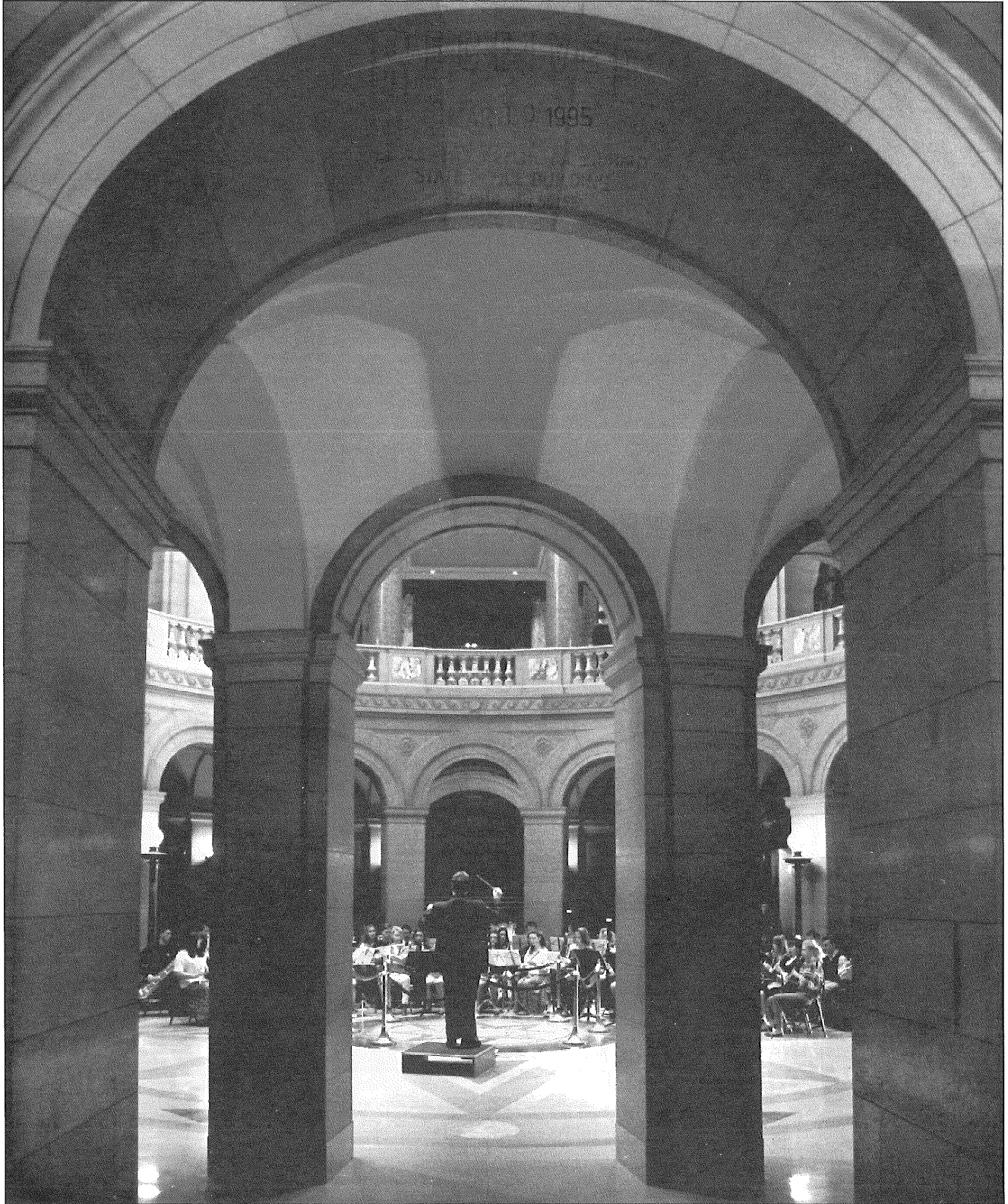
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SESSION WEEKLY

A Non-Partisan Publication of the Minnesota House of Representatives ♦ March 10, 1995 ♦ Volume 12, Number 10



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To subscribe, contact:
Minnesota House of Representatives
Public Information Office
175 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155-1298
(612) 296-2146 or
1-800-657-3550
TDD (612) 296-9896

Director
Grant Moos

Editor
Peg Hamerston

Assistant Editors
John T. Tschida
K. Darcy Hanzlik

Writers
Nick Healy, Mordecai Specktor,
Jean Thilmany

Art & Production Coordinator
Paul Battaglia

Photographers
Tom Olmscheid, Laura Phillips,
Andrew VonBank

Staff Assistants
Toinette Lisa Battle, Carl Hamre,
Matthew A. Niewohner



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SESSION WEEKLY

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Week at a glance

Living wage — Businesses receiving more than \$25,000 per year in state financial assistance — whether grants, loans, or tax breaks — would have to pay their employees more than \$7 per hour, under a bill moving through the House. **Page 5**

Pay it or park it! — Parents who are at least \$1,000 behind in their child support payments could lose their driver's license, under a bill heard by a House panel. **Page 5**

Punishing more peepers — Currently, it is a crime to peep in windows or secretly photograph or video tape outside someone's home. But a bill moving through the House would extend the Peeping Tom law to include hotel rooms and tanning booths. **Page 6**

Absentee expansion — Any eligible voter could cast an absentee ballot up to 30 days before any election, under a bill approved by a House panel. Currently, Minnesota allows only absentee votes from people who will be absent from their precinct on election day, are hospitalized, ill, disabled, or can't vote on election day for religious reasons. **Page 7**

Money back guarantee — A House panel approved two bills that would enable Minnesotans to get their money back from a state agency if they apply for a license, permit, or other type of document — including a driver's license — and don't receive it within six weeks. **Page 9**

Pesticide poisoning — A bill to establish a voluntary pesticide poisoning reporting network and to conduct a study of the extent of pesticide poisoning in Minnesota passed the House Health and Human Services Committee. **Page 10**

A sense of timing — Rep. Jim Knoblach believes timing is everything. He knew when to sell his direct mail business, and he knew when to run for office. He had planned to seek public office for a while but waited. And, when his state representative, Dave Gruenes, decided not to run again, the door opened. **Page 14**

House doctor writes Rx for Minnesota — Rep. Richard Mulder isn't filling out prescriptions for his fellow lawmakers and staff but has one for Minnesota: "reinvent the family" and ensure that people "have a proper income so that the state won't have to do everything for them because the state's a poor mother. The state just can't raise children like good parents can." **Page 15**

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On the cover: Bruce Felt, band instructor at Lincoln Senior High School in Thief River Falls, conducts the wind ensemble during a concert in the Capitol rotunda March 7. The performance, sponsored by the Minnesota Music Educators Association, promoted arts in education.

—photo by Tom Olmscheid

Highlights

Redistributing the wealth . . .

Plan shifts tax wealth to central cities, older suburbs

A measure that would shift a portion of the property tax base from some richer suburbs to less wealthy inner ring suburbs, St. Paul, and Minneapolis was narrowly approved by a House tax division March 7.

The controversial measure, sponsored by Rep. Myron Orfield (DFL-Mpls), was approved on a 7-5 vote of the Taxes Committee's Property Tax and Tax Increment Financing Division. **HF431** now moves to the full Taxes Committee for consideration.

The bill would mandate that property taxes drop in 85 percent of the metro area. But critics of the plan say that means taxes would increase in the remaining 15 percent of the region — particularly in the wealthy western suburbs.

The "Metropolitan Area Fair Tax Base Act" is the latest in a three-year legislative effort by Orfield to get the wealthier suburbs to play a greater role in sharing the social burden faced by central cities and aging, middle class suburbs.

But while his efforts in the last two years focused on housing — which were both vetoed by Gov. Arne Carlson — this bill is aimed at sharing tax wealth. (Orfield does, however, have a second bill that addresses housing concerns.)

"Any kind of taxing should be related to justice," said the Rev. John Buttrey of United

Church of Christ in New Brighton, who testified in support of Orfield's bill.

The Orfield measure is designed to shift property taxes collected on expensive homes to areas where the homes are generally more modest.

Here's how it would work:

Local communities would keep the property tax revenue generated on the first \$200,000 of market value of homesteaded property.

But tax revenue generated from the value of homes that is greater than \$200,000 would be shifted into an area-wide pool that would then be redistributed.

That redistribution would occur in the same way as is currently the practice under the 1971 "fiscal disparities" law, which served as the model for Orfield's bill.

Under that law, individual communities in the seven-county area share with other communities a portion of the taxes raised on commercial and industrial property.

While that program results in a pool of about \$270 million that is shared every year, it is estimated that Orfield's bill would initially produce just \$44 million — or about 16 percent as much revenue to be shared.

Orfield argues that distributing the wealth throughout the region will help stem the exodus of businesses and people from older communities to newer ones. State Farm In-

surance of Roseville, for example, moved its headquarters to Woodbury, and West Publishing recently moved to Eagan from downtown St. Paul.

As for counties, the losers would be Carver and Hennepin, while Anoka, Dakota, Ramsey, Scott would stand to gain. (The effect on Washington County is too close to call.)

That led Hennepin County Commissioner Mike Opat to call the bill "a misplaced effort."

And as for cities, the losers would largely be in western Hennepin County (see chart, page 4).

But affluent areas in nearly every county — except Anoka and Scott — would also suffer losses.

That led several Independent-Republican committee members, who represent some of those wealthier communities, to sharply criticize Orfield's plan.

Rep. H. Todd Van Dellen (IR-Plymouth) said residents in many of the wealthier areas already pay a greater share of their incomes in property taxes than do residents in many of the poorer, northern suburbs, which would gain under Orfield's bill (see chart, page 4).

"If anything, they [the statistics] should cause the Legislature to reconsider whether current tax-base sharing programs have over-compensated northern tier suburbs," Van Dellen wrote in a memo to committee members.

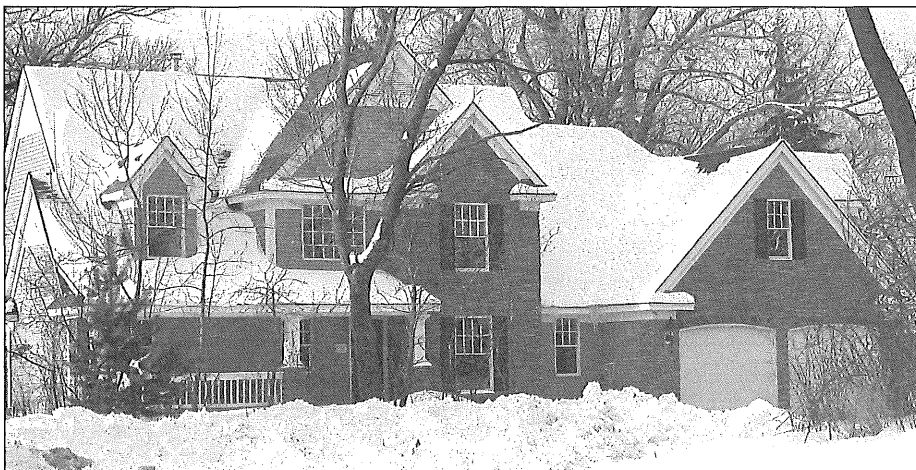
Orfield's plan would cause taxes in the Plymouth area to jump even higher, which would drive more senior citizens from their homes, he said.

Van Dellen characterized Orfield's bill as a "meat ax approach" to a problem that would be better served through a program similar to the "circuit breaker" tax break, which is designed to give property tax relief for people with modest incomes.

Orfield, however, attempted to minimize the partisan rift by repeatedly referring to former Republican Rep. Charlie Weaver Sr., who authored the original fiscal disparities law after which his bill is patterned.

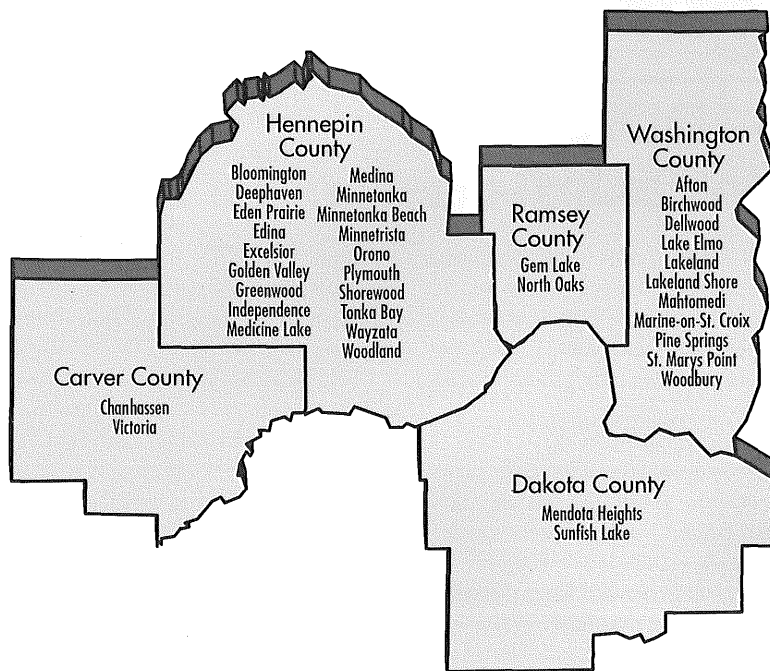
"We should expand gently that wonderful program of Mr. Weaver's," he said.

— Grant Moos



A portion of the property taxes on some homes valued at more than \$200,000 would go into a special pool to be distributed to less wealthy areas, under a bill being considered by the House.

Cities that would lose property tax income



Source: House Research Department

House Information graphic

According to preliminary calculations these cities would stand to lose a portion of their property tax revenue under HF431. Although Excelsior, Golden Valley, and Lake Elmo are listed, they are very close to the break-even point.

Smoke Free 2000 Coalition characterized the measure as a "tobacco industry bill... a sham solution to the problem of reducing illegal sales to minors."

Judy Knapp, the coalition's director, said "minors can easily purchase tobacco products 50 to 75 percent of the time" both in the Twin Cities metropolitan area and in greater Minnesota.

A store employee who sells tobacco to a minor can be charged with a gross misdemeanor, punishable by one year in jail and a \$3,000 fine, but "current law puts no responsibility on the retail establishment itself," said Blanke. He suggested that tougher measures are needed to "break the cycle of teenage cigarette addiction."

Rep. Jim Rice (DFL-St. Paul) termed the bill a "thinly veiled attempt to keep us from doing something meaningful to help our kids."

Committee chair Rep. John Sarna (DFL-Mpls) assured members they will have an opportunity to vote on the more stringent HF903, which will be considered by the committee on March 14.

HF108 now goes to the House floor.

'Corporate welfare'

What goes for people on welfare should go for "corporate welfare" recipients, according to Rep. Karen Clark (DFL-Mpls).

Clark is sponsoring a bill (HF869) to require businesses that receive state money for economic development and job creation to meet standards concerning the addition of new jobs and employee salaries.

"If we're going to invest in a business, then let's get something back and let's know what it is," Clark told members of the House International Trade and Economic Development Committee March 8.

The bill stipulates that companies receiving more than \$25,000 from the state in the form of grants, loans, or some tax breaks such as tax increment financing, must pay employees "a livable wage" and produce net job growth within two years.

The bill does not spell out a livable wage, but committee members discussed figures between \$7 and \$14 per hour.

The wage and job growth standards would not apply to companies that receive other tax cuts or other waivers, but the bill would require the legislative auditor to report on the jobs created and wages paid by companies receiving all forms of corporate help.

Mel Duncan, executive director of the Minnesota Alliance for Progressive Action, said scrutiny of state spending should not stop

Percentage of average individual income spent on property taxes in 1993

Western suburbs

Eden Prairie	2.85
Orono	2.76
Minnetonka	2.76
Edina	2.63
Plymouth	2.42

Source: House Research Department

Northern suburbs

Blaine	2.25
Brooklyn Center	2.35
Brooklyn Park	2.25
New Hope	2.31
Champlin	2.18
Anoka	2.57



BUSINESS

May I see some ID, please?

Store owners would have to tell their employees it is illegal to sell tobacco products to minors, under a bill the House Commerce, Tourism and Consumer Affairs Committee approved March 7.

Another part of the proposal would require cities and counties to conduct "sting" operations (send underage teens into stores to try to purchase cigarettes) to test compliance with state law barring tobacco sales to minors.

Sponsored by Rep. Wayne Simoneau (DFL-Fridley), the bill (HF108) would make employers "conduct a training program" for their employees that "instructs them about

the law, the related penalties, and the employer's policy with regard to tobacco sales."

"Is there a store that doesn't do that already?" asked Assistant Attorney General Doug Blanke.

The Office of the Attorney General, along with anti-smoking groups, is supporting an alternate bill (HF903) that would license tobacco sellers and institute graduated fines against retailers who sell to minors.

Simoneau told the committee that his measure was part of the omnibus health and human services bill that passed the House and Senate in 1994, but was vetoed by the governor.

Although HF108 eventually won approval by a large margin, most of those testifying criticized the proposal.

A flyer distributed to lawmakers by the

with the "spotlight focused thus far" on reforming the welfare system.

"We have not yet seen a flashlight that has been focused on corporate public assistance," he said during testimony in support of the bill.

Under the bill, companies that fail to pay a "livable wage" would have to pay their local county human services department a sum double the difference between the wages required and the wages actually paid.

Companies that fit the state definition of a small business — those with no more than 20 employees and a gross annual revenue of less than \$1 million — would be exempt from the requirements.

Opposition to the bill came from business officials who said it would hurt companies and their employees.

Judy Cook, president of Minnesota Retail Merchants Association, said the bill could cause inflation and job loss and put Minnesota at a disadvantage in the "fierce competition among states" to attract new businesses.

"It certainly sends a message to the business community. . . that you're not wanted here," she said.

But Gordon Voss, a former House member who said he was testifying as a citizen, supported the "concept of the bill" to improve accountability in state spending. "We're talking hundreds of millions of dollars with very little reflective look back on it," Voss said.

The committee is expected to take up the bill again soon.

Let's make a deal

Businesses receiving more than \$25,000 per year in state financial assistance — in the form of grants, loans, tax increment financing (TIF) or other tax breaks — would have to pay their employees over \$7 per hour, under a bill heard by the House Labor-Management Relations Committee March 6.

The bill would require such companies to pay a "living wage" to all their employees. A "living wage" is defined as the "federal poverty level for a family of four" — or \$7.28 per hour.

The Department of Trade and Economic Development (DTED) would have to compile an annual list of all businesses that meet the \$25,000 annual aid standard.

Rep. Doug Peterson (DFL-Madison), the bill's sponsor, said Minnesota supports businesses through various subsidies but at the same time tells workers that "you have to live on substandard wages."

Many Minnesotans "can't buy the cars, can't buy the things on Main Street, can't partake in this society" because of stagnant

and falling wage levels, according to Peterson.

He said that "if it's good public policy to make sure economic development goes forward in the state," then companies receiving state aid should "pay up."

It was unclear exactly how many companies would be affected by the legislation.

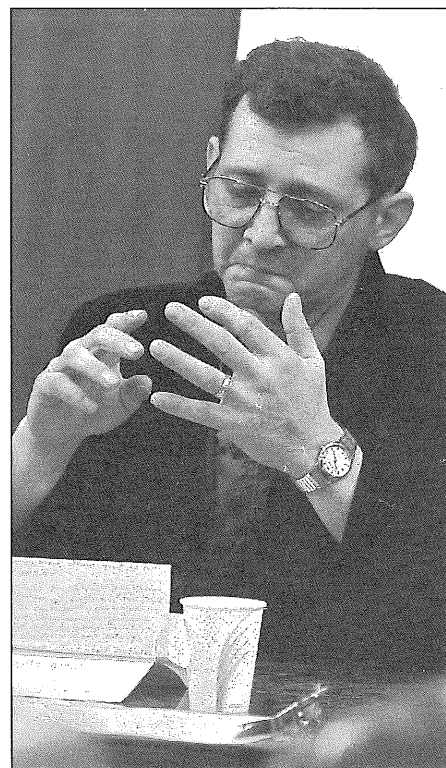
Jenny Engh, DTED deputy commissioner, said that the "definitions are so broad" — the inclusion of all companies within TIF districts, for example — that it's hard to know which businesses would come under the law.

Engh mentioned four DTED programs that offered loans and grants to a total of 155 state businesses last year. Because some of these companies are just starting up, and are paying lower starting wages to trainees, the bill "would hurt the very companies we're trying to assist," she said.

Representatives of several business associations also spoke against the measure.

The "high cost of doing business in Minnesota" forces companies to seek state financial aid, according to David Olson, president of the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce.

Olson suggested that lowering commercial and industrial property taxes and workers' compensation insurance premiums would



Ray Avelsgard of Park Rapids testified before members of the House Judiciary's Civil Law Subcommittee March 8. He was in favor of a bill that would encourage parents who are behind in their child support to pay up. Interest would stop accumulating on delinquent child support for those parents who are on time with their payments for three years straight.

be a better course than mandating wage levels that employers must pay.

Peterson said that some changes will be made to the bill. **HF414** will be considered again at a future meeting of the Labor-Management Relations Committee.



CHILDREN

Collecting child support

Parents who are at least \$1,000 delinquent in their child support payments could lose their driver's license, under a bill heard by a House panel March 8.

The driver's license suspension is just one of several new tools lawmakers are seeking to garner the hundreds of millions that are owed to Minnesota kids in failed child support payments.

The "pay it or park it" provision would notify those owing at least \$1,000 in child support that they have 90 days to work out a payment plan with the county or the court. Failure to do so would result in a suspended driver's license. (The debtor may request a hearing on the matter.)

Attorney General Hubert H. Humphrey III told members of the House Judiciary Committee's Civil Law Subcommittee that as of July 1994, Minnesota kids were owed \$551 million in delinquent support payments.

"This is real money. . . This [provision] is welfare reform, and would do more for reform than anything else [now] being considered," Humphrey said.

There are currently 91,600 Minnesota child support cases involving families on public assistance.

The provision of **HF966** is modeled after a current Maine law which has generated \$21 million in collections since its 1992 inception. It cost the state \$70,000 to implement the program. Only 39 drivers' licenses have been suspended.

Bill sponsor Rep. Matt Entenza (DFL-St. Paul) called the Maine program a successful deterrent. He said the goal is to collect money, and to "make sure individuals are not unfairly treated."

But Mark Nygaard, speaking for Remember Kids in Divorce Settlements (R-KIDS), called the bill punitive, and its methods "Draconian."

"If you want compliance, you don't treat people like a piece of garbage . . . that's what we are doing here," Nygaard said. He questioned what percentage of non-payment cases were due to "willful noncompliance" and

how many were simply because of an inability to pay.

Other provisions of the bill include:

- making the state (or person owed child support) a "secured party" listed on the motor vehicle title of someone at least \$1,000 delinquent in child support payments. When such a vehicle, valued at more than \$4,500, is sold, the seller keeps \$4,500 and the state or the person owed child support would get the rest;
- establishing a "support or service" pilot project which would make able-bodied debtors without jobs perform community service work. They could be made to work up to 32 hours per week for six weeks. Entenza said a similar Wisconsin program has proven to be an incentive for debtors to find work, and has resulted in improved child support compliance;
- creating a "cooperation for the kids" pilot project designed to address issues of custody and visitation in a mediation setting without judges or attorneys; and
- creating a centralized employment database at the Department of Human Services. Business owners must report all new hires to the department or face up to a \$500 fine, per employee, for repeatedly (and intentionally) failing to report. Its purpose is to track those who drift from job to job to avoid having wages garnished to pay child support.

Further discussion of **HF966** is expected next week.



CRIME

'Peeping Tom' law expansion?

A bill to include hotel rooms and tanning booths under Minnesota's 'peeping Tom' law was heard March 6 before the House Judiciary Committee.

Current law applies to those peeping in windows or secretly photographing or videotaping outside someone's home. Such a crime is a misdemeanor.

But offenses occurring away from the home have frustrated county attorneys, who lack the legal tools to slap offenders with real consequences.

A recent case in Windom, Minn., attracted the attention of bill sponsor Rep. Teresa Lynch (IR-Andover).

Cyndi Berg was in a tanning bed at a local business when she discovered she was being watched by the business owner, who was also in the room with her. She was the only customer in the building, "and he outweighed

me by about a hundred pounds," Berg told members. She ignored him, "concentrating on breathing normally," so he wouldn't suspect she knew he was there. Eventually, the man left.

"It was only 15 minutes, but it has affected the rest of my life," Berg said.

Prosecutors considered charging the man under a section of the state's stalking law, but the incident didn't quite fit there, either. In the end, the business owner agreed to pay a \$500 fine to close the case.

Laurie Middleton, assistant county attorney for Beltrami County, said there was nothing else that authorities could do. Local police can now spot check the business, "but they must call to warn [the business owner] they are coming."

Berg said the same Windom tanning business is booming, "filled with girls getting ready for prom."

HF272 would make it a misdemeanor to secretly "gaze, stare, or peep" into a hotel room or tanning booth "with the intent to intrude upon or interfere with the privacy" of an individual.

Photographing or videotaping a person in such a setting would also be a misdemeanor.

Members expressed concern that there were other places where the law should apply, such as dressing rooms, saunas, or bathrooms.

No vote was taken on the proposal, which is without a companion in the Senate. Further discussion on the proposal is expected at a later date.

A crime to conceal

Covering one's face in public for religious reasons would not be a crime, under a bill approved by the House Judiciary Committee March 6.

Bill sponsor Rep. Matt Entenza (DFL-St. Paul) says the law is simply unconstitutional.

The bill stems from the Sept. 28, 1994, arrest of Tayyibah Amatullah, a Muslim. While dressed in traditional Muslim attire, Amatullah was approached in a downtown skyway by St. Paul police officers and asked to uncover her face. When she refused, police issued her a citation.

The local Islamic community was outraged, calling the incident a clear violation of her First Amendment rights.

The law, which prohibits concealing one's identity by means of a "robe, mask, or other disguise," dates to 1923. It targeted the Ku Klux Klan, which had a significant presence in the state at the time. (See related story, page 17)

Entenza said that the Ramsey County Attorney's Office dropped the Amatullah case when the American Civil Liberties Union made clear its intention to challenge the law.

Committee members also added an exception to the law for wearing a mask for "medical reasons." An exception the Senate adopted — to allow wearing a mask for "protection from weather" — was deleted from the bill. Committee members noted that police are "not in the habit" of arresting snowmobilers and others protecting their faces from the winter elements, and agreed the exception was unnecessary.

HF735/SF214*, which passed the Senate 63-1 on Feb. 27, now moves to the House floor for consideration.



EDUCATION

Preserving school safety

New ways to ensure school safety and to battle truancy are included in a bill approved March 7 by the House Education Committee.

The bill, sponsored by Rep. Jim Farrell (DFL-St. Paul), would hit truants and their parents with stiffer penalties and would allow courts to deny driving privileges to habitual truants until they turn 18.

School safety measures in the bill include locker searches, criminal background checks on teachers and other school employees, and misdemeanor charges for parents who fail to control their children.

Much of the debate among committee members focused on the proposed penalties for parents who fail to "make a good faith effort" to exercise "care, supervision, protection and control" over their children.

Rep. John Tuma (IR-Northfield) said he wants parents to be held accountable for their children but that the bill is too vague in its definition of what is required.

"It opens up far too many areas for arbitrary and discriminatory implementation," Tuma said.

And Rep. Alice Seagren (IR-Bloomington) said the vague language in the bill could create an adversarial situation between parents and officials.

An amendment by Tuma that would have deleted that portion of the bill was defeated on a close vote.

Farrell, a public defender in Ramsey County, said the language is similar to what exists in other areas of state law, and that the justice system needs new tools to deal with troubled youth.

"I'm tired of defending children in court

when I should be defending parents," he said.

His bill also would increase the maximum legal penalty to 90 days in jail and \$700 in fines for parents who fail to make sure their children comply with compulsory attendance laws. (See Feb. 24, 1995, *Session Weekly*, page 5 and March 3, 1995, *Session Weekly*, page 7)

In addition, the bill would allow school officials to search lockers any time without prior notice or consent.

The House Judiciary Committee already approved a separate bill, **HF107**, that would allow such searches. But the Education Committee attached an amendment to Farrell's bill requiring officials to notify students whose lockers have been searched as soon as possible afterward, unless the search was conducted as part of an on-going investigation.

HF610 now goes to the Judiciary Committee.

Libraries and the Internet

A House member is pushing legislation that he says would eliminate the barriers that block many Minnesotans from the "source of wealth" in today's economy: information.

Rep. Steve Kelley (DFL-Hopkins) is the sponsor of a bill that aims to support and improve the state's public libraries and to link them with the Internet, or information highway.

Kelley said his bill would be a sound investment in the future. "Doing this I believe will expand the wealth of all Minnesotans," he said.

Library officials, school officials, and students testified in support of the bill before the House K-12 Education Finance Division on March 8.

Marlys O'Brien, of Kitchigami Regional Library System, said libraries are "essential" to their communities and need funding. And she said the bill would provide funding to support the systems linking libraries in the state and allowing them to share resources.

Jane Prestaback, of the Minnesota Educational Media Organization, said funding to extend the Internet in schools is crucial to students who "need the infrastructure to connect" to the information superhighway.

A middle school student from Mankato illustrated the importance of the Internet in schools. Eighth grader Pete Ekstam used the Internet to get information on a report he did for school about the Nazi concentration camp at Auschwitz — information he couldn't get in his middle school library.

"Everything you need is on there," he told members of the K-12 Education Finance



Chuck Clark, an eighth grader at Cleveland Quality School in St. Paul, and other participants in the Youth Summit on Violence Prevention, listened March 8 as Rep. Jim Farrell explained a section of his bill that allows schools to search students' lockers (**HF610**). The bill was approved by the House Education Committee.

Division on March 8. "It's pretty cool."

Although the bill does not yet contain a specific funding request, Kelley said he is seeking about \$32.6 million in the coming two-year spending cycle.

The division is expected to take up **HF977** again later this session.

Superintendent buyouts

The House gave final approval March 9 to a bill that would require school superintendency candidates to disclose if they have been paid to leave the same position elsewhere. The vote was 114-16.

The bill (**HF496**) would ensure school districts know if a would-be superintendent left the job in another district via a contract buyout.

Bill sponsor Rep. Ron Kraus (R-Albert Lea) said the disclosure requirements would provide protection for taxpayers who fund the sometimes costly buyout procedures.

The bill drew opposition on the House floor March 6 from lawmakers including Rep. Mary Murphy (DFL-Hermantown).

Murphy said the bill would create "an unfair labor practice" by singling out people who have been the subject of a buyout and

limiting their chances to become a superintendent in another district.

"Where's the responsibility of the school board that's hiring those people," she said.

Rep. Becky Kelso defended the bill, saying it would provide added protection for school boards and taxpayers.

She said buyouts can cloud the already atypical process of searching for a superintendent. "There is not the flow of communication that I think you would normally see from one employer to another employer," Kelso said.

The bill stipulates that superintendent candidates have to disclose the information even if the original buyout included a non-disclosure agreement. And the bill would void the contracts of superintendents who fail to disclose the information during the hiring process only to have it come to light later. (See Feb. 24, 1995, *Session Weekly*, page 6)

Similar legislation is pending in the Senate Education Committee.



ELECTIONS

Voting absentee

Any eligible voter could cast an absentee ballot up to 30 days before any election, under a bill approved by a House panel March 6.

Currently, absentee ballots can be requested only by voters who will be absent from their precinct on election day, are hospitalized, ill, disabled, or can't vote on election day for religious reasons.

But Joe Mansky, director of the Elections Division of the Office of the Secretary of State's, told members of the House General Legislation, Veteran's Affairs and Elections Committee's Elections Division that many other voters have difficulty voting in their home precinct.

"People can't get to the polls for a number of reasons — maybe they work in a distant community from their home or maybe they have difficulty because of child care," he said.

The Legislature allowed anyone in Ramsey, Hennepin, Anoka, and Becker counties to vote absentee in the 1992 election. Rep. Mindy Greiling (DFL-Roseville) said voters favored the experiment.

The bill (**HF167/SF35***) would allow voters statewide to cast ballots in person at their county auditor's office or a site designated by the auditor's office during the 30 days before an election.

Also under the bill, those hospitalized, in

nursing homes or in another health facility could authorize a delegate to deliver their ballot to the auditor's office. Such a delegate could deliver up to three voters' ballots.

Members voted to remove a controversial section of the bill which would have allowed voters to transmit ballots via fax machine.

That provision was requested by the U.S. Department of Defense to allow a faster voting method for Minnesota military personnel overseas, Mansky said.

Bill sponsor Rep. Richard Jefferson (DFL-Mpls) said voters would lose some privacy because an elections judge would see the fax and know how the person voted.

The full House General Legislation, Veterans Affairs and Elections Committee will hear the bill next.

The Senate approved the bill Feb. 13 on a vote of 42-22.

Election day campaigning

Candidates would be able to campaign on election day, under a bill approved by the House General Legislation, Veterans Affairs and Elections Committee's Elections Division March 6.

The proposal, sponsored by Rep. Richard Jefferson (DFL-Mpls), would make a number of changes to current election law, including repealing a provision prohibiting candidates from campaigning on election day.

The state Office of the Attorney General has said the prohibition is virtually unenforceable and is most likely unconstitutional, said Joe Mansky, director of the Elections Division of the Office of the Secretary of State.

Minnesota's county attorneys, who are required to prosecute anyone who campaigns on election day, have asked for the law change, Mansky said.

The law was originally passed during a 13-day special session in 1912. It was part of a radical election reform package that also included campaign spending limits, a state-wide political primary election, and a popular vote for U.S. senators who were previously chosen by the Legislature.

In 1988, the no-campaigning law was ruled unconstitutional by a District Court judge in Hennepin County. Technically, the ruling affected only Hennepin County, and was never appealed.

Another provision in **HF289** would allow election judges to serve as unpaid volunteers if they agree in writing 10 days before the election. Such judges are currently paid for their services. The city, school board, or county board hosting the election determines how much to pay election judges.

The bill now goes to the House General Legislation, Veterans Affairs and Elections Committee.



ENVIRONMENT

Angler's right to know

Fishermen and others using Minnesota waters would have an easier time tracing the source of effluent being discharged into the state's rivers and lakes, under a bill approved by the House Environment and Natural Resources Committee March 8.

The measure, sponsored by Rep. Charlie Weaver (IR-Anoka), would require companies that are legally discharging toxic substances into Minnesota waters to "post a sign that is visible and legible" near the point of discharge.

Under the proposed "Angler's Right-To-Know Act," the sign would indicate the name of the company and that it was discharging "low levels of toxic substances" under a permit from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA). A contact name and telephone number at the company would be listed, along with the general telephone number of the MPCA.

Weaver said his intention was to provide Minnesotans with more information about pollution in waterways.

Weaver said that he has encountered fluids coming out of pipes and into the Mississippi River by Anoka, and had no idea what was being discharged.

"An informed public is a happy public," he said.

But business community representatives said **HF286** would unfairly target private companies, clutter scenic waterways with

signage, and even endanger people by providing targets for trigger-happy delinquents.

Jim Jackson, a regional manager for Boise Cascade, said that the bill would "unnecessarily alarm the public" and "would have no environmental benefit."

The question for anglers is whether fish are safe to eat, according to Jackson. He said that fish consumption advisories — issued for many years in a cooperative effort by the departments of natural resources, health, and the MPCA — provide the public with the information they need about pollution and health risks.

The arguments by Jackson and others came at the committee's March 3 meeting, when the bill failed on an 11-11 vote.

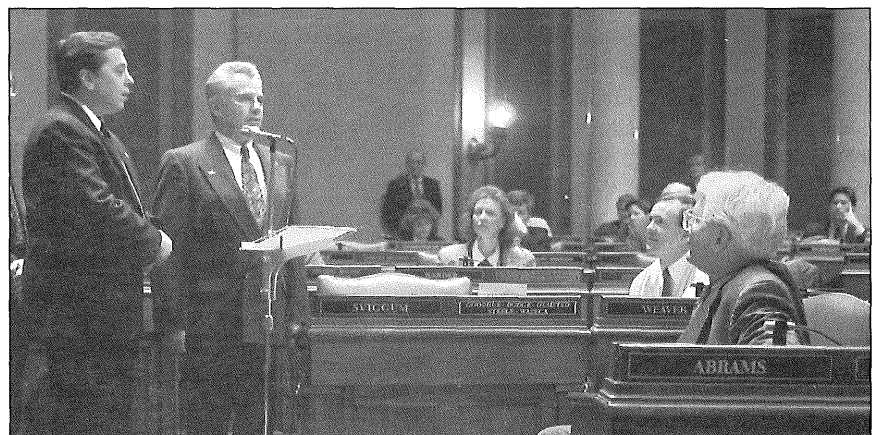
The bill was reconsidered March 8 and passed easily. An amendment by Rep. Peggy Leppik (IR-Golden Valley) changed the bill's definition of a "toxic substance" to exclude chlorine and ammonia — two of the more common substances discharged by industrial companies and waste water treatment plants.

Leppik said this change makes the proposal "less onerous on businesses."

The amended bill would require that about 100 businesses and about 50 municipal water treatment plants — which have permits that cover toxic limits on discharges — post signs, Marvin Hora of the MPCA's water quality division explained later.

The amendment by Leppik also specifies that signs "may not exceed 14 inches by 18 inches," so they would be visible but less obtrusive.

HF286 now moves to the Judiciary Committee.



Alexander Nazerchuk, standing right, Minister of Agriculture and Food for the Russian Federation, and his interpreter, Vladimir Tiurin, addressed members of the House during a floor session March 6.



GAMBLING

Treating compulsive gamblers

Public funds for the treatment of compulsive gamblers would be available to private, for-profit agencies, under a bill approved March 3 by the Gambling Division of the House Governmental Operations Committee.

Bill sponsor Rep. Tony Kinkel (DFL-Park Rapids) said it would "level the playing field" between non-profit agencies already eligible for state funds and their for-profit counterparts.

For-profit agencies would be able to compete with non-profits for the grant funding. Kinkel said the bill is necessary to give Minnesotans, especially in outstate areas, more opportunities for treatment.

"There are some parts of the state that are a long distance away from non-profit programs," he said. "If [for-profit agencies] are selected by [the Department of] Human Services, it will provide greater access and a greater variety of services to people with gambling problems."

During the current biennium, the state will spend a total of about \$1.2 million to treat problem gamblers. Non-profit treatment facilities are selected to receive some of that money through Department of Human Services grants.

Jay Bamberg of the Department of Human Services gambling program supported the bill. He said for-profit agencies would have to meet the same requirements as non-profits.

According to Bamberg, for-profit agencies lacked a well established track record for treatment of compulsive gambling when lawmakers excluded them from eligibility for state funds as gambling began to grow in Minnesota.

"I think there was a fear that there would be some companies making money by exploiting people's weaknesses," Kinkel said. But in reality "the for-profit folks have acted very responsibly."

The House passed legislation similar to Kinkel's bill in 1993, but it did not survive a conference committee.

This year, the Senate already has approved **HF83/SF91***. The bill now goes to the full Governmental Operations Committee.



GOVERNMENT

Government contracts cut

A bill to cut the state's use of private contracts and consultants by 10 percent during the 1996-1997 biennium won approval from the House Governmental Operations Committee March 6.

The bill calls on the state's 20 main agencies to cut 10 percent off the aggregate amount they spent on consultants in fiscal years 1994-1995. They could not make the cuts from grant money or federal funds. Instead, they must cut from the dollars allocated to them by the state.

Under the bill, sponsored by Rep. Joe Opatz (DFL-St. Cloud), the governor would decide which agencies would face contract cuts. Some could increase their use of consultants as long as others decreased enough for an overall reduction of 10 percent.

The bill (**HF123**) also would apply to the House of Representatives, the Senate, the Legislative Coordinating Commission, and the Metropolitan Council. Each would be required to cut 10 percent in their consultant spending.

There are exemptions in the bill, such as contracts for highway construction and maintenance; consultants hired by a Minnesota state college or university to teach public or private organizations, agencies, or businesses; and consultants used to help with pension plans.

Opatz said the bill is designed to save money and force state agencies, the Legislature, and the Metropolitan Council to really look at whether a specific project warrants the hiring of a consultant or whether a current state employee could do the job.

Part of the bill would require agencies to seek prior approval before hiring a consultant for a contract exceeding \$5,000. The agency must determine that no state employee, including employees outside its own agency, could do the job. The agency must also certify that it has publicized the contract.

A successful amendment by Rep. Sharon Marko (DFL-Newport) would require any new legislation that could potentially result in the hiring of a consultant to include a cost comparison between a private consultant and a state employee.

Some, such as Rep. Mike Osskopp (IR-Lake City), worry that cuts in consultants will only cause increases in the number of state employees. He said he wanted assurances such an event wouldn't happen, under the bill. "If we don't have assurances, I think we've wasted our time."

The bill does contain a provision stating that cuts to state agency consultants would occur after agencies have set their budgets so, there'd be little leeway to hire new employees.

Rep. Phyllis Kahn (DFL-Mpls), chair of the committee, said it is difficult to see how a 10 percent cut in consultants would cause an increase in state employees. The cut, she said, isn't large enough to do that.

The bill now goes to the State Government Finance Division of the Governmental Operations Committee.

(See Jan. 27, 1995, *Session Weekly*, page 8, and Feb. 17, 1995, *Session Weekly*, page 7.)

Money-back guarantee

A House panel approved two bills March 3 that would enable Minnesotans to get their money back from a state agency if they apply for a license, permit, or other type of document — including a driver's license — and don't receive it within six weeks.

"These are money-back guarantee bills," sponsor Rep. Phil Carruthers (DFL-Brooklyn Center) said.

The Government Efficiency and Oversight Division of the House Ways and Means Committee approved both bills.

Under **HF797**, the Department of Public Safety would have to refund the \$18.50 fee for a new or renewed driver's license if the applicant doesn't receive the license within six weeks.

Carruthers said his bill is a response to a problem last year at the Driver and Vehicle Services Division of the Department of Public Safety, which issues driver's licenses.

Many applicants waited three months or longer to receive their new licenses after applying, Carruthers said.

Katherine Burke Moore, who heads the Driver and Vehicle Services Division, has said the problem arose after the department found a new vendor to create the licenses. That company, Deluxe Corp. of Shoreview, Minn., did not have enough time to work the considerable kinks out of its system before it began distributing new licenses, Burke Moore has said.

Carruthers' bill would be effective in July 1995 and would not be retroactive. So people who waited more than six months to receive new licenses in the past could not receive their money back.

Burke Moore said the bill should make exceptions to the six-week money back guarantee to allow for employee strikes or software failure at the Driver and Vehicle Services Division. In its current form, the bill does not.

HF797 also includes a provision asking the Office of the Legislative Auditor to evaluate the division to determine "what happened and why" with the license delay, Caruthers said. The office must report to the Legislature by Jan. 1, 1996.

Rep. Mike Delmont (DFL-Lexington) told Burke Moore the provision is not intended to call the division's actions into question.

"It's not a witch hunt," he said. "It's just to ease the public's mind that everything that could have been done to prevent [the delay] was done," he said.

The second bill, **HF796**, would allow those who apply to any state agency for licenses, permits, variances, orders, or other documents to get their fee returned if they don't receive their document within six weeks. Exceptions would be made for documents requiring public hearings.

Applicants, which can include small businesses and family farm corporations, must specifically ask for their money back, Caruthers said.

The Ways and Means Committee soon will hear both proposals.

Economic development, politics

Most of a bill to grant counties the power to refuse to include their share of tax collections when a city in its region offers tax breaks to lure employers was defeated in the House Local Government and Metropolitan Affairs Committee March 7.

The only surviving section of **HF149** would eliminate the annual limit on how much a county can spend on economic development. Current law sets the limit at \$50,000.

Bill sponsor Rep. Edgar Olson (DFL-Fosston) told the committee March 7 that the \$50,000 limit was too low to attract new companies and help existing ones expand, especially in rural Minnesota where many cities are too small and too poor to help out.

The most controversial section of Olson's bill — giving counties a say in tax breaks offered to expanding companies — almost caused the death of the entire bill. Instead, committee members eliminated that provision.

Under Minnesota law, cities can offer tax breaks to companies to help create jobs in their community. The agreement, called a Tax Increment Financing District, involves a company expanding and creating jobs in exchange for the city forgiving property taxes for a set number of years. In some cases the city might agree to sell bonds to pay the upfront costs of an expansion and then use the property taxes generated from the expansion to pay off the debt.



Master violinist Isaac Stern spoke on the importance of the arts in our society during an informal meeting of House and Senate members March 9.

Currently, when a city creates a TIF district, the property taxes they forgive include the county's share, but the county has no say in the matter.

Olson's bill would have allowed counties to decide whether their share of tax revenues could be pledged as part of tax breaks offered by cities to attract companies and jobs.

On average, for every dollar in property taxes collected in 1994, the counties' share amounted to 28 cents, the cities' 15 cents, the schools' 45 cents, with the remainder coming from special taxing districts.

Don Diddams of the Association of Minnesota Counties, said that in some cases cities and counties in Minnesota do work together when establishing a TIF district. But, he added, that is not always the case.

He said the bill was important to stress accountability.

That section, however, drew opposition from the League of Minnesota Cities.

Joel Jamnik of the league said that allowing counties to hold hearings on TIF districts would delay expansion projects and simply add another layer of government to the process.

He also noted that because county commissioners represent specific areas in a county, some wouldn't represent the area in which an expansion is locating. This could "foster political battles that are unnecessary."

For some lawmakers, one piece of information seemed to help sway their decision. Lawmakers learned that in cases where a city

sells bonds to help pay for an expansion and then uses the property taxes levied against the expansion to pay off the bonds, only the city assumes the risk of the bonds.

HF149 now goes to the House Taxes Committee for further review.

Tax limits

A resolution to set limits on state and local taxes was approved March 9 by both the House and Senate.

The Price of Government resolution, which holds state and local taxes to a percentage of the total income of all Minnesotans, is a goal lawmakers use when putting together a state budget. (See Jan. 20, 1995, *Session Weekly*, page 8)

But, it is not just numbers on a piece of paper, said House Minority Leader Rep. Steve Sviggum (R-Kenyon).

"This is something that is going to bring some discipline" to the Legislature, he said.

The resolution, required by a 1994 tax law, would allow state and local revenue during the 1996-97 budgeting period to equal no more than 18.2 percent of the collective income of state residents. Tax revenues would have to be at or below 17.8 percent during the 1998-99 biennium.

During the current 1994-1995 biennium, the tax burden equals 18.3 percent of Minnesotans' total income.

Gov. Arne Carlson has recommended a Price of Government goal for state and local taxes that declines over the next four years to a fiscal year 1999 target of 17.7 percent.



HEALTH

Pesticide poisoning

A bill to establish a voluntary pesticide poisoning reporting network and to conduct a study of the extent of pesticide poisoning in Minnesota passed the House Health and Human Services Committee March 7.

Bill sponsor Rep. Karen Clark (DFL-Mpls) said she estimates the study by the Department of Health would cost about \$70,000. The department would report back to the Legislature by Jan. 1, 1997.

Clark's bill (**HF510**) also would include pesticide poisonings as an emergency service under the state's General Assistance Medical Care program.

The Department of Environmental Medicine and Pathology at the University of Minnesota would coordinate the volunteer pesticide poisoning network.

Dr. Vincent Garry, director of the university department, said he would volunteer his time and work with doctors across the state to educate them on how to recognize, report, and follow up with pesticide poisonings. The term pesticides includes herbicides and insecticides, he said.

Pesticides are often used in farming and in lawn and garden care. Some pesticides end up in the water supply and some can be absorbed through clothes and the skin.

Currently, various state and county agencies collect scattered information on pesticide poisonings, but there is no coordination. As a result, the size of the problem is unclear. And, Garry said, "my fellow physicians don't know a heck of a lot about this area" and need to be taught how to identify a pesticide poisoning in order to report it.

Southern Minnesota has documented problems and it is expected that western Minnesota has similar problems, Garry said.

Rep. Richard Mulder (R-Ivanhoe), the only doctor in the Legislature, said he supported the bill because he has treated people who have been poisoned by pesticides.

"We're dealing with really poisonous stuff out there," he said.

The bill (HF510) now goes to the Health and Human Services Finance Division for consideration.

HIGHER EDUCATION

HECB eliminated

A proposal to eliminate the Higher Education Coordinating Board (HECB) won approval from the Higher Education Finance Division March 6.

Rep. Gene Pelowski (DFL-Winona), who sponsors HF307, said the move would save about \$3.7 million over the next biennium.

The bill would eliminate 27 of the 67 HECB employees, Pelowski said. The remainder would be transferred to the new Higher Education Services Office (HESO).

Besides administering financial aid, the current board's duties include maintaining financial aid and enrollment records and negotiating reciprocity agreements between states. It is also charged with setting Minnesota's higher education policy and recommending which higher education programs could be eliminated. All of these duties would be transferred to the HESO.

The bill also would set up an 11-member Higher Education Administrators Council (HEAC) made up of campus presidents, the president of the private college council, the

commissioner of education and others. The HEAC would be responsible for consulting with a newly established student advisory council, appointing the HESO director, and communicating with the Legislature and the governor.

The council would replace the current board, which is composed of 10 citizens and a student member.

The HECB was originally established in 1966 as an impartial office to distribute financial aid to Minnesota students, Pelowski said.

"But it has been performing at various levels of competency ever since. It's been absent from merger talks and from financial aid changes and it's missed the mark by huge margins in predicting enrollments," Pelowski said.

The office did not take a strong role in planning a revision in the higher education funding system passed last year by the Legislature. The office also did little to offer input on the administrative merger — slated for July 1995 — of Minnesota's state university, technical college and community college systems, Pelowski said.

But Duane Scribner, HECB president, told division members the higher education system needs an impartial board to advocate higher education issues.

"If you lose the HECB, an independent voice is lost you won't receive in a council made up of system members," he said, referring to HEAC.

Members of that group will tend to lobby for their individual systems or schools, Scribner said.

Last year's House voted to abolish the HECB and transfer its duties to — among other agencies — the board created to oversee the merger. The provision was deleted during conference committee negotiations. Instead, the bill asked the HECB to study its effectiveness as an organization.

Scribner said the study showed a continued need for the HECB.

HF307 will next be heard by the full House Education Committee.

Freed from bonding debt

Three state universities would not have to pay back a portion of the state-issued bonds authorized in 1994 to help build their school libraries, under a bill approved by the House Higher Education Finance Division March 8.

As part of the 1994 bonding bill, Winona State University received \$20 million to help fund a new library, Bemidji State University received \$8.3 million to remodel and expand its library and St. Cloud State University received about \$1.8 million to prepare drawings for a new library.

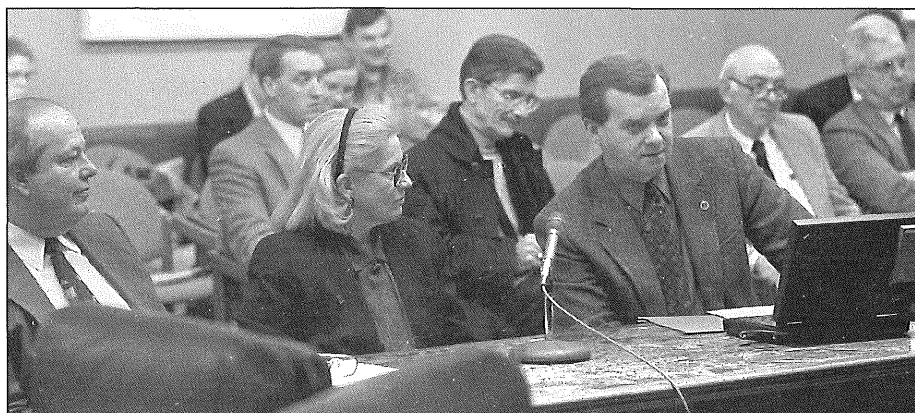
Higher education projects receiving state-issued bonds must reimburse the state one-third the cost of the bond plus interest. Prior to a 1990 law change, state universities were exempted from repaying bonds when they were used to finance school libraries.

The bill would apply only to the 1994 library bonding projects, which totaled \$30.1 million. So the three schools in total would be exempted from paying back about \$10 million plus interest accrued on their library projects.

Rep. Gene Pelowski (DFL-Winona), sponsor of HF487, said state universities should not be responsible for helping pay off their libraries because entire communities use them.

"The library is used by everyone so why make only people at the school pay for it? With electronic mediums, people can access library information via computer. We're looking at access that goes way beyond what we anticipated," he said.

Pelowski's words were of note because his



Two vice presidents of university relations: Gary Evans of Winona State University, left, and Dorothy Simpson of St. Cloud State University, testified with Rep. Gene Pelowski at a hearing of the Higher Education Finance Division of the House Education Committee March 8. Pelowski used his laptop computer to access information during his testimony.

presentation before the Higher Education Division of the House Education Committee marked the first time a representative has used a laptop computer when presenting a bill. Pelowski, who chairs the House Select Committee on Technology, did not have a paper copy of **HF487** before him. Instead, he called up the bill on his wireless, laptop computer and referred to that copy when discussing bill specifics.

The 1994 bonding bill, as passed by the House, called for state universities to be exempted from paying back one-third the amount of state-issued bonds received for libraries. The provision, however, was taken out during conference committee negotiations, Pelowski said.

The bill will be heard next by the full House Education Committee.



HOUSING

'Greenlining' in the city

A bill that would help people buy and fix up dilapidated housing, create tax breaks for landlords to fix up their rental properties, and establish a pool of money to help outstate cities create affordable housing is being considered by the Housing Committee.

The bill (**HF380**) seeks approximately \$46 million and is set to be included in the committee's omnibus housing bill.

"I'm trying to target neighborhoods that have historically been redlined from housing investment," said bill sponsor Rep. Andy Dawkins (DFL-St. Paul), referring to the largest portion of his bill which would help people buy and fix up dilapidated housing. He calls it "greenlining."

This program would set aside about \$30 million to help people buy and repair about 1,000 homes in worn-down neighborhoods across the state. Loans would average about \$30,000 each. The idea, Dawkins said, is to target "eye-sore" neighborhoods and make them owner-occupied again instead of overcome by rental properties with absentee landlords.

With ownership comes the desire to maintain and take pride in the neighborhood, said Dawkins.

Only low-income neighborhoods would qualify for the program under the bill. Some of the other qualifications include a neighborhood where at least 70 percent of the single-family homes are at least 35 years old and at least 60 percent of the homes are owner-occupied. Another requirement speci-



Rep. Karen Clark, left, chair of the Housing Committee, showed legislators and community representatives vacant properties in the Phillips neighborhood of Minneapolis. The tour took place prior to a meeting of the Reclaiming and Recycling Vacant Property Subcommittee March 8.

fies that the number of owner-occupied homes in a neighborhood must have declined by at least 5 percent between 1980 and 1990.

Dawkins pointed to St. Paul's Frogtown neighborhood in his district as an example where the bill could do some good.

"There are folks that need help investing in the neighborhood," he said, adding that the program could target crack houses and run-down homes in the area.

Johnny Howard of the Thomas-Dale Block Club said his neighborhood has gone downhill in the past five years with more shootings and violence.

"Bad people and bad property sometimes go hand-in-hand," Howard said. He said the bill would allow people to have an opportunity to have something they can call their own.

But not everyone testifying before the Housing Committee March 6-7 supported the bill.

Maria Somma of the Community Stabilization Project said of the bill: "This is clearly tenant bashing," adding that the bill suggests that tenants are to blame for run-down neighborhoods.

But that led Rep. Wes Skoglund (DFL-Mpls) to question why she would criticize Dawkins, the author of several laws in recent years that aid low-income people.

"You have a champion here. . . . If there is anybody who fights for low-income people, it is Rep. Dawkins," said Skoglund.

Other aspects of the bill include a provision to set aside about \$1 million to \$3 million to help people convert contracts for deed on their homes to traditional mortgages, which would eliminate the need for large balloon payments. Coming up with the

money for those payments has been a problem for many low-income families.

About \$7.8 million is set aside in the bill to help Greater Minnesota cities, especially those with housing shortages, such as Willmar, create affordable rental housing.

HF380 also works to help improve rental property in St. Paul, Minneapolis, South St. Paul, and Duluth. It would set aside \$8 million over two years to offer tax breaks to landlords who volunteer to fix up their rental properties which includes houses, apartments, duplexes, and triplexes.

"The pilot project's primary objective is to help stabilize costs for the conscientious, industrious landlord who is already providing safe, decent, and affordable housing," states the bill.

The program would require a landlord who wishes to participate to have a city inspector inspect his or her property and identify what repairs are necessary.

This section of the bill is an extension of a 1994 pilot project in St. Paul. The project offered \$1 million in tax breaks to St. Paul landlords with rental single-family houses and duplexes. Only about \$503,000 of the money was used because the program got a late start and was only technically operational for four months.

A successful amendment to the bill offered by Rep. Carlos Mariani (DFL-St. Paul) proposes that the remaining \$497,000 be used to make sure renters don't see a decrease in their annual renters' credit refunds.



TRANSPORTATION

Electric bus advances

A bill seeking state funding to help build the world's first bus powered by electric strips embedded in the street moved one step closer to the House floor March 7.

The bill, sponsored by Rep. Sharon Marko (DFL-Newport), would allocate \$750,000 from the state's general fund to help set up a one-half-mile electric bus route on the campus of St. Cloud State University.

Though the Transportation Finance Division approved the bill, Rep. Jim Rice (DFL-Mpls), who serves on the division and chairs the full House Economic Development, Infrastructure and Regulation Finance Committee — the bill's next stop — said the bill may not move from his committee unless research studies accompany it.

The 1994 Legislature appropriated \$200,000 to the St. Cloud-based Saints Road Project to study how the bus would move through ice and snow. The studies also will assess the safety of electric buses. Nick Musachio, who designed the electric bus technology, said the studies will be ready in two weeks.

When approved Feb. 17 by the House

Transportation and Transit Committee, the bill (HF395) also carried a \$750,000 price tag. Of that amount, \$550,000 would have come from the general fund with an additional \$200,000 available if the project could match that amount. (See Feb. 24, 1995, *Session Weekly*, page 12)

As approved March 7, \$250,000 would come directly from the state with no strings attached. The remaining \$500,000 would be available only if Saints Road Project officials raise \$250,000 from private or public sources.

A portion of the funds also would help pay for the Saints Road Project to study the possibility of building a 45-mile electric bus corridor linking Minneapolis and St. Paul.

The bill also includes a provision that would repay the \$750,000 to the state, should the venture be commercially successful.

Eventually, Saints Road Project members hope to convert buses to run along power strips laid on specific routes. The buses could use batteries when making short forays off the track, and also could switch to gasoline power when necessary. They hope to see their buses used in Minnesota and to sell their technology to other states and countries, Musachio said.

Helping Amtrak survive

A resolution that would ask Congress to continue federal funding for the Amtrak passenger rail system won approval from the House Transportation and Transit Committee March 8.

Congress is now discussing severely cutting the federally subsidized Amtrak budget. The reduction would threaten the continued existence of the nation's only passenger rail service, said Rep. Mark Mahon (DFL-Bloomington), who sponsors HF821.

"No passenger rail service in the world makes money," he said. "Once abandoned, we know the service would never come back."

Last year, Amtrak received a \$952 million subsidy from the federal government.

One Amtrak route passes through St. Paul on a line that runs from Chicago to Seattle.

In December, Amtrak officials announced it will scuttle more than one-fifth of its route service and fire 5,500 employees. As part of the plan, service from the Twin Cities to Seattle was cut from five to four times per week.

About 160,000 people take the train each year in Minnesota. About 130,000 of them board or leave it in St. Paul, Mahon said. Also, the 74 Amtrak employees who live in Minnesota make a combined \$3 million annually, he added.

The bill now moves to the House floor.

The Civil War was not yet over when, on March 3, 1865, President Abraham Lincoln signed a joint congressional resolution stating that "veterans should be preferred for appointments to civil offices."

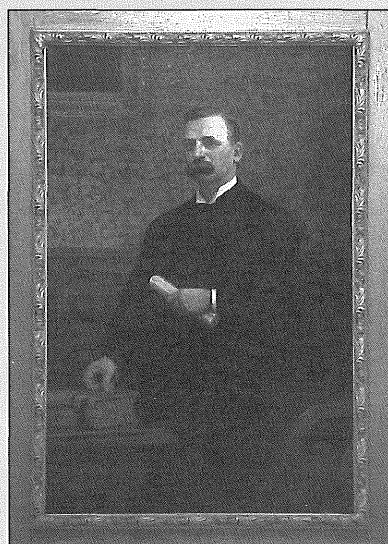
But it wasn't until February 1887 that Gov. Andrew McGill signed Minnesota's first law — which was passed unanimously by the Minnesota Legislature — that was designed to help veterans secure public employment.

The law applied to all levels of government, and was perhaps also the state's first anti-discrimination statute. It expressly stated that "age, loss of limb, or other physical impairment, which does not in fact incapacitate, shall not be deemed to disqualify [veterans]" from employment, according to *The Civil War Veteran in Minnesota Life and Politics*.

However, author Frank Heck noted the law "could easily be sabotaged by an uncooperative appointing officer."

And compliance was a problem. In fact, Paul Van Der Voort, commander in

Do you know?



Gov. Andrew McGill

chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, admitted that "even some ex-soldiers in positions of authority were guilty of failure to accord due prefer-

ence to their comrades when hiring and firing subordinates."

Veterans protested, and their organizations rallied in support of members who were denied jobs or were fired from those they held.

"All in all, one suspects that no article in the old soldier credo was more enthusiastically recited and believed than was the one which called for veterans' preference," Heck wrote.

In 1896, a lawsuit was brought against the commissioners of St. Louis County for the purpose of testing the "constitutionality, force, and effect" of the veterans' preference law. It was upheld by the Minnesota Supreme Court, but in practice was still largely ignored outside of St. Louis County.

Although a series of legal skirmishes followed, the concept of veterans' preference continues today. Veterans who achieve a passing score on an examination for state employment receive a five-point bonus added to their test score. Disabled veterans receive a 10-point bonus.

New members . . .

Knoblach brings an 'eclectic' background to House

Rep. Jim Knoblach (IR-St. Cloud) believes timing is everything.

He had thought in the past about running for public office, but as a business owner, he needed to devote himself first to the direct mail company he owned in St. Cloud, Minn. But in 1993, Knoblach received a phone call "out of the blue" from someone interested in buying his company, North Star Direct. He sold.

Soon after, Knoblach heard that his state representative, Dave Gruenes, would not seek re-election. Knoblach figured his opportunity had arrived. He announced his candidacy.

The campaign went without a hitch, he said. He faced no challenger for the Independent-Republican nomination, and had no primary opponent. And he and his DFL opponent, whom he describes as a "great guy," agreed not to engage in negative campaign.

In addition to knocking on doors, Knoblach used his business knowledge to campaign by direct mail. He also knew many people in his district because he grew up in St. Cloud. He called on high school, family, and business contacts for support.

Though Knoblach had never held public office, he's no stranger to the legislative process. He earned a master's degree in American government from Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. While attending school there in 1986, he worked for one year with the U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Relations.

Knoblach also holds an undergraduate degree in economics and business administration from St. John's University in

Collegeville, Minn., and a master's degree in business administration from Harvard University.

One of the best parts of his new job is the sheer number of issues that come before the Legislature, he said. Knoblach enjoys studying, debating, and forming an opinion about different issues, he said.

"There's no one burning issue that caused me to run for public office," Knoblach said. "Instead, it was a feeling of obligation to give something back to a state and community that have been very good to me."

Knoblach said he is very concerned about the size and growth of government and wants to improve the way services are delivered so the public is better served. He is also particularly concerned about children's issues.

Knoblach serves on the Capital Investment Committee, Governmental Operations Committee and its Gambling and State Government Finance divisions. He also serves on the Legislative Commission on Employee Relations and the Advisory Council on Gambling.

"I was happy with the committee assignments because I like working with numbers," he said. Besides being a certified public accountant, Knoblach has had a hand in a number of businesses. He calls his business background "eclectic."

Knoblach remains a part owner of a real estate business as well as a small publishing company in St. Cloud. In an earlier career, he was in management at MediSense, an international biotechnology company that manufactures and markets blood glucose meters for diabetics and also did hazardous waste cleanup research.

"It's hard, at times, answering people when they ask me what I do for a living," Knoblach said.

As a legislator, Knoblach finds that on

most days, he's busy all day long.

"I expected that," he said.

But he easily found time to take off in late February to be present for the birth of his daughter, Laura Ellen, who was born Feb. 23. He and wife, Janet, also have a two-year-old son, Daniel.

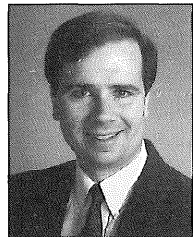
In their spare time, which he says is now "almost non-existent," the couple enjoys camping and hiking. Knoblach is also an avid runner and in past summers has done a "fair amount" of mountain climbing. He has a certificate in his office earned five years ago for climbing Mount Rainier in Washington state.

"But with two kids, my wife has encouraged me to put the days of serious mountain climbing behind me," he said. "It's too risky."

Instead, Knoblach looks forward to a busy legislative session. He praised the freshmen legislators.

"I'm impressed with the other legislators. And with the freshmen. We have a great class on both sides of the aisle," he said.

— Jean Thilmany



Rep. Jim Knoblach

District 16B

Population: 33,231

Distribution: 86.23 percent urban; 13.77 percent rural

County: Stearns

Largest city: St. Cloud

Location: central Minnesota

Unemployment rate: 4.87 percent

Residents living below poverty level: 13.76 percent

1992 presidential election results:

Bush/Quayle 36.58 percent

Clinton/Gore 38.28 percent

Perot/Stockdale 24.08 percent

Other: 1.06 percent

Richard Stanek elected to House

The latest member of the Minnesota House is Rep. Richard Stanek, a 33-year-old Minneapolis police officer who won a special election bid March 7.

He fills the District 33B seat vacated by former Rep. Warren Limmer (IR-Maple

Grove) who won a special election to the Senate Feb. 2.

Stanek (IR-Maple Grove), who holds a bachelor's degree in criminal justice and a master's degree in public administration, is the chair of the Peace Of-

ficers Standards and Training Board, which handles ethical concerns and licensing standards for police officers.

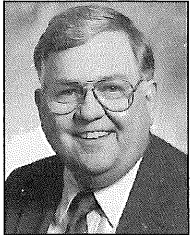
He is expected to receive his House committee assignments soon after he is sworn in March 13.

New members . . .

Dr. Mulder wants to improve quality of rural life

Is there a doctor in the House?

Yes, indeed. He's Rep. Richard Mulder, who has spent the past 25 years as a family physician in Ivanhoe, Minn., a town of 751 people in the southwestern corner of the state.



Rep. Richard Mulder

After treating more than 17,000 patients, Mulder believes he has learned some things that should serve him well at the Capitol.

Mulder has been active in "medical politics" for many years — as a trustee of the Minnesota Medical Association and a past president of the Minnesota Academy of Family Physicians. And he was appointed, in 1992, by Gov. Arne Carlson to the Minnesota Board of Medical Practice.

In that same year, Mulder won Independent-Republican endorsement for a seat in the Minnesota House of Representatives. That campaign did not end in victory, but when he ran again last November, he won the District 21B seat, formerly occupied by DFL Rep. Andy Steensma.

As a member of the minority party, Mulder said he doesn't have "any illusion" that he will be able to change major state policies, but he hopes to communicate his ideas to legislators on both sides of the aisle. His membership on the Health and Human Services Committee and its finance division will give him a voice in the ongoing health care policy debate.

Mulder is convinced that government involvement in health care, including this state's MinnesotaCare program, has "increased the cost of health care."

"Rural health care has been an area where I've developed expertise," Mulder said. He

has made more than 30 lobbying trips to Washington, D.C., to correct what he contends are inequities in Medicare payments to rural doctors and hospitals.

Mulder also is concerned about the "continued gradual deterioration of the quality of life out in rural Minnesota."

He recalled that 25 years ago, he used to deliver 75 to 100 babies a year. The babies were born to married couples who wanted and "could afford the child."

In recent years, he has delivered about 25 babies a year. The mothers are "almost all on welfare, many of them are not married," and some of the babies are not wanted.

The plight of mothers and their babies leads Mulder to conclude that "there's been a radical change in this state the last 25 years and it's not for the better."

Instead of relying on government, Mulder says a way must be found "to reinvent the family . . . to solidify the family unit," and ensure that people "have a proper income so that the state won't have to do everything for them because the state's a poor mother. The state just can't raise children like good parents can."

In Mulder's view, government taxation has become too burdensome on people who have "lost their discretionary income, and they've said: 'No, enough's enough!'"

Bringing government budgets back in line means cutting spending, and Mulder says that is "going to hurt and everybody's going to feel the pain."

But there's pain for legislators, too, as they endure the stress of long legislative sessions. "I've already treated a few," said Mulder.

The House doctor has done some " cursory examinations " of legislators and staff members and, in one case, recommended that a person

see a doctor to get a prescription. (He won't write prescriptions because he "can't keep medical records" at his legislative office.)

"Without practicing medicine, I've tried to give some good advice to several people," he said. "It's worked out . . . medicine, like government, is a lot of common sense stuff."

Mulder and his wife, Ruth, who campaigned with him and works in his office at the Capitol, have four children: Ricky, 28; Angela, 27; Stefani, 24; and Curtis, 21.

As for hobbies, Mulder says, "I love to fly." He towed a banner behind his Cessna 182 while campaigning the 100-mile length of his district. He also finds time to play penny ante poker, scuba dive, and build radios and stereos.

Mulder appreciates the complexity of problems facing Minnesotans and admits that he doesn't have "all the answers."

He pledges to do his best for his constituents. "I hope I have some knowledge and experience that I can bring to the people here, and maybe I can help them make the right decisions."

— Mordecai Spektor

District 21B

Population: 33,068

Distribution: 52.31 percent urban; 47.69 percent rural

Counties: Lincoln, Lyon, Nobles, Pipestone, Rock

Largest city: Pipestone

Location: southwestern Minnesota

Unemployment rate: 3.97 percent

Residents living below poverty level: 13.82 percent

1992 presidential election results:

Bush/Quayle 35.73 percent

Clinton/Gore 36.79 percent

Perot/Stockdale 25.75 percent

Other: 1.73 percent

Rep. Joel Jacobs retires from House

Rep. Joel Jacobs (DFL-Coon Rapids) resigned from the House of Representatives March 5 when he was appointed to the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) by Gov. Arne Carlson.

Jacobs, who was first elected to the House in 1972, was in his 12th term. He chaired the House Regulated Industries and Energy Committee.

The governor has called an April 4 special election to fill the vacated seat in District 49B. If necessary, a special primary election will be held March 21.

In valedictory remarks at the close of the

House floor session March 2, Jacobs said he was moving to the PUC "with mixed emotions. I have always loved this body like my family."

Jacobs praised the "absolutely superb" House staff members, and thanked fellow lawmakers.

"I've really enjoyed working with you. This is a great place, a great body. It's true we have differences of opinion, but nevertheless we are friends and continue to be friends."

The five-member PUC regulates the prices and services of telephone, natural gas, and electric utilities.

House Speaker Irv Anderson (DFL-Int'l Falls) on March 7 appointed Rep. Steve Trimble (DFL-St. Paul) to take Jacobs' position as chair of the House Regulated Industries and Energy Committee.

Trimble is a teacher who was elected to the House in 1986. This will be his first time as a committee chair.

Anderson said that Trimble's "familiarity with energy issues and his ability to promote healthy discussion and consensus-building will make him an excellent chairman."

1995 House Subcommittees

Note: The subcommittees listed below were formed after we published the Committee Information section in the Jan. 13, 1995, issue of the *Session Weekly*, pages 10-13.

Agriculture

Agriculture Finance & Rural Development

Chair: Winter

Vice Chair: Schumacher

Cooper	Kraus
Dauner	Otremba
Finseth	Peterson
Harder	Sarna
Hugoson	Wenzel
Koppendrayner	

Dairy Policy & Soil & Water Conservation

Chair: Otremba

Vice Chair: Lourey

Dauids	Peterson
Hugoson	Schumacher
Jaros	Swenson
Koppendrayner	Wenzel
Molnau	Winter

Commerce, Tourism & Consumer Affairs

Consumer Affairs

Chair: Entenza

Farrell	Pellow
Goodno	Pugh
Holsten	Sarna
Jennings	Swenson, H.
Lynch	Tomassoni
Milbert	

Economic Equality

Chair: Luther

Daggett	Mulder
Hasskamp	Peterson
Kelso	Sarna

Real Estate & Commerce

Chair: Perl

Bradley	Pugh
Erhardt	Rice
Kelso	Swenson, D.
Kraus	Sarna
Ness	Smith
Peterson	Tomassoni

Tourism

Chair: Hasskamp

Daggett	Lynch
Farrell	Ness
Holsten	Sarna
Kelso	Swenson, D.
Kinkel	Tomassoni

General Legislation, Veterans Affairs & Elections

Veterans Affairs

Co-Chair: McCollum

Co-Chair: Opatz

Dauids	Osthoff
Knight	Rhodes
Munger	Rostberg
Orfield	Simoneau

Governmental Operations

Administrative Rules

Chair: Greiling

Vice Chair: Perl

Anderson, Bruce	Knoblach
Johnson, B.	Pugh
Kahn	Rostberg

Housing

Reclaiming & Recycling Vacant Housing

Co-Chair: Dawkins

Co-Chair: Wejcman

Clark	Olson, M.
McElroy	Sykora
Kinkel	Trimble

Judiciary

Civil Law

Chair: Pugh

Dawkins	Skoglund
Entenza	Smith
Lynch	Solberg
Orenstein	Swenson, D.
Seagren	

Data Practices

Chair: McGuire

Luther	Skoglund
Macklin	Van Engen
Pugh	
Rhodes	

Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs

Local Government

Co-Chair: Otremba

Co-Chair: Schumacher

Bertram	Long
Broecker	Opatz
Johnson, V.	Rostberg
Larsen	Wenzel

Metropolitan Government

Chair: Kelley

McGuire	Garcia
Orfield	Krinkie
Osskopp	Long
Tompkins	Mahon
Weaver	

Rules & Legislative Administration

Administration

Chair: Carruthers

Abrams	Rest
Anderson, I.	Sarna
Lynch	Svigum
Pugh	Weaver

Personnel

Chair: Carlson

Anderson, I.	Lynch
Carruthers	Rest
Delmont	Svigum
Koppendrayner	

Rules

Chair: McCollum

Anderson, I.	Pawlenty
Bettermann	Svigum
Carruthers	Trimble
Lynch	Winter
Munger	

Transportation & Transit

Transportation Regulation

Chair: Schumacher

Broecker	Mariani
Cooper	McElroy
Kelso	Workman
Krinkie	Tunheim

Transportation Safety

Chair: Mahon

Bradley	Wagenius
Kalis	Winter
Rhodes	Tunheim
Tompkins	

Transportation Systems

Chair: Marko

Frerichs	Lieder
Hugoson	Osthoff
Kalis	Tunheim
Knight	

Minnesota's past . . .

Ku Klux Klan made inroads during the 1920s

In the early 1920s, Warren Harding was in the White House, middle America was discovering the automobile, and the Ku Klux Klan was in its heyday in Minnesota.

"How many members it had in the state is unknown, but certain it is that there was hardly a village or township that did not have some Knight of the Invisible Empire who went forth . . . and in the presence of a flaming cross pledge allegiance to the cause of Caucasian-Protestant-Gentile supremacy," wrote Theodore Christianson in *Minnesota, The Land of Sky-Tinted Waters*.

Membership dues were \$10, and a 1921 congressional investigation of the Klan gave the organization "much free publicity and many new members," Christianson wrote.

Minneapolis was reported to have 10 separate Klan groups, and there was even an official Klan publication.

The Call of the North was a weekly newspaper started in July 1923 devoted to promoting the Klan agenda and reporting news of the day. It was replaced by the *Minnesota Fiery Cross* in February 1924.

A newspaper ad sold "fiery crosses," emblems made of stone with the KKK insignia fashioned from the "famous Pipestone quarries." Watch charms sold for 90 cents. And emblems that were 14 inches high "on a natural stone base" sold for \$35.

The Klan was indeed spread throughout Minnesota. The first Klan parade was staged Aug. 31, 1923, in Albert Lea, according to a *Call of the North* article. New members were inducted, or "naturalized," at the Blue Earth County fairgrounds, "so located that outsiders may assemble in the grandstand and get a full view of a very beautiful ceremony."

Klansmen were encouraged to complete an order form at the parade and order their robes "at the earliest possible date." The Klan had their own plant to manufacture the robes, which sold for \$5 apiece.

The *Mankato Free Press* reported an Aug. 17, 1923, cross burning. It was a "class of candidates" who were taken to Pigeon Hill and were "naturalized according to the ritualism of the Invisible Empire," the *Call of the North* reported. "Tell the world, Murphy, the Kluxers are in Kato and there to stay."

Other clan gatherings outside the Twin



A 1922 St. Paul Klu Klux Klan gathering. The early 1920s marked the Klan's heyday in Minnesota. There was an official Klan newspaper and Klan paraphernalia such as watch charms and fiery cross emblems made of stone.

Photo courtesy Minnesota Historical Society

Cities were reported in Duluth, Red Wing, and Sherburne.

But the Klan had its detractors as well.

"People have a right to be protected from masked mobs who take the law into their own hands and commit the most heinous crimes under the guise of enforcing public morality — their own pet variety of morality," wrote C.J. Buell, in the *Minnesota Legislature* of 1923.

The Legislature agreed with Buell.

Rep. Myrtle Cain, one of the first women elected to the Legislature, gained nationwide acclaim for tackling the Klan.

The bill she introduced in 1923 seemed innocent enough. It prohibited the wearing of masks or other disguises to conceal a person's identity. Violation of the law was a misdemeanor. Designed to stop the Klan from hiding behind their white masks, it passed the House on a 96-2 vote.

During Senate deliberations on the proposal, G.F. Clark appeared before the General Legislation Committee. He claimed to represent the KKK of Oregon, and declared that if the bill was passed, "he would see to it that all parochial schools were abolished in Minnesota as they had been in Oregon," Buell wrote.

Not dissuaded, the Senate unanimously passed the bill the following day.

Buell noted that "masked mobs who ride by night, by the very masks and regalia which conceal their identity, thereby proclaim themselves cowards, lawbreakers and criminals."

Today, Minnesota lawmakers are revisiting the same law, this time to allow concealing one's identity for religious purposes. (See related story, page 6.)

Evidence detailing the decline of the Klan is sketchy. A 1967 book by Kenneth T. Jackson notes that the Klan's hopes for success in the Twin Cities were "damaged severely" by a 1923 lawsuit. Minneapolis Mayor George Leach brought a successful libel suit against five Klansmen, one of whom aspired to take Leach's office.

"By and large," wrote Theodore Blegen, in *Minnesota: A History of the State*, "Minnesota good sense did not bow to the furtive intimations of intolerance. The Klan was anathema to most Minnesotans."

— John Tschida

Research provided by Elizabeth Lincoln of the Legislative Reference Library.

Bill Introductions

HF1078-HF1260

Monday, March 6

HF1078—Farrell (DFL)

Education

School district crime related cost levy increase provided.

HF1079—Ostrom (DFL)

Education

Junior and senior high school talented student needs assessment conducted, and money appropriated.

HF1080—Jefferson (DFL)

Governmental Operations

Local government official participation limited in Public Employee Retirement Association defined benefit plan.

HF1081—Boudreau (IR)

Health & Human Services

Faribault Regional Center downsized and governance transferred to Department of Corrections, Southern Cities Community Health Clinic provisions modified, and crisis intervention services provided for developmentally disabled persons.

HF1082—Olson, E. (DFL)

Agriculture

Cooperative optional voting systems provided.

HF1083—Lieder (DFL)

Transportation & Transit

Highway user tax distribution fund apportionment maintained.

HF1084—Kahn (DFL)

Governmental Operations

Indian Gaming Regulatory Act; Congress memorialized to provide an expiration date on tribal-state gaming compacts.

HF1085—Farrell (DFL)

Governmental Operations

St. Paul police and fire consolidation account postretirement benefit reductions limited.

HF1086—Seagren (IR)

Education

School districts authorized to levy for insurance costs.

HF1087—Leighton (DFL)

Environment & Natural Resources

Used motor oil and filter collection required, reimbursement provided, and contaminated used motor oil reimbursement account established.

HF1088—Pellow (IR)

Commerce, Tourism & Consumer Affairs

Sign contractor state licensure authorized, penalties and rule adoption provided, and money appropriated.

HF1089—Johnson, A. (DFL)

Education

School district referendum allowance reduction discontinued.

HF1090—Wejcman (DFL)

Health & Human Services

Inpatient psychiatric coverage for children provided medical assistance coverage.

HF1091—Entenza (DFL)

Commerce, Tourism & Consumer Affairs

Transient merchant sales of baby food and health related items regulated, and penalties provided.

HF1092—Kahn (DFL)

Governmental Operations

State university and state community college systems individual retirement account plans recodified.

HF1093—Lynch (IR)

Regulated Industries & Energy

Telecommunication Access for Communication-Impaired Persons Board (TACIP) eliminated, and duties transferred to the Department of Public Service and Department of Human Services.

HF1094—Johnson, A. (DFL)

Governmental Operations

Legislative Commission on Children, Youth, and their Families responsibilities extended, and money appropriated.

HF1095—Rest (DFL)

Judiciary

Crime victim and witness identity public access provisions modified.

HF1096—Milbert (DFL)

Environment & Natural Resources

Wild animal and plant emergency protection rule adoption authority granted to Department of Natural Resources commissioner.

HF1097—Osthoff (DFL)

Governmental Operations

Gambling banned and constitutional amendment proposed.

HF1098—Mariani (DFL)

Judiciary

Contract for deed and assignment recording required.

HF1099—Greenfield (DFL)

Health & Human Services

MinnesotaCare health data institute data and research initiatives modified.

HF1100—Munger (DFL)

Environment & Natural Resources

Packaging Act; packaging and products provided recycled content requirements, and transport, disposable, and reusable packaging regulated, deceptive environmental claims prohibited, wood waste and residue plan required, penalties provided.

HF1101—Trimble (DFL)

Environment & Natural Resources

Water resources protection laws provided technical corrections.

HF1102—Jefferson (DFL)

Judiciary

Transitional housing services recipient identity data classified as private.

HF1103—Hausman (DFL)

International Trade & Economic Development

Civic and convention center benefit assessment required.

HF1104—Hausman (DFL)

Environment & Natural Resources

Prairie Island; radioactive spent fuel storage cask testing, certification, and approval required prior to use, and penalties provided.

HF1105—Leighton (DFL)

Judiciary

Parentage Act; paternity presumption for husbands eliminated in certain cases, and husbands allowed to join in parentage recognition.

HF1106—Cooper (DFL)

General Legislation, Veterans Affairs & Elections

Lobbying prohibited by campaign committees or political party committees that issue refund receipt forms.

HF1107—Ness (IR)

Education

Higher education career planning and job placement activities required.

HF1108—Bettermann (IR)

Labor-Management Relations

Little Davis-Bacon Act; prevailing wage provisions modified.

HF1109—Luther (DFL)

Health & Human Services

Intermediate care facilities for persons with mental retardation pilot project provided, and money appropriated.

HF1110—Lynch (IR)

Health & Human Services

Woman's right to know act adopted, and money appropriated.

HF1111—Rostberg (IR)
Environment & Natural Resources
Isanti County Lake Francis tax-forfeited land sale authorized.

HF1112—Knoblach (IR)
Judiciary
Civil action witness contingency payment prohibited.

HF1113—Kelley (DFL)
Governmental Operations
Volunteer services office duties to include citizen participation activities, and money appropriated.

HF1114—Entenza (DFL)
Housing
Affordable housing policies implemented by Metropolitan Council.

HF1115—Osskopp (IR)
Environment & Natural Resources
Goodhue County removed as the specified alternative site for dry cask nuclear waste storage.

HF1116—Lynch (IR)
Governmental Operations
Interpreter employed by Legislature to assist hearing impaired persons in interaction with the Legislature.

HF1117—Long (DFL)
International Trade & Economic Development
Tourism office to devote 20 percent of budget to international tourism development.

HF1118—Schumacher (DFL)
Ways & Means
License fee refund required by Department of Public Safety if drivers' licenses, permits, or identification cards are not issued within six weeks from application.

HF1119—Hasskamp (DFL)
Judiciary
Resort and recreational area civil liability limited, and attorney fees provided in certain cases.

HF1120—Pelowski (DFL)
Governmental Operations
Public legislative information television transmission funding provided, and money appropriated.

HF1121—Lieder (DFL)
Transportation & Transit
Gasoline tax rate changed, Metropolitan Council transit bonding limits removed, metropolitan area sales tax imposed, road pricing study continued, and trunk highway turnback study required.

HF1122—Ozment (IR)
Agriculture
Livestock freeze branding identification authorized.

HF1123—Skoglund (DFL)
Judiciary
Criminal justice information system fingerprinting and diversion data provisions modified, and money appropriated.

HF1124—Ozment (IR)
Commerce, Tourism & Consumer Affairs
Liquor license and permit requirements modified.

HF1125—McGuire (DFL)
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
County auditor, treasurer, and recorder offices filled by appointment, and conforming changes provided.

HF1126—Kelso (DFL)
Education
Charter school provisions modified to allow additional schools and sponsors.

HF1127—Orfield (DFL)
Education
Student skills statewide assessment provided, and money appropriated.

HF1128—Johnson, V. (IR)
Environment & Natural Resources
Wastewater treatment dispute mediation provided, sewage sludge definition modified, and permit fee increase rules provided.

HF1129—Van Engen (IR)
Health & Human Services
Transition services established and defined, children's out-of-state services cost payment continued, community based service grants provided for emotionally disturbed adolescents, early childhood care committee and family safety provided.

HF1130—Simoneau (DFL)
Financial Institutions & Insurance
MinnesotaCare waiting period eliminated, comprehensive health association benefits modified, and enrollment freeze date changed.

HF1131—Krinkie (IR)
Taxes
Residential homestead property tax class rates modified.

HF1132—Jennings (DFL)
Commerce, Tourism & Consumer Affairs
Brewer retail restrictions not applicable to brewers who only manufacture in a brewery-restaurant.

HF1133—Farrell (DFL)
Judiciary
Hospital zone defined and drug related crimes expanded to include conduct within hospital zones.

HF1134—Schumacher (DFL)
Transportation & Transit
Minimum vehicle clearance required when passing a bicycle or pedestrian on a roadway or bikeway, certain conduct toward bicycle riders prohibited, and penalties imposed.

HF1135—Kelley (DFL)
Education
Minnesota institute for telecommunications applications and education established at the University of Minnesota, duties and responsibilities specified, and money appropriated.

HF1136—Clark (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Marijuana and Tetrahydrocannabinols prescription by physicians allowed for medical treatment.

Thursday, March 9

HF1137—Wagenius (DFL)
Judiciary
Public nuisance violation grounds and procedures modified, and resolution meetings provided.

HF1138—Brown (DFL)
Environment & Natural Resources Finance
Environment and natural resources appropriations reduced.

HF1139—Simoneau (DFL)
Transportation & Transit
Oxygenated gasoline standards prescribed.

HF1140—Johnson, A. (DFL)
Education
Education appropriations reduced.

HF1141—Dawkins (DFL)
General Legislation, Veterans Affairs & Elections
New democracy act adopted, fusion candidacy provided, citizen campaign jury established, minors aged 16 and over allowed to vote in school board elections, money appropriated, and constitutional amendment proposed.

HF1142—Jaros (DFL)
Governmental Operations
Duluth Teachers Retirement Association benefit computation formulas increased.

HF1143—Bertram (DFL)
Governmental Operations
Public Employees Retirement Association police and fire fund members prior military service credit provided.

HF1144—Rest (DFL)
General Legislation, Veterans Affairs & Elections
Candidates for elective office residency requirement provided, and constitutional amendment proposed.

HF1145—Perlt (DFL)
Labor-Management Relations
Reemployment insurance provisions modified.

HF1146—Bettermann (IR)
Labor-Management Relations
Collective bargaining agreements provided to address certain obligations and procedures relating to workers' compensation.

HF1147—Van Engen (IR)
Labor-Management Relations
Workers' compensation supplementary benefits eliminated.

HF1148—Dehler (IR)
General Legislation, Veterans Affairs & Elections
Election judges permitted to serve outside of the counties in which they reside in certain cases.

HF1149—McElroy (IR)
Transportation & Transit
Noise abatement provided along freeways and expressways.

HF1150—Bertram (DFL)
Education
Volunteer firefighter training funding provided, and money appropriated.

HF1151—Opatz (DFL)
Education
Higher education merger restructured, campus functions and duties altered, and higher education allocation ranges specified.

HF1152—Schumacher (DFL)
Governmental Operations
Independent School District No. 51, Foley, employee authorized prior service credit purchase.

HF1153—Schumacher (DFL)
Transportation & Transit
Paratransit operation outside of service area authorized for cities, counties, and transit commissions.

HF1154—Lynch (IR)
Health & Human Services
Independent living skills training and support services for hearing impaired persons pilot project established.

HF1155—Ostrom (DFL)
Governmental Operations
Insurance benefit reinstatement provided for certain state employee.

HF1156—Long (DFL)
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
Metropolitan livable communities advisory board and fund established, and Metropolitan Mosquito Control Commission and district provisions modified.

HF1157—Kelley (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Psychology Board duties, licensure provisions, and discipline procedures modified, and penalties provided.

HF1158—Davids (IR)
Health & Human Services
Woman's right to know act adopted.

HF1159—Jefferson (DFL)
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
Municipalities authorized to establish trust or escrow accounts for losses due to destruction of

uninsured real property, and municipal control over such property provided.

HF1160—Trimble (DFL)
Economic Development, Infrastructure & Regulation Finance
Contamination cleanup grants funded, and money appropriated.

HF1161—Simoneau (DFL)
Transportation & Transit
Interstate Highway No. 394 parking ramp high occupancy vehicle incentives expanded to users of other highways.

HF1162—Lieder (DFL)
Transportation & Transit
County state-aid highway system mile limitation removed, screening board composition changed, gasoline excise tax rate modified, and money appropriated.

HF1163—Lieder (DFL)
Education
Independent School District No. 604, Mentor, fund transfer authorized.

HF1164—Hausman (DFL)
Environment & Natural Resources
Hazardous substance release action funding provided.

HF1165—Lynch (IR)
Judiciary
Sport shooting range assumed risk description provided.

HF1166—Krinkie (IR)
Transportation & Transit
Limited driver's license issuance hearing procedures and standards adopted by Department of Public Safety commissioner.

HF1167—Seagren (IR)
Health & Human Services
Woman's right to know act adopted.

HF1168—Weaver (IR)
Judiciary
Fleeing a peace officer and obstruction of legal process penalties increased.

HF1169—Wagenius (DFL)
Education
Kindergarten student funding increased, kindergarten preparedness program prescribed and required, levy created, and money appropriated.

HF1170—Kelley (DFL)
Education
Post-secondary learning needs statewide consortium established, open learning institution studied, and money appropriated.

HF1171—Holsten (IR)
Transportation & Transit
Amateur radio station licensee vehicle special license plate appearance modified.

HF1172—Macklin (IR)
Taxes
Airport property tax exemption provided.

HF1173—Wagenius (DFL)
Taxes
Commercial industrial property located in transit zones provided reduced property tax class rate.

HF1174—Marko (DFL)
Transportation & Transit
Special transportation service providers regulated by Department of Transportation commissioner, data classified, and fees and penalties provided.

HF1175—Molnau (IR)
Judiciary
Dangerous weapon criminal code definition modified related to weapon possession in school zones.

HF1176—Peterson (DFL)
Agriculture
Farmed cervidae provisions modified.

HF1177—Hugoson (IR)
Agriculture
Department of Agriculture reporting requirements modified.

HF1178—Simoneau (DFL)
Financial Institutions & Insurance
No-fault automobile insurance rental vehicle coverage provisions modified.

HF1179—Lourey (DFL)
Agriculture
Federal milk marketing order legal action provided continued funding, and money appropriated.

HF1180—Mariani (DFL)
Education
Teachers of Color Program provided appropriation carryover.

HF1181—Peterson (DFL)
Judiciary
Conciliation court contempt citation provided for judgment payment failure.

HF1182—Dawkins (DFL)
Taxes
Rental equity tax program established in Minneapolis, St. Paul, Duluth, and certain other cities.

HF1183—Boudreau (IR)
Health & Human Services
Human services health insurance coverage provisions modified, committed persons firearms background check, paternity and child support provisions modified, and pediatric vaccine coverage by medical assistance provided.

HF1184—Jennings (DFL)
Financial Institutions & Insurance
Omnibus financial institutions technical corrections bill.

HF1185—Smith (IR)
Commerce, Tourism & Consumer Affairs
Uniform Commercial Code revised Article 8 enacted regulating investment securities.

HF1186—Pugh (DFL)
Ways & Means
Strategic and Long-Range Planning Office abolished, and powers, duties, and responsibilities transferred.

HF1187—Clark (DFL)
Housing
Low-cost housing service grant provided to certain community organization, and money appropriated.

HF1188—Van Engen (IR)
Health & Human Services
Health care access offices provided grants, and money appropriated.

HF1189—Leppik (IR)
Judiciary
Guardian ad litem juvenile and family court responsibilities specified.

HF1190—Leppik (IR)
Health & Human Services
Woman's right to know act adopted.

HF1191—Carlson (DFL)
Environment & Natural Resources
Trout and salmon stamp required to possess trout or salmon taken by angling.

HF1192—Hasskamp (DFL)
Taxes
Breezy Point lodging tax proceeds disposition specified.

HF1193—Jennings (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Crisis Nursery Grant Program appropriated money.

HF1194—Rukavina (DFL)
Economic Development, Infrastructure & Regulation Finance
Regional arts councils appropriations allocated.

HF1195—Carruthers (DFL)
Judiciary
Criminal surcharge and assessment provisions modified.

HF1196—Rice (DFL)
Taxes
Corporate franchise tax differential rate imposed on banks.

HF1197—Farrell (DFL)
Labor-Management Relations
Department of Labor and Industry occupational safety and health definitions and procedures modified.

HF1198—Hasskamp (DFL)
Environment & Natural Resources
Wild animal special possession and transportation permit issuance authorized.

HF1199—Simoneau (DFL)
Education
Post-secondary education credit bank established, and money appropriated.

HF1200—Lieder (DFL)
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
Crookston tax increment financing district exempted from state aid offset.

HF1201—Greenfield (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Health and human services appropriations reduced.

HF1202—Lieder (DFL)
Economic Development, Infrastructure & Regulation Finance
Department of Transportation and Department of Public Safety appropriations reduced.

HF1203—Greenfield (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Human services alternative health care and waived service programs appropriated money.

HF1204—Dawkins (DFL)
Labor-Management Relations
Messenger and courier employment status clarified for workers' compensation purposes.

HF1205—Rukavina (DFL)
Governmental Operations
Department of Administration, Department of Employee Relations, Department of Finance, Department of Human Rights, Department of Military Affairs, and Department of Revenue appropriations reduced.

HF1206—Jaros (DFL)
Taxes
State convention center construction materials and supplies exempted from sales and use tax.

HF1207—Winter (DFL)
Transportation & Transit
Vehicle combinations over 65 feet in length permitted when safe.

HF1208—Tompkins (IR)
Health & Human Services
Human Services Employment and Training Program eligibility expanded, stepparent's needs disregards applied, and assistance unit eligibility expanded.

HF1209—Orfield (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Work readiness programs in Ramsey and Hennipen counties replaced with public works training program.

HF1210—Greenfield (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Home care service provider registration required for elderly service providers.

HF1211—Lieder (DFL)
International Trade & Economic Development
Public contractor performance bond posting requirements modified for certain manufacturers.

HF1212—Leighton (DFL)
Economic Development, Infrastructure & Regulation Finance
Minnesota Project Innovation provided funding for government marketing assistance and small business innovation research partnering programs, and money appropriated.

HF1213—Macklin (IR)
Judiciary
Uniform partnership act of 1995 adopted.

HF1214—Cooper (DFL)
Health & Human Services
First responder defined, licensure required, and penalties provided.

HF1215—Huntley (DFL)
Regulated Industries & Energy
WAPA; President and Congress memorialized to abandon the proposed sale of the Western Area Power Administration.

HF1216—Bertram (DFL)
Taxes
Farm electricity use sales tax exemption extended.

HF1217—Otremba (DFL)
Education
Independent School District Nos. 789, Clarissa, and 790, Eagle Bend, provided alternative debt service plans.

HF1218—Carruthers (DFL)
Commerce, Tourism & Consumer Affairs
Certified and licensed public accountant biennial licensure renewal provided.

HF1219—Holsten (IR)
Governmental Operations
Leif Erikson statue on State Capitol grounds rehabilitation provided, and money appropriated.

HF1220—Carlson (DFL)
Education
Special education cooperatives and intermediate school districts provided special education aid payment.

HF1221—Rest (DFL)
Labor-Management Relations
Public employment labor relations provisions modified.

HF1222—Long (DFL)
Taxes
Charitable organizations exempted from downtown taxing area sales tax.

HF1223—Long (DFL)
International Trade & Economic Development
Community organization provided funding to provide business opportunities, and money appropriated.

HF1224—Pugh (DFL)
Judiciary
Automobile insurance proof of coverage enforcement provided.

HF1225—Lourey (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Rural physician substitute demonstration project established, and money appropriated.

HF1226—Sviggum (IR)
General Legislation, Veterans Affairs & Elections
Recall provided for elected state officers and constitutional amendment proposed.

HF1227—Holsten (IR)
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
Sport shooting ranges provided civil and criminal liability immunity.

HF1228—Kahn (DFL)
Governmental Operations
Affirmative action officers provided for state universities, community colleges, and technical colleges.

HF1229—Osthoff (DFL)
International Trade & Economic Development
Job Skills Partnership Board in St. Paul appropriated money.

HF1230—Leighton (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Extended employment program audits provided, payments required, and money appropriated.

HF1231—Rest (DFL)
Local Government & Metro Affairs
Municipal population estimates provided for annexed territory.

HF1232—Mariani (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Ramsey County residential facility for persons with mental illness downsized.

HF1233—Goodno (IR)
Judiciary
Business name certificate filing failure cost assessment exception provided.

HF1234—Carruthers (DFL)
Judiciary
Emotional anguish and grief civil cause of action provided as a result of a wrongful death.

HF1235—Brown (DFL)
Judiciary
Review organization data and information subject to subpoena and discovery.

HF1236—Schumacher (DFL)
Environment & Natural Resources
Sand Dunes State Forest shooting area established, and money appropriated.

HF1237—Jaros (DFL)
Local Government & Metropolitan Affairs
Duluth special service district creation area provisions modified.

HF1238—Trimble (DFL)
Environment & Natural Resources
Metropolitan area surface and groundwater management planning, development, review, and reporting provided.

HF1239—Commers (IR)
General Legislation, Veterans Affairs & Elections
Candidates prohibited from accepting certain contributions.

HF1240—Kinkel (DFL)
Education
Students allowed to participate in extracurricular activities of other schools.

HF1241—Luther (DFL)
Judiciary
Prostitution profits benefit limitation provided.

HF1242—Farrell (DFL)
Labor-Management Relations
Occupational safety and health requirements extended to independent contractors.

HF1243—Greenfield (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Prescription drug purchasing authority created, senior citizen drug purchasing benefit program established, and money appropriated.

HF1244—Kahn (DFL)
Governmental Operations
St. Paul Relief Association former member service credit provided.

HF1245—Bettermann (IR)
Governmental Operations
Minnesota quality college program established in Department of Employee Relations, and money appropriated.

HF1246—Greiling (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Child care operations for school aged children not operated by schools provided licensure requirement.

HF1247—Pugh (DFL)
Judiciary
Trial court judgeships increased, and money appropriated.

HF1248—Dawkins (DFL)
Judiciary
Peace Officers Standards and Training Board licensee discipline basis specified.

HF1249—Pugh (DFL)
Judiciary
Adult basic education funding expanded, and money appropriated.

HF1250—Entenza (DFL)
Education
School breakfast and lunch programs appropriated money.

HF1251—Davids (IR)
Health & Human Services
Nursing home swing bed provisions modified.

HF1252—Vickerman (IR)
Regulated Industries & Energy
Cellular telephone service providers required to notify users of 911 call procedures.

HF1253—Seagren (IR)
Judiciary
Crime Victim Ombudsman Office duties clarified.

HF1254—Larsen (IR)
Education
School district referendum allowance reduction discontinued.

HF1255—Weaver (IR)
Environment & Natural Resources
Anoka land sale provisions modified.

HF1256—Kelley (DFL)
Environment & Natural Resources
Federal energy standards adopted for air conditioners, certain gas burning equipment, lamps, showerheads, and faucets.

HF1257—Pelowski (DFL)
General Legislation, Veterans Affairs & Elections
Political parties issuing contribution refund receipts required to adopt party rules under the administrative procedures act.

HF1258—Hausman (DFL)
Housing
Metropolitan housing system established to encourage development of housing options.

HF1259—Lieder (DFL)
Environment & Natural Resources
Watershed district project property taking procedures clarified.

HF1260—Milbert (DFL)
Governmental Operations
Amateur Sports Commission ice arena authority increased, bond use authorized, and money appropriated.

Coming Up Next Week . . . March 13 - 17, 1995

Committee Schedule

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

MONDAY, March 13

8 a.m.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, INFRASTRUCTURE & REGULATION FINANCE

300N State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Jim Rice

Agenda: Minnesota Community Action Association, Inc. Minnesota Food Shelf Association. Minnesota Right to Housing.

K-12 Education Finance Division/ EDUCATION

5 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Alice Johnson

Agenda: HF507 (Koppendrayner) Education finance appropriations bill.
HFXXX (Johnson, A.) Agency budget reduction bill.

Property Tax & Tax Increment Financing Division/TAXES

200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Ted Winter

Agenda: Discussion of seasonal recreational property taxes.

University of Minnesota Finance Division/ EDUCATION

300S State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Becky Kelso

Agenda: Overview of state specials, Ettore Infante, senior vice president, Academic Affairs, provost, University of Minnesota.

8:30 a.m.

ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES FINANCE

Basement Hearing Room
State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Chuck Brown

Agenda: HFXXX (Brown) Unallotment bill. Pollution Control Agency testimony on the Delta Project.

10 a.m.

AGRICULTURE

200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Steve Wenzel

Agenda: Continuation of March 9 agenda.

JUDICIARY

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

Agenda: HF344 (Leighton) Common Interest Ownership Act modified, curative and validating law for mortgage foreclosures changed, and assignment form and record provided.

HF1105 (Leighton) Parentage Act; paternity presumption for husbands eliminated in certain cases, and husbands allowed to join in parentage recognition.

HF771 (Farrell) Witness and Victim Protection Fund scope clarified, and money appropriated.

HF772 (Farrell) Protected witness name changes classified as private data.

HF773 (Farrell) Crime victim emergency needs fund established, and money appropriated.

HF807 (Wagenius) Civil Commitment Act examiner qualifications modified.

HF129 (Bishop) Medical examiner data sharing with certain investigative agencies authorized.

HF179 (Skoglund) Sentencing to Service Program expanded, and money appropriated.

HF371 (Skoglund) Truancy service center pilot projects established, community based truancy action projects implemented, and money appropriated.

REGULATED INDUSTRIES & ENERGY

10 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Steve Trimble

Agenda: HF396 (Tompkins) Memorializing the TV networks to actively reduce the amount of violence-laden, sexually explicit material on TV programs and to produce TV material that promotes wholesome family values and helps to strengthen the family.

HF957 (Goodno) WAPA; President and Congress memorialized to abandon the proposed sale of the Western Area Power Administration.
HFXXXX (Kelley) Regulating intervenor compensation in certain proceedings related to electric and gas service utilities.

Bills introduced March 9 will be added to this agenda.

State Government Finance Division/ GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS

400S State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Tom Rukavina

Agenda: Department of Revenue budget review.

12:30 p.m.

GENERAL LEGISLATION, VETERANS AFFAIRS & ELECTIONS

300N State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Tom Osthoff

Agenda: SF182 (Vickerman); HF229 (Schumacher) Town supervisor office vacancy filling procedure clarified.

SF181 (Cohen); HF647 (Jefferson) Employees provided time off to vote in special legislative elections.

SF315 (Sams); HF289 (Jefferson) Election law modification and clarification provided.

SF590 (Flynn); HF621 (Lieder) Caucus and voter guides prepared and distributed by secretary of state, and money appropriated.

SF115 (Flynn); HF142 (Lieder) Precinct caucus, state, and presidential primary dates changed, absentee ballot deadline modified, voters guide distribution provided, presidential primary by mail allowed, filing fee increased, duties modified, and money appropriated.

SF35 (Marty); HF167 (Jefferson) Voter registration and absentee voting requirements modified, and penalties imposed.

HOUSING

500S State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Karen Clark

Agenda: HF509 (Clark) Affordable home investment account established, and money appropriated.

LABOR-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS

200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Bob Johnson

Agenda: HF414 (Peterson) Businesses receiving state financial assistance required to pay a living wage.

HF733 (Bakk) High pressure pipe installation licensure requirements modified, and penalties provided.

HF1204 (Dawkins) Courier bill.

2:30 p.m.

The House meets in Session.
(Session will be televised on Metro Cable
Channel 6.)

7 p.m.

Higher Education Finance Division/ EDUCATION

Rooms 50 and 51, Pine Technical College,
Pine City, Minn.

Chr. Rep. Tony Kinkel

Agenda: Testimony from students, faculty, staff, administration, and community members on: financial aid; developmental education; reports, mandates, litigation and free speech issues; caps and the effect on institutions; telecommunications enhancements and updates. (Rainy River Community College, Mesabi Community College, Fond du Lac Community College and Duluth Government Center will be connected via interactive telecommunications.)

TUESDAY, March 14

8 a.m.

EDUCATION

200 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Lyndon Carlson

Agenda: HFXXXX (Johnson, A.) Agency budget reduction bill.

HF307 (Pelowski) Higher Education Coordinating Board abolished, and higher education services office and higher education administrators council established.

JUDICIARY FINANCE

500N State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Mary Murphy

Agenda: Agency budget presentations. Public safety: emergency management (Rep. Farrell, Rep. E. Olson), Emergency Response Commission (Rep. Farrell, Rep. E. Olson), fire marshal (Rep. E. Olson), capitol security (Rep. Murphy), gambling enforcement (Rep. Farrell), crime victims services, (Rep. McGuire, Rep. Luther, Rep. Macklin, Rep. Smith) and crime victims ombudsman (Rep. Luther, Rep. Swenson). If the agenda is not completed, it will be continued in the evening at an announced time.

MinnesotaCare Finance Division/ HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

10 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Roger Cooper

Agenda: Public testimony on Minnesota's health care reform efforts. The public is invited to offer their perspectives on the state of health care reform in Minnesota.

Transportation Finance Division/ ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, INFRASTRUCTURE & REGULATION FINANCE

500S State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Bernie Lieder

Agenda: HF205 (Luther) Brooklyn Park right-of-way acquisition Metropolitan Council loan for

proposed trunk highway No. 610 paid by MnDOT commissioner, and money appropriated.

HF342 (Garcia) High-speed bus service pilot project established by the Metropolitan Council in the metropolitan area.

HF815 (Mariani) Wabasha Bridge in St. Paul removal and replacement provided, money appropriated, and bonds issued.

HF1024 (Lieder) Roseville; Water's Edge Building purchased by Department of Transportation commissioner, bonds issued, and money appropriated.

8:30 a.m.

ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES FINANCE

Basement Hearing Room

State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Chuck Brown

Agenda: Discussion of the Mille Lacs Treaty litigation, Department of Natural Resources and Office of the Attorney General.

10 a.m.

Financial Aid and Tuition Policy Working Group/Joint Higher Education Finance Division and University of Minnesota Finance Division/EDUCATION

300S State Office Building

Chrs. Reps. Tony Kinkel, Becky Kelso

Agenda: Higher Education Coordinating Board financial aid proposals.

GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS

Basement Hearing Room

State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Phyllis Kahn

Agenda: Legislative auditor's report on early retirement incentives.

HF625 (Orenstein) Debt collection entity established within the Department of Revenue, duties and powers imposed, data disclosure provided, collection penalty imposed, and money appropriated.

HF138 (Kahn) Gambling department created; Racing Commission, Gambling Control Board, and State Lottery Board abolished and duties transferred.

HF997 (Delmont) Legislative joint administrative services provided, and legislative commissions and programs abolished.

(Bills not heard on Tuesday will be heard at the March 16 meeting.)

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

10 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Bob Anderson

Agenda: HF598 (Greenfield) Vulnerable Adults Reporting Act modified, and penalties provided.

HF1077 (Greenfield) MinnesotaCare; integrated service network requirements established, penalties provided, and money appropriated.

Interactive hearing with the Brainerd Regional

Treatment Center from 7 - 9 p.m., 5 State Office Building. Staffing-related issues.

TAXES

200 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Ann H. Rest

Agenda: HF431 (Orfield) Metropolitan area property tax equalization provided.

12:30 p.m.

CAPITAL INVESTMENT

Tour

Chr. Rep. Henry Kalis

Agenda: Tour of the Waters Edge Building. (MnDOT metro district headquarters). Tour group will depart from State Office Building at 12:30 p.m. To arrange transportation, members should contact Pat Lindgren, committee administrator, at 296-5398.

COMMERCE, TOURISM & CONSUMER AFFAIRS

10 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. John Sarna

Agenda: HF817 (Marko) Residential real estate transaction disclosure form designed by Department of Commerce commissioner and use implemented.

HF460 (Entenza) Department of Commerce service of orders regulated and enforcement powers modified, and notaries public regulated.

HF903 (Rest) Tobacco retail license established, vendor compliance checks provided, and mandatory penalties provided for sales to minors.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT & METROPOLITAN AFFAIRS

200 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Dee Long

Agenda: HF1156 (Long) Metropolitan livable communities Advisory Board and fund established, and Metropolitan Mosquito Control Commission and district provisions modified.

2:30 p.m.

Government Efficiency & Oversight Division/WAYS & MEANS

500S State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Howard Orenstein

Agenda: HF1036 (Orenstein) Department of Public Safety, Higher Education Coordinating Board, State Racing Commission, Gambling Control Board, State Lottery Board, and Department of Public Service abolished, duties transferred, and new agencies created.

HF976 (Orenstein) Human resources, gainsharing, and procurement pilot projects established to improve state agency efficiency and effectiveness.

Agenda is tentative and subject to change. Continuation of March 9 agenda, if needed.

HOUSING

500N State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Karen Clark

Agenda: HF509 (Clark) Affordable home investment account established, and money appropriated.

State Government Finance Division/ GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS

400S State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Tom Rukavina

Agenda: Department of Finance budget review.

4:30 p.m.

WAYS & MEANS

10 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Loren Solberg
Agenda: Budget resolution.

6 p.m.

ETHICS

500N State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Edgar Olson

Agenda: HF802 (Greiling) Ethical Practices Board public official gift enforcement authority extended, advisory opinions classified as public data, civil penalties provided, gift ban exceptions authorized and clarified, and money appropriated.

HF856 (Bishop) Ethical Practices Board public official gift enforcement authority extended, advisory opinions classified as public data, civil penalties provided, gift ban exceptions authorized and clarified, and money appropriated.

7 p.m.

Subcommittee on Reclaiming and Recycling Vacant Housing/HOUSING

Thomas-Dale Block Club
689 N. Dale, St Paul, Minn.

Co-Chrs. Reps. Linda Wejcman, Andy Dawkins
Agenda: To be announced.

WEDNESDAY, March 15

8 a.m.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, INFRASTRUCTURE & REGULATION FINANCE

300N State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Jim Rice

Agenda: To be announced.

K-12 Education Finance Division/ EDUCATION

5 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Alice Johnson

Agenda: HF1053 (Kelso) Federal special education references provided, state aid provided

for certain school district litigation costs, and money appropriated.

Property Tax & Tax Increment Financing Division/TAXES

200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Ted Winter

Agenda: HF147 (Ozment) Tax increment financing use restricted, and additional disclosure required.

HF824 (Rest) School board approval required for tax increment financing plans and modifications.

8:30 a.m.

ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES FINANCE

Basement Hearing Room
State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Chuck Brown

Agenda: HF504 (McCollum) Park, recreation area, and natural and scenic area grants provided to school districts and municipalities.
HF361 (Farrell) Contamination Cleanup Grant Project costs to include site tests and studies. Public testimony on the governor's budget. Please notify Teri, 296-7171, or Scott, 296-7185, if you wish to testify.

10 a.m.

ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES

200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Willard Munger

Agenda: HF368 (Munger) Soil and water conservation districts provided annual fund allocation.

HF1055 (Dauner) Water and Soil Resources Board secretary position eliminated, board members' compensation increased, and rule approval procedure, review exemption, rule appeals, dispute resolution, and levy authority provided.

HF1018 (Trimble) Chlorofluorocarbon state regulation brought into compliance with federal law.

HF1027 (Peterson) Environmental legal assistance pilot project established, and money appropriated.

HF1015 (Hausman) Environmental Quality Board Environmental Review Program modified.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS & INSURANCE

10 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Wayne Simoneau

Agenda: HF747 (Paulsen) Department of Commerce insurance solvency, reinsurance, capital stock, general agent management, and variable contract information confidentiality regulation provided.

HF365 (Jennings) No-fault automobile insur-

ance taxi coverage priorities regulated.

HF570 (Davids) Crop hail insurance rate filing date changed.

HF751 (Davids) Insurance agent life and health policy quotas prohibited.

State Government Finance Division/ GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS

400S State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Tom Rukavina

Agenda: Minnesota Planning budget review.

Subcommittee on Civil Law/JUDICIARY

Basement Hearing Room
Chr. Rep. Tom Pugh

Agenda: HF170 (Rhodes) Bias crime victims provided cause of action, and liability imposed for parents of minors who commit bias crimes.
HF835 (Trimble) Claims against governmental units liability limits increased, and inflation adjustment and medical expense exemption provided.

HF795 (Pugh) Hazardous waste liability limited to extent of trust assets, and trustee compensation payment provided.

HF261 (Bishop) Occupational therapists included in civil action limitation period for health care professionals.

12:30 p.m.

The House meets in Session.
(Session will be televised on Metro Cable Channel 6.)

After Session

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

10 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Bob Anderson

Agenda: HF525 (Jennings) Public assistance provider hearings permitted, state agency hearing conduct modified, medical assistance prior authorization requirements modified, and prior authorization advisory task force established.

HF722 (Mariani) Migrant seasonal farmworker statewide organization provided financial assistance, designation, and recognition.

HF862 (Mariani) Midwest Farmworker Employment and Training, Inc. financial assistance reference modification provided.

HF765 (Delmont) Visually handicapped reference changed to visually disabled for state services for the blind purposes.

HF950 (Wejcman) U.S. Army zinc cadmium sulfide aerial spraying report required and attorney general review required.

HF843 (Lourey) Dental hospitalization and anesthesia coverage for dental procedures provided by health plans.

HF446 (Leppik) Nursing home moratorium exception provided, and total replacement rates established.

4 p.m.

**Joint Higher Education Finance Division and
University of Minnesota Finance Division/
EDUCATION**

200 State Office Building

Chrs. Reps. Tony Kinkel, Becky Kelso

Agenda: Student Organizations lobby day.

4:30 p.m.

Subcommittee on Data Practices/JUDICIARY

Basement Hearing Room

State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Mary Jo McGuire

Agenda: HF376 (Van Engen) Department of Economic Security data classification provided. HF538 (McGuire) Secretary of state authorized access to individuals' social security numbers in certain circumstances.

HF257 (McGuire) Tax data classification provisions modified.

HF546 (McGuire) Child abuse victim videotape release limited.

HF768 (Delmont) Evidentiary privilege and confidentiality provided for public safety peer counseling debriefing information, and municipal tort liability provided.

6 p.m.

**Legislative Commission on Pensions
& Retirement**

10 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Richard Jefferson

Agenda: HF99 (Brown) Public employees prior service credit purchase authorized.

SF234 (Solon); HF293 (Jaros) St. Louis County employee authorized service credit purchase for on-leave military service.

SF189 (Morse); HF463 (Johnson, R.) State trooper retirement contribution rates and annuity formulas modified.

SF766 (Metzen); HF923 (Johnson, R.) Correctional employees contribution rates and annuity formulas modified.

SF863 (Morse); HF995 (Johnson, R.) Police state aid excess aid amounts disposition provided to fund an additional amortization aid program.

SF561 (Stumpf); HF617 (Johnson, R.) Teachers Retirement Association administration and benefit practices modified.

SF767 (Stumpf) MSRS; Administrative and other provisions.

SF922 (Riveness); HF1092 (Kahn) State university and state community college systems individual retirement account plans recodified. SF862 (Reichgott Junge); HF829 (Carlson) Crystal and New Hope consolidated volunteer firefighters' relief association authorized.

SF806 (Morse); HF1040 (Kahn) State university and community college faculty retirement provisions modified, part-time faculty participation provided, and investment options provided.

SF743 (Metzen); HF925 (Johnson, R.) Teacher retirement association members permitted to terminate membership in association.

THURSDAY, March 16

8 a.m.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,
INFRASTRUCTURE &
REGULATION FINANCE**

300N State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Jim Rice

Agenda: To be announced.

EDUCATION

200 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Lyndon Carlson

Agenda: HF1046 (Kinkel) Teacher licensure alternative measures task force established.

HF996 (Solberg) Terminated education support employees of dissolved districts provided employment.

HF453 (Weaver) Parenting and ethics education curricula established; disruptive students barred from open enrollment program; school buffer zones established; lengthened schoolyear repeal removed; tort liability limit increased; and money appropriated.

Other bills may be added.

JUDICIARY FINANCE

500N State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Mary Murphy

Agenda: Agency budget presentations. Public safety: liquor control (McGuire), drug policy and violence prevention (Wejcman, Broecker, McGuire), Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (Farrell, Skoglund, Smith). If the agenda is not completed, it will be continued in the evening at an announced time.

**MinnesotaCare Finance Division/
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES**

10 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Roger Cooper

Agenda: HF1077 (Greenfield) MinnesotaCare; integrated service network requirements established, penalties provided, and money appropriated.

HF690 (Cooper) University of Minnesota-Duluth Medical Education Program expanded, Federal Area Health Education Center Program grant request required, physician substitute demonstration project established, physician associate program, money appropriated.

8:30 a.m.

**ENVIRONMENT &
NATURAL RESOURCES FINANCE**

Basement Hearing Room

State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Chuck Brown

Agenda: Continuation of March 15 agenda. Public testimony on the governor's budget.

10 a.m.

GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS

Basement Hearing Room

State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Phyllis Kahn

Agenda: Completion of agenda from March 14 meeting.

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

10 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Bob Anderson

Agenda: Department of Health bills.

HF983 (Lourey) Emergency medical services advisory council, maternal aid child health advisory task force, and state community health advisory committee reinstatement provided.

HF1003 (Huntley) X-ray equipment operator examination and certification required, and advisory committee established.

HF1037 (Huntley) Department of Health commissioner public pool rules enforcement and fee provisions modified, and penalties provided.

HF975 (Boudreau) Home care Hospice Program home care service definition modified.

HF974 (Vickerman) Department of Health environmental laboratory certification fee payment time schedules modified.

Property Tax

& Tax Increment Financing Division/TAXES

200 State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Ted Winter

Agenda: HF777 (Winter) Wind energy conversion system taxation provided.

12:30 p.m.

CAPITAL INVESTMENT

500N State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Henry Kalis

Agenda: Presentation on Cambridge Bank decision & bond financing, Greg Huwe, Office of the Attorney General; Peter Sausen, Department of Finance; Greg Crowe, committee fiscal analyst.

Elections Division/

**GENERAL LEGISLATION,
VETERANS AFFAIRS & ELECTIONS**

300N State Office Building

Chr. Rep. Richard Jefferson

Agenda: To be announced.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT & METROPOLITAN AFFAIRS

200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Dee Long

Agenda: Any bills not completed at the March 9th meeting. Remainder of agenda to be announced.

Subcommittee on Consumer Affairs/ COMMERCE, TOURISM & CONSUMER AFFAIRS

500S State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Matt Entenza

Agenda: HF1048 (Entenza) Videotape distribution, sale, and rental regulated, and captioning for deaf or hearing-impaired persons required. HF809 (Entenza) Charitable organizations regulated and money appropriated. HF990 (Entenza) Disabled and handicapped assistive device warranties provided.

2:30 p.m.

Business Regulation Division/ COMMERCE, TOURISM & CONSUMER AFFAIRS

500N State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Loren Jennings

Agenda: HF1064 (Johnson, R.) Automatic sprinkler installation required in existing high-rise buildings.

Government Efficiency & Oversight Division/WAYS & MEANS

5 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Howard Orenstein

Agenda: HF1036 (Orenstein) Department of Public Safety, Higher Education Coordinating Board, State Racing Commission, Gambling Control Board, State Lottery Board, and Department of Public Service abolished, duties transferred, and new agencies created. HF976 (Orenstein) Human resources, gainsharing, and procurement pilot projects established to improve state agency efficiency and effectiveness.

Agenda is tentative and subject to change. Continuation of March 9 agenda, if needed.

TRANSPORTATION & TRANSIT

10 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Jim Tunheim

Agenda: HF979 (Osthoff) Port development assistance provided, grant and loan application provisions specified, port development project cost payment provided, and money appropriated.

HF575 (Erhardt) Motor vehicle transfer notification by buyer required within ten days of purchase, and fees and penalties imposed. HF878 (Dehler) Firearms safety certification designated on driver's license.

HF1073 (Simoneau) Transit and paratransit facilities and equipment financing authorized,

and Metro Mobility capital cost funding limitations removed.

HF808 (Marko) Kids First special license plate issuance authorized and fees dedicated.

HF952 (Luther) Professional sports team and olympic special license plate issuance authorized, fees dedicated to the Amateur Sports Commission account, and money appropriated.

HF1009 (McElroy) Drivers' license reinstatement fee waived in certain cases.

HF1011 (McElroy) Radar speed measuring equipment jamming device sale, use, and possession prohibited.

HF426 (Simoneau) Parking violation delinquent fine notification, recording, and collection system established; vehicle registration prohibited pending parking violation fine payment; parking violation warrant issuance prohibited; and fee imposed.

HF901 (Swenson) DWI related laws and consequences included in drivers' education programs, driver's license application pamphlet, driver's license examination, and driver's manual.

4:30 p.m.

EDUCATION

200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Lyndon Carlson

Agenda: HF849 (Seagren) Education funding provisions modified, special and community programs provided, organization and cooperation provided, commitment to excellence provided, library provisions modified, and state agency duties provided.

7 p.m.

Subcommittee on Reclaiming and Recycling Vacant Housing/HOUSING

500S State Office Building
Co-Chrs. Reps. Linda Wejcman, Andy Dawkins
Agenda: To be announced.

FRIDAY, March 17

8 a.m.

K-12 Education Finance Division/ EDUCATION

5 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Alice Johnson

Agenda: HF251 (Kelso) Interactive television capital levy access increased.

HF378 (Solberg) Independent School District No. 698, Floodwood, provided interactive television grant.

HF539 (Garcia) Technology support aid provided to school districts, and money appropriated for Internet access.

HF674 (Olson, E.) North Central Minnesota

Educational Television Consortium authorized a grant to establish an interactive television network.

Any other bills relating to technology.

Transportation Finance Division/ ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, INFRASTRUCTURE & REGULATION FINANCE

500S State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Bernie Lieder

Agenda: Continuation of March 14 agenda.

10 a.m.

Gambling Division/ GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS

500N State Office Building
Chr. Rep. John Dorn

Agenda: HF660 (Dehler) Lawful purpose expenditures; gross profit expenditure increase provided for items not directly related to the conduct of lawful gambling.

HF1084 (Kahn) Indian Gaming Regulatory Act; Congress memorialized to provide an expiration date on tribal-state gaming compacts. Other bills may be added.

Government Efficiency & Oversight Division/WAYS & MEANS

500S State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Howard Orenstein

Agenda: HF1036 (Orenstein) Department of Public Safety, Higher Education Coordinating Board, State Racing Commission, Gambling Control Board, State Lottery Board, and Department of Public Service abolished, duties transferred, and new agencies created.

HF976 (Orenstein) Human resources, gainsharing, and procurement pilot projects established to improve state agency efficiency and effectiveness.

Agenda is tentative and subject to change.

Subcommittee on Civil Law/JUDICIARY

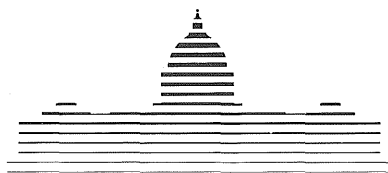
Basement Hearing Room
State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Tom Pugh

Agenda: Discussion and preparation of omnibus child support/family law bill. (This meeting will last all day. The committee will recess for lunch and return in the afternoon to continue working.)

TRANSPORTATION & TRANSIT

10 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Jim Tunheim

Agenda: Continuation of any bills not heard at March 16 meeting. Other bills may be added.



MINNESOTA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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Majority Leader: Phil Carruthers
Minority Leader: Steven A. Sviggum

MINNESOTA INDEX

Women in the U.S. and Minnesota

Year that the U.S. Congress designated March as Women's History Month	1987
Nationwide, private sector managerial jobs held by women, 1992	3 in 10
professional jobs held by women	1 in 2
Percent of K-12 principals, nationwide, who were women, 1975-76 school years	12.8
in 1992-93	37.3
Number of women veterans in Minnesota	15,812
in the armed forces	381
Percent of adult women in Minnesota who are living in poverty (according to federal poverty guidelines)	11
percent of adult men living in poverty	7.5
Minnesota senior citizens who live alone	167,001
women	132,219
men	34,782
Minnesota women who were single, 1900	1 in 3
in 1990	1 in 4
Ratio of marriages to divorces, 1930	8:1
in 1990	2:1
Percent increase in the number of unmarried women giving birth, 1980-1990 ..	100
Nationwide, percent of women with a bachelor's degree, 1990	14
in Minnesota	17
Percent of men in Minnesota with a bachelor's degree, 1990	17
Median annual income, all Minnesota families, 1990	\$36,916
female heads of families	\$18,199
in Aitkin County, lowest in Minnesota	\$9,168
in Washington County, highest in Minnesota	\$24,383
Percent of women in the seven-county metro area working full-time	62
percent of non-metro women working full-time	38
Women as a percent of the labor force, 1900	14.9

Source: Legislative Commission on the Economic Status of Women; *Indicators of Equal Employment Opportunity — Status and Trends*, U.S. Equal Opportunity Commission.



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